

The Beautiful Way

Primaries



Vol. 26, No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1975

Part 14

Jan. 5

TWO TREES

Matt. 7:17-23; Matt. 3:10; Jer. 17:7-10; Psalms 1:3, 4

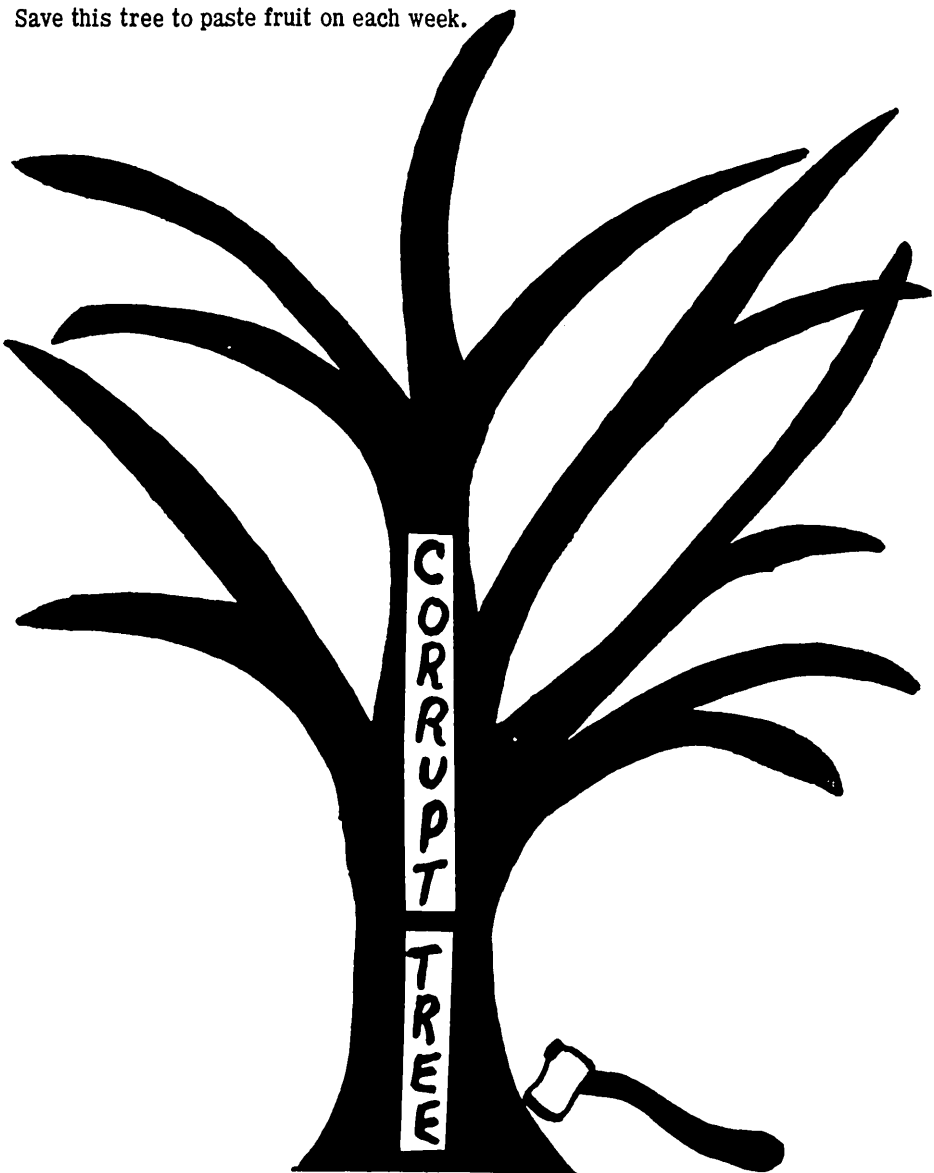
Our lesson is about two trees. If a tree is good, it will have good fruit. A bad tree will bear bad fruit. The bad tree will be cut down and put in the fire and burned.

Do you know that every person is bearing some kind of fruit? "Oh," you may say, "I do some good things sometimes." Yes, but if we are truly a good tree, then we will NEVER bear bad fruit. Jesus wants us to ALWAYS bear good fruit. God is pleased with a good tree. If you are unkind, and do not obey your parents, that is bad fruit. If you hit your brother or sister, or some other person, that is bad fruit. Jesus is sorry when you act that way. If you have been bad, you should ask Jesus to forgive you and to help you to be good.

When you do good things, and mind your mother and daddy, don't you have a happy feeling deep down inside? That is because you are bearing good fruit. The Lord knows all about you. He will bless you for doing good, but those who do bad will be lost.

Memory Verse: For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish. Psalm 1:6.

Save this tree to paste fruit on each week.



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Primaries



Vol. 26, No. 1

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Part 15

Jan. 12

LIARS BURN FOREVER

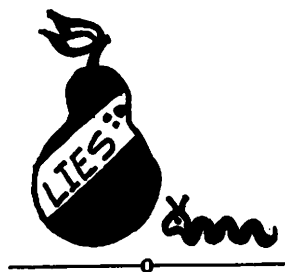
Rev. 21:8b; Acts 5:1-11

Today we learn about two people who lied to God. Ananias and Sapphira saw how some of the Christians were selling their lands and bringing the money to the apostles to help the poor. Ananias and Sapphira had some land, and they sold it. They wanted everyone to think they were giving all their money to God, too. But really, they kept part of the money for themselves. Peter knew they had lied. He told them that they had not lied to men, but they had lied to God. It was such a great sin that they fell down dead.

No one can go to heaven if they tell lies. All liars go to the lake of fire when they die. If you have told lies, you must ask God to forgive you. You must ask God to help you to tell the truth. If you do something wrong, tell the truth. Do not lie. It would be awful to go to the lake of fire that burns forever. Jesus wants you to always tell the truth. He does not want you to be a corrupt tree and have this wicked fruit in your life.

Memory Verse: Repent ye and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out. Acts 3:19a.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



God knows where you are and what you are doing all the time.

Be sure your sins will find you out.

Lying

Betty, who was just recovering from the mumps, stood at the window watching the snow fall. Mother was putting on her coat to go to town for some business. "You must stay here while I am gone. It is too cold for you outside. You may take your dolls into my bedroom and rock them in my rocker, but do not play with my watch. I won't be gone long. Be a good girl and I will bring you some cookies from the baker," said Mother.

"O.K." answered Betty. "I'll be good."

As soon as Mother was gone, Betty got her doll and went into the room. She loved to sit in Mother's big rocker with her doll, "Baby Tender Love," and to pretend she was a mother rocking her baby. She rocked until she was tired. Then she started looking around for something else to do. There lay Mother's watch. She looked at it a while and picked it up. "I will just pick it up. I will be very careful and not let it fall. Mother will

never know." She carried it over to show her doll. Then she thought, "I'm a mother so I will just put it on my arm like real mothers do. Putting it on my arm isn't playing with it." She put it on. Held it to her ear to see if it was ticking. It was not ticking. Betty had watched Mother wind it. So she wound it until it stopped. Betty thought it should wind more, so she kept turning the knob on the stem.

Soon she heard their car. It was Mother! Hurriedly she took off the watch and laid it down. Then grabbing Baby Tender Love, she strolled out of the room to meet Mother as if she had done nothing.

The first thing Mother saw when she went into the room to hang her coat, was the watch. It was not where she had left it. Picking it up, she saw the spring was broken. "Betty, have you been playing with my watch?" she asked.

"No," answered Betty.

Mother tried a long time to get Betty to tell the truth, but Betty kept on lying.

"Go to your bedroom until you can tell the truth," demanded Mother. "Daddy will take your cookies in his lunch tomorrow."

Betty wanted the cookies, but she wouldn't tell the truth. Supper time came and she was hungry, but continued to deny having played with the watch. Finally when Mother came to pray with her before going to bed, Betty felt sorry and told what she had done.

She missed the cookies and supper, but she didn't want to miss God blessing her prayer.

—Charlotte Huskey

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Who told a lie to God?
- 2 Can liars go to heaven?
- 3 What must you do if you tell a lie?

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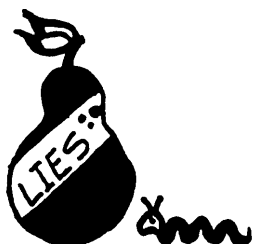
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Part 16

Jan. 19

THE END OF A THIEF

Prov. 9:17, 18; John 12:3-6; Matt. 26:20, 24, 47b, 48-50;

Matt. 27:3-5

Doesn't it seem strange that one who claimed to be one of Jesus' disciples was a thief? The Bible tells us that Judas was a thief. He was supposed to take care of the money that Jesus and the disciples had with which to help the poor. But he wanted that money for himself. Perhaps he counted the money over and over, and when he thought he could, he kept some for himself. It is a terrible thing to be dishonest.

Judas loved and wanted money so much that he went to the enemies of Jesus and told them he would lead them to Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. That was quite a lot of money, perhaps more than Judas had ever had before. But, did that money do him any good? Jesus said to all his disciples that one of them would betray him. Then he said, "Woe (which means trouble and sorrow) to the man who betrays me." He said it would have been better if that man had never been born. You must not steal anything, not even a penny! You could come to a bad end like Judas.

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

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Jane's House

Ruth liked to go next door to Jane's house. She went there every Saturday, right after breakfast. That was when Jane's family had their time of prayer.

Jane's father read the Bible. Then all the family prayed. They talked to God as if He were very near and dear to them. Often they sang a song of praise to God.

Jane's mother wondered why Ruth liked to be at their house at prayer time. One morning she asked Ruth, "Don't you pray at your house?"

Ruth said, "Oh, no. God doesn't live in our house like He does in yours."

Who Am I?

I am going to tell you a story about a man who stole from other people. See if you can guess who he was.

Once there was a little man who collected taxes for the government. If the governor said to collect nine dollars, he would collect ten dollars. He would give nine dollars to the governor and keep one dollar for himself. If the governor said to collect sixty-five dollars,

he would collect seventy-five dollars and would keep ten dollars for himself. In this way, no one knew that he was stealing.

He was a rich man. Although he was rich, he was not satisfied. He wanted to know Jesus. One day he had a chance to talk to Jesus. Whenever he saw Jesus, he knew he must give back the money that he had taken from the people and kept for himself. So he thought to himself, I will give back all the money.

Then Jesus said something that made him very, very happy. Jesus said, "I will go to your house today."

When the little man heard this, he felt even more sorry that he had taken money for himself that did not belong to me. He said, "For every one dollar that I have stolen, I will give back four dollars. I will also give half of my riches to the poor people."

Then he felt happy to have Jesus in his house.

Jesus will come into your heart just as he came to the little man's house, if you will be sorry for the wrong things you have done and give back the things you have taken, which did not belong to you. TRY IT! You will be happy just as the little man was.

Can you tell me who the little man is?

