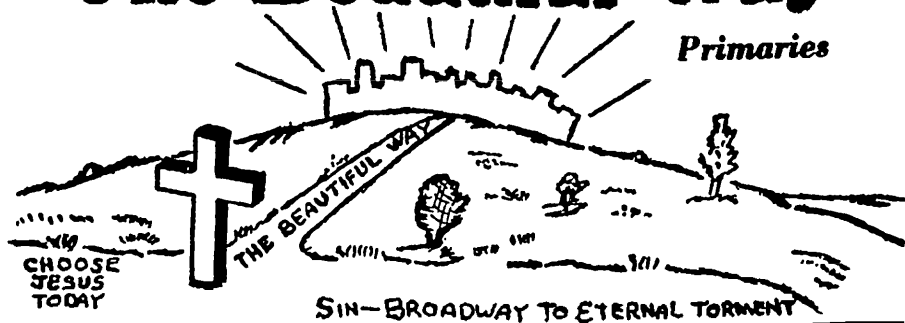


The Beautiful Way

Primaries



Vol. 29, No. 1

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Part 14

Jan. 1

MOSES LEAVES EGYPT

Exodus 2:11,22; Acts 7:22-29

Moses lived in the palace with the princess. He went to school. He soon grew to be a man. One day he saw two of the Israelites quarreling. This grieved Moses and he asked, "Why do you strike your fellow-worker?" Moses thought the people knew that God intended to free them from bondage. But the man asked, "Who made you a judge or prince over us? Are you going to harm us as you did the Egyptian yesterday who was striking one of us?" Moses was afraid because his deed was known. Moses fled from Egypt so Pharaoh could not find him.

Moses was lonely as he sat down by a well. He had left a palace and a life of ease. The king sought to kill him. Where would he go and what would he do? About that time some young women came to the well to draw water for their father's sheep. Some shepherds came up and drove them away and watered their sheep. But Moses helped the women. Their father invited Moses to live with him. Moses married one of his girls and they had a baby boy.

Memory Verse: The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord. *Psa. 37:23a.*

Little Vera Goes Visiting



"Folks, I need to go over to my old home town on some business. It will take two days and a night as you know there are no trains over there and I will have to hire a buggy and horse to drive. My new wife doesn't care to go with me as there is no one there she knows. How about letting Vera go with me? She would be a lot of company for me. My cousin has a girl with whom she can stay."

Vera had been listening to all that was said, and when her Papa asked if she would like to go she said, "Oh yes, I'll go!"

Vera was nearly seven years of age and had never been away from home before, but she thought so much of her new brother-in-law, and was happy because he asked for her to go with him. The trip was full of exciting things to see and talk about. Once they went over a bridge across a river lined with big trees on each side. They stopped to see everything they could. "Look," her brother-in-law, Julius said, "there is a wildcat," and as they watched, he jumped from one tree to another right over the river. There were squirrels, too.

Soon they reached the town, and the cousin's house. She was glad to meet little Vera and put her arms around her, and that made Vera feel at home. When the girl who was older than Vera, came home from school, her mama told her to take Vera out to play. But she went over by the fence with another girl on the other side of the fence, and they began to laugh at Vera and make fun of her. So she left them and went back to the big cousin in the house.

At supper time Julius came and was with them awhile, and then went to another house to sleep. The big cousin took Vera upstairs and put her to bed in a nice clean bed, in a nice room, kissed her good night, and left. Poor little Vera thought about her home, and how Papa and Mama, her sisters, and brother were all together for evening worship, singing about Jesus, reading the Bible, and praying. She wished she were there too, and began to cry. The big cousin heard her and went to her. After talking to her awhile she asked if she would like to get out of bed and say her prayers, and she did, and then after big cousin kissed her again she went right to sleep. Jesus had seen her lonely little heart and had heard her prayer. He comforted her and helped her to go to sleep.

Children, Jesus loves all little children and wants to bless and help them. One time He said, "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God." Luke 18:16. —Aunt Vera (Forbes)

Jesus loves the little children,
This we truly know.
We have no need to doubt it,
For the Bible tells us so.

QUESTIONS:

1. Whom did Moses go to see when he became a man?
2. What did he see two men doing?
3. Did they understand that God wanted him to help them to be freed from the king who made them work so hard?
4. Moses fled to Midian. What did he do when he sat down by a well?
5. Did he marry? Did they have a baby boy or a baby girl?

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Part 15

Jan. 8

GOD CALLS MOSES

Exodus 3:1-14; Exodus 4:1-18

The shepherd's life is lonely. Moses had time to think of his people who were slaves in Egypt. One day he led his sheep to Mt. Horeb. There he saw a strange sight. A bush glowed with bright fire, yet it did not burn. Amazed at the sight, Moses drew near the bush.

"Moses, Moses," the angel of the Lord spoke from the fire. "Take off your shoes, this is a holy place." Moses quickly removed his shoes and covered his face. God told him to return to Egypt and lead His people out of bondage into the land of Canaan. "I will go with you to set my people free."

"Will the people believe you have sent me?" Moses asked. God told Moses to throw down his shepherd's rod. It turned into a snake, but when Moses caught it by the tail, it became a rod. God gave Moses two other signs. "The people will believe," God said. Moses thought he could not speak well enough to go. God said, "Aaron can speak for you." Moses went to Egypt.

Memory Verse: . . . Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Matt. 28:20.

Our Family Hour

"Hurry up, James, and sit down. Mother promised to tell us a new recipe in our family hour tonight. I do want to hear it."

"You mean we're going to talk about cooking and things like that instead of Bible verses?"

"I don't really know, but I believe it will be interesting to try."

"Oh, Mother, we're trying to guess your new recipe," said Janice as Mother entered the room. "Do hurry and tell us."

"The name of it is:

'Fruited Love Knots' "

"That's a funny name for food. How do you make it? May we make some tonight?"

"Just wait until I complete it: use one clean heart and then add a large amount of the following:

Faith — belief in God and His Word
Virtue — purity

Knowledge — learning the Word of God

Temperance — self control

Patience — calmness, long suffering

Godliness — God-like; Christ-like

Mix the above with brotherly kindness and then top heavily with charity II Peter 1:5-8. You may take as many helpings as you desire, daily. By doing so, you will never be undernourished (unfruitful).

"You ask when we may try it, perhaps we should begin tonight. Some of these terms you may not fully understand, so I think you should get your New Testaments out and read in Peter. Each night this week we'll take one of these ingredients and discuss the meaning so that you'll understand more

clearly the recipe. Tomorrow night we'll talk about the first one: Faith.

—O. A. Davenport

Being Kind

"Quit kicking me," yelled Betty.

"You kicked me first," Bobby yelled.

The baby began to cry. "See what you did," Betty told Bobby. "You woke the baby."

"I didn't wake him up, you did," Bobby said.

"What is mother doing?" asked Betty.

Mother was down on her knees praying.

Betty went over and knelt beside her.

Soon Bobby came and knelt down too.

Mother prayed to Jesus to help Betty

and Bobby to not fuss and to get along

better. She told Jesus how she wanted to

rest a little, while the baby slept. Soon

Bobby and Betty were praying, too and

asked Jesus to help them. Jesus did

help. The baby quit crying and Betty

and Bobby were nice to each other the

rest of the day.

—M. Miles

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



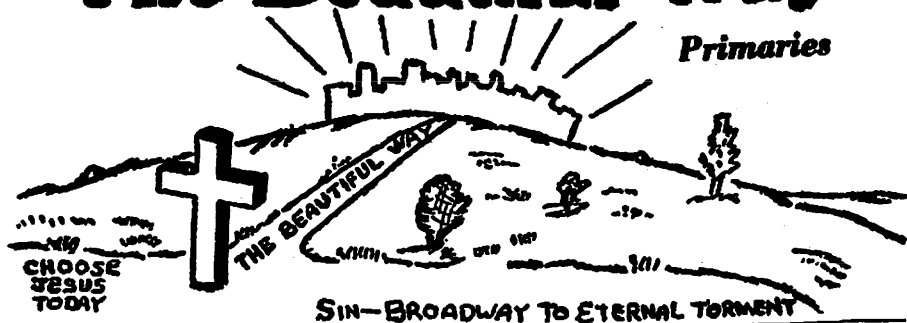
*Moses Took
off his shoes*

QUESTIONS:

1. Who did Moses think of as he kept the sheep?
2. What amazing sight did Moses see?
3. Who spoke to Moses?
4. What did He tell Moses to do?

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Primaries



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Part 16

Jan. 15

GET READY TO GO!

Exod. 7:20; 8:5,6,16,17,24; 9:3,4,10,11,18-21; 10:12,22; 11:1-8.

Moses and Aaron had obeyed God and many plagues had come upon the Egyptians. First, the water in the river had turned to blood. Then frogs had filled the land. They were everywhere! Next the dust of the land turned into lice. They were upon man and beast. Flies had come in such swarms the ground was covered. But no flies were in Goshen! The cattle and animals of the Egyptians got sick and died. Boils broke out upon man and beast. Hail and lightning destroyed all that was in the fields. Locusts came and ate everything green in the land. Then thick darkness covered everything for three days. God's people were protected from all these things.

God said, "After one more plague Pharaoh will let you go. Ask the Egyptians for the things you need for your journey. Let each family prepare a lamb to roast. Have your shoes on, be ready to go, for Pharaoh will chase you out of Egypt." God was going to send death to every home, except where the blood was upon the door.

Memory Verse: It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. Heb. 10:31.

Our Family Hour

Faith

"I trust you children haven't forgotten our discussion."

"Oh, no, Mother, even though we've had to stop while our revival was on, we haven't forgotten about the fruited love knots. The recipe is found in II Pet. 1:5-8, and we were just beginning with Faith."

"James, can you tell me in your own words what real faith is?"

"Yes, faith is believing what you do not see."

"That is correct and real faith believes the Word of God. Even since our last family hour I've had to exercise some faith. You remember the night we came in from service? I could hardly get to bed fast enough and no sooner had I lain down on the bed than I was impressed of the Lord to get up and resist my sickness. It took faith to obey the command of the Lord, but I did, and the Lord wonderfully blessed."

"I should like for one of you children to tell me about an experience you have had."

"Last month we were in a real rain storm and I began to be afraid until I remembered the verse we had read in devotion about the Lord preserving our going out and our coming in. When I thought of that scripture, I just knew nothing was going to happen to us and forgot all about being afraid."

"You had faith in the Lord and His Word, didn't you Janice? That's a wonderful thing."

"Since we seem to have a knowledge of faith, we'll talk about Virtue in our next devotion. Good night children."

—O. A. Davenport

Here Am I

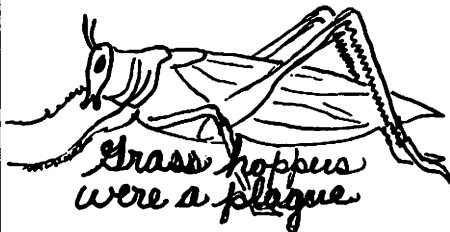
Work for Jesus, little ones,
He has work for you;
At your home, at school, at play,
There is work to do.
Someone needs a helping hand,
Help with all your might;
Little hands may helpers be,
Making burdens light.
Someone needs a little time,
You have time to spare;
Be a helper, little one,
Helping ev'rywhere.

