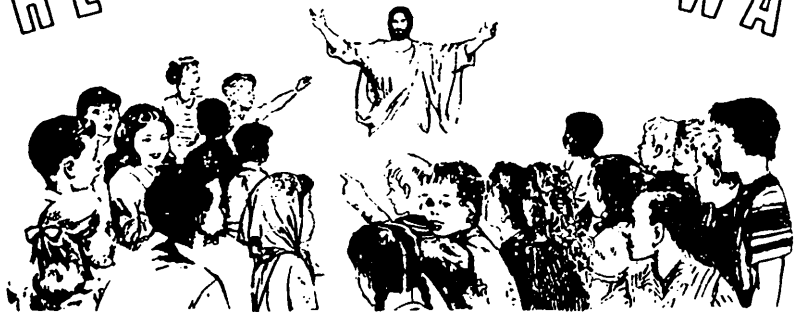


THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 14 Jan. 3, 1988

A Woman Shows Love for Jesus

One of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner at his home. When Jesus arrived for dinner, the Pharisee did not greet Jesus with much love. He usually greeted his guest with a kiss. Then he gave his guest oil for his head and a pan of water in which to wash his feet. He offered Jesus none of these.

Soon all the guests were seated around the table on chairs that looked like narrow beds. Each one lay on these beds in a half-sitting, half-lying position, with their knees bent so their feet were behind them. Jesus lay on His bed/chair and ate with the others.

While they were eating, a wicked, heathen woman who wanted forgiveness came in. She knelt behind Jesus at His feet and cried. The tears splashed on Jesus' feet until His feet were wet. Then she used her long hair for a towel to dry them. In her heart she was saying, "I'm sorry. I will be your servant. Please forgive my sins."

The Pharisee did not like this woman's actions. He watched to see what else she would do. He gasped in surprise when he saw her kissing Jesus' feet! Then he said to himself, "Jesus cannot be a prophet and let this woman touch Him."

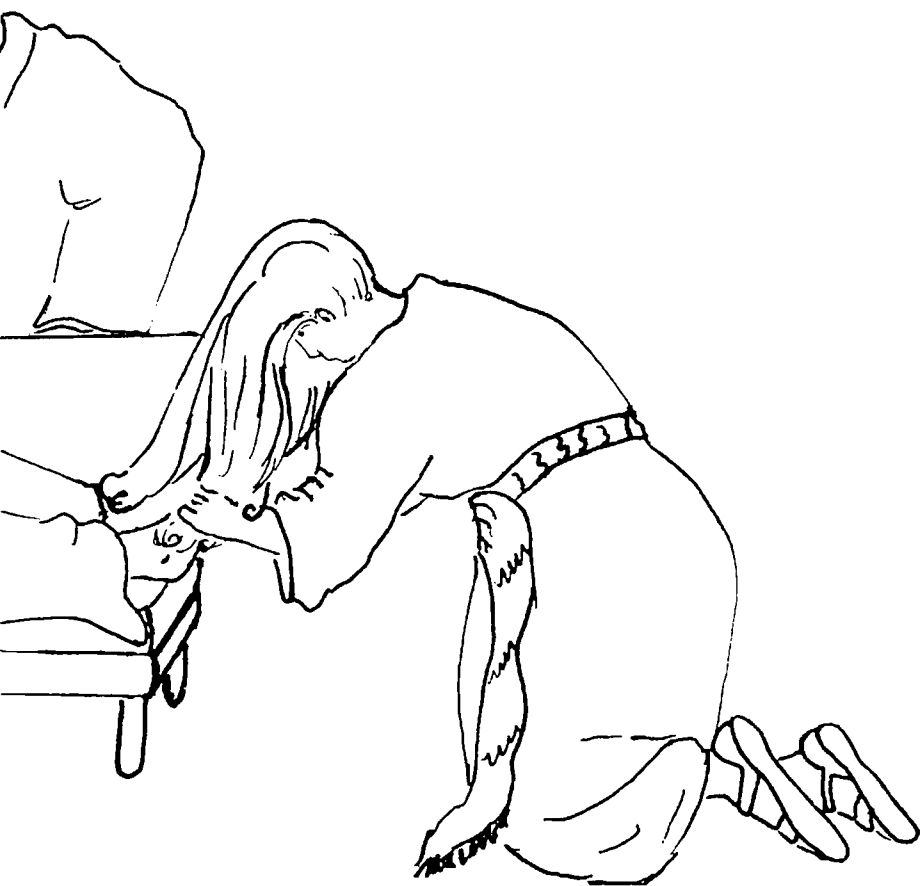
Jesus knew what he was thinking. Jesus said, "This woman has washed, anointed, and kissed my feet to show her love for me because I forgave her many sins. Whosoever is forgiven much will love me much, and whosoever is forgiven of a few sins will love a little."

The Pharisee agreed. He knew he didn't love Jesus very much.

“We love him, because he first lov



us." 1 John 4:19



Washed by the Blood

"Daddy, how old do you have to be to get saved?" Terry asked one night on their way home from a revival meeting.

"As old as you are," replied Daddy as he glanced from behind the steering wheel over toward Terry. "Terry, as soon as you hear that gentle voice of Jesus asking you to let Him come in, then right away open up your heart, confess your sins, let the blood of Jesus wash them out of your heart, and you will be saved from all those sins."

Terry thought a minute before asking another question. "Daddy, those people crying at the altar tonight, did they have blood poured on their hearts?"

"It isn't blood like you have seen when you cut or scratch yourself, Terry. It is a spiritual washing by faith. Suppose you wash your hands with Dial soap in the bathroom sink. Then you come into the kitchen to eat and I ask you if you have washed your hands. You may say, 'Yes.' I will look to see if they are clean and I may smell the soap on them. That lets me know that you did wash your hands even though I never saw you wash them.

"When Jesus died on the cross many years ago, He shed all the blood in His body so that every man who will can wash his sins away in His blood. It works, because I have tried it. I washed lying, stealing, cheating, and cursing all out of my life. Although you can't see the blood of Jesus, you can *feel* the cleanliness of it and you can *see* the effects of it. You must simply have faith that Jesus died on the cross to wash away filthy sins from your life."

Terry was quiet for a while. Then he asked, "So it all happens on the inside, huh?"

"That's right," agreed Daddy. "The blood of Jesus can remove any spot of sin but the sinner must first want his sins forgiven. Jesus will not wash away sin from a heart unless a person believes Jesus can, and will let Him do it."

"Oh, I believe He can do it," said Terry. "All those people at the altar tonight looked a lot happier after they got up than before they knelt down at the altar."

"That's the way it works, Son. They went down with a load of heavy sins, but they got up light and free. You must believe on Jesus to wash all those sins away from your life. Then, as a gift, Jesus gives you happiness and peace inside."

Terry didn't say anything more and neither did Daddy, but the next night Terry went to the altar and cried and prayed to Jesus. Jesus washed away all of Terry's sins and he got up happy and free. It was just as Daddy had told him it would be! Daddy was glad Terry got saved from sin—and so was Jesus.

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Where did Jesus go for dinner?
2. Did the Pharisee greet Jesus nicely?
3. Who came to worship Jesus while He was eating?
4. With what did she wash Jesus' feet?
5. What did she use for a towel?
6. Why did the Pharisee think Jesus wasn't a prophet of God?
7. Why did the woman love Jesus?
8. Did Jesus say, "Whosoever is forgiven much will love much"?
9. How much do you love Jesus?

(Answers will vary.)
 9. Jesus had forgiven her many sins. 8. Yes. 7. Jesus let the woman touch Him. 6. Because Her tears. 5. Her long hair. 4. No. 3. A wicked, heathen woman. 2. To the Pharisee's house. 1. To the Pharisee's house.



Lesson text: Luke 7:36-50.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 Jan. 10, 1988

Jesus Gives Everlasting Life

Jesus passed a man who was crippled for thirty-eight years. "Take up your bed and walk," He told the man.

The crippled man lifted up the roll of cloth he was using for a bed and carried it away like any other man! How excitedly the people talked about Jesus healing the crippled man! "Now we believe in Jesus!" they exclaimed.

The Pharisees said, "We believe in God, but who is this Jesus? He is not of God. If He were of God, He would obey God's rule about the Sabbath." They were saying that Jesus was a sinner because He healed on the Sabbath day.

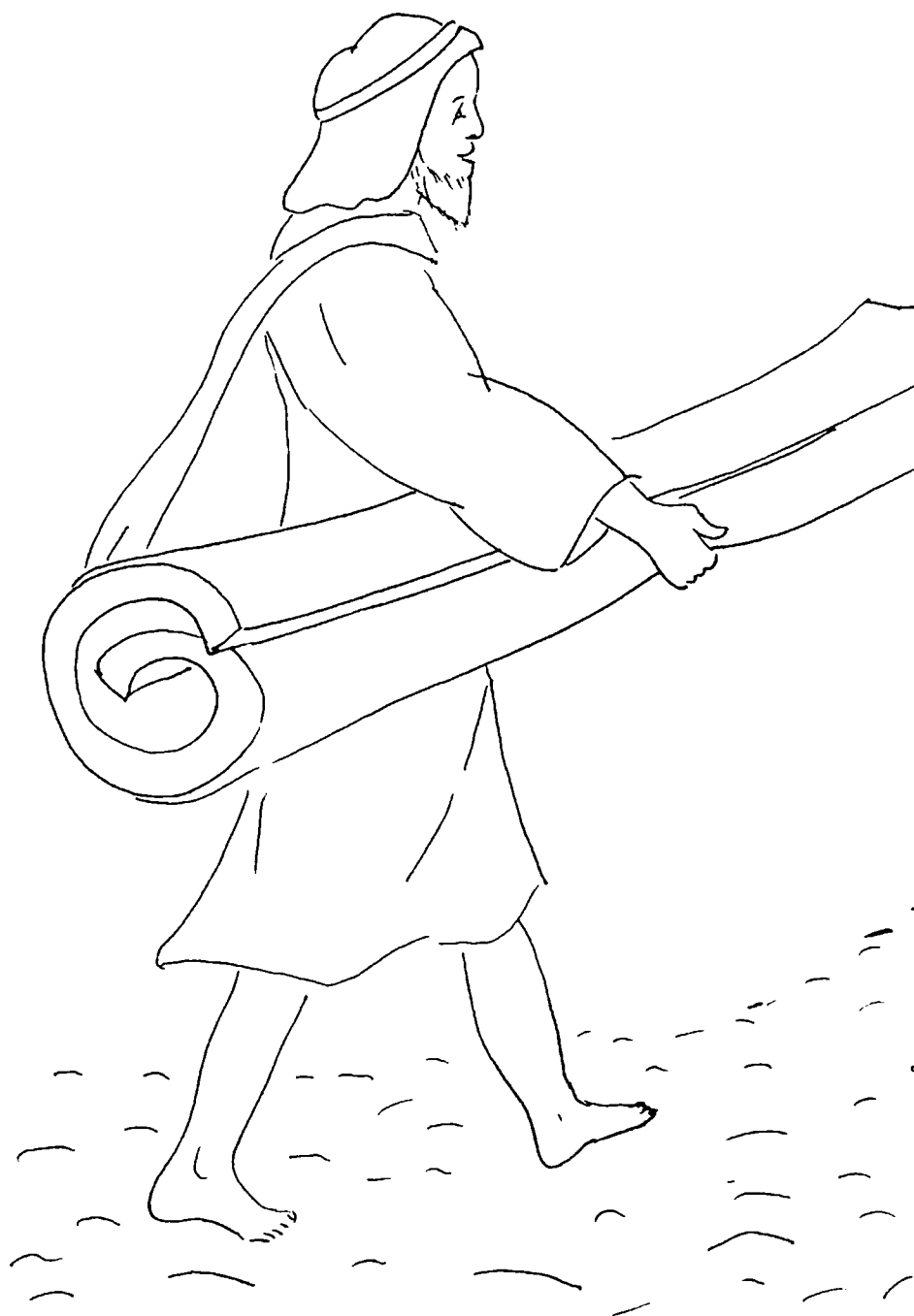
Jesus told them, "I help people at all times, just like God, my Father, does."

Now they were even more angry! They were angry enough to kill Jesus because He said that God was His Father.

Jesus again told them that He was God's Son and that whoever would obey His teachings and believe in God would have everlasting life. "I do nothing without my Father," Jesus said, "and He does nothing without first telling me. Just as the Father raiseth up the dead . . . even so do I . . . All men should honor the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not me, honoureth not the Father [God]. Truly, truly, I say unto you, 'he that heareth my words, and believeth on Him that sent me hath everlasting life.' "

The Pharisees understood clearly that they must believe in Jesus, just as they believed in God. They knew they could not have everlasting life unless they did.

“Whosoever believeth in him shall n



perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16



A Dollar Seventy-Five

Rodney is in the shopping mall with \$1.75 in his hand. He is looking at cars, games, toys, books and all other kinds of fun things which children his age like to buy.

Rodney doesn't know for sure what to buy. He wants to spend his money wisely because he got it in payment for a big bag of pop cans he had collected from yards, alleys, and by the side of the road. Rodney wants to buy something that he really wants more than everything else!

Some things cost more than \$1.75. Rodney has to put back a remote control car. He has one of those anyway. It's fun to play with until the batteries run down.

Maybe he ought to buy something that doesn't need batteries. It really takes a lot of money to keep batteries for all battery-operated cars, dune buggies, games, and things.

Probably he should buy batteries with this money, but he wants to buy something really special this time. What could he buy with \$1.75 that would last and last and not need batteries?

Rodney looks at some hot wheels. He already has a box full of those at home, so after a minute he puts the hot wheels back. Rodney looks at books but he could check better books out at the library—why buy them? Rodney looks at color books and colors. He already has plenty of those, also.

Finally Rodney gives a sigh. What good is \$1.75 if he cannot spend it? He could just take it home and put it in his penny bank. He would then add more money to it until he had so much he could *really* buy something good! But Rodney had had \$5.00 and even \$10.00 to spend before and that didn't seem like very much money either.

The toys that money buys don't last forever. They soon lose their charm, get broken, or just sit on the shelf to be dusted and looked at.

Rodney decides he will give his money to Mother to buy groceries. His mother

always needs more money to buy more groceries for the family.

That's it! Rodney should buy something for all the family! Now he is excited! He walks away from the toy section of the store. About the next aisle or so he comes to the camera department where cameras, film, and other electronic things are on display.

Hey, maybe Rodney could buy some film for Mother's camera! Rodney tells his mother (who has been with him all this time) about his newest idea. She checks on the film—it's on sale! When Rodney takes the film to the check-out counter, the clerk rings it up, tax and all. It costs \$1.74, leaving Rodney with a penny.

Rodney is happy because he made a wise choice. By making this choice, he will be able to enjoy what he bought for a long, long time. Rodney is also happy about some other choices he has made. One is the choice he made to live for Jesus. By making this choice, Rodney can enjoy living forever with Jesus in heaven. Making this choice of everlasting life doesn't take any money; no, not a penny.

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. How long was the man crippled?
2. Did Jesus make the man well?
3. Who did the Pharisees believe in?
4. Why were they angry at Jesus?
5. Is Jesus the Son of God?
6. Does Jesus know all that God does?
7. Can Jesus do all that God can do?
8. Who must the Pharisees believe in to have everlasting life?
9. Who must we believe in to have everlasting life?

★★★★★★

His Son, Jesus. 9. God and Jesus.)
 God. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. Yes. 8. God, and
 Because Jesus said He was the Son of
 2. Yes. 3. God. 4.

Lesson Text: John 5:18-29.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 Jan. 17, 1988

Being One of Jesus' Disciples

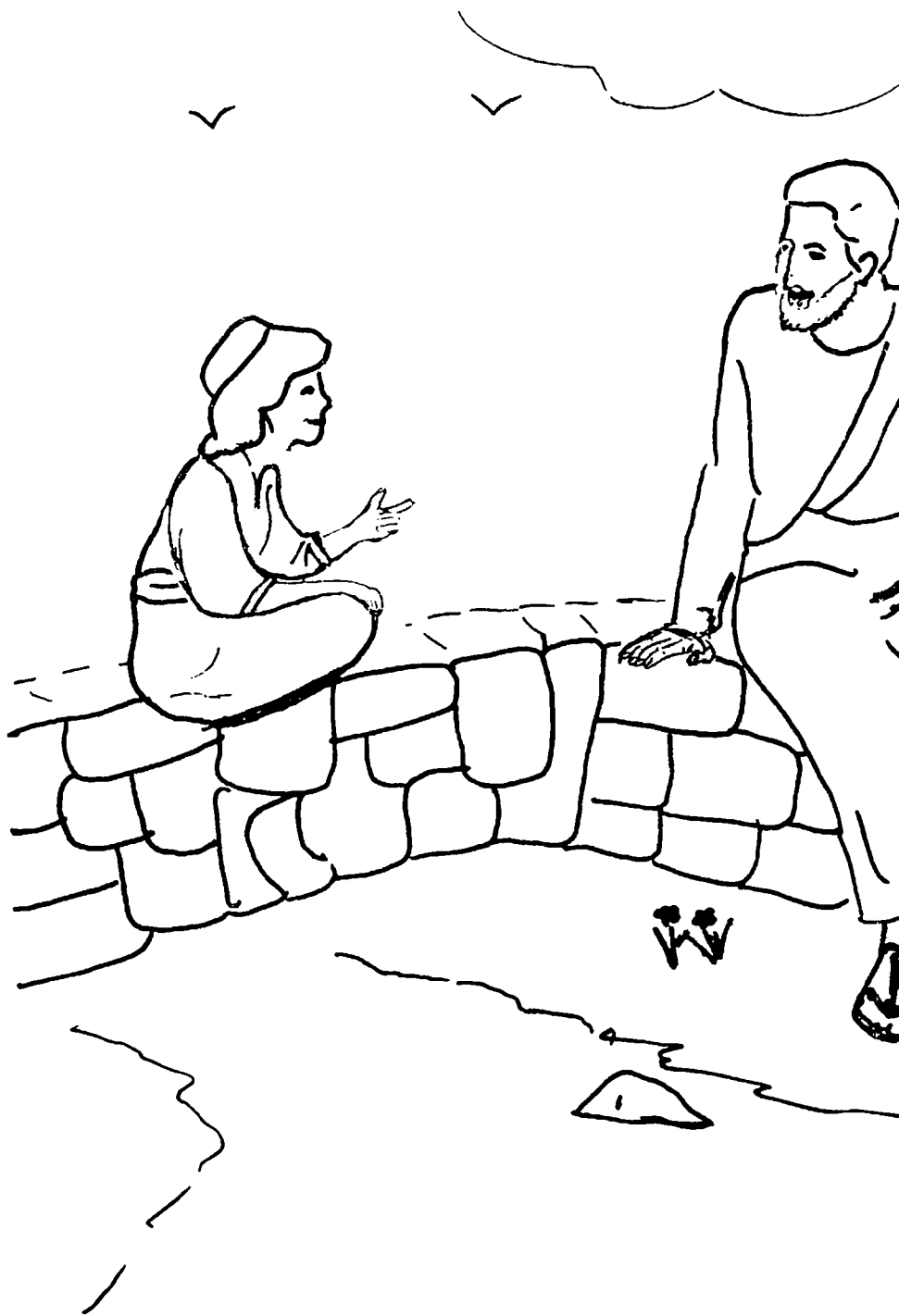
It is wonderful to be a disciple of Jesus! Being a disciple of Jesus is like being one of His best friends. Would you like to be Jesus' best friend? I would! There are many extra special blessings given to those who are friends and disciples of Jesus.

