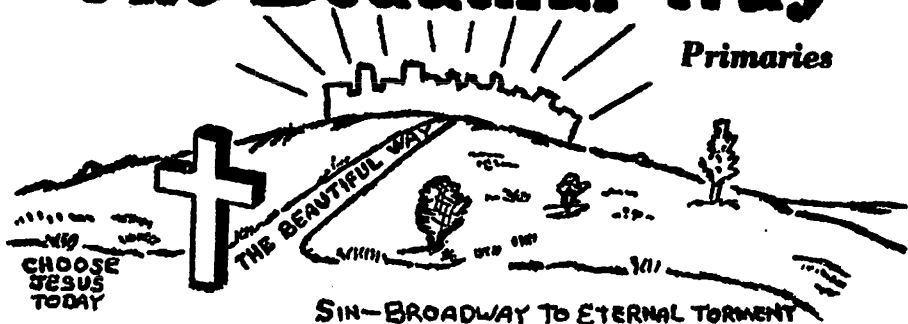


The Beautiful Way

Primaries



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Part 14

July 2

GLAD TIDINGS

Luke 8:1

Anything that makes you glad, makes you rejoice. *Tidings* means "news." So *glad tidings* means "rejoicing news." Another word in the Bible means "good news"; that word is *gospel*. In all the world there is nothing that can bring such rejoicing as the gospel.

Jesus went into every city and village to bring the glad tidings that men can now be saved from their sins. Do you know what causes all the trouble, sorrow, and heartaches in this world? **SIN**. Sin rules in every heart that has not accepted Jesus as Saviour. Do you believe anyone is truly happy when he does bad things? No, he is miserable. Some get into such trouble they break the hearts of those who love them; they ruin their own lives. Jesus came to show us a better way. When we come to Him and tell Him we are sorry for our sins and want to live a better life, He is so very glad to forgive us and help us live right. Then we have the joy of salvation in our hearts and rejoice because we have found "glad tidings."

Memory Verse: . . . I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. Luke 2:10.

Who Is the Devil?

Some people don't believe there is a devil because he can't be seen. The devil is an evil spirit and his actions can be seen in those who serve him. Some people call sin a disease and try to find medicine or treatments for it, but such things never cure sin. Only one person can deliver people from sin—Jesus Christ the Saviour of the world! It took His precious life and blood to do it.

The devil is our "adversary." *Adversary* means "enemy," or someone who is against us. The devil is against us, he is our enemy, he dislikes us and would harm us in any way he could. The Bible tells us many things about the devil; none of them are good. He is given many descriptive names, I'll tell you some of them.

"Destroyer" is the first name I think of. Do you know what the word destroy means? To destroy something is to tear it down, to ruin it. So the devil as a destroyer is one who tears down and ruins lives and people.

The devil is also called "the tempter." He tempts everyone, young or old. He tempted Jesus, the Son of God. Because Jesus was tempted and overcame the devil, He knows how to help you overcome the devil if you will pray and ask Him. (Heb. 2:18). You can read about Jesus' temptation in Matt. 4, Mark 1 and Luke 4. Anytime you have a desire to do wrong things, or disobey your parents, the devil is after you. You must resist him then he will flee from you. (Jas. 4:7). All the devil wants to do is to get you into trouble. Jesus will help you stay out of trouble. The devil will destroy you and bring evil into

your life. Jesus will save you and bring good things to you, and keep your life from being destroyed by sin. YOU will have to choose which of these two you will give your life to. Who would want to serve the devil?

The devil is also called "a roaring lion." Wouldn't we all be scared to meet a roaring lion? We would want to stay indoors where we felt we were safe. There is a roaring lion loose—the devil! He can do worse than kill you, he can destroy your soul in hell.

The Bible tells us many other things about the devil. I am glad we have God's Word to warn us and tell us about our enemy. Jesus came and gave His life to save us from the devil, who is the greatest enemy of all. —T. S.

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." John 13:35.

—The King's Daughter

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. What does it mean to be "glad"?
2. Who brought "glad tidings" to us?
3. What are these "glad tidings"?
4. Does sin make anyone happy?
5. Who came to forgive us so we can be happy?

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Part 15

July 9

JESUS FEEDS THE MULTITUDE

John 6:1-14

People saw the miracles Jesus did. Crowds followed Him wherever He went. Jesus took His disciples up into a mountain to be alone. Soon the people came. Jesus saw they were hungry. "Philip, where shall we buy bread for all of these?" Jesus asked this to see what Philip would do. "If we had much money we could not buy enough for all of these," said Philip. "What do you have?" asked Jesus. Andrew said, "We have five biscuits and two small fishes a boy brought with him. He will give that to us." Jesus answered, "It is enough, have the people sit down." Jesus took the bread and fish and asked God to bless it for the multitude. Then He broke it into pieces and gave some to each disciple to pass around. After 5000 people had eaten and were filled there were twelve basketfuls of food to gather up. "This man is a great prophet," the people said. Jesus was more than a prophet, He was the Son of God. God has power to do things that we cannot do, and to give us things that we need.

Memory Verse: . . . God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:19.

God Is A Present Help

Story based on II Kings 4:38-44

Elisha had company. Quite a group of prophets had come to stay with him. There was a famine in the land, and a scarcity of food. Elisha had only a small amount of lentils (or peas) and some meal. There wasn't enough for them all. Elisha remembered how great God is and that He has promised to supply all our needs. "The prophets are hungry, Lord, and I will trust you to increase what I have until we have enough to feed us all," he prayed. Immediately Elisha called his servant, "Put on the great pot and cook the lentils for us." The servant did as he was told, but there was only a handful of lentils in that big pot. "That isn't enough for all of us," thought the servant. "I will go out in the fields and see if I can find some wild greens to go with the lentils."

The servant searched, but all he could find was a strange vine with lots of gourds on it. The gourds were tender, so the servant decided he would shred them into the pot of lentils. That helped fill up the pot.

After the food was cooked he began to serve it. As one man tasted the food, he cried out, "This food is poison, we cannot eat it." Now what could Elisha do? Again he called on God. "Lord, you know this is all the food we have except for this handful of meal. What can I do?" God told him to put the meal in the pot with the gourds and lentils and cook it a little longer. After it had simmered a while, it tasted good and they were able to eat it.

Elisha had known that God could increase the lentils until there would

have been enough for everyone but the servant had not known this. After the servant had ruined the food with the gourds, God was able to tell Elisha what to do to make it good.

Another time there were over 100 men present and nothing to eat. At that time, a man from another country came bringing an offering of 20 barley loaves of bread and some roasting ears of corn to the prophet. Elisha knew God had sent these in answer to their need. "Give the people to eat," Elisha told the servant. The servant said, "What? Should I set this small amount of food before a hundred men?"

"Give the people to eat," said Elisha. "God has assured me there will be plenty and food left over." After all had eaten all they needed, there were indeed leftovers, just as God had said.—T. S.

"Come Unto Me"

C hildren
O ld people
M iddle-aged people
E verybody

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

2 fish

5 loaves

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did the crowds follow Jesus?
2. Were the people hungry?
3. What did they have to feed the people?
5. Was Jesus a great prophet?
6. Who was He?

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Primaries



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Part 16

July 16

JESUS HEALS THE LEPER

Matthew 8:1-4

Jesus had been upon the mountain teaching the people. When He came down, a great crowd followed Him. As they passed near the cave where a leper lived, the leper came and knelt before Jesus. The poor man knew Jesus could heal his leprosy, but he wasn't sure Jesus would be willing to heal him. After all, he was an outcast that everyone despised. "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean," he cried. Immediately Jesus touched the leper. "I will, be thou clean." And the leper was made well. "Go show yourself to the priest and take the offering Moses taught under the law. Don't tell how you were healed." Jesus knew the crowds would throng Him until He wouldn't be able to move about to help others if they heard who had healed the leper. Jesus wanted to help all He could in the short time He had.

Jesus loves everyone, even the outcasts. He will not despise anyone who comes to Him if they will seek Him with their whole heart.

Memory Verse: . . . Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. John 6:37.

The Unthankful Lepers

Leprosy is a terrible disease. It eats through the tissues, into the bone and marrow and finally destroys the body. Those who have it are ugly and deformed. There is no cure for it, outside of God. Lepers were compelled to live alone, outside the city and had to cry, "Unclean, unclean," when anyone came near them.

Luke tells us about ten lepers who lived near a small village. These men were without hope until they heard about Jesus and how He healed all manner of diseases.

One day, as the lepers saw a procession of people coming towards the village, they knew that Jesus was coming, for a crowd of people followed Him wherever He went. Oh, what hope filled their hearts! If only they could get the attention of Jesus, He would heal them. With loud voices they began to cry, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us."

Jesus saw them and said, "Go and show yourselves to the priest." It was a law that no leper could return to the city until the priest had looked and had seen that he was cured.

The lepers went to obey Jesus' command and as they went, they were healed. One of them, as soon as he saw he was healed, turned back and began to praise God with a loud voice. He kneeled before Jesus and thanked Him for his healing.

Jesus said, "Were there not ten lepers healed? Yet only this one has returned to glorify and thank God." Jesus marvelled at the unthankfulness of the other nine lepers. Then he spoke to the man and said, "Arise and go your way. Your faith has made you whole." That

man was able to return to his home and live a normal life. I believe he was always ready to tell others how Jesus had healed him of the awful plague of leprosy.

We do not know what happened to the nine unthankful lepers. Perhaps the leprosy returned because they were not thankful. If we have been saved from sin and then we become unthankful, sin will return to our hearts. We need to always thank God for His blessings.

—T. S.

"Learn to be careful with your toys and clothes. You will then grow up to be thrifty men and women and good stewards or keepers of God's possessions put in your trust."

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

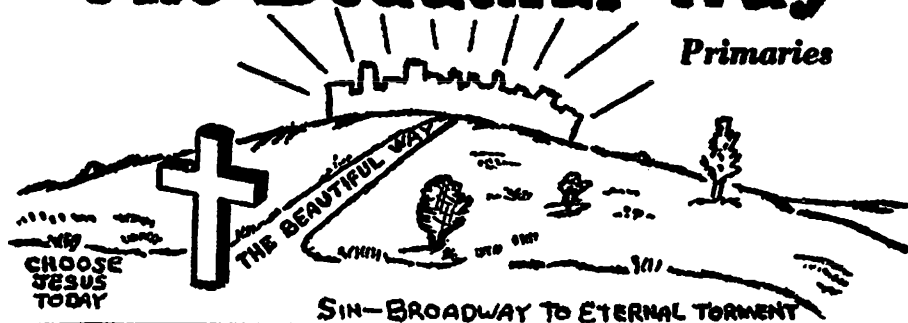


QUESTIONS:

1. Who lived in a cave?
2. Why did he live there?
3. What did this man do when he saw Jesus?
4. Did he believe Jesus could heal him?
5. Was Jesus willing to heal him?
6. Does Jesus love everyone, even the outcasts?

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Primarys



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Part 17

July 23

A YOUNG GIRL HEALED

Mark 7:24-30

Jesus had been going only to the Jewish people, not because He did not love everyone but because He was only here for a short time. He knew the gospel would be carried to every nation later. His fame had spread to all kinds of people.

A Greek woman heard Jesus was nearby and she came immediately. She fell upon her knees before Him. "LORD, have mercy. My little daughter has a devil. Please cast the devil out of her."

"It is not fit to take the children's bread and give it to the dogs," said Jesus. He meant the gospel was to be given to the Jews first.

The woman humbly said, "Truth Lord, but even dogs eat the crumbs that fall from the table." Jesus saw her faith and said, "Your daughter is well."