—F. Kirkland

Jesus bids us shine
With a clear, pure light,
Like a little candle
Burning in the night;
In this world of darkness,
We must shine,
You in your small corner, and
I in mine.

—Sel.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. What kind of plagues came on the Egyptians?
2. Did Pharaoh let the people go?
3. What did God tell the people to do?
4. What was God going to send into every home?

The Beautiful Way

Primaries



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Part 17

Jan. 22

ISRAEL SAVED FROM DEATH

Exodus 12:3,12,13,22,23,29-36.

The children of Israel had been protected through all the terrible plagues that came upon the Egyptians. God protected His people in a marvelous way. Do you know God still protects His children today? They are kept saved from sin and the bad results of sin.

It was time to kill the "passover" lamb. God had told each family to kill a lamb on the 14th day of the month. Then they were to sprinkle the blood of that lamb on the doorposts of each of their homes. The blood would protect them from the death angel who would pass through the land at midnight. All were to stay inside their homes until the morning.

At midnight a terrible cry rang through Egypt. There was not a single Egyptian home spared from death. The death angel had taken away the very best from all of Egypt. Oh, what weeping there must have been! The children of Israel were all safe and well, protected by the blood over their doors. Pharaoh sent messengers to Moses. "Go! take your people before we are all destroyed."

Memory Verse: . . . When I see the blood, I will pass over you. . . . Exodus 12:13b.

Our Family Hour

Virtue

"We are to talk about virtue tonight, children. Get your school dictionary, James, and tell me the meaning of it."

"The dictionary gives as its meaning: 'Purity and goodness.' "

"That's a very good meaning. When we think of something pure we think of it as being clean, don't we? We wash our outside body, take baths and keep our hair combed. That's cleanliness."

"We take great thought of the food we eat, making sure it is well prepared and unspoiled. We are careful about where our food comes from. If it doesn't look just right, we refuse it."

But there is another part of us that we must take care of if we want to grow up to be virtuous. Did you know, boys and girls, that we have a mind that we need to be just as careful about feeding as we do our bodies? Now we know that if we do not have the proper diet we will become sick. Some children even die from eating the wrong type of food. Sometimes they drink poison unintentionally and die. Likewise, children, if we feed our minds with the foolishness around us we, too, become sick in a spiritual way. By reading impure books—and much is to be found in some of the comics and funny papers, our minds become poisoned and we think impure thoughts. This leads to other things and hinders us from leading a virtuous life.

"When you are tempted to look at, or read something that seems the least impure, think like this: if I saw a fairly good piece of candy in the garbage can with flies around it, I wouldn't eat it, so likewise I will not feed my mind on

anything that comes from Satan's garbage cans.

"I wish I could impress you with the thought of thinking, reading, and seeing only that which is pure. When you see impure things do not take the second look."

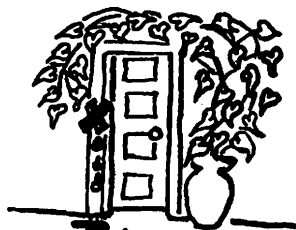
—O. A. D.

I AM GLAD

I am glad when morning comes
After I have lain
Sound asleep all night and see
Sunlight show again.

And the first thing that I do
Is to kneel and pray,
Asking God that this may be
A good and happy day.

—L. S. Ashton



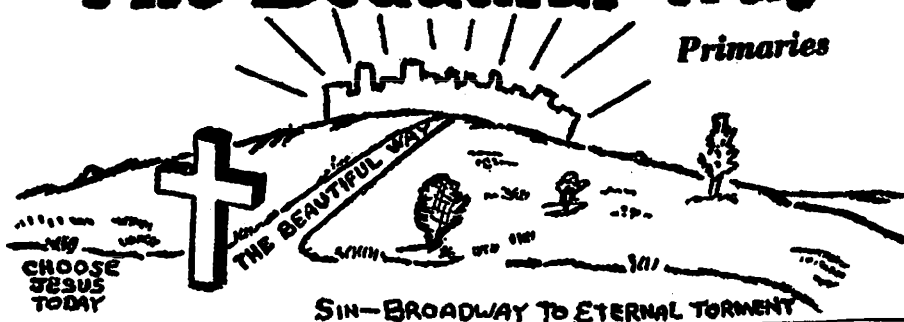
*a door
with blood on it*

QUESTIONS:

1. Did God protect His people from the plagues?
2. Does God protect His people today? How?
3. What were the people to do with the blood of the lamb?
4. Did the blood protect the children of Israel?
5. Why did the Egyptians weep?

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Primaries



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Part 18

Jan. 29

SAVED AT THE RED SEA

Exod. 13:20-22; 14:1-5,8-16,19-31.

God led the children of Israel by a pillar of cloud by day, and a pillar of fire by night. After they were gone from Egypt, Pharaoh hardened his heart once more. "Why have we let our servants go? We will catch them in the wilderness." He took all his army with chariots and horses, and went after the Israelites.

When the Egyptians came near, the Israelites were afraid. They were indeed in a hard place. The Red Sea rolled before them, and the Egyptians were behind them. They cried to God and scolded Moses for bringing them into the wilderness. Moses spoke to the people, "Fear not, stand still and see the salvation (deliverance) of God. God will fight for you."

God moved the pillar between the army and Israel. It was darkness to the Egyptians, but light to Israel. Moses held his rod over the sea. The wind blew and rolled the water back to make a path through the sea. The Israelites went through on dry ground, but the Egyptians were drowned as the water rushed back.

Memory Verse: . . . Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord. . . . Exod. 14:13.

Our Family Hour

Knowledge

"Good evening, children, we are still adding to our recipe. Tonight we are to add knowledge to our virtue which we said meant purity.

"James, what is knowledge?"

"The dictionary says that it is understanding or skill in anything. I suppose if we had real Bible knowledge we would understand the Word of God."

"That is true. Now I don't expect you children to have as much understanding as I do but you should have some. That is why Mother always asks you to explain the Bible verses that you memorize, otherwise, they would have no meaning."

"No wonder our Sunday school teacher praised Mary Ann for learning and knowing the meaning of the four verses she learned. And I was thinking Doretha deserved the most praise for she had learned ten. Of course she didn't really know the meaning of but two."

"So you see, children, let's put more stress on understanding the words of the Bible."

"Some people brag about how many times they have read the Bible through. It's good to read the Bible through, but it will profit nothing if you do not understand it. It's better to read and understand one verse than to read ten without understanding. Good night, children."

—O. A. D.

Be A Friend

Herbert liked to fight and he practiced it. He felt big at school.

One day a missionary talked to the Sunday school class. The man told

about some people who didn't have pity nor showed kindness to others. He said, "A mother would throw her sick baby in a ditch to die. If a man saw his father break his leg, he would leave him at the roadside to die. They did not know what kindness nor pity were."

Someone asked, "And you preached to them?"

"Preach? No! I lived the life. When I saw a baby crying, I picked it up and took care of it. When I saw a man with a broken leg, I helped him on his feet again." I was asked why I did this. I told them about Jesus. They became kind and had pity when they had Jesus in their hearts.

Herbert went home and thought about what he heard. He asked Jesus to come into his heart and then he showed kindness and pity to others. He quit fighting.

—M. Miles

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

*a path thru
the sea*



QUESTIONS:

1. How did God lead His people?
2. Who came after the Israelites?
3. Were the people afraid?
4. What did Moses tell them to do?
5. What happened to the sea?

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Primaries



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Part 19

Feb. 5

MEAT, BREAD, AND WATER

Exod. 16:1-5, 12-18; 17:1-7; Isa. 48:21.

Many thousands of people left Egypt with Moses. How much food and water such a great number would need! The wilderness was not a good place for food or water. God would have to show more of His great power.

When the people were hungry, they complained. How could they forget the miracles of God so soon? But they did!

"Moses, you've brought us out in this wilderness to die! We should have stayed in Egypt!" Moses was grieved. "In the evening you will know God has brought you out of Egypt. In the morning you will see the glory of God."

Each evening quails came and covered the camp. There was meat for all. Each morning after the dew was gone, the people saw small, round things on the ground. "What is it?" they asked. Moses told the Israelites that it was their bread. It was called "Manna."

The people murmured again because there was no water. God told Moses to strike the rock with his rod and there was water.

Memory Verse: But my God shall supply all your need. . . . Phil. 4:19.

Our Family Hour

Temperance

"Janice, did you say last night that you had something to tell us about temperance?"

"Yes, Mother, but first let me tell you what I think temperance means. It means to be moderate and not to overdo anything. Most of the time people think about alcoholic drinks but the Bible tells us to abstain from such so we shouldn't even think of that when temperance is mentioned.

"Our Sunday school teacher had us to name several things in which we could be more temperate, and right away Billie named eating. He said that he had eaten nine biscuits that morning just so he could say that he had eaten more than his older brother. He admitted that he had had enough after eating six. He promised his teacher that he wouldn't do that anymore."

"That is more a temptation for boys than for girls. Remember when we are saved, the Lord, through His Spirit, will check us when we are doing a certain thing more than we should. Sometimes children are intemperate in their talking. If we listen, we can hear the Spirit telling us it is time to pray or read the Bible. If we do so, it will cause us to avoid later trials or at least be better prepared to overcome them. Always obey the checks given us by the Lord."

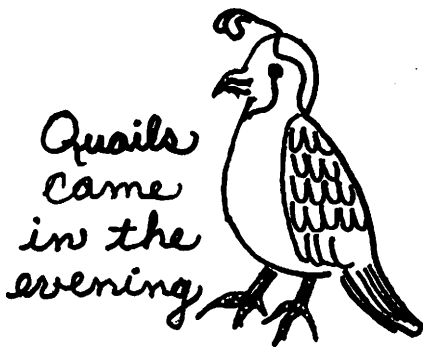
—O. A. D.

The Best Thing to Do

One time a school house caught on fire. The room was filled with children who made a wild rush to the door. They trampled upon each other and several

were injured in this way. One little girl sat quietly in her seat while the others were in such a panic. After the excitement was over the teacher asked this little girl why she sat still in her seat. She replied, "My father is a fireman and he has told me many times that if our school house caught on fire that it was safest to sit still and not to rush with the crowd to the door. I was terribly frightened, but I knew that what father said was the best thing to do." Children, you will find it so many times in your life. There will be things that will be the cause of much alarm, but if you have read your Bible and know what God says, you may know that is always the best thing to do. What our heavenly Father tells us can be relied upon.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

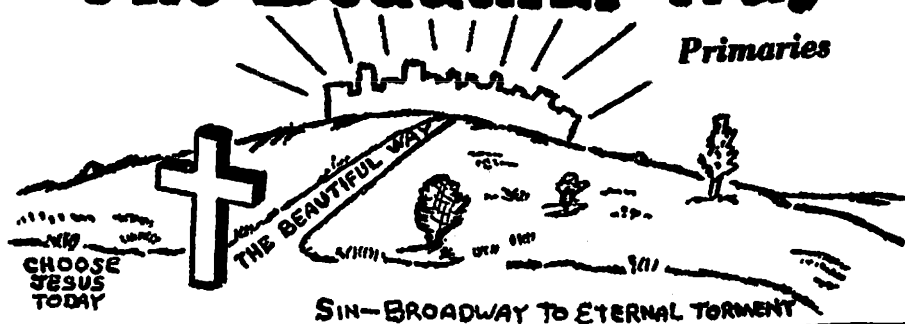


QUESTIONS:

1. How many people left Egypt with Moses?
2. Why did the people complain?
3. What kind of meat did God send?
4. Where did the people get their bread?
5. How did Moses get water from the rock?

