

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



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

THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Jesus and eleven of the Apostles sat around a big table. They had just finished eating. Jesus said, "I am going away."

How sad they felt. Peter, who was always the first one to speak, said, "I will go with you."

"No," Jesus said. "You cannot follow me where I am going."

"I will do anything to stay with you, even if I must die," Peter said.

"I am going to prepare a way so that you can go to my Father's mansions, then I will come again and take you there. But while I am away, you must love me and do the things that I have told you. I will not leave you here alone very long. In a few more days I will send you a comforter. It is called the Holy Spirit. This Holy Spirit will never leave you alone. He will be with you everywhere you go. He will comfort you when you are sad. When you don't understand things, He will help you understand, and teach you just what to do to obey me. If there are things that I have taught you that you have forgotten, this Holy Spirit will bring these things back to your mind. As long as you obey what I have taught, this Spirit will never leave you alone."

"Will this Holy Spirit come on everyone in the world?" a disciple asked.

"God loves everyone, and He would like to give the Holy Spirit to everyone. But there are some people who love to do sinful things. These people do not want the Holy Spirit in their hearts, so God gives it only to those who truly love and obey me," Jesus said.



"He shall give you another Comforter



' (John 14:16)

In Keeping A Promise

Henry and his mother were busy hoeing weeds out of their garden. After a while, Henry stopped hoeing and leaned on his hoe.

"Mother," he said, "if I help you in the garden, will you buy me the red remote-control car that I have been wanting?"

Mother didn't stop hoeing as she answered Henry's question. "Well, I'll have to see," she said. "I like to give you things you want, but first I have to get things you need."

"Oh, I know that," said Henry as he slowly began to hoe again. "I just want you to promise you will get it when you can."

"I don't like to make promises I can't keep," replied Mother. "What if I can't afford it?"

There was a long pause of silence then Henry said, "I'll just pray to Jesus that you can afford it, because when Jesus makes a promise, He keeps it."

"Yes," said Mother, "pray and ask Jesus, but give Him time to work. He has given you so many good gifts and blessings that you should be patient when asking for extra things. Jesus promises to take care of all our needs and He has always done just that! We have food, clothes, and a house to live in and those are all good blessings from Jesus. Now we also have a nice garden and I believe it will be a good one. Isn't it fun to watch little seeds grow and become plants? Then the plants grow vegetables for us to eat. They are all good gifts from the Lord."

"That is why we have Thanksgiving, isn't it, Mother, to thank the Lord for all the good food He gives us through the summer months?"

"Yes, that is one reason, Henry. God also commanded the children of Israel to keep a 'Thanksgiving Holiday' which is called the Pentecost. After fifty days from the Passover Week (Easter), they gathered together to thank the Lord for blessing their harvest of food. They brought to the Lord the first and best seven lambs, one young bull, and two

male sheep. They gave all this to the Lord. The priest killed the animals and burned them with fire. They brought fruit drinks and two loaves of bread and gave them to the Lord also. Then the Lord would bless their fields and they would have another good harvest of food."

"They did all that on the day of Pentecost?" Henry questioned. "I'm sure glad we don't have to do all that!"

"The Lord was pleased with their offerings then," Mother replied. "Today, all the Lord asks is that we give Jesus our sins to wash them away. Then we give our self — body, mind, soul and life — to Jesus. We don't have to offer lambs for a sacrifice, but we give Jesus ourself and that is what He wants the most."

"Then Jesus promises to never leave us alone and to help us with our problems, didn't He, Mother?"

"Yes," said Mother. "Let's finish hoeing the garden and I will tell you more about that tonight."

(To Be Continued)

Questions:

1. What was Jesus going to do?
2. Who wanted to go with Him?
3. Where was Jesus going?
4. Was He going to leave them alone very long?
5. Who was Jesus sending to be with them?
6. Would the Holy Spirit come to everyone?
7. What must people do so that the Holy Spirit will come to them?
8. Will the Holy Spirit ever leave us?
9. Would you like to have this great helper with you always?

(Answers: 1. Go away. 2. Peter. 3. To prepare a way so people could go to His Father's mansion. 4. No. 5. The Holy Spirit. 6. No. 7. Obey Jesus. 8. Not as long as we obey what Jesus taught. 9. Yes.)

Lesson Text: John 13:31-36, 14:1-26, Luke 11:9-13.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 July 10, 1988

JESUS KEEPS HIS PROMISE

Do you like for people to keep their promise? I do, and so did Jesus' disciples. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit. And He said not to leave Jerusalem until it came. Everyday they waited for it to come. When they awoke in the morning they would say, "I wonder if the Holy Spirit will come today."

It had been over fifty days now. A lot had happened in those fifty days. Jesus had been killed and buried. Then He came back to life and was with them for forty more days. But nine days ago He told them good-bye and went away to heaven. Since then they had hardly done anything except look for the Holy Spirit. Oh, how they wished it would hurry up and come.

The very next morning, while they were praying, a loud roaring sound filled the house and suddenly each disciple knew the Holy Spirit had come into his heart. They even saw little glows like flames of fire sitting over each other's heads.

This was the day that people from almost every nation of the world had come to Jerusalem for the great Feast of Pentecost. Soon a lot of people came to the disciples to see what was going on. Most of these people did not speak the same language as the disciples. But the disciples were so happy the Holy Spirit had come that they began telling these strangers about it. The Holy Spirit caused everyone to understand what was being said as if it were spoken in his own language.

Yes, people of fourteen different languages were hearing about Jesus! The disciples were happy that Jesus had kept His promise and sent the Holy Spirit.

“They were all filled with the Holy C



ost [Spirit]. (Acts 2:4)



In Keeping A Promise

(Continued from last week)

It was bedtime and Mother was tucking Henry into his bed.

"Do you remember when we were in the garden hoeing and you promised to get my red remote-control car?" asked Henry.

"I remember talking about it," agreed Mother. "Really I promised to talk more about the Jewish Feast of Firstfruits of the Pentecost. Do you remember that?"

Henry nodded. "After I said 'Jesus promised to never leave us alone,' you then said you would tell me more later."

"You remember very well," Mother said with a smile. "I wanted to tell you more about what the Pentecost means to us today. As I said, we don't have to give lambs for a burnt offering because Jesus was the perfect Lamb who died for our sins. Where did Jesus go after He died, do you remember, Henry?"

"He came back to earth and talked to the disciples for several days. Then he arose into the clouds and went to sit on the right hand of God, His Father."

"Very good!" said Mother. "And before Jesus arose into the clouds, He promised the disciples that He would send a comforter or teacher to remind them of all Jesus had done for them. This teacher would keep them from going back into a sinful life. It would guide them to heaven. It would be the part of Jesus that would never leave them alone."

"The part of Jesus that would never leave them alone?" asked Henry.

"Yes, you said that Jesus keeps His promises and so He does. He promised to never leave us alone so how do you think He stays with us?"

"He lives in our hearts after we get saved! He cleanses our heart and takes out everything that is sinful."