There were many people who thought they wanted to be Jesus' disciples, so Jesus told what a person must do to be one. First of all, the person must love Jesus more than anything else, just like we love our best friend more than anyone else. We must also be willing to be made fun of for loving Him so much, like we are willing to still be friends to our best friend even though others may laugh at us for having that person as our best friend. We will still be Jesus' best friend no matter what others say about it. We must also love Jesus more than we love ourselves. This is what Jesus was saying when He said, "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

Jesus said that it is very important that we are not ashamed of being His disciple. If we are ashamed of Him in this wicked world, He says that He will be ashamed of us when we die.

Let us love Jesus more than our mother, father, brothers, sisters, friends, or any earthly thing. If our family does not love Jesus, we must still love Jesus. If we are sick, or have a lot of other problems, we cannot give up Jesus because of that! Being a disciple of Jesus is for all of our life. Nothing should keep us from doing our best for Him.

Jesus gives extra special blessings to His disciples! Let's all be a disciple and best friend of Jesus!



“ . . . Whosoever doth not

bear his cross,

and come after me,

cannot

be my disciple.”

Luke 14:27



Timmy's Prayer

For a while Debbie sat quietly beside her mother in the car as they drove home from her cousin Patricia's house. Debbie was thinking about something which had happened at her cousin's house. Finally Debbie decided to ask Mother a question.

"Mother," Debbie said. "Do you think that maybe someday I could have a baby brother like little Timmy?"

Mother hadn't been thinking about baby brothers right then, so it took her a long time to answer.

"Did you and Patricia enjoy playing with Timmy?" Mother finally asked. Patricia was Debbie's age. Linda, who was Debbie's little sister, was four and Timmy was nearly three years old.

"Well, we played with Timmy some," replied Debbie. "He says the funniest things sometimes."

"And what did Timmy say this time?" asked Mother.

"Well," began Debbie, "We were playing Sunday School and church, and when it was time for Timmy to say his memory verse, he stood up and said, 'God is love' really big and loud, and then he quickly sat down. When we went to pray, he said, 'God is love. I love you, God. Amen,' and he got up off his knees and sat in his chair. So we all got up and sat back down, too. Then at the lunch table, when it was time to pray, Timmy prayed before anyone else hardly had time to bow their heads; and do you know what he said?"

"No; what?" asked Mother.

Debbie drew in her breath, and then spoke. "He said, 'God is love. I love you, God; aren't you glad I do? Amen.' Patricia, Linda, and I kind of giggled but Timmy never did! He just picked up his water and took a drink, and then started eating like he had prayed the right prayer."

"He prayed a very sweet prayer," said Mother. "You should never laugh at anyone's prayer, because God is listening."

"Well, I didn't mean to laugh but it sounded so different," said Debbie. "At

the table you thank God for the food and for a good day and all, but you don't really say, 'I love you.' At night you thank God for a good house, food, clothes, and you ask for everybody to get well and stay that way, and to help everyone get saved and be happy, and then you say, 'Amen.' Timmy didn't do any of that."

"He didn't say all that, but what he said put all of your many words into a small, loving prayer," said Mother. "Don't you think it touched God when He heard Timmy say, 'I love you, God'? I like to hear you tell me you love me. That makes me want to do a nice favor for you. It works the same way with God. He likes to hear people say, 'I love you,' if they mean it from their hearts. Try Timmy's sincere way of loving God and God will bless you in return."

"Well, I do love God and Jesus," said Debbie, "and I love little Timmy just as if he were my little brother."

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Is it wonderful to be a disciple of Jesus?
2. What do we receive for being His disciple?
3. Is loving Jesus like loving our best friend?
4. Must we love Jesus more than we love ourselves?
5. Must we love Jesus more than we love our families?
6. How much must we love Jesus?
7. What will happen if we are ashamed of Jesus?
8. What is a good reason for giving up Jesus?
9. Are you a disciple of Jesus?

(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. Many extra-special blessings. 3. Yes. 4. Yes. 5. Yes. 6. More than any other thing. 7. He will be ashamed of us. 8. There is none. 9. Yes. or no.)

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Lesson Text: Mark 8:34-38; Luke 14:25-35; John 8:31, 32.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 39, No. 1      Primaries      (USPS549-000)      Part 17      Jan. 24, 1988

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## Jesus Tells of His Death

Jesus knows everything! He knows what is going to happen to you! He knows what will happen to me! He knew what would happen to Himself.

One day He said to His Apostles, "I will go into Jerusalem and will suffer many things from the chief priests and scribes. They will condemn me to death. Then the Gentiles shall mock me, whip me and spit upon me. After that they will kill me, but on the third day I will rise again."

At first the Apostles did not understand what He meant. Later when they were together, He told them again, "I will suffer many things in Jerusalem, and I will be killed, and will be raised again the third day."

Peter did not like what Jesus said. He took hold of Jesus and scolded Him, saying, "Be it *far* from you, Lord! It will never happen to you!"

Jesus turned and faced Peter, "Get behind me, Satan!" He said. "You are discouraging me from doing my Father's will. You should be helping! You do not understand God's way. Anyone who wants to follow God must understand that they must give up this earthly life for a better, spiritual life. A seed will lay in the ground and die so that a new plant can grow. The new plant will make many flowers. But if the first seed did not die, it would always be a little, lonely seed," Jesus said, "I, too, must die, and then I will be raised from death, so that many, many more people can be saved with me."

The disciples could not believe Jesus would really die.

**"Jesus must suffer many things,**





**and be killed,**



**and be raised again."**



**(Matthew 6:21)**

## Bro. Kindly's Funeral

"Hurry, children; we musn't be late!" Mother said as she picked up the baby and put a blanket around his head to protect him from the cold wind outside. Daddy was already in the car, warming it for his family.

"Why do we always have to hurry?" grumbled Jerry as he went out the door.

"Wait for me!" called Betty Sue as she buttoned the last button on her coat.

In the car Jerry was still grumbling. "I don't want to go to a funeral anyway," he said. "Everybody cries and it is boring!"

"Now I don't want to hear another word out of you, young man!" Daddy said sternly. "We are going to show our love to the family who is sad because of the death of a loved one. You knew and loved Bro. Kindly and this will be the last time you will see his body here on earth. You had better quit frowning and look more kind."

Jerry didn't say anything more, but he thought a lot. He knew why he did not like to go to funerals. He didn't like to think about death. Death is such a mystery. There in a casket lies a cold, stiff body that doesn't move or speak. There is no one in it any longer. "What a terribly ending," thought Jerry. "I hope I don't end up that way." Then Jerry suddenly realized that he would not have any say about when he died. A picture of himself lying cold and stiff in a casket came to his mind. Now he *really* didn't want to go to the funeral!

Sitting beside Daddy on the church bench, Jerry had to sit still and listen to some of the service. The singers sang about heaven and what a beautiful place it was. Then a minister read about Bro. Kindly's life and family. Everyone got down to pray, and then another minister gave a comforting sermon. Indeed, it even comforted Jerry's heart.

The minister told about the death of Jesus and how that He arose on the third day. Jesus didn't stay cold and stiff in the grave, but by the Word of God came back to life and now sits on

the right hand of God, listening to our prayers and talking to God about them. Those here on earth can pray to Jesus and hear him talking to their hearts, but they cannot see Him because he is behind the thin veil of death. However, now that Bro. Kindly has passed through that thin veil, he is seeing Jesus for the first time and the angels are welcoming him home. He will never die and leave that happy place and everyone, even Jerry, can go there to see Jesus and Bro. Kindly if they will trust and obey God's Word.

Mother and Betty Sue cried when they saw Bro. Kindly's body. Even Daddy brushed away a tear. Jerry wasn't frowning now. He was wondering what it would be like to actually see Jesus like Bro. Kindly was seeing Him. Jerry was sad because Bro. Kindly wasn't with them like before, but now he knew a funeral for a child of God was just a happy first day in heaven.

—Connie Sorrell



### Questions:

1. Does Jesus know everything?
2. What did Jesus say would happen to Him?
3. Will the people whip Jesus?
4. Will they kill Jesus?
5. At what city will Jesus suffer?
6. Did Peter believe this would happen to Jesus?
7. What did Jesus call Peter?
8. Must the seed die before it will grow into a plant?
9. Must Jesus die to draw people to God?

★★★★★★

Answers: 1. Yes. 2. He would die. 3. Yes. 4. Yes. 5. Jerusalem. 6. No. 7. Satan. 8. Yes. 9. Yes.

Lesson Text: Mark 8:31-33; 9:31, 32; 10:32-34; Luke 9:22; John 12:23-33.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 39, No. 1      Primaries      (USPS549-000)      Part 18      Jan. 31, 1988

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## Jesus Talks with Moses and Elias

One day Jesus said to Peter, James, and John, "Let us go into the mountains and pray."

They climbed up into the mountains and looked until they found a good place to be alone and pray. There they knelt in prayer. For a while all four men prayed. Then, one by one, the three Apostles fell asleep.

Jesus continued praying while they slept. As He prayed, His face became shining like an angel's, and His clothes became white as snow. Then two men came from heaven to talk with Jesus. One man was Moses, who had led God's children out of Egypt a long, long time ago. The other was Elijah, the prophet who was taken up into heaven without dying as other people do.

While Jesus was talking with these two men, the three Apostles awoke. How surprised they were! Immediately Peter knew the men, for he said to Jesus, "Let us build three places of worship: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." After Peter said these words, a thick cloud came over them and they could not see one another.

A voice called from the clouds, saying, "This is my beloved Son, hear ye Him." The voice was so frightening that the three Apostles fell on their faces to the ground.

Jesus came over and touched them, saying, "Arise, be not afraid." When they looked up, only Jesus was there.

The next morning, as they were going down the mountain, Jesus told them not to tell what had happened until after He was raised from the dead. The three men obeyed Jesus.

**“This is my beloved Son,  
hear ye him.” (Matthew 17:5)**





## Betty Sue's Dream

"I had a very unusual dream last night, Mother," said Betty Sue the morning after Bro. Kindly's funeral.

"What was unusual about it?" asked Mother as she turned the bacon that she was frying for breakfast.

Betty Sue stood on her tippy toes to peep in on the bacon Mother was turning in the skillet. "There were a lot of people in my dream," she said, "even Bro. Kindly! That is what was so unusual about it. I dreamed we were all in church singing about Jesus. Everyone was happy when I walked Bro. Kindly. He sat down in the same spot where he always sat. Everyone started looking at each other with funny looks on their faces as if to say, 'What is he doing here?' or 'Didn't he die?' I said to myself that I would go and tell Bro. Kindly that he was in the wrong place and that he should be in heaven since he was saved when he died.

"In my dream, I went over to tell Bro. Kindly that he should go back to heaven but Bro. Kindly said, 'I'm in a little bit of heaven right now. You and everyone here should soon come to live with me in heaven. I want you all to come! There is room for everyone in heaven!' After Bro. Kindly said that in my dream, he slowly left until he had just melted away. Now I wish I hadn't asked him to leave in my dream, because I could have asked him more questions about heaven! Wasn't that an unusual dream?" asked Betty Sue.

Mother was already putting bacon, fried eggs, and hash browns on the table but she had been listening to Betty Sue all the time. "That dream wasn't so unusual or bad," she replied. "It was very encouraging to think that Bro. Kindly spoke to you again in the chapel. At different times Bro. Kindly ate with us here in our home, didn't he, Betty Sue?"

Betty Sue nodded her head as she set the table. "Bro. Kindly liked to talk about Jesus," she said. "He liked to talk to us children, too. I liked to sit by Bro. Kindly. Now he wants us to go to heav-

en some day so that everyone will be together again!"

"Yes," said Mother. "You had an encouraging dream. Bro. Kindly isn't all dead. His soul is living in heaven with Jesus. We can go to see him when we die. We will leave our bodies here on earth, but our soul or inner man will fly away to heaven. Bro. Kindly now lives there with Jesus, God, and all the people who have been faithful."

"I'm going to see Bro. Kindly some day," said Betty Sue as she put toast and butter on the table. "But first I'm going to eat breakfast!"

Mother laughed. "Let's call Dad and Jerry to the table. You can tell them about your dream and how Bro. Kindly asked you to come and be with him in heaven. Your good dream will encourage them, also." —Connie Sorrell



### Questions:

1. Where did Jesus go?
2. Who did He take with Him?
3. What did they do in the mountain?
4. Did the Apostles sleep while Jesus was praying?
5. Who did they see talking with Him?
6. Did Peter want to worship all three men?
7. What did the voice tell Peter to do?
8. Were the Apostles afraid of the voice?
9. Did Jesus ask them to wait before telling about this?

★★★★★★

(Answers: 1. Up a mountain. 2. Peter, James, and John. 3. They prayed. 4. Yes. 5. Moses and Elijah. 6. Yes. 7. To listen to what Jesus had to say. 8. Yes. 9. Yes.

Lesson Text: Matt. 17:1-8; Mark 9:2-10; Luke 9:28-36;

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 39, No. 1    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 19    Feb. 7, 1988

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## Eyes for Jesus

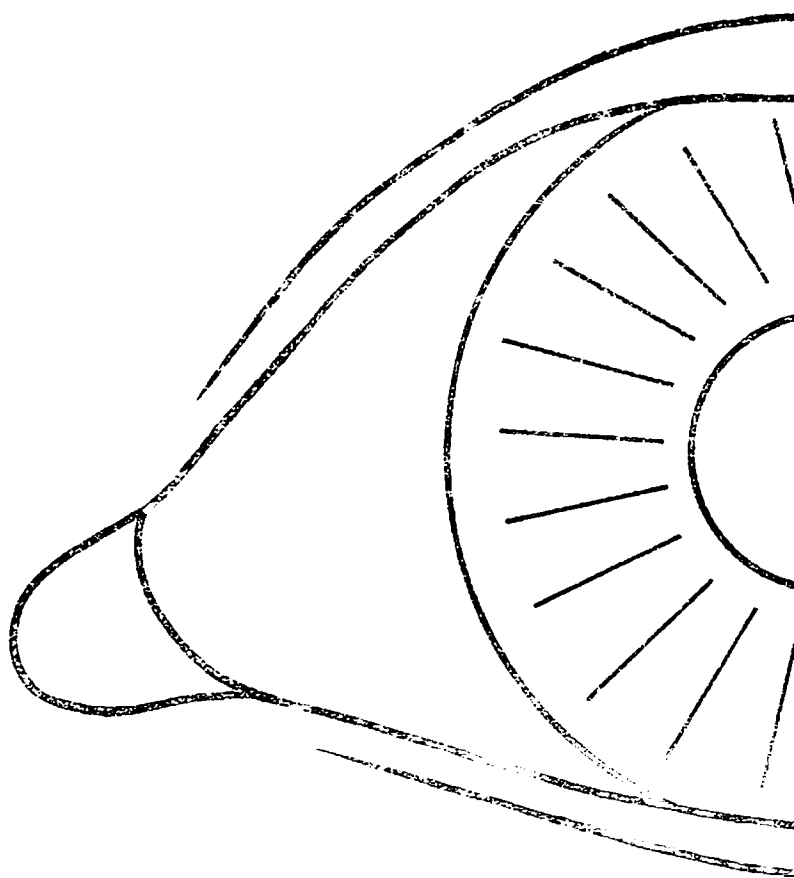
One day many, many people gathered around Jesus and He gave them a lesson about having a single eye. Having a single eye means looking to Jesus and believing in Him. We should have only one spiritual eye. Almost everyone has two eyes, but both eyes see the same thing at the same time. How fun it would be if our two eyes could look at two different things at the same time! We could fool others, right? But it would be quite confusing, too.

The evil people around Jesus had two spiritual eyes. With one eye they saw the signs and miracles that Jesus did. With the other they saw the evil, selfish things of the world. This made them confused and so they could not believe in Jesus. They said, "Show us a sign if you are from God, so that we may believe in you."

Jesus said that He would lie dead in the earth for three days, just as Jonah was in the whale for three days. After Jonah got out of the whale, he preached to the people of Ninevah that their city would be destroyed. They believed Jonah and stopped their evil ways and prayed to God. Also, the queen of Sheba traveled a long way to hear the wisdom of God from King Solomon. In the day of judgment God will let these people into heaven instead of those who did not believe the messengers God had sent to them. "You have not believed in me whom God sent to you," Jesus said.

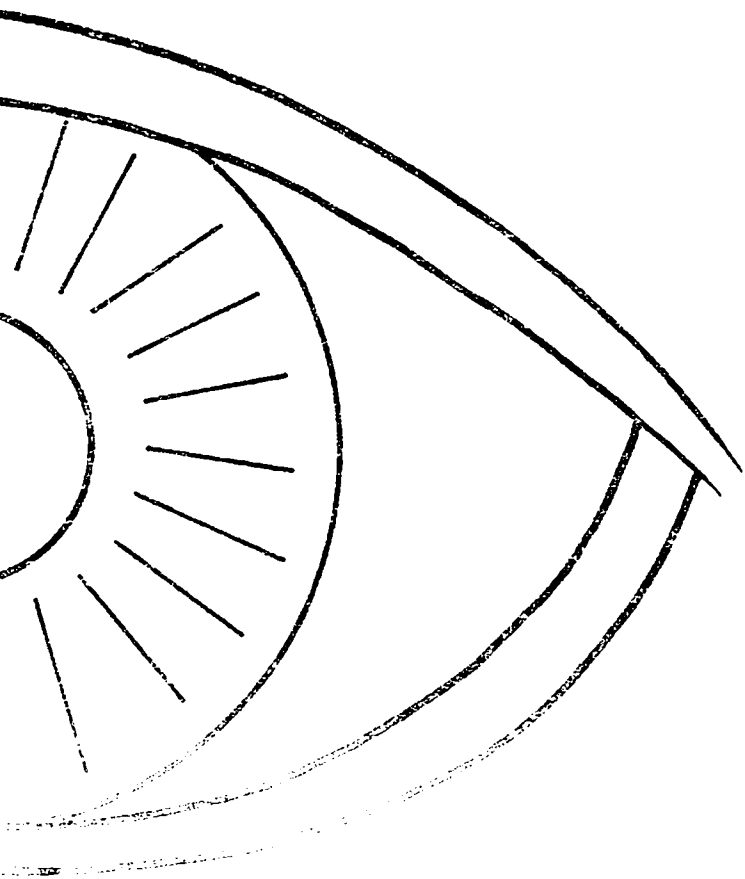
"I am to you a light, that you could see the goodness of God. My works are my sign. I have not done my works in secret, I have let everyone see what I do. You are so blind that you have not seen them. If you will keep your eyes on me, God's light will fill your whole body, and your spiritual eye will be single."