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Primaries



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Part 20

Feb. 12

VICTORY OVER AMALEK

Exod. 17:8-16; Deut. 25:17:19; 1 Sam. 15:3,8,9,32,33.

Israel had dangers to face in the wilderness. The A-mal-ek-ites came behind them and began to kill and rob the people who were feeble and weak. Moses told Joshua to take strong men and go fight the Amalekites. "Aaron, Hur, and I will go and stand on top of the hill and I will lift up the rod of God." Joshua did as Moses said. When Moses held up his hands, the enemy was defeated, but when his hands were tired, and he let them down, the Israelites were beaten. Aaron and Hur held Moses' hands up until the sun went down, and the battle was won. When Moses built an altar to thank God for victory, God said the time would come when Amalek would be completely destroyed. Years later when Saul was king, this came to pass.

The devil is the enemy who tries to overcome us in our weakest points. When we lift up our hands to God in prayer, we can defeat the devil. If we fail to pray, we lose the battle. The Lord's power is stronger than the devil's power and we can have complete victory through Jesus.

Memory Verse: I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. Phil. 4:13.

Our Family Hour

Patience

"Well, children, I think we are to talk some about patience tonight. James, what is patience?"

"The dictionary gave more than one meaning, Mother, but there are two I think you would like. The first one means to be able to endure the faults of others and the second one means to be able to wait without becoming upset."

"Both are good, James. I believe you lack one kind of patience and Janice the other. I'm glad you gave both meanings."

"Oh, Mother, it was only yesterday that I showed so much impatience while waiting for the train to arrive. It seemed so long in coming that I couldn't help but complain. Just to think that all the time I had been telling James that he didn't have much patience because he didn't enjoy teaching little Johnny how to skate. Things like that I enjoy doing."

"But Janice," replied James, "You know how many times you have to tell him the same thing over and over."

"Don't forget I told you that James had one kind of patience. Remember how quietly he waited for the train. He made use of the time by reading a good book he had brought."

"Shall we pray for more patience, children?"

"If we do, Mother, we will be asking the Lord for tribulations, but I suppose it will take that to keep us bearing fruit."

"Will you pray for us that we can stand our tribulations, Mother?"

"Yes, children. Good night."

—O. A. D.

The Golden Rule

"To do to others as I would
That they should do to me,
Will make me always kind and good
As children ought to be."

"The Golden Rule, the Golden Rule.
Oh, that's the rule for me.
To do to others as I would
That they should do to me."

"I must not speak an angry word,
I must not tell a lie.
I must not contradict, or make
My little playmates cry."

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. Who came to fight against Israel?
2. Who went to fight the enemy?
3. What did Moses hold up?
4. What happened when Moses let his hands down?
5. Who helped Moses?
6. Who can help us overcome the devil?

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Part 21

Feb. 19

GOD'S LAW

Exodus 19:8-25; 20:1-7

God wanted to speak to His people. He told Moses to prepare them for the third day. Then God would come down on Mt. Sinai in smoke and fire and declare His law to them. On the third day a great trumpet sounded loud and long. The Mount trembled and so did the people. They were afraid to get near the mountain. They declared they would obey God and keep His law. Moses went up to speak with God.

The first law God gave was, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." Next, "Thou shalt not make any graven image and bow down to it." God did not want His people to worship idols. The third commandment was, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." Boys and girls, this commandment is broken by so many. God's name should be spoken in reverence. Be very careful that you do not use the name of Jesus or God lightly, or you will be guilty before God. It is wrong to break God's commandments. You cannot go to heaven if you do.

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

Our Family Hour

Godliness

"Children, we are down to godliness in our recipe. Let's see what it means to have that added."

"Oh, Mother, I think I can tell you. We learned something about that in Sunday school. Our teacher said that if we possess godliness it would cause us to act in a Christ-like manner, and it would be easy for someone to tell that we had it even though the other person wouldn't know us personally."

"She said that one day she was riding on the bus. The others about her were smoking and joking. She never even reproved them in words, but just in her quiet manner they knew that she must be a Christian, so they soon quit telling their jokes and some even stopped smoking."

"The Christ-life (godliness) in her was showing out. That's one jewel that cannot be hidden in our Christian life. Children, let's cultivate that so we may have more of it. That seems to be just the thing to add to patience and our next ingredient is brotherly love. I'm sure you will have much to say about that."

—O. A. D.

Tell Others About Jesus

There was a man who was put in prison. He had been very, very naughty. He had disobeyed the laws of the land. While he was in prison he heard about Jesus who would save him from his sins. His sins were like a great big sack of heavy iron on his back. He felt loaded down all the time and he was so very sad.

One day he gave his heart to Jesus. He told Jesus that he was sorry that he

had sinned against him. He was sorry that he had broken the laws of the land too. Jesus forgave him of his sins. He took away that feeling of a sack of heavy iron on his back. He was now happy, light, and free. He wanted others to know that he was happy.

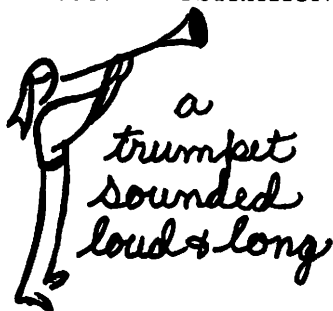
The prisoners had to walk to their meals "lock step." Jerry McAuley talked to the one in front of him and the one behind him about Jesus. When he sat at the table he would talk to the one on either side of him about Jesus. Jerry won men for Christ. He wanted others to be as happy as he was.

Boys and girls, won't you tell others about Jesus? He loves those who are carrying a heavy load of sin. Jesus wants to take it away and make people happy.

—M. Miles

Let God Rule Your Life.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

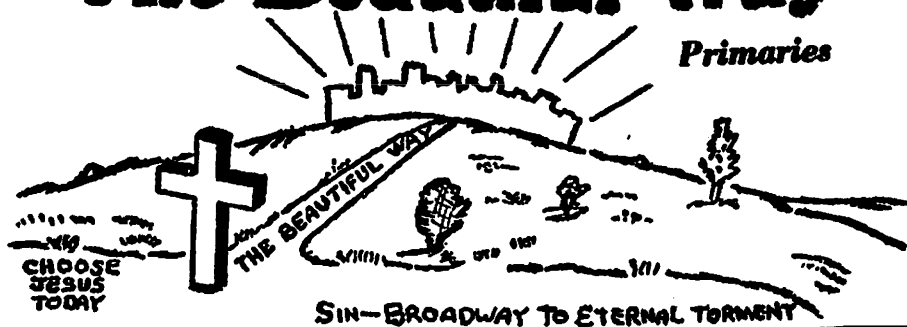


QUESTIONS:

1. Who came down on Mt. Sinai in smoke and fire?
2. Who went up to speak to God?
3. What did God give on Mt. Sinai?
4. Can you tell one of God's laws that many people break?

The Beautiful Way

Primaries



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Jan., Feb., Mar., 1978

Part 22

Feb. 26

ISRAEL'S GREAT SIN

Exodus 24:12-18; 32:1-14,26-28,30-35

God called Moses up the mountain. "I will give you tablets of stone, and a law and commandments, so you may teach the people." God wrote the ten commandments on the stone tablets with His own finger. He gave Moses other laws for the people. "Make a tabernacle after the pattern I will show you. I will meet with you there." God wanted to meet with His people when they worshipped Him.

The people grew tired of waiting for Moses to come down. They said, "Something has happened to him. Let us make another god to worship." How strange that they forgot God's mighty works so quickly! Aaron took the gold they brought and made a calf. "This is our God," the people said. They feasted and drank and danced about the idol. God told Moses what they were doing. "I will destroy them and make a great nation of you." But Moses prayed for the people. Those who had sinned were blotted out of God's book of life. They had broken the first two commandments.

Memory Verse: Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book. Exodus 32:33.

Our Family Hour

Charity

"Children, I see we are ready to put the frosting on our Fruited Love Knots. The last thing to be added is charity and we certainly don't want to leave that out."

"James, what is charity?"

"It is Divine love which is a lot greater than human love."

"I'm glad you know the difference. Can you tell of anytime that divine love was used when human love ran out?"

"I can tell you about our Sunday school teacher:

"She told us that once she lived near some people who acted very unchristian-like. Something had angered one of them, so she took it out on her (the Sunday school teacher) and cursed her. She remained quiet. No doubt this made the woman more angry. That same night something else happened that aggravated the woman. The devil suggested to the lady to be glad that the neighbor was reaping this evil. But right away the Scripture came to her about praying for those that spitefully use you. So right away she sincerely prayed that the situation be changed so as not to aggravate her neighbor, and sure enough it was.

"She mentioned that the Bible says, charity rejoiceth not in iniquity, so since she had divine love it kept her from being glad to see her neighbor harmed.

"That's certainly divine love and a good way to test it, for human love is glad to see those we love happy, but when our enemy is made sad, human love begins to say he deserves trouble. We have to ask the Lord and seek Him earnestly for charity. Children, let us

never be without it. We cannot even be Christians unless we have it.

"Now let's go back to II Peter 1:5-8 and see if we have made our Love Knots correctly. If we have, and eat (live by it), we shall never be unfruitful. If we are lacking, we know that we need some more of the love of God.

"Good night, children." —O. A. D.

Little Things

Little words of kindness,
Little deeds of love,
Make the little children
Love the Lord above.

—V. Nixon

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. What did God give Moses for the people?
2. Why did God want them to build a tabernacle?
3. Did the people get tired of waiting for Moses?
4. What was Israel's great sin?
5. Who does God blot off His book?

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Part 23

March 5

THE CLOUD AND PILLAR OF FIRE

Exodus 40:16, 34-38

Israel was led by a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. When the Egyptians pursued God's people the cloud came between Israel and the Egyptians. The cloud was darkness to Egypt but light and protection to Israel, so they were saved.

God told Moses to make a tabernacle they could carry with them. There they could worship God and ask His help. His presence would always be there. Moses did all the Lord told him. God was pleased. The cloud came down and God's glory filled the tabernacle. The cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night were surely a comfort to Israel. There was light in the darkness. When the wild beasts roared they knew they were safe because of God's presence. When it was time to move, the cloud went up and led them on towards the promised land.

Moses did all the Lord commanded, and God blessed him. When we do as God tells us in His Word, how precious His presence will be to us! Let us do as Moses did.

Memory Verse: What thing soever I command you, . . . do it. Deut. 12:32a.

The Keys

While Mother was working in the back yard one afternoon, her two little girls, Marcia and Sharon, were playing under the carport. Marcia remembered how fascinating it was to see her mother or daddy take a key and open the door of their house. She wanted a key to try to unlock the door. Her parents told her that she shouldn't play with the keys because there was danger in losing them.