When the woman reached home, she found the little girl lying on the bed and the devil gone from her. God had healed her daughter. Whenever God speaks we know that what He says will come to pass.

Memory Verse: . . . Have faith in God. Mark 11:22.

Where Does the Devil Live?

"Does the devil live in the ground?" asked Rene. She was helping her mother do the dishes. She and Mother had been discussing the devil and how mean he is.

"The devil is a spirit. Every man has a spirit. God is a spirit. It is hard to describe a spirit, since it can't be seen, but we can see the effects of a spirit. You know you can't see the wind, either, but after a storm you can surely see its effects. Trees will have been uprooted, limbs snapped and broken and sometimes buildings blown away. I think we could compare God's Spirit and the devil's spirit to the wind. The gentle breeze we love so much that caresses our faces to cool us, would be like God's Holy Spirit. The violent tornado that does so much damage could be likened to the devil and the ruin he works in men's lives."

"Then does the devil just live in the air?" questioned Rene.

"He IS called the prince of the power of the air," said Mother. "That means he has great control in this world here. But no, he doesn't live in the air, either. Since the devil is a spirit, he wants to live in something alive. Most of all he would like to live in the hearts of men, women, boys, and girls."

"Oh," cried Rene, "do you mean the devil lives inside people?"

"Yes, when he can," said Mother.

"I once knew a woman who had been delivered from devils," Mother said. "She said she had received them from a life of deep sin, when she was only about 11 years of age. So you see boys and girls ought to fear to go deep in sin. The devil can take advantage of

them and move right into their bodies. When one is demon possessed he is powerless to control himself. Whenever the devil wants to, he will cause the person he controls to do many strange things. Remember the boy who was delivered from devils when Jesus came down from the mount of transfiguration? The devils often threw the boy into the fire and into the water. He wanted to kill the boy if he could. If someone had not been near to help the boy, he would have died. Oh, it is awful what the devil will do to people if he can."

"Mother, it frightens me to think how mean the devil is. How can we be safe from him?" trembled Rene.

"There is really only one way to be safe from him," answered Mother. "When God saves us, then we belong to God, and the devil has no claim on us. When we are sanctified, or filled with the Holy Spirit, then we are sealed by God's Spirit, and we are safest of all. Of course, we must live close to God and obey Him in all things, or we could lose the grace of God out of our hearts, then the devil could move in again."

—T. S.

GOD IS LOVE

Kindness is a loving guide

That shows us how to live—

A treasure which the more we spend,
The more we have to give.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who came to Jesus and fell upon her knees?
2. What did she want Jesus to do for her?
3. What was wrong with her daughter?
4. Tell the answer Jesus gave her.
5. What was the woman's answer?
6. Did Jesus heal the little girl?

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Part 18

July 30

BUILDING ON THE ROCK

Luke 6:46-49

There were two men who both desired to build a home. One man was wise, he knew he must have a good foundation for his house. First he found a good, solid base and dug deeply and laid his foundation on the rock. When the storms came, the winds blew and the rains came in torrents, the house stood firm. It had been built on something that would not shake or crumble. It was built upon the rock.

The second man was foolish. He was in a hurry, he did not take time to dig down and find the rock. His house looked good, but when the rains and winds came, his house crumbled and fell. The man had wasted all his efforts and he suffered great loss because he did not dig deep and build upon a rock.

Have you seen houses that were falling apart and were not fit to live in? Other houses are built so solidly they last for many generations. Our lives will be wasted and empty if we do not build them upon God's Word. If we don't hear and do God's Word we shall suffer great loss.

Memory Verse: . . . Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say? Luke 6:46.

Why Does The Devil Want Us To Be Bad?

There is a devil! Even little boys and girls soon find out there is a spirit that causes them to act ugly at times. Sometimes they don't want to mind mother and daddy. They don't want to share their toys with little brother or sister. Or they decide they don't like the new boy or girl that has moved into the neighborhood. Perhaps a playmate has come to play and then someone else comes along to play, too. Instead of being nice to the other one, two will take sides against the other and not be nice. (Have you ever acted that way?) Do you know who wants you to be unkind? **THE DEVIL!**

Now why does the devil want us to act exactly opposite of the way God would have us to? God wants us to be kind, helpful, to share, to always obey our parents. The devil is a wicked spirit and is always in rebellion against God. He doesn't like God, he doesn't like anyone. The Bible says he is a murderer and a liar. Because he is the opposer of God, he tries to destroy everything and everyone God would save. Because he knows God is going to cast him into the lake of fire, he wants to take as many with him as he can. He delights in tormenting people. He wants to get each one into trouble. In the beginning he made one of the two first brothers in the world murder the other one. First he put jealousy in Cain's heart, then he put resentment in Cain's heart against Abel. This jealousy and resentment turned to hatred and Cain killed his own brother. The devil was glad to see the sorrow and trouble Cain caused. He is glad and jumps for joy when he gets people into trouble. When

you disobey or act ugly, you are making the devil happy and are bringing trouble on yourself.

God never willingly brings trouble to you. He wants to help you, and oh, what a good feeling you have when you do what is right! When you give your heart and life to Jesus, God will help you and take care of you.

The devil is the enemy of us all, that is why he wants us to be bad. Oh, how we ought to hate the devil and all of his wicked ways. We can only be safe when we are saved and serving God.—T. S.

—o—
"Jesus loves me very much!" exclaimed Nita. "I know He loves me because He does so many good things for me. Last week I could not find my reading book and it was time to go to school so I prayed the Lord to help me find it and He did."

"Yes, Jesus loves us and shows us He does in many ways," replied her Sunday school teacher. "If we love Jesus we should prove it by living as He would have us to live. Jesus said in St. John 14:15, 'If ye love me, keep my commandments.'"

—o—
If you love Jesus,
Let the world know
By loving your neighbor
Here below.
—o—

QUESTIONS:

1. What did the two men want?
2. Where did the wise man build his house?
3. Did the foolish man build his house on a good foundation?
4. Will we suffer great loss if we do not build our life on Jesus' Word?
5. What question does our memory verse ask?

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Part 19

August 6

HOW TO SAVE YOUR LIFE

Matthew 16:21-27

"I must go to Jerusalem and be rejected by the priests and scribes and be put to death. But I will rise again on the 3rd day," said Jesus. His disciples were amazed, it could not be so! They thought Jesus would be crowned as a king.

Jesus began to instruct them. "If you will save your life, you must lose it for my sake and the gospel's. You cannot live to please yourself and save your soul. You must give your life to me and do my will, then you can live forever in heaven."

Does this sound hard to you? Boys and girls, to live selfishly, or to please yourself, will destroy your life. You will grow old and be miserable, and unhappy, and then die and go to hell. No matter how rich you may get, nothing can pay you for the loss of your soul. Give your heart and life to Jesus now, while you are tender, for He is good and will keep you out of trouble. Live each day to please Jesus. You will find eternal riches that can never be taken from you. When you die, Jesus will take you to live in heaven for ever.

Memory Verse: For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Mark 8:36.

Why Jesus Wants Us To Be Good

When God put Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, He planned for them to live forever. They had everything they needed. God gave them the garden to take care of, so they were busy also. God put the tree of life in the middle of the garden. They would be able to eat the fruit of that tree and would never get sick nor die.

God wanted Adam and Eve to choose to serve Him with a willing heart. Only then could they be truly happy. So He gave them one commandment to keep. "Thou shalt not eat of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. If you do, you will die."

We all know how the devil came in the form of a serpent and persuaded Eve to disobey God, then Adam disobeyed, too. That is when sin and death came into the world. God's plan for man to live forever in this world was broken. Because of Adam and Eve's disobedience, they were driven from the garden and they could not eat of the tree of life. They had to get old and die, and death passed to every man.

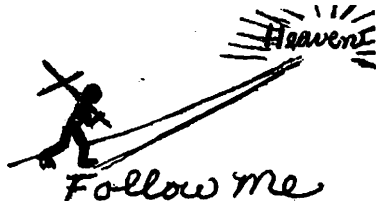
God still loved mankind and wanted to help them. He promised a Saviour who would come to set them free from sin. He would crush the devil under His heel, by giving His own life to save us from sin. Jesus told us He has gone to prepare a place for us, that where He is, we may be also. There will be a "new heaven and a new earth" where there will be no sin, sickness, sorrow, nor death. The devil will be cast into the lake of fire, and will not be able to tempt us anymore.

We cannot imagine how beautiful

heaven is. We see the beauty in this world, but we know heaven will far surpass this. God wants everyone to go to heaven who will choose to do so. Jesus came to this world to show us how to live right and do good. If we are saved, we can live pure and holy lives. Jesus wants us to go to heaven, that is why He wants us to be good. —T. S.

Sin is like leprosy. It destroys the life that harbors it. It deforms and makes the life ugly. Sometimes people do not realize how ugly sin is making them nor the damage sin is doing to their lives. When a person does realize what sin is doing to him, he can turn to Jesus and cry out for Jesus to save him and the leprosy of sin will be taken away. How thankful are those who have been delivered from the awfulness of sin!

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. What was going to happen to Jesus in Jerusalem?
2. Did the disciples expect Jesus to be killed?
3. What did Jesus say they must do to save their lives?
4. How must you be saved?
5. If you get rich, will it pay you for the loss of your soul?

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Primarys



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Part 20

August 13

MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE

Matt. 4:1-4; Psa. 119:105; Psa. 19:7-11

Jesus was hungry—He hadn't eaten for forty days! The devil came and said, "Make these stones bread." Jesus answered, "Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word of God." We must live by the Bible if we want to have joy here and eternal life when we die. Bread alone can never satisfy the soul. No matter how rich you might be, there will always be a hunger in your soul if you do not love and serve God. Money will not bring real happiness. If you could gain the whole world, without God, your life would be empty.

The Word of God is the most important book in the world. When we read the Bible, it is like God talking to us and showing us how to live each day. It alone can show us how to get saved and how to live right so we can go to heaven when we die, even if we are poor. The Psalmist said, "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." The Bible will keep our feet on the right road and show us how to get to heaven if we will obey all of God's Word.

Memory Verse: Keep my commandments and live . . .
Proverbs 6:23.

The Most Important Book

Dean and Sue had come from the library. "They have lots of new books at the library," said Dean.

"Yes, but remember how many more books we saw in the big city library when we visited there last summer?" asked Sue. "Most of them were old books. I like old books the best. When I grow up I am going to collect old books. I believe they are real treasures."

"I like books, too," said Dean. "And they ARE like treasures. A good book is like a good friend."

"What a dull world it would be without books! Books can teach us many things. It's too bad all books are not good ones. Mother says some books are like poison. They plant false ideas in the minds of those who read them. Some pollute the mind and are just like filth. I don't want to read those."

"Do you remember what Bro. Williams said in his message? He said books can paint pictures on the wall of your mind and some of them just keep hanging there never to be erased. I want good pictures on the wall of my mind," said Dean.

"If we didn't have books we couldn't know many things that happened long ago. People can learn a lot from books. Remember, we read how Abraham Lincoln studied by the light of the fireplace? He learned enough to become a good lawyer, then later he was president. If he hadn't liked books, he would not have become a smart man."

"What book is the most valuable to everyone in the world?" asked Mother, who had just entered the room.

"Is it the dictionary?" asked Dean. He was always using the dictionary to help with his compositions.

"History books are really important," said Sue. "We wouldn't know anything if it weren't for history books."

"Both of those are good books and interesting, too, but neither of them is the most valuable book. I am surprised at your answers. Many books can tell us things we need to know for this life here. The book I am talking about can show us how to live here, and how to live for eternity. Now—do you know which book I am talking about?"

