

The Beautiful Way

Primaries



Vol. 24, No. 3

July, Aug., Sept., 1973

Part 15

July 1

THE SAD RICH MAN

Mark 10:17-25

One day a rich young man came running to Jesus, and kneeling down before Him he said, "Good Master, what shall I do to have eternal life or be saved?" Jesus said to him, "Don't you know the commandments?" They are: "Do not kill, do not steal, do not tell lies, do not cheat, obey your father and mother, and do not commit adultery." The young man said, "I have kept these since I was a little boy." Jesus looked at him and loved him for being such a good boy and young man. (Jesus is pleased when we do right.) Jesus then said to the young man, "One thing you have not done; you must love Me more than your money and everything that you have. The one thing that you lack yet to do, is to go sell all you have and give it to the poor. You will then have treasures in Heaven. Take up your cross and follow me." The rich young man became very sad. He did not love God more than his riches. He let them stand between him and God and true happiness.

Memory Verse: Children, how hard it is for them that have riches to enter into the Kingdom of God. Mark 10:24b.

Love God the Best

"Let's play house," said Lula. "I love to play house best of anything."

"I love my puppy best of all," said David.

"You mean you love your puppy better than your mother?" said Terry. "I love my mother and father best of all."

"Well, I love God the best," said Pansy.

"You love God the best? Why would you love God when you can't even see Him?" said Sarah.

"I believe in Him," Pansy said. "He loves me and He proves it all the time. God gives me food, clothes, and a place to stay. He gave me my mother and father, all my toys, and my kitty. God helps me talk, move, see, and think. When I'm sick, I pray to Him and He heals me. God helps me all the time. He keeps me happy when I live for Him. That's why I love God the best, because He loves me."

"Who told you God loves you and gave you all those things?" said Lula. Lula never went to church, and her mother never told her about God and His Son, Jesus.

"It's in the Bible," said David. "There's a song about 'Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.'"

"My mother teaches me what the Bible says. That's how I know," said Pansy.

"But how can you love God," Sarah said again, "when you can't see Him?"

"My Mother says that we show our love to God by obeying what He says in the Bible. If we mind our parents, be kind and share with others, don't do naughty things, but believe in Jesus to help us do right, then we are loving God." Pansy explained it to her friends as best as she could.

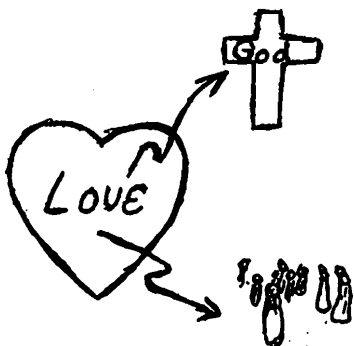
"Well, I don't guess I love God best of all, 'cause I sure do naughty things," said David.

"But if you tell Jesus you're sorry, and ask Him to forgive you, He will forgive all those naughty things, and make you happy. That's why I love God the best. He makes me so happy inside," Pansy said.

"Let's play house now," said David. "I'll be the Daddy, and I want to love God best of all, too, so I won't do naughty things."

-B. L. M.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



FIRST AND SECOND COMMANDMENT

If things don't turn out the way you had hoped they would, do not feel sad. It simply means that God has a better plan.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who came running to Jesus?
2. What did the young man ask Jesus?
3. What did Jesus tell him?
4. Had the young man kept all the commandments?
5. Why did he go away sad?

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Primaries



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Part 16

July 8

THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

Exodus 20:1, 2; Mark 12:30

Fathers and mothers, boys and girls stood at the foot of Mount Sinai. All of a sudden, they heard a voice speaking. It was God's voice. God said, "I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me." As the people thought of all the hard work and sorrow they had had when they were in Egypt as slaves, they were glad that now they were free. God wanted them to know that there was only one God. They were to worship Him.

Did you ever have a little kitten or puppy that got lost because he followed someone else off? When you found it, you would spank it and tell it to stay home because you loved it. Well, God wants you to stay with Him. You must not believe what anyone else says. Believe only what God says. Only God will hear us when we pray. No one loves us like God. Jesus tells us to love God with all our heart, mind, soul and strength.

Memory Verse: I am the Lord, and there is none else, there is no God beside me. Isaiah 45:5a.

God Rules Over All

God's people were still very far from home, in the land of Babylonia, and they were still very unhappy. They knew that God was punishing them. They had not obeyed God's rules, or laws, and God had allowed the enemy king to send soldiers to take them far away.

But now they were sorry. They told God so. They asked Him to forgive them. They prayed that God would somehow take them back home to Jerusalem. It seemed almost impossible; but surely God could do it.

God told Isaiah, His prophet, what He would do. He would use a different king. He would let Cyrus be the new king, and He would tell Cyrus to send the people back home. How could this ever be? The wall around the city was thick and strong.

Then God told Isaiah that He who had made the world could do anything. It was God who had made the earth. It was God who had made the people to live on the earth.

And surely God could help Cyrus to become king so that he could send God's people back to their homes in Jerusalem. God did! God helped Cyrus to think of a way. He helped him to make the water in the river go in another direction so that his soldiers could go under the wall where the river had been.

God wanted His people to know this: "I am the Lord, and there is none else, there is no God beside me" (Isaiah 45:5).

God wants you and me to know the same thing. God is great. God loves you. God can do anything. God wants us to love Him and to do what pleases Him. God uses rulers and armies to help people to know that no one is so great as God. Love Him. Pray to Him. Ask Him to be with you always! —Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

SATAN

EVIL
HATE
FORTUNE-TELLING
WITCHES
E.S.P.
OULJA BOARDS
MISERY



If you see others make mistakes then be sure you don't make the same mistakes. If you saw a boy or girl jump off a cliff and break his arm I am sure you would not jump off that cliff even if it doesn't look so deep. So if you see other boys and girls be sassy, disobedient, unthankful and the trouble they get into, then don't you follow their ways.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where is God?
2. What did God do for the Israelites?
3. Does God want us to stay with Him and not be lost?
4. Does God hear us when we pray?
5. How much are we to love God?

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Part 17

July 15

PRAY ONLY TO GOD

Exodus 20:4-6; Isaiah 45:20; John 4:19-24

God is speaking to the mothers and fathers, boys and girls from Mount Sinai. God said, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven images or statues like anything in heaven, or in the earth, or in the water. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them, for I the Lord am a jealous God. I will punish them that hate me. But I will show mercy to those who love me and keep my commandments." The people trembled. They remembered the Egyptians who worshipped the River Nile and the animals. The Israelites knew how God punished them. They wanted to worship the true God. He loved them and took them out of the land of Egypt where they were slaves. When Jesus came, He taught them how to worship God. Jesus told the woman at the well to worship God in spirit. God is a spirit. We cannot see our great God. He is too big to see with our eyes. When you worship, you want to know that God hears you when you pray.

Memory Verse: After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name, Matt. 6:9.

Sarah's Chain

"Why don't you ask your mother if you can have one of these chains," said Sarah. She was talking to Pansy about a chain that she had around her neck. It had a little image of Jesus' mother on the end of it.

Pansy had never seen this chain of Sarah's before and she thought it was pretty. She would like to have one. Pansy had been to Sarah's house and she had seen the little statues and pictures that were there. Sarah had said that they had those statues in her church, too, and they burn candles in front of them and pray to them.

"I'll go home, and ask my mother if I could have a chain like yours," said Pansy. "I'll tell you what she says tomorrow."

"Mother, Sarah has a chain she wears around her neck and it has a little picture of Jesus' mother on the end. Can I have one, too?"

"Why, Pansy what would you need a picture of Jesus' mother for?" asked Mother.

"Sarah said they pray to those pictures and statues. She has them in her house and in her church, too."

Mother went to get the Bible. She wanted Pansy to know what God has said about praying to images or statues and pictures.

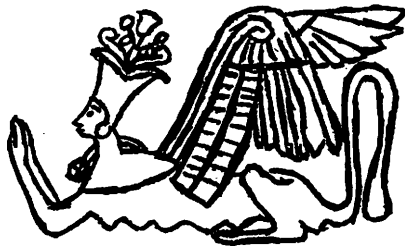
"Let's read a little, Pansy, and talk about this. God gave Moses a law for His people to obey. It says that we are not to make any image or statue, and we are not to bow down or pray to any image. God, who is a Spirit, and whom we cannot see, is the only true God. He wants us to have no other gods before Him. He loves us and wants us to love and serve

and worship Him only, by obeying and believing His Word. And when we pray to pictures or statues then we have made us other gods. We are worshipping false gods. False gods are not real. They can't see, hear, think, talk or anything. But we serve the real God, who is alive and sees, hears, speaks and knows all things. Wouldn't you rather love and pray to the true God?"

Pansy said, "Yes. I know that God is real because I believe He is, and because he helps me and answers my prayers, when I pray. I'll tell Sarah tomorrow that I don't need a chain around my neck, since I pray only to the real, invisible God. He doesn't want me to pray to anything else."

-B. L. M.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



A HEATHEN GOD

QUESTIONS:

1. What did God speak from Mt. Sinai?
2. Will God punish those who hate him and disobey him?
3. What will he do to those who love Him?
4. Can man-made images or gods help us?
5. What did Jesus tell the woman at the well?

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Part 18

July 22

DO NOT SWEAR

Exodus 20:7; Leviticus 24:10-14; Matthew 12:25-37

God spoke from Mount Sinai and said, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain." God's name is great, and holy, and good. We want to love God and speak softly about Him. Some boys and girls you know might not know it's wrong to swear or curse. But you know it's wrong. God will punish you if you take His name in vain. The Bible tells about a woman's son who cursed. The son was brought to Moses. They told Moses this man had cursed God. They put the man in jail until God told what to do with him. God said for all that heard him curse God to put their hands upon him. That son who cursed was to be stoned. Oh, how sad! Today God is greatly displeased if we curse or take His name in vain. Jesus also said that idle words are wrong. How careful we need to be in what we say. Love God and Jesus and your words will be right about Him.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain. Exodus 20:7.

A Little Hero

Several boys in New York were playing with their tops when one of their number began to swear.

A Sunday School boy promptly said, "Johnnie, if you swear I won't play with you."

Johnnie very earnestly answered, "I don't care, and I'll swear as much as I have a mind to."

Willie said, "Well, you'll swear without me," and picking up his tops, he put them into his pocket and moved on toward home.

Johnnie saw that Willie would do as he said, and feeling somewhat ashamed at his conduct, called out, "Willie, if you will come back and play, I won't swear any more."

Willie came back, saying, "Johnnie, my Sunday School teacher says swearing is very wicked and wrong, and I dare not play with any boy who is wicked." He then resumed his play.