If you do not know, I will tell you one more thing about the little man. He had to climb a tree to see Jesus because he could not see over the heads of the people that surrounded Jesus. Now, can you tell who he is?

—Charlotte Huskey

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Is it wrong to steal?
- 2 Does God want us to steal?
- 3 What happened to Judas in your lesson?

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Part 17

Jan. 26

SAUL HATES DAVID *ch*

1 John 3:15; 1 Sam. 18:28, 29; 19:11-18; 31:1, 3, 4b, 6a

Did you ever think you hated someone? Hatred is an awful sin. The Bible says if we hate our brother (or anyone), we are the same as a murderer in God's sight. Saul hated David because he was very jealous of him. God was with David, and thousands loved David. Saul wanted to kill David. One time David's wife helped him to escape from Saul. Many times David had to run for his life. He had not done anything wrong to Saul to make Saul hate him.

At last, Saul was killed in a great battle. He died because he did not obey God and he allowed hatred to ruin his life.

Dear children, hatred is a corrupt fruit. We are not to hate anyone, not even our enemies. Jesus did not hate those who killed Him, but He asked God to forgive them. When someone does mean or wrong things to you, ask God to forgive him. Try to find something good to do for him. If you do this, you will be one of God's dear children. You cannot go to heaven if you have hatred in your heart.

Memory Verse: Do good to them that hate you. Matt. 5:44b

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



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.

Hatred

"Mother, what is hatred?" asked six-year-old Jim.

"Jim, hatred is a seed of dislike that the devil sows in a heart. If the person in whom the seed has been sown does not cut it down it will grow into a large weed called hatred. Sometimes, we feel dislike for another person because they have something better than us, or they may have done or said something which we did not like. If we do not forgive the wrongs others do to us, these little feelings of dislike for them will grow and grow until we hate the person who has done us wrong.

Once there was a little puppy that some boys found along the road as they walked home from school. One of the

boys disliked the puppy and hit it several times. Another boy liked the puppy and took it home with him. When the dog grew big it always remembered the boy who hit him, and it would growl and bite at the boy when he was near. One day, the boy who had taken care of the dog was drowning in a pond, and the dog rescued him. Animals love those who love them and dislike those who dislike them. People are created with a portion of God within them so they must love those who do not love them as God loves those who do not love him."

"The seed of dislike for Tommy is always growing in my heart. I think I have it cut down. Then he does something else to me and it starts to grow again. Is there some way to have the seed removed from my heart, so it will not be growing up so often?" questioned Jim.

"Yes, Jim," answered Mother. "God made a plan through Jesus Christ that the very root of the seed could be removed from your heart. We will read some from the Word of God. We will read in Matt. 3:10, Luke 3:9, and Romans 5:1-5 and 12:1.

"I want to be able to love those who hate me," continued Jim. "Will God really remove this seed of dislike from my heart if I ask him?"

"Yes, He will," Mother assured him. "Let us ask God to do it now." After prayer, Mother said, "Jim, there is one thing you must remember. The devil will still come to tempt you to dislike. But now you will have power to not do as the devil wants you to do."

- 1 What is hatred?
- 2 Who hated David?
- 3 What happened to Saul?
- 4 What are we to do for those who hate us?

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Part 18

Feb. 2

DISOBEDIENT TO PARENTS

Rom. 1:28a, 30, 32a; Prov. 20:11; 6:20-23; 1:9, 10;

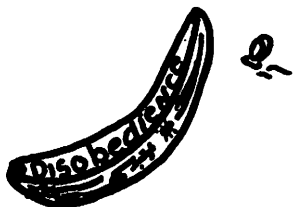
Deut. 21:18-21

Whom should you love best, next to God, while you are children? Why should you love your parents? Do you ever think how good your mother and daddy are to you? Think of all the good things they do for you every day. Only God loves you more than your parents. Why should you obey your parents? When they tell you not to do certain things, it is because they know that those things are not good for you. If you listen to your parents and try to please them, you will please God. God says it is right for you to obey your parents. It is wrong if you do not mind them. If you are not obeying your parents, you aren't obeying God. Can you go to heaven if you do not obey God?

God is angry with children who disobey their parents. If you do not learn to obey your parents, you will never learn to please God. The Bible tells you it will be well with you if you obey your parents, and you will live long on the earth.

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

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Little Grey Fox does not know about the Holy Spirit. He and his parents pray to the Great Father and then a piece of cactus is passed around to each one. They chew on this cactus thinking it is the Holy Spirit. There is some kind of poison in this cactus that makes them sick. Boys and girls, we need to pray for Little Grey Fox and the other Indians so they will know about the real God and the real Holy Spirit who can truly help them. —M. Miles

John and Nancy Disobey

John, Nancy, and Susan lived in a house on top of a hill. In the valley below, an underground river wound a way through the earth and emptied into the ocean about a half mile away from their house. Across the valley directly in front of their house were several ponds of water caused by the underground river. The children loved to fish in one of these ponds.

One sunny afternoon in February, John and Nancy asked to take little Susan and go to the pond to fish. Mother knew it was dangerous to let little Susan go. But after much begging from the other children, she said they could take Susan if they would not let her play near the water.

John and Nancy both promised to watch her carefully. Mother watched the children walk down the hill, across the valley, and disappear behind the trees that surrounded the pond. I'm sure they will obey, she said to herself as she went back to her work.

John baited his fishing hooks and dropped them into the water. Nancy's friends had seen her going to the pond and had followed to play with her. For a while they watched Susan as they played together. Then they became so interested in their play that they forgot all about her. John was so excited about fishing that he too forgot all about Susan. She wandered through the trees chasing birds and butterflies until she was tired. Then she went over to the bank of the very deepest part of the pond and sat down. She was across the pond from John, and he didn't notice her. Just as he was pulling in a catch, he heard a big splash. "What is that," he thought. "Did someone push a log into the water?" Then he thought of Susan; "Was it her?" Sure enough, it was his little sister drowning in the pond. In he jumped, clothes, shoes, and all. He grabbed her and dragged her upon the bank in time to save her from death!

Nancy came running!

How frightened they were! How sorry they felt because they had disobeyed Mother! —A true story (1960) C. Huskey
F. M. Rosa & Leah

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Who loves you most, next to God?
- 2 Is it important to obey your parents?
- 3 Can you please God if you do not mind mother and daddy?
- 4 Are you obeying God when you mind your parents?

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Part 19

Feb. 9

DELILAH'S EVIL TONGUE

Eph. 4:29, 31; Judges 16:4, 5, 15-21; James 3:2, 5, 6

Samson had great strength. His strength came from God. As long as he never cut or shaved his hair, he was strong. He used his strength to overcome the enemies of God. Samson loved a woman who was one of the enemies of God. She said she loved him, too. She wanted him to tell her the secret of his great power. She would get 1100 pieces of silver if she would tell the Philistines how to capture Samson. At first, Samson would not tell her what made him strong. Delilah kept begging and crying. Finally he told her. When she knew he must never cut his hair, she made him go to sleep and had someone to shave his head. When Samson awoke, his strength was gone. His enemies put out his eyes and made him a slave. Oh, what a price he paid because he listened to a lying, evil tongue! God's Word tells us that the tongue is a fire. It can cause so much hurt. God wants you to tell the truth always. If you tell a lie, you must ask God and the one you lied to, to forgive you. Oh, what trouble your tongue can get you in!

Memory Verse: Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips, and a deceitful tongue. Psa. 120:2.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Angel Face

Sandra was a girl that lived on Vine St. She had long black hair, clear blue eyes and a mouth that smiled for everyone. She was very polite to people who visited at her house. Because she was so sweet, her friends and their Mothers and Daddies called her, "Angel Face."

Her own Daddy also called her Angel Face. She gave him plenty of hugs and kisses and rubbed his feet when they were tired. When she was five years old, she met him each evening when he came home from work with a glass of juice or water for him. She brought him a pillow and took off his shoes so he could lie down and rest while she sat beside him.

Sandra didn't always act like an angel, but few people knew it. She was very jealous of her baby brother. Sometimes she would pinch him and make him cry. Then she would run to Mother and say, "Come, come, baby is crying." Her mother thought she was so sweet to watch over baby and know just when he was needing help. When he was big and could play with her, she was selfish and let him play only with the toys that pleased her. If he cried she would say, "He hurt himself." Sometimes she would say, "Give him this toy, Mother, it will make him happy."

"You are very smart," Mother would say, "You always know just what will make

your little brother happy. You are very much like an angel."

Sandra loved for Mother to say she was like an angel, so she never admitted when she had done wrong. She always hid it by saying something nice.

Sandra usually got what she wanted from the store also. If she saw a set of paints that she wanted, she would tell Daddy that her teacher had said that she should have a very nice set of paints so she could do better in art class. If she wanted a new dress or shoes, she would say to Mother, "I have been such a good girl that people call me, Angel Face. Don't you think angels should have nice clothing?"

As Angel Face grew older she had to lie more and more to get what she wanted and to cover up her wrong doing.

One day when she was sixteen, she asked her Mother, "May I go to a program at the school with my friend Jane?"

Mother said, "Yes, you may go."

The girls didn't go to the school, they went to a bad party. There was a lot of trouble at the party and the police came. This was the third time the police had picked up Sandra. Each of the other times, she had looked and acted so much like an angel that they believed her lies that someone forced her to be there. This third time, they took her to jail.

Angel Face had used her beautiful words and evil tongue to keep herself out of trouble many times. This time it didn't work.

C. H.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Who had great strength?
- 2 Where did Samson get his strength?
- 3 What caused Samson to lose his strength?
- 4 Does God want you to tell lies?

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Part 20

Feb. 16

EVIL FRUIT OF WRATH

Prov. 27:3, 4a; 2 Sam. 16:5-13; 19:18b-23a

Anger or wrath is a terrible thing. Many sad things have happened because someone got mad. Some people act like temper is a funny thing. In God's sight, temper is an ugly thing. Do you know anyone with a temper? Some little boys and girls have parents with evil tempers. Sometimes little children are beaten very cruelly by a parent who has a bad temper. God wants parents to correct their children, but He does not want them to be unmerciful and cruel. Wouldn't it be terrible to be afraid of your father because he had an ugly temper? Temper is a mean thing.

Boys and girls, you should control your temper. Do not get mad at someone and hit him. You might hurt him badly, or even kill him. You might do something when you are angry for which you would be sorry forever.

The devil wants you to get angry. Then he can make you cruel and mean like he is. Ask God to help you not to have a bad temper. Evil temper is a sin. Ask God to help you to be forgiving like Jesus is. God wants you to be patient and forgiving.

Memory Verse: Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



"Suffer little children to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven." Luke 18:16.

When you are tempted to be unhappy, begin to think of all of your blessings.

"Let not the sun go down upon your wrath." Ephesians 4:26.

Nabal's Anger

"Have you ever heard about the man who died because he became so angry?" Mother asked Gerry.

"No," answered five-year-old Gerry. "Tell me about him please."

