

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



Vol. 22, No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1971

Part 14

Jan. 3

I LOVE THE BIBLE

2 Timothy 3:14-17

One day Paul wrote a letter to Timothy. Did you ever receive a letter? Paul loved the Word of God which he called "the Holy Scriptures." The Bible tells us how to live so we can go to heaven when we die. Everything in it is true. It teaches us to love everybody, even our enemies. It teaches us not to steal. Paul wrote to Timothy and told him not to forget the things he had learned from the time he was a small child about the Bible. He wanted Timothy to love the Bible. Paul said, "Timothy, the Holy Scriptures are able to make you wise. They will give you faith so you can be saved through Christ." Paul wanted Timothy to be happy and do good works so he could go to heaven when he died. If we don't study the Bible, how else are we going to know what God requires of us? The Bible is God's written Word to teach us how He wants us to live. You should listen closely when Mother or Father reads the Bible to you so you can learn how to be good. Would you know it was wrong to steal if the Bible had not told us? Always love the Bible and do what it tells you to do.

Memory Verse: Continue thou in the things which thou hast learned. 2 Timothy 3:14.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who wrote a letter to Timothy?
2. What did Paul tell Timothy to do about the Bible?
3. What does the Bible tell us?
4. Will reading and obeying the Bible make us wise and happy?
5. Do you love the Bible?
6. Can you sing the song about the B—I—B—L—E?

The Blind Girl

Boys and girls who are blind are taught to read by braille. A braille book has so many raised dots for each letter of the alphabet. The blind boy or girl runs their fingers over these raised dots in the braille book and they can read by just feeling them. One little girl had learned to read her Bible by feeling the dots and she loved the Bible, oh! so much. One time she lost the feeling out of her fingers and she wept about it. No longer could she read her precious Bible that she loved so much. It had taught her how to love Jesus and how to live to please Him. Many times she would be sad and she would read her Bible by feeling the raised dots and she would be comforted. One day she kissed her precious book goodbye and was going to put it away but suddenly her face lit up and she was happy again. She found out she could feel the dots with her lips. How happy she was that again she could read her Bible by running her lips over those precious dots. With tears she thanked God for helping her to again read her Bible. —M. Miles

The Good Book

The Bible is a good book. In it we read about God, and about His making the earth, sun, moon, stars, trees, flowers, rocks, water, birds, fishes, animals, and man.

We read of Adam and Eve, the first man and woman; of their beautiful home, the Garden of Eden; and also of their children and their children's children.

In it there are many, many stories about how God helped people in times of trial.

We also read about Jesus, the Son of God, who came down from heaven and died for us, that we might have eternal life.

Good men wrote the Bible long, long ago, and the contents have been kept, until now we all have Bibles. The Bible is called "Holy Bible" because it is God's Word, and is a record of God's work and God's words.

If we live now as the Bible teaches after we die we shall receive a crown of life in heaven.

How sweet it is to see boys and girls smile! Sometimes mothers and fathers have hard problems and sad things to think about and do. But when they see their little children smile, it helps them to feel happy. If you make a habit of smiling often, it will help others to smile. Smiling is catching, and when you smile, others will smile back at you. Jesus loves to see you smile.

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Part 16

Jan. 17

ABRAHAM PRAYS FOR WICKED PEOPLE

Genesis 18:17-33

The two angels and the Lord started on their way from Abraham's home to the wicked city of Sodom. Then the Lord stopped and said to Abraham, "The people who live in Sodom and Gomorrah are very wicked. We are going down to see about these wicked people." Abraham was troubled. He knew that his nephew Lot, and his family lived in Sodom. Praying is the same as talking to the Lord. Abraham said to the Lord, "Will you destroy the city if you find fifty righteous people there?" The Lord said He would spare it for fifty righteous people. Abraham was afraid there would not be fifty, so he asked if He would spare it for forty-five. The Lord said He would spare it for 45 righteous people. Then he asked Him to spare it for 40, then 30, and 20, and then 10. The Lord promised He would spare the city for just 10 righteous people. But Sodom was full of very, very wicked people. God was unhappy, but He had to punish them. Abraham felt sad, too, because they were so wicked. When boys and girls are naughty, it makes others feel sad. God feels sad, too.

Memory Verse: The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. James 5:16b.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did God tell Abraham He was going to do?
2. Did Abraham ask God to spare the city for fifty righteous people?
3. Did Abraham ask God to spare the city for ten people?
4. Did God answer all of Abraham's prayers?
5. Who lived in the wicked city of Sodom, whom Abraham loved?

What God Made

Our God is a very great God. He made all things. He made this earth where we now live.

It seems strange that there was a time, many, many years ago, when this earth was nowhere to be found; but that is so.

When men make things, they must have different tools to work with. They have to make things little by little, working at them a long time before they are done.

It was not so with God when He made this earth. "He spake, and it was done." At first all was dark. He then said, "Let there be light," and it was light. He called the light day, and the darkness He called night. This, the Good Book says, took place on the first day.

On the second day God made the air we breathe, and in which the birds fly.

On the third day He made the land, sea, and rivers, and the grass, flowers, and trees.

On the fourth day He made the sun, moon, and stars, to give light to the earth by day and night.

On the fifth day He made the fish that swim in the water and the birds that fly in the air.

On the sixth day He made all the animals and at last He made man. He gave them for food the grain of the fields, the fruits of the trees, and the vegetables of the garden.

On the seventh day God rested "from all the work which He had made." "And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good."

LOOKING AWAY

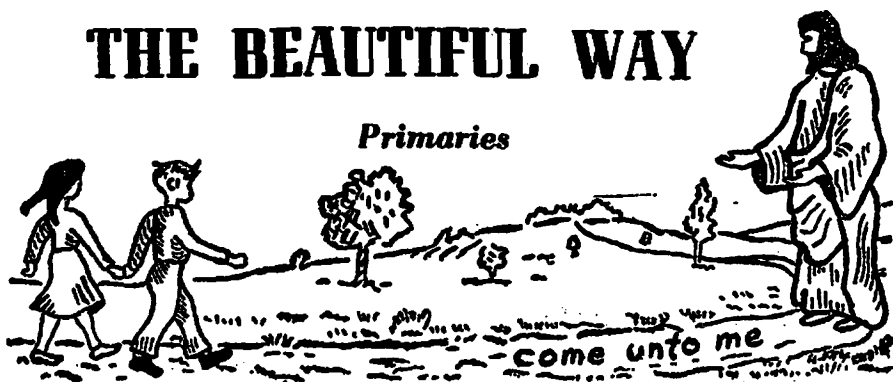
A man owned a dog and he taught this dog many things. He taught the dog to obey him. One day this man had a visitor. He wanted the visitor to see how well the dog obeyed. The man put a piece of meat down in front of the dog and then told him not to eat it. The dog looked at the man and then at the meat. He started toward it, and the man said, "No!" The dog looked at the man and then at the meat, and then with a sad look, he turned his back and would not look at the meat. The dog knew he might be tempted to eat the meat if he kept looking at it.

Boys and girls, you must not look and look at things that belong to others if you are tempted to take them. When the devil tells you to take something that does not belong to you, you should run away from that thing quickly. —M. Miles

Did you remember to thank Mother for cooking your breakfast, lunch, and dinner?

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Part 17

Jan. 24

THE ANGELS VISIT SODOM

Genesis 19:1-11

Lot was sitting in the gate of the big city of Sodom. He saw two strangers coming toward the gate. He rose to meet them and then bowed himself to the ground. He asked the men to come to his house and stay all night. They said they would stay in the street that night, but Lot kept asking them, so they went to his house. He gave them a good meal and they were getting ready to go to bed when they heard some loud talking outside. A lot of people were gathered outside Lot's door. Lot heard someone call to him to bring the men outside who were staying all night with him. Lot knew these men in the street were wicked and would do evil to his guests, so he went out to talk to them. He shut the door behind him. The wicked men still asked for the strangers. They became angry with Lot and pushed against him enough to almost break the door. The two men inside who were angels pulled Lot inside and smote the wicked people with blindness. It is wonderful how God takes care of those who love Him. He will take care of you, too, if you will trust Him.

Memory Verse: So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me. Heb. 13:6.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where did the two angels go?
2. How did Lot treat the two angels who looked like men?
3. Did some wicked men want to hurt the two men?
4. What did God do to help the two men and Lot?
5. Will God help us when we are in trouble?

The Little Cripple

I am sitting by my window
In my lonely little room;
Every little boy seems happy,
While my life is filled with gloom.
Yonder see the children running,
Hear them laugh in childish play;
Like the butterflies and birdies,
Playing all the live-long day.

Once I ran as other children;
Now I'm but a cripple-boy.
As I watch them through my window,
How their games they do enjoy!
How I'd love to hear their footsteps
Coming to my open door!
It would make me feel as cheerful
As in happy days of yore.

Yet I'm thankful for dear Mother,
Who so gently smooths my brow,
Tells me pleasant little stories
Of her childhood days, and how
She once wandered in the meadow,
With the cattle and the sheep,
Picking buttercups and daisies
Till the stars began to peep.

Then she tells me of a Savior,
How upon this earth He trod,
How He came to us from heaven—

Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
Now His home is up in glory
With the happy angel band;
But He comes and blesses children
And protects them by His hand.

Then she kneels down by my bedside,
As the twilight shadows fall,
And we ask the Lord to kindly
Guide and keep us one and all;
Then He makes us very happy,
Gives us blessings rich and true,
And I know with all the children,
Jesus loves the cripples, too.

—Selected

GUARDIAN ANGELS

"I wish I could see the angel that follows me around," Mary told her mother as she looked at the picture of a large angel standing behind some children who were chasing butterflies.

"Angels belong to the spirit world and they are not to be seen with the natural eye," Mother explained. "The things that we see with our natural eyes will all perish or be burned up. You see, Mary, the house, the trees, the sky, and even the people will all some day pass away in that last great day when Jesus comes and brings time to an end. We know that all things perish and decay. We see trees die and rot, and houses in time fall down, and all people die. I'm glad we can't see angels, because we know they are eternal and will always be. Some day we can go to that home and be with them, and with Jesus, and all the good people in heaven."

"I want to go to that place some day with you, Mother." —M. M.

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Part 18

Jan. 31

REMEMBER LOT'S WIFE

Genesis 19:12-29; Luke 17:28-32

The people of Sodom were very wicked. They stole, lied, cheated, killed, and did many evil things. God looked at them and was very displeased. The two angels were displeased. They told Lot to take his wife and children out of the city because God was going to send fire down from heaven and destroy the cities. Lot begged his children to go with him out of the city, but most of them would not listen. Finally the angels took him and two of his daughters and his wife by the hand and led them out of the city to the plains. The angels said, "Escape for your lives, and do not look back." They started on their way to safety. But Lot's wife must have remembered her children still in the city, and she turned and looked back. She disobeyed the direct command of the angels. How sad! She turned to a pillar of salt. God wants us to obey Him. When we disobey, we are punished. Abraham looked toward the cities. He saw the smoke of their burning. He knew God had done as He said He would do to the wicked cities. But Lot was spared because of Abraham's prayers.