This was a little hero who was not afraid to stand up like a brave soldier for the cause of pure speech and right morals, and was in obedience to the command of God.

—Sel.

The Chinese have a saying that goes like this: "If you talk with a soft voice, you do not need a thick stick."

This saying shows us how to live in peace. Fighting boys and girls do not have many friends. If we carry the big stick, it is sure we will use it. Then others will use big sticks, too. Then there will be a lot of fighting.

But the soft word can be spoken. No one can fight against soft words. Instead, they make us feel ashamed if we have done wrong things.

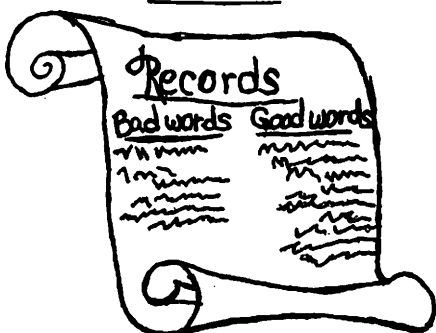
What One Boy Did!

A twelve year old boy was converted to Christ in a prayer meeting held in his Sunday School. Two weeks later an evangelistic service was held on a Sunday evening in his church. The boy appeared with his father, mother, brother and sister. When the invitation was given to come to the altar, the entire family came, led by the boy, and all became Christians. The father had been a drinking man, but he has never drank liquor since.

A great change came to that home. That boy was a witness of the Light that all his family through him might believe. This is the work of all of us that are saved.

—Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. What is the third commandment?
2. Do all boys and girls know about this commandment?
3. What did the son do when he fought with a man?
4. What did Moses do with him?
5. What did God say to do to him?

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Part 19

July 29

STICKS OF SIN KILL REST

Exodus 20:8; Numbers 15:32-36; Mark 2:27; Hebrews 4:10

The fourth Commandment is, "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy." The sabbath day is Saturday, the seventh day of the week. Since Jesus came, this commandment has been made a rest in the soul from sin. The old sabbath was a day of not working. One day a man picked up sticks on the sabbath. He was stoned because he broke the sabbath. But when Jesus came He saved all who believed in Him from their sins which caused them trouble in their hearts. If you steal, you feel bad, but when you pray and ask Jesus to forgive you, then you feel good and restful in your soul again. Boys or girls who pick up the sticks of sin will lose this rest in their souls. So every day is a sabbath day and we are to keep every day holy; not just Saturday. Some of the "sticks" of sin that will kill the peace in your heart are: cheating, lying, stealing, and disobeying your parents. Can you name others? By living sinless, you keep the sabbath day holy every day.

Memory Verse: There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. Hebrews 4:5.

Tell God When You Do Wrong

A person who loves the Lord Jesus tries to do only that which pleases Him. Jesus is our Friend, our very best Friend, and we know that He is glad when we choose to do right.

Do you do right all day long, every day? Although you want to be good you cannot always be good, can you? But there is something you can do. What is it?

You can go to God and pray. You can say, "I have done wrong, but I am sorry. Please forgive me. Please wash away my sin." If you are truly sorry, God will forgive you when you ask Him. That is because Jesus has already died to take your punishment.

Perhaps you would like to be like the boy who wanted Jesus to help him. "Go with me," he said to Jesus. "Tell me what to say. Show me what to do. I want to be good. I want to make you happy. But I don't always know how to choose what is right." Jesus helped him.

Right now, Jesus is alive, but you cannot see Him. He sees you and is with you. Are you really trying to do only what God wants you to do? Ask the Lord Jesus to help you.

The Bible says, "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." 1 John 2:6. When you do wrong, ask God to forgive you. Then try again. —Sel.

HIS MOTHER'S BIBLE

One day an ocean steamer picked up a raft. Some men and a boy were on it. The captain asked the boy, "Who are you?"

He said: "I am a Scotch boy on my way to America. My father and mother are dead."

"What have you there?" asked the captain. He took hold of a rope around the boy's body.

"My mother's Bible is tied to that. She told me never to lose it."

"Could you not have saved something else?"

"No, I couldn't, and save the Bible, too."

"I'll take care of a boy who clings to his mother's Bible," said the captain.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



"PICKING UP STICKS OF SIN
WILL KILL SOUL REST."

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the fourth commandment?
2. How did one man break the sabbath?
3. What did Jesus do about the sabbath when he came?
4. What kind of sticks do you pick up today to kill that rest or peace in your heart?
5. How many days are we to keep holy in a week?

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Part 20

Aug. 5

CHILDREN, OBEY YOUR PARENTS

Exodus 20:12; Matthew 15:4; Deuteronomy 21:18-21

Hundreds and hundreds of men and women, boys and girls stood at the foot of Mt. Sinai as God spoke to them. They heard God's voice say, "Honor thy father and thy mother that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." God told Moses to see to it that children obeyed their parents. Moses told the people that if a son did not obey his mother and father, they were to punish him. After they had punished him and he still would not obey, Moses told them to bring their son before the elders of the city. They were to tell the elders about his evil ways. The men of the city would stone the son with stones until he died. Moses said all evil boys and girls would be punished in this way. God expects you to obey your parents. Jesus wants you to obey your parents. Jesus will bless you, and you will be happier when you do. If you obey your parents, God has promised you a long life. God knows what is best for us, doesn't He?

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

Whispering Footsteps

"O Eddy, where are you?"

"Here, Mother," came a shrill voice from the back yard.

Then the back door opened, and Mrs. Taylor heard the soft thud of bare feet. When Eddy entered the sitting room and stood by Mother's sewing table, she only asked: "Why, Eddy, what's the matter?"

"Nothing's the matter," said Eddy, looking out of the window. "What did you call me for, Mother?"

"I am sorry my boy has disobeyed me about going to the apple bin without asking." Eddy gave a little start. "The reason God put me here as your mother, Eddy, is because He thinks I know better what you ought to do and ought not to do than you do yourself."

Eddy did not answer. He was wondering how mothers knew so much. His mother seemed to know about everything.

"I am especially sorry that you should disobey me by sneaking through the coal room window," said Mrs. Taylor. "I should much rather have you say, 'I won't mind you,' and go in before my eyes than go in, telling a lie to me."

"Why, Mother, I didn't say"—began Eddy, glad of a chance to defend himself.

"Do you think you talk only with your lips?" interrupted his mother. "What do you suppose whispered to me that you were in the apple cellar and then went through the coal room?"

"Look behind you," said his mother.

The boy turned, and there between him and the door were five coal dusty footprints on the white floor.

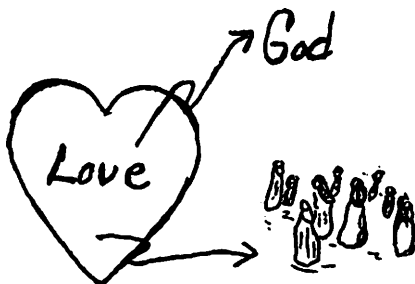
"Do you think we can ever do wrong, Eddy, and not leave marks of it somewhere?" she asked. "The marks which sin leaves are on your heart, which ought

to be clean and white for God's eyes, instead of being all tracked over by wrong-doings."

"Won't they come off?" asked Eddy. He meant the footprints on the floor, but when she said, "The blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin. You must ask Him to forgive you, Eddy, and take away your guilt, and make you hate sin, which leaves such ugly footprints on your life."

—Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

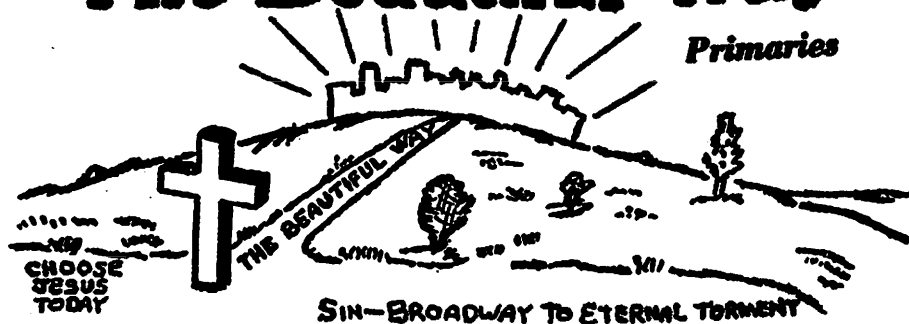


QUESTIONS:

1. What did God tell the people at Mt. Sinai?
2. What does it mean to obey your parents?
3. What did God tell Moses to do to the boy or girl who would not obey their parents?
4. What happens to disobedient children today?
5. How will we be blessed if we obey our parents?

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Part 21

Aug. 12

THOU SHALT NOT KILL

Exodus 20:13; Matthew 5:38, 39, 43, 44; 1 John 3:11-15

God again thundered from the Mount these words, "Thou shalt not kill." When Jesus came, He told us that according to Moses' law, whoever killed another man would have to die too. Jesus wants us to have love in our hearts for our enemies, and that one who does us wrong. Jesus said if someone hits you on one cheek you are to turn the other cheek and let him hit it, too. We will need love in our hearts to do this, but God will help us if we ask Him.

The Bible tells us about how Cain hated Abel. This was a sad, sad thing to do. Cain was jealous because God accepted Abel's sacrifice of a lamb, and did not accept his sacrifice of fruit. Jesus tells us to pray for those who do us wrong, and to love our enemies. The Bible says that it is wrong to hate anyone. We cannot be saved and hate people, so let us be careful so we will be ready to go to heaven. Pray for Jesus to help you to love everybody.

Memory Verse: Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer. 1 John 3:15a.

Love One Another

If you really love the Lord Jesus Christ, others will know it by listening to what you say and by watching what you do.

John had been with Jesus when He walked on this earth. John had often heard Jesus say, "Love one another." Jesus was back in heaven with God the Father when John wrote some letters to other believers.

John wrote, "Dear brothers, I am not telling you about a new rule. You have heard Jesus say that we should love one another. Do you say that you love Jesus and are a Christian? Then surely you will not hate anyone."

Yes, one of the very first things Jesus had said to those who followed Him was, "Love one another."

Not everyone loves God. Not everyone wants to please Him. Not everyone wants to choose to do right. Those who would rather do wrong than please God will hate those who love God. John said, "Don't be surprised at this."

We know that wanting to kill or murder another person is a terrible sin. But John says in his letter that he who hates is a murderer at heart.

Have you ever heard a boy or a girl yell, "I hate you"? Perhaps you have even said it yourself. If you love God, do not hate anyone. God's way is to love.

And if we love, we will show it by the way we act. Long ago, a woman shared her food and money with a poor lame man and a woman whose husband was dead. They said, "You must be a Christian. Jesus said to love and to show love. You are doing just that. Thank you."

"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. 1 John 3:18.