"His name is Nabal. He was a very rich man. He was also stingy, evil, and rude."

"Nabal had three thousand sheep. One day, he and all his servants went out into the field to shear the sheep. Some of the servants helped him catch the sheep and shear off the wool. Other servants helped Abigail, his wife, prepare food to eat."

"In the mountains near-by, an army was hiding. The army had been hiding there a long time. They were good soldiers and had not stolen sheep from Nabal. As they watched the men working in the valley below, they decided to ask for some food to eat. One of the soldiers came to

Nabal and asked for food to take to the men in the mountains. Instead of giving the soldiers some food to eat, he cursed and sent them away hungry.

"When the captain heard what Nabal had done, he also became angry and gathered four-hundred of his men and started down the mountain to find Nabal."

"One of Nabal's servants knew the soldiers were coming, so he went and told Abigail. She hastily told her servants to get two-hundred loaves of bread, two bottles of juice, five lambs that were ready to cook, raisins, and cakes of figs. These she tied on the back of a horse. She left most of the servants to finish preparing food for the men shearing sheep. The other servants went ahead of her to meet the army. When she met the captain, she said, 'Please forgive my husband for being angry and receive this food that I have brought for you and your soldiers.'"

"When she went home, Nabal was drinking wine with his servants so she said nothing about what she had done. In the morning she told him. He became even more angry than he was the day before. He was so angry that he became as a stone. Ten days later he died."

"Wow! He sure was angry," said Gerry. "Is that true?"

"Yes, it is true," answered Mother. "I will read all the story to you from the Bible." (1 Samuel 25) C.H.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Is it good to have a temper?
- 2 Does God want you to get mad and hit someone?
- 3 Who wants you to get mad and have an ugly temper?

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Part 21

Feb. 23

REBELLION AND WITCHCRAFT

Gal. 5:19a, 20a, 21b; 1 Sam. 28:5-7, 11, 12, 15-21

Saul, king of Israel, had sinned against God by being disobedient. Now he was in trouble. The Philistine army had come to fight against him. Saul didn't know what to do. God would not answer Saul's prayers anymore. He had no one to turn to. At last he decided to go to a witch. He wanted the witch to call up Samuel, the good prophet, who had died. Saul wanted to ask Samuel what to do. The witch caused a spirit to appear that looked like Samuel. The spirit told Saul that his kingdom would be taken from him and given to David. It also said that Saul and his sons would die the next day. The Philistine army would win the battle and many would die.

It is a terrible thing to disobey God. Saul lost his kingdom because he disobeyed God's commandment. He went further in sin and went to a witch. It did him no good to go. Saul only brought evil on himself and his sons. Do not let anyone tell your fortune. Do not use an ouija board. All of these things are sin.

Memory Verse: For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft.
1 Samuel 15:23a.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



"And the Lord said,
My Spirit shall not always strive with
man." Gen. 6:2a.

"If thou doest well, shalt thou not
be accepted? and if thou doest not well,
sin lieth at the door (of your heart)"
Genesis 4:7.

Supernatural Power

"Mother, may I go and play with
Jan?" asked nine-year-old Susan.

"No," answered Mother, "you must
stay home and help me with the dishes."

Susan obediently came into the kitchen and began washing dishes. After a long silence she said, "At Mary's birthday party today, we asked questions to an ouija board. I asked if I would get to play with Jan, and it said, 'no'. How did the ouija board know you were not going to let me?"

"The board knew nothing," replied Mother. "It is only a board without a mind. The devil knew you wouldn't get to go, so he caused the board to say, 'no', in hopes you would learn to trust in other supernatural powers besides God's power."

Susan looked puzzled. "I know God can do anything, but are you saying that the devil has supernatural power also and can do supernatural things?"

"Yes," answered Mother. "Some people who have the Spirit of the devil know many things about strangers. Such as names, places of work, size of family and where living. Many times they can tell what will happen in the future and what has happened in the past."

"Do they really know people they have never read about nor seen in pictures?"

"Yes, they do. A friend told me about a meeting she went to and the speaker told strangers from the audience their names, work, and where they lived. Another friend told me her brother ran away from home. Her mother went to a person with that power and was told where the brother was hiding out. Her Mother found the boy in the place she was told. Your grandmother once watched a man make a table walk, and a heavy piece of iron dance."

"A piece of iron danced without anyone touching it?" Susan could hardly believe it.

"I know it is hard for you to believe anything like that would happen, but it does. These supernatural things happen where people get together for the purpose of worshipping spirits that are not of God. They also happen when a person goes to evil-spirited people to ask the unknown. You must never go to these meetings or ask questions of anything except God or trustworthy men. The evil spirit might come into you also. A good way to be safe from 'devil spirits' is to never allow yourself to become curious about 'supernatural powers.'"

C.H.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Who has sinned against God?
- 2 Why did Saul go to a witch?
- 3 Is witchcraft a sin?

The Beautiful Way

Primaries



Vol. 26, No. 1

Jan., Feb., March, 1975

Part 22

March 2

THOU SHALT NOT COVET

Exodus 20:17; Luke 12:13-21, 29-31

Once there was a rich man. He just kept getting richer and richer. He had so much that he had no place to put it. He was well pleased. "Now," he thought, "I can build bigger barns. I have so much that I can just take it easy for many years. I have everything I need. I can just have a good time for the rest of my life." This rich man didn't think about his soul. He didn't think about God. He didn't think about dying. He acted like he would live forever. God spoke to this man and said, "Thou fool, tonight you must die; who will have all your riches then?"

Wouldn't it have been better if the rich man had thought about his soul? He could have been saved and used his riches to help others. Then when death came, he would have gone to the place of eternal happiness. God tells us not to want the things others have. Some people want what others have so much that they will steal to get them. It is wrong to covet, and it is wrong to steal. One sin leads to another. Let God keep us from sin.

Memory Verse: Take heed and beware of covetousness. Lk.

12:15a.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Boys and girls, let us keep our hearts pure with good fruits and then there will be no room for the bad fruits like coveting to enter in.

Each day to keep our hearts free from all evil fruits, we must have a daily walk with God. He will keep us clean from all evil fruits, if we ask Him.

The Seed of Coveting

Sara and Jane were friends. Often they played together. One day when Jane went to play with Sara, she brought her new doll. Along came the devil and planted a little seed of covetousness in Sara's heart. (Covetousness is to wish for something that belongs to another.) Sara held the doll in her arms, she combed its hair and changed its clothing. The more she played with the doll, the more she wanted it.

That night she said to her mother, "I wish Jane's new doll were mine."

"Be careful how you wish," cautioned Mother. "The sin of coveting begins by wishing."

Sara looked puzzled, "God doesn't like us to wish?" she asked.

"It is all right to wish for a new doll just like Jane's, but don't wish for hers."

"But Jane has a lot more dolls than I," said Sara poutingly. "She should give me that one."

"You are letting the seed of covetousness grow when you feel sad because you cannot have things like others," said Mother. "If you continue feeling sad and sorry for yourself, the seed will grow bigger and bigger. When it has grown very big, you will be willing for someone else to be without and you enjoy their things."

"That would be selfish," added Sara.

"Yes, the seed of covetousness grows only in selfish hearts," continued Mother. "In a selfish heart it grows so large that birds of thought come and sit on its branches. These birds bring other seeds in their bills. Some of these seeds are stealing, lying and adultery. Once we let the seed of covetousness grow until it is large, we will have a lot of bad seeds growing along beside it."

Sara drew a deep breath, "There would be no room for good seeds if a lot of bad seeds are growing in our hearts," she said. "I shall try to keep the seed of covetousness out of my heart."

"Then you must stop wishing for Jane's new doll and be happy with your old one. If you do, the seed of covetousness will soon dry up and die."

"I will ask God to help me be happy with everything I have and be happy that others have things they do," said Sara.

"Then the seed of covetousness will never grow in your heart." C.H.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 What did the rich man say?
- 2 Did the rich man think about God?
- 3 What happened to the rich man?
- 4 Is it wrong to covet?

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Primaries



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Part 23

March 9

TOUCH NOT THE CUP

Luke 21:34a; 1 Sam. 25:5, 6a, 8b, 10, 11, 14, 17, 19, 23, 27, 35a-38

The Bible tells about a wicked man who drank liquor. He became very evil-tempered. He was hard to get along with. He had no kindness in his heart. David and his men were very hungry. They heard that Nabal, the wicked man, was having a big feast. It was sheep-shearing time. David thought Nabal would have enough food to give some to him and his men. Oftimes the men with David had helped Nabal's shepherds in the fields. Perhaps Nabal would repay their kindness now. Nabal spoke very cruelly to the men. When the men gave Nabal's answer to David, it made David very angry. Nabal had a good wife whose name was Abigail. She quickly gathered much food and took it to David. She did not tell Nabal what she had done because he was drunk. After Nabal became sober, Abigail told him how she had saved their lives by taking food to David and his men. Nabal was so angry he probably had a stroke. In a few days he died. God's Word says drunkenness is a sin. You should never taste beer or other strong drinks; then you will not be a drunkard.

Memory Verse: And be not drunk with wine. Eph. 5:18a.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



This is the first day of the rest of your life.

"Drinking will lead to other worse things like hatred, envy, and murder."

Refuse the first drink, and you'll never be tempted with the second.

First Cup of Beer

Sam sat on the door-step looking across the back yard. He was so tired staying home alone. Mother was never home because she had taken a job since Daddy couldn't work. The evenings she spent cleaning house or busy with her friends. Sam hardly ever got to share his problems with her.

He opened the door and went in. Everything was quiet! The dishes piled in the sink and unmade beds told him that mother had overslept. That meant she would be cross and irritable when she came home. "I'll probably get a spanking," he thought. "I usually do when things go wrong for Mom. Maybe if I clean the house, she will feel better. He put away all his things and straightened his bed. He then straightened the other rooms. Also he went into the kitchen and washed the dishes.

Glancing at the clock after finishing the dishes, he knew it would be two more

hours before Mother would be home. The loneliness and quietness of being alone in the house made him feel afraid, so he turned on the T.V. He sat on the sofa and watched for awhile. When the commercial came on advertising beer, it was more than he could take. He began to cry!

Father's drinking beer had caused all his troubles. When he first started drinking, Mom had begged him not to. But he had paid no attention. Then she fussed at him, but that only caused him to drink more.

When Daddy first began drinking beer with his friends, Sam had thought Mother awfully fussy because she would be mad at Daddy for such a harmless thing. Now he knew she was right. Daddy should have never drunk the first beer. After a year of drinking beer, his body needed more alcohol, so he began drinking other drinks which contained more alcohol than beer.

Not long afterwards, he was drinking in a tavern and became irritated by another man. After a heated argument, they began to fight. His father killed the other man. Sam remembered it! His Daddy had told him all about it. How could he forget? Life had been terrible for him since Daddy was in jail.