"Yes," said Mother. "After your heart is clean from sin, then there is a need to fill your heart with truth and goodness so sin never finds room in your heart again. Jesus doesn't want to clean up our heart and then let the devil put

sin back in there. Jesus never wants sin in our hearts again! Jesus knew that His disciples would be tempted to forget all the wonderful things that He had done and then not have faith for the things He still could do. So Jesus said: 'I will send you my Holy Spirit and that Holy Spirit will fill your heart with truth and goodness and teach you to stay free from sin.' That is what happened on the day of Pentecost. Jesus had promised to send the Holy Spirit that would never leave them alone, and on the day of Pentecost, Jesus fulfilled His promise. Jesus will give the Holy Spirit to all those who ask for it. It is still a good gift for us today."

"Jesus likes to give good gifts just like you like to give me good gifts, doesn't He, Mother?" asked Henry. "And He always keeps His promises!"

"Yes, yes," answered Mother. "I suppose you are still thinking about that car. Well, I promise I will get it for you if you will faithfully help me in the garden."
—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. What did Jesus promise?
2. What were the people waiting for?
3. How many days was it since they had seen Jesus?
4. What were they doing the next day?
5. What happened while they were praying?
6. Was each person filled with the Holy Spirit?
7. What did the other people do?
8. Were there people of 14 different languages listening?
9. Were the disciples happy that Jesus kept His promise?

(Answers: 1. The Holy Spirit. 2. The Holy Spirit to come. 3. Nine. 4. Praying. 5. The Holy Spirit came. 6. Yes. 7. They came to see what had happened. 8. Yes. 9. Yes.)

Lesson Text: Acts 2:1-15

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 July 17, 1988

HOW PETER CHANGED

Peter was a strong fisherman that Jesus chose to be one of the Apostles.

Peter knew he was strong and thought he was brave enough to do anything for Jesus.

But one day he wasn't very brave. He went into the judgment hall where evil men were about to put Jesus to death. A girl asked, "Are you Jesus' friend?" Then a man said, "You must be one of Jesus' friends." Another man said, "I know you are Jesus' friend." Every time they asked him, Peter said, "No, no, no." Then Jesus looked at Peter, and Peter felt very ashamed that he was afraid.

One day after Jesus died, the Holy Spirit came into Peter's heart. After that, he was really brave! Some wicked rulers caught Peter and had him beaten because they didn't like for Peter to preach about Jesus. Peter and his friends prayed for God to keep them brave, and God did. Peter kept on preaching about Jesus. Then the wicked men got so angry they put Peter in jail. But Peter wasn't afraid in jail, he just went to sleep. During the night an angel came and woke up Peter, "Go and preach in the temple," the angel said. Then the angel unlocked the door and let Peter out. Peter went right into the temple and began preaching again.

In the morning when the ruler went to get Peter to have him punished for preaching, he was told, "That man you are looking for is in the temple preaching right now." The angry ruler sent for Peter. "Didn't I tell you not to preach any more?" he shouted.

Peter answered, "I think it is better to obey God than to obey you." The Holy Spirit changed Peter into a really brave man!

They saw t
of



the boldness Peter

(Acts 4:13)



A Child Of Peter's

Suppose you are a little child living many years ago by the Sea of Galilee in the town of Capernaum. That will be your address and your daddy's name will be Simon Peter.

You live in a small one room hut with a dirt floor. In one corner of the room your mother cooks vegetables with the fish your daddy caught for supper. Your grandma is staying with you and she is laying on your bed, sick with a fever. (Mark 1:29-31).

Standing at the door of your hut, you watch the sun sinking lower and lower over the quiet blue Sea of Galilee. Suddenly you hear men's voices and they are louder as they get closer. Then you see the men and your daddy, Simon Peter, is one of them! Who are those other men? One is Uncle Andrew, and James and John: men who fish with your daddy. But who is that other man who looks so tired yet kind?

You hurry into the house and hide by your mother just in time because your daddy brought those men into the house!

"My mother-in-law is sick," says your daddy to the kind man. "Could you touch her and make her well?"

You watch as the kind man takes your grandma by the hand and raises her up from the bed. She is well and up cooking with your mother right away! Oh, you are so happy! You run and hug Grandma for joy! And that kind man smiles at you as you glance up at Him.

As soon as you can, you climb up in Simon Peter's lap. "Daddy," you whisper in his ear, "Who is that kind man that healed Grandma?"

"That is Jesus, the promised Messiah of the Jews," your daddy says back. "I'm going to travel with Him now and lay aside my fishing nets. He promised to take care of all our needs and I have seen enough miracles to believe Him, my child. I want you to learn all you can from Him for He is a learned man."

"Oh, I will Daddy!" you promise. "I already love Him!"

Many times Jesus stays all night at your house. Your mother and grand-

mother fix Him meals and your daddy talks with Him about many things.

One day when they come into the house, Jesus tells your daddy, Simon Peter, that he should go to the sea and catch a fish and in the fish's mouth would be the money to pay the taxes. You decide to tag after your daddy and sure enough, there was money in that fish's mouth! (Matt. 17:24-27). Yes, Jesus did supply all your needs! Oh, how you love Him!

After a while, your daddy and some of the men fuss about which one of them is the greatest. In the corner of the house, you sigh to yourself. "Why aren't they happy just to be with such a wonderful man as Jesus?"

Then Jesus calls you to come to Him. Jesus sits you on His lap. "If you will be like this little child," Jesus says, "then I and my Father will receive you and you shall be great in the kingdom of heaven." (Mark 9:33).

Don't you want to sit on the lap of Jesus forever? —Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who was Peter?
2. Did Peter think he would do anything for Jesus?
3. What did the girl ask Peter?
4. What did the men say to Peter?
5. What did Peter say to them?
6. What happened to Peter after Jesus died?
7. Why were the rulers angry at Peter?
8. What did the rulers do to Peter?
9. Was Peter a really brave man after the Holy Spirit was in him?

(Answers: 1. A fisherman, that Jesus chose to an Apostle. 2. Yes. 3. "Are you Jesus' friend?" 4. "You must be one of Jesus' friends," and "I know you are one of Jesus' friends." 5. "No, no." 6. The Holy Spirit came into his heart. 7. For preaching about Jesus. 8. They had him beaten and put him in jail. 9. Yes.)

Lesson Text: John 13:37, 18:12-27, Acts 1:8, 4:18-21, 5:17-29.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 17 July 24, 1988

PETER'S FIRST SERMON

It was the day of Pentecost! About nine o'clock in the morning, the Holy Spirit filled the disciples' hearts. They were so excited about it, that they told everyone. One disciple was talking to some Egyptians in their language. Another was talking to some Arabians in their language. Another to the Medes in their language. What a noise they all made!

Some men began laughing and mocking the disciples, "These men are drunk!" they said.

Peter stood up and began shouting at the top of his voice, "These men are not drunk," he said. "They are all talking at the same time in different languages."

"That must be what they are doing," the men said to each other, "for all the men talking are from Galilee, and the men listening are from different countries. Now we are listening to the same man, and we are hearing words in our language while they are hearing words in their language! How strange!" they said. Then, instead of mocking, they began to listen.

Peter kept on talking loud, loud, loud so everyone could hear. He said, "Your wicked hands have crucified Jesus. Yes, Jesus that man who healed all the sick people that were brought to Him. He did lots of other good things for people, too. Although you crucified Jesus, He still loves you and is ready to forgive all your sins and save everyone who calls upon Him. Then if you will surrender to Him, and be baptized, He will send the Holy Spirit into your heart just as He has ours. That's why we are all so excited!