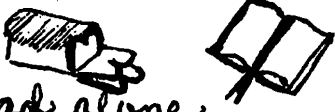
"The Bible!" said both children at once.

Some people say the Bible is just another book. It is more than a book, it is the only road map we have to heaven. It is God's Word to us. We need the Bible most of all. —T. S.

—o—
"The flowers bloom for Jesus,
So fragrantly and sweet;
So I must live for Jesus,
And worship at His feet."

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

*Man shall not live
by bread alone*

A simple line drawing of a heart with a cross inside it, and an open book with a cross on its cover, positioned to the right of the heart.

QUESTIONS:

- o—
1. How did the devil tempt Jesus?
 2. What was Jesus' answer to the devil?
 3. What is the most important book in the world?
 4. Why is it so important?
 5. What must we live by if we want to have a good life and go to heaven?
 6. What did the Psalmist say God's Word was?

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Part 21

August 20

PARABLE OF THE SOWER

Matt. 13:1-9, 18-23

Jesus taught by parables. A parable is a short story about familiar things, teaching a lesson about spiritual things. The parable of the sower shows the kind of hearts that God's Word falls into. **Your** heart will be like one of these places in the parable.

The sower dropped some seed as he went along. Birds came and ate that seed. Some seed fell on rocky soil. The seed grew but soon withered because the soil was not deep. Other seed fell into a thorn patch. The thorns grew thick and choked the seed and it could not bear grain. But some seed **DID** fall on **GOOD** ground. It gave a good harvest.

Jesus explained, "The seed is the Word of God. When it falls into hearts who do not understand, the devil comes and takes it away. The hearts who **DO** hear the Word but do not keep it when trials come, are stony places. The Word withers in stony hearts. Thorny places are hearts more concerned about other things. Good ground with good harvests are those who **HEAR** and **DO** God's Word.

Memory Verse: . . . Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only. . . . James 1:22.

Respect of Persons

Janie and her friends were walking home from school. "Did you see the new girl in our class? Didn't she look strange with her thick glasses and red hair?"

I didn't think she was pretty at all," said Susan. "And she must be poor. Her shoes looked old and worn and her clothes were faded."

"And that long dress and those long stockings! She did look odd. What did she say her name was?" asked Clare.

"She had a very common name—Mary. I never cared for the name Mary," and Jody tossed her long black curls.

"Well, she did have a pretty smile. Did you notice how white her teeth were? And she smiled at us even if we did act rather rude." This remark came from Sarah, who was the smallest in the group.

Janie looked thoughtful as she said, "Mary is a nice name. Mary was the Mother of Jesus. There were other Marys in the Bible and in history, too."

"Well, let's not bother being too friendly to her," said Karen. "If we are going to take someone else in our group, let's get someone special."

"We really don't know Mary yet," said Janie. "Perhaps when we know her better, she WILL be someone special."

Lucy hadn't said anything at all as they walked along. Now she spoke slowly, "God doesn't look at us and judge whether we can go to heaven by how we look, or the clothing we wear. He looks into our hearts. I wonder if He is pleased with the way we are talking about Mary?" Down inside Lucy was praying, "Lord, help us to be kind."

The next day at school, Lucy tried to be as helpful to Mary as she could. She showed Mary where their classes were and loaned her the paper and pencils she needed. Her heart was glad inside as she saw Mary's friendly smile and heard her grateful, "Thank you."

I was telling Mother about the new girl. Mother told me that everyone is precious in God's sight, no matter if he is poor or rich. God wants us to know everyone is important, too. Jesus died to save the worst and poorest as much as the richest and best. I want to be kind to everyone. It is a sin to be a respecter of persons."

"What does that mean?" asked Jody.

"That is what we have been doing, thinking Mary was not important because she is poor and not very pretty. I hope the Lord will forgive us and help us to be more kind." —T. S.

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LESSON ILLUSTRATION



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QUESTIONS:

1. What is a parable?
2. What is the name of the parable in our lesson?
3. What ate the seed dropped by the way?
4. Why did the seed on rocky soil wither?
5. What choked the seed?
6. Where did the seed fall that brought a good harvest?

The Beautiful Way

Primaries



Vol. 29, No. 3

July, August, Sept., 1978

Part 22

August 27

EVERYONE IS INVITED

Luke 15:16-24

A man made a great supper. He asked many to come to the supper. When he had everything ready, he sent his servant and said, "Go and tell them all is ready." When the servant gave the message, everyone began to make excuse. One said, "I bought some land and must go see it." Another said, "I bought some oxen, I must see if they will work together well." Still another gave the excuse, "I have married a wife, I cannot come."

The servant returned with the news that no one who had been invited was coming. This made the man angry. "Go—bring in the poor, the crippled and blind." The servant did as he was commanded, yet there was room. "Go into the highways and by-paths and compel them to come." None of those who were asked and refused received any of the great supper.

Jesus wants everyone to be saved. He invites ALL to "Come," whether white, black, rich, poor, young, old, pretty, or ugly, Jesus invites everyone. Whoever refuses to come will be lost.

Memory Verse: The Lord is . . . not willing that any should perish . . . II Peter 3:9.

The New Neighbors

Little Jan was telling Mother about the new neighbors.

"Mother, there are so many of them! Boys and girls seem to be coming out the windows and doors."

"Like the old woman who lived in a shoe, who had so many children she didn't know what to do?" smiled Mother. "It's nice they have that big, two-story house to live in."

"I saw a little girl with red hair who is about my age. Then there are two small boys and a baby, and several older boys and girls. I hope some of them will play with me. No one else around here has so many children."

"That's right," said Mother. "Today large families are the exception. When my parents were growing up, larger families were the rule. I was reading the obituaries in an old, old, paper today, and most all of those who died left eight, nine or ten children. It seemed a common thing then."

"Don't people want children anymore?" asked Jan. "Most of those we know have only one or two children."

"People seem to have forgotten what the Bible teaches about children. The Bible calls children 'an heritage of the Lord.' Here, I can read that in the Psalms. 'Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them. . . . ' Long ago a great hunter would not have thought of going hunting without plenty of arrows in his quiver. (A quiver is the arrow holder slung across the shoulder.) He took his best arrows, he knew he would need them. They might even save his

life. He did not dare to do without them.

"Jesus also told us the time would come when people would think it blessed not to have children. Most people want to live selfish lives, and not be bothered with the care of little ones. Many who have children do not train them as the Bible teaches, so sometimes the children bring sorrow instead of joy. But there is nothing so pleasant and comforting as having children about. When one gets older, children can be such a blessing. The little grandchildren who come along bring joy and pleasure to the grandparents. That is—when the children have been trained to be respectful and obedient!"

I hope our new neighbors have taught their children to love each other and to respect older folk and their neighbors. Then we all will enjoy having them live near us."

—T. S.

A Lovely Chest

My mind is like a lovely chest

Where treasures I may store:

I'll always choose what is the best

To keep forevermore.

Some precious gems from God's blest word

I'll try to learn "by heart";

I'll store them in my lovely chest;—

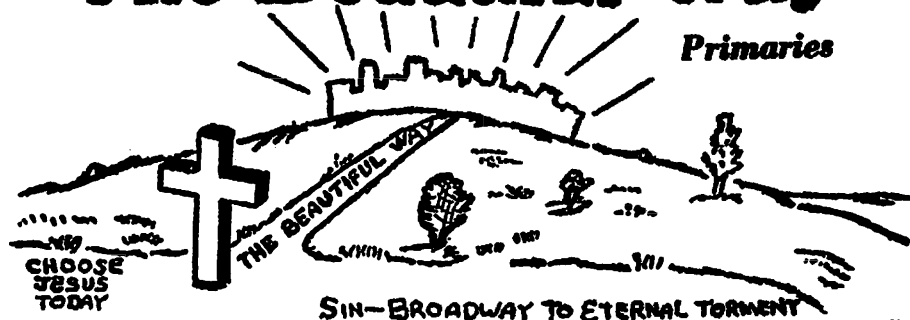
And now's the time to start! —Sel.

QUESTIONS:

1. Who went to tell the people supper was ready?
2. Did the people come to the supper?
3. Why didn't they come?
4. Where else did the servant go to get guests for the supper?
5. Who does Jesus ask to come and be saved.

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Part 23

Sept. 3

JESUS AND THE CHILDREN

Mark 10:13-16

All of Judea was stirred. Everywhere people talked about the Great Prophet and His love. Those who had been healed told their neighbors about Jesus and His power. This caused many mothers with little children to say, "I want Jesus to bless my child." The mothers took their children where Jesus was staying. When they came near, the disciples stopped them. "He is too busy to take time for the children," they said. Jesus heard what they said and was displeased. "Let the children come to me. The kingdom of heaven is for children, too." Then He took them up in His arms and laid His hands upon them and blessed them. The mothers were glad they had brought them.

Every true mother wants Jesus to bless her children. Many pray for them before they are born, "Lord, let the grace of God rest on this child." God hears their prayers.

Little children, Jesus loves you. Give your heart to Him and obey His Word. He will have many blessing for you in this life and then you can go to heaven after this life is over.

Memory Verse: . . . Suffer [allow] the little children to come unto me and forbid them not . . . Mark 10:14.

Some Children in Jesus' Time

"Mother, Mr. Wills seems so grumpy! When Jeanne and I went to his door to sell seeds, he told us to go on and not bother him. He said he doesn't like children."

"Well," said Mother, "some children are so rude and unpleasant that people don't appreciate that kind very much, but I do not see how anyone can keep from loving little children, especially when they are taught to be respectful to older folk."

"I wish everyone was like Mr. Sanders. He always smiles and asks us how we are. When the chain broke on my bicycle, Mr. Sanders helped me get it fixed. I was glad to smile and say 'Thank you' to him. Some people act as though children were just a trouble," said Angela.

"I'm glad the Bible tells us Jesus was interested in children," smiled Mother. "The disciples once thought Jesus had no time for the children, but Jesus rebuked them. 'Let them come to me!' He said."

"Does the Bible tell us about any other children in Jesus' time?" asked Angela.

"Yes, the disciples came to Jesus and said, 'Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' Jesus answered by calling a little child to Him. When He had placed the child upon His lap, He said; 'You must be saved and be as humble as a child, or you can't even be in the kingdom of God. Whoever shall humble himself as this little child shall be greatest in the kingdom of heaven.' Jesus went on to say, 'Woe, or sorrow and trouble, to everyone who shall

cause a little child to be lost. Do not despise even one of these little ones, for their angel is always before the throne of God. It is not God's will that even one little one be lost.' "

"What does it mean to be humble?" asked Angela.

"A little child who is humble is pleased with whatever he has. He does not feel he is better than anyone else. He does not want the best of everything. He is easy to get along with; willing to share and to forgive."

—T. S.

Sharing

"Can I make a pie too?" asked Lillie.

"All right, I'll get you one of these little pans and you can pat out some pie dough," Mother said as she gave her some dough and got the pan.

"It's ready to put some apples in it," said Lillie. Soon the pie was finished and put into the oven.

Supper time came and the family sat around the table. Daddy had offered thanks to God for the food. After they ate their good meal the pies were brought to the table.

"Daddy, see the pie I made?" Lillie said. "I am going to give Larry half of my pie."

—M. Miles

QUESTIONS:

1. Why was Judea stirred?
2. Who wanted to take their children to Jesus?
3. Why did they want to take them?
4. Did the disciples think Jesus had time for children?
5. Was Jesus pleased with what the disciples told the mothers?
6. Does Jesus love little children?