-Sel.

Suppose I broke a large window with my fist, what harm should I receive?

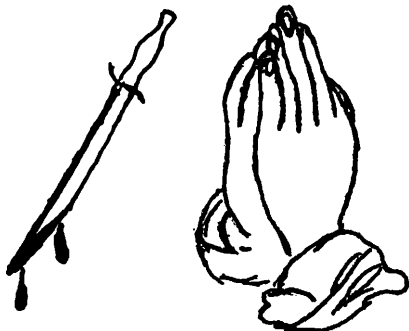
"You would be punished for breaking glass."

Would that be all the harm I should receive?

"No! Your hand would be cut by the glass."

Yes; and so it is with sin. If you break God's laws you will be punished for breaking them, and very often there will also be physical hurt as a result of breaking them.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



MURDER
HATE

LOVE
FORGIVENESS

QUESTIONS:

1. What did God tell the people at the foot of the Mt.?
2. What does it mean to kill?
3. Are we suppose to hate people?
4. Why did Cain kill Abel?
5. What are we suppose to do to our enemies?

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Part 22

Aug. 19

GOD GIVES ADAM A WIFE

Exodus 20:14; Genesis 2:15, 24

As the children of Israel stood at the foot of Mount Sinai, God again gave them a commandment. God said, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." In the beginning God made the beautiful garden of Eden. God put the man called Adam in this garden. God told him to take care of it. He could eat of all the trees but one. As God looked upon Adam, He felt sorry for him. No doubt Adam was lonely and sad. God said, "I will make Adam an help meet." God caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep. While he slept, He took a rib from his side and from this rib He made a woman. When Adam saw her, he was happy. He said, "She is bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh." This was the first marriage. When a young man and woman marry, they are to leave their mothers and fathers. They are to stay together until one of them dies. God did not make several women for Adam. God made only one. That is still His law and plan for marriage today.

Memory Verse: What therefore God has joined together, let not man put asunder. Matthew 19:6b.

God's Plan for Families

Long ago, God made the world and everything in it. God made the dry land and the sea. God made the sun, the moon, and the stars. God made the animals. And then God made the first man, Adam.

God took the animals to Adam, one by one, to see what name Adam would give each one. Whatever Adam called each bird, fish, or animal, that was its name. Adam liked the animals, but he needed another human being.

God caused Adam to go into a deep sleep. From Adam God took a rib. From the rib God made a woman. God had made Adam so that he could be a father. God made the first woman, Eve, so that she could be a mother. "Live together and be a family," God told Adam and Eve. God would give them baby boys and baby girls. And when they grew up, they were to leave their parents and start families of their own. That was God's plan.

Everything that God made was very good. The plants had seeds so there could be more plants. God provided the kind of food that each animal would like. And over every bird, fish, and animal, man was to be in charge. "And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good" (Genesis 1:31).

Many years after God made the first man and woman, Jesus was born as a tiny Baby. Mary was His mother, and God was His Father. But Jesus lived in the family of Mary and Joseph. That was God's plan for Him.

Jesus was an example to us. God wants us to live in families. Sometimes families are broken up. Sometimes the mother or father is gone.

Whatever your family is like, thank God for it. God planned families. It is a happy way to live. Families are part of God's plan! —Sel.

A Happy Home

Draw a ring around the numbers of the things which help to make a home happy.

1. The children play together.
2. The children love each other.
3. The children let Mother do ALL the work.
4. Everybody loves and serves Jesus.
5. The children quarrel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



"WHAT GOD HATH
JOINED TOGETHER. . ."

QUESTIONS:

1. What was the seventh commandment God gave to the children of Israel?
2. What was the name of the first man and woman God made?
3. Why did God feel sorry for Adam when he was alone?
4. What did God make for Adam?
5. How long is a man and woman to live together when they are married?

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Part 23

Aug. 26

THOU SHALT NOT STEAL

Exodus 20:15; 1 Kings 21:5-23

God has commanded us not to steal. King Ahab wanted a vineyard. Because Naboth would not sell one to him, the king was sad. Jezebel, his wife, told him to cheer up; that she would get the vineyard for him. She wrote letters to the elders in the city where Naboth lived. She signed King Ahab's name to them. She told them to gather the people together and bring Naboth before them. She told them to have two men bear false witness or tell lies on Naboth. Have them say that he cursed God and the King. And then take him out and stone him until he died. The men of the city did as she told them to do. They sent word to Jezebel and said, "Naboth is dead." Jezebel then told Ahab to go down and take Naboth's vineyard because he was dead. The prophet Elijah met Ahab in Naboth's vineyard and said, "Because you have done evil in the sight of God, He will take away your children, and the dogs will eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel."

Memory Verse: Let him that stole, steal no more. Ephesians 4:28a.

The Four Pennies

"But why can't you go to the store?" asked Judy. "My mother let's me go."

"Mother says I have to wait until I'm older before I cross the street by myself," said Lily slowly.

"But you won't be by yourself," insisted Judy. "You will be with me."

"I'll go ask Mother," said Lily.

"And ask her for some pennies too."

Lily looked for Mother and remembered she was next door. Just then Lily saw some dimes, nickels, and pennies on the piano bench.

"I wonder what these are for," said Lily. "Maybe I could just take the four pennies. There is so much other money here, it won't be missed."

She took the four pennies and ran out the door to Judy who was waiting.

Lily did not tell Judy that she had not asked Mother. Lily did not tell Judy where she got the four pennies.

When they came to the street, Judy took Lily's hand carefully and then they both crossed the street.

In the store were all kinds of things to buy. It was hard for Lily to make up her mind. Then she decided to buy bubble gum and peppermint patties. But somehow she did not feel very happy on the way home.

"I'll have to go in now," said Judy. "It is nearly time for supper."

Mother had returned and was hurrying to get supper.

At supper Lily kept thinking about the wrong she had done. In the middle of the meal the doorbell rang. The newsboy was collecting money for the newspaper delivery.

"Where is the rest of the money I put on the piano bench?" asked Mother. "Four pennies are missing."

Lily acted as if she were going to cry. Mother got four more pennies from her purse, paid the boy, and came back into the kitchen.

"Mother, I'm sorry," said Lily. "I took the money to spend at the store. And I went to the store with Judy without telling you."

"That is very serious," said Daddy.

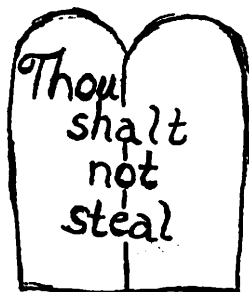
"I'm really sorry," said Lily again.

"I'll never never do it again. Do you suppose God will forgive me?"

"Lily, God always forgives us when we are truly sorry. We forgive you too," said Mother gently. "If you mean never to do it again, perhaps we can find a way for you to earn those four pennies and pay the money back."

-Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. What commandment are we studying about today?
2. What did Ananias and Sapphira sell?
3. What did they tell Peter?
4. How did they rob God?
5. What happened to them?

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Primaries



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Part 24

Sept. 2

THOU SHALT NOT TELL LIES

Exodus 20:16; Acts 5:1-11

God spoke from Mount Sinai and said, "Thou shalt not lie." Ananias and Sapphira sold some land. Instead of giving all the money to God as they had promised, Ananias brought part of the money to Peter, and said that this was all they had received from selling the land. Peter said, "Why have you lied to God and to man? While it still belonged to you, you could have promised part of it to God, and it would have been all right. You have lied not only to man, but also to God." When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and died. Some young men carried him out and buried him. Three hours later Sapphira, his wife, came in not knowing that he husband was dead. Peter asked her if they had sold the land for so much, and she said, "Yes." Peter said, "Why have you agreed together to lie to God? The men who have buried your husband will carry you out also." And she fell down dead. Great fear came upon the people. God knows and sees all things.

Memory Verse: All liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire. Revelation 21:8.

Sally's Stories

Sally told stories that were not true. She told them to Mother and Daddy and to all her friends. Sally did not seem to care that they were not true. She never explained that she was telling a pretend story.

Sometimes Sally talked about people who had come to visit her, but they really had not come at all. Sometimes she told people that lions, giraffes, and elephants lived at her house.

Everyone knew that Sally did not tell the truth, but Sally did not seem to care.

One day Mother read from the Bible, "He that speaketh lies shall not escape." (Proverbs 19:5.)

"I will tell only the truth after this," said Sally, because she listened to God's Word. —Sel.

No Little Children There

Prayer meeting was just over and Sister — was going down the aisle when she saw one of the saint's little girls. She stopped and said, "How is my little, Angela?" The little girl smiled. The Sister asked "Is your little brother, here too?"

With that Angela ran off. Very soon she and her little brother were standing in front of the Sister, hand in hand, and both with a very sweet smile upon their faces. The Sister loved them and planted a little kiss on each forehead. Then she thought, "There won't be that kind of love in hell."

No there won't be any little children down there to look up and smile and comfort the heart. There just won't be any kind of love at all down there. Oh, how

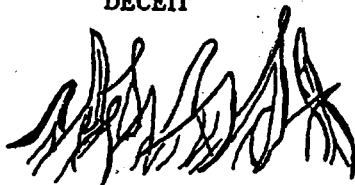
sad it will be for those who go. There will be no hope at all for them, no ray of sunshine, no flowers, no peace, no rest, no water, nothing that will bring joy or gladness. Surely, you do not want to go to that place.

So dear children, love the Lord and do right at all times. If you do disobey or are naughty, tell Jesus you are sorry and ask him to forgive your wrongs. Believe that He does and you will be ready to go to Heaven where there will be nothing but love, joy, and gladness. —Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



FALSE WITNESS
LIES
DECEIT



"ALL LIARS SHALL TAKE
PART IN THE LAKE OF FIRE."

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the ninth commandment?
2. Why was King Ahab sad?
3. What did Jezebel say she would do for him?
4. How did she get Naboth's vineyard?
5. Who did King Ahab see when he went down to Naboth's vineyard?
6. How was Jezebel and King Ahab punished?

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Primaries



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July, Aug., Sept., 1973

Part 25

Sept. 9

THE RICH MAN COVETED

Exodus 20:17; Luke 12:13-20

The Tenth Commandment is: "Thou shalt not covet." One time Jesus told the people a parable. A certain rich man had some land which bore a lot of grain and fruits. The rich man thought to himself, saying "What shall I do because I have no room to put all my fruits and grain?" Then he said to himself, "I will tear down my barns and build bigger barns for all my fruit and goods; then I will say to my soul, Soul, you have much goods saved up for many years. Take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry." But God said unto him, "Thou fool, this night you will die. Then whose shall those things be that you have stored up?" This man was surely surprised. He had forgotten about others who were in need, and thought only about himself. Jesus said that those who lay up treasures only for themselves are not rich toward God, and a covetous person cannot enter the kingdom of God. We are to be content with such things as we have, and not want things that others have.