Marcia obeyed, but the desire to play with the keys was still in her heart. While Mother was in the yard and Daddy at work, she thought that would be a good time to play with the keys. She entered the house and began to search for them. In her attempt to find the keys she got into other things. She had to climb on chairs to look on top of the higher furniture and could have fallen and hurt herself. Through all this Marcia failed to find the keys. She decided to return to the back yard and play with her sister, Sharon.

Mother asked, "What have you been doing in the house?"

Marcia answered, "Oh, I was just in the house."

"But what were you doing in there?" asked Mother again.

Marcia hesitated to answer but Mother insisted that she tell her. Though fearful, Marcia answered, "I was looking for your keys so I could lock the door."

Mother gave Marcia some instructions about the keys then turned her mind to playing a game with Sharon. Marcia felt good in her heart because she had told the truth.

The next morning her mother read her a poem about telling the truth.

Marcia's mother had forgotten the incident about the keys but Marcia was thinking about how she was tempted to tell a lie.

Marcia said, "Mother, do you remember yesterday asking me what I was doing in the house alone?"

"Yes, I remember, but what connection does that have with the poem?" asked Mother.

"Well, Mother, I knew that you didn't want me to play with your keys and I first thought I wouldn't tell you—but—I wanted to tell the truth." —Sel.

THE DECISION

There was a very little bird
Who couldn't sing a song
But he decided if he chirped
He'd send some joy along.

There was a little streamlet, too,
Who hummed and said with glee,
"I can't do much but I'll do my part
Toward filling up the sea."

And then a little sunbeam said,
"I'm just a tiny ray
But I will do the best I can
To brighten up the day."

And we decided—every one—
Though we are little, too,
We'll try to smile and help a bit;
We think that's right, don't you? —Sel.

QUESTIONS:

1. How did God lead Israel through the wilderness?
2. What protected the Israelites from the Egyptians?
3. What did God tell Moses to make?
4. How did God show He was pleased with the tabernacle?
5. How did Moses please God?

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Part 24

March 12

THE SIN OF UNBELIEF

Numbers 13:17-20, 25-33; 14:1-23, 31-33

The twelve spies returned from Canaan. "It is a land flowing with milk and honey. But the people are giants and they are so strong we cannot hope to take the land." Two of the spies, Caleb and Joshua, protested, "God will give us the land. Let us not be afraid of the people." The crowd grew angry. "Let us stone Joshua and Caleb," they shouted. Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before God. God was angry because of the unbelief in the people's hearts. How could they forget His glory and power so quickly?

"I will destroy the unbelievers and make a mighty nation of you who do believe," God said. Moses pleaded for God to spare the people. "All nations have heard how you go before us in a cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. They will think you are not able to bring the people to the promised land." God told Moses that all of those who did not believe His promises would die in the wilderness. After forty years He would lead their children to the promised land.

Memory Verse: Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God. Romans 11:22a.

As Good As Gold

"I wish I had some money to give old Brother Jim," said Peter, holding his head in his hands as he tried to think of something. Brother Jim had been sick for a long time and it seemed he never really had enough on which to live. Peter would go over to see him a few minutes each day and usually he had something to take him, or a coin or two to put in his hand as he left. Today Peter had nothing that Bro. Jim could eat nor any money to give him.

"Aren't you going over to Brother Jim's this evening, Peter?" asked Mother. "I'm sure he'll be disappointed if you don't go."

"But, Mother, I don't have anything to take him and that might be a disappointment too," replied Peter.

"Well, you go, Peter, and the Lord will take care of the rest."

Peter thought maybe he might find some money on the way over there. He looked carefully, but didn't find so much as a penny. When he got there Bro. Jim was so very happy his eyes filled with tears. "I thought maybe you were getting tired of me, and I did want to see you as the day has seemed such a long one."

Peter told him all about the testimonies and prayers that went up in the prayer meeting the night before and even sang some of the songs that were sung in prayer service. Then Bro. Jim and he had prayer together.

By this time both were feeling better, so Peter confessed to Bro. Jim his reason for being late.

"I didn't have anything to bring you so I didn't want to disappoint you," said Peter.

"Have you read much in Proverbs, Peter? There is a verse I want you to remember. 'A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.' Prov. 25:11.

"You wanted to bring me a little token of some kind. Yes, Peter, I would have been thankful, but the words you've spoken tonight are as good as gold and even better. Remember, the good we do is not to be measured in terms of money."

Peter felt real good as he said good-night to Bro. Jim, even better than he felt when he gave him all his week's allowance. —O. A. D.

God loves those who will put Him first in their lives. In death we will stand before God and Jesus alone, so we need to have them for our friends.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

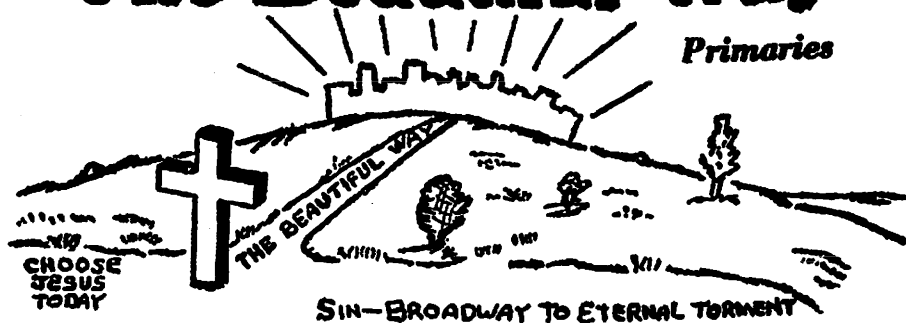


QUESTIONS:

1. What did the spies say about the land of Canaan?
2. Were they afraid of the giants?
3. Who believed God could give them the land?
4. Why was God angry with the people?
5. What happened to those who did not believe?

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Part 25

March 19

MOSES IS PROVOKED

Numbers 20:1-13, Deut. 1:37

The Israelites had been traveling in the wilderness for 38 years. Almost all who had refused to enter Canaan because of unbelief had died in the wilderness. Now they were camped at Kadesh. Another emergency arose. There was no water for the people. Once more they gathered themselves and murmured against Moses and Aaron. "Why didn't we die as our brethren? You've brought us and our cattle to die in this place." Moses and Aaron fell on their faces and the glory of the Lord appeared. "Moses, take your rod and speak to the rock before all the people. There will be plenty of water."

Over and over the people had murmured against God. At last Moses was provoked. He took his rod, and instead of speaking to the rock, he spoke angrily to the people. "Must we bring water out of this rock for you rebels?" Then Moses hit the rock two times with his rod. The water gushed out, but God was displeased with Moses and Aaron. God said, "Because you did not honor my word, neither of you will enter into the promised land."

Memory Verse: Be ye angry and sin not. . . . Eph. 4:26.

How To Conquer Giant Selfishness

There were two little boys named James and William. One day as they were just starting for school their father gave them each a five-cent piece to spend as they liked.

"What are you going to buy, William?" asked James after they had walked a little way.

"I don't know," William replied; "I have not thought yet. What are you going to buy?"

"You know Mother is sick. Now, I believe I'll buy her a nice orange. I think it will taste good to her."

"You may do so if you please, James," said William; "but I'm going to buy something for myself. Father gave me the money to spend for myself, and I mean to do it. If Mother wants an orange, she can send for it."

"I know that," said James, "but then it would make me feel so happy to see her eating an orange that I had bought for her with my own money. She is always doing something for us, or getting us some nice thing, and I want to let her see that I don't forget it."

"Do as you please," said William, "but I go in for the candy." Presently they came to a candy shop. William spent his five cents for cream candy; but James bought an orange. When they went home at noon, he went into his mother's room and said: "See, Mama, what a nice orange I have brought for you!"

"It is indeed very nice, my son, and it will taste very good to me. I have been wanting an orange all morning. Where did you get it?"

"Father gave me five cents this morning, and I bought it with that."

"You are very good, my dear boy, to think of your sick mother. You could have spent your money for cakes or candy, but denied yourself, that you might get an orange for me. Mother loves you for this exercise of self-denial." And she threw her arms around his neck and kissed him.

Now you see how Giant Selfishness made an attack on these two boys. James fought him off bravely by the exercise of self-denial. William refused to exercise self-denial, and so the giant got a hitch of his chain around him. We shall find this giant making attacks upon us all the time. We can fight him off only by self-denial. —Sel.

Thanksgiving

For air and sunshine, pure and sweet,
We thank our heavenly Father.

For grass that grows beneath our feet
We thank our heavenly Father.

For flowers that all around us bloom
We thank our heavenly Father.

For birds that sing in joyful tune,
We thank our heavenly Father.

For daily blessings, full and free,
We thank our heavenly Father.

For all His care over you and me,
We thank our heavenly Father.

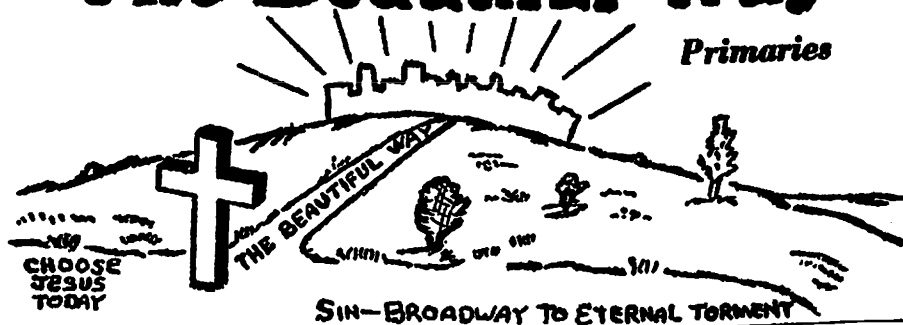
—Sel.

QUESTIONS:

1. What emergency arose at Kadesh?
2. What did the people do?
3. What did God tell Moses to do?
4. Was Moses angry at the people?
5. Why was God angry with Moses and Aaron?

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Part 26

March 26

MOSES DIES

Deut. 3:23-27; 4:21,22; Deut. 32:48-52; 34:1,7-10

As the Israelites drew near the promised land, Moses longed to go with them. He wanted to see God's mighty works in Canaan. He prayed, "O Lord God, What God is there in earth or heaven that can do thy mighty works? Let me go over and see the good land, I pray thee." God told Moses to go to the top of Mount Nebo. There he could see the good land, but he could not go into the promised land. Moses was not to ask again to go with the Israelites.

Moses wrote all the commandments and laws for the people. He wrote a song so they would not forget God's great works. He instructed Joshua to be their leader. Then God said, "Get up the mountain and look over this land which I have given to the children of Israel. There you will die and be gathered to your people."

Moses was 120 years of age when he died. His eye was not dim, nor his strength lessened. God buried Moses in a valley in the land of Moab.

Memory Verse: It is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment. Heb. 9:27.

Finding the Way

Eight year old Alicea wanted very much to ask her mother if she might go next door to play; but some ladies from the Missionary Society were talking with her mother, and it would not be polite to interrupt the conversation.