"Yes, Jesus has come again in the form of the Holy Spirit."

"Whosoever shall call on the n



ne of the Lord shall be saved."

(Acts 2:21)



On Fire For God

Billy and Tom were playing cars and trucks out on the front lawn.

"When I grow up," began Tom, "I'm going to be a truck driver. I'm going to drive all over the world and see lots of places. Do you want to be a truck driver with me, Billy? We could drive our trucks together, side by side, and we could do a lot of things."

"Oh, I don't know," replied Billy, "Truck drivers aren't the only ones who get to see the world. I think I want to be something else. I want to do something really important."

"You mean you want to sit behind a desk and answer the phone all your life?" asked Tom.

"No, I want to travel, too, but I think I want to be a preacher who travels all over talking about God and Jesus everywhere I go.

"That is what a missionary does. Missionaries travel to China, Africa, Japan and other countries like that. But it's kinda dangerous, too. Sometimes missionaries get killed and they never come back home again, but at least you know they went to heaven."

There was a long pause as the two boys thought over the future work they had chosen.

"Why don't I take you places in the big truck I'm going to have some day?" said Tom. "Then you can have fun riding in my truck while you go about preaching."

"Oh, I don't know," replied Billy. "I'm going to be a preacher on fire for God. I won't have time to play around too much."

"A preacher on fire for God?" asked Tom. "Maybe I ought to be a fireman to put out the fire when you get too hot!"

"No, no, Tom!" Billy chuckled. "When you say you're on fire for God, that means you are ready to work for Him. Daddy says it means you have the Holy Spirit burning down in your heart teaching you to do right. When people say they are on fire for God, it doesn't mean they are burning like a wood fire. They are just saying, I'm fully saved and

ready to work for the Lord! You don't squirt their fire out with a water hose, Tom."

The boys laughed at the thought, for now both Tom and Billy knew the difference between a wood fire and the fire of the Holy Spirit down in the heart of a man which causes him to do right.

"Well, said Tom to his friend, "You may have a more exciting life as a missionary preaching about God than I will have as a truck driver. Maybe I ought to go with you."

Billy replied, "I would like that, then we will both be on fire for God and do things that are really important."

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. What day was it?
2. What filled the disciples' hearts?
3. What were the disciples doing?
4. Why were the disciples making so much noise?
5. Did the people crucify Jesus?
6. Did Jesus still love those who had crucified Him?
7. Could the people be saved that called on Jesus?
8. In what form had Jesus come back to earth?
9. Will the Holy Spirit always be with us?

(Answers: 1. The Day of Pentecost. 2. The Holy Spirit. 3. Telling the people about Jesus. 4. Because they were all talking at the same time in different languages. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. Yes. 8. In the form of the Holy Spirit. 9. Yes, as long as we live for Jesus.)

Lesson Text: Acts 2:13-36.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39 No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 July 31, 1988

3000 PEOPLE ARE SAVED

Jesus and God, in the form of the Holy Spirit, were on the earth again on the day of Pentecost. Everyone was busy that day. Peter was preaching his first sermon. The other disciples were testifying to the men who stood around them. The Holy Spirit was busy putting thoughts into people's minds. It was causing them to think of the bad things they had been doing. It reminded them of that day not so long ago when Governor Pilate wanted to let Jesus go free, but they cried, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!"

How very terrible they felt that they had wanted Jesus to die. A woman began crying because she felt sorry and wanted Jesus to forgive her. Then another woman began crying. A big tall man brushed tears from his eyes. He felt ashamed of all the evil things he had done. Another man said, in a low whisper, "Jesus, I'm sorry I did not believe in you when I ate the bread and fish you made for us that day in the wilderness."

Soon many, many people were crying. One man shouted, "What shall we do to be saved?"

Peter answered, "Be sorry for your sins and ask Jesus to forgive you. After that you must be baptized."

A man walked up to Peter and said, "I have already repented, I want to be baptized."

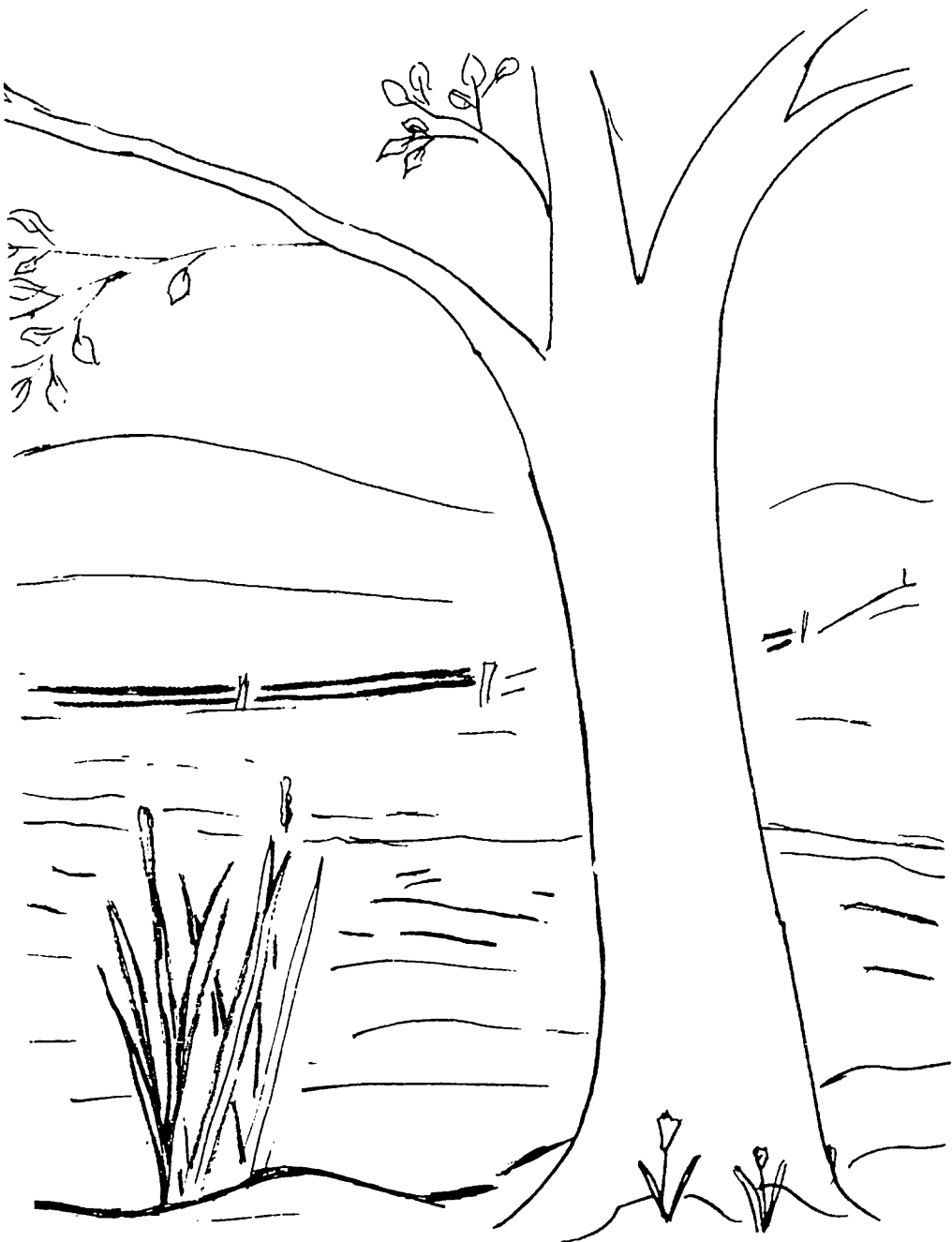
"I do, too," said another. More and more people stepped out of the crowd and asked to be baptized.