Memory Verse: Godliness with contentment is great gain.
1 Timothy 6:6.

Pansy's Pennies

Grandpa gave Pansy almost ten dollars worth of pennies! She was so thankful to get them.

What should Pansy do with all those pennies? What would you do if you had them? The first thing that came to her mind was to save them.

"Mama, let's buy a big piggy bank so I can save all these pennies for myself," said Pansy.

"Is that what you've decided to do? Just save it all for yourself?" Mother said. "Can you tell me who gave you those pennies?"

"Why Grandpa did, and he said that they were just for me," Pansy answered.

"But who gave them to Grandpa, and who put it in Grandpa's heart to give them to you?" asked Mother.

"Well, it must have been Jesus who told him to give them to me," Pansy said.

"Then those pennies are a gift from Jesus to you, aren't they Pansy? I wonder what you could do with them to show how much you love Him? Since Jesus was unselfish and gave them to Grandpa, and since Grandpa was unselfish and gave them to you, Jesus wouldn't want you to be selfish and keep them all for yourself. He would want you to share them. When we pray at bedtime, let's ask God to help you know what you should do with the pennies, since they really belong to Jesus."

Jesus answered Pansy's prayer. The next day, she remembered that her little friend, Judy, often cried because the children made fun of the holes in her socks. Pansy told Mother, "I could buy Judy some nice socks. Then the other children won't make fun of her, and she won't cry."

Jesus helped Pansy to remember that Mother often couldn't find a pencil to write with. So Pansy bought mother some pencils. Mother was sure thankful for them. Sometimes Pansy bought little things that she needed. She was able to save more money and also to share it with others. Pansy was happy sharing her pennies and the Lord blessed her, too, because she had an unselfish heart.

-B. L. M.

BE TRUE

Be true to Jesus, little one,
No matter what the test;
If you will love and trust in Him,
You'll happy be, and blest.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. What is the tenth commandment?
2. What does it mean to covet things that belong to other boys and girls?
3. What did the rich man say that he was going to do with all his fruit and goods?
4. What did he say to his soul?
5. What did God say to him?

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Sept. 16

THE SOWER SOWS THE WORD

Mark 4:3-20

A man went out to sow some seed, Jesus told the people. Some of the seed fell by the wayside. The birds flew down and ate it up. Jesus said that this was like some people who hear the Word of God and Satan comes and takes it out of their minds. Some of the seed fell on stony ground. Because there was not much dirt on the stony ground, it died when the sun arose. Jesus said this is like some people who hear the Word and are glad to know how to live right and go to heaven. But when someone makes fun of them or does them wrong they get hurt and turn away from God. How sad! Some of the seed fell among the thorns. The thorns grew up and choked the seed out. Jesus said this was like people who let the cares of this life and riches choke out the Word of God. But how wonderful it is that some of the seed fell on good ground. Some of this seed brought forth thirty bushels, and some sixty, and some, one hundred bushels. We want to obey all the commandments we have studied and be fruitful.

Memory Verse: The sower soweth the Word. Mark 4:14

The Beauty of Growing Things

Did you ever see an apple tree, blossoming like a great ball of delicate pink popcorn, in the spring? Have you ever looked closely at a lily growing in your garden or beside the road? Have you ever seen the trees dressed in their autumn colors of red and gold? Or have you seen evergreens in the snow? All the year around we can see the beauty of growing things. What a dull place this world would be without the color and texture of trees and ferns and flowers.

There is another thing to notice about growing things. That is their usefulness to us. The trees give us shade in summer, fruit to eat, lumber for houses and furniture, and paper for our books. We all know the many uses for flowers. Then there is grass which holds in the earth's moisture, rests our eyes, and feeds our cattle. Vegetables and grain of all sorts give us needed food and energy for our work and play.

When God made the world He saw the need for vegetation in all its varieties and uses. He planned for vegetation to go on and on by providing seeds and seasons for growing. Before a plant wears itself out, it provides seeds for new plants and with the help of the rain and the sunshine the growing cycle continues. We could not exist without the good gift of vegetation.

—Sel.

Little Things Grow

A penny is a very little thing, but if you saved one a day, in a long span of time you would have a lot of money.

The acorn is a little thing, but the black bear and his family live in the oak that springs from it.

A word is a little thing, yet one word has been many a man's destiny—for good or evil.

A spark is a little thing, but it can start a poor man's fire or set the world ablazing.

An egg is a little thing, but the huge crocodile creeps into life out of it.

Be faithful in doing little things well, for little things grow into big things.

—Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



STONY GROUND



THORNY GROUND



GOOD GROUND

QUESTIONS:

1. What did the man sow?
2. What happened to the seed that fell on stony ground?
3. What happened to the seed that fell by the way side?
4. What happened to the seed that fell among thorns?
5. What happened to the seed that fell on good ground?

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Part 27

Sept. 23

GOD WRITES ON HEARTS

2 Corinthians 3:3, 9; Acts 2:1-11

God wrote the Ten Commandments upon flat stones. God wanted the Israelites to remember them and obey them. But they could not obey them. Why? Jesus (and the Holy Spirit) had not come. The Israelites kept a feast every year. It was in memory of God giving them the Ten Commandments. But God had something better for them over 2,000 years later when Jesus died on the cross and arose from the grave. As He went back to heaven, He told the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit to come. On the day of Pentecost, 120 people were waiting in the upper room. Suddenly, there came a sound from heaven like a mighty rushing wind. It filled the whole house. There was a little bit of fire like two tongues upon each one. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and were happy. They wanted others to know that now God had sent His Holy Spirit to put His commandments in their hearts. No longer were they to be just on tables of stone.

Memory Verse: I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts and will be their God. Jer. 31:33b.

God Gives Rules for Living

God created the world and everything in it. God made man. God made rules for man to live by.

Long ago, Moses led God's people from Egypt to the Promised Land. On the way, God told Moses to go up onto a mountain. There God gave Moses His rules so that Moses would know how God expected him to live. We call them the Ten Commandments.

At first the rules were on stone tablets. Now you can read them in the Bible.

Down through the years, people's habits have changed. Everyone does not eat or dress or live the same way. But people are the same inside. And the rules for living given by God are good for all people everywhere. Know what they are. Then live by them!

Long after Moses lived, there was a man named Paul. Jesus had come and gone back to heaven. Paul preached and wrote letters. Paul wanted many to know and love God. He wanted everyone to live by God's rules.

In his letter to the people at Galatia, Paul wrote, "Whatever you sow you will reap."

Paul meant that if they planted corn seeds they could expect to have corn plants grow. In the same way if they fought with words or fists, they could expect others to fight them back.

It worked another way, too. If they were kind and loving, then others would be kind and loving.

"And don't get tired of being kind," Paul said.

Paul's advice is good for you, too. If you yell and scold, others will yell at you. If you share and are kind, you will find that others will be kind to you. Ask God to help you obey His rules for living right. —Sel.

Strip a small tree or a shrub of its outer covering, its bark, and you will discover that each branch, knot, and blemish that shows on the surface had its start in the tree's heart, where its mark plainly shows.

Almost everything grows from within. Many of the disagreeable things that creep into our lives have their real beginning deep within ourselves. If the heart is kept right, life will be right.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



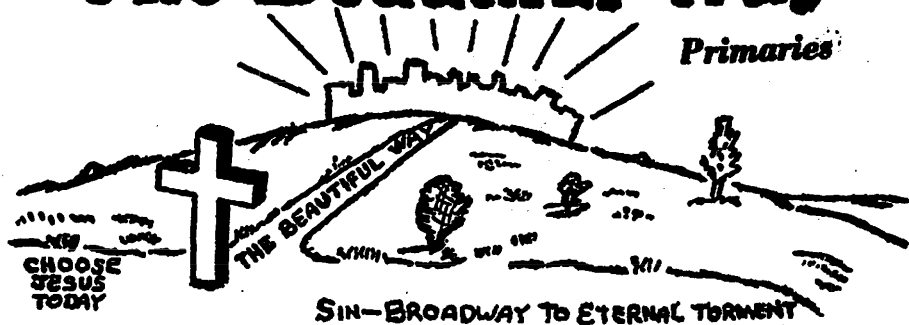
**"I WILL PUT MY LAWS
INTO THEIR MIND, AND
WRITE THEM IN THEIR
HEARTS."**

QUESTIONS:

1. Where did Moses write the Ten Commandments?
2. What feast did the Israelites keep each year and why?
3. Two thousand years later what happened on the day of Pentecost?
4. Where did God write his laws when the Holy Spirit came?
5. Were the disciples happy when the Holy Spirit came into their hearts?

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Part 28

Sept. 30

CHRIST IS BETWEEN US AND GOD

Exodus 20:18-21; Numbers 16:46-48; Deuteronomy 18:18

The children of Israel stood at the foot of Mount Sinai. They were afraid. The mountain smoked, lightnings flashed, and thunders rolled. The noise of the trumpet and all made them afraid. They said to Moses, "Speak to us and we will hear you. Let not God speak to us or we might die." Moses said, "You must not be afraid. God wants you to be afraid to sin. God wants you to know He is real and great." The people stood far away from the mountain. So God talked with Moses, and he then talked to the people. He became their mediator. One time the Israelites sinned. God sent a disease among them to punish them. They cried to Moses. Moses cried to God. Moses told Aaron to take a pan of fire off the altar and run among the people. The disease stopped. So Moses stood between them and God. Today we have a Mediator or One who stands between us and God. That is Jesus Christ. Jesus died for our sins. Through Christ's blood our sins are forgiven.

Memory Verse: It is Christ . . . , who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. Rom. 8:34.

God Gives Us His Son

Have you ever wondered why you were born? God wants you to be His friend.

God is holy. He hates Sin. Man is sinful. How can a holy God be friends with sinful man? The answer is that He can't!

What can man do to get rid of sin? Really, there is nothing that man can do. No matter how much he tries to be good, he can't be good enough.

Well, then, is there a way?

Yes. God planned a way. God made a way. Jesus is that way. God loved each of us so much that He sent His Son from heaven.

Jesus never, ever sinned. When He died on the cross, it was not for anything wrong that He had done. He never sinned. Jesus took the punishment that sinners deserve. Jesus died for you!

Will everyone go to heaven? No. If you want to go to heaven, you must believe that Jesus died to take your punishment. He did. Believe it!

When Jesus died, He showed how very much God loves us. Yes, God loves the sinner even though He does not love his sin.