**“If thine eye be single, thy whole**



dy shall be full of light."

(Matthew 6:22)



## Hole in the Needle

"Mother, can you get this thread to go through the hole in this needle?" asked Janelle. "The thread is too big or the hole is too little; I can't get it to go through!"

"Let me help you then," replied her mother as she laid aside her mending to check Janelle's needle. "Do you know what the hole in the needle is called?" Mother asked as she carefully threaded the needle.

"No," said Janelle with some disgust for she was rather tried at the needle just then.

"The hole in the needle is called an eye," replied Mother calmly. "Jesus said it would be easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. (Matt. 19:20). Do you think you could get a big, hump-backed camel through the eye of this needle?"

Janelle giggled at the question Mother asked. "It would have to be a big, big needle or a little, bitty camel," she said with a chuckle. "Thank you, Mother, for getting the thread through the little, bitty hole in this needle."

"You're welcome," said Mother. "Jesus said that all things were possible with God. Christians must not hold on to earthly things more than to God and His heavenly treasures. Earthly riches are like humps on our back. If we will let go of all the humps and bumps, we can easily slip through the door into the kingdom of God. Be happy with a few things here on earth. Put your hope and faith in treasures up in heaven where Jesus lives. After we die, then we can enjoy the treasures in heaven with Jesus and other happy saints of God."

"Maybe sometimes I shouldn't go into a toy store," said Janelle thoughtfully. "Every time I do I want so many things that I forget about the good things I already have. That makes you unhappy, doesn't it, Mother? But, really, I like what I have," continued Janelle. "It is sometimes better to mend toys than to keep buying new ones and having so much clutter, isn't it, Mother?"

Mother had to smile at the wise words Janelle had spoken. "You sound like you are really growing up, Janelle," she said. "If you will remember this and always think of it when you are tempted to murmur and complain about your old toys, or when you are tempted to plead and beg Mother and Daddy to buy something you really don't need, then you will be wiser than many grown-ups. Many people buy extra things they don't need. This habit hinders them from loving God with all their heart. It is a hump on the back that keeps them from entering into God's kingdom."

"Well, I certainly don't want to be a big, humpy camel," said Janelle, "because the eye of a needle is so-o-o-o little!"

—Connie Sorrell



### Questions:

1. Were many people gathered around Jesus?
2. What did Jesus teach?
3. Can evil people see the messenger of God?
4. Were the miracles which Jesus did a sign that He was the messenger of God?
5. Did the people of Ninevah believe the messenger that God sent to them?
6. Did the queen seek to know the wisdom of God?
7. Did the evil people believe in Jesus?
8. Were the evil people blind?
9. Why were the people blind?

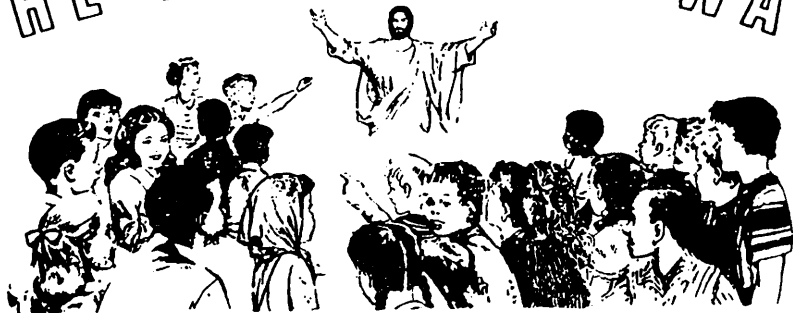
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(Answers: 1. Yes. 2. About a single eye. 3. No. 4. Yes. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. No. 8. Yes. 9. Because they didn't keep their eyes on Jesus, and they loved the world and the praise of men.)

Lesson Text: Luke 11:29-36; Jonah 3:5-6; 2 Chron. 9:1-10.



# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 39, No. 1    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 20    Feb. 14, 1988

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## Jesus Says, "Fear Not!"

One day Jesus said, "The people who obey me are like sweet, loving sheep. The people of the world are like wolves, ready to harm the sheep. But don't be afraid of these men. They can only do to you what I let them do!" Jesus is the Good Shepherd and He will always take care of His little sheep. These men of the world hate Jesus, so they will hate all the people who love and obey Him. Some of them may want to have you killed like they did Jesus. There will always be people who do not like Christians. Someone may report your parents to the authorities. They will probably tell them that your father or mother did something which they did not do, just to get them into trouble. At these times don't be afraid.

When your mother or father, or any other Christian goes to court, Jesus will send His Holy Spirit into their mind. This Spirit will help them to know what to say. When they are asked questions in front of the judge, the Holy Spirit will put the right answers in their mind.

"Whoever is strong and does not deny me, I will stand by him," Jesus said. "But if a person becomes afraid, and says that he is not my disciple, then I will not be able to help him. Something else will happen to that person, too. After he dies, I will tell God that he is not my disciple (unless he asks forgiveness for his sin). Only disciples can go into heaven."

Let us not be afraid of men, for they can only kill the body. Let us be afraid of God, who can kill the body and also cast the soul into hell. If we suffer with God on earth, we shall enjoy heaven.

**“Fear him, which hath power to c**



into hell.” (Luke 12:5)



## The Wayward Cow

Ricky and Steve were spending a week on the farm with their Grandpa and Grandma. They were having a wonderful time swinging on ropes in the big barn loft, chasing baby pigs out of the yard, feeding baby calves from bottles, and gathering eggs the hens had laid in their nests in the chicken coop.

Steve liked the baby animals and he laughed at their funny ways, but he was a teeny bit afraid of the big animals. He didn't want to let Ricky know, but he didn't like to be by the mama pigs very much, nor the mama cows. Mama pigs (called sows) grunt loudly and would chase whoever they were angry at. The cows sometimes tried to kick Grandpa in the barn and Steve surely didn't want one kicking him!

One day, Grandpa needed Ricky and Steve to help him herd the cows into another field. He told each boy what to do and how to walk toward the cows and not let them break the ranks and run through. If one cow broke through, then all the cows would try to follow it. Then not one would go into the field where Grandpa wanted them.

Everything was going just fine and it looked like all sixteen cows were going right, when suddenly one cow on the edge of the herd lowered her head and looked Steve's way.

"Oh, no!" prayed Steve. "Lord, don't let her come my way!"

But the cow was already coming. With a low bellow and her head down, she was already trotting toward Steve before Grandpa could holler. Steve had a stick in his hand to swat her with, but he forgot all about it. He was far too frightened to even holler. He just turned and ran!

"Boy, don't run!" shouted Grandpa, but it was too late. Steve was already sliding under the fence. He even tore his shirt in the hurry-scurry.

Grandpa had to run behind the cow and fill up Steve's place before another cow tried to follow. Between Grandpa, Ricky and the cow dog, the cows were finally in the right field.

Steve felt so ashamed that he went to the house and hid in the basement under the shelves where Grandma's canned foods were stored. No one said a word about the cows until that night at family worship. Then Grandpa read the 10th chapter of Matthew about "Fear not."

Ricky teased Steve. "Jesus said, 'Fear not men,' but does it say anything about fearing cows?"

"Now, now," said Grandma who knew what had happened. "Some people have animal natures. Jesus even speaks here of wolves, sheep, serpents, and doves. It isn't wise to stir up anger in an animal or man, but when we are doing the will of God and they are against God, then we can be sure God will take care of us."

"Yes," said Grandpa. "And next time, Steve, use the stick and stand against the wayward cow." —Connie Sorrell



### Questions:

1. Who did Jesus say that Christian people were like?
2. Who are like wolves?
3. Do the men of the world hate Jesus?
4. Do the men of the world hate the Christians?
5. Did Jesus say, "Don't be afraid"?
6. Will the Holy Spirit help good people give the right answer?
7. Should we be afraid of men who can only kill the body?
8. Can people go into heaven who deny Jesus?
9. Of whom should we be afraid?

★★★★★★

(Answers: 1. Sheep. 2. People of the world. 3. Yes. 4. Yes. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. No. 8. No. 9. God.)

Lesson Text: Mat. 10:18-31; Luke 12:4-12.

# THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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Vol. 39, No. 1    Primaries    (USPS549-000)    Part 21    Feb. 21, 1988

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## A Boy is Healed

Jesus spent the night in the mountain praying. When He came down the next morning, He saw a lot of people. They were talking excitedly. One of the scribes said, "Is this your son?"

"Yes," the man answered.

"You took him to Jesus' disciples, and they could not heal him?"

"Yes," the man answered again.

Just then some of the people saw Jesus and ran to meet Him. Soon the sick boy, his father, and all the other people were gathered around Jesus.

"What were you asking?" Jesus said to the scribe.

The poor father didn't wait for the scribe to answer. He cried out, "My son, my only son has a dumb spirit. The spirit makes him foam at the mouth and gnash his teeth. Sometimes it makes him fall into the water and sometimes into fire. It is trying to destroy my son!"

"Oh, you faithless people," Jesus said. "Bring him to me."

They brought the boy to Jesus and at that moment the boy fell on the ground and rolled around and around. Foam was coming from his mouth. "Please help us!" the father cried to Jesus.

"If you can believe, I will," Jesus said, "for all things are possible to him that believeth."

"Lord, I do believe; help my unbelief," the father cried again.

Then Jesus said to the foul spirit in the boy, "Come out of him, and enter no more into him."

Immediately the foul spirit left the boy. He was well!

"Lord, I believe; help r



unbelief.'" (Mark 9:24)



## When Sickness Comes

Kevin was sick; *really* sick! His stomach hurt; his head hurt; his whole body hurt. He hurt all over. Mother didn't know what was wrong with him and Daddy didn't know, either. They just knew their little boy didn't feel well and he hadn't been well for two days.

Kevin had a fever and he slept a lot. When he woke up in the afternoon, his mother was sitting by his bed putting cool cloths on his arms and forehead.

"Do you want some soup and crackers?" she asked Kevin.

Kevin shut his eyes—he felt so bad. "Just call Bro. Smith, please," he said. "Have Bro. Smith pray for me that Jesus will make me well."

Mother called Bro. Smith and he and another brother came over. They anointed Kevin with oil, and then prayed that in the name of Jesus all the fever and hurting would leave. They spoke a few words of encouragement and read some Scriptures about trusting Jesus for healing. Kevin went back to sleep before they left.

When Kevin woke up later that night he felt some better. He wasn't so hot, though he still hurt some. Slowly the hurting went away and Kevin began to feel better each day. In three days, he was out of bed and playing with his brothers and sister. Jesus had made Kevin well.

Later, in another town far away, a little girl named Melonie was sick. She was allergic to damp mildew and pollen of flowers that was in the air. Melonie could hardly breathe at times and it made her lungs hurt. When Melonie coughed and coughed, her mother and daddy would pray to Jesus and Jesus would ease the hurt and help Melonie stop coughing. Sometimes Mother would call Grandma and Grandpa for prayer, also. They all would agree in prayer that Melonie would be healed and not hurt when she breathed. Prayer worked every time. Melonie always thanked Jesus when He answered prayer and took away the coughing.

In a farm house, way out in the country, David was home sick with the flu. Everything David ate just came right back up again. He was tired of vomiting. Mother was sorry David was sick, too, and hoped David's three brothers and four sisters would not catch the flu from him. Once the flu starts in a family, it usually goes to each member before it finally leaves. Mother wanted David to feel better and she didn't want the rest of the children sick, either.

At supper time, everyone gathered around the table to eat; everyone but David.

"Let's all bow our heads and earnestly pray for David," Daddy said. "We want David well and we don't want anyone else to catch this flu." They all prayed for David and that Jesus would help them to stay well.

Jesus answered prayer, too! The next day David was at the table, eating and feeling fine again—and no one else caught the flu from David.

—Connie Sorrell

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### Questions:

1. What had Jesus been doing in the mountain?
2. Could the disciples heal the sick boy?
3. Did the sick boy sometimes fall into the fire and water?
4. Did the father ask Jesus to heal the boy?
5. What did the father have to do before his son could be healed?
6. Did the father believe?
7. What did Jesus say to the bad spirit?
8. Did the spirit come out of the boy?
9. Did Jesus make the boy well?

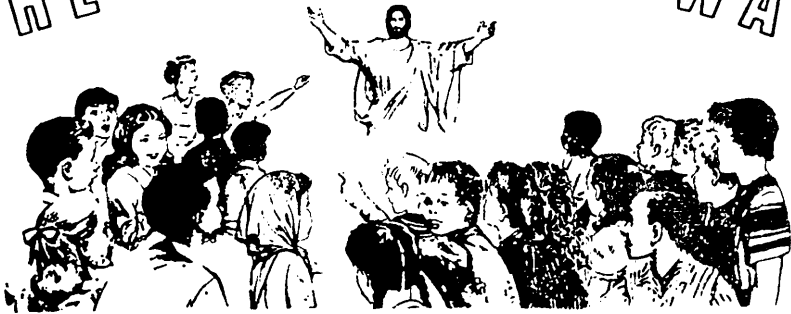
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(Answers: 1. Praying. 2. No. 3. Yes. 4. Yes. 5. Believe. 6. Yes. 7. "Come out of him and enter no more into him." 8. Yes. 9. Yes.)

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Lesson Text: Mark 9:14-29; Matthew 17:14-21; Luke 9:37-43.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 Feb. 28, 1988

Jesus Pays Taxes

Jesus and His disciples were preaching in the country of Galilee. One day they came into the city of Capernaum. Alone beside the road were some men taking money from everyone who came by. These men were workers for the Roman governor. They were collecting taxes for him.

When Peter came along, they said to him, "Does your Lord pay taxes? All the other men pay taxes to the government so that the government will have money to build roads and supply protection to the people. It is a help to everyone."

Peter wondered just how the Roman government could help Jesus who had made everything in the world. He knew that Jesus helped them, but they did not help Jesus. He told the men that Jesus did pay taxes.

Later that day when Jesus and Peter were in a house, Jesus talked to Peter about taxes; then He told Peter to go fishing. "The first fish you catch," Jesus said, "will have some money in its mouth. Get the money out of the fish's mouth and go pay our taxes with it."

Peter went fishing. Soon he caught a fish! He opened the fish's mouth and there was the money, just as Jesus had said. Peter took the money and went to the men who were collecting taxes. "This money is taxes for Jesus and myself," he said.

Jesus was a good citizen of His country and He expects Christians to be honest citizens who obey the laws and do their share in providing the money necessary to run the government; even though it is not always used as we think it should be.

“ . . . Obey magi
Titu



ates (rulers). . ."
3:1



Car Seats

"Go, Daddy, go! The light's turned green!" said Becky, who was buckled in a car seat sitting beside her daddy.

Daddy stepped on the gas pedal and their car shot forward along with another car which was beside them on the four-lane street.

"There are a lot of cars behind us!" said Johnny who was in the back seat, up on his knees, looking out the back window.

"Johnny, are you out of your car seat again?" asked Daddy. "I told you to stay in your seat. The law says you should be in a car seat while the car is moving. Get back into your car seat! Now!"

"Aw, Daddy, do I have to?" asked Johnny. He didn't like to sit still anywhere, and especially not in the car when he seemed to see so much more by moving around and looking.

"Yes, Johnny, buckle yourself in the car seat. We need to obey the law."

"But that is a silly law!" exclaimed Johnny.

"No, Johnny, don't say that," said Daddy. "The law makers believe that it helps to save lives when there is an accident. Adults and children who are buckled in their seat belts are less likely to be killed in accidents than those who are not."

"I wish I made the laws," grumbled Johnny who was now settled in his car seat again. "I would let cars go a hundred miles an hour and I would cut out all the car seat belts!"

"Oh-h-h!" said Becky. "Shame on you Johnny! It's a good thing you are still a little boy and can't make people obey you! Would you have cars stop at red lights and go on green? That's another good law, isn't it, Daddy?"

"Yes," replied Daddy. "Laws should make order and protect the citizens who obey them. In God's Word Jesus tells us to pray for the rulers of our land. They are the people who make the laws that everyone should obey. Though we don't personally know the men and women

who make our laws, we are daily affected by the decisions they make. It is important that we let God know we care about our country and the laws it has. We must simply ask God to help our leaders to have a fear of God and acknowledge God's way, or law and order, before making new laws for us to obey."

"Well, Jesus never had to wear seat belts when he rode a donkey," grumbled Johnny again.

"No, but Jesus paid taxes. One time he had Peter go to the sea, fish out one fish, and take money from its mouth to pay the taxes for Jesus and His disciple."

About that time Daddy had to put on the brakes very fast because a speeding truck failed to stop at a yellow/red light. Both Johnny and Becky were whipped forward, then backward, but neither was hurt, thanks to their car seats. That stopped Johnny's grumbling about car seats.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. In what country was Jesus preaching?
2. What did the man ask Peter?
3. Did Peter say that Jesus paid taxes?
4. Did Jesus say that they should pay taxes?
5. Did Jesus tell Peter to go fishing?
6. How many fish was Peter to catch?
7. What was Peter to find in the fish's mouth?
8. What did Peter do with the money from the fish's mouth?
9. Does Jesus expect us to give some money to the government?

★★★★★★

(Answers: 1. Galilee. 2. "Does Jesus pay taxes?" 3. Yes. 4. Yes. 5. Yes. 6. One. 7. Money. 8. Paid taxes for himself and Jesus. 9. Yes.)

Lesson Text: Matt. 17:24-27; Mark 12:13-17; Luke 20:19-26.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 Mar. 6, 1988

Who is Greatest in God's Kingdom

One day a woman came to Jesus and asked, "Will you let my two sons have important places in your kingdom? I wish one of them to sit on your left side and one on your right side when you sit on your throne."

Jesus said to the woman, "You don't know what you are asking. Whoever has those places will have to suffer as I will suffer. Are you able to do that?" He asked the sons who stood nearby.

"We are able," they said.

"Then you shall. But I cannot promise that you will each sit beside me. God, my Father, will decide that."

The other disciples were listening to what Jesus told the mother. "They are no better than I am," one of the disciples said.

"Nor I," said another. Soon they were arguing about who was the greatest.

Jesus knew what they were doing. "What are you discussing?" Jesus asked. They felt ashamed, so no one answered. Then Jesus called a little child. He put the little child right in the middle of all the big men. He then said, "Except each one of you change and become as this little child, ye cannot even enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whoever will humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. My kingdom is not like other kingdoms. Whoever is great in my kingdom must serve and help others. He must be the last; not the first."

Do you like to be first? Jesus said the last shall be the greatest. Next time step back and let someone else be first.

**“If any man desire to be first,
the same shall be last.”**

(Mark 9:35)





Fair and Square

"I want to be first!" Tony said. "Here, let me be first! I want to be ahead of you!"

"Tony, stop pushing!" cried several of the children who were all in line waiting for the gym to open so they could play ball games.

"Mr. Stout, Tony is pushing again!" Jim told the teacher as he walked up to open the doors.

"Tony, how did you get to the front again?" asked Mr. Stout as he quietly lined the children in an orderly row.

"I dunno," Tony shrugged. "I just walked up here."

"Were you *here* first?" the teacher asked.

"No, he wasn't!" several children replied at once.