Memory Verse: The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptation. 2 Peter 2:9.

QUESTIONS:

1. Did Lot's relatives believe him when he told them to leave the city?
2. Who took Lot and his family by the hand and led them out of the city?
3. What happened to the wicked cities?
4. What did Abraham see over the cities early the next morning?
5. What happened to Lot's wife?

The Day and The Night

God made the sun to give light by day. The sun not only gives us light, but also makes the earth warm and causes everything to grow.

Sometimes when the sun rises in the morning, it looks very close, but it is really far away—away off in the sky. When the sun goes down in the evening, darkness comes all around us. This is called night.

We do not want all daytime, in which to work and play; neither do we want all night time, in which to sleep; but we enjoy both the day and the night as God made them.

Also, we see the moon and the stars. When the moon is full and round, how large and pretty it looks! God made the moon and stars to shine at night. Have you ever noticed the stars twinkle at night? How pretty they are! There are so many of them that we could never count them all. At one time some shepherds saw a beautiful large star. It was a sign that the Savior of the world was born.

The Blind Girl

Blind persons cannot see anything. They cannot tell what any person looks like. They cannot see the sun, moon, trees, birds, flowers, or any of the pretty things that we see.

They cannot read as we do, but they read by feeling with the ends of their fingers. There are books with raised letters or dots on the pages for the blind, and by feeling the shape of them they can read.

One time there sat a poor blind girl reading a book. Poor girl! She could hear the birds sing, and could smell the pretty flowers, but she could not see how lovely they were.

When Jesus was here on earth, He healed the blind who came to Him. He is still just as able to heal the blind eyes so people can see as He was while here on earth. But it takes faith in God, who is all-powerful.

"Grandmother, may I ride with you?" Mary asked as they were leaving the chapel.

"Yes, dear, Grandmother would be glad for you to come along." After they were in the car Grandmother asked Mary what she had learned in Sunday School.

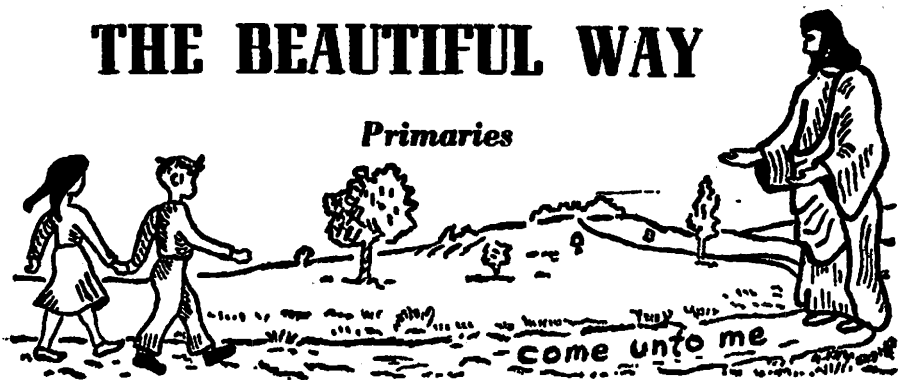
"We learned about Jesus and how sweet and kind He is. When can I see Jesus?" asked Mary.

"When you leave your body, which is your house, then you will go to see Jesus," Grandmother explained.

What we want for ourselves is not always what God wants us to have.

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Part 15

Jan. 10

THE LORD VISITS ABRAHAM AND SARAH

Genesis 18:1-14

One afternoon it was real hot. Abraham was sitting in the door of his tent where it was cool. He saw someone coming. As he continued to look, he saw the Lord and two angels who were dressed like other men. Abraham seldom had company and he ran eagerly to meet them. He bowed himself to the ground. He said, "My Lord, if now I have found favor in thy sight, stay with me for a while. Let me have some water brought so you can wash your feet which are hot and tired from the long walk. I will give you something to eat before you continue on your journey." They agreed, and soon Sarah made some cakes and cooked them on the fire. Abraham chose a tender calf to be killed and cooked for them to eat. He set out milk and butter with the meal and they ate.

Now the Lord told Abraham and Sarah a wonderful secret. They were old people and old people do not have children. But the Lord said that Sarah would have a son and they were to name him Isaac. Sarah could not believe it, but the Lord said, "Is anything too hard for the Lord to do?" How happy they were!

MEMORY VERSE: Is anything too hard for the Lord? Genesis 18:14.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where was Abraham sitting when the Lord and the two angels came to see him?

2. What did he do when he saw them?

3. What did he fix to serve them to eat?

4. What wonderful secret did the Lord tell Abraham?

5. Can you answer the question the Lord asked: "Is anything too hard for the Lord to do?"

Be Kind to the Aged

One fine spring day six children went to the woods to gather wild flowers. Oh, how they enjoyed the warm sunshine while they filled their little baskets with violets, buttercups, and spring beauties! And the air was filled with the sweet perfume.

The flowers were so pretty and there were so many that the children could hardly stop when the baskets were filled. Soon they started for home. "Let's give some flowers to the old people," said one. "Yes, let's do," said the rest, and off they went, and many were the smiles from the old people that day.

Let us be kind to the aged. When we meet anyone who is old, let us speak to them kindly and give them a smile.

The old people did much for us when we were too small to care for ourselves. Let us not forget their kindness.

Little thoughts of kindness,
Little deeds of love,

Lead you from the wrong way
To the heaven above.

A Baby For a Nickel

A man told a little girl that he would sell his baby for a nickel. She liked babies real well and thought that was very cheap. She ran home quickly to get the money. Her mama was very busy. She gave her the nickel and did not stop to listen to what the little girl wanted.

The little girl ran back to the man to get the baby. Of course, the man would not give up his baby. He did not mean what he had said. This made the little girl cry very hard.

Her mother always told her the truth. She thought others meant what they said, just like her mother.

It was wrong for the man not to tell the truth. We often make others feel very bad when we say things that we do not mean.

Aren't little babies sweet? I love little babies, don't you? Did you know that you were a sweet, helpless little baby one time? Your mother had to feed you every bite you took. Mother was good to you. You could not talk, but Mother knew just what you needed without you having to tell her. She loved you and took good care of you. Now you are bigger and you can help Mother. She helped you, and now it is your turn to help her. Next time she asks you to do something, you should do it cheerfully. Don't always wait to be asked to do something. When you see a job that needs to be done, do it.

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Part 19

Feb. 7

TWO LITTLE BABIES

Gen. 17:19; 21:2, 5-7; Matt. 1:1, 2, 21; Luke 1:32, 35, 46, 47
Luke 2:11, 20; Matthew 8:11

God promised Abraham and Sarah that He would give them a little baby boy. God told them to name him Isaac. When she looked into the face of her little baby boy, Sarah was happy. She laughed with joy. She was surprised that in her old age she had a son. God told Abraham that Jesus was coming to the earth through Isaac's descendants.

Thousands of years later another mother looked into the eyes of a baby boy whom the angels had promised would be born. She named Him Jesus, just as God had told her to. She laughed with joy. On that day the angels in heaven were happy, too. They appeared to the shepherds and told them about Jesus' birth. The shepherds went to see the Saviour of the world who had come just as God had promised Abraham, the father of Isaac, He would. Today we are happy because Jesus came. If we live for Jesus we will go to be with Him when we die and we will sit down in heaven with Abraham and Isaac. Won't that be wonderful?

Memory Verse: Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins. Matthew 1:21.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did Sarah name her little boy?
2. Why did she laugh with joy?
3. What did Mary name her little boy?
4. Who all rejoiced at the birth of Jesus besides Mary?
5. Will we see Abraham, Isaac, and Jesus in heaven?

Country Children

Children love to play on the bridge over the creek, or sit down in the tall grass on the banks and pick wild flowers.

Sometimes the dog swims in the water after a stick and brings it ashore. Dogs can swim in the water; but if the children should get into deep water, they could not get out, and would drown if someone did not come to help them out.

There are many, many children living in the cities who do not have the chance to play in the green grass or pick wild flowers like the children who live in the country. How much they would enjoy doing so!

God made the water and land, the grass and flowers, and intended that the children and all people should enjoy them.

Jesus once said, "Consider the lilies, how they grow; they toil not, they spin not; . . . if then God so clothe the grass which is today in the field, . . . how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith?"

God takes care of the flowers, the grass, and the trees, and He can care for us.

Jesus Heals the Sick

Jesus spent His whole life doing good. He always helped those who were in trouble. He seemed to know of the sick and suffering of the land and was always anxious to heal them.

At one time He went into the meeting place of the Jews and saw a man there who had a hand so withered that he could not open it or stretch it out. Now, there was a Jewish law that said no work should be done on the Sabbath. The wicked people watched Jesus to see if He would heal this man on the Sabbath day.

Jesus knew their thoughts, and so He asked the people, "If any of you had a sheep which should fall into the pit on the Sabbath, would you not help it out?" Then he said that if it was right to help a sheep, it was much more so to be good to man.

After that he said to the man, "Stretch out your hand," and he stretched it out.

"I don't like you any more," Robert said, as he picked up his car and started home. "I'm never going to play with you again. You never let me be first."

"Oh, come on and play," Albert said. "I'll let you be first again. I thought it was my turn to be first since you were first the last time. It's more fun to be second, anyway. Then my car will roll in the same tracks in the sand the first car made."

I would call Albert a peacemaker. Wouldn't you? Jesus loves peacemakers.

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Part 20

Feb. 14

ISHMAEL MAKES FUN OF ISAAC

Genesis 21:8-13

Sarah and Abraham were very happy with their baby boy. Soon he began to walk and they were happy as they watched him grow. Abraham and Sarah wanted others to see their little boy so they gave a big feast and invited others to come. Sarah and Abraham were happy that day. But something happened before the day was over that made Sarah very unhappy. Sarah saw Ishmael, Hagar's son, making fun of Isaac. He said some bad things to Isaac. Sarah knew that Ishmael would cause them a lot of trouble. She did not want Isaac to learn his bad ways. Ishmael was several years older than Isaac. Sometimes younger boys learn bad things from older boys. Sarah asked Abraham to send Hagar and Ishmael away from their home. This grieved Abraham, but he talked to the Lord about it. God told him that he should do as Sarah asked him. Ishmael was not the son of promise, as Isaac was. You see, it doesn't pay for us to make fun of others. We might be punished for it as Ishmael was. And besides, it is very rude to laugh at other people. Do you want others to make fun of you? Of course not! Neither should you make fun of others.