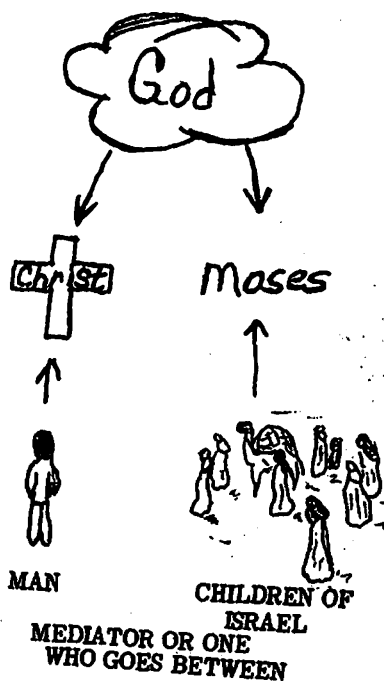
Knowing that Jesus died to take the punishment you deserve gives you joy.

Oh, you will not be happy every minute. You will be disappointed. You may be sick or sad.

But by knowing that Jesus died for you, you will have peace. You will want to thank God for his great love. You will be glad that you can talk to God because of what Jesus did for you. You will know that you were born so that you and God can be friends. Thank God for sending Jesus!

-Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. Why were the Israelites afraid at Mt. Sinai?
2. What did they say to Moses?
3. What happened one time when they sinned?
4. Who is our Mediator?
5. What does God do when he sees our sins covered with Jesus' blood?

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Oct., Nov., Dec., 1973

Part 14

Oct. 7

SAUL'S PRIDE BRINGS GOD'S WRATH

1 Sam. 10:21; 1 Sam. 15:7-35

The children of Israel wanted a king like the other nations around them. So God let them have a king, but it did not please Him. God told Samuel, the man of God, to anoint Saul as the first king of the Israelites. When it was time to make Saul the king, he could not be found. He was hiding, because he was very bashful. He had humility in his heart, and did not think he was very great. The people were glad for Saul to be their king. God blessed Saul as long as he obeyed Him.

But after awhile Saul became proud. Since he was king, he was not careful to obey God. God told Saul to destroy all their enemies. But Saul saved some of them. He thought he was too great to obey all of the words of God. This caused God to be very displeased. God was sorry that he had made Saul the king. Samuel said that God had made Saul king when he was little in his own eyes, but now that he was proud and disobedient, God no longer wanted him to be the king.

Memory Verse: When pride cometh, then cometh shame.
Proverbs 11:2a.

Joe and Mary's Pride

Joe and Mary were all ready for church. Mary's blue dress with pink flowers, white shoes and purse made her look like a doll. Joe's white shirt was new and the sunshine made it look so bright.

Mary was looking in the tall mirror by the hall. "I look so pretty today. Don't you think so, Joe?" she said. "And I look so handsome, too," said Joe. "We both will probably be the best looking of all the children in Sunday School."

Mary said, "But I think I look prettier than you do, Joe." Then Joe looked at Mary's dress. It wasn't new. So he said, "Well, your dress isn't new, but my shirt is." "My purse is new, and it matches my shoes," said Mary. Joe began to feel bad. "Well, who cares about your old purse. I don't think you look so pretty anyway. So there!" said Joe.

Mother was in the bedroom, and she heard what Joe and Mary were talking about. "Now children," said Mother. "How are we going to sing and pray to God today with bad feelings against each other in our hearts? Do you think God is pleased with what you said to Mary, Joe?"

"Well, she said that she looked better than I do, and I don't think she looks pretty anyway," said Joe.

"Why Mary," Mother said. "Don't you know that it shows pride in your heart to think you look so pretty that it makes you better than others? God hates pride. He's the One who provides for our clothes and food, and He wants us to give Him thanks, and not think we're any better than anyone else. All people are equal in God's sight, whether they are rich or poor, black or white, or have clean clothes or not. Pride in your hearts makes you and Joe and anybody else very ugly in God's sight, because

God looks on the heart. He wants your hearts pure and sweet and free from pride. Let's kneel right here, children, and ask the Lord to forgive you for having pride in your hearts, and for saying unkind things to each other."

When Mary and Joe finished praying, they told each other that they were sorry for the things they had said. They felt happy toward each other again. They were thankful for the nice clothes God had provided for them, but they didn't think they were better than others.

—Sister Bonnie

We love the heav'nly Father
Who sent His only Son,
Here to live upon the earth
To save us, every one.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



BRINGS GOD'S WRATH

QUESTIONS:

1. What did the Israelites want?
2. Who was their first king?
3. What did Saul do when it was time to make him king?
4. Did Saul stay humble and obedient?
5. What happened to Saul when he became proud?

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Part 15

Oct. 14

FROM SHEPHERD TO KING

1 Samuel 16:1-13; Psalms 78:70-71

After Saul had disobeyed the Lord's commandments, God told Samuel, the man of God, to choose someone else to be the king of Israel. Samuel went to the house of Jesse, in the town of Bethlehem. Jesse had eight sons, and God told Samuel that He had chosen one of his sons to be the king. Seven sons came before Samuel. He thought that they all looked like fine, young men. But God said, "I do not look on the outside of men. Man looks on the outside, but God looks on the heart." None of the seven sons were chosen of God. Samuel asked Jesse if he had another son. He said, "Yes, the youngest son, David, is keeping the sheep." And when David came before Samuel, the Lord said, "This is he. Arise and anoint him king." God chose David the shepherd boy as the king of Israel. God knew what was in David's heart. He knew how David had trusted Him to help him kill the lion and the bear when they had come to take a sheep. God knew David's heart, and He knows your heart, too.

Memory Verse: He chose David also his servant, and took him from the sheepfolds. Psalms 78:70.

God Hears Prayer

"How did David have enough courage to go out and kill that giant? I would have been scared!" said Phil. "Me too," said Joe.

Mother had been reading the children the story in the Bible of how David, though young, believed that God would help him to kill the giant Goliath. "Well, you know, children, this was not the first time that David had trusted God to help him. What was David's job when he was a boy?"

Anna spoke up. "He was a shepherd boy. He kept his father's sheep."

"That's right," said Mother. "And while he was out in the fields all by himself, once a lion and then a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock of sheep. David said that God helped him kill the lion and the bear, and get the lamb back alive. David knew how God had helped him while he was a shepherd in the field, so he had faith to believe that God would help him kill Goliath the giant."

"God has helped me before," said Phil. "Once while I was at school, I couldn't find my lunch money. I had it in my hand at recess time, but that was the last I remembered it. Then when lunchtime came I couldn't find it. So I prayed to the Lord in my heart, and asked Him to help me to find the money. I knew He would. I looked everywhere in the room, but couldn't find it. Then I decided to go to the officetto see if anybody had turned in any money. When I went to the coatroom to get my sweater, there was my money sitting on top of the shelf! And no one had taken it. I know God answered prayer that time!"

Then Joe told about the time that he fell into a deep hole in a field when it was just dark, and how he prayed for someone to come by that way. And sure enough, a man happened to be passing and heard him, and

sent for some help. Anna and Mother told how God had heard their prayers and answered them, too.

You can pray and if you believe, God will hear and answer your prayers also. God loves to have His children pray to Him and ask Him for help and believe that He will answer. If you ever get into trouble or need help, always remember that God will hear you if you ask in Jesus' name and believe.

—B. L.M.

LESSON

ILLUSTRATION



FROM SHEPHERD TO KING

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Samuel?
2. Who had eight sons?
3. Who was chosen as the new king?
4. What does God look at?
5. What was David before he was anointed king?

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Part 16

Oct. 21

SOLOMON'S HEART TURNED AWAY

1 Kings 3:11-13; 1 Kings 9:4-7; 1 Kings 11:1-11

King Solomon was David's son. He wanted to be a good king, so he asked God to give him a heart that was wise. He did not ask for money. He did not ask for honor. He just wanted God to help him to be a wise king for the people of God. God was very pleased that Solomon asked to be wise. God said, "I will make you a wise king, a king that is wiser than all other kings. And I will also give you riches and honor." Solomon built a house for the Lord. It was the most beautiful place in all the land of Israel.

But Solomon had many wives. They were women who did not serve the true God. They served idols, or false gods. God had told Solomon not to marry these women. And when Solomon was an old man, his heart went after the gods of his wives.

Children, do not let anyone turn your heart away from God, not even your best friend. It is better to be made fun of and please God than to let your friends cause you to disobey God.

Memory Verse: When Solomon was old, his wives turned away his heart after other gods. 1 Kings 11:4a.

Pansy and Her Friend

Pansy and her little friend, Sarah, were sitting on the porch steps one sunny afternoon. It was so hot and dry. "I know," said Sarah, "Let's take a shower in my back yard! I'll get the hose and we'll take turns sprinkling each other."

That sounded good to Pansy; the cold water would help cool them off. Pansy thought she would just take off her shoes and let the cool water run over her feet and legs.

Sarah had the water running already. They stepped into the water that ran out of the hose. Soon Sarah decided that she wanted to wet more than her feet and legs. So she began to take off her dress, right in the middle of the yard!

"We can have more fun and be cooler if we get wet all over, Pansy. Come on!" said Sarah.

Well, Pansy wasn't about to take her clothes off. She had been taught at home and in Sunday School about modesty, and how God was not pleased with people showing too much of their bodies. "No," said Pansy. "I can't do that. I'll just let my feet get wet."

Later on, Pansy told Mother what Sarah wanted her to do, and how she remembered what the Bible said. "Our teacher told us Sunday that if anybody, even our best friend, tries to get us to do wrong, that we should say no and not do it. It's better to be made fun of even, and please God, than to displease Him so that we can please our friends."

—Sister Bonnie

Children, big and little,
As you live each day,
If your friends should tempt you
This is what you say:

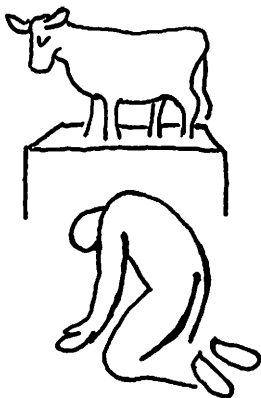
Tell them you love Jesus,
And you'll please Him best.
Even if they laugh at you
Leave with Him the rest.

For our God in heaven
Sees all that you do,
And some day you'll meet Him.
Will you have been true?

Keep your heart turned toward Him.
Don't forget His love.
If you please Him fully,
You will live above.

—B. L. M.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



A KING'S HEART TURNED AWAY

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Solomon?
2. What did Solomon ask God for?
3. What did God give Solomon?
4. Did Solomon love God all his life?
5. What turned Solomon's heart away?