"I asked Tony," said Mr. Stout. "Were you *here* first, Tony?"

"No, sir, I guess I wasn't," replied Tony.

"Then how did you get to the front?" asked Mr. Stout. By now the children were in single file and quietly listening to Mr. Stout. Tony was still standing at the front of the line, but he didn't feel too good about it any more. He didn't want to answer Mr. Stout.

"Tony, answer me," said Mr. Stout. "How did you get to be in the front if you weren't *here* first?"

"I guess I'm in front because the others let me up here," Tony said slowly. He didn't want to look up because he could feel Mr. Stout's stern look in his direction.

"We didn't let him, Mr. Stout said Randy. "Tony jabbed us in the stomach with his elbows and made himself first."

"Is that right, Tony?" the teacher asked. By this time Mr. Stout had his hand on Tony's shoulder. "Did you push and shove your way to the front or did you get here fairly?"

"I guess I pushed a little," Tony said sadly. Mr. Stout's hand sure felt heavy on his shoulder.

"Tony you are strong and you are good with balls and other games," said

Mr. Stout, "but you will never, never be a winner pushing and shoving your way to the front. A true winner goes to the top fair and square. Then the winner will have respect from others because he didn't cheat them in order to win. See, all your friends here are angry at you because you hurt them in order to get ahead. Is all the pushing and hurt feelings worth walking into the gym first?"

Tony was so ashamed that he could not even speak or look up. He shook his head.

"Then I want you to go to the back of the line this time," said Mr. Stout. "I don't want to ever again hear another report of you like this."

Tony meekly obeyed. He had learned his lesson well. From then on he didn't want to push his way to the front. He wanted to earn it fair and square!

Do you know how to be fair? Are you fair when getting in line, sharing your toys, or playing games?

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

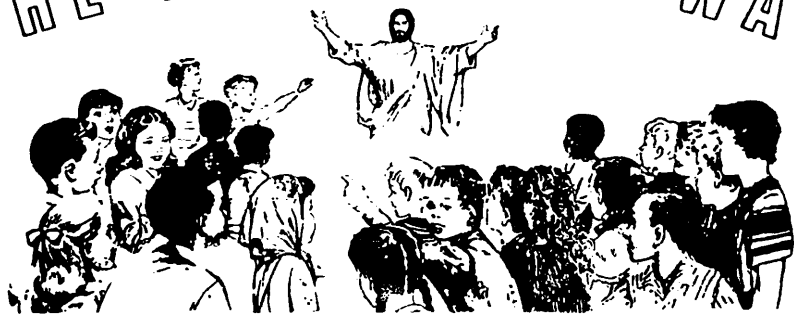
1. Who came to Jesus?
2. What did she ask?
3. Did she get what she asked for?
4. What were the disciples disputing about?
5. Did Jesus say that everyone should become as a child?
6. Who is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?
7. Did Jesus say that ministers and servants are great?
8. Did Jesus say that we should be last?
9. Will you let others go first?

★★★★★★

Answers: 1. A woman. 2. That her two sons have important places in Jesus' kingdom. 3. No. 4. Who was the greatest. 5. Yes. 6. Whoever humbles himself as a child and serves others. 7. Yes. 8. Yes. 9. Either yes or no.

Lesson Text: Matt. 18:1-6; 20:20-28; Mark 9:33-35; 10:35-45; Luke 20:45-47; 22:24-27.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 24 Mar. 13, 1988

Jesus Goes to a Feast at the Temple

It had been a while since Jesus had gone to Jerusalem. There were some people at Jerusalem who wanted to kill Him. When He was there, they watched everything He did. Sometimes they sent others to ask Him tricky questions, hoping He might say something wrong. He was tired of it all, so He went to His hometown to stay.

While He was staying there, the time came for a great feast at Jerusalem. "Why don't you go up to the feast?" his brothers asked to torment Him, for they were jealous of Him. "You could 'show off' some of your miracles."

"You go on to the feast," Jesus said. "I will not go yet."

Some time after His brothers had gone to the feast, Jesus also went. He did not want people to know that He was there, but everyone was looking for Him. Soon people gathered around Him and He began teaching. "How marvellous are His words," those who loved Him said, "and He has not been to school."

Jesus said to them, "The words that I speak are words of my Father in heaven; that's why they're wonderful."

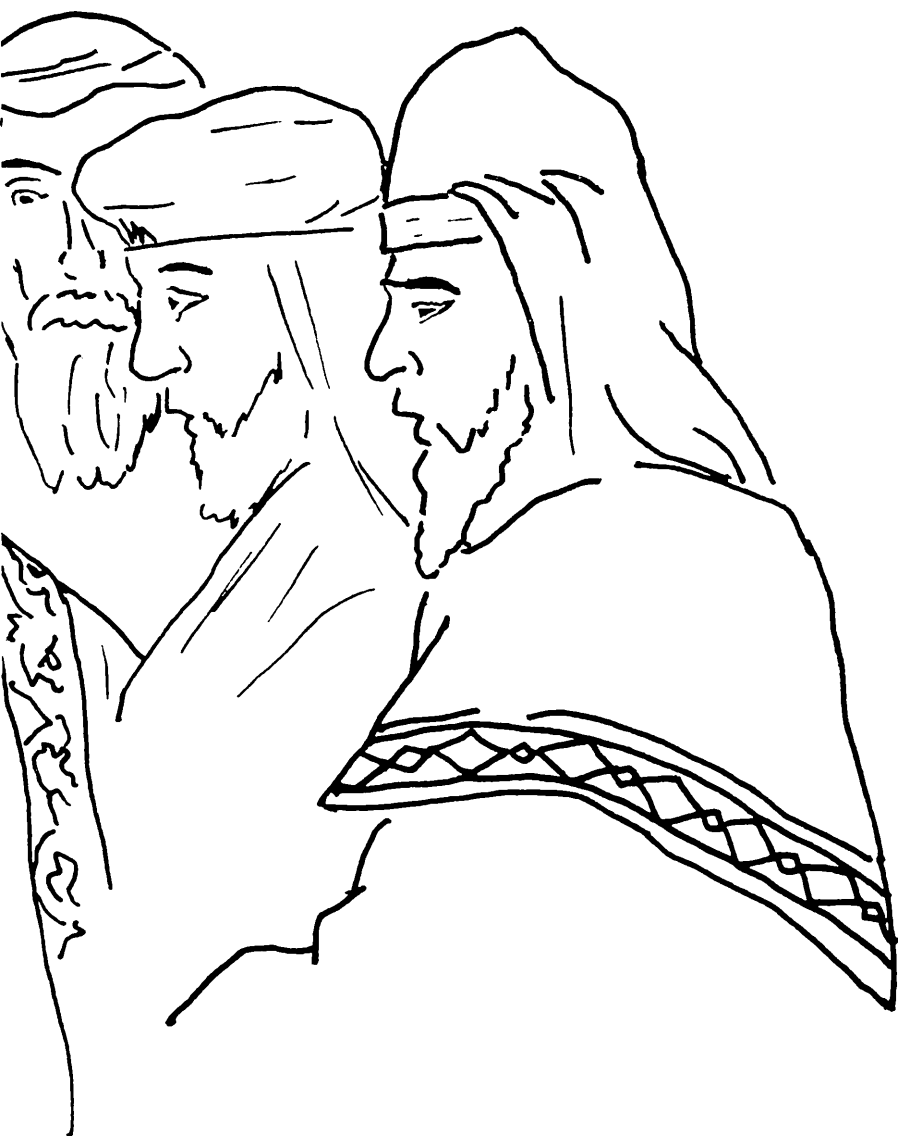
Day after day Jesus continued teaching boldly in the temple. The longer He taught, the more people believed in Him. Some of the people began saying, "Isn't this the man they are hunting to kill? Why don't they take Him?" Some officers did come to arrest Jesus, but they just stayed around and listened to what He said.

When the officers returned, they were asked, "Why didn't you bring Jesus?"

"There has never been a man who spoke as He does," they said.

**“Jesus went up into the temp
and taught.” (John 7:14)**





A Family Reunion

"Just look at all this good food," said Aunt Dorothy as she set down her hot dish of barbeque chicken on a table already full of good smelling food. "I think there's enough here to feed an army!"

Aunt Barbara laughed. "Our family has almost grown to be an army," she said. "We don't have a little family reunion with nearly two hundred of us gathering together each time."

"Wouldn't our great-grandparents be glad to see this large gathering, all from their beginning?" Aunt Martha said. She had just walked up to the table with a big, chocolate cake.

"Yes," agreed Aunt Barbara. "When our great-grandparents came to America, they wanted to give their children a chance to worship God freely and teach their children the ways of God without any government rule. They would be happy to know that their struggles and efforts are appreciated this far down the line."

"When do I get a piece of pie, Aunt Martha?" Joey asked. He had been standing nearby, listening to what his aunts had said.

"After you eat some of Aunt Dorothy's barbeque chicken and some mixed vegetables," said Aunt Martha, smiling.

"Aw, you sound like my mother," said Joey teasingly.

"Maybe that is because your mother and I are sisters," said Aunt Martha as she patted Joey's head.

"You both look alike and act alike, too," said Joey, "and Aunt Dorothy and Aunt Barbara look alike."

"That's the way it is in families," replied Aunt Martha. "Sometimes two will look alike, or none will look alike and each look different. That isn't so important. What is important is that each one gets along and loves one another." With that, Aunt Martha gave Joey a hug.

Joey went off to play, but was soon called, with his cousins, to gather around for prayer and dinner.

With the help of his cane, old Uncle John slowly rose from his seat and bowed his head of gray hair to offer the dinner prayer.

"Thank you, dear Father, for this wonderful day which you have given us to live in and worship you. We appreciate the loving family which you have given us. It is more precious to us than silver and gold. Help us to never let anything separate us from each other's love or from your love. Keep us as the apple of thine eye.

"We thank you for the food and for all the many blessings you have bestowed upon each one. In return, let us be a blessing one to another, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen."

There was a hush for just a minute as each one felt love flowing from one to another. Then Joey reached for his plate and started down the line toward the barbeque chicken, vegetables, and chocolate pie!

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

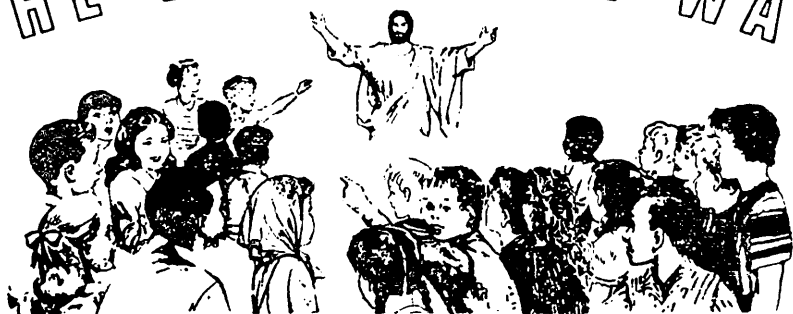
1. What did the people in Jerusalem want to do to Jesus?
2. Where was Jesus staying?
3. What great thing was happening in Jerusalem?
4. Why did Jesus' brothers tell Him to go to Jerusalem?
5. Did Jesus go to Jerusalem later?
6. What did Jesus do at Jerusalem?
7. Why didn't the people who wanted to kill Jesus come and take Him?
8. What did the officers say about Jesus?
9. Did many more people believe in Jesus?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Answers: 1. To kill Him. 2. At His home in Galilee. 3. The feast. 4. So He could "show off" some miracles. 5. Yes. 6. He taught in the temple. 7. It was not God's time for Jesus to die. 8. They said, "Never a man spoke like this man." 9. Yes.

Lesson Text: John 7:1-46.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 Mar. 20, 1988

How to Pray

Jesus told about two men praying in the temple to explain to us how we should pray.

One of these men was a very religious man, a Pharisee. He was an honest, clean man, but very proud. He came into the temple and stood praying. He said, "Oh, God, I thank you that I am a good man. I do not cheat others out of their things, neither do I frighten them into giving me their money. I am a good husband. I skip two meals a week in sacrifice to you, and I give money to the church. I also thank you that I am not like that publican over there." When he finished praying he went home.

The publican who was standing far away was so humble that he would not even lift up his eyes. But *he* wanted God's help so badly that he beat on his breast and cried to God saying, "God, have pity on me and help me!"

Jesus said that God heard the publican's prayer and saved him, so the publican went home feeling happy! The Pharisee did not get God's help for God will not hear those who are proud.

When we pray to Jesus, we must always remember that He is God and that He hears and answers our prayers if we are humble.

It is very disgusting to hear people brag about themselves to others. How much more disgusting it is for a person to brag to God, who made him. A person bragging to God is like a tiny, little bug bragging to us. How great is a tiny bug when compared to a person? Almost nothing, right? That's how a person is when compared to God.

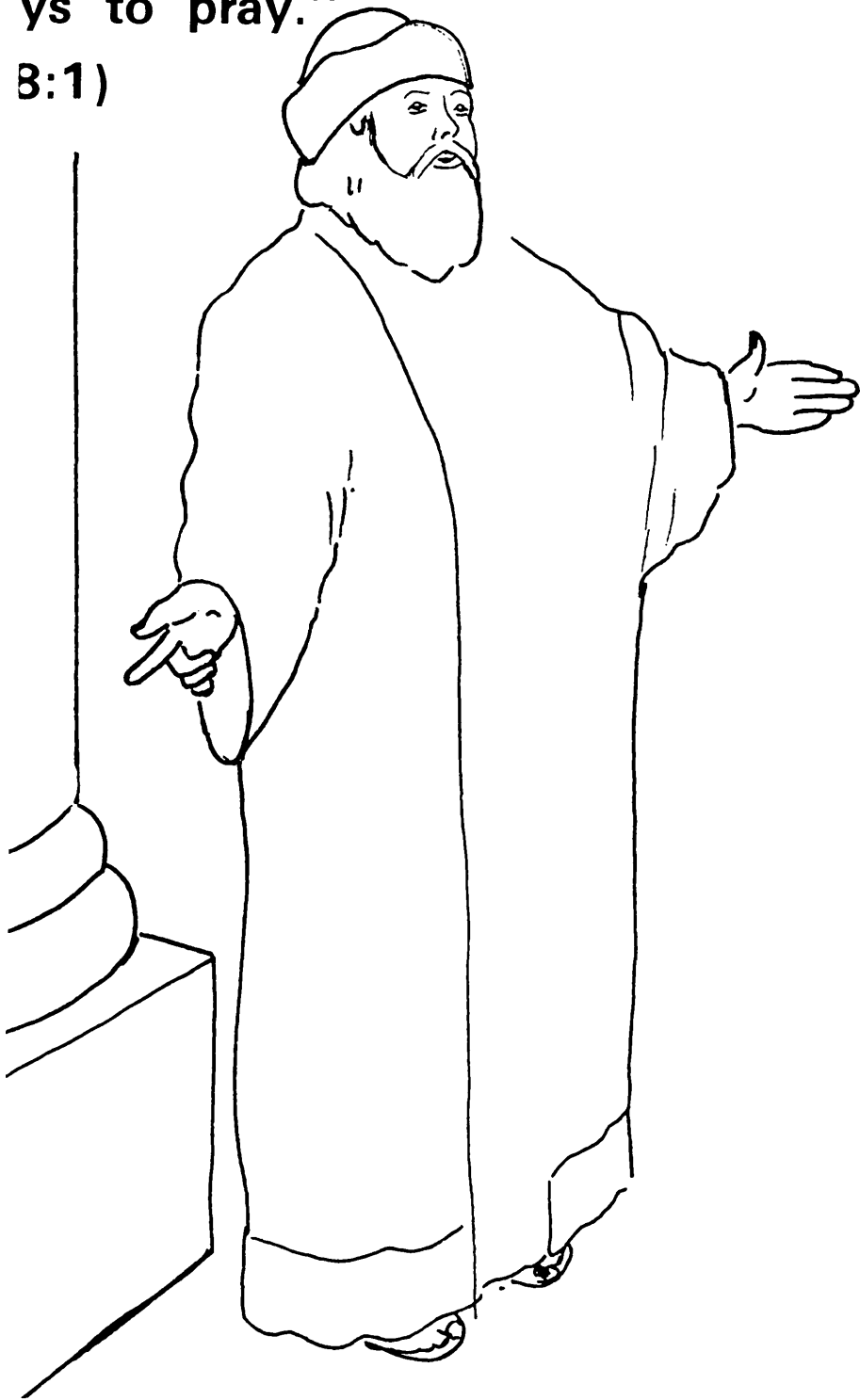
We must always remember to feel humble about ourselves.

“Men ought alw
(Luke



ys to pray."

8:1)



Better than a Brother

Simon was a little boy
Who lived long, long ago;
No mother and no father
He had on earth below;
But in heaven above
He had a Father of love.

Who talked with him each day.
"Father, I need a brother,"
Often would Simon pray,
"To help me earn my bread,
To guide me in the light,
And comfort me at night.

"Oh, Father, you know best;
I leave it in your hands.
But I would be happiest
If you would heal my eyes
So that I, myself, may see
Without a guide for me."

"Dear Son, I've heard your prayer,"
Said our God of wisdom.
"And I have sent down there
A brother for your needs.
From Galilee He's coming—
Be ready and be waiting."

Simon sat nearby a gate
Asking alms from people.
Simon knew right where to wait
To greet his coming brother.
He did not know just when,
But he was sure he'd know him.

The crowd and time passed by
Until one day he heard
From the crowd a welcome cry,
And then it was he learned
Everyone was waiting
To see his brother coming!

Simon stood to go and find,
But ere he moved away
A hand so strong, yet kind
Had hold of his that day!
"Our Father bade me come
To see what can be done."

"Son of David," Simon said,
"Please heal my blinded eyes!"
Simon bent low his head
To kiss the hand on his.
Then he looked up to see
The Saviour smiling gently.

"Thank you! Thank you for my sight!
It is better than bread,
Or a guide by day or night!"
Said Simon joyfully,
And he followed where e'er went
The One his Father sent.

Today all children can
Have a Friend who's closer
And more helpful than
Any earthly brother.
Do you know the Father
Who sent you such a Saviour?
—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. What was Jesus teaching about?
2. Was the judge a good man?
3. Was the woman poor?
4. Why did the judge decide to help the woman?
5. Does Jesus want us to keep bothering Him?
6. What other story did Jesus tell?
7. Why did God not answer the Pharisee's prayer?
8. What did the publican say in his prayer?
9. Why was the publican happy when he went home?

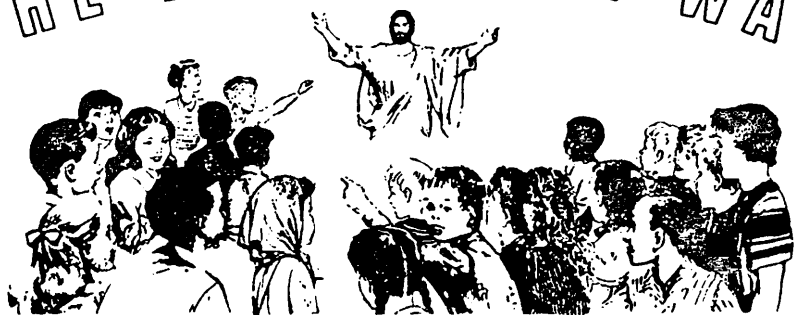
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God forgave his sins.)
"God, be merciful to me a sinner." 9.
ing. 7. The Pharisee was too proud. 8.
ing him. 5. Yes. 6. About two men pray-
Yes. 4. Because the woman kept bother-
(Answers. 1. About prayer. 2. No. 3.