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Part 24

Sept. 10

THE JUDGMENT

Matthew 25:31-46

When Jesus comes with His angels at the end of the world, there will be a great judgment. Everyone will be there to give an account for his life. Jesus will divide the good from the bad, just as a shepherd divides the sheep from the goats. The sheep, or saved ones, will be on His right hand, and the goats, or sinners, will be on His left. He will say to His sheep, "Enter into the kingdom prepared for you before the world began. When I was in need, you helped me." The sheep will ask, "When did we do anything for you?" Jesus will answer, "Every time you did something for one of my children, you helped me. "To the goats Jesus will say, "Depart from me into everlasting fire prepared for the devil. You did nothing to help me."

We can only help Jesus by helping others when they are in need. Let your teacher tell you how you can do something for Jesus.

The saved (sheep) will inherit eternal life. The sinners (goats) will go into everlasting punishment. I want to be on Jesus right hand at the judgment, don't you?

Memory Verse: Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these . . . ye have done it unto me. Matt. 25:40b.

Where Is Heaven?

Little Ellen slipped her hand into Mother's. They were standing by Grandmother's casket, looking at her still, cold face. Tears from Mother's cheek fell upon Ellen's hand. Ellen did not understand about death. It seemed to be a terrible thing.

"Mother, how can Grandmother be in heaven when we see her here? Where is heaven?" Ellen asked in a troubled voice. "And why are you crying if Grandmother is in heaven now?"

Mother took Ellen to a couch nearby. "These things do seem very mysterious to us, dear. Grandmother is really gone to be with Jesus; we only see the shell she lived in while she was here. When her spirit (which really was Grandmother) left her body, her body became cold and stiff. We must put her body into the ground so it can turn back into dust. Remember, God told Adam after he and Eve had sinned, that their bodies which He had made from the dust would return to dust when they died? When Jesus comes at the end of the world, He will raise Grandmother from the dust and give her a new body that will never die. We don't understand just how these things can be, but we know the Bible teaches us this.

"And where is heaven? Heaven is where God is. Jesus and the angels are there, too. Heaven is not the place where we see the sun, moon, and stars. We cannot see heaven as long as we live in this mortal body. If we serve the Lord all of our lives, when we die, we will go to heaven, too, just as Grandmother has.

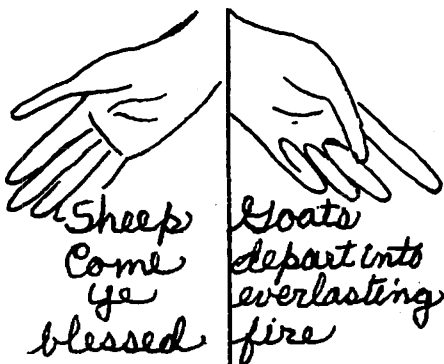
"Really, the Bible tells us more about hell than it tells us about heaven.

That's because God wants to warn us not to go there.

"We know heaven must be beautiful, because God is there. We can see how beautiful He made the earth, and heaven will be better, because there will be no sin in heaven. The song says, 'Heaven is a holy place, filled with glory and with grace, sin can never enter there.' Sin is the thing that has caused death to come to this earth, but there will be no sin nor death there.

"And why am I crying? Because I shall miss Grandmother so! I know she is happy with Jesus—so I am not crying for her. I am weeping for my own loss. She has been a wonderful mother and I shall miss her very much. Someday I shall see her again, for I am going to live so I can go to heaven when I die, too." —T. S.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. When will the judgment come?
2. Who will be at the judgment?
3. Who will be put on Jesus's right hand?
4. Who will be on the left?
5. How can we do something for Jesus?

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Part 25

Sept. 17

HATED WITHOUT A CAUSE

John 15:23-25

Some people hated Jesus without a reason. Jesus never hurt anyone, but He was hated. Men plotted to kill Him because He was good. Jesus healed sick bodies, healed broken hearts and saved broken lives. He spoke the truth to everyone. Those who were wicked did not like to be told about their sins. Jesus wanted them to see their sins and repent and be saved. They only hated Him more. Those who are not living right do not like to be told about their sins. The evil ones planned to kill Him. At last He was crucified. "Now we are rid of this troublesome fellow," they said. They did not know they had crucified the Son of God! They did not know Jesus had to die to save us from our sins! They did not know that when they hated Jesus, they hated God! They did not know they would have to face all their sins at the Judgment!

Hatred is a wicked sin. Do not hate anyone! God said if we hate anyone, we are a murderer in His sight. When we are saved, Jesus helps us love our enemies.

Memory Verse: . . . They hated me without a cause.
John 15:25b.

God's People Are Hated

From the beginning of time, after sin came into the world, the righteous people have been hated. Cain hated his brother, Abel, because Abel's works were righteous, and his were not. When God commended Abel, Cain grew angry and killed his brother.

The men of Sodom hated Lot when he reproved them of their great sin. "Do not do so wickedly," he said. They answered, "Who are you to judge us?" And they tried to get to him to treat him shamefully. The angels sent blindness so they could not find Lot, and he was saved. God destroyed the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. All who commit the wicked sin of those cities will be destroyed, if they do not repent.

Joseph's brother's hated him because he was good and his father favored him. They would have killed him but God overruled because He had a purpose for Joseph's life. When the time came that Joseph could have taken revenge of his brothers, he freely forgave and blessed them. God worked in Joseph's life for the good of many people.

King Saul hated David because God was blessing and giving David victory over the enemies of Israel. Many times Saul tried to kill David. Two times David could easily have killed King Saul, but he would not because he knew it would not please God to take revenge. Saul came to a very bad end because he had departed from God.

When God sent His prophets to warn the people of their sins, many of them were killed. King Joash ruled wisely as long as he followed the counsel of the


good priest, Jehoiada, who had helped save Joash's life from the wicked Queen Athaliah. After Jehoiada died, Joash turned away from God and caused the people to sin. God sent the prophet Zechariah to tell the king and the people, "Because you do not keep the commandments of God, you will not prosper. You have forsaken me, and I will forsake you." Zechariah, the son of the good priest, Jehoiada, who had helped King Joash, was stoned to death.

Many righteous people have been put to death because their righteous lives have been a reproof of the sins of those about them.

Jesus the Son of God, was hated without a cause and put to death on the cross. He warned us, "If the world has hated me, it will hate you also." We must not be surprised if we are hated "for righteousness sake." Let us be willing to suffer for Jesus.—T. S.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

*Hate drove
the nails
but
Love
triumphed*



QUESTIONS:

1. Did anyone have a reason to hate Jesus?
2. Tell the things Jesus did to help others.
3. Why did some want to kill Jesus?
4. Why did He tell them about their sins?
5. Is it a wicked sin to hate someone?
6. Why did Jesus have to die?

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Part 26

Sept. 24

REWARDS OF THE RIGHTEOUS

Matt. 5:10-12; 16:27; Mark 10:29-30; John 14:16-18,27

God's people are often mistreated and suffer in this world. Is it worthwhile to be a Christian? Here are some rewards and promises for God's children.

"Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you, FALSELY, for my sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven. . . ."

"Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

When Peter said, "We have left all to follow thee," Jesus answered, "Any man who has left houses, lands, and family, for my sake, shall receive 100 times as much in this world, and in the world to come, eternal life."

Jesus said, "My peace I give you, not as the world gives." With God's peace in our hearts, we can be happy.

We can have the Comforter (Holy Spirit) with us always, to help us pray and live right.

Memory Verse: If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. John 15:7

Mopsey's Mistake

Uncle came in one cold evening, looking for all the world like a bear, Louie thought, in his big overcoat. He caught Louie up and gave her a real bear-hug too.

"Hello, Mopsey! where's Popsey?" he asked.

Popsey was Louie's baby sister, two years of age, and her name wasn't Popsey any more than Louie's name was Mopsey, but Uncle Jack was all the time calling folks funny names, Louie thought.

"She has gone to bed," she said.

Then Uncle Jack put his hand in his pocket and made a great rustling with paper for a minute before he pulled out two red and white candy sticks and gave them to Louie. "It's too bad that Popsey's asleep," said he. But I'm afraid Louie was rather glad of it.

"Aren't you going to save one stick for Grace?" asked Mamma. Popsey's real name was Grace.

"No," said Louie, speaking low. "I don't believe candy sticks are good for little girls. 'Sides, I want it myself."

Just as she swallowed the last bit there came a little call from her bedroom: "Mamma?"

"Hello!" said Uncle Jack, "Popsey's awake!"

And in a minute, out she came in Mamma's arms, rosy, smiling, and dimpled.

Then there was another great rustling in Uncle Jack's pocket, and pretty soon—

"This is for Popsey!" said Uncle Jack.

She took her two candy sticks in her dimpled hands and looked at them a second—dear little Popsey!—and then

she held out the larger one to Louie. "Dis for 'ou," she cooed, "and dis for mel!"

Poor Louie! She hung her head and blushed. Somehow she didn't want to look at Uncle Jack or Mamma. Can you guess why?

"Dis for 'ou!" repeated Popsey, cheerfully pushing the long candy stick into her hand.

"Take it, Louie," said Mamma.

Louie took it. But a little afterward Mamma overheard her tell Popsey:—

"I won't ever be such a greedy thing any more, Popsey dear. And I will always divide with you, all the time after this, as long as I live!"

Do you know of someone who is sick today? Why don't you take them some flowers, or take your songbook and sing to them? It will bring cheer to them and a great blessing to your heart!

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



QUESTIONS:

1. Are there some rewards for being a Christian?
2. Where will our reward be if we suffer falsely for Jesus' sake?
3. How many times will we be repaid if we leave houses, lands, and family for Jesus sake?
4. Tell some other things we can have if we serve God in this life.

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Primaries



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Part 15

Oct. 1

GOD'S COMMANDMENTS

Deut. 4:2,9-13

Do you know what sin is? We must know the commandments to understand what sin really is. **Only those who are saved and do not sin can go to heaven when they die.** No one can live above sin unless he has been truly saved.

God is our king. He has a right to rule over us because He created us, the earth, and everything good. He made us to love and serve Him. We must keep His commands if we want a full and happy life. If we willingly choose to love God and obey Him, our lives will be complete and useful.

God gave the commandments on Mt. Horeb in an awesome way. He wanted the people to see their sins and to fear Him all their lives. They would teach their children the fear of God, also.

Jesus shed His blood and died on the cross to save us and wash away our sins. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Only He can save us so we can keep God's commandments.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God, and serve Him . . . Deut. 6:13..

Are the Commandments Necessary?

Jimmy and Susan were talking to mother about the Sunday school lessons they were going to study.

"Mrs. Brown said we are going to study the commandments God gave to Moses on Mt. Sinai," said Susan.

"The commandments were given over 4,000 years ago," said mother. "The nation of Israel had just come out of Egypt. All the nations worshipped idols and knew nothing of God's righteous laws. God knew that Israel would need laws to keep them from being like the nations about them. But the ten commandments are still needed today."

"How?" asked Jimmy. "We follow the teaching of Jesus and the New Testament today, don't we?"

"You are right, Jimmy, we ARE to follow Jesus' example, and Jesus kept the law. I am sure He never broke one of the commandments, altho He was accused of doing so. But the ten commandments given on Mt. Sinai are for us, too."

"Christians do not have to be told not to commit adultery, not to kill, not to steal, and so on," exclaimed Susan.