"It's all because Daddy drank the first beer," he said to himself. Then he lay down, buried his face in the sofa pillow and cried himself to sleep. C.H.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Who was a wicked man who drank?
- 2 Did this wicked man give food to David and his men?
- 3 Who was Nabal's good wife?
- 4 Is it a sin to get drunk?

The Beautiful Way

Primaries



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Part 24

March 16

THOU SHALT NOT KILL

Gen. 4:1-14

Cain and Abel were brothers. Cain was a farmer and Abel tended sheep. When it came time to take an offering to God, Cain took some of his fruit. It wasn't the first or best fruit, for Cain wanted that for himself. Abel loved God. He wanted to take his best to the Lord. He picked the best sheep in his flock and took it as his offering. God was pleased with Abel's offering because Abel gave his best. God knew Abel loved Him. He accepted Abel's offering. Cain was angry because God accepted Abel's offering, but did not accept his. "Why wouldn't God accept my offering?" he questioned. God spoke to Cain and said, "When you do well, then I will accept your offering, too." After this, Cain was angry with Abel. Then Cain killed Abel, his brother. Wasn't that an awful thing to do? See what jealousy and anger can do! Oh, we should pray to God to help us to love everyone. Cain had murdered his own brother! God had to punish him. Every murderer will be punished by God.

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

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



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.

Love is the strongest bond that a person can have, when we cross that bond, it leads to hatred, which in the end leads to death.

Mark's Lesson

Mark had a plan. He thought he would kill every big grasshopper that lived at his

house. They were about two inches long and were a tawny yellow color. They were big, and could they jump! You had to grab them quick. They ate the leaves of trees and of flowers. He did not like for them to eat his plants without his permission, and they did it anyway. Just squashing them dead was not enough. They had acted too badly. "I'll torture them until they die!" he thought. "They must pay for what they have done." He didn't feel too easy over this idea, so he didn't mention it to his mother and dad.

Mark found a jar and sneaked out of the house. He caught a big grasshopper and put him in the jar. He put the lid on tight and waited for him to die. The grasshopper did not die fast enough, so Mark got some matches and made a little fire under the grasshopper's jar. The poor grasshopper jumped and jumped. Mark laughed. Finally he was dead.

That night Mark dreamed a dream. A giant grasshopper caught him and put him in a jar. "Now you will die like the grasshopper did!" roared the giant grasshopper. The grasshopper lit a fire, and Mark jumped and jumped and screamed, "I'm sorry! I won't do it anymore!" The grasshopper laughed.

Then Mark woke up. He realized that God does not want us to torture the creatures that He has made because they are doing what He made them to do. Mark never tortured grasshoppers anymore.

— M.S.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Who were brothers?
- 2 Who loved God?
- 3 Who killed his brother?
- 4 Does God want us to hate anyone?

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Primaries



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Part 25

March 23

PRIDE

I Sam. 15:16-18, 22, 26-28; I Sam. 16:1, 6, 7, 10-14

When God chose Saul to be king, he was not proud. He humbly obeyed the Lord. But as God blessed him and gave him victory over his enemies, Saul grew proud. He thought he did not have to obey God. Saul spared the wicked king that God had told him to destroy. He also kept the best of the sheep and cattle although God had said to destroy them. Samuel, the prophet, came to Saul and told Saul, "To obey is better than giving sacrifices to God." "God has rejected you from being king," said the good prophet. After this, God sent Samuel to Jesse's home. He had eight sons. God had chosen one of them to be the king. The first son was tall and handsome. Samuel thought this son was the one God chose, but He said "No." God said He didn't look on the outside of man, but on the heart. Seven sons stood before Samuel, but none were chosen. At last Jesse sent for David, the keeper of his father's sheep. "This is the one," said God, so Samuel anointed David to be king. God's Spirit rested on David from that day, but an evil spirit came upon Saul because he was proud.

Memory Verse: Pride goeth before destruction. Pro. 16:18a.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Paul's Pride

Paul had a shiny new two-wheeled bicycle. His father had bought it for his birthday. His birthday was last week. Now he was five years old. His friends, Donald and Phil, would be five years old in three more months. Johnny had just turned four, and Sam was three.

Since his birthday, he thought he was much bigger. When Donald and Phil came to play, he said, "I'm bigger than you. I'm five years old." When Johnny came to play, he said, "I'm bigger than you. I'm five years old." When Sam came to play, he said, "You are a little boy, I'm a big boy. I am five years old."

Donald, Johnny, Phil, and Sam wanted to play. But every time they started to play, Paul began to boss them. "I'm bigger than you, so you must play as I say," he said. Soon Sam got tired and went home. Phil also got tired and went home. Johnny and Donald went to Johnny's house to play and Paul was left alone.

Paul didn't like to play by himself, so he took his new bicycle on the sidewalk. The boys will come and play with me now, he thought. They will want to see my new bicycle. Sure enough Phil came back. Johnny and Donald saw him riding the new bicycle and came over. Little Sam came back, too. "I'm the only boy in our neighborhood that has a new bicycle," Paul said.

"May we ride your bicycle," asked the boys.

"No," said Paul, "You are too little to ride a two-wheeled bicycle." Little boys must ride tricycles. Only big boys like I can ride two-wheeled bicycles." Soon the boys went away. All the rest of the day, Paul had to play by himself.

The next day, no one came to play with Paul. He called to the boys as he passed each of their houses, but not one wanted to play with him. All day he played by himself.

The next morning was cold. Paul put on his heavy coat, took his new bicycle and went to ride it on the sidewalk. "Come and play, and I will let you ride my new bicycle," he called. Soon all the boys put on their coats and came to ride the bicycle.

While they were riding, a big dog came. Sam began to cry. Donald and Johnny were afraid. Phil ran home. "You little boys are afraid of a dog," Paul laughed. "I am a big boy, I will chase him away." Paul ran toward the big dog. The big dog thought Paul wanted to play, so he came nearer and nearer. Paul was afraid, but he wouldn't turn and run. He stood tall and stepped backward, and backward and backward. Until he fell 'splash' into Mrs. Smith's goldfish pond!

When Paul got out of the pond, he was wet and cold. He was not so proud of being big then.

C. H.

QUESTIONS:

- 1 Who became proud?
- 2 Did God chose another king?
- 3 Who was he?
- 4 Is pride a sin?

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Primaries



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Jan., Feb., March, 1975

Part 26

March 30

DISHONORING GOD

1 Kings 13:21, 22, 25, 26; Rom. 2:21, 23; Matt. 21:12-14;
Micah 7:6, 7; Judges 6:4, 14; Judges 8:28

God sent a prophet to warn Israel. God told the prophet to give his warning and return to his own land without stopping, or eating and drinking. A prophet should always obey God. This prophet disobeyed, and because he dishonored God by not obeying, he was killed by a lion. If we break God's law, we dishonor Him. God's Word tells us how to live. If we do not pay attention to the Bible, we dishonor God.

Some other people dishonored God. They were the money-changers and those that sold doves in the temple. They were only thinking of making money and cheating the people. God's temple was to be a house of prayer. Jesus was grieved and drove them all out. Then Jesus healed the afflicted people who came to Him.

Today, when we go to the chapel to worship God, we are to honor Him by sitting quietly and listen to the service. We should never run around in the chapel, or talk unless we talk to all.

Memory Verse: "If ye love me, keep my commandments."
John 14:15.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Church Play

Donna and Erma loved to go to church. At church they saw their best friends. They were Nancy, Jane, Susan, and Martha. They always wanted to get there early so they could play before the service started. They played tag outside when the weather was nice. When they could not play outside, they played inside.

Mother told Donna and Erma not to play in the church house. "Why can't we play inside the church house?" asked Erma.

"It was not built for play, it was built for the worship of God," answered Mother. "To worship, we must be still and think only of God whom we are worshipping. If you are playing, you are thinking about play, not about God. In the olden days, God came in the temple or church building in the form of a cloud. When this cloud came down on the building the people knew God was there. They stood quietly outside and waited for the leaders to do their work and to tell the people what to do. Sometimes the presence of God in the cloud was so strong that the leaders could not stay in the building and do their work. When the people of God meet together today, the presence of God is here." We cannot see it like a cloud as the people of olden days, but we know it is here."

"So we should stay very quiet and listen to what our leaders tell us?" asked Erma.

"Yes," answered Mother. "We should be quiet so we can hear and also to show respect to God. When you speak to Nancy or Susan, you like for them to be quiet until you have finished speaking. God speaks to us in church service. We must be very quiet until he is through and so we can hear everything he has to say."

"But before service starts," said Erma, "There is not one speaking. Can't we play then?"

"God doesn't only speak to us through our leaders. He also speaks to us through our heart and mind," continued Mother. "God has spoken to many people as they sit quietly in their seats before service has started."

"Really?" exclaimed Erma, "I'm going to try it. I want God to speak to me."

"If you want God so speak to you," said Mother. "There are some things you must always remember. God only speaks to us if we are thinking of him. Sometimes we must sit quietly and think of him for a long time before he speaks to us."

"I think I would rather be quiet and listen for God to speak than to play in church," said Erma. "I can play later."

After that, she sat quietly in her seat until the service started."

Charlotte Huskey

QUESTIONS:

- 1 What happened to the prophet who disobeyed God?
- 2 Who did Jesus drive out of the temple?
- 3 How can we honor God?