Lesson Text: Luke 18:1-14.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 1 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 Mar. 27, 1988

Jesus is the Light of the World

“There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.” (John 1:6). Many people called him John the Baptist. John came to tell people about Jesus, who was the light of the world. Some people thought that surely John was the light of the world because he had the power of God. But John said, “No, I am not that light. The true light is the One that made all the world. I did not make the world. He is in the world that He made, but the wicked people of the world do not know Him, because they do not know God. If they knew God, Jesus’ Father, they would know Jesus, for God and Jesus are very much alike.”

John knew that Jesus was the Son of God the first time he saw Jesus, because John had God in his heart.

One day Jesus said, “I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness.”

Some men who were standing nearby did not believe Him so they said, “You’re just bragging on yourself. Let someone else tell who you are.”

“Those who believe I am the light of the world are the sons of God. You are not the sons of God because you don’t believe that God sent me to save you. If you believe in me, you shall live, but if you don’t believe, you’ll die in your sins and where I am you cannot come.”

After this, many Jews believed on Jesus. He said, “If you continue in my words, then are ye my disciples indeed.” John was a true disciple because he continued every day believing in Jesus.





**"I am the light
of the world."**

(John 8:12)

Cat Eyes

"Mother, can I borrow Daddy's flashlight for a minute?" asked Rhonda as she came into the kitchen where Mother was peeling apples for an apple pie.

"What do you want Daddy's flashlight for?" asked Mother in return.

"Tabby had her kittens under the well house and I want to see them and maybe bring one of them out if I can," replied Rhonda.

"I don't know if I ought to let you borrow Daddy's flashlight or not," said Mother thoughtfully. "Last time you forgot to return it. Daddy was rather upset when he needed it and couldn't find it."

"I'll bring it right back," promised Rhonda.

"You said that last time," said her mother. "A lost light isn't much good if you don't have any other light with which to find it."

"Let me borrow it just this one more time—please?"

"All right, but remember your promise, Rhonda."

"I will, I will," said Rhonda, as she took the sturdy flashlight in her hand.

Rhonda shone the light under the well house. She looked and looked and couldn't see any sign of the kittens. She was just sure she had heard them under the well house and Tabby had been going under there often. Rhonda got up and sat down on the porch. Then she saw Tabby coming. The cat looked around quickly and then quietly slipped under the well house. Rhonda quickly and quietly crept over there, also. She knelt back down and shone the light under the well house. Right away, Tabby's two, yellow eyes lit up in the flashlight glare. Beside Tabby were four little balls of fur. Rhonda had forgotten that their eyes were not open yet! She had been looking for shining cat's eyes!

Tabby shut her eyes in the glare of the flashlight and Rhonda knew she couldn't bother the babies while Tabby was feeding them. After a while, Rhonda turned off the flashlight and left the

little family alone. Really she shouldn't play with the kittens while they were little bitty, anyway.

"Here is your flashlight, Mother," said Rhonda, laying it back where her mother had picked it up.

"Thank you, Rhonda," said Mother. "Did you see the kittens?"

"At first I didn't, but then when Tabby was under there, I could see them by her shining eyes in the dark. I forgot that baby kittens don't have their eyes open yet. I was looking for their eyes."

"Cat eyes reflect light, don't they?" said Mother. "If we have the light of Jesus shining on us, then our lives, deeds, and eyes, will all reflect the light of Jesus. By the light of Jesus, God knows who are His own."

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

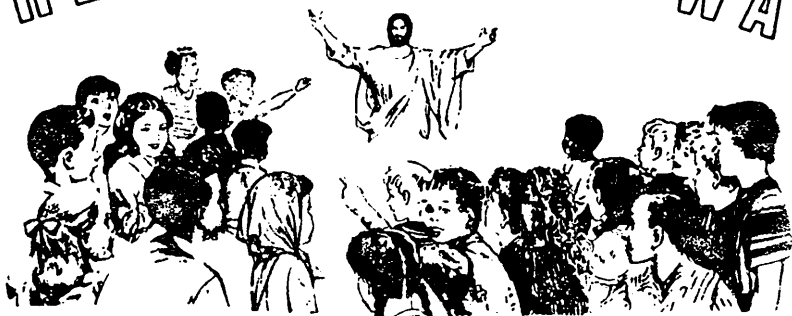
1. Who was sent from God?
2. Did John say he was the light of the world?
3. Who did John say was the light of the world?
4. Why did some people not know that Jesus was the light of the world?
5. How did John know who Jesus was?
6. Did Jesus say that He was the light of the world?
7. What will happen to those who believe in Jesus?
8. What will happen to those who do not believe in Jesus?
9. Do you believe in Jesus?

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(Answers: 1. John. 2. No. 3. Jesus. 4. Because they did not know God. 5. John knew, because he knew God. 6. Yes. 7. They will become the sons of God. 8. They will die in their sins and cannot go where Jesus is. 9. Yes, or no.)

Lesson Text: John 1:6-12; 8:12-32.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 14 Apr. 3, 1988

JESUS IS ALIVE!

It was so early in the morning that the sun had not come up, but Mary Magdalene and some other women didn't care if it was still dark. They were going to anoint the body of Jesus. They thought it might be the last thing they could do for Him. On and on they went through the darkness. The sun was just coming up when the women got to the tomb. The tomb was open! Mary peeked inside. "Jesus is gone!" she cried. "What shall we do?"

While Mary went to tell Peter and John, the other women went inside the tomb and there were two angels! One angel said, "Don't be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus. He isn't dead anymore. He said to tell you that He will see you in Galilee." The women hurried away to tell the disciples.

Mary had told Peter and John and they were already running toward the tomb to see for themselves. Sure enough, Jesus was gone! They both hurried away to tell the others.

Mary, too, came back to the tomb, but she didn't want to leave. As she stood beside the tomb crying, one of the angels inside the tomb spoke to her. While they were talking, Jesus came up behind her. At first she didn't think it was Jesus, but after He spoke her name, she knew it was Him!

Soon it was evening. The disciples came together in a room and closed the doors. They all wanted to see Jesus, but only Mary Magdalene and a few other women had seen Him. Suddenly, Jesus was in the room with them. He showed them the scars in His hands where the nails had been, and the place in His side where the soldier's spear had pierced his side.





"He is not here: for he is risen." (Matt. 28:6)

Mary Became Happy

Jesus' mother was sad. She had cried Friday and Saturday until her eyes felt like there were no more tears in them. Jesus was dead and in the tomb and Mary was very sad. Mary remembered when Jesus was a little, bitty baby lying in a manger at the stable in Bethlehem. She remembered how soft and sweet He had been as a little boy growing up. She thought about the time when Jesus had mistakenly been left behind in Jerusalem for one day. How Mary and Joseph had rushed back to the city of Jerusalem to find Jesus! Then they had found Him talking to the scribes at the temple and Jesus had told Mary that He had to be about His Father's business. His Father's business! Who was Jesus' Father?

God was Jesus' Father and Jesus had personally known God from the very beginning. Mary had not expected God to let Jesus die. She shuddered as she remembered the cruel cross and the way that her son had cried to God while hanging there suffering in front of all those people. Mary had wished that she could get Jesus down from the cross and clean and soothe the deep cuts on His back that the whip had torn into His skin. Mary couldn't help Jesus but she had prayed over and over that God would bring His Son down off that cruel cross. But God didn't and Jesus had cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Then Jesus died. Mary had wondered why He died. Why had God not delivered Jesus from those cruel soldiers?

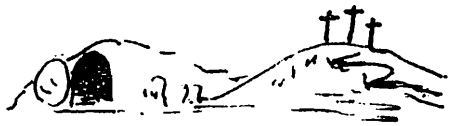
Mary was heartbroken and very, very sad. A mother always cries when her child is hurt, sick, or dying. Jesus was Mary's son, also, and she was grieving because Jesus had died.

John also loved Jesus and he was trying to comfort Mary. "Don't worry, Mary," John said, "I will take care of you like Jesus told me to. By the Lord's help, I will give you food to eat and clothes to wear until you also die and go to be with God."

It was early Sunday morning and Jesus' disciples and friends were still not able to sleep or eat because they missed Jesus so much. Some of the kind women who loved Jesus went to the tomb to put spices on His dead body. Instead, an angel was there and told them that Jesus was gone! Jesus was alive! One of the women saw Jesus in the garden; then the disciples saw Him and they all knew it was true: Jesus was alive!

When Mary heard the good news, she stopped crying and a smile came on her face. God had not forsaken His Son! God had delivered His Son and her son out of the dark tomb and Jesus had won over death. This was a much greater victory than Mary would have ever thought of! God loved His Son. Today God still answers prayers and saves souls because of Jesus.

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Where were the women going?
2. Did they have to move the stone to open the tomb?
3. Where did Mary Magdalene go?
4. What did the angels tell the women?
5. Why was Jesus not in the tomb?
6. To whom did Jesus speak?
7. Were the doors closed in the room where the disciples were?
8. How did Jesus get into the room?
9. What did Jesus show His disciples?

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(Answers: 1. To the tomb where Jesus lay. 2. No. 3. To tell Peter and John. 4. That Jesus was alive and that He would see them in Galilee. 5. He was alive. 6. To Mary. 7. Yes. 8. He went through the closed door or wall. 9. The scars in His hands and His side.)

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Lesson Text: Matthew 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-14; Luke 24:1-50; John 20:1-20.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 Apr. 10, 1988

A BLIND MAN IS HEALED

As Jesus and His disciples walked down the road one Sabbath morning, He saw a blind man sitting beside the road begging. "Why was this man blind when he was born?" the disciples asked. "Was it because of sin?"

"He was born blind, not because of sin, but so that God's work could be glorified," Jesus answered. Then Jesus put some clay on the man's eyes and told him to go and wash it off in the pool of Siloam.

The blind man went and washed his eyes. He could see! It was the first time in his life that he could see the trees, birds, people, the sky, and even his own hands, feet, and legs. When the people saw him, they asked, "Isn't this the blind beggar?"

Some said he was; others said he wasn't. "I am the blind beggar, but I'm not blind any longer," he said. "A man named Jesus opened my eyes."

"No man can heal blind eyes," the people said. "You're telling a lie!"

The Pharisees didn't believe that he was healed, either. They asked his parents if he was really born blind. "Then how does he see?" they asked.

"We don't know," his parents answered. "Ask him! He's a man. He will tell you."

The man told them again and they said, "Jesus couldn't do that. Give God the praise for your healing."

The man answered, "Jesus is a man of God. If He weren't a man of God, He could not open my blind eyes."



“And He said, Lord, I believe” (John 9:38)



Brenda's Baby Sister



"Mama! Mama!" Carolyn called, as she came in all excited from school.

"I'm in the bedroom!" Mother replied.

"Mama," said Carolyn as she found her mother, "Brenda got a new baby sister yesterday, but the baby is so tiny that the doctors don't think the baby will ever be able to see. Brenda was all sad and crying about it today, so she had to go home early. She said her Mama and Daddy are worried about it, too. Mama, what caused her sister to be blind?"

"Well, I don't know all the reasons why," Mama said, as she put her arm around Carolyn. "Eyesight is a wonderful gift from God. Maybe Brenda's little sister will gain eyesight as she gets older. She must have been born very tiny indeed. Baby puppies and kittens don't see when they are first born but in about six weeks they start peeking out of little slits and slowly, slowly their eyes open more and more until they can see like big dogs and cats."

Carolyn's face lit up. "I'm going to tell Brenda that!" she said. "That will make her feel better!"

"It may not naturally work out that way for Brenda's little sister," Mother replied. "God may have another plan in mind for that baby. Jesus can still heal blind eyes today like He did when He was here on earth. Sometimes God needs an example of blindness so that He can prove His mighty healing power. There were a lot of blind people who lived all their lives blind. Jesus said that it is better to live all your life blind on earth and go to heaven when you die, than to die and go to hell where you would burn and burn forever."

"So what shall I tell Brenda?" asked Carolyn. "Brenda is so sad about it all."

"Well, it is sad," Mother agreed. "You can tell Brenda that she can trust God to take care of her little sister. Whatever God chooses to do for that baby, it will be the best way. Today blind people can learn to read Braille and have a

much happier life than blind people used to have."

"What is Braille?" asked Carolyn.

"It is letters and numbers in a special code of raised dots on a piece of paper. Many books and some magazines are in Braille so that blind people can read them. Some blind people have trained dogs to see for them. The dogs lead them by a halter strapped over the dog's head and shoulders. The blind person holds the halter and goes where the dog leads."

"That would be fun," said Carolyn. "I would like to have a dog like that!"

Mother smiled and said, "We will pray for Brenda's sister. Jesus can heal that baby's eyes like He healed a blind man in the temple one time."

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Who did Jesus see beside the road?
2. Why was the man born blind?
3. What did Jesus tell the man to do?
4. After the man obeyed Jesus, what happened?
5. Did the people believe that he was the blind man?
6. Did his parents say he was born blind?
7. Whom did the Pharisees think should be praised for the healing?
8. Did the man believe that Jesus was the Son of God?
9. Do you believe that Jesus is the Son of God?



(Answers: 1. A blind beggar. 2. So that Jesus healed him. 3. To go to the pool of Siloam and wash. 4. His blind eyes were opened. 5. Some did; some did not. 6. Yes. 7. God. 8. Yes. 9. The answer should be "Yes.")



Lesson Text: John 9:1-41.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 Apr. 17, 1988

TWO WOMEN ARE HEALED

As Jesus was teaching in the synagogue, He saw a woman who was bent over and could not straighten up. She had been sick for eighteen years. Jesus called the woman to Him and said, "Woman, you are healed."

The woman raised her head. Her back was not stiff any longer! She could stand up straight! The people praised Jesus for healing the woman.

The Pharisees were angry when the people praised Jesus. They said to the woman, "You should not have come today to be healed. It is a sin for Jesus to heal on this day. Today is the day for worshipping God."

Jesus said to the Pharisees, "If your donkey or cow fell into a ditch on this day you would work to get it out, or if they had no water, you would take them a drink." This woman needed help much more than your animals. Why shouldn't I help her?"

The Pharisees felt ashamed. They knew what He said was true.

Another day, when there was a large crowd around Jesus, a woman who had been afflicted for twelve years came and touched Him. Jesus turned around and asked, "Who touched me?"

The disciples said, "People are touching you on every side! Why do you ask, 'Who touched me?' "

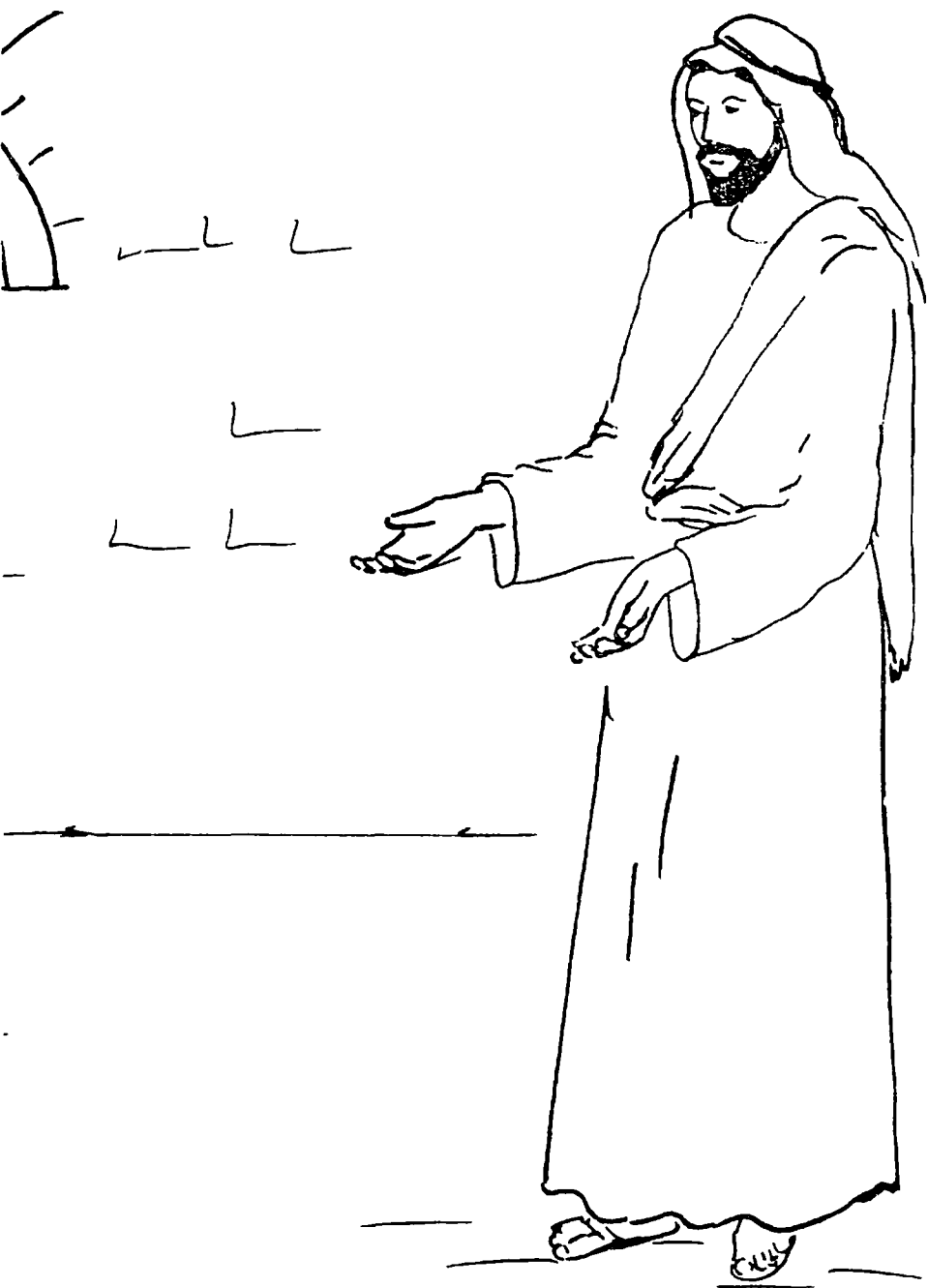
"But someone touched me and is healed," Jesus answered.

The woman said, "I touched you so I could get well. And I am well!"

Jesus answered her, "Thy faith has made thee well. Go in peace."



"Blessed are the



merciful: for they shall obtain mercy." Matt. 5:7

An Answer to Prayer



Mark was very sick. He just laid on his bed with a fever, weak, and barely able to move. Mark's mother and father were very worried about Mark. Mark was hardly eating; he was only drinking a little juice. They had to put cool cloths on Mark to bring his fever down to where he wouldn't be so hot.