"That is very true," answered mother. "When Jesus saves us, we know not to take the Lord's name in vain, and the other things. Neither do we have any desire to do anything wrong. If we never read the commandments in the Old Testament, our hearts would tell us we were not to do such wicked things. However, the law was given to bring the knowledge of sin to those who are not saved. When 'thou shalt not commit adultery' is preached, some are awakened to the sin they have committed. They

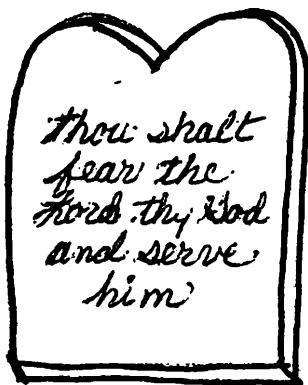
begin to feel the need of being forgiven for their sin.

"Some children are not taught that it is wrong to steal. When they hear the commandment, 'thou shalt not steal,' they become aware of their sin and want to be saved."

"Oh," cried Susan. "I remember when Billy was visiting us. He showed Jimmy some little cars he had taken secretly from his neighbor's house. Mother, you overheard him and so you called us into the house and we had a lesson on the commandment, 'Thou shalt not steal.' Billy was sorry and promised to give the cars back. Then he prayed and asked Jesus to forgive him for stealing them."

—T. S.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

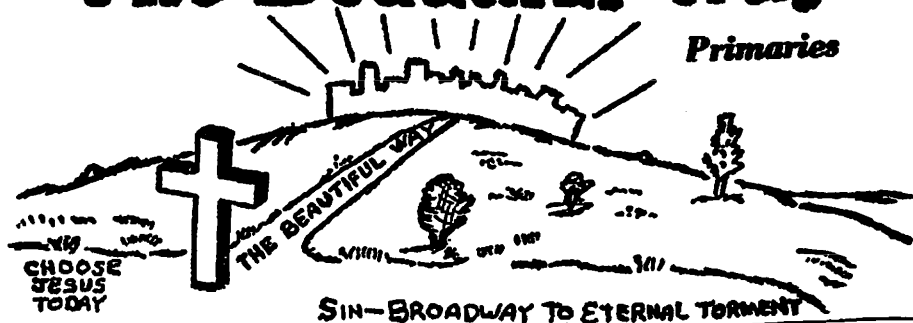


Questions:

1. Who tells us what sin is?
2. Can we sin and go to heaven?
3. How can we keep the commandments of God?
4. Who came to save us and wash us from our sins?
5. How many people have sinned?

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Part 16

Oct. 8

THOU SHALT HAVE NO OTHER GODS

Exod. 19:16-25; 20:1-3

Moses prepared the people for a solemn time. The mountain had been marked off. If anyone or any animal touched the mount, death would be the penalty. In three days all were ready. A great trumpet sounded loud and louder. The mountain itself trembled and smoked; the lightning flashed, the thunder rolled. Then God came down upon the mount in a fire. It was a fearful sight. Moses and the people stood trembling below the mountain. God spoke in a loud voice, "Come up the mount." Moses and Aaron went up into the thick darkness. There God spoke to Moses face to face. "I am the Lord thy God who brought you out of Egypt, and set you free from bondage. You shall not have any other gods before me." This was the very first commandment God gave the people.

Why did God make this the first commandment? Because, if we love God first and make Him our God, we will be able to keep all the commandments. Jesus said this is the great commandment. Matt. 22:36-38.

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

Our Daily Bread

The American Messenger tells the story of Johnny Hall, a poor boy. His mother worked hard for their daily bread. "Please give me something to eat, for I am very hungry," he said one evening. His mother let the work which she was sewing fall from her knee, and drew Johnny toward her. Her tears fell fast as she said: "Mamma is very poor, and cannot give you any supper to-night."

"Never mind, Mamma, I shall soon be asleep, and then I will not feel hungry. But you will sit and sew, and be so hungry and cold. Poor Mamma," he said, and kissed her many times to comfort her.

"Now, Johnny, you may say your prayers"; for dearly as his mother loved him, she could ill afford to lose a moment from her work. He repeated, "Our Father" with her until they came to the petition, "Give us this day our daily bread." The earnestness, almost agony, with which the mother uttered these words, impressed Johnny strongly. He said them over again: "Give us this day our daily bread." Then opening his blue eyes, he fixed them on his mother, and said: "We shall never be hungry any more. God is our Father, and He will hear us." The prayer was finished and Johnny lay down to rest. The mother sewed with renewed energy. Her heart was sustained by the simple faith of her child. Many were the gracious promises which came to her remembrance. Although tired and hungry, it was with a light heart she sank to rest.

Early in the morning a gentleman called on his way to business. He wished Johnny's mother to come to his home to

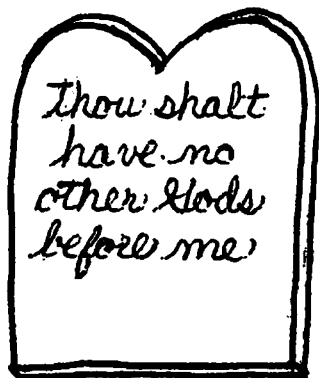
take charge of his two motherless boys. She immediately accepted the offer. They were thus provided with all the comforts of a good home.

Johnny is a man now, but he has never forgotten the time when he prayed so earnestly for his daily bread. God will hear prayer is his firm belief. In many ways has he had the faith of his childhood confirmed. He looks to God as his Father with the same trust now as then.

—The Wonders of Prayer

"Children obey your parents."

LESSON ILLUSTRATION

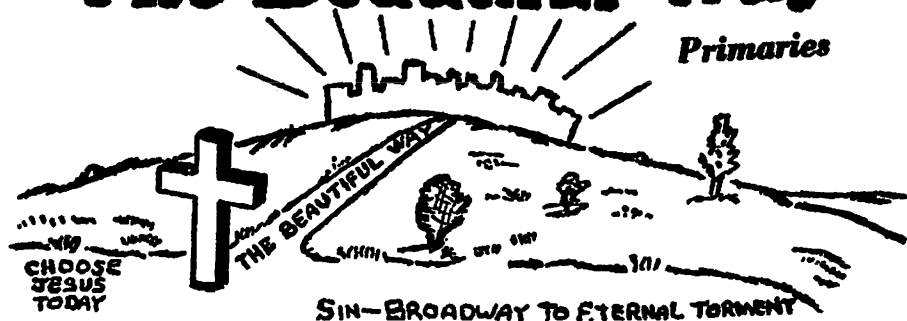


Questions:

1. For what kind of time did Moses prepare the people?
2. What would happen to anyone or thing that touched the mountain?
3. Where did Moses and Aaron go?
4. Who spoke to Moses face to face?
5. What was the first commandment God gave to Moses?
6. Who called this the great commandment?
7. Can we keep all the commandments if we love God first?

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Part 17

Oct. 15

YOU SHALL NOT MAKE ANY IDOL

Exod. 20:4-6,23; Lev. 19:4, 26:1; Isa. 44:9-22

When God spoke to Moses and the people to give them the commandments, the people heard a voice but saw no one. Do you know why? God did not want them to make statues or idols of Him. He knew men would bow down before those idols and worship them. God is a Spirit and must be worshipped in spirit and in truth.

All of the nations at that time worshipped images and idols, the sun, moon, and stars. God did not want His people to follow those wicked customs. Many times He warned the people NOT to make idols of gold, silver, wood, or stone.

There are still some lands today where people worship idols. Offerings are given to those idols. There is great darkness (lack of understanding) in those heathen lands.

In our own country and others, many people make the sign of the cross and bow down and pray to statues and idols. They are breaking the second commandment.

We must keep God's commandments if we want Him to bless us. It is a sin to break any of God's commands.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt not make thee any graven image. Deut. 5:8.

God Answers Prayer

"Mother, tell Donna to stop praying for me to quit smoking my pipe," said Donna's Granddaddy. "I'm not going to quit just because she's praying." But Mother didn't answer him, neither did she tell Donna what he said.

Donna was 5 years of age, and she loved to come see Grandmommie and Granddaddy. Her Grandmommie told her stories about Jesus and taught her to pray and she learned to talk to Jesus just like He was a good friend who could do anything she asked Him. She loved her Granddaddy but she just didn't like the smell of the pipe he smoked. She didn't tell him, but she told Jesus to please help her Granddaddy to quit smoking that stinking old pipe. One of the verses Grandmommie taught her was "Pray without ceasing." I Thess. 5:17. He didn't quit so she kept on praying, and sometimes Granddaddy heard her as she prayed.

Day after day she prayed. One day Grandmommie noticed that Granddaddy didn't have his pipe when he came in from work, but she didn't say anything. The next day it was the same. So the third day when he came in without the pipe she said something about it and asked where it was. He said, "Oh, it's outside on the chimney shelf. God has answered Donna's prayers and I can't stand the old stinking thing myself." So they were all happy and thanked God. Later on Granddaddy got saved and in a few years Jesus called for him to go to his heavenly home.

Children, you can pray too, just tell Jesus, He loves all of you.

—Aunt Vera (Forbes)

Remember to Pray.

A Good Reason for Praying

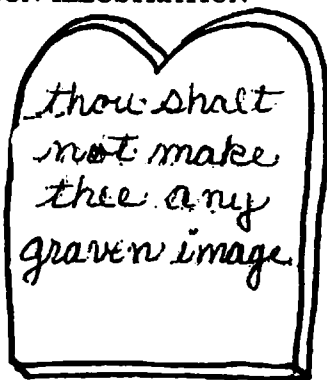
A little girl about four years of age was asked, "Why do you pray to God?" She replied, "Because I know He hears me, and I love to pray to Him."

"How do you know He hears you?"

Putting her little hand to her heart, she said, "I know He does, because there is something here that tells me so."

"Whoso putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe."

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Questions:

1. When God gave the commandments did anyone see Him?
2. Why didn't God want the people to see Him?
3. Does God want us to worship idols?
4. Did He tell the people not to make idols many times?
5. Do they still worship idols in other lands today?
6. How do people worship idols in our own land?
7. Is it a sin to break any of God's commands?

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Part 18

Oct. 22

Thou Shalt Not Take the Name of God in Vain

Lev. 19:12; Matt. 5:33-35; Phil. 2:9-11; Acts 4:12

Would you think of taking your father's name and using it as a swear word? You love your father and you know it would make him feel sad if you used his name in such a way. You would not want to dishonor your daddy.

Jesus taught us to say, "Hallowed by thy name," when we pray to our heavenly Father. Since God's name is holy and sacred, which is what "hallowed" means, we should not use God's name as a swear word. All who do use it so are breaking the third commandment. To use God's name lightly, without reverence, is a sin.

God wants us to honor His Son's name, also. The name of Jesus is to be honored above all names on this earth. The angels in heaven bow before Jesus. Demons bowed before Him when He was here on earth. If men do not bow before Him now, they will at the great judgment, but it will be too late to save them then. There is no other name given under heaven by which men can be saved.

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

A Child Preserved From Wolves

A little girl only nine years of age, living at Platteville, Colo., was saved from death by ferocious forest wolves as follows: The child went with her father on a cold afternoon to the woods to find the cattle. She was told to follow the calves home, while the father continued his search for the cows. She did so, but the calves misled her, and very soon she knew that she was lost. Night came on, and with it the cold of November and the dreaded wolves. With a strange calmness she continued on her uncertain way. The next day, Sunday, at 10 a.m., she came to a house near a place called Evans, having traveled eighteen hours, and a distance of twenty-five miles. All night the wolves growled around her, but did not harm her. Neither was she the least frightened by them. All know that in ordinary cases fierce packs of bloodthirsty wolves would devour a man, and even a horse. But this little one was safe in her trusting, simple faith. She said that the wolves kept close to her heels and snapped at her feet; but her mother had told her that if she was good the Lord would always take care of her. She asked the Lord to take care of her, and she knew the wolves would not hurt her, because God would not let them! The child was hunted for by a great number of people, and being found in perfect health and soundness was restored shortly to her parents.