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Primaries



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Part 14

April 6

THE GOOD TREE

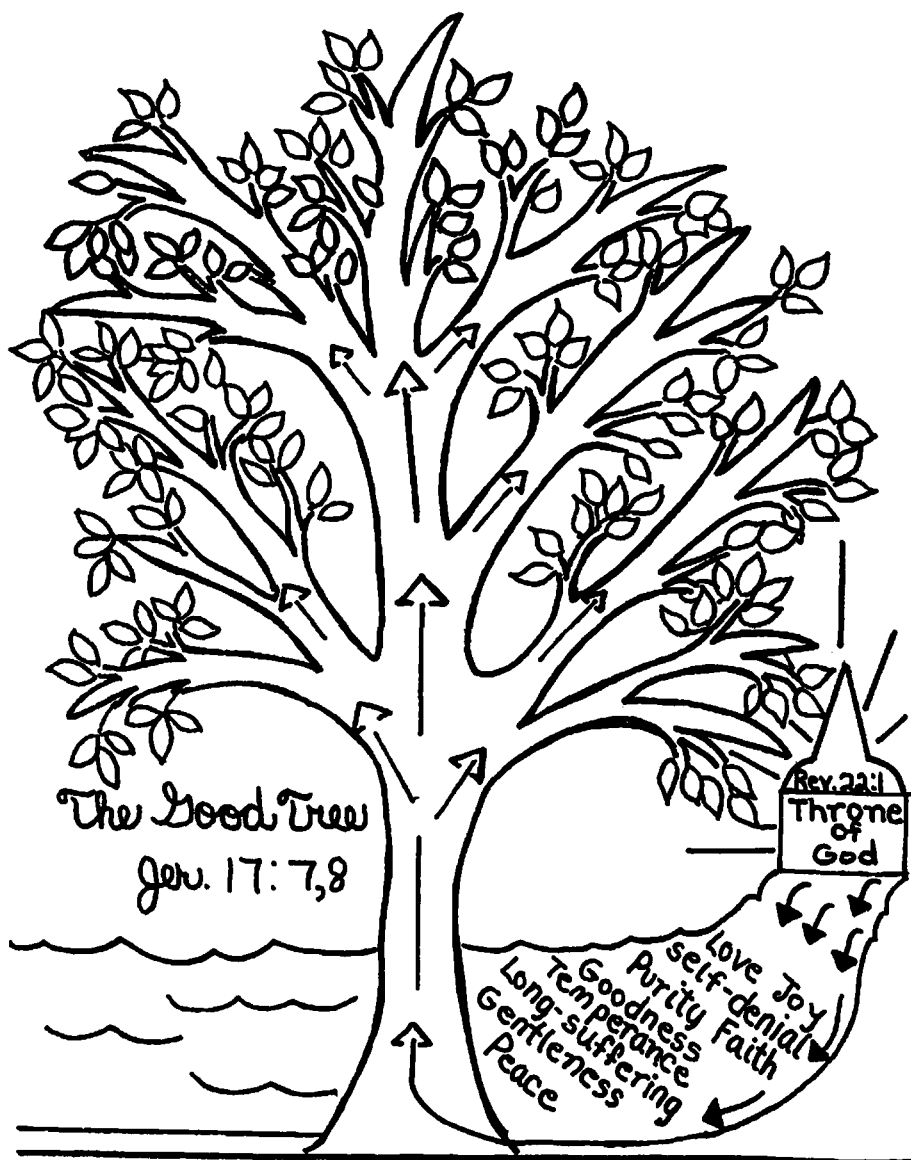
Matt. 7:17-19; Gal. 5:22-23

Now we want to learn about the Good Tree and its good fruits. Have you ever seen the good trees in an apple orchard with beautiful fruit? It was a lovely picture and made your mouth water for some of the delicious fruit. You wouldn't want any of the fruit if it was wormy, rotten or shriveled, would you?

We are like trees. Our lives bear fruit. The fruits tell whether we are good trees or bad ones. To bear these good fruits, we must serve the Lord and obey His Word. If we say we are children of God, and do not bear good fruit, we shall be chopped down by the axe that is laid at the root of the tree.

Do you know what these good fruits are? They are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. We can bear nine good fruits in our lives. Love is the first fruit. If we have a lot of it, we will have all the other fruits also. The more we have of love, the more we have of God, for God is love.

Memory Verse: A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit.
Matthew 7:18(a).



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Primaries



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Part 15

April 13

LOVING OTHERS

Mark 12:30-31; 1 Cor. 13:3, 4, 5

Jesus gave us two great commandments. The first one tells us to love God with all our heart and strength. If we love God that much, we will always try to please Him and obey His Word.

The second commandment tells us to love our neighbor as ourselves. If we love our neighbor as much as we love ourselves, will we hurt our neighbor in any way? Will we tell lies about our neighbor? Will we steal anything that belongs to him? Will we cheat him? No! The next time you feel like hitting someone, stop and think, "Would I like for that person to hit me?" Then don't hit him. If you don't like to be teased, then don't tease anyone else. If you don't like your toys to be broken, then don't break someone else's toys.

Are you pleased when someone says, "Please" and "Thank you" to you? Then you should be courteous to others. God wants us to be kind, then this will be a better world in which to live. Ask God to help you to love everyone.

Memory Verse: Love worketh no ill to his neighbor. Rom. 13:10a.



What a Smile Did

Jimmy was happy. He was happy because he loved Jesus. So he smiled. He smiled as he walked down the street.

A man was cleaning the trash out of the street. He felt very cross, because he did not like to do that kind of work. Jimmy smiled at him. The man smiled back. The work did not seem so bad after that.

A little girl came down the street. Her name was Donna. She had a dime. She was going to buy an ice cream sandwich. She dropped her dime, and it rolled down into a hole where she could not get it. She began to cry.

The street cleaner had heard many boys and girls cry, but he had not tried to help them. But because Jimmy had smiled at him, he wanted to help. He got the dime and gave it back to Donna. She was very happy.

Donna got her ice cream sandwich. She began to eat it. Then she saw Sue looking at her. Sue never had any money for ice cream. Sue had not had any breakfast.

Donna looked at her ice cream sandwich. "I can break this into two," she said. "Here, you have some, too." Donna was happy because she had done something for someone else. Sue was happy because she had something good to eat.

Sue went home. Her baby brother was crying. Her mother had a headache. Sue wanted to help because Donna had been good to her. She played with the baby until

he was happy again. "I can wash dishes," she said to her mother. "You lie down until you feel better."

Sue sang while she washed the dishes. A man walked by on the street. He heard Sue singing. He stopped to listen. "I have a little girl who has to stay in a wheel chair," he said. "I think it would make her happy to hear you sing. Would your mother let you come to our house and sing for her?"

So Sue sang for the little girl. She sang many songs. The little girl's father gave her a dollar. Sue gave it to her mother to buy something to eat.

The little girl in the wheel chair had been very cross. But she smiled and was happy the rest of the day.

All of those good things happened because Jimmy smiled. — Sel.

— o —

"God made the sun—it gives;
God made the moon—it gives;
God made the stars—they give;
God made the air—it gives;
God made the clouds—they give;
God made the earth—it gives;
God made the sea—it gives;
God made the trees—they give;
God made the grass—it gives;
God made the flowers—they give;
God made the bees—they give;
God made the fowls—they give;
God made the fish—they give;
God made the beasts—they give;
God made the plan—He gives;
God made mothers—they give;
God made you—do you give?"

QUESTIONS:

1. Who are we to love with all of our hearts?
2. Who are we to love as ourselves?
3. How do you treat someone you love?

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Primaries



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April, May, June, 1975

Part 16

April 20

THE FRUIT OF JOY

1 Jno. 3:8; 1 Jno. 1:9; Luke 15:10; 10:20b; Eph. 5:19

Do you know what joy is? Joy is a happy, glad feeling inside because something good has happened to you. When you do something good, you can have joy.

God gives His people joy because they are saved from sin. Sin was a cruel master which kept them in bondage. When they wanted to do right, they couldn't. Then they came to Jesus, told Him they were sinners and needed to be saved. They said, "Please forgive us for sinning." God did forgive them because Jesus died for their sins. Then there was great joy in their hearts.

Sometimes you might think you have joy because you get a new toy. There is a far greater joy than that. The best joy in all the world is the happiness we feel when God saves us. Then we feel like clapping our hands and singing, too. We want to tell everyone how God has saved us. Oh, we have such great joy!

There is a song that says, "Oh, happy day, when Jesus washed my sins away." That is a true song. It is the happiest day when we get saved. Then we can always rejoice.

Memory Verse: Rejoice evermore. 1 Thess. 5:16.



Waymaker For Me

They started another song. It was a camp meeting favorite and Sally really liked the song, "Jesus is a Waymaker", but as she tried to sing, the tears began to spill down her cheeks. Oh, why hadn't she let Jesus be her Waymaker? Why hadn't she gone forward at camp meeting and chosen to follow Jesus like all the others?

Maggie had gotten saved the very first night, and she kept telling everyone how happy she was.

Sally dreaded going home. Her mother would be away working. Ever since the mill accident, her father had been mean and she was afraid of him when her mother wasn't home. Her father and mother were not Christians. Things would be different if they were.

"Come on, sing, Sally," said Maggie at her side.

"I-I can't. I just don't feel like it right now," answered Sally, looking out the window so Maggie wouldn't see that she was crying.

"Sally, what is wrong? Aren't you glad to be going home?" asked her friend.

"I guess now it's—," Sally faltered.

"It's what?" prompted Maggie.

"It's too late. I waited too long, and now we have to go home. I wanted to—," again Sally could not go on.

"You wanted to what?" urged Maggie softly, but not too softly for Miss Barnes, who was sitting in front of them, to hear.

Sally continued, "I wanted to accept Jesus like all the rest of you did, but I couldn't, and now it's too late."

"Oh," said Maggie softly, "I don't think it's too late."

"No," interrupted Miss Barnes, "It isn't too late. Jesus has been waiting for this moment, Sally. He will come into your heart right now if you ask Him to. Would you like to do that?"

"Yes," said Sally, smiling for the first time that day.

And right there in the bus, after camp meeting was all over, another girl accepted Jesus as her Saviour and the angels in heaven rejoiced along with Maggie and Miss Barnes.

The singing in the bus seemed much brighter then because Sally was singing along with the others. She was so happy her sins were forgiven and she could sing,

"Jesus is a Waymaker—

One day He made a way for me."

— Sel.

Little things may do much harm. And sometimes big things do little harm. A big balloon shaped like a lion cannot hurt us, but a little bit of poison or a little bit of dynamite can do great damage, can be powerful. The Word of God is powerful, too. It is like a searchlight which shows the dark parts of our hearts, the parts which are disobedient, or unkind, or mean!

QUESTIONS:

1. What is joy?
2. Does God give us joy when we get saved?
3. Who else has joy when a sinner gets saved?

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April, May, June, 1975

Part 17

April 27

ISAAC SEEKS PEACE

Gen. 26:19-22; Rom. 12:18

Issac, the son of Abraham, had great possessions. He had many servants and much cattle. Because Isaac was so rich, the king of the Philistines told him to move away. The king did not want Isaac to live in his land.

Much water was needed for all of Isaac's people and cattle. His servants dug a well and found a good spring of water. Right away the herdsmen of that country came and told Isaac that he could not have that well because the land belonged to them. Isaac moved to another place and dug a well. "This is our water, too," said the herdsmen. Again, Isaac moved to another place and dug a well. This time no one came to claim it.

Isaac loved peace, and he wanted to please God. God was pleased with Isaac and made room for him in the land.

Peace is one of the fruits of the Spirit. You will feel happy in your heart if you are a peace-maker. Pray each day for God to help you make peace wherever you are.

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



Punishment and Reward

As Fred and Bob were walking home from school, they took a different path. It led them by Mr. Smith's home. Bob became all excited when he saw red apples in Mr. Smith's orchard.

"Oh, Fred, look at those pretty red apples. Let's go over the fence and get us a few to eat."

"No, Bob. Don't you know that will be stealing?"

"Oh, no, it would not be stealing to get just a few to eat."

"Yes, it would, Bob. When we take something that belongs to someone else, it is stealing."

"But Fred, Mr. Smith can't see us."

"No, Bob, but God does. He sees everything we do. Nothing is hidden from Him."

"Fred, you hold my books, and I'll get the apples. I don't think Mr. Smith would care anyway."

"No, Bob, I won't hold your books, because that would be helping you to steal. I'll just go on home for Mother is expecting me. But I'll pray for you, Bob, and if you don't come to school in the morning, I'll know you are sick from eating too many apples, and I'll know God is punishing you."