Outside Mark's bedroom window, the sun was shining and the birds were singing songs as they built new nests in tree branches budding with tiny green leaves. Mark wasn't able to play games with the other children who were playing on the fresh green lawn outside. Mark just laid in bed very quiet, very warm, and very sick.

"I have called for prayer," Mark's mother said to his father. "The Church is praying that Jesus will heal Mark, but he still doesn't seem better."

"Let's have a word of prayer for him again," said Mark's father.

Both father and mother knelt down beside Mark's bed and poured out their hearts to Jesus, asking Him to please heal their little boy. After their prayers Mark stirred and his parents saw that he was wet with sweat. His fever had broken and he was not as hot as he had been before!

"Thank the Lord!" said his mother.

"Thank the Lord!" his father said.

Yet Mark wasn't very well. He was weak, he didn't eat or talk much, and he kept his eyes closed.

Later on his father said, "I'm going to call for some of the saints to come and anoint Mark with oil and have a good season of prayer for him."

"That is what it says to do in God's Word," said Mother. "In the book of James, chapter 5 and verse 14, it says, 'Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up.' Do call for the elders of the Church. We want Jesus to heal our little boy."

Mark's father called and soon several saints had gathered around Mark's bed. They anointed him with oil on the forehead. Then, laying hands on Mark, they all agreed in prayer. The prayers were quiet and earnest.

Again Mark moved and he opened his eyes. "I'm hungry," he whispered. "Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!" everyone said.

Every day after that, Mark felt better and stronger. Soon he was outside again, listening to the birds and playing with the other children.

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Whom did Jesus see?
2. Why did the woman need help?
3. Did Jesus heal the woman?
4. Were the Pharisees angry?
5. Who needed help the most: the woman, or the animals?
6. Why did the woman want to touch Jesus?
7. How long had the woman been sick?
8. Did Jesus know the woman was healed?
9. Was Jesus angry because the woman touched him?

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(Answers: 1. A crippled woman. 2. She had been sick for a long time, and her back was sick. 3. Yes. 4. Yes. 5. The woman. 6. So she could be healed. 7. 12 years. 8. Yes. 9. No.)



Lesson Text: Matt. 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-33; Luke 8:43-48; 13:10-17.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No.2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 17 Apr. 24, 1988

HEALING ON THE SABBATH DAY

It was the Sabbath day and many people had gathered in the synagogue to worship God. Jesus was teaching a group of people and one of the men had a small and crippled hand. Jesus wanted to help the man, but He knew there were some wicked men there who did not want Him to heal on the worship day.

Jesus wanted to teach these men that it is good to help people on every day. He told the man to stand up so everyone could see him. "Now raise your crippled hand," Jesus said.

The man stretched out the crippled hand and it became big and strong like his other hand. How happy the people were! But the wicked men were very angry. They were so angry that they made plans to get rid of Jesus. One of their plans was to catch Jesus doing something wrong so that they could accuse Him to the ruler and have Jesus killed.

On another Sabbath day, one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to have dinner at his house. He watched Jesus to see if He would heal a poor, sick man who was also there.

Jesus asked the Pharisee, "Is it okay to heal on the Sabbath day?" The Pharisee did not answer Jesus, but Jesus knew he thought it was wrong. He healed the sick man and then said, "If your animal needed help today, you would help it. A man is much better than a sheep. It is okay to do good to an animal on any day, and much better to do good to a man."

Five other times Jesus healed sick people on their worship day, because He wanted to help all who wanted help, no matter what day of the week it was.



"It is lawful to do well on the sabbath days." (



t. 12:12)

Special Sundays Now

"Daddy, can I go outside to play?" John asked while tugging at his dress shirt with a frown on his face. It was Sunday right after lunch and John knew that Daddy wanted a nap and peacefulness that afternoon.

"John," began Daddy, "If I've told you once, I've told you a thousand times that you don't need to play rough on Sunday. Now I want you to calm yourself down and relax on your bed for a short nap."

"But I don't need a nap!" protested John.

"John, all through the week we work and keep going. One day out of the week we should slow down and think of God more and rest from the busy ways of life. God rested on the seventh day after He made the heavens and the earth."

"Yes," said John, "but today in our Sunday school class we talked about the Sabbath and that was really on Saturday, and today is Sunday. Our Sunday school teacher said that Jesus came to give us rest every day because He is the Lord of the Sabbath. When we are saved we can rest in the Lord every day."

"Well," said Daddy with a smile, "I see you have learned your lesson well, John. We don't keep the Saturday Sabbath because Jesus did come to give rest to our souls every day. But we put aside Sunday to remember the resurrection of Jesus because it was on the first day of the week that Jesus arose from the tomb. Sunday, the first day of the week, we set aside to think about Jesus and God especially and we go to church twice on that day."

"But I still would like to go outside and play," John pouted.

"Not today," Daddy said sternly. "You can play on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, but today you need to pause and think about God. If we lived under the old law of the Sabbath, you would be punished for working and playing on that day. We don't keep it that stern today

because we are under the new law. Yet God wants people to be still and know that He is God."

"If I take a nap this afternoon," said John, "then can we do something special after church tonight?"

"You had better take a nap no matter what," Daddy said. So John laid down and before he could stop sleep from coming, sleep had caught him. John felt better after he woke up and he was not tired during evening service because he had rested.

Although Daddy hadn't promised, he did take the family to get some ice cream after church. —Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. On what day did Jesus go into the synagogue?
2. What did the people do on this day?
3. Was there a man in the synagogue who needed help?
4. Did Jesus make the man's hand well?
5. Did the Pharisees want Jesus to help the man?
6. Would the Pharisees help their hurting animals?
7. Is it better to help hurting people?
8. Will Jesus help people on any day?
9. How many times did Jesus heal on the Sabbath?

(Answers: 1. On the Sabbath day. 2. They worshipped God. 3. Yes. 4. Yes. 5. No. 6. Yes. 7. Yes. 8. Yes. 9. Five.)

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Lesson Text: Luke 6:6-11; 14:1-6.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 May 1, 1988

GOD'S PLAN FOR FAMILIES

While Jesus was in the coast of Judaea near the Jordan River, some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, "Is it all right to get a divorce and move away from your wife?"

Jesus answered them by talking about what God did in the beginning of the world. He said that God had made the world and everything that was on the earth. Then He made only one man and one woman. Adam and Eve were two people, but God brought them together as one person. They were always two people, but they were to live together as if they were only one person. They were to have children and live happily together as a family.

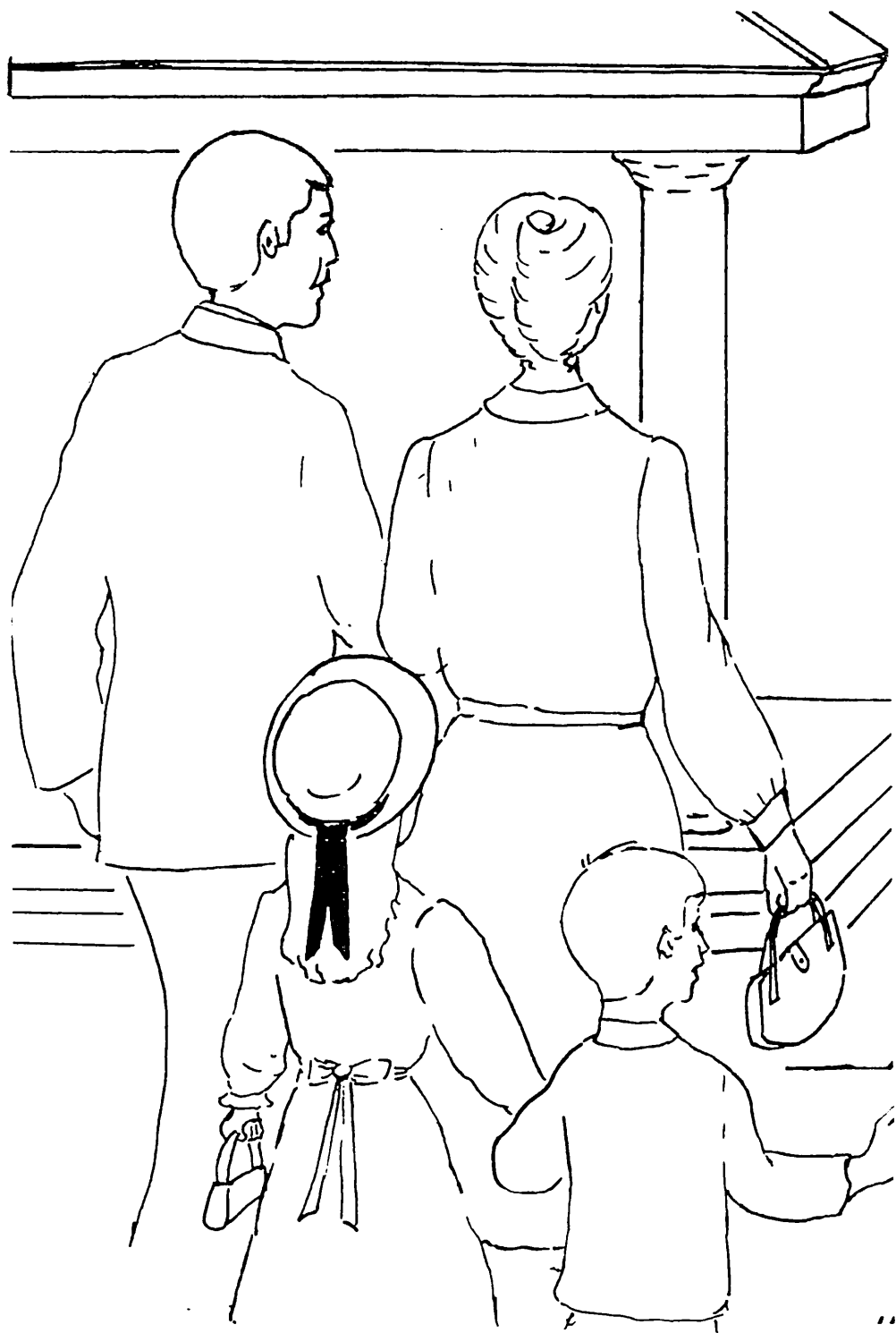
The Pharisees didn't like the answer Jesus gave, so they said, "Moses let men get divorced from their wives if they didn't like them."

"Moses only did that because the men had wicked hearts and would have been very mean to those women. God does not want husbands nor wives to move away from each other. He wants them to always live together just as if they were only one person."

Sometimes it will be hard to stay together, but anyone who wants to be in the kingdom of God must sometimes do things that are hard. It is easier for the earth and everything on the earth to pass away than for one little bit of God's law to pass away. Staying together is God's law. It will never fail.

Remember, God's law is that married people live together as a family. Learn how to live happily with your family and it will be easier to live with the family God gives you when you get married.

Divorce is against God's law.





ou shalt not commit adultery." Exodus 20:14

Adam and Eve

Do you know who Adam and Eve are in the Bible? They were the first man and woman God created. Remember? God made Adam out of the dust of the earth and then when Adam became lonesome, God took one of Adam's ribs while Adam was sleeping and then God made a woman. This is exactly how man and woman were made, because the Bible tells us so.

In your imagination, picture Adam and Eve walking through the garden of Eden, holding hands and humming a happy little tune. Maybe you have seen your Daddy and Mother do this before, or maybe you have seen another husband and wife holding hands and walking together. Sometimes anniversary cards you buy in the store will have a picture like this on the front of it. It is indeed a beautiful picture to see.

After God made Adam and Eve, He enjoyed watching them walking hand-in-hand. That's the way God planned it to be. There wasn't any other woman for Adam to marry because Eve was the only woman in the entire world. Eve couldn't leave Adam to go and live with another man because Adam was the only man in the entire world. They were created by God for each other. God wanted them to stay together and walk together in the Garden of Eden.

Adam and Eve had little children who grew up and married. Then these men and women had children, and their children had children, and so it went, on and on, until today there are many people in the earth. Around four billion people live on the earth today.

Even though there are many, many men and women on the earth, God still makes one man and one woman for each other. That's the way God planned it in the very beginning and He wants it to be that way. One man marries one woman and they become one couple, walking hand-in-hand together through the garden of life. If she stumbles and starts to fall, the man helps pick her up; and if the man stubs his toe on something, the woman pats it and helps

the man keep going. Isn't that a beautiful picture?

While you are a little boy or girl, live for God and pray to God that He will make just the right one for you to walk with some day. Be friends with everyone right now and don't worry about having a boyfriend or a girlfriend. Let God take care of that. While you are growing taller, God is busy creating a special boy or girl to walk with you some day.

There is only one person especially for you to marry and only that person will be able to make your life happier. It is wise, boys and girls, to let God make your future husband or wife and then wait on God to give you that special someone when it is time for you to marry.

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. What did the Pharisees ask Jesus?
2. Did God make Adam two wives?
3. Did God want Adam and Eve to live together as a family?
4. Does God want mothers or fathers to move away from their families?
5. Does God want families to live in the same house?
6. Will God's law ever fail?
7. Which will pass away first: God's law, or the earth?
8. Should we live happily with our families?
9. If we live happily now, will it be easier to live happily when we are married?

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Answers: 1. "Is it okay to get a divorce?" 2. No. 3. Yes. 4. No. 5. Yes. 6. No. 7. The earth. 8. Yes. 9. Yes.

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Lesson Text: Matthew 19:1-9; Mark 10:1-12; Luke 16:15-18.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 May 8, 1988

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

One day a lawyer came to ask Jesus a tricky question. "What must I do to have eternal life?" he asked.

"What does God's law say that you should do?" Jesus said.

"It says that I should love God with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength, and that I should love my neighbor as myself."

"That is right!" Jesus said. "Do this and you will have eternal life."

"But who is my neighbor?" the lawyer asked.

Jesus then told this story. One time a man walked all by himself on a lonely road, and some robbers stole his money, took his clothes, and left him lying half-dead beside the road. A priest came by and looked at the man, but moved over on the other side of the road and went on his way. Later, a Levite came by, looked at him, and passed on by. After a while a Samaritan came by and, seeing the wounded man, he stopped. He cleaned his wounds and wrapped cloth around them. He put the beaten man on his own donkey and took him to a place to be cared for. He paid some money for the man's care and went on his way.

"Which of the three men do you think was a loving neighbor?" Jesus asked.

"The one who helped the wounded man," the lawyer said.

"You should go and do the same," Jesus answered. "Help your neighbors and your enemies."

The lawyer felt ashamed of himself because he had not been a good neighbor like he should have been. He did not "love his neighbor as himself and neither did he love God with all his heart.

Love



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is thyself
(Matt. 22:39)

A Bad Accident

Four children, each the same age, lived on the same city block. Their names were: Jason, Rodney, Cindy, and Paula. They were all four very good friends.

One warm, spring morning, they were all riding their tricycles up and down the sidewalk in front of their homes.

"Move out of the way! Here comes my blue trike!" called Jason as he passed up Rodney who was on a red trike.

"I can still beat you!" said Rodney as he pedalled faster to pass Jason.

"No, you won't!" Jason called back over his shoulder. He pedalled faster, too.

"Here I come! Whoopee-eee!" yelled Rodney.

Jason was going faster and faster. Rodney was going faster, too. Both boys were puffing now. Jason suddenly turned around too quickly to see how close Rodney was behind him.

"Look out! Look out!" screamed Cindy and Paula who were watching the boys race. But it was too late!

When Jason turned to look, he also turned his trike right in Rodney's way. Before the girls had quit screaming. Rodney had run right smack dab into Jason. Both boys hollered as boys and trikes fell into a crumpled heap in the middle of the sidewalk.

Cindy and Paula jumped off their trikes and raced over to the boys.

"Jason, your nose is bleeding!" said Cindy.

"And look, Rodney," said Paula. "You tore a hole in your pants, and your knee is bleeding!"

"Oh, I can't walk!" said Rodney. "Go get my Mama!" He was trying not to cry but he hurt quite a bit.

Jason was already walking to his house, holding one hand to his nose, and one on his side.

"Mrs. Nelson! Come quick! Jason had an accident!" Cindy called as she ran ahead of Jason.

Paula was running to Rodney's house. "Mrs. Jones, hurry! Rodney had an accident!" she called.

All four mothers came running out of their front doors at the same time. Mrs. Nelson picked up Jason and held his head back to stop the bleeding.

"I'll go and get a cool, damp cloth," said Cindy's mother. Cindy helped her mother and Mrs. Nelson.

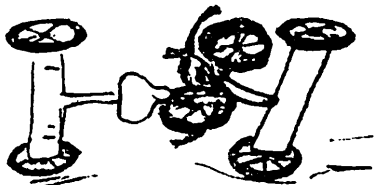
Paula and her mother helped Mrs. Jones with Rodney and his scraped knee. Together Cindy and Paula untangled the red and blue trikes.

"That sure was a bad accident!" said Cindy.

"Yes," said Paula. "I'm sorry the boys got hurt, but it was kinda fun helping them feel better."

"I know," agreed Cindy. "I like being a nurse and friend to others."

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

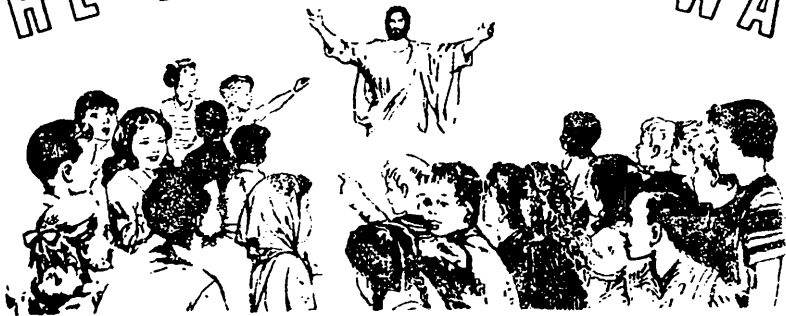
1. Who asked Jesus a question?
2. What question did he ask?
3. What did God's law say we should do to get eternal life?
4. Did a man get hurt on the road?
5. Who passed by and wouldn't help the man?
6. Who did help the man?
7. Which man was a good neighbor?
8. Should we help even an enemy if they are hurt?
9. Should we love God with all our heart?

★★★★★★

(Answers: 1. A lawyer, 2. "What must I do to have eternal life?", 3. Love God with all your heart, and your neighbor as yourself, 4. Yes, 5. A priest and a Levite, 6. A Samaritan, 7. The one who helped him, 8. Yes, 9. Yes.)

Lesson Text: Luke 10:25-37; Deut. 22:1-4.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 May 15, 1988

THE UNFORGIVABLE SIN

There was brought to Jesus a man who was possessed with a devil and he could neither see nor talk. Jesus healed him so that he could both see and talk. Also, Jesus sent the devil out of him.