—Answers to Prayer—

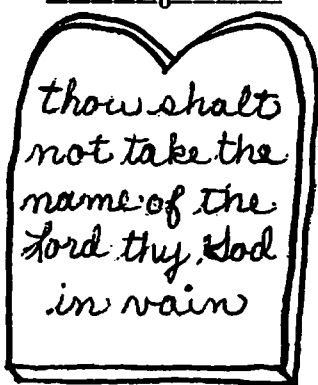
"Blessed is the man that feareth the Lord."

God Holds His Hand

A little boy with his mother was returning from a visit; the night was very dark, and little could be seen ahead. She led her little boy by the hand, who trustingly walked by her side. He had only just begun to learn and remember the stories of the Bible, and he believed and trusted everything he heard. After walking for some time in the darkness very silently, he burst out with, "Mamma, I'm not afraid."

"Why aren't you afraid?"

"Because, Mamma, God keeps hold of the other hand."



Questions:

1. Would you be honoring your father if you used his name as a swear word?
2. Are we honoring God if we use His name in such a way?
3. What did Jesus tell us to say when we pray?
4. What does the word "hallowed" mean?
5. What name is above every name on this earth?
6. What name is given by which men can be saved?

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Part 19

Oct. 29

Remember the Sabbath Day to Keep It Holy

Gen. 2:1-3; Lev. 26:2; Deut. 5:12-15; Isa. 58:13,14

God created earth, heaven, and all things in six days. On the seventh day He rested and set that day apart as a day of rest. On Mount Sinai God commanded Moses to tell the people, "Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy." All were commanded to rest on that day. Servants were given a day of rest. No cooking, no work of any kind was done that day. The people of Israel were to remember how God brought them from a land of bondage into the promised land. God had two purposes in the Sabbath; first, to give the people time to think about His goodness and providence; second, to give them bodily rest, for everyone needs a day of rest. We no longer have the many regulations of the old law, but we still need a day in which to worship God, and rest from our work. Jesus was resurrected on the first day of the week, and so we worship God on Sunday, calling it the "Lord's Day." We are not just to live holy on Sunday, but we must live free from sin each day.

Memory Verse: Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Exodus 20:8.

Janet's Kitten

"Mommy, Oh Mommy," cried Janet as she ran into the kitchen where her mother was starting breakfast. "My baby kitten is dead. I've prayed for Jesus to bring it back to life for me but He didn't do it."

Mother set down in a chair and took Janet into her arms. "What happened dear?" asked Mother.

"Oh, Mommie, why did Sally go away and leave her baby?" sobbed Janet. "The poor lonely kitten was cold and cried so very much in the night that I put her in the bed with me under the cover to get her warm. Now she is dead. Why did she die? Why doesn't Jesus heal her? I prayed and asked Him to. I love her so very much. You told me Jesus healed some people and even raised one man from the dead, and poor kitty is not as big as a man."

"Dry your tears, dear," said Mother as she took the kitten. "Yes, Jesus does heal people and sometimes even brings them back to life, but Janet dear, Jesus doesn't always answer our prayers the way we want Him to. Jesus loves you and He knows how much you liked the kitten, but you must always remember that Jesus answers prayer the way He sees is best for you."

"Ask Daddy to bury the kitten and let's go pray that the Lord will comfort your heart. Remember dear, the Bible says, 'In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God.'"

After prayer Janet looked up at Mother, smiling though tears were still on her cheeks. "Mother," said Janet, "Jesus took the hurt out of my heart. Now I can see it was best for kitty. I would be gone to school all day so I couldn't play

with her, and she would be so lonely and miss her mother so much."—D.B.

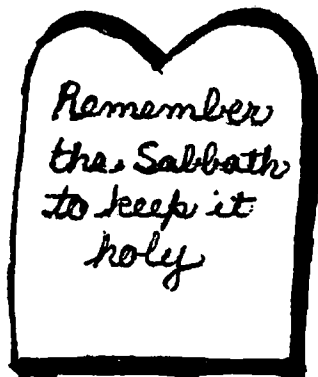
The Fields Are Ready

The fields are ready to harvest. Pray,
Who will lend their hands
To spread the Word of God around
At home and foreign lands?

The Lord is waiting for workers. Who
Will go into the fields
To see that they are harvested
And bring in goodly yields?

—Lucille Clark

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Questions:

1. How long did it take God to create the earth and everything in it?
2. What did God do on the seventh day?
3. Where did God tell Moses, "Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy"?
4. What did God want the people to do on the sabbath day?
5. What were they to think about on that day?
6. What day do we use to worship God today?

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Part 20

Nov. 5

HONOUR THY FATHER AND MOTHER

Lev. 19:32; Lev. 20:9; Eph. 6:1,2; Col. 3:20

What does it mean, "honour" your father and mother? The word *honor* means "to respect; give glory to; reverence. How can children show *honor* to their parents? By showing respect to them! When you respect mother and daddy, you will obey them, you will want to please them. God says, "Children, obey your parents, for this is right." It is a SIN to disobey your parents; think about this the next time you are tempted not to mind what they tell you. Disobedient children bring shame to their parents. Many children break this 5th commandment because they do not respect their mother and daddy.

God is pleased when children obey their parents. How do I know? Because He has given a special promise for those who honor their parents; "That it may be well with thee, and that thy days may be long upon the earth."

The law given in Moses' time was very strict. Do you know what the punishment was for those who cursed their mother or father? **Death!** I doubt there were many sassy, disobedient children in those days. We are to show respect to the old folks.

Memory Verse: Honour thy father and thy mother. Ex. 20:12.

Cursed Children



A bald man walked briskly along the road. It was Elisha, the prophet. Only a short time ago, he had been faithfully following the great prophet Elijah. God had taken Elijah away in a whirlwind. Elisha had known he was going to lose his master, so he had asked for a double portion of Elijah's spirit. His desire had been granted, for as the whirlwind carried the great prophet away, he had dropped his mantle for Elisha. Now Elisha was on his way to Bethel.

Near the city, a large group of children had just been let out from a school. As they passed Elisha, some of them cried out, "Look at the old bald-head. That is Elisha, who claims his master was taken to heaven by a whirlwind." There was no respect in the words, and immediately all the children began to cry out, "Go up, thou bald-head, go up, thou bald-head!" In other words they were saying, "Go up, you empty-head, to heaven as you pretend your master did." After all, weren't these prophets just trouble-makers? They went about telling the people of their sins and how God was angry with the nation because of their sin. Once more they took up the chorus, "Go up, thou bald-head, go up, thou bald-head."

Elisha felt grieved at the rudeness of the children. Slowly he turned and said in a solemn voice, "God will reward you for your wickedness. You are cursed children." And he went on his way, as the children laughed and jeered.

Do you know what happened to these wicked children? As they came to a woods laughing and jeering, two great she-bears came out and began slashing them with their sharp claws. The Bible

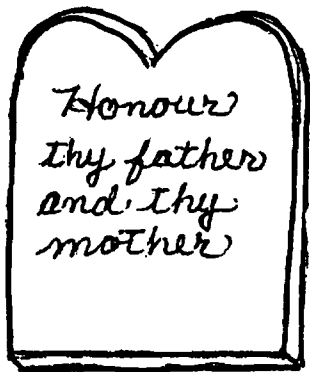
tells us 42 children were torn by the bears. Do you suppose any of them thought about the curse of the prophet?

Boys and girls, do not be disrespectful to anyone. Bears may not tear you, but the roaring lion, who is the devil, may devour you and cause you to lose your soul.

—T. S.

—○—
"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good. The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God." Psa. 14:1,2.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Questions:

1. What does the word, *honor* mean?
2. How can you *honor* your father and mother?
3. God said, "Children obey your parents because this is ———."
4. Is it a sin to disobey your parents?
5. How were those who cursed father or mother punished under the old law?
6. What are the special promises given to those who do honor their parents?

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Part 21

Nov. 12

THOU SHALT NOT KILL

Gen. 6:5-8,11; Matt. 5:44,45; Luke 6:35; 1 John 3:15

God did not mean for men to kill each other. He said, "THOU SHALT NOT KILL!" In Noah's time, violence filled the earth. Men thought only of doing evil things. The earth was so corrupt, God was very, very sorry He had made man. God had to destroy the earth because it was so wicked. Only Noah and his family were saved because he lived right.

Our world is getting as wicked as it was in Noah's time. Even little children do wicked, cruel things. We hear about murders all the time. But God has said, "THOU SHALT NOT KILL." God's commandment is being broken over and over.

Jesus taught us that hating anyone makes us a murderer in God's sight. Hate causes people to kill. You must not let hate get into your heart. The devil wants you to hate and kill. Jesus tells us to love even our enemies. If we live as Jesus teaches, there would be no hate nor murder. We could live in peace and goodwill.

Do not be cruel. Ask God to help you love your enemies and do good to them.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt not kill. Exod. 20:13.

God Will Take Care of Me

When the yellow fever raged in New Orleans, it visited a Christian household, and the father died. Then the mother was suddenly seized, and knowing that she must die, she gathered the four children around her bed, the oldest being only about ten years of age. She told them that God was about to take her home to heaven. She urged them to have no fears, and assured them that the kind, heavenly Father who had so long provided for them would surely come and take care of them. The children, with almost breaking hearts, believed what the dying mother told them.

She was buried. The three youngest soon followed her, although they received every necessary attention from friends during their sickness. The oldest, a boy, was also seized by the disease. In an unguarded moment, under the influence of fever, he wandered from his sick bed out into the suburbs of the city. Lying down in the tall grass by the roadside, he looked steadfastly up, murmuring, "Mother said God would come and take care of me—would come and take care of me." A gentleman happening to pass at the time, and hearing the unusual sounds, went where the lad was lying. Arousing him, he asked the boy what he was doing there. The little fellow replied: "Father died, Mother died, little brother and sisters died. But just before Mother went away into heaven, she told us to have no fear for God would come and take care of us. I am now waiting for Him to come down and take me. I know He will come, for Mother said so, and she always told us the truth."

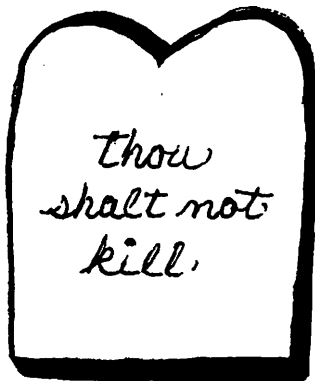
"Well," said the gentleman, who was stirred by the little fellow's sad condition and his confidence in his sainted mother's godly instructions. "God has sent me, my son, to take care of you." He took him to his own home, and kindly took care of him. The boy got well and today is one of the most useful Christian young men in the far West.

—The Wonders of Prayer

My Heart Talked

A child six years of age, in a Sunday school, said: "When we kneel down in the school room to pray, it seems as if my heart talks."

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Questions:

1. Does God want men to kill each other?
2. What is the commandment in this lesson?
3. Why did God destroy the world in Noah's time?
4. Why was Noah saved?
5. Is God's commandment being broken today?
6. Did Jesus tell us to hate our enemies?
7. Say the memory verse.

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Part 22

Nov. 19

THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY

Matt. 5:31,32; Matt. 19:3-9

Do you know who the first husband and wife were? God made Adam from the dust and breathed the breath of life into his nostrils. Then Adam became a living soul. But Adam needed someone to be with him and to help him. So God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam and He took Adam's rib and made a woman to be Adam's wife.