Memory Verse: And be ye kind one to another. Eph. 4:32

QUESTIONS:

1. Whom is our lesson about?
2. What did Abraham and Sarah do for their little boy Isaac?
3. What did Ishmael, who was a big boy, do that hurt Isaac's mother that day?
4. What did Sarah ask Abraham to do to Ishmael and his mother?
5. What did God tell Abraham to do when he asked Him about it?

In The Garden of Eden

When the garden of Eden was planted with all the beautiful flowers and trees, God gave it to Adam for a home. He told him to take good care of it. Adam was glad to work in the garden and use it as he chose, but he had no one to enjoy the things that he enjoyed, no one to help him to be just what God wished him to be, no one to love.

God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone: I will make him an help meet for him." So he made a woman and Adam called her Eve.

Eve was very much like Adam in some ways, yet unlike him in other ways. Man has some gifts that woman does not have; one is helpful to the other.

Adam's heart must have been glad to see the woman whom God had made for him. He now had someone to enjoy the home with him. Adam and Eve were happy in Eden as long as they loved God more than they loved their own way. He knew better than they did what was good for

them and what would make them happy, and they were glad to obey him.

But by and by their own way seemed better than God's way, and they did things that God had said they should not do. When we do things that God says we should not do, we sin. So Adam and Eve sinned and were ashamed to see God, and when He came into the garden, they hid among the trees.

Tears, More Tears

"What is the matter, Betty?" asked Mother as she found her little girl crying bitterly with her head buried in her pillow on the bed. Betty had just got home from school. She was a large child and many of her school mates were smaller than she. The children called her names because she was big and made fun of her. She would try to laugh and face it, but sometimes it was just too much. When she got home this day, she cried and cried as she was weary and tired of being ridiculed.

Boys and girls, when you forget and make fun of someone, remember you are being very unkind and causing someone to weep bitter tears. Jesus is displeased and you will find that you will be punished some day for your unkindness. It is better to make others happy than to cause them to weep bitter tears. —M. Miles

By the word of the Lord were the heavens made. Psalm 33:6.

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. Single subscription, 80c per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.

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Part 21

Feb. 21

HAGAR AND ISHMAEL

Genesis 21:14-21

Early in the morning, Hagar and her son Ishmael started away from Abraham's home. She had been a slave, but now she was given her freedom. Soon they were lost in the wilderness. Their water was all gone and they were in trouble. Hagar helped Ishmael, who was very weak, to lie down under some bushes. She went a little ways off and sat down as she didn't want to see him die. She began to weep. God looked down upon them from heaven. He heard Ishmael praying to Him with his weak voice, and heard Hagar's weeping. The angel of God called to Hagar and said, "What is the matter, Hagar? Don't be afraid, because God has heard the voice of your son and knows where he is. Arise and lift him up because I will cause him to live and will make of him a great nation." Hagar dried her tears and God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She hurried and filled the bottle with water and gave Ishmael a drink. He felt better and they soon found something to eat. Ishmael grew and became a great hunter. He is the father of the Arabs of today.

Memory Verse: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Ps. 46:1.

QUESTIONS:

1. Whom did we study about today?
2. Did Hagar and Ishmael get lost in the wilderness and become very thirsty?
3. Did they weep and pray to God?
4. What did Hagar see after God spoke to her?
5. Was Ishmael a hunter after he grew strong?

Our Feathered Friends

When all the trees and bushes and grass are green in the spring, we see the little birds and hear their sweet songs.

How happy they seem as they fly about from tree to tree, and scratch in the ground to find little seeds and insects to eat!

Sometimes we find a bird's nest in the bushes or on the ground. God teaches the little birds how to build their nests with small sticks, leaves, and feathers.

This is the birds' house. We sometimes see tiny eggs in the nest. The little eggs hatch, and then there are the little birdies in the nest in place of the eggs. The mother bird hunts worms and bugs to feed the little ones.

Did you ever see a nest of young birds? How they open their little mouths when you come near? They think you have something for them to eat.

Once a little boy found a meadow-lark's nest with young birds in it. As they opened their little mouths, he thought he could feed them better

than the mother bird. He decided to raise them for pets, and so carried them home. He fed them bread; but as the little birds were not used to that kind of food, they did not thrive on it; and when one day the boy forgot to feed them, they died. How sad he felt! And how sad the mother bird must have felt when she could not find her babies!

God made the birds to enjoy the woods and fields. We must not destroy their nests, for that would be wrong.

The Bible says, "Behold the fowls of the air; for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them."

A DREAM

One morning a little boy said to his father, "Daddy, I had a dream last night. I dreamed we were at the Judgment and there was a big book. They looked and looked for my name in that big Book of Life. I was afraid they would not find it. Finally they found my name, and I was so glad! Then I woke up."

"Oh, son! what if they had not found your name," Daddy said. "I am so glad they did, aren't you?" Daddy hugged his little boy tightly.

Boys and girls, be sure your name is written in the Book of Life. Ask Jesus to forgive you of your sins and come into your heart, and He will write your name in His Book. Then when you die you can go to heaven and be with Him.

—M. Miles

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Part 22

Feb. 28

ABRAHAM OBEYED GOD

Genesis 22:1-18

One day God called to Abraham. Abraham said, "Here I am." God told Abraham to take his son and go to the mountain and offer him on the altar of sacrifice. Now Abraham loved his son Isaac. He was the only son he and Sarah had, and God had given him to them in their old age. But Abraham loved God more. Abraham arose early the next morning and he took Isaac and two of his young men with wood, to go on their long journey to Mt. Moriah. Abraham no doubt was very sad, but he had faith in God. When they came to the foot of the mountain, Abraham told the young men to wait while he and Isaac went to worship and came back. As they went along, Isaac asked his father what they would use for a sacrifice. Abraham answered, "God will provide Himself a lamb." Finally they came to the place, and built an altar. Abraham bound Isaac and put him on the altar. He raised his knife to slay him, but the Lord called out of heaven, saying, "Abraham, Abraham." And he said, "Here am I" (doing as you told me.) The Lord said, "Do him no harm, for now I know you love me."

Memory Verse: God . . . said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. Genesis 22:1

QUESTIONS:

1. How did Abraham answer when God called him?
2. What did God tell Abraham to do?
3. Did Abraham do as God told him to do?
4. What did they offer on the altar instead of Isaac?
5. Did God know that Abraham loved Him more than his own son?

A Bird of the Night

Did you ever see an owl? Owls fly around at night, as they can see better after dark than in the daytime. They stay in some dark and quiet spot all day, unless disturbed, but at night they hunt around for something to eat. They eat some kinds of birds, rats, mice, fish, reptiles, and insects.

The nest of the owl is made of sticks and twigs, and is oftentimes built in rocks or ruins of old houses.

Some owls are as white as snow, and their feathers are as soft as cotton. Some are brown, and others are gray.

Sometimes in the night we hear their noise, which sounds much as if they were saying, "Who? Who? Who?"

The owl cannot turn his eyes about as we can; so when he wants to look around, he must turn his head.

In the cold countries where snow stays upon the ground most of the time, there are owls with pure-white feathers. They are very large, too; yet they can hardly be seen, since they look so much like the snow.

"He's My Hero!"

"Some days in school, when teacher says,

'Jim, name the presidents,'

I up and I commence,

And say them all from Washington clear through to Buchanan, then

I have to stop and clear my throat—I always have to when

I come to Abraham Lincoln's name, E'en though the teacher whispers, 'Shame!

Can't you remember, Jim?"

Can't I remember him!

Why, he's my hero, that is why

I get choked up and want to cry!

Once he was just as poor as I,

And homely, too, and tall and shy,

But he was brave and made his place,

Climbed to the top and freed a race!

When I think what he dared to do,

I just vow I'll do something, too!"

—Selected.

Dishonest, Lord, I'm ready now

To own I am, and ask Thee how

To give myself, that I may be

So saved by grace that thou canst see

No more such vile, imperfect fruit,

But what will honor Thee and suit

A Christian life. Yes, now I know

That all shall reap just what they

sow,

So, Lord, I come just as I am:

By faith I see the dying Lamb

Bear all my sins, and pardon give,

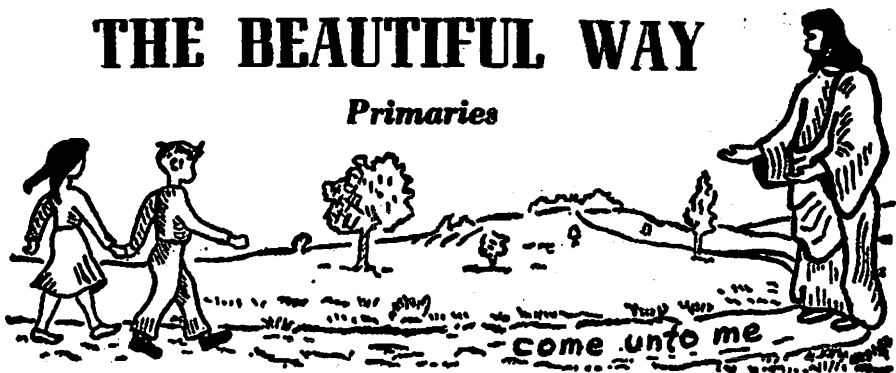
That I a Christian life may live.

—Jennie C. Rutty

"Promises are just as dependable as the boy or girl who makes them."

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



Vol. 22, No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1971

Part 24

Mar. 14

REBEKAH IS HAPPY

Genesis 24:22-32

Eliezer watched Rebekah as she gave water to his camels. He knew that this was the girl God had chosen to be Isaac's wife. He trusted she and her family would be willing, and she would go with him. After she finished watering the camels, he gave her some wonderful presents of gold. He asked, "Whose daughter are you? Is there room in your father's house for us to lodge?" Rebekah said, "I am the daughter of Nahor." Nahor was Abraham's own brother. Rebekah told Eliezer there was plenty of room. While she ran quickly home, he bowed his head and prayed to God. He was thankful God had led him straight to the girl He had chosen for Isaac's wife. Soon Laban, Rebekah's brother, came running to the man. He was glad to see Eliezer and glad to hear news from his Uncle Abraham. Eliezer went with them to their home. They fed him and fed his camels. God was good to Abraham's servant and he was thankful for it. We should always be thankful when God does good things for us. We must never forget to thank God for His goodness.

Memory Verse: While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being. Psalm 146:2.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did the man give to Rebekah after she watered the camels?