How many do you think they baptized? 100? 200? 300? Maybe 500? 1000?

3000 people were baptized and added to the Church!



"They that gladly received his



ord were baptized." (Acts 2:41)

Monark Springs

The Jones family was getting ready for a trip. Mother was packing suitcases and getting the other things she needed ready to go. Daddy was checking over the car to make sure the tires, oil, and engine were in good shape to travel. Greg and Lisa were excited and running back and forth between Mother and Daddy.

"When are we going to go?" asked Greg for the hundredth time.

"Pretty soon," said Daddy again.

"You just keep saying, 'pretty soon' everytime I ask," declared Greg. "When will you say, 'right now!'"

"Pretty soon," repeated Daddy.

"Daddy, you're teasing us!" laughed Lisa. "We can hardly wait to get there! I want to see all the friends I played with last year at Monark. I want to stay there all week! I love to sleep in our cabin at Monark!"

Pretty soon the family was all loaded up in the car and headed for Monark Springs camp meeting at Neosho, MO.

"Why is Monark always such a big camp meeting?" asked Greg after they had traveled quite a while.

"It is the national camp meeting," replied Daddy. "People from all over the United States come for salvation, sanctification, baptism, encouragement, and for healing. It is a time to check over your life and draw closer to God."

"Oh, I didn't know Monark was so important," said Lisa. "I just looked forward to seeing my friends again."

"That's good," said Daddy, "but during meeting time you must sit still so the Holy Spirit can talk to your heart and everyone else's. That is what we are there for — to do business with God."

"Oh, we will be quiet," promised Greg and Lisa. "we don't want to make noises and cause anyone to miss hearing the message."

It was so nice to be back at Monark again! The car tires crunched over the gravel lane as people parted to the side to let their car pass by. There was the big, open tabernacle, the dining hall,

the big shade trees, and the drinking fountains with cold water for thirsty throats.

They parked their car by their cabin. With all the family helping, they soon had the cabin clean and ready for the week.

"It's even better than I remembered it!" exclaimed Lisa. "And tonight, I want to hear the locusts singing in the trees!"

"Tonight, we want to hear a good salvation message," said Daddy. "Let's pray all through the day that some will be saved tonight. Wouldn't it be nice to see the altar lined over and over again with people ready to live for God? That's what this meeting is all about."

"We'll be quiet during the service while the message is preached," said Greg and Lisa. "We don't want to hinder the Lord from working with any person that needs to be saved."

"That will please me and the Lord," Daddy said with a smile.

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Who had come back to earth?
2. In what form were they on the earth?
3. What was Peter busy doing?
4. What were the other disciples doing?
5. What was the Holy Spirit doing?
6. What must the people do to be saved?
7. Did a lot of people ask forgiveness for the evil they had done?
8. What did they do after they were forgiven?
9. How many people were added to the Church?

(Answers: 1. Jesus and God. 2. In the form of the Holy Spirit. 3. Preaching. 4. Testifying. 5. Putting good thoughts in the minds of the people. 6. Be sorry for their sins, ask forgiveness, and be baptized. 7. Yes. 8. They asked to be baptized. 9. 3,000.)



Lesson Text: Acts 2:37-47, Matt. 28:19.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39 No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 Aug. 7, 1988

A LAME MAN IS HEALED

An old woman spread a hand-woven mat on the ground near the Beautiful Gate of the temple. "Sit him right here," she said to the men who carried her son who had never learned to walk. "I put him here everyday. It is the best place to beg. Many people go into the temple through this gate. More people means a better chance for a beggar to get some money."

The men sat the crippled man on the mat. The crippled man set his clay pot of water beside him and began calling to the people who passed by to give him some money.

About three o'clock in the afternoon, Peter and John came through the gate to go into the temple. The beggar asked them for some money.

Peter said to him, "I have no money, but what I do have I will give it to you. In the name of Jesus get up and walk." Peter took the man by the hand and pulled him to his feet.

God's power shot through the man's legs and made them strong. He stood up! He began walking! Then he began jumping and shouting, "Praise God, praise God, I can walk!" The man was forty years old and had never before walked!

People came from everywhere. They stared at the man in surprise. "Why are you staring in surprise?" Peter asked. "Jesus made lots of people well, when He was here. The crippled walked, the blind were made to see, and even the dead came back to life; and that is just what Jesus did. He came back to life, and He made this crippled man to walk. John nor I have any power of our own to heal. Jesus healed this crippled man. He is walking!"



“Immediately his feet and ankle



ones received strength." (Acts 3:7)

New Neighbors

Billy and Becky were all excited as they came running into their house.

"Mama," they called, "the new neighbors are moving in next door! Can we go visit them right now?"

Mama smiled at her two children as she tucked clean socks into Billy's drawer. "No, don't go over right now," she said. "Let their mother get things unpacked and more organized before she has company. How many children are there?"

"We don't know yet but I hope a dozen or more," replied Becky all excited.

Mama laughed. "I doubt that house could hold that many children," she told Becky. "Just stay in our yard for now and say 'Hi' or wave at them from here."

Billy and Becky obeyed their mother and watched the new neighbors from their own yard. Pretty soon they were running back inside to tell their mother something else about the new neighbors.

"Mama, they have two boys and one girl about Becky's size, but Mama, one of the boys is in a wheel chair. Do you think he can't walk?" Billy asked.

"I don't know yet," said his mother, "but he will probably be a nice person to get to know."

"He can still be my friend even if he can't run like we do, right, Mama?"

"Yes, Billy, that's right. Always be kind to everyone and include them in your play."

Later, Billy and Becky became more acquainted with their new neighbors. They learned that Thomas had polio when he was a baby and now he couldn't walk. He was very jolly and had lots of new ideas for play. Becky played with Karen, and Billy played with Joey. Thomas told them stories that made all of them laugh and laugh.

"I wish I had a brother like Thomas," Becky said one evening at the supper table.

"Why is that?" her daddy asked.

"When Thomas is around we're always having fun," replied Becky. "He says and does the funniest things."

"I wish he didn't have to ride in that wheel chair, though," said Billy. "If I was Jesus, I would heal him right away."

"God has a purpose for everything," Daddy said thoughtfully. "Often God can deal and save an afflicted person better than He can deal with a normal person. Ask your new neighbors to come to church with us. God may want to use Thomas in a special way for His glory."

"Let's go ask them right now, Becky," Billy said as he finished the last bite of his supper. "God still heals people today and what if He healed Thomas to His glory? It would be just like God to do that!"