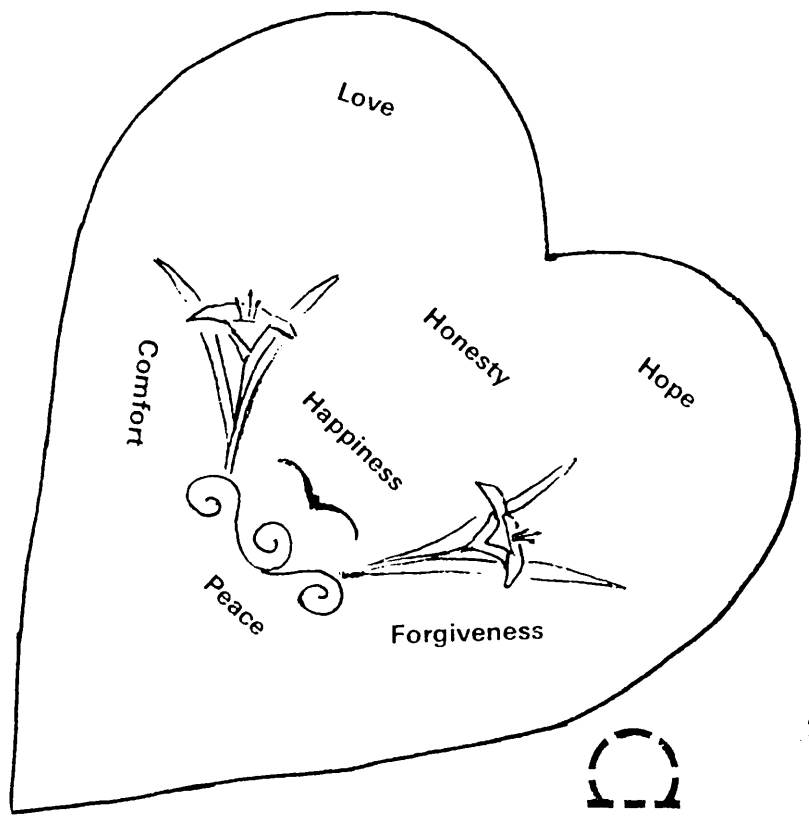
The people were very happy and began praising Jesus. This made the Pharisees very angry. One of them said, "This fellow cast out the devil by using power from Beelzebub, the prince of devils."

Jesus said to them, "Be careful of what you say, for God is the creator of our world. He can destroy anyone by just a puff of His big breath. Everyone should be very careful not to talk ugly or foolishly about Him. Besides, there is one sin that God will not forgive."

The good people were listening very carefully to see what sin it was that God would not forgive so that they would be sure and not do that sin. Jesus said, "People may say evil things about me. They may say evil things about other people, or even God's special prophets. Later, if they are sorry about it and ask God to forgive, He will forgive them. But if a person knows in his heart that the Holy Spirit of God has done something good and they say, 'God didn't do that; the devil did it,' then that person is in danger of trouble for ever, for they have blasphemed against the Holy Spirit."

The people knew that they must be careful and not praise the devil for any good. The devil is the source of all *bad*, but not any *good*. Good things come from God. God must be praised for these good things, and the devil must not get any praise.

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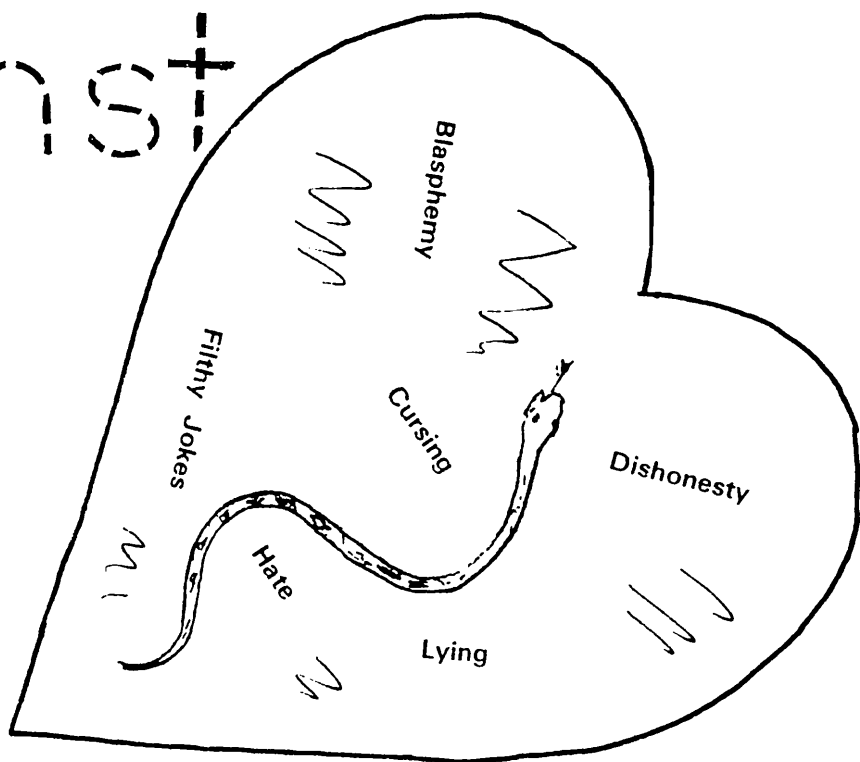


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Tommy and Uncle Tom

Tommy loved his Uncle Tom. In fact, Tommy had been named after Uncle Tom and that made Uncle Tom a little more special to Tommy.

There was one thing very sad about Uncle Tom, though. He never felt the need to get saved. At night when Tommy said his bedside prayers, he would ask Jesus to help Uncle Tom get saved.

"Mother, why doesn't Uncle Tom get saved?" Tommy asked his mother one night as she was tucking him into bed.

"Uncle Tom did live for Jesus when he was a boy like you," replied Mother. "Then when he was a teenager he let the devil cause him to want to be a soldier. He joined the marines, followed after wicked men, and tried to forget God. Uncle Tom has hardened his heart so much against God." Mother paused to shake her head sadly. "I'm afraid he has gone too far."

"Gone too far?" repeated Tommy. "What do you mean by that?"

"It's really sad," Mother gently told Tommy. "Uncle Tom doesn't want to believe in heaven and hell. He doesn't want God's Spirit to deal with him because he said it always makes him afraid and he doesn't want to feel afraid. That is conviction, Tommy, when the Spirit of God deals with a heart and makes it feel sorry for sins and afraid of hell after death. Uncle Tom should never turn away God's Spirit when it speaks to him. He should yield to it and ask Jesus to come into his heart. Then he would not feel afraid of hell, but he would be happy about going to heaven. Instead, Uncle Tom just turns God's Spirit away which tries to lead him to Jesus and the cross. Keep praying for Uncle Tom. I just hope that he hasn't missed his last chance."

"Oh," said Tommy sleepily. Mother told him good night with a kiss and tiptoed out of his room.

In the night Tommy dreamed a terrible dream. He dreamed that he was on a cliff looking down, down, down into a big lake of steaming hot liquid and fire was all around the edges, lick-

ing up into the air. Tommy stood on the edge of the cliff and he was terrified that he might fall in, yet he couldn't move away! He felt that something awful was about to take place. Tommy felt cold and sweaty all over. Then he heard a mean, mocking laugh echo through the steam and he saw dark, black demons coming down through it and they were dragging someone with them.

"Here, tough, old man, we'll let you endure hell!" a mean demon mocked. Then they threw that someone into the lake of hot liquid. As that someone fell down, down, down, Tommy saw that it was his Uncle Tom.

"Stop! Stop!" Tommy screamed in his sleep. Mother came and comforted him as he cried and told her his dream.

Suddenly the telephone rang. Then Mother began to sob as she heard the news: Uncle Tom had been killed in a car accident that very night! Everyone cried and cried, but it was too late for Uncle Tom to get saved.

Tommy never forgot that dream and he listened to God's voice from then on.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. What miracle had Jesus done?
2. How did the Pharisees say Jesus had done this miracle?
3. About what did Jesus say to be careful?
4. Is there a sin that God will not forgive?
5. Did the people want to know what the sin was?
6. Does the devil do any good?
7. Does all good come from God?
8. Should we praise the devil?
9. Whom should we praise for good things?

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(Answers: 1. He cast out a devil and made the man able to see and talk. 2. By using the power of the devil. 3. About the words we say. 4. Yes. 5. Yes. 6. No. 7. Yes. 8. No. 9. God.)

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Lesson Text: Matthew 12:31-37; Mark 3:22-29; Luke 11:14-26; 12:8-10.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 May 29, 1988

THE UNJUST STEWARD

Jesus told a story about an unjust steward to show that it is impossible to love Jesus and the world at the same time. The steward was selfish and careless. He wasted his master's things. When the master found out about it, he was very angry. He told the steward, "You cannot stay here and work for me any longer."

At first the poor steward didn't know what to do. He would have no place to live and no food to eat! He didn't want to work hard, and he was ashamed to beg. Finally he decided to do a very wicked thing. He changed records so other men would not have to pay back all they owed his master. He was stealing. He hoped these men would help him after his master put him out.

The unjust steward did just a little wrong and it got him into trouble. Then he stole from his master, and that was a great wrong. Jesus said that other people are like that, too. At first, they do little things that are bad; then they will do worse things. If a boy or girl will cheat to win while playing a game, or if he will tell a lie to get out of trouble, or steal just a little something, then when he or she gets older, they will do worse sins. Sometimes they may do something very wicked!

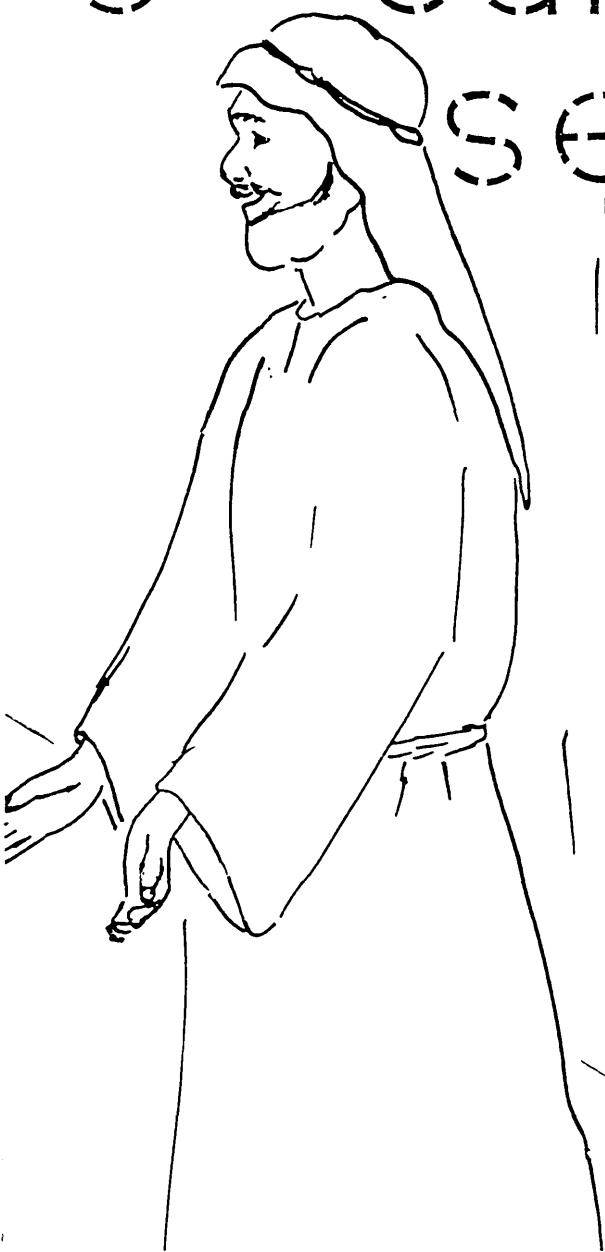
Jesus also said, that if children will be careful and do what is right in the little things every day, then they will also do what is right in the big things.

The spirit of the world wants children to do evil, wicked things. The Spirit of God wants children to do good. No one can please the world and do wrong, and please God at the same time.



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(Luke 16:13)

Two Dollars

"Grandma, look what I earned!" exclaimed Jackie. He held up two dollars for his Grandma to see. "I helped Uncle John weed out his garden and he gave me two dollars because he said I obeyed him and only pulled out weeds and not any of his good plants!"

"Well," said Grandma, "that's a good compliment and quite a nice reward also. Uncle John must have appreciated your help very much."

"Yes, he did," replied Jackie.

"I want to see what you have, Jackie," said his little brother, Terry. When Terry saw the two dollars he began to cry. "I want two dollars, too, Grandma!" he said.

"Don't be a cry baby," Jackie told Terry. "You don't need two dollars. Besides, you're too little to weed Uncle John's garden. You would walk on the good plants and pull them up instead of the weeds."

"No, I wouldn't!" cried Terry. "I want to help Uncle John and get some money, too!"

"Only big boys can work for Uncle John," Jackie said. "But don't cry, Terry; I'll buy you something!"

"Now that would be nice and big of you, Jackie," Grandma told him. "With two dollars you can buy both of you a little car, or colors and a coloring book, or a story book, or you could buy a treat to eat."

"That's what I want to buy!" Jackie exclaimed. "I'll get us both an ice cream cone at McDonald's!"

"Hurray!" said Terry, wiping away his tears with the back of his hand. "I want an ice cream cone!"

"Let's go right now!" said Jackie and Terry together.

"Okay. In just a little while I will be going to the store and then we can stop by McDonald's and get what you boys want," agreed Grandma.

Soon they were all in the car and Grandma stopped by first to get the ice cream cones. Jackie was excited when the clerk gave him some money back.

"Look, Grandma! I still have some money left!"

"Yes, Jackie, the Lord is pleased that you shared your money with Terry and bought him an ice cream cone, too. Now you still have a little money to buy something else with."

"I'll buy a little car," said Jackie. "Then I can share that with Terry, too. He can drive it when I don't want to."

Grandma smiled. "That sounds fine," she said. "When you share with others, it makes life better." —Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Why was the master angry with the steward?
2. What did the master say?
3. After that, what wicked thing did the steward do?
4. Did Jesus say that others are like the steward?
5. In what way are other people like the steward?
6. Will people who are good in little ways be good in other ways?
7. What spirit wants children to do evil?
8. What spirit wants children to do good?
9. Can we please both spirits?

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(Answers: 1. The steward had wasted his things. 2. "You cannot stay here and work for me any longer." 3. He stole from the master. 4. Yes. 5. If they do little sins, they will do worse sins. 6. Yes. 7. The spirit of the world. 8. The Spirit of God. 9. No.)

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Lesson Text: Luke 16:1-14.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 June 5, 1988

THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS

Once there lived a very selfish rich man. In the same town lived a very poor man. The poor man was covered with sores and he could not work. Every day he went near the rich man's house and sat down beside his gate to beg for food. The rich man went in and out of the gate and saw the beggar, but he did not want to help the poor man.

One day the poor man died. His soul went to heaven. The rich man died later, but he did not go to heaven. He went to hell.

While he was in hell, he looked away up into heaven and saw Abraham. And there was Lazarus, the poor beggar who had once lain beside his beautiful gate. He cried, "Oh, please help me! I am so hot and thirsty down here! I need a drink of water. Just one little drop of water would feel so good! Please, Father Abraham, send Lazarus to put just one little drop on my tongue, for I am tormented in this flame."

"We cannot get over there to help you," Abraham said.

"This place is horrible!" cried the rich man. "Will you please send Lazarus back to earth and warn my five brothers to not do as I did, so they won't come to this place of torment?"

"They have God's laws to read. It will tell them how to live so that they can come up here and not go to hell," Abraham said.

"No, no, they do not believe what the Bible says. If someone rose from the dead, then they would believe how bad this place really is," said the rich man.

"If they will not believe God's Word, neither will they believe one who has been dead," Abraham answered.



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(Luke 16:23)

Hot, Hot, Hot

Have you ever been in Yellowstone National Park? It is a big, fascinating park in the states of Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana. There are many, many things to see in this park, but today let's think about the geysers.

Geysers are springs of boiling water. They bubble some on the ground, but mostly they're underground. These big pools of water bubble and pop like water boiling in a pot on the stove. It is very interesting to watch, but it's also dangerous! The rangers at the park have put wooden walks around these hot pools. Also, the sulphur in the water smells and it reminds one of rotten eggs. Not many people want to stay and stay by these hot, smelly pools. For sure, no one wants to *fall* into these hot pools and sink down, down, down into the earth where the water is boiling hotter and hotter. That would hurt someone terribly bad!

Often the water gets so hot and other things begin to happen in the earth and push-sh-sh! The water gushes higher and higher into the air. Hot, boiling water sprays all around and then that hot water falls right back into the earth to cook and heat again.

Scientists say that hot, hot geysers show us what is really in the very center of our earth. Underneath our feet there is hot, hot liquid all the time, but it is so far down that we don't feel it. Geysers are like angry sores on the face of the earth.

How would you like to fall into one of these hot geysers? Would you like to go down, down into the earth where a big lake of fire and hot liquid is? Oh, it would hurt and you would cry! Never, never does anyone want to go into such boiling hot liquid! I don't think one man, no matter how big and brave he is, has ever said that he wants to swim in the hot, smelly pools from where the geysers send hot steam and boiling water. It would kill him. Any smart man knows that!

You know, Jesus tells us about hell and how that it is like a lake of fire.

What smart man would ever want to go to hell and burn in the hot lake of fire for ever and ever? Hell is a hot lake of fire like those hot, boiling geysers at Yellowstone National Park.

Dear children, hell is just as real as those hot geysers you can see at the Yellowstone Park. Don't ever let anyone tell you that there is no hell. They are lying. The devil knows there is a hell and he gets people to leave God, live wickedly, and die and then go to hell. Each one of you live for Jesus and He will save you from the devil's hell.

—Connie Sorrell



Question:

1. Who is the story about?
2. Did the rich man have good food and clothing?
3. What did Lazarus beg for?
4. Who died?
5. Where did Lazarus go after death?
6. Where did the rich man go after death?
7. What did the rich man ask Lazarus to do?
8. What did he ask Abraham to do?
9. How did Abraham answer the rich man?

(Answers: 1. A rich man and Lazarus. 2. Yes. 3. Food. 4. Both Lazarus and the rich man. 5. To heaven. 6. To hell. 7. To bring him a drop of water. 8. To send Lazarus back to earth and warn his five brothers not to come to hell. 9. He said his brothers would not believe one who came back from the dead if they would not believe God's Word.)

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Lesson Text: Luke 16:19-31.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 24 June 12, 1988

A LESSON ON FORGIVENESS

Here is another story that Jesus told. This story is to teach us that we must forgive others who hurt us. If we do not forgive others, God will not forgive us of the wrong things we do.

There lived a king who had many servants. One day the king looked over his records and found that one servant owed him a big stack of money. He called the servant and said, "You must pay me the money that you owe."

The poor servant said, "I am very poor. I have no money."

"I will sell you and your family as slaves. That way, I can at least get a little of what you owe me," the king said.

"Please don't do that!" the poor servant cried, and fell down before the king. "Wait a while longer and I promise to pay you!"

The king felt sorry for the poor man and said, "Don't cry! I won't sell you. I will forgive the debt and you won't have to pay me a penny."