2. Did Rebekah tell the man who her father was?

3. While she ran to tell her family about the man and the gifts, what did the man do?

4. Should we always thank God for all the good things He gives us?

5. Did the man go to Rebekah's house when her brother asked him to come?

Asking a Blessing

O Lord, I bow
My little head
To thank Thee for
My daily bread.
I pray Thee bless
This daily food;
I pray thee bless
It to my good.

Oh, may my soul
This day be giv'n
The Bread of Life,
Sent down from heav'n.
Oh, keep me now
This day from sin,
From harm and sickness
Free. Amen.

Moments of Prayer

How good it is that all can pray!
The Lord is always waiting to hear
and answer our prayers. When we
pray, we talk with God; we must
listen closely when He talks to us
and do whatever He says.

When we get ready for bed in the evening, we should not forget to pray. We should remember that the Lord has been good to us all the day long. He has kept us from all harm, and given us food and clothes. We should also thank Him for a home and parents and friends. Even the air we breathe comes from Him.

Then in the morning we should again kneel down, and thank God for His care through the night. The Lord loves to hear children pray.

After we pray, we should try hard to be good. The Lord will surely help us if we ask Him. Then, do not forget to pray.

How Not To Pray

Scatterbrain is a good boy, and he kneels down every morning when he leaves his bed and again at night before he lies down. I was going to say that he kneels down to pray, but I'm afraid he does not do much praying.

Praying, you know, is talking to God; and one has to think of the person to whom one is speaking. But when Scatterbrain is down on his knees, his thoughts are flying off in all directions. He may be saying with his lips, "Our Father which art in Heaven," but he is thinking of the game he was playing in the afternoon, or wondering whether he brought his baseball bat into the house. God can see that Scatterbrain does not care very much for Him, as very little of Scatterbrain's mind and heart ever go up to meet Him.

—Selected

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. Single subscription, 80c per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



Vol. 22, No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1971

Part 26

Mar. 23

ABRAHAM DIES IN THE FAITH

Genesis 25:7-11; Heb. 11:9-16; Rev. 21:10-27

Did you ever travel toward a big city? You can see the city a long time before you get to it. You might be called a pilgrim. Abraham was a pilgrim. But the city he looked for and traveled toward was the city of God. Don't you think God's city must be very beautiful? The Bible says it is a big city and its streets are paved with gold. It has twelve gates of pearls and all kinds of beautiful stones on the walls and foundations of the city. It does not need the sun nor moon to shine in it because the glory of the Lord is so bright. It is a beautiful city. Abraham loved God. When he died, he went to that beautiful city. Abraham's sons buried his body, but, oh, how happy his soul was as he arrived in the city of God! There he was with his people. Everything was lovely and beautiful. He was glad that when he was on the earth he had never lost his faith in God. He didn't mind, when he saw his loving God, that while he lived here a short time he had been a pilgrim and a stranger. I want to go to that city, too, don't you? Live for God and He will take you there when you die.

Memory Verse: For he looked for a city which hath foundation, whose builder and maker is God. Hebrews 11:10.

QUESTIONS:

1. What happened to Abraham?
2. Was Abraham a pilgrim? Does a pilgrim see a city ahead?
3. What city did Abraham want to live in?
4. What kind of city is God's city?
5. Do you want to be faithful like Abraham, and be blessed of God?

Our Heavenly Home

God loves men too well to leave them in sin and sorrow. And though we have sinned, He will forgive us if we are sorry for our sins and ask His pardon. He will give us good thoughts and help us to love Him and to love one another.

We shall all die, but we shall live again; and if we serve God in this life and are Christians, we shall live with Him in heaven. There we shall never sin and never die. We shall never be sick or sad; we shall be happy forever. There we shall see God. Jesus will be there, and so will all the good people who have ever lived.

God saw that the people He had made were doing wrong, and He had pity on the whole world of sinners. So He sent His only Son to this earth as a Savior of the world. His Son, Jesus, was born in a manger and grew up to be a Savior. He was taken by cruel men and nailed to the cross and left to die for the sins of the world. God had said that the soul that sinneth had to die. So Jesus came and took our place by dying that we might live. If we

accept Jesus as our Savior, He will give us life. Then when we die, He will take us home to heaven to live with Him.

Little Foxes

Foxes are wild animals. They live in the woods and swamps, in places where not many people live.

They are very cunning and sly, and catch young chickens, ducks, turkeys, and geese whenever they can.

Night is the time when they slip around and catch these barnyard fowls. They carry the fowls off to their holes in the ground, and eat them there.

Little foxes are very destructive, and often spoil grape vines. In the Bible we read that it is the little foxes that spoil the vines.

This also means that our little unkind words and actions spoil the peace in our lives and make us feel real bad.

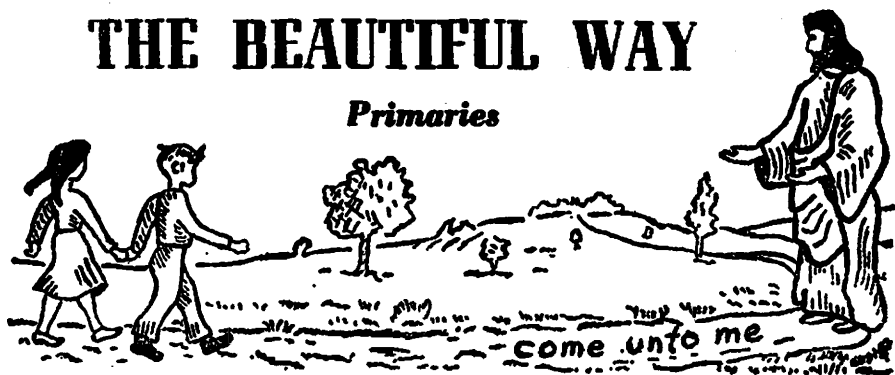
Let us be careful that our words and deeds do not make ourselves or others unhappy. If we live to please God, we shall please God's people, and we shall not have to feel sorry on account of some bad words said or deeds done.

Sometimes just a small remark made carelessly will cause someone to suffer all day long. It is much better to try to make others happy than to cause sad feelings.

Boys and girls, the time for you to give your heart to Jesus is now. Don't wait until you are older. You need Jesus now.

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April, May, June, 1971

Part 14

April 4

THE FIRST TWINS

Genesis 25:20-28

Rebekah and Isaac did not have any children. They longed to have a baby to love and care for. One day Isaac prayed unto the Lord and asked him to give them a child. God heard his prayer and gave them twin boys.

Don't you just love baby twins? Maybe you have some little baby twins in your family. When I was a little girl I took care of my baby brother and sister who were twins. They were so sweet. Twins are born the same day and have the same birthday.

Isaac and Rebekah named their little boy twins Esau and Jacob. These are the first baby twins mentioned in the Bible. They played together and grew up together. The boys were not alike in the things they liked to do. Esau liked to go out in the hills and hunt. He liked to shoot deer and eat the good meat. His father enjoyed the deer meat Esau brought home to eat. But Jacob did not care about hunting. He liked to stay at home and help his mother. She loved him dearly because he helped her. Both boys were loved by their parents who taught them to love and worship God.

Memory Verse: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.
1 Chronicles 16:25.

Our Tame Animals

There are some kinds of animals that are tame, as the sheep, hog, cow, horse, dog, and cat.

The horse is a faithful beast and does much work for man. He draws the heavy loads on the road and works in the fields. We hitch him to a wagon or a carriage and enjoy a ride, or we can put a saddle upon his back and ride there, also.

The cow gives us milk for our food, and from the milk we get cream, butter, and cheese.

The flesh of the hog is valuable for food.

The dogs are useful to guard our homes, and cats catch mice and rats. Both dogs and cats make good pets.

Sheep have long wool all over their bodies, and men cut it off and use it to make clothes to keep us warm.

Young sheep are called lambs. They like to run and play very much. One time a lamb fell into the water. The mother sheep stood close by and watched a man try to pull the lamb out.

I suppose the man had missed these two from the flock. He was in search of the lost ones, and seeing the mother standing near the water, he came and found the lamb nearly drowned. The mother would not leave her babe, but waited a long time until help came.

Lambs are innocent-looking animals, and do not make a noise when hurt. Jesus said that children are His lambs.

Jesus Changed

Many little boys and girls kneel down at Mother's knee or by the bed in the evening and pray to God. Often Jesus went up on a high hill to pray. One time when He went up on a hill-top to pray, He took three of His disciples with Him. They were Peter, James, and John.

While there, two men came from heaven to talk with Jesus. Oh, how bright Jesus did look! Peter, James, and John had never seen Jesus look so beautiful before. The Bible says that His face shone like the sun and that His clothes looked bright like snow when the sun shines upon it.

The three disciples heard God's voice. The voice said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." When they heard it, they fell on their faces, for they were afraid.

Soon the two men went away, and Jesus looked as He did before. He touched His disciples and told them not to be afraid.

Then the disciples and Jesus went down the hill. They found many people. They saw a poor boy who was sick. Jesus healed him.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did God give to Rebekah and Isaac after he prayed?
2. What were the names of the twin boys?
3. Have you ever seen twins?
4. What did Esau like to do?
5. What did Jacob like to do?
6. Did they know about God?

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Part 15

April 11

MARY SEES JESUS

John 20:1-20

Jesus came from heaven because He was God's Son, and He wanted to show us how to live so we could go to heaven. Many did not want to know about how to get to heaven. They turned against Jesus. Some wicked men took Him and put Him on a cross. Jesus could have called thousands of angels to help Him, but He willingly let them put Him on the cross. He suffered and died for our sins. How we love Him for taking our punishment! He took our whipping for doing wrong, and let us go free. He was put in a tomb, but He did not stay there. God sent an earthquake, and angels came down and the stone rolled away. Jesus came out of the grave. Mary came to the tomb and found it empty. She did not understand. When Jesus spoke to her, she thought he was the man who took care of the garden. Then Jesus said, "Mary!" and she knew Him. She was very happy. She told the disciples. Then one day Jesus appeared to them. Today we rejoice that Jesus is alive and is sitting at the right hand of God. He hears us when we pray to Him. He helps us in this life.

Memory Verse: He is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. Mark 16:6b.

ALIVE!

It was Easter Sunday morning. "Is there anything you boys would like us to pray about?" asked their teacher.

"Please pray for my big brother Ben," said Don.

Kenneth laughed. "We have prayed for Ben every Sunday all year!" he said.

"We will keep on praying until God answers Don's prayer," said the Sunday School teacher.

After Sunday School, Jack, a new boy, asked, "Don, what about your brother Ben?"