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

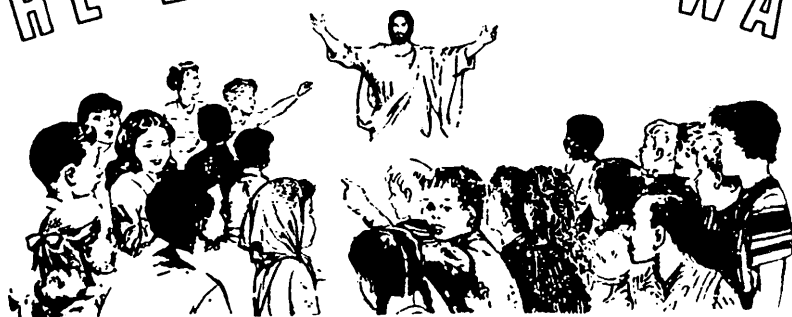
1. Where did the crippled man sit to beg?
2. Why did the men carry the other man?
3. What did the man ask from Peter and John?
4. Did Peter and John give him money?
5. What did Peter do?
6. What did the man do after Peter lifted him up?
7. Had the man ever walked before?
8. Who made the man able to walk?
9. Had Jesus healed a lot of other people?

(Answers: 1. By the beautiful gate of the temple. 2. Because he was crippled. 3. Money. 4. No. 5. He lifted the man to his feet. 6. He walked, jumped, and praised God. 7. No. 8. Jesus. 9. Yes.)



Lesson Text: Acts 3:1-12, 4:22.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39 No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 Aug. 7, 1988

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About three o'clock in the afternoon, Peter and John came through the gate to go into the temple. The beggar asked them for some money.

Peter said to him, "I have no money, but what I do have I will give it to you. In the name of Jesus get up and walk." Peter took the man by the hand and pulled him to his feet.

God's power shot through the man's legs and made them strong. He stood up! He began walking! Then he began jumping and shouting, "Praise God, praise God, I can walk!" The man was forty years old and had never before walked!

People came from everywhere. They stared at the man in surprise. "Why are you staring in surprise?" Peter asked. "Jesus made lots of people well, when He was here. The crippled walked, the blind were made to see, and even the dead came back to life; and that is just what Jesus did. He came back to life, and He made this crippled man to walk. John nor I have any power of our own to heal. Jesus healed this crippled man. He is walking!!"



"Immediately his feet and ankle



ones received strength." (Acts 3:7)

New Neighbors

Billy and Becky were all excited as they came running into their house.

"Mama," they called, "the new neighbors are moving in next door! Can we go visit them right now?"

Mama smiled at her two children as she tucked clean socks into Billy's drawer. "No, don't go over right now," she said. "Let their mother get things unpacked and more organized before she has company. How many children are there?"

"We don't know yet but I hope a dozen or more," replied Becky all excited.

Mama laughed. "I doubt that house could hold that many children," she told Becky. "Just stay in our yard for now and say 'Hi' or wave at them from here."

Billy and Becky obeyed their mother and watched the new neighbors from their own yard. Pretty soon they were running back inside to tell their mother something else about the new neighbors.

"Mama, they have two boys and one girl about Becky's size, but Mama, one of the boys is in a wheel chair. Do you think he can't walk?" Billy asked.

"I don't know yet," said his mother, "but he will probably be a nice person to get to know."

"He can still be my friend even if he can't run like we do, right, Mama?"

"Yes, Billy, that's right. Always be kind to everyone and include them in your play."

Later, Billy and Becky became more acquainted with their new neighbors. They learned that Thomas had polio when he was a baby and now he couldn't walk. He was very jolly and had lots of new ideas for play. Becky played with Karen, and Billy played with Joey. Thomas told them stories that made all of them laugh and laugh.

"I wish I had a brother like Thomas," Becky said one evening at the supper table.

"Why is that?" her daddy asked.

"When Thomas is around we're always having fun," replied Becky. "He says and does the funniest things."

"I wish he didn't have to ride in that wheel chair, though," said Billy. "If I was Jesus, I would heal him right away."

"God has a purpose for everything," Daddy said thoughtfully. "Often God can deal and save an afflicted person better than He can deal with a normal person. Ask your new neighbors to come to church with us. God may want to use Thomas in a special way for His glory."

"Let's go ask them right now, Becky," Billy said as he finished the last bite of his supper. "God still heals people today and what if He healed Thomas to His glory? It would be just like God to do that!"

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Where did the crippled man sit to beg?
2. Why did the men carry the other man?
3. What did the man ask from Peter and John?
4. Did Peter and John give him money?
5. What did Peter do?
6. What did the man do after Peter lifted him up?
7. Had the man ever walked before?
8. Who made the man able to walk?
9. Had Jesus healed a lot of other people?

(Answers: 1. By the beautiful gate of the temple. 2. Because he was crippled. 3. Money. 4. No. 5. He lifted the man to his feet. 6. He walked, jumped, and praised God. 7. No. 8. Jesus. 9. Yes.)



Lesson Text: Acts 3:1-12, 4:22.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 Aug. 14, 1988

JESUS IS A DELIVERER

A great crowd of people stared at Peter, John, and the crippled man who was jumping around and shouting praises to God. It was the first time he had ever walked!

"Why are you staring at us?" Peter asked. "We aren't strange magic men. We did not make this man walk."

"He couldn't walk yesterday," a man said.

"He's my son, he's forty years old and he has never walked," the mother said.

"Yes, yes," Peter answered, "The man wasn't able to walk and now he can walk. Jesus delivered him from his weak legs and gave him strong ones that he could walk with. I didn't do it."

"Years ago our great leader Moses said that God was going to send us a messenger that would be able to deliver us. The messenger is Jesus. Remember how He walked from town to town, healing all the sick people that came to Him. Each time He healed someone, He was delivering that person from the sickness that was binding him. Jesus also delivers people from evil sinful ways. And He delivers people from fear and a lot of other things," Peter said. "One time I was too afraid to say that I was a friend of Jesus or that I even knew Him. Jesus took away my fear and now I am not afraid to say I'm a friend of Jesus. Jesus is my friend too, and He wants to be a friend to all of you. He wants to deliver you from every sin. He wants to deliver those who killed Him from the terrible sad feeling that is always in their hearts."

A lot of people were glad that Jesus wanted to forgive them. They repented and then there were 5000 disciples of Jesus!

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me. .



to preach deliverance to the captives."
(Luke 4:18)



Free Vegetables

Jacob, David and Paul were helping their mother in the garden.

"Whew, is it ever hot!" said Jacob as he stood up from the row of green beans he was picking. "How much longer do you think it will be before this garden burns up in the summer heat?"

"Well, I hope not for a long time," replied his mother.

"Mother, we already have quarts and quarts of canned green beans. Why don't you just let the rest of the beans go!" said David.

"Yeh," chimed in Paul. "If you can much more, we won't even have to put in a garden next year."

"Now, boys," said their mother, "you will be surprised how fast we eat those canned green beans. You should be very, very thankful for having such a good crop. I think you ought to be ashamed of yourselves for complaining. There are some people who don't have a place for a garden and they would be glad to have fresh green beans like you have."