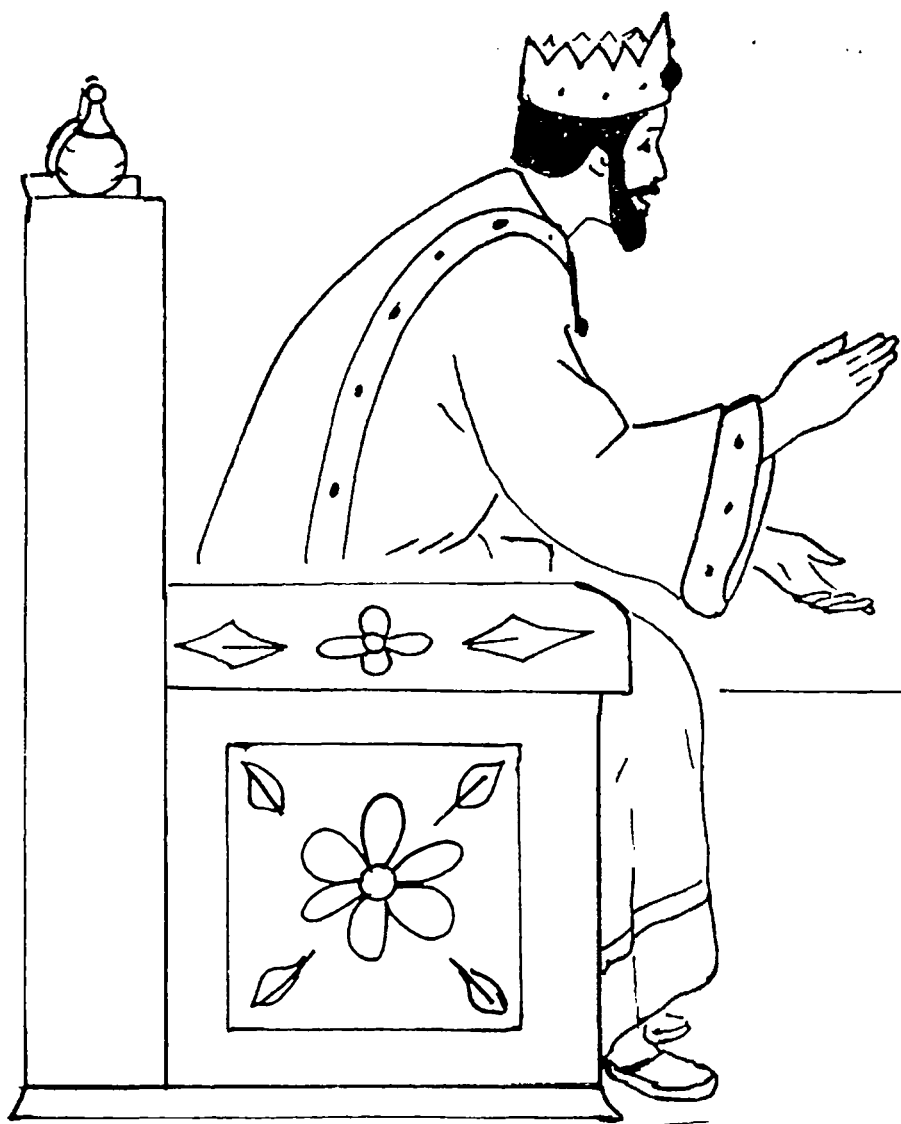
How happy the servant felt! But He was still very poor. One day he met another servant who owed him a little money. He wanted it very badly. "Give me the money you owe me!" he demanded.

"I have no money today," the man said, "but if you will just wait, I will pay you later."

"I need it now!" he stormed. He had the other man put in jail.

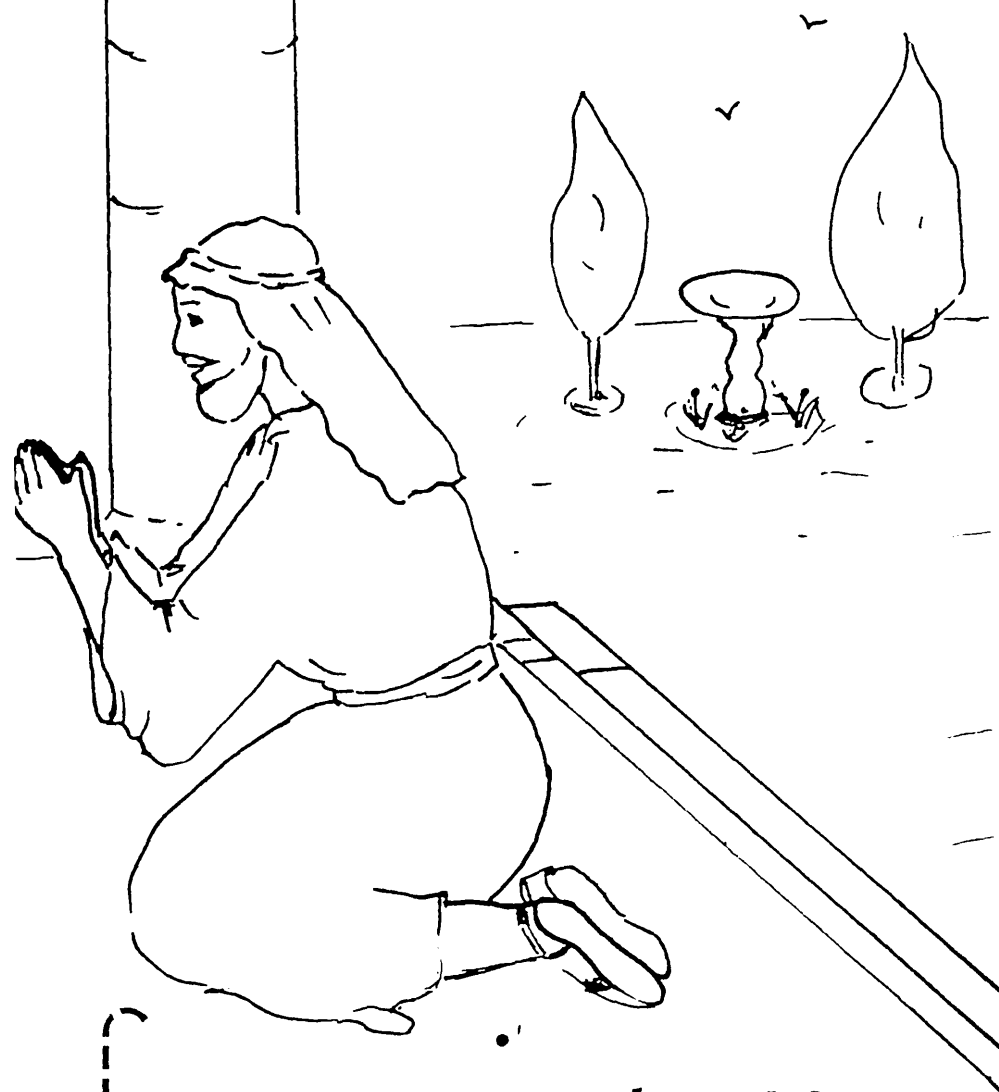
When the king heard about it, he became angry. He called the wicked servant and said, "I will do to you just as you did to the other servant."

God will not forgive us if we do not forgive others.



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(Luke. 6:37)

The Greatest Lesson

A little boy who lived in Afghanistan (a country far, far away from here) laid in a dull hospital ward with many other children. He was sick from hunger and wounded from a bomb which had exploded near him. He had no mother and no father. They had been killed by Soviet soldiers.

This little boy was scared to live and scared to die. He had no friends, no family, and no one to claim him. He was a sad, lonesome, little boy. He just quietly laid in his bed with a bandage around his head because he was wounded.

Suddenly there was a quickness felt in the room and the little boy knew someone important had come into the ward. As he listened closely, he realized a missionary from the United States of America (our country) was there to tell all the children in the ward some very special news.

"I want to tell you about Jesus," said the missionary. "Jesus heals the sick, the blind, the lame. He loves children and big people and He wants all to love Him and obey His commandments. He wants to give each of you happiness and hope for a better life.

"Jesus came down from heaven, a beautiful place where we shall go some day if we know Jesus. Jesus grew up as a little boy like you children are growing up. When Jesus became a grown man, He healed sick people and fed them bread. Most of all, Jesus told them the way to go to heaven with Him after death. Some mean people did not like Jesus. They threw stones at Him once, and did all they could to hurt Jesus. Finally the mean people crucified Him on a big, rugged cross. Jesus bled and suffered on that cruel cross and then He died. The happy part is that Jesus came back to life after three days. He told those who still loved Him: 'Come and be with me in heaven where there is no suffering, nor sorrow, and where there is only peace and happiness.' He then went to heaven and today He is

calling each one of us come and be with Him."

This little, wounded boy had never heard such good news before! In his heart, he had a desire to learn more about Jesus. He began to call out to the missionary: "Tell me more!" And the missionary came and told him a lot more about Jesus: how Jesus forgives sins and takes all the wickedness out of a child who will let Him come into his heart.

The little boy was so hungry for Jesus that he clung to the missionary with his skinny, cold hands. They prayed and Jesus forgave the little boy and put peace in his heart where fear had been. The little boy relaxed and laid back on his bed after they had prayed.

"Oh, I'm so glad you told me about Jesus!" he said. That very day, Jesus came and took the little boy to heaven where there is no suffering and sorrow.

Children, the story of Jesus and the cross is the greatest lesson of forgiveness.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Why did Jesus tell this story?
2. Who is the story about?
3. What did the servant owe the king?
4. Could the servant pay the money?
5. What was the king going to do to the servant and his family?
6. Why did the servant not have to pay?
7. What did this servant do to another servant?
8. How did the king feel about how the servant was treated?
9. How did the king treat the wicked servant?

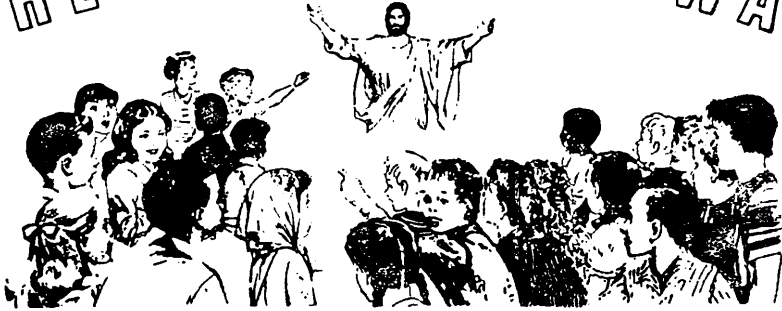
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(Answers: 1. To teach that God will not forgive those who will not forgive others. 2. A king and two servants. 3. A big stack of money. 4. No. 5. Sell them as slaves. 6. The king forgave him. 7. He had the other servant put in jail. 8. The king was very angry. 9. The king treated the wicked servant the way he had treated the other servant.)

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Lesson Text: Matthew 18:21-35.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 2 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 June 19, 1988

JESUS HEALS TEN LEPERS

One day as Jesus was going to Jerusalem, He walked through a village in Samaria. Near the village lived a group of men who were lepers. No one wanted to get the terrible disease of leprosy, so the people made a law. The law said that any man, woman, or child who had leprosy could not live in the village. They had to build their houses far away from any other houses. When a leper saw anyone coming his way, he had to call out, "Unclean!" When he said that, people ran away, for they knew he had leprosy.

As Jesus came near the village, ten lepers saw him. They stood far away and called loudly, "Please have mercy on us and heal us!"

Jesus saw them and said, "Go take an offering of thanksgiving to the priest. He will tell you to live again in the village."

The men hurried away toward the temple to see the priest. As they were going, every man was healed! Nine of the men hurried on toward the priest. They knew they must see the priest before they could go back to their families. That was the law. One of the men was so thankful that he couldn't wait to thank Jesus. He turned around and went and fell down at Jesus' feet. "Thank you, thank you!" he said over and over.

Jesus said, "The man who returned to thank me is a Samaritan. He hasn't even been taught the truth! Didn't I heal ten men? Where are the other nine?" Then to the healed man He said, "Get up and go on your way. Your faith has made you well."

Jesus wants us to be thankful for all the good things God does for us.

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(Col. 3:15)



Today She Is Thankful

Once there was a little girl who lived in Korea who was very sad and lonesome. Her mother had left her to die on the street because she did not have enough food to feed her little girl and herself. The little girl, like other abandoned children, ate food from the trash cans and gutters. She never took a bath and she only wore what she could find in the trash.

When this little girl was six, she became very sick with a disease that was going around among all the children of the street. She was lying on a big pile of boards and paper waiting to die, when a missionary woman found her and took her to a big refuge shelter for orphans. The missionary nursed the little girl until she was better and able to walk again. Oh, she was so glad to be in a house out of the cold! The little girl thanked the missionary over and over for taking her into the big house to live! She was so thankful that she would help wash the dishes, sweep the floor, and do the washing of dirty clothes in the river. She didn't mind getting her hands cold and chapped from the river water from doing the laundry—she was just thankful to be in a house at last!

Then one day news came to the big house that a husband and wife from America (our country) were coming to the big house to pick out a child to take back home with them. This little girl helped wash and tidy up all the babies and little children so that they would look nice to these rich Americans.

When the husband and wife came into the big house, this little girl was so scared that she ran and hid in a corner. She had never seen such big people before! Can you guess who that husband and wife decided to take home with them? Yes, they chose that little girl who had worked so hard to get the other children ready!

They brought this little girl across the ocean and back to America where they had a nice, big home. They gave the little girl a name and called her Stephanie. They gave her a good bath

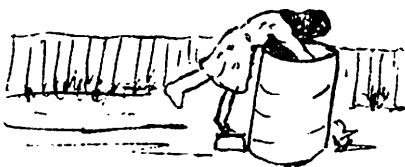
and fed her good food. They took her to church and taught her about Jesus and they loved Stephanie as if she were their own daughter.

Stephanie was so thankful! She told everyone that she was glad to be an American! She was thankful for such kind parents. She wanted to do everything for them she could possibly do.

Most important of all, when she was a teenager, Stephanie let Jesus come into her heart. Oh, she loves Jesus and obeys Him because she knows it was only His mercy and love that gave her a better life.

Stephanie married a pastor of a congregation and today she is a young mother with two children. Stephanie tells all who will listen, "Be thankful for the blessings God has given you."

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Who did Jesus see as He went along the road?
2. Why did the men call loudly to Jesus?
3. What did the men say?
4. Did Jesus say He would heal them?
5. What did Jesus say to them?
6. How many men hurried on to the priest?
7. How many returned to thank Jesus?
8. Why was it strange that the Samaritan knew he should thank Jesus?
9. Do you think that the other nine should have thanked Jesus?

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(Answers: 1. Ten men with leprosy. 2. They were not allowed to get near people. 3. "Please have mercy on us and heal us." 4. No. 5. He said to go to the priests. 6. Nine. 7. One. 8. Because he had not been taught the truth. 9. Yes.)

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Lesson Text: Luke 17:11-19; Lev. 13:46.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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ZACCHAEUS AND BLIND BARTIMAEUS

In the country of Jericho lived a short man who wanted to see Jesus. He ran down the road to see Him. There were many tall people around Jesus, and Zacchaeus couldn't see over their heads. Quickly he ran ahead of everyone and climbed a tree beside the road. Then he waited and waited for Jesus.

Zacchaeus watched Jesus go. He came nearer and nearer. Finally Jesus was under the tree where he was sitting. Jesus looked up and said, "Come down. I will stay at your house today."

Zacchaeus hurried down from the tree. "Jesus," he said, "I will give half of my things to the poor. If I have cheated anyone, I will give them four dollars for every one that I have taken."

"You are saved this very day!" Jesus said to him.

As Jesus was leaving Jericho, two blind men sat beside the road begging. "What is that noise I hear?" asked Bartimaeus who was one of the blind men.

"Jesus is coming!" a friend told him excitedly.

"Oh, Jesus, heal me!" Bartimaeus began shouting. Over and over again he shouted for Jesus to heal him.

"Don't be so loud!" his friends said. Other people told him to be quiet, but Bartimaeus kept shouting until Jesus noticed him.

"Tell him to come to me," Jesus said. Quickly Bartimaeus threw off his coat and started toward Jesus. The other blind man followed him. "What do you want?" Jesus asked.

"We want to see!" they answered. Jesus touched their eyes and immediately they could see! Then they followed Jesus, praising God as they went.



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"Call upon me: I will deliver thee."
(Ps. 50:15)



The Kingdom in Samati

Samati is a young black boy who lives in Ethiopia, a far-away country in Africa. He lives in a round thatch house. On the top, for protection against the heavy rains, there are layers and layers of long grass. That is why it is called a thatch house.

Samati loves his home, especially now since he and his parents have become Christians.

Samati's father used to drink much fermented barley or whiskey, and he would do bad things when he was drunk. He was just like all the other men in the village. The men would work out in the fields all morning long. Then when the heat of the afternoon came, they would have their wives fill a big round turtle shell with whiskey and then they would drink out of this turtle shell of whiskey with hollow grass straws.

Samati's mother had often woven symbols and made secret gifts for different spirits. All the other women in the village did these things also.

One day two white missionaries from America arrived in Gofa, Samati's village. They were pleasant, kind missionaries who visited the poor and rich alike. Samati soon became attached to these missionaries who hired him to help with the many household duties.

Samati realized that the missionaries had sweeter, happier ways than his poor parents and the other people in his village. The missionaries told him and others that it was Jesus Christ who made all the difference between peace in the heart or fear and jealousy in the heart. Samati became interested in the wonderful Saviour, Jesus Christ, who the missionaries talked about day after day. He learned that if a person believed on Jesus and gave up the bad customs of drinking and superstitions, then that person could have the same peace and happiness that the missionaries had every day. Samati decided that he wanted that peace more than anything else. He learned to love Jesus Christ, who did make him happier

when he was saved from all these bad customs of his people.

Samati's father and mother saw the difference in Samati and they liked how he was more pleasant and obedient. He began to tell them about his Friend and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Soon Samati's parents were listening to the missionaries tell about the Saviour of all men everywhere. After some time, Samati's mother, then his father, knelt down and asked Jesus to come into their hearts and give them peace from all strange fears. Later Samati and his parents and other believers were all baptized. They were so happy!

Samati, like Zacchaeus and Bartimaeus, was determined to know Jesus. After he learned to know Jesus, his father and mother were also saved. This made their family happier than it had ever been before. —Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Why couldn't Zacchaeus see Jesus?
2. How did Zacchaeus get to see him?
3. What did Jesus say to Zacchaeus?
4. What did Zacchaeus say he would do?
5. Where did Jesus spend the night?
6. Who did Jesus see as he left Jericho?
7. Did Bartimaeus call for help?
8. Did Jesus heal the blind men?
9. What did the men do after they were healed?

(Answers: 1. He was too short. 2. He climbed up into a tree. 3. "Come down, I will stay with you today." 4. Give half of his things to the poor, and give four dollars for every one that he had taken from others. 5. At Zacchaeus' house. 6. Two blind men. 7. Yes. 8. Yes. 9. They followed Jesus and praised God.)

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Lesson Text: Matt. 20:30-34; Mark 10:46-52; Luke 18:35-43; 19:1-10.