Some men came and asked Jesus about divorce. Jesus answered and said, "At the beginning God made male and female. When they marry they are to forsake all others and be faithful to each other for the rest of their lives. Those who divorce and remarry are committing the sin of adultery."

In Noah's time when the earth was so wicked, men took them wives of all they chose. God saw how wicked the people were and destroyed the earth with the great flood. God doesn't want people to commit adultery today.

Boys and girls, when you get older, begin to pray for God to help you find the right companion. If you follow God's leadings, you will not break this commandment.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt not commit adultery. Ex. 20:14.

Evelyn Prayed for a Husband

Evelyn was the eldest daughter in a large family. The family lived on a farm and there were lots of chores to do. When Evelyn was quite young, her mother was stricken with cancer. She was not able to do much of her work, so many of the homemaking tasks and the care of the children fell upon Evelyn's young shoulders. Evelyn was faithful and the children loved her as a mother. She was good to do all she could for her mother. The mother was glad to have such a good daughter. She often said to Evelyn, "I hope you will have a good marriage and a good husband. You have had such a hard girlhood because I have been sick so much."

Evelyn was saved when she was a young teen-ager. She, too, wanted a good husband and home, as most teen-agers do. So she began to pray, "Lord, please preserve me a good husband." God heard her prayer and took note of it, altho it was quite a number of years before her prayer was answered.

A young man, working deep in a salt mine, was preserved many times when in danger. God saved that young man and in later years he met and married Sister Evelyn Davis. After Bro. Darius Gibson's death, Sister Evelyn told us how she had prayed for God to preserve her a good husband. "We had a wonderful marriage," she said. —T.S.

A Grammar Lesson

A little boy at school was good and wanted to learn his lesson well, but found that grammar was rather hard.

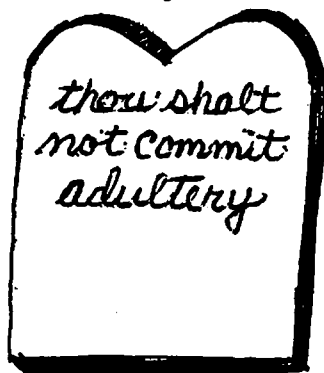
One day he went to his mamma for a little help with some sentences. She told

him the proper manner of doing it, and he followed her directions; but he was much troubled that he could not understand how to do it by himself.

His mamma told him it was rather hard for him then, but that after he had studied a little longer, it would be quite easy.

Johnnie went into another room to study alone, but after a little while came back, his face shining with joy. He said: "Oh, Mamma, I want to begin again. I asked Jesus to help me, and now I think I see just how it is. He always helps us when we ask Him." With unspeakable delight he and his mamma went over his lesson again.

—The Wonders of Prayer

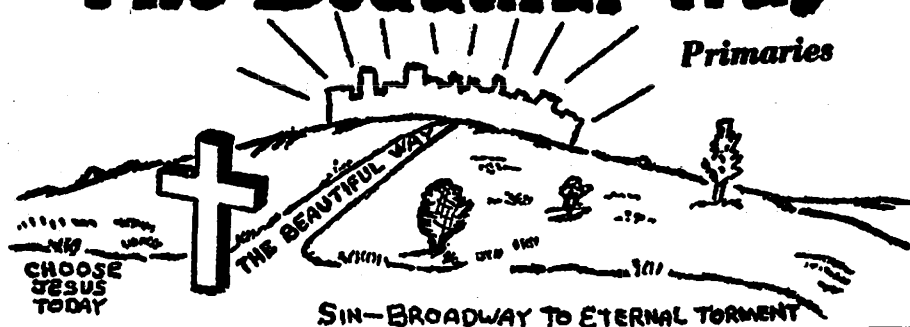


Questions:

1. Name the first husband and wife.
2. God made Adam of the _ _ _ _ .
3. God made Eve from Adam's _ _ _ _ .
4. People who marry are to be faithful to each other for the _ _ _ _ of their life.
5. If people divorce and remarry, they are committing a sin. What is that sin?
6. How can you find the right companion to marry?

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Part 23

Nov. 26

THOU SHALT NOT STEAL

Lev. 19:11,13; Mark 10:19; Eph. 4:28

Stealing is a great sin. God's Word tells us, "Ye shall not steal, neither deal falsely, neither lie one to another." God tells us to be honest in all our dealings with others. We are to work with our hands to do good.

Boys and girls, remember, if you steal anything you will have to be willing to make it right before you can be saved. When you are tempted to take something that doesn't belong to you, remember you may have to confess your theft and make it right if you want to be saved. Some people have stolen so much they feel like they cannot confess and make all their wrongs right so they could be saved. The devil uses this to keep them in sin. It would be better to be saved and go to prison for life than to spend eternity in a devil's hell. If you refuse to steal or cheat, you will not have this trouble. Indeed, if you get saved now and serve the Lord, He will keep you from many sins and troubles. If you want to have a happy life give your heart to Jesus. Remember it pays to serve the Lord while you are young.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt not steal. Exod. 20:15.

Rachel Stole Her Father's Idols

Jacob had worked for Laban for 20 years. God had blessed Jacob's labors and given him many cattle. Laban had changed Jacob's wages ten times because he was not pleased with Jacob's gain.

At last Jacob, hearing of Laban's ill-will towards him, and being advised of God to return to his own country and kindred, told his wives what he intended to do. "It will avoid trouble if we just slip away while your father is gone to shear his sheep," said Jacob to Leah and Rachel. They were willing to go, realizing Laban had been unjust to Jacob.

Now Laban, though he professed to worship the true God, kept some idols in his house. For some reason Rachel wanted these idols to take with her to her husband's country, so she stole them. Jacob did not know Rachel had stolen her father's images. Jacob, who worshipped the true God, would not have allowed her to have them, so Rachel hid them and said nothing about her theft.

When Laban returned from the sheep-shearing and found Jacob gone, with his wives and children, he was very angry. He took a band of men and went to overtake Jacob. It took three days to catch up with them. The night before Laban reached Jacob, God warned him in a dream not to do any harm to Jacob and his family.

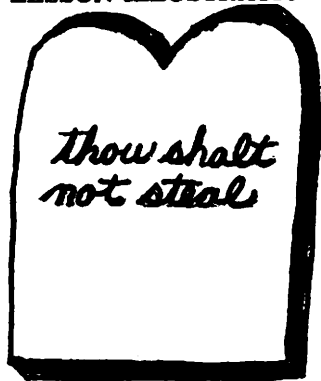
When Laban reached the camp of Jacob, he asked why he had stolen away and broken his heart in taking away his daughters and his grandchildren. "And why have you stolen my idols?" he asked.

Jacob, not knowing of Rachel's theft, said, "Let God take the life of the one

who has stolen your images." Laban made search of all the tents and found nothing. When he came to Rachel's tent she had hidden the idols in the seat upon which she sat. She excused herself from rising, and so her father didn't search the place where she was sitting. Her theft was not discovered.

The Bible does not tell us what became of the idols Rachel had stolen. She probably threw them away, not wanting Jacob to find out about them. The oath, or curse, Jacob pronounced to Laban about this surely came to pass. Rachel did die a few years later as she was giving birth to her second son, Benjamin. —T. S.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Questions:

1. What does God's Word tell us about stealing?
2. How are we to deal with others?
3. Can you get saved if you are not willing to confess your sins and make them right?
4. Why is it better not to steal?
5. How can you keep out of sin and trouble?

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Part 24

Dec. 3

THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS

Exod. 23:1; Duet. 19:15-21; Matt. 26:59-61

Jesus was hated without a reason. The scribes, Pharisees and priests wanted Him put to death. After they caught Him in the garden, they tried to find false witnesses to condemn Him. Many came and told things they said they had heard, but their witness did not agree. Under the law of Moses no one could be condemned to die, unless they had two or three witnesses to their crime. Each time a witness failed, the council became more enraged and eager to kill Jesus. Jesus did not have a fair trial. Although He was mistreated, He stood quietly and did not threaten revenge. Finally, two men came who said Jesus said, "I will destroy this temple of God and build it again in three days." Jesus had said so, but He was speaking of His death and the resurrection of the temple of His body. The council was overjoyed, and led Him away to be put to death.

To bear false witness is to give untruthful, dishonest, incorrect testimony against anyone. Be careful to always tell the truth or you will break this 9th commandment.

Memory Verse: Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor. Exodus 20:16.

False Witnesses

The apostles and saints were happy because their Lord had risen from the dead. They went about preaching and telling the good news. Many believed the gospel, and were saved. The church grew in great number.

Those who hated Jesus and thought they had gotten rid of Him by crucifying Him, now turned their hatred toward the Christians. The saints began to have great trouble.

Stephen was one of the deacons in the church. The Bible says he was full of faith and power and did many miracles. Some of the leaders of other religious groups began to argue with Stephen. They tried to silence his preaching that Jesus was the Christ. The more he was opposed, the wiser his answers were. He left his opposers in confusion. They could not tear down his testimony that Jesus was the Christ, because he used the Scriptures to prove it.

At last his enemies were so angry and hated him so, that they made plans to kill him. They found men who would be false witnesses. They paid them well to appear against Stephen at the trial. The witnesses said, "This man will not stop speaking blasphemy. We heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this temple and change the custom of Moses." All in the council saw Stephen's face shine as an angel's, as he was falsely accused.

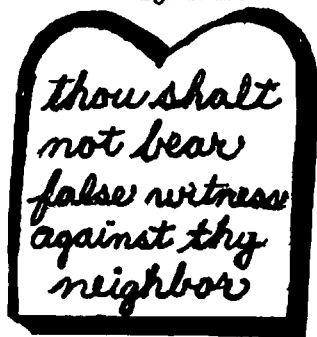
When Stephen was given a chance to speak for himself, he began with the history of the nation of Israel from the time of Abraham. He told them how the people had refused to obey and believe the Word of God down through the ages. "You stiff-necked, with hard hearts and

closed ears, you have always resisted God's Spirit. Your fathers persecuted the prophets, and you have been the murderers of the Son of God."

As the people heard these words, they became so angry they rushed at Stephen, gnashing and gritting their teeth. But Stephen looked steadily up into heaven and said, "I see the heavens opened, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God." At these words, the people dragged him outside the city and stoned him.

As the stones fell about Stephen, he kneeled down and prayed, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge." He asked the Lord to receive his spirit and then he died.

This was the beginning of great persecution against the church. Many Christians were put to death, put in prison and suffered many things. False witnesses appeared against many. A young man named Saul was one of the ring-leaders of the persecution. —T.S.



Questions:

1. Was there any reason to hate Jesus?
2. Who wanted to put Jesus to death?
3. What did they need to condemn Him to die?
4. What kind of witnesses did they have?

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Part 25

Dec. 10

THOU SHALT NOT COVET

I Kings 21:1-25; Micah 2:2; Eph. 5:3,5; Heb. 13:5

Ahab was a wicked king. He was not happy although he was rich and had almost anything he wanted. **ALMOST**—there was one thing he wanted that he had not been able to get. Ahab **coveted** his neighbor's vineyard. The more he looked at it, the more he wanted it.

The vineyard belonged to a poor man, Naboth, who took good care of the vineyard. It had been in his family for many generations. Ahab said to Naboth, "Sell me your vineyard. I will pay you well."

Naboth answered, "According to the law of inheritance, I cannot sell the vineyard. It is to belong to the family of Naboth forever."

Ahab went home and sulked. He would neither get up nor eat. Jezebel, his wicked queen, found out his trouble. She had Naboth and his family stoned to death. Then Ahab took the garden.