The next day, Bob didn't appear at school, so Fred prayed some more for him. That afternoon, on his way home, Mr. Smith came out of his house and said "Hello, Fred. I want to tell you that yesterday when you and Bob were talking about getting the apples, I was sitting

behind some bushes, fishing, and I heard every word you boys said. I want to tell you that I admire you because you refused to steal the apples. Here are a few I want to give to an honest boy. I think there are enough for each one in your family."

"Oh, thank you, Mr. Smith. I'm glad you like what I told Bob. You must be a Christian, too."

"Well, no, Fred, I'm not, but what you said is making me think I ought to be one."

"Well, thanks again, Mr. Smith, and I am going to pray for you, too."

He had taken only a few steps when Mr. Smith called him back. "Say, Fred, the apples will soon be ready to pick and sell. I'm going to need a boy to help. Would you like the job for pay?"

"Oh, Mr. Smith, I sure would like to. Mother just said yesterday I would need new shoes before cold weather comes and she didn't see how she could get some for Sister and me. Oh, Mother will want to thank you too."

"Well, run along now, Fred. I think I'll see you at church someday."

When Fred got home with the apples, he told his mother everything that had happened the past two days. With tears in her eyes, and her arms around Fred, she said, "My precious son, you have made your mother's heart rejoice. I am glad you stood so true when Fred tempted you. Now you have already received one reward. If you will always be just as true to live for Jesus, you will receive a reward far better than this. It will be a precious reward in heaven."

— Vera Forbes

QUESTIONS:

1. Who dug many wells?
2. Why did he have to dig so many?
3. Why didn't Issac fight for the wells?

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Part 18

May 4

PURITY

Psa. 24:3, 4; Eph. 5:11, 12; Phil. 4:8

Boys and girls, there is a great enemy in the land today. He would defile every one of you. You must be on guard against the devil. He is very sly. There are two principal ways in which he can attack you. Your eyes and ears are gates that he can enter and soil your soul. What you look at, and what you hear can affect you greatly. It is important to LOOK at GOOD things, and to HEAR GOOD things! You must think PURE thoughts.

No one will be able to enter HEAVEN who is not pure. Our lesson text tells you that you must have clean hands (no sin on them) and a pure (undefiled) heart. You are not to take part in evil things. Stop your ears, shut your eyes. Do not listen to or look at things that make you feel unclean.

God's Word tells you to think upon "lovely" things. God has made many beautiful things, honest things, true things, things you wouldn't be ashamed of if someone could suddenly see your tho'ts. "KEEP THYSELF PURE." Ask Jesus to help you.

Memory Verse: Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Matt. 5:8.



Karen's Joke

"Hey, Judy," called Karen, who was standing in the center of a group of giggling girls. "Come here, I've got something to tell you," laughed Karen.

"Oh, Karen, Judy doesn't like the kind of jokes you tell," said Sarah. "She says they're impure and that God doesn't want us to talk about those kind of things. She says that they make our mind dirty, and our heart, too. You'd better not tell her what you told the others," said Sarah, who was Judy's best friend.

"Oh, say, Judy," said Karen. "Do you really mean you don't like dirty jokes? It doesn't hurt to laugh a little, now does it?"

Judy had been praying and asking the Lord to give her courage to tell her schoolmates how she felt. She wanted to be a good example. She wanted people to know that she loved Jesus and was trying to live right. Now she was being tested. She could either tell them how she felt and do what Jesus would, or listen to the joke so they wouldn't make fun of her. She paused and then began to speak. "The Bible says that, 'It is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.' Mother told me I should only say and do things that I would do if Jesus were here watching me. I don't think He would be pleased if I listened to those jokes, or laughed at them."

There was a long silence. Some of the girls looked ashamed. Some of them just

wrinkled up their noses and called Judy "Miss Purity," then ran off to play. But Judy was glad down deep in her heart that she had done the right thing. Jesus had given her courage. As she entered the building, she remembered what Jesus had said, "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." — M. Sprague

IT WILL COME OUT

"Mother, we learned a new verse out of the Bible. It is in Luke 6:45. 'Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaketh.' What does that mean?" asked Bill, as he and Sue helped themselves to a cookie and a glass of milk.

"It means that what is in your heart will come out your mouth," said Mother.

"Well, how can that be?" asked Sue.

"Suppose you have a good, clean, pure heart? What kind of words do you think you will say?"

"Well, I suppose that they would be gentle and kind words," said Sue slowly.

"What kind of words would come out of someone that had an evil heart?" asked Mother again.

"Probably bad things," said Bill.

"That's right," said Mother. "Whatever is in the heart will come out. The Bible tells us to keep our heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life. We are what our heart is."

"Always read good books and have clean friends. When we are careful about what enters our mind, we can keep our heart clean better." — M. Sprague

QUESTIONS:

1. Who is the great enemy you have today?
2. What are the gates he can enter?
3. Who will see God?

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Part 19

May 11

GENTLENESS

Titus 3:2; 1 Thess. 2:7, 8; Mark 10:16

Do you know what “gentle” means? It means to be polite, to be kind, to be patient, and to be mild. If we are gentle, that wouldn’t be rough, or loud, or cruel, would it? We are living in times when people are rough and cruel, loud and quarrelsome. God doesn’t want us to be any of these. Of course, it is all right to be noisy and shout when we are outside playing. There’s a time and place to be quiet and gentle. Even when we play, we should not be rough and hit. We can run and jump and shout, but we don’t have to push and shove, or be cruel in any way.

Jesus loved little children. Some of His disciples thought Jesus didn’t have time for little children, but we know He loved them. He said, “Let them come unto me,” and He took them up in His arms and blessed them. Jesus wants to bless children today, too. Did you ever get a hard scolding for doing wrong? Jesus does not do that. He speaks in such a kind, gentle voice to your heart that you feel encouraged to do right.

Memory Verse: Thy gentleness hath made me great. Psalm 18:35(c).



The Handed-Down Dresses

"Betty, that dress is too small for you. You will have to hand it down to Sue," Mother said.

"Do I have to wear it?" Sue asked. "Linda always makes fun of me when she sees me in a dress which used to be Betty's. She never has to wear the clothes her older sister outgrows. She always gets new ones."

"We do not have enough money to buy new clothes when there are good ones here which you can wear," Mother said. "It is very unkind of Linda to make fun of anyone's clothes."

"Linda is like that, and so is her sister Sally," Betty said. "They like to make other people unhappy. They never go to Sunday school, and I am sure they do not love God. They would not act that way if they did."

The next Saturday the girls' two cousins came to visit. The cousins lived in another town. Their mother brought them. Jane was just as big as Betty. Karen was just as big as Sue.

"Sue does not like to wear the dresses which are too small for Betty," her mother said. "Do you suppose we could trade them for the dresses which are too small for Jane? Then both Sue and Karen would have different dresses to wear."

"Oh, yes!" Karen said. "Some of the girls make fun of me for wearing Jane's old clothes."

Both Betty and Jane were always careful to keep their clothes nice. Both mothers thought it would be a good plan to trade.

Now Sue did not have to wear Betty's handed-down dresses any more. Linda could not laugh at Sue's clothes.

One day Daddy said, "I hear your friend Linda's father has lost most of his money."

"Now maybe Linda will have to wear clothes which Sally has had," Sue said. "Now maybe we can get even!"

"No, now you can show her how a Christian acts!" Daddy said.

One day, Linda wore a dress which had been Sally's. "I think that dress is pretty," Sue said. "I like it on you."

"Thank you!" said Linda. She looked surprised.

The next day, it was Sue who was surprised. Linda asked, "May Sally and I go to Sunday school with you and Betty next Sunday?"

—Sel.

"Mother, what did Uncle Jack mean when he said that his father was as gentle as his old horse, Bill?" asked little Sally.

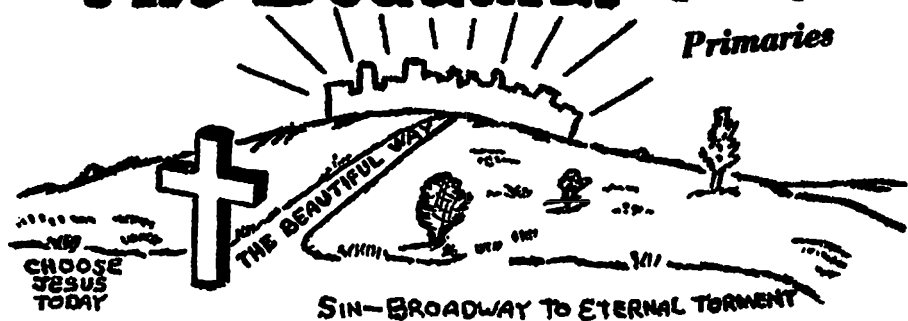
"Being gentle like his horse would be easy to walk up to and pet. His horse, Bill, wouldn't kick or move away from anyone. He is easy to lead and would mind all of his commands. A gentle boy or girl would be easy to talk to and they would not always be ready to kick or hit back if someone touched them. They would obey their parents and be kind."

QUESTIONS:

1. What does gentle mean?
2. Was Jesus gentle?
3. Does God want you to be gentle?

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Part 20

May 18

GOODNESS

Luke 6:35; Heb. 13:16; Psalms 37:3

Do you ever think about God and what kind of a Being He really is? Some people think God is harsh and cruel. When something awful happens, they blame God. They never see all the good things God has provided for them. They never think about God being good and kind.

When you think of goodness, or someone being really good, what, or who, do you think of? Jesus said to a man who came to Him, "There is none good but God." That doesn't mean WE can't be good; it means none of us ARE good except we have God in our hearts and lives.

What is God like? God blesses everyone! Even those who care nothing for God are blessed with His good sunshine and rain. God gives everyone the opportunity to be saved. He doesn't *make* people get saved, but He tries to get them to *want* to be saved.

God wants His children to be like Him. He wants us to do good to everyone, especially to the saints of God.

Memory Verse: Depart from evil, and do good. Psalms 34:14(a).



I'm Adopted

"Brenda, dear, whatever is the matter?" asked Mother.

Brenda sat up, wiped her eyes, and replied, "Oh, it's just that mean old Bobby Thomas. He says that I'm adopted!"

"But Brenda, you knew that," said Mother. "I've told you how we brought you home from the hospital when you were a month old. We had been praying for a little girl, and God found us just what we wanted."

"Is that being adopted?" questioned Brenda. "Bobby acted as though it were something dreadful-like mumps, or warts. Are David and Judy adopted, too?"

"No, they were born into the family, like-well, like Mrs. Miller's family of kittens," Mother replied.

"Then I guess you like them best," remarked Brenda, getting ready to cry again.

"Of course not!" exclaimed Mother. "I love each of you the same. Surely you know that!"

Brenda was about to reply when an excited voice called, "Brenda! Where are you? Look what I found!"

Brenda jumped to her feet. "That's Gloria. I wonder what she wants," she said, running to the door.