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Part 17

Oct. 28

HE MADE ISRAEL TO SIN

1 Kings 11:31-40; 1 Kings 12:15-31; 1 Kings 14

When Solomon died, his son, Rehoboam, became the king. Rehoboam was not kind to the people, so they said that they would not let Rehoboam be their king. Only the tribes of Judah and Benjamin let Rehoboam be king over them. The other ten tribes of Israel made Jeroboam their king.

One day Jeroboam said to himself, "if the people of Israel go to Jerusalem where Rehoboam is, to the house of the Lord, to make sacrifice to God, they will kill me, and let Rehoboam be their king again." So Jeroboam made two calves of gold, and told the people to worship them, and not to go to Jerusalem to worship the true God. He told the people to bow down to these idol gods. This was a sin. God had commanded the people not to bow down to any idol and not to have any gods before Him. Jeroboam was the first king who made Israel to worship false gods. God was very angry and caused many bad things to come upon his family. We should never cause anyone else to do wrong.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
Exodus 20:3.

CHARLIE

Charlie was an only child, with no sisters or brother. Many times Charlie had to play alone, and he was often lonely.

"I wish I had someone else to play with, Mother," said Charlie. "Well, if you go outside maybe some of the children up the street will come and play with you, since I don't want you to leave the yard," said his Mother. She gave Charlie two cookies as he went outside.

While Charlie was sitting on the porch steps he saw two little boys across the street. "Hey, Butch and Robbie! Can you come over and play?" shouted Charlie. The boys shook their heads and said no. Their mother had gone to town and told them to not leave the yard.

"I'll give you these cookies, if you come over," Charlie said. Now Butch and Robbie liked cookies as most boys do, so they were tempted. Should they go across the street and play with Charlie? They decided that they would, only for a few minutes, though, and then get back in the yard before their mother came from town.

Do you think Charlie did the right thing? Did Butch and Robbie do the right thing? Was God pleased? No, He was very displeased. Just to please himself by having someone to play with, Charlie caused his friends to disobey their mother. Of course Butch and Robbie didn't have to come over and they disobeyed too, but Charlie was to blame.

What Charlie did is a very bad thing to do. Never cause someone to do wrong just to get people to like you or please you. Never cause anyone to do wrong for any reason. This is what Jeroboam did in our

lesson. Just to keep the people of Israel looking up to him as king, he made idol gods and caused the people to bow down to them. This was against God's law, and the anger of God came upon Jeroboam and the people. Butch and Robbie's mother came home before they could get back into the yard and they both received good spankings. And when Charlie's mother heard what he had done, he received a good spanking, and was punished by being made to stay inside a whole week. Charlie also had to ask God and his little friends to forgive him.

—Sister Bonnie

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



JEROBOAM MADE ISRAEL SIN

Questions:

1. Who was Rehoboam?
2. Who was Jeroboam?
3. What did Jeroboam make?
4. What did Jeroboam tell the people to do?
5. Why was this a sin?

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Part 18

Nov. 4

WICKED JEZEBEL

1 Kings 21; 11 Kings 9; Ephesians 5:5

Jezebel was the wife of Ahab, a king of Israel. She was a very wicked woman who did not worship God, but she worshipped Baal, an idol god. Ahab and Jezebel did many very wicked things in the sight of the Lord. Jezebel had prophets who helped her serve Baal, but she killed many of the prophets of God. She even wanted to kill Elijah, who was a great man of God. Jezebel had Naboth killed so that she could get his vineyard and give it to Ahab. When she did this, the word of the Lord said that the dogs would eat Jezebel. Later, when Jezebel looked out of a window upstairs, some men threw her down, and before she could be buried, the dogs had come and eaten all but her head, feet and the palms of her hands. Jezebel did not want to do right so she was punished.

God is a God of love, but when we choose to do wrong and disobey His Word, God's wrath will be upon us unless we repent and ask God for Christ's sake to forgive us.

Memory Verses Neither shalt thou set thee up any image. Deuteronomy 16:22a.

Idols Today

Mother and the children were talking about the Sunday School lesson at the dinner table.

"Jezebel was a very wicked woman. I wouldn't want to die like she did and then have the dogs eat me," said David.

"How did she die?" asked Mother. "She was thrown down out of the window, and before they could bury her, the dogs came and ate all of her body, except the skull, feet and palms of her hands," said Anna.

"Why is worshipping idols so bad, Mother?" asked Joe.

"Who created us and all things, Joe?" asked Mother. "God did." "Well, if God is the Creator of all, and He is above all, and knows all, how do you think He feels when one of his creation begins to love, serve, and live for something deaf, blind, and dumb, like a wooden calf?"

"I guess He is grieved and very displeased," said David. "Yes, He is. In fact, God hates idol worship. He wants us to worship Him only," Mother said.

"But we don't know anyone who worships idols," said Anna. "Do people still worship idols?"

"Yes, in some countries they still do. And some people in this country worship idols too," said Mother.

"My friend, Sarah, goes to a church that has little statues all around it, and she says they kneel down and pray to them," Pansy said. "She wanted to give me a chain with a picture of Jesus' mother on it, but I told her that I didn't believe in praying to pictures.

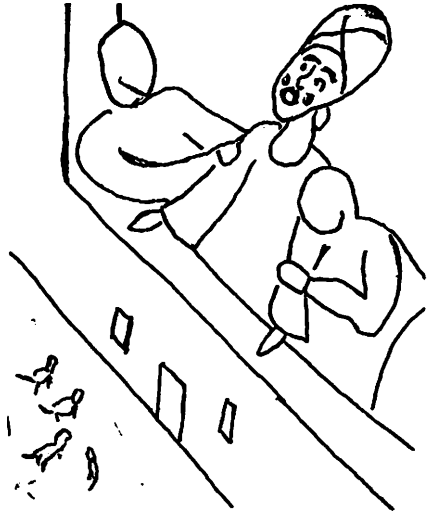
That's like an idol too."

"But we can worship idols that are not statues," said Mother. "An idol is

anything you love or desire above God. Anything that you let your heart go after in place of God is an idol to you. You are living for that thing instead of for God. An idol could be money, having fun, your friends, cars, sports, toys, clothes, food, anything you love so much that it causes you to forget or disobey God. So we must be careful that we are not idol-worshippers, too. God must be first, above all things in our hearts."

—Sister Bonnie

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



THROW WICKED JEZEBEL DOWN!

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Jezebel?
2. What kind of woman was Jezebel?
3. What wicked things did she do?
4. What happened to Jezebel?
5. How do we keep God's love on us?

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Part 19

Nov. 11

QUEEN ESTHER'S COURAGE

Esther, chapters 3, 4, 5, and 8.

Because of Israel's sins, God let another king take them away to a strange land. In this new land, a young woman named Esther was made queen. But there was a law that no one could come in to see the king who was not called in. He could put them to death. But he would not kill that person to whom he held out his golden rod.

A wicked man named Haman wanted to put all the Jews (God's people) to death. Who would help the Jews? Queen Esther was a Jew. Maybe she could talk to the king. But the king had not called her in, and if she went in, she could be put to death. Queen Esther was not afraid. She had courage and faith in God. She said, "I will go in to see the king. If I die, I die." She and some of the Jews prayed and fasted for three days. Then she went in to see the king. He was pleased and held out his golden rod to her. Queen Esther asked him to help her people and save them, and he did. We, too, should have faith and courage and not be afraid to trust God.

Memory Verse: Be strong and of a good courage. Josh. 1:9a.

Beth and the Old Man

Beth was a little girl, about your size who tried hard to live for Jesus. She was obedient to her parents, and she shared what she had with others, and she loved and prayed to Jesus everyday. But sometimes, if Beth wasn't careful, she would have to ask forgiveness when she didn't do exactly right.

This is a story of one of those times. It takes courage to say you're sorry and to ask someone to forgive you. But Beth asked God to give her the courage to do what she knew was right, even if it brought trouble. In our lesson today, Esther's courage helped her to go in to see the king, even though there was danger that she could be put to death. She and the Jews prayed and God caused the king to show favor to Esther.

Well, one day, Beth was walking by the house of Old Man Tom. That's what the people all called him. Old Man Tom usually had his window open and made comments to the children that passed by. He didn't mean to be unkind, but he didn't like children, because they made fun of him, and broke his windows, and called him names, and stole the fruit from his trees. (I hope none of you children ever do these things to anyone, young or old.) He was always telling the children to go away, don't bother him. But today, Old Man Tom's window was closed. Beth looked about and thought of those beautiful golden apples in the back of the house. She saw one on the ground, and she decided that since it had fallen on the ground, that it would be all right for her to get it. Just one. She would let her Mother have it.

Well, when Beth got home, you know what her mother said. "Beth, the apple belongs to Old Man Tom, whether it is on

the tree or not. You must take it back and tell him you're sorry you took it," Mama said.

Oh, how could she go back and tell him that? She was sorry, for she didn't mean to steal, but how could she face the old man? He might get real angry and fuss at her. But she asked Jesus to give her courage, and He answered her prayer.

"Old Man Tom," said Beth, almost shaking, "I'm sorry I took your apple. Here it is and I won't do that again."

Do you know what happened? Old Man Tom forgave Beth, and he liked her very much. He would give her an apple every time she passed by. Courage to do right brings God's blessings.

—Sister Bonnie

LESSON

ILLUSTRATION



ESTHER'S COURAGE SAVES JEWS

QUESTIONS:

1. Why were God's people in the new land?
2. Who was Esther?
3. What did wicked Haman want to do to the Jews?
4. Could anyone go in to the king?
5. How were the Jews saved?

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Part 20

Nov. 18

DANIEL GIVES THANKS

Second Chapter of Daniel

God's people were taken to Babylon because of their sins. They stayed in Babylon 70 years. One night King Nebuchadnezzar dreamed a dream. But he could not remember what he had dreamed. He called in all the wise men. He wanted them to tell him what he had dreamed, and what the dream meant. None of the wise men could tell the king what he had dreamed. No man could do that. So the king said that he would put all the wise men to death.

Now Daniel and his three friends were wise men, and they believed in God. They were Jews or God's men. The king was going to put them to death, too. But Daniel asked the king to give him time, and he would tell the king his dream. They prayed for God to tell them the king's dream. That night God showed Daniel what the king dreamed, and also what the dream meant. He prayed, "I thank thee, O God, that you know all things, and that you told me the king's dream." We should always be thankful, for God is great and good, and takes care of all our needs.

Memory Verse: In everything give thanks. 1 Thess. 5:18a.

"Thank You"

"I don't want these old cookies. Why can't I have three or four, instead of just two?" Kelly stalked off to his room and closed the door. He was pouting again. Do you know what pouting is? It's when you are not thankful for what you have or how things are going, and then you stick out your lip, or make a sour face, and won't talk. If everyone who complains, and fusses, and pouts, would say "Thank you" instead, that would solve a lot of problems.