"On Easter Sunday last year," said Don, "my father and mother and I gave our lives to the Lord. When we told Ben about it, he said he did not want to belong to such a silly family. He went away the next day. We have not seen him, nor had a letter from him since then."

After church, Don saw tears in his mother's eyes as she prepared dinner. He knew why. Last Easter there had been four who ate dinner together. Now there were only three. But his mother set the table for four anyway. She had been doing that all year.

Just after Daddy prayed, there was a knock at the door. Don ran to open it. There stood Ben! But he did not look the same. Don had never seen him look so happy.

"Am I still part of this family?" he asked.

"Of course!" said Daddy and Mother and Don, all at once. Everyone

hugged Ben, and they all cried a little. It's funny to cry because we are happy, thought Don.

Then Daddy led Ben to his place at the table and prayed again. No one cared that the food was cold.

"Tell us about yourself," said Mother, happily.

"Well," Ben told them, "I thought I could get along without God. But I was so unhappy that last Friday night I went to a revival meeting. I gave my heart to Jesus. Then I got on a train so I could be home for Easter. I am happy now. I never was really happy before. I think you must have prayed for me all the time I was gone."

"We did!" they all said at once.

"It is so good to have you home!" said Daddy. "It is as if you had been dead, and now you are alive again!"

"I am really alive since I gave my heart to Jesus!" said Ben.

Don was glad he had kept on praying. —Selected

Love everybody and you will find that you are happy. Love those who do you wrong, but don't love their ways. Loving them will help them to do better.

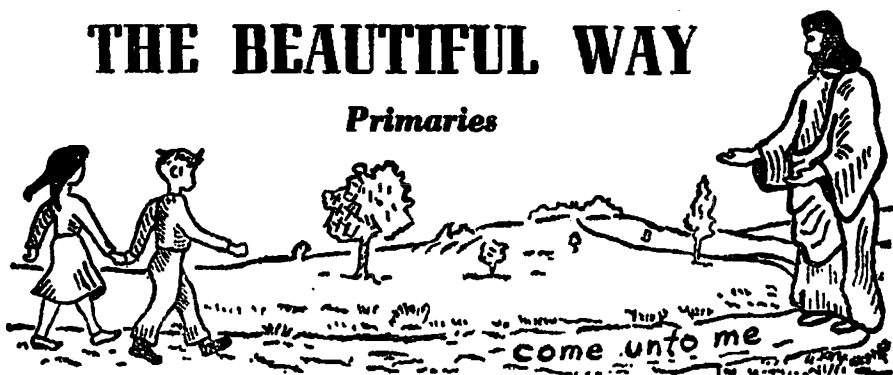
QUESTIONS:

1. Where was Jesus put when He was taken down from the cross?
2. Did Jesus stay in the tomb?
3. Did Mary see some angels at the tomb?
4. How did Mary know it was Jesus who spoke to her, rather than the gardener?
5. Where is Jesus today?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. Single subscription, 80c per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



Vol. 22, No. 2

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Part 16

April 18

JACOB AND ESAU

Genesis 25:27-34; Hebrews 12:15-17

Esau was big and strong. He liked the woods and was a real hunter. Jacob was not so active, and he was small. He was a home boy who liked to work around the house. Esau liked to give to others of the things he had. He brought deer meat home and his father enjoyed it. Jacob did other things for his father.

One day Esau came in from the field. He was so hungry he thought he was going to die. Jacob had stayed at home. He had made some pottage out of small beans called lentils. When Esau saw the good food he said, "Feed me, I pray thee, with some of your pottage. I am so hungry that I feel I am going to die." Jacob said, "Sell me first your birthright." The birthright meant the rights and privileges of having his father's blessings at his death, and receiving twice as much as the others in the family. Esau said, "What good will my birthright do me if I die of hunger?" He sold his birthright to Jacob. He was sorry later, but it was too late.

Boys and girls, obey your memory verse and do unto others as you want them to do unto you. Jacob took advantage of Esau.

Memory Verse: And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. Luke 6:31.

Our Best Friend

In a log cabin in the mountains lived a little boy. He often played near the house, but did not go far away. Near the house were many trees and rocks and among these wild animals stayed.

One day the boy missed his mama and thought he would try to find her. He went down the path toward the spring, where he had often gone after water. He went on and on. Finally he wished to return, but did not know the way. Poor boy, he was lost.

He started toward what he thought was home, and walked and walked. Becoming very tired, he sat down to rest and soon fell asleep.

His mama missed her boy and hunted everywhere for him. Night came on, but she did not give up her search. She hunted and called, but no answer came. She feared the wild beasts would get him, but prayed to God to protect her child. She hunted all night and in the morning found him safe and still asleep.

The best friend we have on earth is a good mother. She thinks of her children at all times. She loves them and lives for them. She seems to know all about our little cares and trials. When we are willing to help her, it shows that we think of her, and love her, too.

Have you ever thought how she toils and cares for you? She works for you every day—gets your meals, breakfast, dinner, and supper; washes and mends your clothes and stockings; and at night makes your pillow

nice and soft for you so you can sleep well.

She seems to know just what to do if you happen to get hurt.

Mother is watching after her little ones all the day long, and when she puts her hand upon our heads at night as we bow at her knee in prayer, she seems to say, "God bless and keep my darling child." When she tucks the covers tight about us and sits by our bedside, we think that Mama is the best friend we have. Don't we?

Now I will tell you of another friend. This friend lives in heaven. His name is God. We cannot see God, but He looks down from heaven and sees us. He sees everything we do, and hears everything we say. He knows all things.

It was God who made this earth where we live, and everything that is life. We pray to God, and He hears us and answers our prayers.

If you smile at others, they will smile at you because smiling is catching.

There are 66 books in the Bible.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was our lesson about to-day?
2. What did Esau like to do?
3. What did he ask of Jacob one day when he came home from hunting?
4. What did Jacob ask Esau to give him for the mess of pottage?
5. How should we treat others?

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Part 17

April 25

ISAAC KEEPS PEACE

Genesis 26:12-32

God blessed Isaac. He sowed grain in the ground, and it grew and made lots more grain. God gave Isaac many flocks and herds. He became very rich. The men living around him did not like it because Isaac became so rich. They told him to leave their country. Isaac moved to another place. They still didn't like him. They wanted to keep him from getting any more riches. Isaac wanted peace. One day after his servants had dug a well, the herdsmen around him wanted to take it away. Isaac kept peace and let them have the well. Isaac moved to another place and dug another well. The evil men wanted that well, too, so he let them have it to keep peace. He moved to another place. He was a wonderful peacemaker. God blessed Isaac and talked to him. Isaac builded an altar unto the Lord and worshipped Him. Later the king came to Isaac and wanted to make peace. The king knew that God was with Isaac. Isaac forgave him and they parted in peace. God wants all His children to be peacemakers instead of troublemakers. Are you willing to give up something you want to have peace?

Memory Verse: Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God. Matthew 5:9.

The Rain and the Snow

Patter, little drops of rain,
Patter on the window-pane.
How I love to watch them pass
In their races down the glass!
Soon the shower will be o'er.
Then the sun will shine once more.
But I love to hear the rain
Beat against the window-pane.
Soft and gentle April showers
Will bring May-time's pretty flowers.

I think it is pleasant to sit by the window and watch the rain as it falls, sometimes in tiny drops and sometimes in large ones.

The warm showers make the grass, trees, and flowers grow. After the shower is over, the grass looks fresh and green.

The birds also seem to be glad for the rain. They chirp among the trees when the shower is over.

We see the pretty clouds in the sky. The wind moves them about. Sometimes a storm comes, and then we see the lightning and hear the thunder.

When winter-time comes, it gets cold, and the ground is all covered with pure-white crystals of snow. Everything looks so clean and pretty with its white coat on. We see the little snowbirds flying around, and they are so happy picking up seeds for food.

Then we love to get our mittens and warm coats, and go out in the snow, too. People hitch horses to sleighs and enjoy rides. They put bells on the horses, and these jingle merrily when the horses go fast.

In the far north it gets very cold, and when the people go anywhere, they hitch dogs to sleds.

In the Bible we read that the Lord will make our hearts white as snow if we confess our sins and take Him for our Saviour.

Flowers of Springtime

How pretty and sweet are the apple, peach, pear, plum, cherry, and orange blossoms! How good God was to make all these things for us to see and smell! We can enjoy the blossoms. Also, we can see the little apples or other fruit grow until they become large, juicy ripe fruit. Then we can eat them, and oh, how good they will taste! God is very good to us.

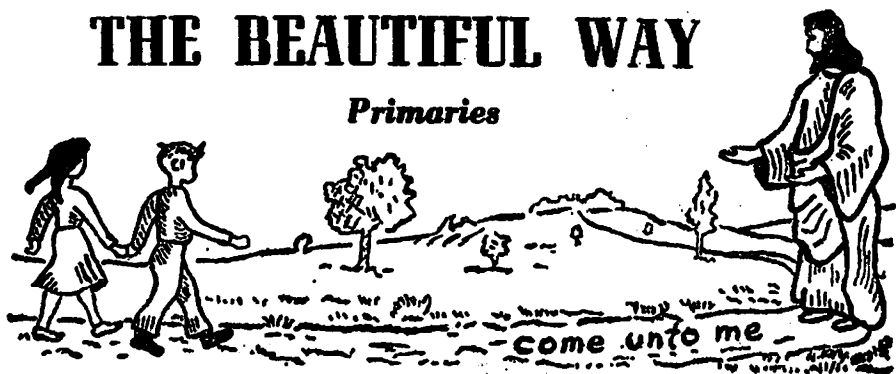
Not a leaf nor a blade of grass could grow if God's hand did not care for it. He causes the warm sun to shine and the gentle rains to fall so that everything can grow. Things could not grow without the warm sun and the rain.

QUESTIONS:

1. How did God bless Isaac?
2. Did the people around Isaac love him?
3. What did they do when he dug a well?
4. Did Isaac let them have that well and dig another?
5. Isaac was a peacemaker. What did the king tell him when he wanted to make peace?

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Primaries



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April, May, June, 1971

Part 18

May 2

ISAAC BLESSES JACOB

Genesis 27:14-18, 22-34

Isaac had grown old and blind. He thought he was going to die. He told Esau to go hunting and bring him a good dish of deer meat and he would give him a blessing. Esau's mother heard this, so she called Jacob and told him to kill some kids (goats) and she would fix a dish of meat. She told Jacob to take it to his father and tell him he was Esau, come to get the blessing. This was wrong. You should never tell a lie, even if your mother or father tells you to. Jacob should not have done this, but he wanted the blessing. When Jacob came before his father and told him he was Esau, Isaac was surprised he was back so soon. Jacob told a lie when he said the Lord had blessed him to return quickly. Isaac said, "Your voice is that of Jacob, but your hands feel like Esau." Jacob had put goat hair on his hands and neck because Esau was a hairy man. This was acting a lie, which was wrong. Isaac was blind, so he had to feel of Jacob. Isaac gave Jacob the blessing. When Esau arrived with his deer meat, Isaac trembled because he knew he had given the blessing to Jacob. Isaac said it would have to stand.