At last she slipped inside the door, and softly crossed the room and stood behind her mother's chair. One of the ladies was telling a story of her childhood. Alicea became so interested she forgot what she wanted to ask her mother, and listened to the story.

This is what the lady said: "When I was a little girl, I wanted very much to be a Christian; but no one ever explained to me what I must do to be one, and for a long time my heart was hungry and thirsty to find out the way.

"Then one day an old man told in meeting how he found the way, even as a little boy. The old man said he went one day in real earnestness, and got down on his knees and asked God to forgive all his naughty doings, and make him God's own little boy, and from that day on he believed God had forgiven him and made him His child.

"After I heard that old man," said the lady, "I also went and asked God to make me His little girl, and to forgive all my bad doings. And," she added smilingly, "I believe He did. I have thanked Him ever since."

As Alicea listened to this talk, she realized that this was just what she had wanted to know about—how to find God. She slipped out of the room and went to her little sleeping place. There she got down on her knees and asked God to forgive her for all the naughty things she had done, and for the cross

words, and to make her His little girl, and to help her live to please Him. She also promised to read her Bible and learn how He wanted her to live. Such a sweetness and joy came into her heart that she was sure God had heard her prayer, for she really meant every word of it.

(An old white haired lady told me this story, and she said she believed on Jesus from that day.)

Ask the Lord to help you to be able to say, "No" when you are tempted to do wrong. Remember if you do yield, it will be found out later on. Then you will be embarrassed and will not have favor with God unless you repent.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. Did Moses want to go to the promised land?
2. What did God tell Moses?
3. Where could he go to see the land?
4. How old was Moses when he died?
5. Who buried Moses?

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Primaries



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April, May, June, 1978

Part 14

April 2

THE GREAT PROMISE

Gen. 3:15; Deut. 18:15,18,19; Jer. 23:5,6; Dan. 9:24 Luke 1:68-75

Do you know the sad story of how sin came into this world? Adam and Eve disobeyed God in the garden of Eden and brought sin to every man. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Rom. 3:23. That is why before you are saved, you sometimes do things you ought not. Sin is in your members and overcomes you.

God saw how helpless men would be to do right. He saw their terrible fear of death. In His mercy, God promised that One would come who would triumph over sin and set men free. The promise was given to Adam. Down through the centuries, God's prophets told of the time when the Saviour would come. Those who believed God's promise were counted righteous and died in peace. They were glad for the coming One who would save them from their sins.

God kept His promise and sent Jesus to die on the cross for all the sins of the whole world. Then He raised Jesus from the grave so we could live holy lives.

Memory Verse: . . . For he shall save his people from their sins. Matt. 1:21.

Sure Promises



Once more, it is spring. The green leaves have made the trees fresh and lovely again. The grass is so green that we forget the dull, brown ground. It is a joy to see the yellow daffodils, the red tulips and the flowering shrubs. The singing birds, the warm sunshine, the glorious blue sky, all of these lift our spirits and make us glad. Another winter is past. Spring is a time of promise. There are new baby kittens, little chickens, and puppies. The robins have pretty blue eggs in their nests; soon they will hatch and mother and father bird will be kept busy filling the babies' mouths. Everywhere we see new life and it makes us happy. Spring is the best season of all. It holds such promise of things to come.

Do you know that as long as the world stands we will have spring, summer, fall and winter? God has given us His sure promise. In Gen. 6:22 we read, "While the earth remaineth, seedtime [spring] and harvest [fall], and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease [end]." We can be sure in the freezing cold of winter that spring WILL come. When we plant seeds in our gardens and flower beds, and the farmers plant the seed grains in their fields, there WILL be a harvest. God's promises are sure, they WILL come to pass.

There is another promise in God's Word you need to think about. It is found in Galatians 6:7,8. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption;

but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Boys and girls, your lives are the fields in which you sow seeds. If you live for God and sow good seeds, you will have a good harvest. If you forget God and live only for the pleasures of sin, you will have a bitter harvest. NOW, while your hearts are tender, give them to God. Let Him teach you how to live right and when you are old, you can say, "I have had a good life." If you forget God and think only of pleasing yourself, you will find life has been a disappointment to you. For there is another law of God that cannot be broken. Just as surely as you are young today, you will also be old, if God spares your life. Now is the time to be saved and live your life to please God. God is good, His ways are perfect. We can KNOW HE WILL keep His promises. We can depend on them. But we must OBEY Him if we want His blessings in our lives.

—Thelma Sprague



QUESTIONS:

1. How did sin come into the world?
2. Does everyone sin?
3. Who gave a great promise?
4. What was that promise?
5. Did God keep His promise?

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April, May, June, 1978

Part 15

April 9

THE DELIVERER IS BORN

Luke 2:9-17; Matt. 2:1,2,9-11; Luke 1:68,69,74,75,77.

Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, and God's promise to send a deliverer was fulfilled. Many were expecting the Messiah (deliverer) but they expected Him to be born in a palace and to fight against the Roman armies and set Israel free from their enemies. Instead, Jesus was born in a stable because there was no room anywhere else. The angels announced His birth to the shepherds in the field and shepherds came to worship Him. Wise men in the East saw the star that announced the birth of the Saviour. They started the long journey that led them to Bethlehem. They found Jesus several weeks later in a house and worshipped Him and gave Him gifts.

Most people did not know the deliverer had come. They would not have believed Jesus was the promised One. He did not come with great pomp and fanfare. He did not come to lead great armies and conquer the world. Jesus came to deliver people from the greatest enemy of all—SIN. There was no way men could live free from sin until Jesus came as the deliverer.

Memory Verse: . . . Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king. . . . Matt. 2:1.

A Great Price to Pay

This story, which is true, was told by Sister Vera Forbes.

One Sunday when Sister Vera was attending children's meeting at the Methodist Church in her town, the fire whistle blew. Long ago in small towns, the whistle caused much excitement among the children. "Please, may we go to the fire?" the children begged. The teacher gave them permission if they first would go and ask their mothers.

The fire was in a large, two-story barn. The man who owned the barn had two fine cows, two fine horses, and other livestock which he had locked in the barn for some reason that day. The barn was also full of hay, stored for the winter.

On that particular day, the man had gone to the country to see about something on his farm so he was not at home. He had a little boy who usually went to children's meeting, too. This day the boy had told his mother he was going to the meeting and had gone outside to meet his friend. The mother, probably not feeling well, had gone to take a nap. No one knows exactly what happened to the mother, whether she was awakened by the fire whistle, too, and ran out into the garden to see the fire and had a heart attack, but they found her dead on the ground. The man lost his barn, hay, livestock, and his wife because of the fire.

What caused the fire? The boy and his friend had gone behind the barn and played with matches instead of going to children's meeting. Somehow the barn had caught fire. Didn't that little boy pay a terrible price for

deceiving his mother and not going to children's meeting that day? Sometimes little sinful acts can bring great sorrow.

—Thelma Sprague

The Childhood of Jesus

The Bible does not tell us much about the childhood of Jesus. It does tell us "And the child grew and waxed [or became] strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace [or favor] of God was upon him." Luke 2:40. No one else in the world has ever been born as Jesus was, without an earthly father. Because He was the Son of God, He did not have a sinful nature. He did not fuss or quarrel as other children do; I am sure His mother did not have to ask Him twice to do an errand, or to help her or Joseph in the carpenter shop. He was kind to everyone, even the animals. He was "filled with wisdom," that means He did not act foolishly.

—Thelma Sprague



QUESTIONS:

1. Where was Jesus born?
2. Who announced His birth?
3. Who came to worship Him?
4. Did Jesus come to lead great armies and conquer the world?
5. What did He come to deliver people from?

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Part 16

April 16

THIS IS THE SON OF GOD

Luke 3:2-18,21,22; John 1:32-34.

John the Baptist had stirred all the country with his preaching. He told the people about all their sins. "You must repent and be baptized to show you are sorry for your sins. A mighty One, greater than I, is coming to save you." Some people sent to ask John, "Are you that Christ?" "No, I am not," said John. "One among you, whom you do not know, will save you from your sins, and will baptize you with the fire of the Holy Ghost. I am not worthy to untie His shoe."

Jesus came to John to be baptized. "Why must I baptize you?" John knew that Jesus had never sinned. Jesus said it was necessary to be baptized to please God. As Jesus came up out of the water, the heaven opened and John saw the Spirit come down upon Jesus in the form of a dove. Then John heard these words from heaven, "This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased." So John knew that Jesus was the Christ who had come to save the people from their sins.

Memory Verse: This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Matt. 3:17..

God Is a Help in Time of Trouble

It was a hot day in England. The wind roared in the pine trees but did not cool the air. The children were lying on the floor while a maid and I finished sunbonnets. Suddenly Mary cried, "Mistress, I smell smoke." I ran to the door but could not see. The swamp was on fire and the wind blew black smoke directly toward us.

"Who set fire to the brush in the clearing?" I cried. John, the hired boy, stood trembling before me.

"It was I, ma'am; Oh, forgive me. I would give all I have if I had not done it. I am afraid we all shall burn up," and he began to cry. "What shall we do?"

"We must get out as quickly as possible," said I.

"We cannot," said John. "The fire has us surrounded." On every side we were walled in by fire. There was no escape. We lived in the heart of the forest.

My first fear was succeeded by a strange calm. The sky grew dark from the smoke. I could see the flames leaping among the pine trees. I could feel the heat from the fire as I sat on the step.

"What will my poor husband think when he returns to find his family perished?" I thought sadly. "Yet God can save us."

As soon as this thought arose in my heart, the wind became a hurricane, scattering the flames on all sides. I buried my face in my apron, thinking the end was coming. A most terrible crash of thunder broke over our heads. The storm, which had come unnoticed by us, poured in a water-spout of rain.

The storm raged all night completely putting out the fire. God had saved us.

—Susanna Moodie

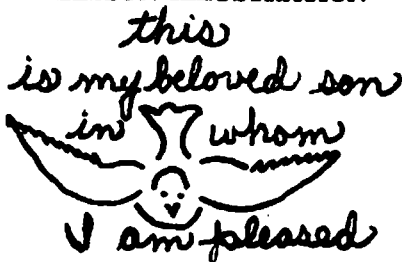
Adapted from McGuffey's Reader

Do Not Smoke

Little Billy, who was a very bad little boy, thought that he would act very big, bold, and brazen. So he stole a cigar from the drug store and marched down main street puffing on it. Needless to say, the people who knew little Billy were greatly surprised to see him smoking the cigar. It didn't take Billy long to decide he wasn't so big after all. His throat hurt very bad and his head felt real light and fuzzy. When he got home, his father, who had been told about Billy, told him the dangers of smoking. After getting a whipping he was convinced that smoking was not for him.

—W. M.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. Who stirred the country with his preaching?
2. What did John tell the people to do?
3. Did John say he was the Christ?
4. Who came to John to be baptized?
5. How did John know Jesus was the Christ?
6. What did the voice from heaven say?

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Part 17

April 23

JESUS FULFILLED ISAIAH'S WORDS

Isaiah 9:1,2; 61:1-3; Matt. 4:12-16; Luke 4:14-22; Mark 1:27,28.