"Why don't you give them some of our beans?" asked David.

"No, charge people to come and pick our garden for us," suggested Paul. "I'll collect the money."

"No, Paul, we will not charge people to pick our garden," said mother, "but you may have a good idea, David. We could give some of our extra vegetables to those at church who live in town. They would be happy to get fresh things to eat."

"Then we would have to charge them twice as much for picking the beans," said Paul.

"Now, son, we will not charge anyone," replied mother. "It is good to give from our abundance. It doesn't hurt you boys to work, and think how happy our friends will be to get some fresh things for free from our garden! We have extra tomatoes, squash, and okra. Maybe some other things, too. Let's plan to take our gifts Wednesday

night to prayer meeting. I believe the Lord would be pleased with us."

"We think so, too," said Jacob and David. Paul was quiet. He still thought they ought to sell the things instead.

Wednesday night mother gave the boys two sacks each to give to their friends.

"Oh, thank you," said Sis. Wilson to Jacob. "Let me give you something for this."

"No, we just want you to have it," Jacob told her.

"Well, let me give you some cookies I happen to have here in the car," she said and gave Jacob several cookies.

Brother Kerry gave David a baseball after David had said he didn't want any money for the vegetables.

"What did you get?" David asked Paul as they were driving home from prayer meeting.

"Nothing," said Paul. "I should have gone to Sis. Wilson and Bro. Kerry."

"No, Paul," said mother. "You should have never expected to receive money, but you should have given more freely. The Lord blessed your brothers who gave cheerfully not expecting to receive anything."

—Connie Sorrell

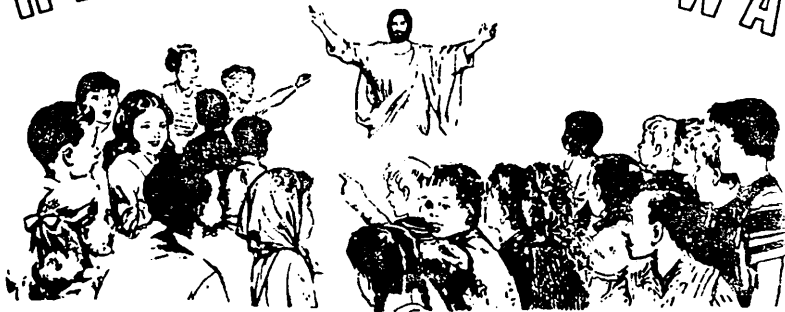
Questions:

1. Why did the people gather around Peter and John?
2. Who was with Peter and John?
3. Had the man ever walked?
4. Did the people think Peter had made the man well?
5. Who made the man walk?
6. When Jesus heals does He deliver from sickness?
7. Will Jesus deliver from sin?
8. Is Jesus our deliverer from sin and sickness?
9. How many disciples did Jesus have?

(Answers: 1. Because a crippled man was jumping around and praising God. 2. The crippled man that was healed. 3. No. 4. Yes. 5. Jesus. 6. Yes. 7. Yes. 8. Yes. 9. 5,000.)

Lesson Text: Acts 3:13-26, 4:1-4.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 Aug. 21, 1988

THE HOLY SPIRIT KEEPS PETER BRAVE

Peter and John were standing in the temple with the crippled man who had just been healed. A great crowd of people stood around them. They were listening to Peter tell about Jesus. Peter said, "Everyone of you can live again after you die, if you will believe in Jesus."

The temple captains and priests heard what Peter said. "We must stop him from teaching about Jesus," they said angrily. "Peter has already got 5000 people to follow after Jesus. He'll soon have the whole city following Him! We've got to put a stop to this!"

They caught Peter and John and put them in jail.

The next morning the temple captain called many important men together. Then they sent for Peter and John. "How did you make that crippled man walk?" they asked Peter.

"Jesus made the crippled man walk," Peter answered.

"Not Jesus," they answered, "Jesus is dead."

"Jesus **was** dead. God let all of you crucify Him," Peter answered, "But He is alive again and busy at work in the Church of God. You have not believed that He was sent from God, but He was. He is the foundation of God's Church. Believing in Jesus is the only way for any person to have salvation and be in the Church of God."

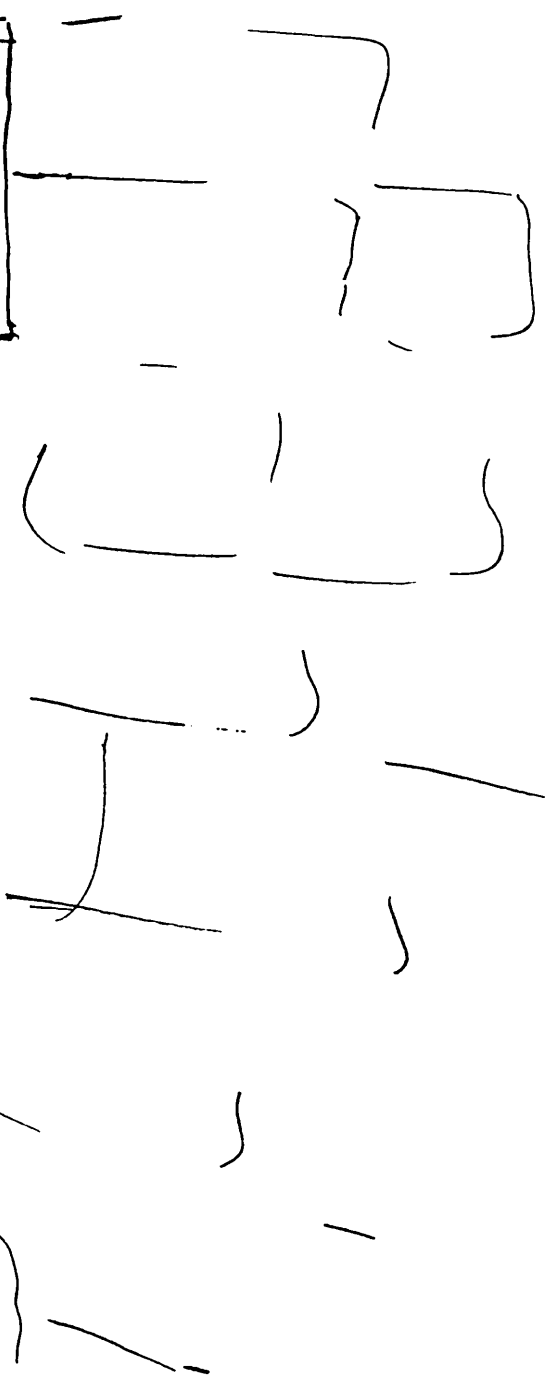
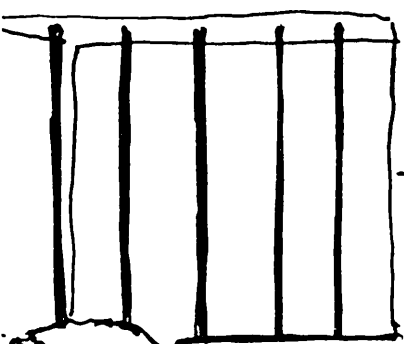
How surprised the men were that Peter was not afraid of them!