Do you know anyone who says thank you whenever someone gives them something, or does anything nice for them? I hope you are one of these thankful people. God says to give thanks in everything. Why? Because He is good to all of us.

Can you think of anything you could be thankful for? See how many things you can name that you are thankful for.

When Mother gave Rosie two cookies, she said, "Thank you, Mother." They were so good, that she wished she had one more. So when she asked Mother for another one, Mother said, "Well, since you were thankful for the first two, here is another one." When we are thankful for what we already have, God will many times bless us with more. But when we aren't even thankful for what we do have, many times we lose what we do have. That's what happened to Kelly. Because he was pouting about having only two cookies, Mother said, "Well, since you aren't thankful for two, give them back." And she took them away and put them in the jar again. Poor Kelly! He wished he had been thankful for the two. And you can be sure that he was the next time.

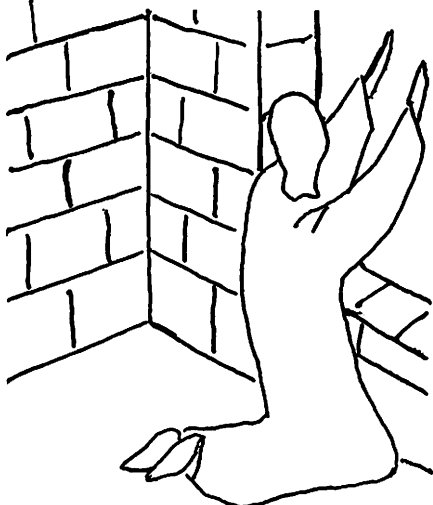
So always be thankful children, for God gives us all things, whether little or

much. And He is always good and great and we should praise him for what He is.

—Sister Bonnie

Boys and girls who love Jesus may gather sweetness every morning. This is received as you read the Bible and ask Jesus to guide you through the day. He will fill you with His Spirit if you ask Him. The joy of His life in you can then flow over in blessing to others.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



DANIEL GIVES THANKS

QUESTIONS:

1. Where were God's people?
2. What happened to the king one night?
3. Why was the king going to kill the wise men?
4. What did Daniel do?
5. What should we give God?

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Part 21

Nov. 25

ZACCHEUS COMES DOWN

Luke 19:1-10; James 4:6, 10

One day Jesus was going through the town of Jericho. All the people wanted to see Jesus. They were all around Him. One man wanted to see Jesus very much. His name was Zaccheus. He was a rich man. But Zaccheus could not see Jesus, for there were so many people, and Zaccheus was a short man. So Zaccheus climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus better.

When Jesus came by, he looked up and saw Zaccheus. He said, "Zaccheus, come down. For I must go to your house today." Zaccheus came down in a hurry. He was glad that Jesus was going to his house. The people did not like it because Jesus was going to the home of a sinner. But Zaccheus believed on Jesus. He said, "I give half of my riches to the poor, and if I have taken anything unjustly, I will give back four times more." Jesus was very pleased that Zaccheus became a humble, saved man. Jesus said, "This day is salvation come to your house." We have to be humble before Jesus will come and save us as He did Zaccheus.

Memory Verse: Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord.
James 4:10a.

Getting Ready for Visitors

Do you know what a visitor is? It is someone who comes to visit you. Jesus was a visitor at Zaccheus' house. Have you ever visited someone's house? Have you ever had a guest to visit your house? When you know your visitor is coming, you have to get everything ready, don't you?

Well, one day, Theresa and her family were going to have some visitors. Uncle Bob and Aunt Betty, and cousins Susie and Tim. Everyone was getting ready. Mother was putting new sheets on the beds, while her cookies baked. Father was moving the roll-away bed into the guest room. Brother was trying to clean his room. Cousin Tim was going to stay in Brother's room. Cousin Susie was going to stay with Theresa, but guess what Theresa was doing? Nothing! She said to herself, I don't see why we have to clean up so perfectly anyway. They're only relatives. Besides, my room is not so dirty. So Theresa didn't clean up.

When the visitors came, everyone was so glad to see each other! It had been several years since they had seen each other. How Cousin Susie and Cousin Tim had grown! Brother took Tim into his room to show him his new airplane. But Theresa did not want Susie to go into her room. Not just yet. Theresa was ashamed to let Susie see her room. It wasn't so dirty, but still, Theresa wished that she had prepared for her visitor, even though she was just a relative!

This is the way it is with us, boys and girls. One day, Jesus will come back to get all those who are ready for Him. He will come for only those who have cleaned up and are ready. We clean up by being washed in Jesus' blood, repenting of our

sins, and living by the Bible everyday. Jesus has prepared a place for all those who are ready when He comes. Only, we will not be visitors of heaven just a few days, but forever, without end. And heaven will be not just a place to visit, but our new home. So we had better be ready, for once Jesus comes we won't be able to get ready then. We don't know when Jesus will come, so we will have to be ready at all times.

—Sister Bonnie

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. What town was Jesus in?
2. Who wanted to see Jesus?
3. What did Zaccheus do to see Jesus?
4. What did Jesus say to Zaccheus?
5. What did Zaccheus do with his riches?

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Part 22

Dec. 2

FULL OF GOOD WORKS

Acts 9:36-42; 1 Timothy 6:18; Galatians 6:10

Once there lived in Joppa a woman who believed in Jesus. Her name was Dorcas. She was always doing good for others. She helped the poor. She made clothes for them. She visited the sick people. Many people in Joppa loved Dorcas because of her good works. The Bible says that she was full of good works.

But one day Dorcas took sick and died. They laid her upstairs, and sent for Peter who was a disciple of Jesus. When Peter came into the room where Dorcas was, he saw many of the poor people crying, and showing the nice things that Dorcas had made for them. Peter told the women to go into the other room. He knelt down and prayed. Then he said, "Dorcas, arise!" Dorcas opened her eyes and sat up! God had raised her from the dead. Peter had seen her good works and asked God to raise her up. Many people in Joppa believed on Jesus.

Are you full of good works, children? Do you do good to others? Are you helpful to your family? Children can do good.

Memory Verse: As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men. Gal. 6:10a.

Cindy's Good Works

"The next time that girl comes over here, I'm going to tell her to get off of my property, just like she told me! If she doesn't want to play with me, then I don't want to play with her," and with that Cindy went into the house, slamming the door.

"Why Cindy, how many times have I told you to not slam the door?" Mother said. "Are you unhappy about something?"

Cindy started crying. She said, "I was over to Peggy's and we were playing house. And because I wouldn't go get my doll buggy, she told me to get off her property and don't come back! And since she doesn't want to play with me, I don't want to play with her. If she ever comes over here, I'm going to tell her to get off of my property, too."

What do you think Mother did? She sat down and talked to Cindy. She told her how ugly all this made Cindy look, and how bad she knew she felt inside. And besides, God was not pleased with Peggy nor Cindy.

"Suppose whenever you did something wrong, God would not forgive you, and wouldn't let you see any sunshine, or get any air, or wouldn't help you out? You wouldn't think He was so loving and good would you? But He is good. He sends rain and sunshine on good and bad people. He is merciful to those who don't always please Him, even to you Cindy. And He wants you to do good to those who do wrong to you, just like He does good to those who sin against Him. Let's pray for Cindy to be able to do good to Peggy. And let's pray for Peggy, too."

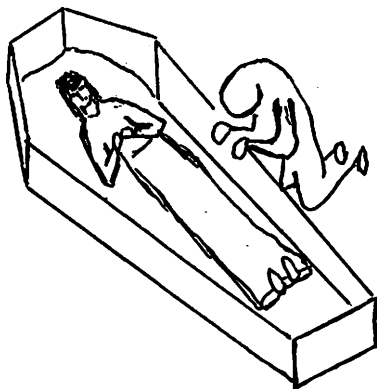
That is just what Cindy and Mother did. Cindy was sorry for how she felt about

Peggy, and for slamming the door. She asked God to help her do good to Peggy.

Did God answer Cindy's prayer? Yes, He did! When Cindy saw Peggy the next day, she invited her over to play. Cindy was nice to Peggy and even brought out her doll buggy. Peggy felt so bad for the way she had treated Cindy yesterday. She told Cindy she was sorry. And the Lord helped Cindy to be able to say that she forgave Peggy. The two girls were good friends after that. And both girls learned that it is better to do good to someone, even when they do you wrong. This is well-pleasing to God, because it is being like He is.

—Sister Bonnie

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



REMEMBER DORCAS' GOOD WORKS

QUESTIONS:

1. Who lived in Joppa?
2. What good works would Dorcas do?
3. What happened to Dorcas one day?
4. What did Peter do?
5. What good works can children do?

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Part 23

Dec. 9

JOHN PREPARES THE WAY

Luke 1:13-17, 76-80; Matthew 3:1-3; 14:3

An angel of the Lord came to talk with a man named Zacharias. The angel said, "God shall give you a son. His name shall be John. He shall turn the people's hearts to God. He shall prepare the way for the coming of Jesus, the Son of God." Zacharias and his wife, Elizabeth, were very happy. Their son John was to be a messenger from God.

When John grew up, he went to live in the desert. He ate honey and locusts. His clothes were of camel's hair. But one day God sent the people to hear John. He said, "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand." John helped the people get ready for the coming of Jesus. He told them to repent of their sins and be baptized. John baptized many people in the Jordan River. He even baptized Jesus. This is why he is called, John the Baptist.

Later, John was put in prison because he told the king about his sins. John had prepared the way for Jesus, and when Jesus came to the people, God took John to be with Him..

Memory Verse: In those days came John the Baptist . . . , and saying, Repent ye. Matthew 3:1a, 2a.

A Way Made

It was snowing outside. The soft white flakes fell silently and covered everything: trees, houses, cars, roads, yards, everything until there was a thick blanket of white. It snowed for three days. At last, Sandy saw out of her window that the sun was shining through. She was so glad. Tomorrow was Sunday and she wanted to be at Sunday School, but if the snow continued, they couldn't go.

"Mother, do you think the snow will be melted by tomorrow?" said Sandy.

"I doubt it, Sandy," said Mother. "It is so thick we won't be able to travel at all, unless someone clears the roads by then."

Soon, Sandy saw a big snow plow. It was clearing the road! She was eager to get outdoors so she could watch.

"Better put on all your warm clothes, Sandy, before you go out," said Mother. Sandy got ready as fast as she could.

But before she could go out to the road her father had to get a shovel and move all of the snow that had piled up in front of the door and yard. She enjoyed playing in the good, white snow that God had sent the earth. Best of all though, she liked to watch the snow plow clean the roads to make a way for the cars. Sandy and her family were able to go to Sunday School because the way had been made for them to travel.