Isaiah has been called the "Gospel Prophet" because he told so many things that Jesus would do.

When King Herod put John the Baptist in jail, Jesus went into the country of Galilee. There He preached the gospel, and healed many people. Everyone talked about the great prophet that had come, and told about the great things He did.

Jesus was in His home city of Nazareth on the sabbath (7th day) and went into the synagogue as He usually did. He was asked to speak and the minister gave Him the book of Isaiah. Jesus found the place where it reads, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel, to heal the broken in heart, to deliver the captives, and to open the eyes of the blind." Then He said, "This is the time Isaiah wrote about." He taught them how God could heal and set people free from sin. He told them how to live right. The people marveled how He could speak such gracious things. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked in unbelief.

Memory Verse: And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief. Matt. 13:58

Be Careful For Nothing

As a niece was getting into her car to go home after a visit on her uncle's farm, she got up nerve enough to say: "Uncle, you ought to do something about your old barn. It looks awful."

"It does look bad," said he, "but it used to be the finest barn in this country. That barn was built by your grandfather out of the best lumber. There isn't a rotten board in it. It does need some paint," he admitted.

"Then have it painted," she advised.

"Can't afford it," he said. "It would cost \$5000 and I don't have that kind of money. Back in the 20's it only cost \$100."

"If you can't have it painted, then tear it down."

"That would cost as much as painting. I really don't need the barn any more since I no longer have cows or mules, just the little calf I am raising for a milch cow."

With the remark that he was going to have to do something, the niece prepared to leave.

"Oh, I am doing something," the old man replied. "I am praying about it."

"Praying about it? Uncle, you don't think God is concerned about that old barn, do you? That's YOUR problem, not His."

"I believe you are wrong about that. I was reading in the Bible last night that the hairs of my head are numbered. If God knows how many hairs I have, He surely knows about the barn."

The niece drove away thinking, "God expects us to help ourselves. That old barn will stay there until it caves in."

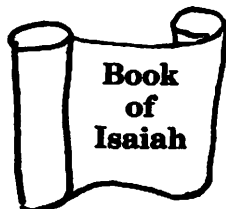
A few days later the phone rang. The old uncle had called to tell his niece

about the barn. "We had a tornado last night, although I slept through it all. This morning I found the barn lying flat. The calf was safe because the barn door fell across the stall. I called a friend and he said he would build me a shed if I would give him the rest of the lumber. You see the Lord did answer my prayer and took care of my needs just as the Bible promises. Read Phil. 4:6."

We don't have to worry about our needs, if we ask and thank God for what He does for us. —Adapted

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust." Psa. 91:1,2.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. Why was Isaiah called the "Gospel Prophet"?
2. What kind of things did Jesus do in Galilee?
3. Where did Jesus go on the sabbath day?
4. What did Jesus read in Isaiah?
5. Did He say this was the time Isaiah wrote about?
6. Did the people in Nazareth believe Him?

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Part 18

April 30

THE GREATEST SERMON

Matt. chapters 5,6,7 Luke 6:20-49

Great crowds followed Jesus to hear His preaching and to see His miracles. He went up on a mountain, and with His disciples about Him, began to teach the people. You have probably learned verses from the sermon on the mount. "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God." Jesus taught them many other things: "Love your enemies, do good to them that hate you." You must not hate anyone and you must forgive those who do wrong things to you. The sermon on the mount tells us how God's people should live. We must be saved and sanctified to live the sermon on the mount.

Jesus said, "Ask and ye shall receive." He taught us that God loves us and will take care of our needs when we do His will. You can find the sermon on the mount in the books of Matthew and Luke. It is the greatest sermon of all. We need to watch our lives daily to see that we obey the things Jesus taught.

Memory Verse: But love ye your enemies and do good. ...
Luke 6:35.

Three Great Words

Two cousins were having much fun playing together. Soon they began to quarrel because one wanted to play in the barn and the other wanted to play in the yard.

"Well then, I just won't play," pouted Sally.

"I don't care, I don't like to play with you anyway," growled Jimmy.

The quarrel became so noisy that grandmother sent them each to their own room. "Stay there until you can be nice to each other," she said.

After two miserable hours, it was time for supper. At the table, Sally shyly whispered to Jimmy, "Do you believe God means what He says?"

"Of course I do," Jimmy answered quickly. "God always means what He says."

"Didn't He say, 'love one another' and I love you. I'm sorry we fussed."

"And I love you, Sally. Let's always remember to do what God says."

Thereafter when the children would begin to quarrel, one of them would say quickly, "I love you," and the quarrel was over. These great words will bring peace.

—Adapted

The Earth Is Round

"Say," exclaimed little Joe, to his big sister Sally. "I have a good idea."

Sally asked, "What is that?"

"Well, do you remember last Sunday Pastor Jones read the Scripture in Revelation where it says that I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth?"

"Sure," replied Sally.

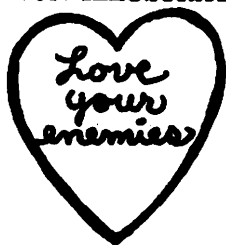
"Therefore," continued little Joe, "the earth must be square."

"I believe you have figured wrong Joe," said Sally. "When it said 'four corners,' it just meant all parts of the earth. Don't you remember in history class how that Columbus would sit on the wharf and watch the ships disappear on the horizon? Because the bottom of the ship disappeared first he knew that the earth must be round. Listen to this Scripture in Isaiah 40:21,22. It says, 'Have ye not known? have ye not heard? hath it not been told you from the beginning? have ye not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in.' Did you notice it said the circle of the earth?"

"Yes," said little crestfallen Joe, "I realize the earth must be round."

—W. M.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

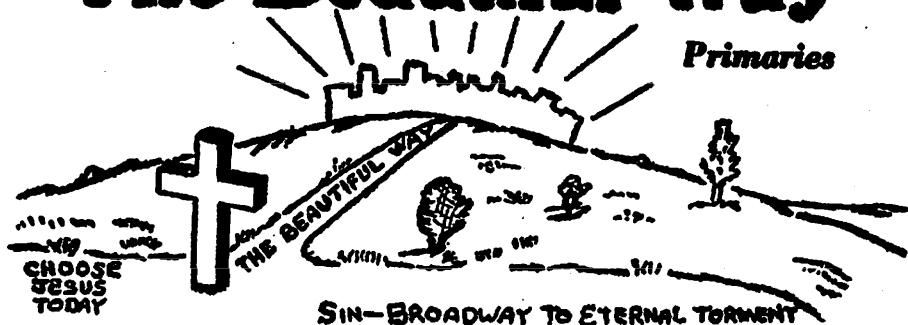


QUESTIONS:

1. Where did Jesus go to preach a wonderful sermon?
2. Were there many people there?
3. Tell some of the things He said.
4. How can we live the sermon on the mount?
5. In what part of the Bible do you find the sermon on the mount?

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Part 19

May 7

JESUS, MASTER OF WIND AND SEA

Matt. 8:23-27; 14:22-33.

The boat that had gently rocked Jesus to sleep, now jerked in a frenzy. The waves washed over it in the stormy wind. The trip across the lake started smoothly, now it threatened to be the end for all on board. Still Jesus slept on. At last the disciples, amazed that He could sleep so soundly, awoke Him saying, "Master, we perish. Don't you care?"

Jesus rose and spoke gently, "O, ye of little faith." To the wind and waves He said, "Peace, be still." Right then the wind stilled and the sea was calm. The disciples marvelled, "What kind of man is this? The wind and sea obey Him."

They were to be amazed again. After feeding the multitudes, Jesus sent the disciples to cross the sea in a boat. In the night He came walking on the waves. They were sure they saw a ghost, but Jesus said, "It is I."

"Bid me come to you," said Peter, and he, too, walked on the waves. Then he became frightened, and began to sink. Jesus reached for him and he was safe. Our God is a mighty God.

Memory Verse: . . . the Lord hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet. Nahum 1:3.

God Turned the Rain

Bro. Susag was a minister who traveled much. This left his twin boys, eleven years of age, to tend the crops. Once, when Bro. Susag came home, the boys had the hay all raked up, ready to load on the wagon and be hauled to the barn. "Dad, tomorrow you will have to help us." Bro. Susag replied, "All right, but we will have to begin early, as I have to leave the next day to start another meeting."

The hay field was some distance from the barn. Just as they began to pitch the hay on the wagon, a few drops of rain fell. "Dad, it's raining." Bro. Susag stuck his pitch fork in the ground and threw his hat down beside it. "Boys, let's pray." Then he said to the Lord, "This hay is yours; this farm is yours; and I am your servant. This hay must be hauled today as I leave tomorrow to preach to the people. So, please, at least keep the rain off the hay and off the road where we have to drive. Amen." Then he went to pitching hay again. The rain poured down all around, but it did not rain on the hay or on the road. When the last load was in the barn the rain poured down. "The Lord surely answered prayer, today." The boys answered, "Yes, He did." A neighbor had been unable to work in his field all that day.

Jealousy Brings Trouble

"Now, I must tell you of the trouble that I got into . . . I think I was seven years of age. Sis. Wright had a little girl my age. . . . I loved this little girl. . . . we played a lot together. They had other friends who also had a little girl about our age. I guess I was jealous of my friend playing with her friend, and I

made up a lie on her and told her that her mother had told my mother. I cannot ever remember telling a lie before. She told her mother, and Sis. Wright came to Mother about it. Well, my mother was a very wise mother. She took me alone and began to question me all about it. At last I broke down and confessed that it was not so. She said, "Now, you must confess to Sis. Wright that this is not true." Oh, I felt so ashamed. I cried and cried, but Mother was true to her word. After supper, one evening, she said, 'Sister, come go with me to Sis. Wright's.' Oh, I dreaded to go. Just before we got there she said, 'Now, I want you to ask Sis. Wright to forgive you.' We went in and I did not go to play, I sat crying all the time. Finally, Mother said, 'Go ahead, sister, and do what I told you to do.' This made me cry all the more, but I walked over to Sis. Wright and said, 'Sis. Wright, please forgive me.' She said, 'What for?' I said, 'For telling a story on you.' She put her arms around me and said, 'Yes, I will forgive you and you will not do that anymore, will you?' I said, 'No, I won't.' She told me she loved me and wanted me to be a good little girl. Even though this was about the hardest thing I ever had to do, I am glad my mother let me know that when I lied on people I had to make it right. This put a real carefulness in me."

—Sis. Margaret Eck
from *Lest We Forget*

QUESTIONS:

1. Who was asleep in the boat?
2. What happened to the sea?
3. Were the disciples afraid?
4. What did Jesus do?
5. Did the wind and sea obey Jesus?
6. Who walked on the waves?

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Part 20

May 14

JESUS RAISES THE DEAD

Luke 7:11-17; 8:41,42,49-56.

Jesus and His disciples went to a city called Nain. As they neared the gate of the city they saw a dead man being carried out. He was the only son of a widow. Many people were with her in the funeral procession. Jesus saw the woman weeping and had pity for her. "Do not weep," He said. Then He went near and touched the casket. "Arise, young man." The dead man sat up and began to speak. Jesus led him to his mother. All the people glorified God.