Memory Verse: Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds. Colossians 3:9.

Planting Seeds

Birds are singing, clear and sweet;
Flowers are springing 'neath our feet;
Spring at last has come to stay.
How we welcome lovely May!

Lovely May,
O lovely May!

Oh, how glad we are to say,
Lovely May!

Winter days were cold and long,
But we waited for thy song—
Songs of birds and humming bees,
And the fresh and lovely breeze.

Lovely May,
O lovely May!

Oh, how glad we are today,
Lovely May!

You may have helped your daddy
or mother plant seeds in the garden
or in the flowerbed. The warm sun
and the rain make them grow rapidly.

We do not plant weed-seeds, but
in some way they get into the ground,
and come up along with the garden-
plants. If the weeds are not cut
out, they will crowd out the good
plants.

When we do little acts of kindness,
it is like planting good seed. When
we are not kind, and say bad words,
it is like letting the weeds crowd
out the good plants.

If you are good and kind to daddy
and mother, brother or sister, today,
you will find it easy to be kind to
them tomorrow. It makes you happy
to be good to those around you.

If you are cross and say bad words,
you may want to say them again.

You cannot feel happy when you
have said and done bad things.

God can help you sow good seed.
He will help you to be good. He will
help you to love all around you.

God Sees All Things

One time a little boy was sent by
his daddy to plant some beans. He
worked a while, then he sat down to
play. While he was playing, he
spilled part of his beans. At once
he began to pick them up.

There were so many beans he be-
came tired. He thought he would
cover them up with dirt and no one
would ever know. At last he got the
rest of the beans planted and went
home.

He did not tell his daddy about the
beans he had spilled. Some time after
this his daddy went to the patch to
see how the beans were growing.
He found that all of them had come
up—even those that had been spilled.
The boy did not need to tell his daddy
what he had done. His daddy knew.

So it is with some bad things you
may have done. The secret will come
out some time. If no person knows,
God sees all you do. You cannot
hide anything from Him.

QUESTIONS:

1. Did Jacob tell a lie?
2. How did he lie by his words?
3. How did he lie by his actions?
4. Was Isaac blind? What did he
feel on Jacob's body?
5. How did Esau feel about losing
his blessing?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts
by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor.
Single subscription, 80c per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



Vol. 22, No. 2

April, May, June, 1971

Part 19

May 9

ESAU AND JACOB ARE IN TROUBLE

Genesis 27:41-46; 28:1-9

Poor Jacob. He is in trouble. His brother, Esau, is in trouble too. Esau hates his brother Jacob. His hate grew bigger and bigger. Esau's hatred grew so big that he said he was going to kill Jacob when their father died. How terrible! Hatred is an awful thing! We should always love our brothers and sisters. We should love everybody. We must forgive others when they do wrong to us. Hatred will make you unhappy.

Jacob's mother and father knew that Esau hated Jacob. They told Jacob he would have to leave home in order to be safe. His mother said she would send for him when Esau felt better. Isaac gave Jacob a blessing. They sent him away to get a wife from his mother's family. Rebekah and Isaac were sorry that Esau had married women who worshipped idols. After Jacob left, Esau married another woman who was a closer relative. But this was not right, either. Esau continued to do wrong. Boys and girls, we need Jesus today to help us love everybody and to do right. We must not do as Jacob and Esau did.

Memory Verse: Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer; and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

Empty Shells

A man once lived alone in a little hut in a great forest, because he wanted to get away from the wicked world. And every day he prayed often, saying the same prayers over and over again. He was away from so many pressures through people, etc., that his prayers became empty words.

It got to be a habit, and he seldom thought of what he was saying. And he became proud, thinking himself very holy because he prayed so often. Then he decided to keep count of the number of times he prayed, and did this by putting a walnut in a glass jar every time he repeated a prayer.

This went on month after month and year after year until he had long rows of glass jars filled with walnuts. And he became prouder of his goodness as the number of jars increased.

Then he had a strange dream. He dreamed that Jesus stood before him with this question, "What mean all these jars of nuts?" He answered, "Each stands for a prayer that I have prayed to thee." Jesus said, "Take a hammer and crack these nuts one by one." He did so and found that the kernel of each nut had dried up. Before him lay a pile of empty shells. And Jesus said, "Like that were your prayers—empty shells. You spoke the words but your heart was not in them; they are nothing to me. Prayers are only prayers, when the heart prays as well as the lips."

Then the man awoke. It was all only a dream, but the dream teaches

us a wonderful lesson about prayer.
—Selected

The Altar at Mother's Knee

I have worshipped at many altars,
Wheresoever I chanced to be,
But the one that has most impressed
me
Was the altar at Mother's knee.

I remember the gospel story,
Many times 'twas revealed to me,
But the message was made much
plainer
At the altar at Mother's knee.

When I stand at the gates of heaven,
In that land of the pure and free,
Then in memory I'll still cherish
That old altar at Mother's knee.

Some worship in finest temples,
Some at the shrine make their plea,
You can give me the old-time cottage
With its altar at Mother's knee.

QUESTIONS:

1. How did Esau feel toward Jacob?
2. Are we to forgive our brother if he does wrong?
3. Does hatred make people kill?
4. What did Jacob have to do?
5. Did Esau continue to do wrong?

When you learn your memory verse for Sunday always think about it in another day or two and see if you can remember it.

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Part 20

May 16

JACOB'S LADDER

Genesis 28:10-22

Does your daddy have a ladder? I am sure you like to climb it when he is near to see that you don't fall. One time Jacob was walking across the desert on his way to his uncle's house. His father and mother had sent him away to find a good wife who loved God. Poor Jacob was sad and lonely as the sun began to go down. He looked around to find a place to sleep. He did not have a nice bed nor a good pillow to sleep on. He took some stones and used them for a pillow. Finally he went to sleep. God looked down upon Jacob and gave him a dream. He saw a big, big ladder. This ladder reached way up into heaven. He looked and there stood the Lord at the top of the ladder. There were angels walking up and down the ladder. The Lord spoke to Jacob and told him He would take care of him. He also told him He would give him all the land upon which he was lying. When Jacob awoke he was afraid. He said, "The Lord is in this place; and I knew it not. This is surely the house of God." He poured oil on the stone he had used for a pillow. He promised to live for God if God would take care of him.

Memory Verse: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. 1 Peter 5:7.

Safe in God's Hand

David Livingstone went to Africa as a missionary. A friend told him, "I am going to pray for you every day." She kept her promise. Every day she prayed, "Dear God, keep David Livingstone. Hold him in Your hand."

Through the long years, God kept David Livingstone safe. There were many dangers in Africa, but Livingstone was not hurt by them.

One day David Livingstone and his helper were walking in a forest. Suddenly a big lion jumped on Livingstone. The lion knocked him to the ground. Then it caught hold of his shoulder and broke the bones in it.

The helper prayed, "Oh, God, help me kill that lion!" Then he shot at the lion with his gun. The lion was killed. David Livingstone's life was saved.

God had answered prayer. Livingstone was safe in God's hand.

OUR WORK FOR JESUS

Men and women and boys and girls go to church and read the Bible. "This is good news," they say. "We want to share it with everyone." So they do. Men and women go to faraway countries to tell others about Jesus. They are the missionaries. A plane ticket costs money. Who pays for a plane ticket so the missionaries can go to faraway countries? You and I can help. We can give money to the missionaries. Does God want you to be a missionary? Ask Him.

He may say, "Tell your special friend about Me. I will help you." That will please Jesus very much.

You can be a missionary right now. Tell someone that Jesus loves him.

APRIL QUIZ

1. The fourth month.
2. A fruit.
3. An Indian weapon, the part shot from a bow.
4. A bird we think of in spring.
5. A pen made from a feather.

ANSWERS

1. April; 2. Apple; 3. Arrow; 4. Robin; 5. Quill.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where did the ladder Jacob saw in his dream reach to?
2. Who was going up and down this ladder?
3. Did God tell Jacob He would be with him and take care of him?
4. What did Jacob do with the stones he had used as a pillow?
5. Did Jacob love God more after this?

DISOBEDIENT

My dear children, if you want to plant thorns on the pillows of your precious parents, the ones who cared for you when you were a helpless baby, and plunge daggers into their hearts just be disobedient. But we know you would never do that to your wonderful parents who knows best and do the best for you whether you understand it or not.

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Part 21

May 23

JACOB WORKS FOR LABAN

Genesis 29:1-30

Jacob arrived at a field after walking alone for miles and miles. There he saw Rachel coming with a flock of sheep. He is told that she is his cousin. He helped her water her sheep, and then he wept for joy. He was very glad to be at his uncle's place. After he had been there a month, his uncle asked him what he should be paid for his work. He said he would work seven years if he could marry Rachel. Rachel was a beautiful girl, and the seven years seemed only a few days to Jacob because he loved her so much.

Soon the wedding day came. Jacob was happy for he thought he would have Rachel. His bride had a veil over her face. He was very surprised the next morning when he found that his uncle had given him Rachel's sister, Leah, instead of Rachel. Perhaps Jacob remembered how he had tricked his father. He knew he was paying for his own sins. Rachel's father told Jacob he would have to work seven more years for her. Boys and girls, it is wrong to deceive. We reap what we sow.

Memory Verse: Be not deceived: God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. Gal. 6:7.

First Woman to Cross Our Country

"Will you marry me and go with me to the Oregon country, Narcissa?" asked Marcus Whitman. "It will be a long, hard trip. No white woman has ever made that trip. You can help me tell the Indians about Jesus."

"Yes, I will go!" said Narcissa. "Ever since I was a little girl, I have wanted to teach the Indians about Jesus."

So Marcus Whitman and Narcissa were married. With another man and his wife, they started westward to Oregon. They traveled with some men who were going to buy furs from the Indians. It would not have been safe for just a few people to travel alone.

It takes only a few days for us to travel as far as Marcus and Narcissa Whitman did, if we go by bus or train or car. It takes only one day in an airplane. However, there were no buses, trains, or airplanes then. There were not even any roads. Many people with wagons traveled together in what was called a wagon train. But they could not take the wagons all the way. Before they got to Oregon, they had to load everything they could on their horses and leave the wagons behind. It took the Whitmans more than six months to make the trip!