"Brenda, I found a kitten!" cried Gloria. "It was lying beside my house in the bushes, and Mommy says it's just a few days old."

"Oh, what will you do with it?" asked Brenda. "Poor, little thing. Listen to it cry."

"It's hungry. I'd like to raise it, but Mommy says it's too tiny and would die."

"I know!" exclaimed Brenda. "Mrs. Miller's cat, Suzy, had kittens a few days ago. Maybe she would take this one, too. Let's find out."

Mrs. Miller lived across the street, and she was willing to let Suzy have another baby. She took the girls into the garage where the cat had made a snug bed for her kittens. Gloria placed the tiny orphan beside the mother cat.

Suzy nudged the kitten with her nose and then began to lick it with her rough tongue. Soon the kitten was eating contentedly, filling its empty little stomach with nice warm milk.

When Brenda got home, she was very excited. "Suzy didn't mind a bit," she cried. "She loves all the kittens!"

"Of course. That's the way parents are," smiled Mother, giving Brenda a big hug. "I couldn't get along without you, your brother, or your sister. You are all precious!"

— Sel.

Sixty seconds make a minute,
How much good can I do in it?

Sixty minutes make an hour—
To make it count is in my power!

Twenty-four hours make a day,
Time for work and time for play.

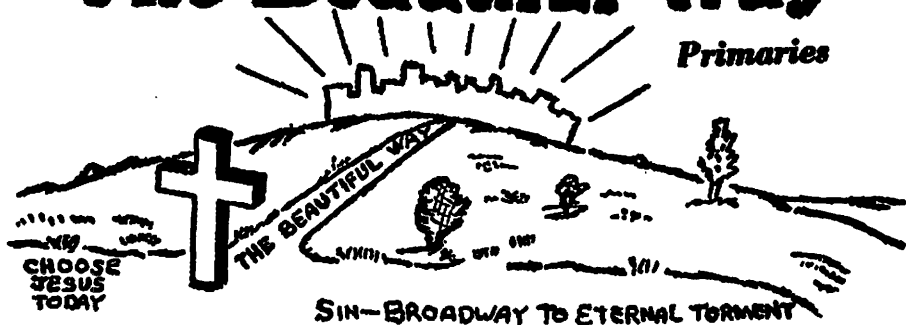
Of days, three hundred sixty-five
Make a year in which to strive
That I may be both wise and true.
Help me, dear Lord, to live for You!

QUESTIONS:

1. Is God a cruel, harsh God?
2. Who is good?
3. Name some blessings everyone has from God.

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Part 21

May 25

FAITH

Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus healed many sick people wherever He went. His fame went far and near. A poor woman who lived in the country of Caanan heard about Jesus. She had a little daughter who was sick because she had a devil which caused her to have fits. The mother's heart was very sad. One day the woman came where Jesus was and cried after Him, "Have mercy on me, O Lord. My daughter is sorely vexed with a devil." Jesus did not seem to hear her. The disciples said, "Send this woman away." Jesus said to her, "I am sent only to help the Jews." This caused the woman to fall upon her knees and to beg more loudly. "It would not be right to take the children's bread and give it to dogs," was His only reply. "That is right," said the woman, "but even the dogs can eat the crumbs." Jesus saw the woman's great faith. He told her that her little girl was well, and so Jesus honored her great faith by delivering her daughter from the devil.

If we want to please God, we must have faith in Him.

Memory Verse: And Jesus . . . saith unto them, Have faith in God. Mark 11:22.



Ginger and the Robbers

It had been a long, tiring day, and Ginger should have felt pleased when her daddy drove up beside the motel. This was their third day of travel and both nights she had enjoyed sleeping in a different bed in a strange room. Tonight, however, she seemed unwilling to get out of the car. "Do we have to stay here?" she asked. "Why can't we just keep on driving until we get to Grandma's house?"

"Honey, it's late, and we still have two hundred miles to travel," her mother replied.

Daddy signed up for a room, and soon Ginger had slipped into bright red pajamas and was tucked into bed. Then Mother took the Bible storybook from the suitcase. She drew up a chair and opened the book, but before she could begin reading, Ginger asked fearfully, "Will the robbers get us?"

"What robbers?" asked Mother.

"Those robbers that the man was talking about on the car radio," replied Ginger.

"Oh, I guess the news reporter did mention a service station robbery, but I can't remember much about it," said Mother.

"He said that the robbers had escaped in a blue car," said Ginger. "And Mommy, there are two blue cars parked in front of the motel."

"There are lots of blue cars," her mother replied. "Ginger, don't you re-

member the story about God protecting Daniel in the lions' den? Don't you think He can take care of us, too?"

"I guess so, Mommy, but Daniel lived a long time ago," said Ginger.

"How would you like to hear a modern true story about how God used a spider to protect one of His children?" asked her mother.

"I'd like that," said Ginger, snuggling down into her pillow.

"Well, this happened in a wicked country where the Christians were being killed because they believed in Jesus," Mother began. "One night, when they were fleeing for their lives, a man hid in an outdoor oven. These ovens were built of clay with an opening in the front. That night a spider spun a web over the opening. The the wind coated the web with dust.

"The man's enemies, upon seeing the web, thought that no one was hidden there, and passed by. God had used the spider to save the man's life."

"That was a good story," said Ginger. "I'm not afraid now because I know God will take care of me. Read the Bible story, Mommy, and then I'll go to sleep."

God can tell by the way we live each day of the year if we are really thankful. God sees those who are always happy about their blessings. He sees those who are glad to share with others. Some have a special time each day to say "thank you," and this also pleases God. So remember to give thanks and live thanks every day.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who cried after Jesus?
2. What did she want Jesus to do?
3. Did Jesus heal the woman's daughter?
4. What must we have to please God?

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Part 22

June 1

THE FRUIT OF TEMPERANCE

Proverbs 21:17; 23:1-3a; 1 Cor. 9:25a

Temperance is a lovely fruit. You might wonder, what is temperance? It is a lot of things. Temperance is not eating too much; not drinking too much; nor doing too much of anything that could hurt us. Temperance is eating a small piece of cake instead of a large one. Temperance is thinking of others and not being selfish or greedy.

King Solomon was very rich. Because he could have anything he wanted, he had too much of many things—too much food, too much gold and silver, and too many wives. He let his wives turn his heart away from God. Solomon wrote some very wise sayings in the book of Proverbs. It is sad that he did not follow his own wise sayings.

The Bible teaches us to be temperate in all things. We should not sleep too much, nor play too much. Children can think so much about playing that they will not get their lessons done, or will not learn to work. God wants us to learn to work well.

Memory Verse: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection. 1 Cor. 9:27a.



That Dreadful Temper

"O.K., Doris. Get out of my room!" yelled Ruth.

"I was just looking for a hairbrush," Doris told her angry sister.

"That's my brush and you leave it alone," cried Ruth, snatching it out of her hand and giving her a shove.

Doris hit her sister hard. "You are just as mean as ever. Going to church hasn't helped you a bit," cried Doris just before she ran out of the room, slamming the door behind her.

When Ruth's temper had cooled, she was ashamed of herself. She never stayed angry very long, but she had a quick temper that often got her into trouble. It's so hard to be a Christian all by myself, she thought with a sigh, for neither Doris nor her parents were Christians.

It was Aunt Laura, during one of her visits, who had taken the two girls to church and had told them about Jesus. Ruth had kept going to Sunday school and to church by herself and three weeks ago had given her life to Jesus. Now she wanted her family to belong to Jesus, too. However, they would never learn to love Him as long as she kept losing her temper. I'm never going to get angry again, she decided.

Ruth meant well, but that afternoon she did it again! She was reading and her sister began to pound on the piano. Ruth flared up at once and the two girls began to shout at each other. At that moment, the doorbell rang.

Ruth opened the door and gasped. There stood Mrs. Warner, her Sunday

school teacher. Of course she had heard it all!

Mrs. Warner looked at the girls' embarrassed faces and pretended that nothing was wrong. She visited for a few minutes and then left, but Ruth was quiet and thoughtful for the rest of the afternoon.

The next Sunday, Ruth told the teacher that she was sorry. "It's so hard to keep from losing my temper," she said.

"I know that I came at the wrong moment," said Mrs. Warner. "But have you ever thought that Jesus is always there, too? We can't see Him, but He knows all about us."

"I'll try to remember that. I do want to please Jesus," said Ruth.

"Yes, the Bible says, 'Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath,' (or anger) (James 1:19)," said the teacher. "Ask Jesus to help you; and when your family sees how you have changed, they'll want to know Him, too."

WHICH ARE YOU LIKE?

If you are like A, write A on the line.

If you are like B, write B on the line.

Be truthful. Tell which you are like.

A Some want others to serve them.

B Some want to serve and help others.

Which are you like?— — —

A Some do good to receive the praise of men.

B Some do good to please God.

Which are you like?— — —

QUESTIONS:

1. Tell what temperance means.
2. Who wrote wise sayings?
3. Was Solomon wise in all things?

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Part 23

June 8

LONG-SUFFERING

Matthew 18:21, 22; 6:9

Do you know what long-suffering means? It means to be patient and full of mercy towards those who do you wrong.

Once there was a man who owed a lot of money to a king. When the king came to collect the debt, the man could not pay. The king was going to throw the man in jail. The man fell on his knees and begged the king to have patience until he could pay. The king felt sorry for the man, so he forgave the debt. Another man owed a small debt to the man who had been forgiven. He could not pay his debt, so he begged for mercy. The first man would not wait. He had no patience or mercy. He put the poor man in jail. When others saw how unmerciful the man was who had been forgiven of such a great debt, they told the king. The king was very angry and said, "I forgave you a great debt; should you not have forgiven this poor man, too?" The king punished the wicked man.

Jesus tells us to forgive others if we want God to forgive us.

Memory Verse: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering. Gal. 5:22a.



The Hidden Books

Ernie slipped the forbidden comic books inside his notebook and sneaked them into his room. One of the big boys in school had loaned them to him. He knew that if his mother saw them, she would take them away from him. She was very strict about what he could read.

"I'm glad that you enjoy reading," she had told him, "but be sure to use God's precious gift of sight to read the right things. Your mind is a storehouse, and in it you must not store things that give you sinful thought and ideas."

Ernie knew he should obey his parents, but the pictures in the comic books fascinated him. I wonder where I can hide the books? he thought, glancing about the room. He looked at his bed. He had a bad habit of sitting on the edge of his mattress, causing one side of it to sag. The mattress! That would be a good hiding place.

He thought he heard his mother's footsteps in the hall. Quickly he slipped the books under the mattress. Then he changed his clothes and went outside to play until dinner was ready.

The following afternoon, as soon as he returned home from school, Ernie headed for his room as usual. He gave a puzzled frown as he glanced around. Something was different. His bed! It no longer sagged. "Mommy," he called. "What did you do to my bed?"

"I turned the mattress," his mother called back.