A ruler named Jairus had a little daughter who was dying. He went to Jesus and kneeling down said, "Lord, if you'll come, my daughter will live." Jesus took three disciples and went to Jairus' house. There the people were weeping. Jesus put all the people out except the mother, father, and His disciples. He spoke to the girl, "Arise," and she opened her eyes and was well. "Give her something to eat," said Jesus.

Jesus also raised Mary and Martha's brother, Lazarus, from the dead.

Mem. Verse: . . . I am the resurrection, and the life . . . John 11:25.
John 11:25.

Jesus Raises Lazarus From the Grave

Mary and Martha had sent word to Jesus that Lazarus was sick. But Jesus had not come, so Lazarus died and was buried. How the sisters cried. "Oh, if Jesus had only been here, our brother would not have died!" Perhaps they couldn't understand why Jesus had not come, for Jesus loved Lazarus and his sisters.

Now, when Jesus heard that Lazarus was sick, He stayed where He was, and said to His disciples, "This sickness will glorify God." Two days later He said, "Lazarus is dead, and I am glad that I was not there so you may believe." Then they went to Bethany.

When Jesus arrived, He found Lazarus had been buried four days already. Martha went to meet Jesus, saying, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother had not died. Yet I know that even now, God will give you what you ask." Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life, do you believe this?" "Yes, I believe you are the Son of God," and Martha went to tell Mary that Jesus was there. Mary also said, "Lord, Lazarus would not have died, if you had been here," and she wept. When Jesus saw the weeping and sorrow, He wept also.

They went to the grave. "Take away the stone from the grave," said Jesus. "Did I not tell you, that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" Then Jesus thanked God for hearing His prayer, and said aloud, "Lazarus, come out of the grave." Lazarus DID come forth, alive and well. Many people believed by this miracle that Jesus WAS the Son of God.

Why Johnny Failed

Johnny had a little mind;

It was his very own,
And nothing could be put in it
Except by him alone.

It wasn't very big, it's true,
But there was room inside
For lots of things, chosen out
As Johnny should decide.

Mother and father gave to him
All sorts of good advice;
But Johnny never put it in
Or thought about it twice.
But all the ugly things the boys
Upon the corner said,
Why, Johnny picked them up at once
And put them in his head.

At school the teacher tried her best
To give him facts and rules,
Of every useful sort—but no,
For Johnny hated schools.
He picked up brag and vulgar slang,
Cheap novels, too, ten deep,
And filled his mind till it was like
A tainted rubbish heap.

So when the day of manhood came,
When Johnny searched his mind
For skill and power, it played him false
And nothing could he find
But worthless trash and ugly thoughts,
And so he failed, alas!
Is any other boy who reads
Coming to Johnny's pass?

—Selected

QUESTIONS:

1. What did Jesus see at the gate of the city of Nain?
2. Who was the young man who was dead?
3. Who did Jesus feel pity for?
4. What did Jesus do?

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Part 21

May 21

JESUS FORGIVES SIN

John 8:2-11 Luke 7:37-48

While Jesus was teaching in the temple, there was a great tumult. Some men came pushing a woman before them. These men were the enemies of Jesus. They wanted to trap Him in His words so they could deny He was the Son of God. "Master," they said, "this woman was taken in the act of a great sin. By Moses' law, she should be stoned. What do you say?"

Jesus saw the motive of their evil hearts. He saw the trembling, sinful woman. He stooped down and wrote upon the ground as though He heard them not. When they kept asking, He answered, "Let him that is without sin cast the first stone." Then He stooped down again. One by one, the men left. They knew in their hearts they were sinners. "Has no man condemned you?" The woman answered, "No man, Lord." Jesus forgave the woman's sins and said, "Go, and sin no more."

Another woman who was sorry for her sins, came and washed Jesus feet with her tears. Jesus said, "Thy sins are forgiven."

Memory Verse: . . . Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. . . . I Tim. 1:15.

A Robber Is Forgiven

Jesus was crucified as if He were the lowest criminal. Two robbers, on crosses, were hanged on either side of Him. The crowds mocked Jesus with these words: "If you are the Son of God, save yourself and come down off the cross." One of the robbers also mocked Him, "Yes, if you really are the Christ, save yourself and us, too." The other robber was sad. He knew he deserved to die, but he knew Jesus did not. "Aren't you afraid to say such things? We are going to die for the wicked things we have done. This man is not a sinner, he is dying unjustly." Then turning to Jesus, he said, "Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus saw that robber was truly sorry for his sins. "Today, you shall be with me in paradise." One robber had peace because his sins were forgiven.

—Thelma Sprague

THEY DIDN'T THINK

Once a trap was baited with a dainty piece of cheese;
It tickled so a little mouse it almost made him sneeze.
An old mouse said, "There's danger; be careful where you go."
Oh, nonsense," said the mousey, I don't think you know."
So he walked in boldly—nobody was in sight;
First he took a nibble, then he took a bite;
Close the trap together snapped as quick as you could wink,
Catching mousey fast there "because he didn't think."
Once there was a robin lived outside the kitchen door,

Who wanted so to go inside and hop upon the floor;

"Oh, no," said robin's mother, "I wish you'd stay with me;
For little birds are safest sitting in a tree."

"I don't care," said robin, and gave his tail a fling;

"I don't think the old folks know quite ev'rything."

Down he flew, the cat caught him before he'd time to blink;

"Oh," he cried, "I'm sorry, but then, I didn't think."

Now, my little children, you who sing this little song,

Oh, don't you see what trouble comes from simply doing wrong?

And can't you take a warning from mouse and robin's fate?

For they began their thinking when it was too late.

Think not all is safety, altho' no danger shows;

Thinking you know more than anybody knows;

But when warned of ruin, always pause upon the brink;

Don't go over headlong "because you didn't think."

—Phoebe Cary

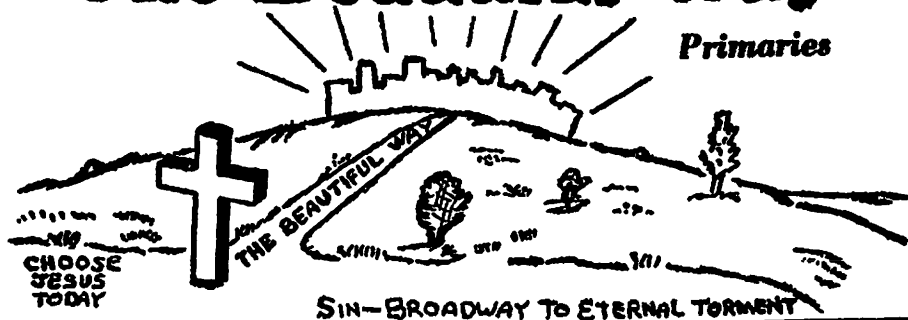
"I was glad when they said unto me,
Let us go into the house of the Lord."
Psalms 122:1.

QUESTIONS:

1. What happened in the temple that caused a tumult?
2. Why did these men bring the woman?
3. Did Jesus answer their question immediately?
4. What did He say to the men?
5. What did Jesus say to the woman?

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Part 22

May 28

JESUS SPEAKS TO THE SCRIBES AND PHARISEES

Matthew 15:1-9

The Scribes and Pharisees were the religious rulers who pretended to worship God. They made many laws for the people to keep. "Do not eat bread with unwashed hands," and many other laws. One day they saw Jesus' disciples eat without washing their hands. Oh, they thought that was a terrible thing! "Why do your disciples sin by not keeping the laws of the rulers?" they asked.

Jesus knew their hearts. He knew they did not love God but only made a pretense. "Why do you break God's commands by your traditions?" He asked. "God's law says, 'Honour your father and mother' but you break that law by not helping them. You pretend your money is dedicated to the temple so you will not have to help your parents." Jesus told them their worship was in vain because they were keeping the teachings of man instead of God's Word. Such worship would not save them.

God is not pleased with worship that does not honor the teachings of His Word. We must obey the Bible in all things.

Memory Verse: . . . In vain they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. Matt. 15:9.

Fred Honors His Mother

"Please, Mother, let me do the dishes while you rest." Fred saw how tired and pale his mother was, and how slowly she moved about. He knew she was sick.

"You do the dishes?" she asked. "Do you know how?"

"I have watched you many times. Just try me and see." A look of relief came over his mother's face as she seated herself in the rocker. Fred washed the dishes, put them away, swept the floor and brought things from the cellar his mother would need, before he went to school.

Fred was an active boy of 12, and he usually went to school early, and stayed late, in order to play with the other boys. The snow and ice at this time made coasting and skating ideal. However, he felt his mother needed help.

When Fred continued to come late to school, arriving just before the tardy bell, and then hurrying home right after school, his buddies began to wonder. "I know," said Tom, "I'll find out what he is doing." The next morning he pretended to be going by to walk to school with Fred, but he walked close to the window and looked in. There he saw Fred with the dish cloth in his hand, busily scrubbing the dishes, "Oh, ho," Tom thought, "wait until I tell the boys about this."

When Fred arrived a few minutes before the bell rang, he was greeted with, "Well, sissy, did you get your chores done? When are you going to take up sewing?" and so on. Fred felt like jumping in the middle of them and knocking them down, but he resisted the impulse. He knew his mother was sick and really needed his help. It didn't

make him a sissy or a girl-boy to help his mother.

As the boys continued their name calling, the teacher stepped to the door. Though Mr. Lawson said not a word, Fred felt encouraged by the look in the teacher's eyes. Later in the day, the boys received a good talking to, and they did not call Fred names anymore.

After a few days, Fred's mother was much improved and able to resume her work. Deep in his heart, Fred was glad he had helped her to get better by giving her time to rest. —Adapted

Love Deeds

I know that I am very small,

Yet in my childish way
There're many things that I can do
That's lots more fun than play

I dry the dishes, dust the chairs,
As neat as neat can be;
And once I mopped the kitchen clean
And set the plates for three.

I wash my grandma's handkerchiefs,
And darn my grandpa's socks,
I take the baby for a ride
Around three city blocks.

I set my daddy's slippers out
Where he can't fail to see,
And when he's donned them every night
He'll play I-spy with me.

—Alice L. Whitson

QUESTIONS:

1. Who pretended to worship God?
2. Why did they find fault with the disciples?
3. Did the scribes and Pharisees keep God's commandments?
4. Tell one commandment they broke by their tradition.

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Part 23

June 4

ONLY ONE NAME

Matt. 24:11; Mark 13:21; John 3:1-7,17,18; Acts 4:12

Churches are saying, "Follow us and you will be saved." Jesus said this time would come. Some think to "join church" and be baptized will save them. Some think they will go to heaven when they die because they are not as bad as someone else. Some think ANY church is all right. God only has ONE church. All of those who are saved are in the Church of God. Jesus said, "Ye MUST be born again." The new birth makes us "new creatures in Christ Jesus." A saved person IS a new person, "old things have passed away, all things have become new." He does not sin anymore but lives a HOLY life. Jesus gave His life for us so we could be saved. The Bible, which is God's Word, says, "All have sinned and come short [or failed] of the glory of God," so everyone has to be saved to go to heaven. Peter preached and said, "There is none other name under heaven given among men whereby [or, by which] we must be saved." If Jesus had not come and died on the cross, no one would ever have been saved.