When they reached Oregon, Marcus and Narcissa Whitman found a place to start a mission. They also built a house to live in. They planted a garden and fruit trees so they would

have something to eat. There was much work to be done.

At first the Indians did not consider that Marcus and Narcissa Whitman were their friends. They thought these white people had come to take away their land and give it to other white people.

As fast as they could, the Whitmans made friends with the Indians. They learned to speak their language. They told them about God. They built a school where they could teach the Indians to read and write.

Marcus Whitman helped the Indians when they were sick. He showed them how to water their gardens so more food would grow. The Whitmans helped the Indians in every way they could.

Narcissa Whitman was glad she had traveled the long way to the Oregon country to tell the Indians about God.

—Selected

THE BIBLE FOR ALL

Myra listens as her daddy reads the Bible to her.

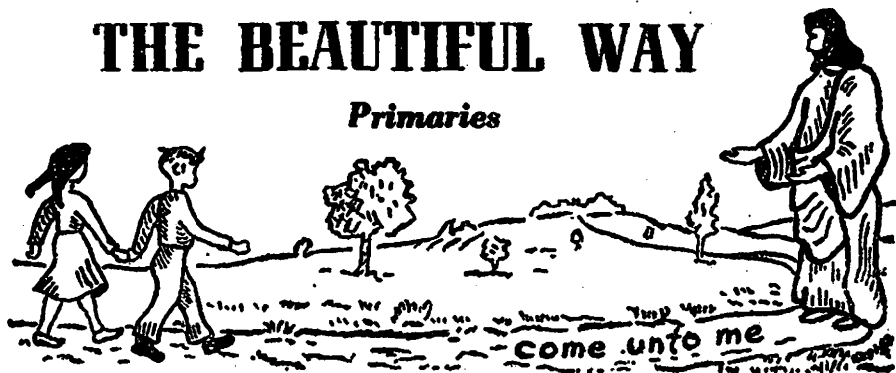
Many other children, some in our country and some far away, also need to hear about the Lord Jesus. Will you help them to hear about Him?

QUESTIONS:

1. Did Jacob arrive safely at his uncle's place?
2. What did he want his Uncle Laban to give him for working for him?
3. How did his uncle trick him?
4. Did Jacob ever trick anyone?
5. Did Jacob work longer to get Rachel, the girl he loved?

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Part 22

May 30

JACOB LEAVES LABAN

Genesis 31:1-20

Jacob loved God. He lived with Laban, his father-in-law, and worked hard for him. God blessed Jacob. He also blessed Laban because of Jacob. Laban's boys did not like it because Jacob became rich. They talked about Jacob. Laban did not like Jacob, either. Jacob decided he would leave and go back to his own land. He wanted to see his mother and father. Jacob said to Rachel and Leah, "You know I have worked hard and served your father Laban with all my might. Your father changed my wages ten times, but God did not let him hurt me. The Lord has spoken to me in a dream and told me to go back to my land and my people and He will go with me." Rachel and Leah said, "Whatsoever God has said to you, that we will do." So Jacob took all his goods and cattle with his wives and children and left for his home in Canaan. Laban had gone to shear his sheep and he did not know they had left. God sees everything. He saw how Laban mistreated Jacob. He helped Jacob. He will help you when you are in trouble, too.

Memory Verse: God's eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men to give everyone according to his ways. Jer. 32:19.

Owning Up

Creak, creak, creak. The door of the carriage house swung on its hinges. On the top of it sat Robbie. It was only half a door, so Robbie could sit on top of it when it was shut. It was great fun to swing on the door, almost as much fun as riding on a merry-go-round.

"Come on and ride," called Robbie to Myrtle, who came out of the house at that moment with Lucy.

"Maybe Grandpa wouldn't like it," said Myrtle.

"Oh! he won't care."

"I can't sit alone, I'll fall off," cried Lucy, as she tried to balance herself on the narrow top of the door.

"Get up, and hold her on, Myrtle, and I'll sit on the other side and push, and we'll all ride together."

Myrtle climbed up beside Lucy, and Robbie took his place on the other side.

"All aboard! Here we go!" he shouted, giving a vigorous shove with his foot.

The door swung open a little way, then rip, rip, crack, its free end settled to the ground.

"Oh, it's breaking!" shrieked Lucy and Myrtle, scrambling down from the door as fast as they could.

The top hinge had pulled away from the wood, there could be no mistake about that. Grandpa would be angry. Robbie thought of this as he stood looking at the broken door. He didn't want to see Grandpa just then; he wanted to go home.

"Let's go to the woods and play," said he.

"Why, Robbie Moore, I am ashamed of you. We'll do nothing of the kind, we'll go out to the field and tell Grandpa what we did, and ask him how we can fix it," said Myrtle.

It was a hard task for Robbie to do, but he marched off with the girls, and before they reached the field he said he would tell Grandpa himself.

Myrtle felt very proud of her brother, because she knew how much courage it took for him to own up when he had done wrong.

Grandpa didn't scold very hard when he saw how sorry the children were.

"We'd like to pay for fixing it," said Robbie, who was surprised to find how much pleasanter it was to face trouble than to run away from it.

"Well, I don't just know what I can give you to do," replied Grandpa, at Robbie's unusual thoughtfulness; "perhaps you could pull a few weeds in the garden."

"Owning up is better than running away, isn't it?" said Myrtle.

"Yes, but it's pretty hard at first," replied Robbie. —Sel.

QUESTIONS:

1. Did Laban's sons like Jacob?
2. Did God help Jacob?
3. How many times did Laban change Jacob's wages?
4. Did God tell Jacob to go back to his own country?
5. Did Jacob take his goods and leave?

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Part 23

June 6

JACOB PRAYS WHEN AFRAID

Genesis 32:1-20

Laban followed Jacob, but they parted in peace. Then Jacob started on his way to the home of his father and mother. Do you remember how Jacob's brother said he was going to kill him? That is one reason Jacob left home. Now Jacob is afraid to meet his brother. God sees Jacob in his trouble and sends angels to comfort him. How glad Jacob is to see "God's host." He sent a messenger to Esau to tell him that he was coming home and desired peace. The messenger came back and said that Esau was coming to meet Jacob with 400 men. Jacob was afraid. He prayed to God and said, "Oh, God, you told me to return to my country and my family and that You would help me. I am not worthy of any of your mercies which you have shown to me. Please help me out." Jacob then sent presents of animals to Esau. He sent them in three droves. Each servant was to tell Esau that the animals were a present from Jacob who wanted peace. Boys and girls, if someone does you wrong, pray to God as Jacob did, and then do good to that person. God will help you out.

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

A Lesson On Forgiveness

There was a man who owed a king hundreds and hundreds of dollars. He had no money to pay the king. The king said that this man and his wife and children must be sold and the money used to pay the debt. The man begged the king to wait a while, promising that by and by he would give him the money. The king felt sorry for the poor man and said the man would not need to pay him any money. The man arose and walked away.

Soon he met a friend who owed him a little money. He spoke harshly to the friend and told him to pay the money. The friend did not have any money. He kneeled down before the man and said, "Wait a while, and by and by I will give you the money." But the man seemed to have forgotten that the king had been kind to him. He had the friend put in jail. When the king heard about this, he did not like it, and he punished the hard-hearted man.

We are like this man. We ask God to be good to us and forgive us when we do wrong. Then, maybe, we are not good to our little friends when they do wrong to us. If they do a bad thing to us, we want to pay them back. We should not do this way. Jesus said that if we would not forgive others, God would not forgive us. To forgive our friends means to be just as good to them when they do wrong to us as when they do good to us.

Visit The Sick

Do you know someone who is sick? Some little boy or girl may be in bed with a fever, and would be so glad to see you come into the room with a bunch of flowers or some other little gift. How happy the sick one would be!

Are you not glad to see your friends when you are sick? It makes you forget some of your pain for a time, does it not?

When we give flowers to a friend, a teacher, or someone who is sick, it is the same as saying, "I love you."

Can you not get a book and show the sick ones some pictures, or read to them? You can read about Jesus, who had pity on all the sick and healed them.

Jesus was very kind, and was glad to take away the aches and pains when the people came to Him.

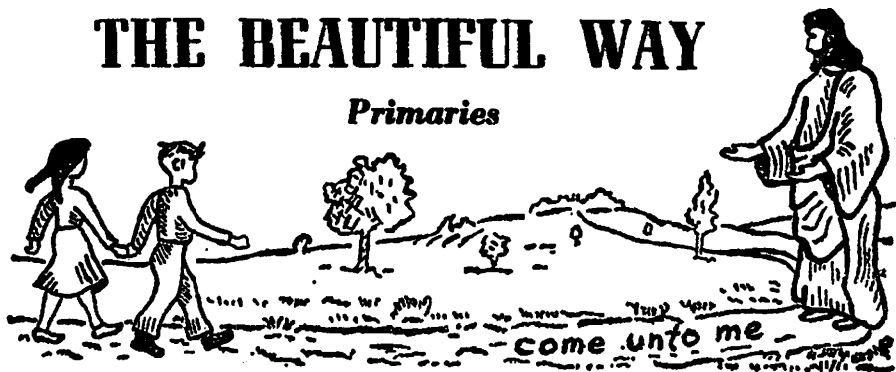
He had great power to heal all kinds of sickness, and in several places in the Bible we read that "he healed all the sick," that came to Him. He can heal now if we trust Him and ask for His healing power. Jesus can do all things.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who met Jacob as he left Laban to go back to his country?
2. Did Jacob fear Esau? Why?
3. Did Jacob pray to God for help?
4. Did Jacob send gifts to Esau?
5. Why should we do good to those who hate us?

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Part 24

June 14

JACOB WRESTLES WITH AN ANGEL

Genesis 32:21-32

Esau was coming to meet Jacob with 400 men. Jacob was afraid. He had sent Esau some presents, but he did not know just how Esau felt about him. Night came, so Jacob sent his children, his wives, his servants, and all he had over to the other side of a brook. Jacob was left alone, watching and waiting. Suddenly a man appeared and started wrestling with Jacob. On and on through the night, Jacob and this man (who was an angel of God) wrestled until it began to get light for morning was near. When the angel saw that Jacob would not give up, he touched his thigh, and his thigh was out of joint. When the day was breaking, the angel said, "Let me go, for the day breaketh." But Jacob knew he was an angel, so he said, "I will not let you go, except you bless me." He asked Jacob what his name was. (The name "Jacob" meant "supplanter.") The angel changed his name to Israel, which means "a prince of God." Jacob received his blessing, and he said, "My life is preserved because I have seen God face to face." Jacob never forgot to obey God from that day.

Memory Verse: Whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. Luke 9:24b.