"Thanks. It looks a lot better," said Ernie, strolling into the kitchen. Then he

saw his mother's face. "What's wrong?" he asked.

"Ernie, I found some comic books under your mattress," said his mother. "Where did you get them?"

Ernie had forgotten about the books. He hung his head. "I got them at school," he replied, looking ashamed.

"I'm surprised at you, Ernie. You know I don't approve of those magazines. There's nothing funny about them. They are filled with violence," said Mother. "Did you think you could hide them from God?"

"Does He know?" asked Ernie.

"The Bible says, 'The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good' (Proverbs 15:3)."

"I'm sorry, Mommy," said Ernie.

"You must tell Jesus that you are sorry, too," said his mother. "When we love Him, we won't want to do things that displease Him." —Sel.

—O—

"Mama, Don hit me," yelled Bill.

"Boys, what was little Betty's Bible verse about last Sunday?" Mother asked as she paused sweeping. "I know you know but you are not living up to it. Tell me."

"Love one another," both boys spoke slowly.

"Now you both put that in practice and be nice."

Soon the boys were playing nicely.

Obeying God keeps us happy.

QUESTIONS:

1. Do you know what long-suffering means?
2. Tell how the king forgave a great debt.
3. Can we go to heaven if we do not forgive?

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Part 24

June 15

SELF-DENIAL

Prov. 23:26; Matt. 16:34; Luke 6:38

To deny yourself means to be unselfish. You love those who are unselfish toward you. Do you know that good fathers are unselfish? Most all the money they make is spent for their families. Do you ever think about how much your father loves you, and do you ever tell him you love him?

God is our heavenly Father. He is unselfish, too. He gave His only Son so we could be saved. Would any earthly father give his son to be treated like Jesus was treated for us? I am sure it made God sad to see how wicked men put His Son to death on the cross. Only Jesus could save us, so God gave His only Son to die for our sins.

God wants you to give Him your heart. Then you can be happy. It is sin that makes people unhappy. When you give your heart to God, then you can be unselfish like God, too. There is great joy in giving to others, taking up the cross of self-denial and following Jesus. This is the road to heaven.

Memory Verse: For God loveth a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:7(b).



Giving Our Best

Cindy knelt in the grass beside the farm's storehouse and reached into the bushel basket that was filled with juicy apples. Choosing a dozen small ones, she put them into a bag, along with three cucumbers and some pale tomatoes. From another basket, she chose a large squash, because she didn't like baked squash, and then she added a big bunch of beets. She didn't like beets, either.

There! That should be enough for the pastor, she thought. If Mom keeps giving our garden harvest away, we won't have anything left for ourselves, she thought.

Cindy's mother had asked her to fill a bag with produce for their pastor, and Cindy wasn't one bit happy about it. She didn't like to give things away, especially the very vegetables she had worked on so hard last summer. She forgot that her father had paid her well for her work.

"Thank you, Cindy," said Mother, when she had carried the bag into the kitchen. "Please give it to Bro. Martin, dear. He's in the living room. I know he'll appreciate some nice fresh farm produce."

Bro. Martin, who had been making one of his occasional visits, smiled gratefully as he accepted the brown paper bag. "Thank you, Cindy. Your mother tells me that you have been her special gardener," said Bro. Martin. "Are these the first fruits of the harvest?"

"They are mostly vegetables," replied Cindy.

Bro. Martin laughed. "I was just thinking about the Bible verse that says,

'Honour the Lord . . . with the first-fruits of all thine increase' (Prov. 3:9). First fruits means the first produce gathered during the harvest," he explained. "In some countries, Christians have a ceremony each fall when they bring their offerings of the harvest and present them to God. It's their way of saying thank you."

"After they present their gifts to God, what do they do with them?" asked Cindy.

"They divide the produce among the poor or give it to their pastor," replied Bro. Martin. "In some countries, the people are very poor. They have no money to give, so they give a tenth of their harvest instead."

"I suppose they give the biggest and the best," remarked Mother.

"Yes, they feel that the best belongs to God," was the pastor's reply.

"Please, Bro. Martin, may I have that bag a moment?" asked Cindy.

Carrying the second-best offering in her arms, Cindy quickly hurried outside once more. I forgot that giving to others is the same as giving to God, she thought. This time I'm going to fill the bag with the best of everything.

A Some want to take the best place at a feast.

B Some are willing to take a lowly place. Which are you like?— — —

Let goodness shine out through your deeds.

QUESTIONS:

1. Name someone who is unselfish.
2. Why did God give His son for us?
3. What does God want you to give to Him?

The Beautiful Way

Primaries



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Part 25

June 22

PITY

Luke 10:30-37

A certain man had to travel to a far city. The road led through lonely, desert places where robbers waited to rob and kill. This man was beaten and robbed, and left bleeding to die. Unless someone came by to help him, there was no hope for the poor man. Another traveler passed. The wounded man could see that the traveler was a priest. The priest moved as far away from the poor man as he could. He had no pity for the dying man's cries for help. Still another traveler came and paused to look upon the wounded man. Then he, too, passed on. At last a man from another country came. This man's heart was touched with pity. He dressed the man's wounds, then he took the man to where he could be cared for until he was well.

Jesus used this story to teach us to have pity on others in trouble. Many people are cruel and do not have mercy on others. The Bible tells us that Jesus was moved with pity to help those in need. Jesus wants us to be like Him and have pity for others.

Memory Verse: Love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous.

1 Peter 3:8(c).



Curious Mitzie

Daddy had been working in the garage, but he dashed out when he heard Ronny's cry. When he saw the little puppy, he felt nearly as upset as Ronny. "Poor Mitzie," he said. "She tried to play with a porcupine and got a mouthful of quills."

"Where do you suppose she found a porcupine?" asked Ronny.

"Oh, they live in the woods next to our farm," Daddy replied. "This one may have wandered into our yard, looking for something salty to chew."

"What will we do with Mitzie? She's suffering," said Ronny, almost in tears.

"There's only one thing we can do. We'll have to pull the quills out with pliers, or they will work themselves farther into the flesh," Daddy replied. "You'll have to hold the pup, because it will be very painful. The needles are barbed, something like fishhooks."

Ronny was sure that he would never forget the next few minutes. "Fortunately Mitzie didn't get very many of the quills," said Daddy as he pulled them out one by one. "A porcupine has about twenty-five thousand of them."

"Well, Mitzie's porcupine has eight less now," Ronny declared.

"But Mr. Porky will grow some new ones," said Daddy.

"Porcupines are mean and dangerous, aren't they?" asked Ronny.

"They aren't dangerous if they are left alone," Daddy replied. "They don't look for trouble. They are actually rather

slow, clumsy, and stupid. If God hadn't given them this means of protection, they would have all been killed off long ago."

"What do they eat, Daddy?" asked Ronny.

"They climb trees and eat the bark. If they fall to the ground, the quills act as a cushion. They are good swimmers, too. The needles are hollow and help the animals to float," said Daddy. "There, Mitzie, that's the last needle. You'll just have a sore mouth for a few days."

"And let this be a lesson to you," added Ronny. "Don't be so curious."

"Mitzie could teach us a lesson," said Daddy. "People get curious about sin, too. They think they can do wrong things and still not get hurt. Then they get into trouble and have to call for help."

"And then Jesus helps them, doesn't He?" asked Ronny.

"Yes, when they call upon Him with all their heart, He forgives their sins," Daddy replied. "Never play with sin, Ronny. Serve God, do what He wants you to do, and you'll be truly happy."

—Sel.

At times the word "thanks" is missing in our homes. We forget to thank parents who take care of us every day. We like to have brothers and sisters do special favors for us, but we leave out the word "thanks" in talking to them.

The "thank you" habit is a good one. It takes only a minute to give thanks, but it makes you and the person you thank feel good inside for a long time.

QUESTIONS:

1. What happened to the traveler?
2. How many passed him by?
3. Did someone help him?

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Part 26

June 29

THE FRUIT OF WORK

2 Thess. 3:10, 11; 1 Thess. 4:11, 12

Do you know there is real joy in working? You enjoy playing, but you can enjoy working also. When God put Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, He gave them work to do. They were to "dress the garden and keep it." I think that meant they were to keep it neat and clean. God knew they would not be happy in the beautiful garden if it got dirty and untidy.

The Bible commands you to "study to be quiet, to do your own business (don't expect someone else to do your work); and to work with your own hands." It also says, "If any would not work, neither should he eat." God is not pleased with lazy people.

You will be happy when Mother or Father is pleased because you cleaned your room so nice, or carried out the trash. You will have joy because you helped those who have been so good to you. God will bless you for doing a good job. Everyone admires those who are busy and do their work well. Ask the Lord to help you to enjoy working. Then you will be happy.

Memory Verse: Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might. Eccl. 9:10a.



Jesus Worked

When Jesus was here on earth His earthly father had a carpentry shop. Don't you think that Jesus loved to help Joseph? Probably when He was very small, He would pick up a board that Joseph had dropped or take him the one that he needed. As He grew older, He no doubt helped put nails in the boards. I am sure that He was a busy boy. We read that He was an example for all of us to follow so we know that He was busy. We want to be like Jesus. We want to do something that will help others and help ourselves. Don't let others wait on you. If you only knew it, you are the happiest when you help others.

Tom might say that he only goes to school but his daddy works. Susan might say that her mother and daddy work, but she doesn't work.

What about those dishes Mother told you to wash? What about those newspapers Dad told you to gather up and get ready for the Salvation Army to pick up? There are many jobs around the house, in school and even in Sunday school that you can do.

Working is necessary for us. It helps us grow by keeping our bodies exercised. Too much sitting around, eating potato chips and sweets makes unhealthy bodies and minds. Even a little baby works. He stretches his legs and arms.

Some people say, "If Adam and Eve hadn't sinned, we wouldn't have to work." But they did sin and we do have to work. It is God's kindness to us that we have

work to do. If people didn't work, weeds would overrun food plants. If people didn't use their brains to think out things, there would be no airplanes, automobiles, ships, trains, refrigerators. There could be no mechanical toys for children, and no books would be written.

It is best that we work every day in the week, except one. That day, Sunday, God wants us to come together and worship Him. He wants us to have fellowship with Him on that day.

THE LAD AND THE LOAVES

When Jesus was upon the earth,
A little lad of humble birth
Presented to the Master true
Five tiny loaves and fishes few.
For Jesus had a need that day,
Before He sent the crowd away—
To feed them, for He pitied so
The hungry ones who had to go.

So Jesus used the little lad,
Who gave to Him, yea, all he had;
And Jesus multiplied the bread;
So thousands on that day were fed.

Oh, little children, give your all—
Although it may seem very small—
To Christ, the tender Shepherd true
And He will bless and honor you!

Jesus is watching you all of the time. He knows when you are in trouble and will listen to your prayers.

QUESTIONS:

1. Did God give Adam and Eve work to do?
2. Does the Bible tell everyone to work?
3. Do you like to work?