They could have killed Peter just as they did Jesus. The Holy Spirit in Peter's heart kept him brave.

**“Ye shall receive power, after
that the Holy Ghost [Spirit]
is come upon you.”**

(Acts 1:8)





A Broken Window

Terry was playing baseball with six neighbor boys when the terrible accident happened. He wasn't the one who threw the ball that hit Mr. Tisher's window, but he was the one who should have caught the ball.

"Pop!" went the window, and glass shattered all around.

"Look where you threw the ball, Rex," said one of the boys.

"I didn't do it," said Rex, "Terry should have caught it. It was a simple throw and how did I know Terry wasn't big enough to catch it?"

"You threw it harder than I thought and I just missed the ball like you sometimes do," said Terry.

"Well, someone is going to be in trouble now," said another boy. "Mr. Tisher doesn't like us playing ball by his house anyway. That's why we play here only when he's gone. Now he'll really be upset."

"Oh, I didn't know he doesn't like for us to play here," said Terry. "I wouldn't be playing here if I knew that."

"I'll tell you what, Terry," said Rex, "if you don't tell who did it, neither will the rest of us. Mr. Tisher will be mad for a while, then he'll fix it and never think about it later. He doesn't like us boys much and I doubt things will be any better after this any way."

"I don't know," said Terry. "We shouldn't have been playing here anyway if he doesn't like it."

"Look, boy," said Rex roughly, "if you go and squeal, don't put my name in it. I'm not paying for his old broken window!"

"Yeah," said the other boys. "Don't even tell Mr. Tisher we were playing here. Just say you did it all by yourself on purpose!"

With that, those roudy neighbor boys left Terry alone. Terry went home. He told his Christian mother and father what had happened.

"Do you think I ought to tell Mr. Tisher the whole story?" Terry asked his parents.

"Yes, Terry, we do," they said. "We didn't know Mr. Tisher doesn't like for you to play there and really, Terry, those boys are not good company if they act like this."

"Come, son," said Terry's father, "I'll go with you to Mr. Tisher's."

Terry and his dad went and talked to Mr. Tisher and found him to be very nice about it all.

"Since I never exactly told you not to play here and since you really didn't throw the ball, I don't think you should pay for my broken window," said Mr. Tisher. "I appreciate your honesty. A good boy like you should not run with such wicked boys."

"I don't think I will be playing with them any more," said Terry. "Who knows, they may try stealing next!"

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Who was in the temple?
2. Who was Peter talking about?
3. Why were the temple captains angry at Peter?
4. What did they do to Peter and John?
5. Was Peter afraid to talk about Jesus to the men who had put him in jail?
6. Why was Peter so brave?
7. What did the men ask Peter?
8. Who did Peter say had made the crippled man able to walk?
9. How can anyone get into the Church of God?

(Answers: 1. Peter, John and a crippled man. 2. Jesus. 3. Because he was teaching about Jesus and people were following Jesus. 4. Put them in jail. 5. No. 6. The Holy Spirit made him brave. 7. How did you make the crippled man walk? 8. Jesus. 9. By believing in Jesus.)



Lesson Text: Acts 4:1-10.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 Aug. 28, 1988

WHY THE APOSTLES WERE BRAVE

Peter and John walked away from the jail. "I sure am glad we only had to stay in there one night," John said.

"I am too," Peter answered. "The Holy Spirit made us brave to suffer for Jesus, but I'm glad they didn't torment us any longer."

They walked on down the street to see the other disciples. How happy everyone was that they were free again! "Praise God!" they said.

After Peter and John told them all that had happened, they prayed together. "Oh, God," they prayed, "You made the heavens and the earth, and we know you can protect us here on this earth that you made. We read in your Word that the kings and rulers of the earth have always rose up against your servants and especially against your Son, Jesus. Lord God we know that they will also be against us. We are not asking that you keep us from suffering, for your people have always suffered for you. We only ask that you will make us strong and bold to speak the truth about you.

The wicked men have threatened us. They told us not to speak again about Jesus. But we will speak whatever you tell us to speak. Just give us boldness, please God."

When the disciples had finished praying, the building began shaking. Soon the Holy Spirit filled every heart. Many of these people had not yet been filled with the Holy Spirit. Now they were all filled! Each one spoke bravely about Jesus.

Peter and John were brave because the Holy Spirit was in their hearts and also because the other disciples were praying for them. Praying together with other Christians will help you.

"They spake the word of God with bo



ness." (Acts 4:31)



Peter and John



By the Beautiful Gate lay a man
Who couldn't walk as most people can.
"Give me money," he said to those
Who walked by in their nice clothes.

"Money," said he to Peter and John.
"Beggar," said Peter, "I have none.
But look on us and we'll impart
To you the desire of your heart."

Then Peter took him by the hand
And had that lame man rise and stand.
Leaping, the healed man followed them
Everyone asked, "Who healed him?"

"Why wonder?" said Peter to the people.
"For Jesus this healing was so simple.
You don't love Jesus like you should
But God can save you if you would."

"You crucified Jesus, don't you see
And you watched Him die on that tree.
For three days in the tomb He laid,
But in that grave He has not stayed."

"On the third day He rose again
And appeared to His faithful men.
Healing power He has given to us
It is His power you now witness."

Then said Peter, "Repent of your sin,
Believe on Jesus; be righteous men."
But the priests were mad, oh, so mad!
"Stop this preaching at once!" they said,

"And don't tell people Jesus has risen!"
Then they put Peter and John in prison.
Howbeit many, many others believed,
And five thousand men Jesus received.

"Bring to us those bold Apostles,"
Said the priests there at the Temple.
Spoke Peter and John in bold comment:
"Of your sins be sorry, and repent."

The priests just didn't know what to do.
They'd seen the lame man walking, too.
And heard the people joyfully sing,
"Jesus has done this wonderful thing!"

"We'll let you go," the priests replied,
"But don't talk of Jesus crucified.
Do not tell He's with the Father.
Do not heal through His holy power."

Peter spoke, "I'll forever tell the story
Of Jesus and His wondrous glory!"
So when we read of Peter and John,
We see this truth is marching on!

—Connie Sorrell

Rescue The Children



A Christian worker was visiting the
jail one Sunday morning and found six
men locked up under the charge. "Drunk
and disorderly." After speaking to them
of the evils of drink and the need of
salvation, the oldest man replied:

"I say Guv'nor, do you think it is any
good talking to us old fellows: we have
have gone too far! You ought to go and
talk to the children."

"... It is not the will of your Father
which is in heaven, that one of these
little ones should perish." Matt. 18:14.

Questions:

1. Where had Peter and John been?
2. Were they suffering for Jesus?
3. Who did they go to see?
4. Were the other disciples glad to see them?
5. Did the disciples pray together?
6. What did they ask Jesus to help them do?
7. Have the kings and rulers always been against God's people?
8. Were they all filled with the Holy Spirit?
9. Did each one speak bravely about Jesus?

(Answers: 1. In jail. 2. Yes. 3. The other
disciples. 4. Yes. 5. Yes. 6. To be brave
to speak for Jesus. 7. Yes. 8. Yes. 9. Yes.)