The Cup That Runs Over

Down from the hillside a little bit of a stream came trickling. Up where it started it was so small. A boy, one day, thought it would be a fine thing to hem it in, so that it never could get out; so he dug and dug all around it, heaping the earth higher and higher on every side.

Then he sat down and watched the water away down in the bottom of his little well. In all the time he sat there he could not see that the water grew any higher. It stirred a little, and a bit of a leaf was swept round in a tiny circle on its surface. But he got tired of waiting and went away.

Not long after, he thought he would go up and look at the spring. Long before he reached the hillside he began to come to water rippling down through the meadow, on to the creek, still on to the dam at the mill.

"The spring must have gotten out of my well," he thought; and sure enough. Drop by drop the fountain had kept gurgling from the rock. Up the steep side of the dam it crept. On over the top, and then, laughing that it had done what the boy thought it could not do, it broke away and started for the great sea.

And on its way it washed the cheek of a meadow flower sweet and clean; it turned the wheels of a little mill; it gave a drink to one who was thirsty on a hot day in summer; it made the grasses along the way fresh and tender for the sheep that came a long way to satisfy their hunger.

It could not be kept in, because something deep down in the heart of the spring kept whispering, "Give! Keep giving!"

It is the cup which runs over that does the world good. When the heart overflows with goodness—the great goodness which God gives, and He alone—all the tired, thirsty, restless world is refreshed and made better!

What Do You Think Of?

A teacher once asked his class of forty pupils, to write on a sheet of paper the word, "Christmas." "Now," said the teacher, "write after the word 'Christmas' the first thing you think of." When the papers were returned to him, the teacher read the answers. Not one person had written "Jesus"! How sad it is that so few think about the Lord Jesus on His birthday, Christmas!

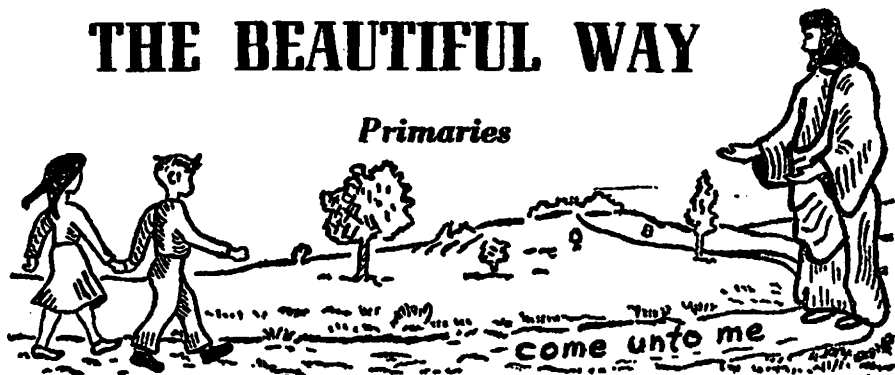
QUESTIONS:

1. Where did Jacob take his family, his servants, and all he had?
2. While he stood guard by the brook, who came to wrestle with him?
3. Would Jacob give in to the angel of God?
4. When the angel of God wanted to go, what did Jacob ask of him?
5. What was Jacob's name changed to? What did his new name mean?

Who is your very best friend? I know. It's Jesus, the One who loves us more than anyone else in this whole world.

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Part 25

June 20

ESAU FORGIVES JACOB

Genesis 33:1-16

Jacob looked across the field and saw his brother, Esau, coming with 400 men. Jacob divided his family into two companies, then went to meet Esau. He bowed to the ground, and then went a little farther and bowed again. He did this seven times. How he hoped Esau would have mercy upon him! God helped Jacob and caused Esau's heart to be tender. He ran to Jacob and fell on his neck and hugged and kissed him. They wept together. Then Esau saw Jacob's children and wives. Jacob called them and they all came and bowed before Esau as Jacob introduced them. Esau said, "Why did you send all the droves of animals to me?" Jacob said he was hoping to find favor with Esau. He said, "If I have been forgiven, take my presents. It is like seeing the face of God to see your face. God has been good to me and I have enough." Esau took Jacob's presents. Esau wanted to get started for home, but Jacob said the children were tender and his flocks were young, so he would just take his time. Esau left Jacob and returned to his home.

Memory Verse: But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. 1 Cor. 15:57.

Fishers of Men

Someone coming up the walk called out, "Hello, Billy! My son Jack and I are going fishing over at Rush Creek and I came to see if you want to go along?" It was Mr. Marshall, his Sunday School teacher.

"I'll ask Mother," said Billy hurrying into the house.

In a moment he was back with his fishing rod and the can of bait.

"Yes, I may go with you," answered Billy. And they hurried out to the car where Jack was waiting.

That evening a joyous Billy met his Daddy when he returned from work.

"I caught four trout today," he announced. "We are having them for supper."

"Now you are a real fisherman," said his father.

"I was just as good a fisherman before," said Billy. "Mr. Marshall told me that pond has no fish in it. To catch fish you have to go where the fish are."

"That's right, Billy. Simon Peter, an experienced fisherman once fished all night without catching anything because no fish were there. Jesus knew where some fish would be, so He told him to launch out into the deep water and let down his net, and sure enough in that spot he had a big catch. Another time Peter and other disciples fished all night and caught nothing. In the morning they saw Jesus standing on the shore. He told them to cast the net on the right side of the boat. When they fished at that spot they had a net full, one

hundred fifty-three fish — none of them minnows, all large fish." (See John 21:11.)

"If Mr. Marshall hadn't taken me where the fish were, I wouldn't have caught any today," said Billy.

"I am going to fish for men tonight," said Mr. Clark.

"Fish for men!" wondered Billy aloud.

"Yes," explained his father. "Jesus said to the fishermen disciples, 'From henceforth ye shall catch men' and 'Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men.' A group of fellows in our Sunday School class are going out tonight to hold an open air meeting. When people gather around to listen we will tell them how Jesus found us and what He means in our lives. Afterwards we will invite any who are willing to talk to us about receiving Jesus as their Saviour to wait. We will show them from the Bible how to get saved. Any who get saved will be fish-men we have caught."

QUESTIONS:

1. What did Jacob do with his family when he saw Esau coming with 400 men?

2. How did Jacob go out to meet Esau?

3. What did Esau do when he saw Jacob coming?

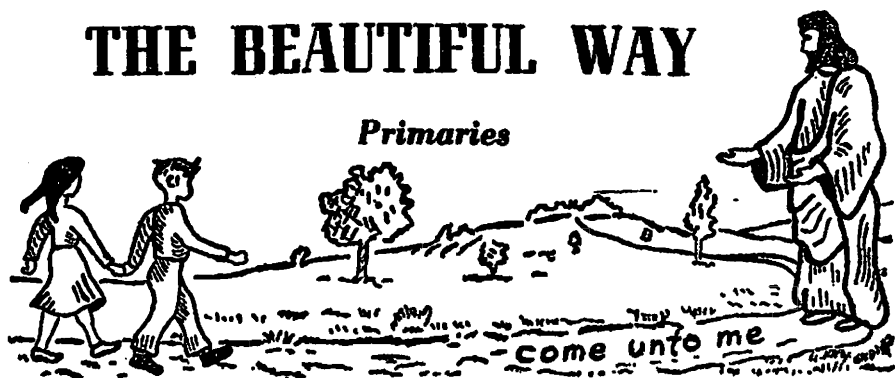
4. Did Esau accept Jacob's presents?

5. Did the brothers return to the home of Esau together?

Smile and that will help others to smile.

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Part 26

June 27

RACHEL DIES

Genesis 35:1, 7, 11-19

After Esau left, Jacob and his family moved to a town and there built a house. Later God told Jacob to move to Bethel. You remember it was at Bethel where Jacob saw that wonderful heavenly ladder in a dream. The angels were going up and down on it. God spoke to him there and said He would bring him back to that same place. Now, years later, he came back to Bethel. There Jacob built an altar and worshipped God. God talked to Jacob. He told him He would make a great nation of his family.

Jacob left and journeyed to Bethlehem. There Rachel became very sick. God gave her a baby boy. Jacob named this baby boy Benjamin. Rachel died. Boys and girls, you have a clay or dirt house, which is your body, to live in. But you have another part of you inside your body, which is your soul. That is the real you. When people who love Jesus die, He sends His angels to take their soul from the body to be with Him. Heaven is a beautiful place. It will be wonderful to be with Jesus and the angels.

Memory Verse: All go to one place; all are of the dust, and all turn to dust again. Who knoweth the spirit of man that goeth upward? Eccl. 3:20, 21a.

We All Must Die

Some people are very wicked. This means that they do many bad things and do not love God. Some men swear and lie and steal and also do other sinful things.

To tell a lie is to say things that are not true, and to steal is to take something that belongs to someone else.

Now, it is very wrong to swear, lie, or steal. God does not want us to do any such things. All who do wicked things will some day be punished.

Some day we shall die, for all of us must die. If a man should be going some place through the deep snow and should get lost and the cold should freeze him, it would kill him. He would not live any longer, but would be dead.

If we love God and live for Him, He will give us a home in heaven after we die; but if we are wicked, we shall be lost and punished for our wicked ways after we die.

We should think about our life here and see that we live to please God.

If we do not, when we come to die we may be like a man in a boat. At one time he could have been saved—while he was floating on the smooth waters. But he has let it go too far, and can only look forward to his doom.

Let us love God and live for Him on earth, so we can live with Him in heaven after we die. When Christ was here on earth he said: "I go

to prepare a place for you, . . . that where I am, there ye may be also."

Who Owns What?

One day soon after my grandmother's death, Mother brought home a pair of brass candlesticks. Sue and I recognized them at once as the ones which had always stood on Grandmother's dining room mantel.

Turning to us, Mother asked, "Whose candlesticks are these?" "Yours," we replied, "now that dear Grandma has gone."

"Nearly a hundred years ago my great-grandfather bought these candlesticks. He thought they were his, because he paid for them, but after a while he died. Then they came to my grandfather. He thought they were his, because his father left them to him. When he died they came to Aunt Lou. She kept them for many years. After Aunt Lou died, they came to my mother. Now Grandma is dead, and the candlesticks have come to me. Who really owns them?"

The point was plain. We understood that God is the real owner, and man merely has the use of things for a while. —Sel.

1. What happened the first time Jacob was at Bethel?
2. What did he do at Bethel this time?
3. What did Jacob name his baby boy?
4. Where does your soul live now?
5. When you die, where will your soul go? What is done with the body when the soul leaves it?

Second class postage paid at Guthrie, Okla. Published quarterly in weekly parts by Faith Pub. House, 920 W. Mansur, Guthrie, Okla. 73044. Marie Miles, Editor. Single subscription, 80c per year (52 papers). Includes junior and primary sections.