There has been a way made for us too, boys and girls. A way to God. When man sins, his way to God is blocked. God does not like sin at all. He turns his face from us when we are in sin. But there is a way back. This way is through Jesus and repentance. If we will repent of our

sins, asking God to forgive us because we are sorry for them, then he will forgive us. We must then believe in Jesus' blood which will clean our hearts from all our sin. This is how we prepare ourselves for God's favor or blessing. Jesus is the way to God, and the way to Jesus is by repenting of our sins. I'm glad that there is a way to God, and that I've found this way through repentance and faith in Jesus' blood. Have you found the way?

—Sister Bonnie

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



JOHN PREPARES THE WAY

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Zacharias?
2. What was John to do?
3. What did John eat?
4. What did John tell the people?
5. Why was John called John the Baptist?

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Part 24

Dec. 16

THE HANDMAIDEN OF GOD

Luke 1:26-50; Isaiah 7:14

God sent the angel Gabriel to the city of Nazareth to a young virgin named Mary. She loved God very much. The angel said, "Fear not, Mary. The Lord is with thee. You will have a son. Thou shalt call him name JESUS, and he shall be the Son of God." Mary felt very happy that she was to be the mother of God's Son. She praised God, and said, "My soul does rejoice in God. He has looked with favor on His handmaid. All people shall call me blessed."

Mary was a humble woman with a pure heart, for God chose her as the mother of His Son. Many young women in Israel knew that one day God would choose one of them. It was foretold in the Old Bible that a virgin would have a son, and he would be the Son of God. Mary was the chosen handmaid of God. A maid is one who serves.

Even today we can be servants of God. If we will love Him and serve Him by obeying His Word, we are then His servants.

Memory Verse: And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Luke 1:38a.

Mother's Willing Helpers

"Ter-ry! Ter-ry!" Mother called. "I want you to help me take out the trash. Where are you?"

"Oh, I'm busy setting up my train tracks," shouted Terry from his room. "Well, you aren't too busy to be Mother's helper, are you?" said Mother.

Terry thought awhile. He wished he didn't have to be Mother's helper. He wished he didn't have to take out the trash, or shovel the snow, or clean his room, or do any work. He said to himself, that when he was grown, he wouldn't do anything he didn't like to do.

While Terry was thinking, Mother was waiting. Then Judy ran in. "I'll be Mother's helper," said Judy. "Well, thank you for offering, Judy, but I'll wait until Terry comes," Mother said. When Terry heard that, he dropped his tracks and hurried to help Mother, because he knew Mother had said time was valuable, and he was always punished when he slowed around and wasted time. Mother also knew that she had to help Terry learn to obey and work whether he wanted to or not.

"I wish Mother's helper was a little faster," Mother said to Terry. "I have so much to do before dinner and Father comes home." Terry hung his head. He was sorry that he hadn't been willing.

What kind of a Mother's helper are you? Or are you a Mother's helper? Some boys and girls never think to help mother, father, or anyone. They just live for themselves. Some boys and girls help, but they drag around, pout, grumble, make ugly faces, and do messy jobs. I hope you're the kind of helper who is willing and glad to do anything you can for anyone who needs help. If you learn

to be a willing helper now, when you are older, God will be pleased to have you as a willing helper for Him. Mary, Jesus' mother, called herself the handmaid of God. That means she was at hand, or willing and ready, to serve or help God in doing His great work of saving the world. Mary's humble willingness was one reason why God chose her to be the mother of His Son, Jesus Christ, who died on the cross and is our Savior.

—Sister Bonnie

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



BEHOLD THE HANDMAID OF THE LORD

QUESTIONS:

1. What is the name of Jesus' mother?
2. Who did God send to Mary?
3. What did the angel tell Mary?
4. How did Mary feel?
5. How can we be servants of God today?

The Beautiful Way

Primaries



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Part 25

Dec. 23

JESUS, THE SON OF GOD

Matthew 1:18-25; Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11; John 20:31

Mary and Joseph were to be married very soon. But before they married, it was found that Mary was to be a mother. Should Joseph marry her? An angel of the Lord came to Joseph in a dream. The angel said, "Fear not to take Mary as your wife. For the child that will be born is the Son of God. And thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." When Joseph had awakened from his dream, he did as the angel said, and took Mary to be his wife.

Jesus was born in the city of Bethlehem, and laid in a manger. He was born in time of King Herod. Wise men came from afar to Jerusalem to King Herod to ask about the new-born King, for they wanted to worship Him and give Him gifts. This new-born King was Jesus Christ. They saw a star in the sky, and the star moved until it came over where Jesus lay. They happily gave gifts unto Him, because Jesus would save from sin all those who would believe on Him. This is why we remember Jesus' birthday.

Memory Verse: When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. Matthew 2:10.

Christmas Time

Jody was glad it was getting close to Christmas. She could hardly wait, thinking about all the good things she wanted to get for Christmas. One day as Jody and Pansy were sitting on the porch, Jody began to tell Pansy everything she wanted for Christmas.

"I want a doll, and a doll house, and some dishes, and a pair of skates, and some clay, and some new shoes, and if I don't get them I won't have a good Christmas. That's all Christmas is anyway, just getting lots of presents."

Pansy told her friend, Jody, that Christmas was more than getting gifts. "It is the day we remember when Jesus was born. If He hadn't been born, we couldn't be saved. My Mother says that we don't have to have Santa Claus, and Christmas trees, and lights, and all the toys we want to remember Christ's birth. The greatest Gift of all was God's Son given to the world."

—Sister Bonnie

GOD'S GIFT

The Babe that came to Bethlehem
Was God's own Gift He gave.
He gave because of His great love
Our sinful souls to save.

We praise Him as the angels did:
"Glory to our Great King;
Peace on the earth, good will t'ward men,"
Our hearts with joy doth sing.

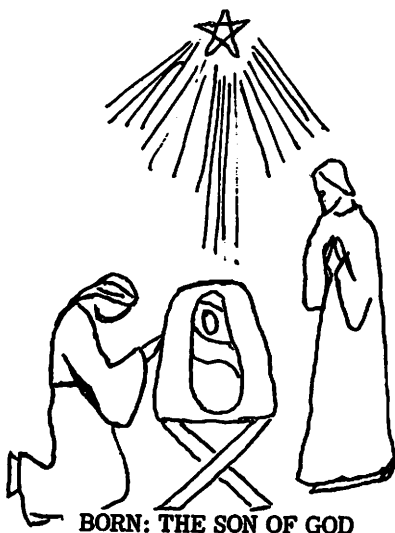
God's Gift is great; the Holy Child
Was born that we might live.
And that is why in love, we too,
Our hearts and lives do give.

By faith and trust in Christ, the Gift,
We have a promise bright:
A sinless life, and blessings now,
A crown forever light.

—B. L. M.

If we belong to the Lord Jesus, our real home is in Heaven. We are only "strangers and pilgrims" on earth. We are going to be with Jesus forever in the place He has gone to prepare for us.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. What did the angel say to Joseph in a dream?
2. What would Jesus do?
3. Where was Jesus born?
4. Who came to see Jesus?
5. What did they bring?

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Dec. 30

PEOPLE OF FAITH

Hebrews 11:1-40

Our lessons have been about different people in the Bible. Some obeyed God and lived for Him, and others did not. Saul became proud and God took the kingdom from him. Solomon let his wives turn his heart to other gods. Jeroboam made Israel worship the golden calves and sin against God. Jezebel was very wicked and God let the dogs eat her dead body.

But there are many more people in the Bible who believed God and obeyed His Word. They were people of faith. They trusted God to help them. David, the shepherd boy, believed that God would help him to kill the giant, Goliath. Queen Esther trusted God and had courage to go in and ask the king to save her and her people. Daniel believed that God would tell him the king's dream and what it meant. Zaccheus believed and was saved when Jesus went to his house. John the Baptist believed the message God gave him and prepared the way for Jesus. And God wants us to believe Him and be people of faith today.

Memory Verse: But without faith it is impossible to please him. Hebrews 11:6a.

Chico's Faith

Chico was a little Mexican boy, who had learned to love the Lord Jesus. He didn't have many nice things, but he was happy, and God always supplied the needs of his family. This is a story of how Chico trusted the Lord and how God answered prayer.

One day Chico and his friend Pablo went out to the desert to find prickly pears, which is a cactus fruit. It was early in the morning, while it was still cool, that Chico and Pablo took their baskets and started out on the dusty road. They had gone looking for prickly pears before, but always with Lalo, Chico's big brother. Today, they decided that they knew the way, so they didn't ask Lalo to go with them.

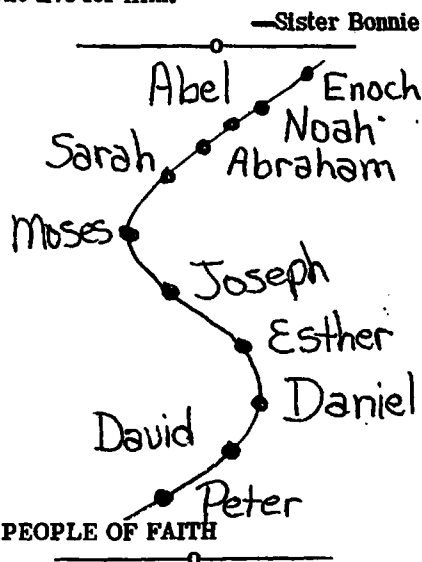
"Let's ask God to help us find many prickly pears today," said Chico. So the two boys knelt down in the sand and asked the Lord to help them find a lot of pears. God did help them find much fruit.

The boys walked and picked the cactus fruit until the sun was well above the hills. Lalo had always told them to start back home just before the sun topped the hills. It was already late. If one was caught on the desert, when the sun was high in the sky, one could die from the heat and no water.

Once again Chico and Pablo asked God to help them get home before it was too hot. Do you think God heard that prayer? Chico and Pablo believed that God did. They had faith. As they walked they became tired and thirsty. It was getting hotter and hotter, and sometimes it gets to 120 degrees in the desert. They knew God would help them make it home safely. But if only they had some water! Now since Chico and Pablo trusted in God for other things they decided to pray for wa-

ter. God answered this prayer, too. God brought to Chico's mind that they could eat a few of the juicy prickly pears! Why of course! They had enough juice to keep the boys from being so thirsty. And they finally got home, tired, but unharmed. God had helped them get home safely.

If you ever have any troubles, children, pray and ask God to help you. Then believe that he will, and you will see it happen. God is very pleased when you trust and believe Him, and He loves to answer prayer, especially the prayers of children and those who live for Him.



QUESTIONS:

1. Are all the people in the Bible people of faith?
2. Who can you name who didn't believe and obey God?
3. Who can you name that had faith in God?
4. Does God want us to trust in Him?