God saw Ahab's wickedness. He sent Elijah the prophet to tell Ahab, "Because you have killed and taken possession, the dogs shall lick your blood in the same place Naboth died."

Memory Verse: Thou shalt not covet. Exod. 20:17.

When the Hindu Girl Sang

I know that some girls do not like to wash dishes. Most little girls do not like this work. They would rather play than help Mother in the kitchen. They do not like to do other things for Mother either. It is like this with little girls in other countries, too.

A missionary told of a little Hindu girl in South India, who was much like you are on this line. She was seven years of age, and how she did hate to take her share of the duties in the home! Some of her work was to clean the brass water jugs. The water does not run through pipes in the homes of most of the people in India as it does in yours and mine.

One day this little girl came to the missionary and said, "Satan doesn't come very close to me if I sing all the time I am rubbing the brasses. He runs away when he hears me sing. So I sing very loud, and that drives him away. He doesn't like hymns."

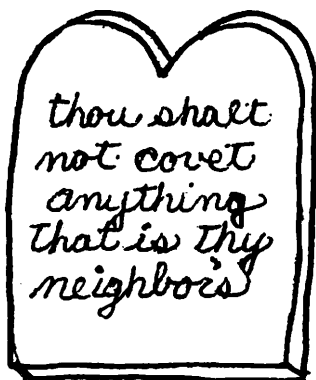
This little Hindu girl had learned a secret many children, or even grown people, in America have not learned. The Bible tells us of times when the people of the Lord praised Him, and then Satan had to go. He could do no more to harm God's people. One time the people of Israel began to sing praises to the Lord when a great army was about to fight against them. Then the Lord beat their enemies back, and they could do nothing against them.

It would be a good thing for us to do the same, when Satan comes to tempt us, or to make us do wrong. Satan cannot stand hearing praises to the Lord. It makes him run away. He wants all the praise for himself. Next time Satan comes to tempt us, let us

begin to praise the Lord, and see Satan leave us.

The Sunday school class decided they would buy a turkey for the Smiths' Thanksgiving dinner since Mr. Smith was sick and had eight children to feed. Timmy wanted to contribute, but the only money he had was what he had saved for a new baseball. With a happy heart, he decided to give the money for the turkey and start saving again for the baseball. He remembered, "It is better to give than to receive."

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Questions:

1. Why wasn't Ahab happy?
2. Why wouldn't Naboth sell his vineyard to King Ahab?
3. What did Ahab do when He couldn't get the vineyard?
4. What did queen Jezebel do to Naboth and his family?
5. Did God see Ahab's sin?
6. What did the prophet Elijah tell Ahab?
7. Is it a sin to covet anything that belongs to someone else?

The Beautiful Way

Primaries



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Part 26

Dec. 17

THE NEW COMMANDMENT

John 13:34,35; John 15:12,13; Romans 13:8-10

Sadness filled the disciples' hearts. Jesus said, "One of you shall betray me." Each asked, "Is it I?"

After supper Jesus washed their feet and said, "I, your Lord, have washed your feet; You ought to wash one another's feet." Judas had his feet washed, then he left to betray Jesus.

Jesus said, "I have many things to tell you. I give you a new commandment. Love one another even as I have loved you, then others will know you are my disciples."

Why did Jesus give this new commandment? Apostle Paul tells us, "Love is the fulfilling of the law. You will not commit adultery, kill, steal, bear false witness or covet, if you love your neighbor as yourself."

Jesus wants us to love each other as He loved us. How much did Jesus love us? He died on the cross to save us from our sins. We must have God's love shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Those who are not saved cannot love as Jesus did.

Memory Verse: A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another. John 13:34.

Who Can Work in the Dark?

It was storming outside. The wind blew. The rain came down. Thunder made a big noise. All at once the lights went out.

"Oh," said Mother. "I was going to buy some candles, but I keep forgetting."

"What shall we do?" asked Phillip.

"I guess we might as well go to bed," said Mother. "We can't do anything in the dark."

"But I can't see to go to bed!" Susan cried. "I can't find my pajamas in the dark. I can't undress without a light!"

"That is pretty bad!" said Father. "So many of the creatures God has made work in the dark. It is bad you cannot even undress!"

"Tell us about the creatures that work in the dark!" begged Susan.

So they all sat down.

"Do you remember Grandfather's beehive?" asked Daddy. "There are no lights in there! There is only a little hole for a door, where the bees go in and out. Not much light can get in there. But the bees make the little sixsided rooms where the eggs are laid. They put eggs in them and later they feed the little wormlike things that hatch out. They keep the hive clean. They do all the work of the hive in the dark."

"Ants live down in the ground. It is dark down there. They build wonderful homes and store away food for the winter. Some of them even raise a kind of food that is like mushrooms, down there in the dark."

"Moles live down in the ground, too. They hardly ever come out in the light. They dig long tunnels and hunt for their food."

"The kingfisher is a bird that lives on fish. It makes a tunnel in the bank along a river or lake and makes its nest at the end of the tunnel. Very little light comes in through the tunnel, but the birds make a nest of fishbones. They feed their babies there in the dark until the little birds are big enough to come out."

Just then the lights came on. "I think I will undress in the dark anyway, just for fun," said Susan. "If so many of God's creatures can work in the dark, I can, too!"

"A foolish son is a grief to his father."

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Questions:

1. Why were the disciples sad?
2. When Jesus washed the disciples' feet, what did He tell them?
3. Did Jesus wash Judas' feet?
4. Who betrayed Jesus?
5. What was the new commandment Jesus gave the disciples?
6. Why is love the fulfilling of the law?
7. How can we have the love of God in our hearts?

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Primaries



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Part 27

Dec. 24

GLAD TIDINGS

Luke 2:1-20

When Mary and Joseph got to Bethlehem, they were very tired. So many people had come to be taxed, they found no place to stay except in the stable. Here baby Jesus was born. Mary used the manger for His bed.

Shepherds, watching the sheep in the fields, saw a great light. They were very frightened but the angel of the Lord said, "Fear not. I bring good news of great joy to all people." He told the shepherds how to find the baby. Many angels appeared saying, "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will toward men."

The shepherds hurried to Bethlehem and found the baby just as the angel said. In awe they worshipped Him. Then they returned to their sheep, telling everyone about the angel's message.

The message was: "Glad tidings to ALL people." Jesus came to save everyone WHO WILL ACCEPT HIM. Those who are saved have peace with God and good will in their hearts towards everyone. The angel brought the BEST NEWS of all.

Memory Verse: Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will toward men. Luke 2:14.

Celebrating Christmas

"We do not have a Christmas tree," Billy said as Randy and Lillie finished telling how they had put pretty things on their Christmas tree the night before.

"You don't have a Christmas tree?" asked Lillie. "How can you have Christmas without a Christmas tree?"

"Come and see what we have," exclaimed Billy, as he turned and walked to his house with Randy and Lillie following.

"Oh, how sweet!" exclaimed Lillie as she looked at the little toy baby that had been placed in a manger with straw around and a cardboard picture of a woman and man which was to stand for Mary and Joseph. Also, there were three cardboard pictures which stood for the shepherds who came to see Jesus.

"My mother said that this told the true story about Jesus and His birth rather than having a Christmas tree. Mother said that the Christmas tree and the custom of putting lights and pretty things on it was a heathen custom and that we should have something to make us think of Jesus and His birth like it happened."

"I am going to see if my mother won't fix us something like that," Randy said.

"I am too!" Lillie agreed. "And you put your gifts on the table around the manger and the shepherds."

"We think of giving gifts when we think of Jesus being the greatest Gift from God to the world. Mother had me say John 3:16 last night, 'For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that' . . . oh, I forgot the rest, but anyway, Mother wanted me to remember that God gave His Son to die for our sins. So we give gifts in re-

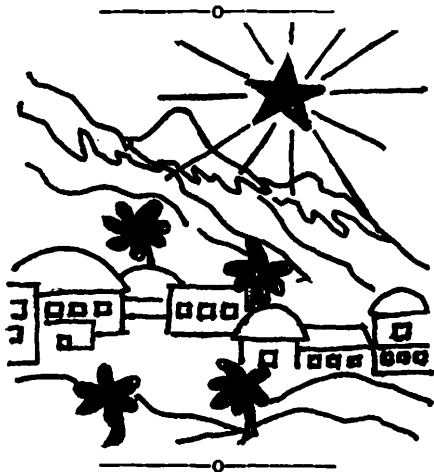
membering Jesus the greatest Gift to the world," explained Billy.

"My mother gave us some money to get old Grandma Jenkins a gift because her children never remember her and then I got poor little Nell a gift. Her parents are so poor that I was afraid she would not get a gift," Lillie said.

"Of course, the wise men came to see Jesus some time after Jesus was born when he lived in a house and brought their gifts," Randy related. "That is what our Sunday school teacher told us."

"I love Jesus so much, don't you?" Lillie said, and Randy and Billy agreed.

—M. Miles



Questions:

1. Where was Jesus born?
2. What did Mary use for his bed?
3. Why were the shepherds frightened?
4. What did the angel say to them?
5. What did all the angels say?
6. Who did Jesus come to save?
7. Does salvation bring peace and good will on earth?

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Primaries



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Part 28

Dec. 31

HE DID NOT KEEP ALL THE COMMANDMENTS

Mark 10:17-22; John 14:15

Jesus met a man who had kept these commandments—Do not commit adultery, do not kill, do not steal, do not bear false witness, and honour thy father and mother. "I have kept these since I was a child," the man said. He had come to Jesus to ask, "Good master, what can I do to inherit eternal life?"

"No one is good but God," said Jesus. The young man thought good works could give him eternal life. Jesus wanted him to know that "all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Only the blood of Jesus can blot out sin, and no one can get to heaven by his own good works.

What was this man's sin? He had not kept the very first commandment God gave. Do you remember what it was?

Jesus said, "Go and sell all your possessions and come and follow me." Jesus knew the young man loved his possessions more than God. The man went away sorrowful.

Do you know you must be saved before you can keep all the commandments?

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

The Little Boy Who Wanted His Sister to Read the Bible

Mr. Spurgeon (an evangelist) of London, tells of the excellent faith of a little boy in one of the schools of Edinburgh. He had attended a prayer meeting, and at the last said to his teacher who conducted it:

"Teacher, I wish my sister would read the Bible; she never reads it."

"Why, Johnny, should your sister read the Bible?"

"Because, if she once read it I am sure it would do her good, and she would be saved."

"Do you think so, Johnny?"

"Yes, I do, sir; and I wish the next time there is a prayer meeting you would ask the people to pray for my sister, that she may begin to read the Bible."

The teacher gave out the request that a little boy was anxious that prayer should be offered that his sister would read the Bible. John then got up and went out. The teacher thought it very rude for John to disturb the people in a crowded room, and so the next day, when the lad came, he said:

"John, I thought it very rude of you to get up in the prayer meeting and go out. You ought not to have done so."

"O, sir," said the boy, "I did not mean to be rude; but I thought I should like to go home and see my sister reading her Bible for the first time."

True to his faith, when he reached his home, he found the little girl reading her Bible.

—Answers To Prayer

Read your Bible every day,
Take lots of time to sing and pray.

The Ten Commandments

Thou shalt not have any other Gods before me.

Thou shalt not make any idols.

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy.

Honour thy Father and thy Mother. Thou shalt not kill.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not bear false witness.

Thou shalt not covet.

LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Questions:

1. What question did the man ask Jesus?
2. What commandments had the man kept since he was a child?
3. Which commandment had the man not kept?
4. How do you know he did not keep the first commandment?
5. Can we keep all the commandments if we are not saved?
6. Can you say all the commandments we have had this quarter?