Memory Verse: . . . There is none other name under heaven given among men whereby we must be saved. Acts 4:12.

Jewell Wants to Live Right

Jewell grew up without being taught about God. She didn't know it was possible to be saved from sin. Sometimes when she did bad things, something inside her would say, "You ought not to do those things anymore." So she was sorry and tried not to do those things again. She really wanted to be good.

One day she went to Sunday school and the teacher told about Jesus and the things He did. Oh, how Jewell wished she could have lived when Jesus did! The teacher forgot to tell her that it is possible to know Jesus today and have Him live in our hearts. Poor Jewell went on living in sin. Sin brought trouble and sorrow to her. It changed her life from what God had wanted it to be; but God kept talking to her heart. She didn't understand it was the Lord. Sometimes such a longing to live right and to do good things filled her heart. She didn't really want to hate anyone, but she did. She didn't really want to tell lies, but she did. She didn't want to get mad and act ugly, but she did. Sin was ruling in her life and she couldn't do the good things she wanted to. She had such a longing in her heart to do right and have peace deep inside her.

One day she was thinking about hell. "Surely God wouldn't send me to hell, for I am not as bad as some people." (How the devil will try to make us think we are good when we are not!) A voice spoke to her and said, "Yes . . . You would be lost." Wasn't God good to warn her?

Later, Jewell met a real Christian who told her that she could KNOW that

she was really saved. Jewell went to an old-fashioned altar of prayer and asked Jesus to forgive her sins and save her. Then she had peace and could live right.

—A True Story

Bad Influences

"I really like Elvis Presley," said Joe. "He was really a great singer."

"I don't think you should admire him," replied Jack. "I like David of the Old Testament much better. When he sang, it calmed people's nerves instead of getting them all stirred up."

—W. M.

O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods. *Psa. 95:1-3*

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

JESUS
*The Only Name
that Can Save*

QUESTIONS:

1. Will joining a church save you?
2. Will you go to heaven because you are not as bad as someone else?
3. Is any church all right?
4. What did Jesus say: "Ye — — — — —"
5. If we are a "new creature in Christ Jesus" do we sin anymore?
6. Who died to save us?

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Part 24

June 11

JESUS TELLS ABOUT HELL

Luke 16:17-31; Matt. 25:30; Mark 9:43,44

Jesus told about a certain rich man who had died and was in torment. He begged for someone to come and cool the tip of his tongue with water because he was tormented in the flames. So we know there is fire in Hell and no water there. Not even a drop!

The rich man wanted someone to go from the dead to tell his brothers not to come to Hell. He was told if his brothers would not believe God's Word, neither would they believe though one went to them from the dead. We must believe the Bible to be saved.

In Hell people still have their memories. They will not be able to forget their sins, or the opportunity they had to be saved.

In another place Jesus said, "the fire is not quenched, nor their worm dieth not." He said there is "weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth." He called Hell "outer darkness." God made the light, and it was good. In Hell there will not be one good thing.

Memory Verse: . . . Fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. **Matt. 10:28.**

God's Faithful Warning

Betty and Bob were talking about the lesson they had had in Sunday school.

"I don't think the teacher should talk to us about Hell. It sounds so scary."

"But Bob, the Bible tells us about Hell. God doesn't want any of us to go there, so He tells us what kind of place it is so we won't want to go either."

"Aw-w, how do we know what the Bible says is true? Maybe it is just a book of fables like my dad says," growled Bob.

"Do you know history proves the Bible is true? Our calendars are dated from the year of our Lord, A.D. Time before that was reckoned B.C., or before Christ. So we know Jesus Christ came to this world. Other things the Bible has said have been proven by history, too, but I know a better way than that."

"HOW do YOU know the Bible is true?" questioned Bob.

"For one thing, my mother is a Christian, and when she prays, God answers her prayers. I had a terrible earache last week and when mother prayed for it, it stopped right then and has been well since. I believe the Bible and I want to be saved so I won't have to go to Hell."

"How can God be good and make such an awful place to send people to?"

"Mother read in the Bible that Hell was made for the devil and his angels, but Hell has enlarged herself because people don't want to obey God and be saved. It isn't God's fault that people are forever lost."

"Well, I don't think God is just."

"Oh, Bob, God was so unwilling that men be lost that He sent His only Son to die on the cross to save us. How could

God be anymore just than that? He has given us the Bible to tell us the way to be saved and go to heaven."

"I'd just as soon not hear about Hell. It's all right to talk about Heaven, just don't mention Hell."

"If there were a bridge washed out on the highway, just below that curve, wouldn't you want someone to warn you? If your house were on fire, wouldn't you want someone to cry, 'Fire, fire,' so you could escape? God warns us about Hell so we can get saved and not go there."

—Thelma Sprague

Smile

A smile is something nice to see,

It doesn't cost a cent.

A smile is something all your own,

It never can be lent.

A smile is welcome anywhere

It does away with frowns.

A smile is good for everyone.

To ease the ups and downs.

We may not be able to give many gifts to our friends or the poor, but we can always have a smile that shows we are happy and that will help others to be.

An old gentleman was asked why he loved to talk with children. He replied, "Because I love to see them smile." We noticed that he was always ready to smile with them, so all were happy.

—Sel.

QUESTIONS:

1. What did the rich man want when he was tormented?
2. Is there any water in Hell?
3. What must we believe to be saved?
4. Tell some things that are in Hell.
5. Is there any part of God in Hell?

The Beautiful Way

Primaries



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Part 25

June 18

THE PERFECT LAW OF GOD

Luke 10:25-37; Matt. 22:36-40; Matt. 7:12

A lawyer came to Jesus and asked a question. "What is the most important commandment of all?" Do you know if we live by the two commandments Jesus gave as the answer to that man, we will be perfect in God's sight? First, we must love God with all our heart [affections], all our soul [life], all our strength [ability], all our mind [will or purpose], and secondly, we must love our neighbor as ourself. Who is our neighbor? Anyone we can help. We are to show mercy to others, and only do the things we want done to us. If you don't like anyone to take your toys away, don't take his toys! If you don't like for others to break your things, don't break theirs! If you want others to be nice to you, then you must be nice to them. The "Golden Rule" simply means to treat others the way you want them to treat you. If everyone lived like this, there would be no trouble anywhere. You can only live the way Jesus wants you to, when you have Jesus in your heart.

Memory Verse: And he said unto him . . . this do and thou shalt live. Luke 10:28.

Susan Obeys Golden Rule

Susan was a little girl who always tried to do right. She had not thought about the meaning of the "Golden Rule." One day she asked her mother, "What does it mean?"

"We cannot be the least bit selfish, if we want to keep God's Golden Rule. If we love ourselves more than others, it would be impossible to keep this rule. It is possible to be honest, yet be very selfish. We must have love with our honesty. God tells us the meaning of the command in the parable of the Good Samaritan. Those who passed the wounded man by, might have been ever so honest, but they did not treat the wounded man as they would have wanted to be treated." Susan thought upon her mother's words. Soon she had opportunity to practice the Golden Rule.

Susan was sent to receive the pay for her mother's washing from Farmer Brown. The price was \$5. The farmer was busy and bellowed, "What do you want?" then hurriedly handed her a bill. Susan hurried towards home, then thinking it would be safer to pin the money to her shawl, she discovered the farmer had given her two bills instead of one.

At first she was filled with joy. She could buy her mother material for a coat, then her sister could have the old coat and go to Sunday school with Susan. "No, the farmer must have made a mistake," she thought sadly. "I must return the money." She remembered the "Golden Rule" and turned back to the farm.

The farmer at first thought Susan's mother had sent her back with the

money. "You wanted to keep it, didn't you? I would have been none the wiser if your mother had not sent you back."

"Sir, my mother knows nothing about it. It was a temptation to keep it. My mother needs a new coat badly. To keep the money would not have been doing unto others as I would want them to do to me." Susan went home with a glad heart.

—Adapted from *McGuffey's Reader*

The Children's Friend

There is no friend like Jesus,
No love like His sweet love;
He's ever watching o'er us,
From His white throne above.

He loves the little children,
To them He's ever nigh;
He folds them in His bosom,
He guides them with His eye.

You ought to love Him, children,
He's done so much for you;
You ought to try to please Him,
In all you say or do.

—Selected

Be Ye Also Ready
For in such an hour
as ye think not the

Son of Man cometh. *Matt. 24:41.*

QUESTIONS:

1. What question did the lawyer ask Jesus?
2. What must we do first?
3. Whom are we to love as ourself?
4. What does the "Golden Rule" mean?
5. Can we really keep these commandments?
6. How can we have Jesus in our hearts?

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Part 26

June 25

FORGIVING OTHERS

Matthew 18:21-35

God has forgiven us many sins, we must forgive others.

Jesus said, "A servant owed a king a great debt. When the king sent to collect the debt, the servant kneeled down and asked the king for mercy. The king freely forgave him all his debt.

The same man went out to collect a very small debt from another servant. This man also begged for mercy, promising to pay. However, the wicked servant would not forgive the poor man, and had him put in prison. Others came and told the king how the wicked servant had done. "Did he not owe thee a great debt, O King? You freely forgave him, but he will not forgive his brother, who owed him only a little sum."

The king was angry. He said to the wicked servant, "I freely forgave you, why did you not forgive your brother?" Then the king delivered the servant to the tormenters.

Peter came to Jesus, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother, seven times?" Jesus said, "Not seven times, but seventy times seven."

Memory Verse: . . . forgive and you shall be forgiven. Luke 6:37.

Teach Us To Pray

The disciples came to Jesus because they felt they needed to know how to pray better. "Lord, teach us how to pray," they asked. Jesus told them to pray like this —

"Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our debts [sins] as we forgive our debtors [those who have sinned against us]. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

Jesus added something most important. "For if ye forgive not men their trespasses [sins against you], neither will your heavenly Father forgive your trespasses [sins against God]." This is a sobering thought. Many people who pray, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors" are asking God NOT to forgive them, because they are not forgiving those who have wronged them. We cannot go to heaven, if we do not forgive all those who have sinned against us.

—Thelma Sprague

Don't Get In Trouble

There was a gang of boys gathered on the school's playground during recess. The oldest boy was talking. "I have an excellent idea for tonight," he said. "Tonight will be a good moonlit night. My plan is for us to sneak into old Mister Brown's chicken house and get his eggs. I know where I can sell them for a real good price."

"Oh, no," exclaimed Jack. "I could never do that."

"Why not?" asked one of the boys.

"Because," replied Jack. "There are too many people to whom I would have to give an account. First, I would have to give an account to my conscience. I probably couldn't sleep for the rest of the night if I did it. I know that sooner or later my father would find out and I would be in trouble. If Mister Brown called the police I would be in trouble with them. Above all I know that God would see me doing it. On the judgment day I would have to give an account to Him. And I want to go to heaven."

"Okay," said the oldest boy. "If that's the way you feel about it, we'll call the whole thing off."

—W. M.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. Why should we forgive others?
2. Did the servant owe a great debt?
3. Did the king forgive the great debt?
4. How much did the other servant owe to the man who was forgiven?
5. What did the wicked servant do?
6. Tell what the king did to the wicked servant.