Lesson Text: Acts 4:13-31.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 Sept. 4, 1988

DISHONESTY DOESN'T PAY

Soon after the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit, they decided to share food and money with each other. They ate together sharing what food they had. Some had land or houses, that they sold. They gave the money to the Apostles to help the poor.

Joses sold land and gave the money to the Apostles. Ananias and his wife Sapphira decided to do like Joses. They sold some land. But just before giving the money they said, "Let's just take part of the money and pretend that we are giving it all." And that is just what they did.

Ananias took the money to Peter, and said, "Here is all the money from the land we sold."

The Holy Spirit told Peter that Ananias was just pretending to give all the money. "Why are you being dishonest?" Peter asked. "God knows you are not giving all of it. You are not only being dishonest, but you are lying to God."

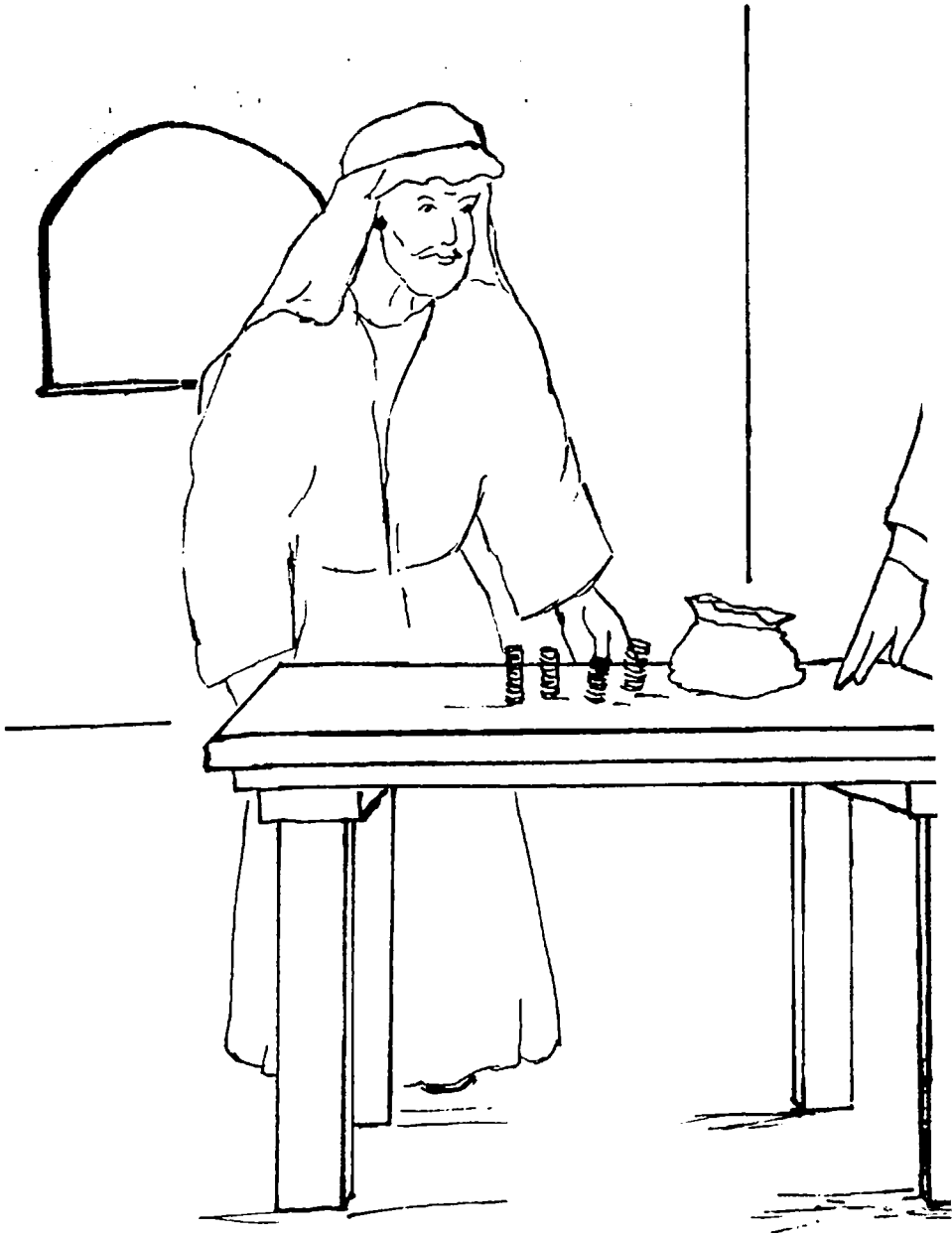
Ananias was surprised that Peter knew what he had done. He fell down and died. Some men took him out and buried him.

About three hours later his wife Sapphira came to Peter. "Did you sell your land for so much?" he asked her.

"Yes," she answered.

"You two have agreed to be dishonest!" Peter exclaimed. "The men that buried your husband are coming in the door right now. They will bury you also."

Sapphira dropped dead. The men carried her out and buried her beside her husband with whom she agreed to be dishonest!



“Do that which is honest.” (2 C



inthians 13:7)

Two Dimes And A Nickel



It was Sunday morning and Tim was ready for Sunday school. Just before Tim walked into his Sunday school class, Tim's father handed him two dimes and a nickel.

"This is for your Sunday school missionary offering," his father said. "Put these two dimes and nickel into your missionary box."

"Thank you, Daddy," said Tim as he hurried to the Sunday school room with the money in his hand.

The teacher gathered the class together and began to sing. After a song or two, they took up the missionary offering. Each child put their money into the little box as it went around.

In Tim's mind, he thought, "Maybe I ought to put only one dime and a nickel into the box, then later I can buy some candy or gum with the other dime. Would that be honest?" Tim asked himself. "No one would know about it but me. Would that be honest?"

Then a still, small voice spoke to Tim. "No, Tim, that would **not** be honest. Put **all** the money in the box like your daddy told you to do. God is watching you."

Tim obeyed that small voice and he put two dimes and a nickel into the box. A good feeling swept over Tim as he obeyed and did what was right.

"I know the missionaries appreciate the money we send them every month," said Tim's teacher. "God will bless you for giving to them."

"Now let's start on our lesson," continued Tim's teacher. "Today we will learn about a husband and wife who tried to lie and keep money back from God. Their names were Ananias and Sapphira."

And so Tim's teacher told the class how that both of these people died because they lied to God and kept back money that was really God's.

"Don't ever keep back money or any thing that you have given God," Tim's teacher said.

Tim smiled and felt good again all over. He remembered how he had almost not given all the money Daddy told him to put in the missionary box. He had almost kept back a dime for candy, but then that still small voice told him to obey and put all of the money in the box. Tim had obeyed that voice from God and now how happy he was! It is blessed to give to the Lord and never lie about what we have!

—Connie Sorrell

A Testimony

I would like to testify and thank the Lord that I got saved. I want to say a few words about it.

Many times the Lord dealt with me and I got saved. But the very next day all my brothers would aggravate me.

But this time I prayed earnestly. I plan to stay saved the rest of my life and not let anything stop me from going to heaven.

P.S. Dear reader, if you are not saved, please get saved before you die and lose your soul in everlasting flames.

—Darik Bowman, age 8

Questions:

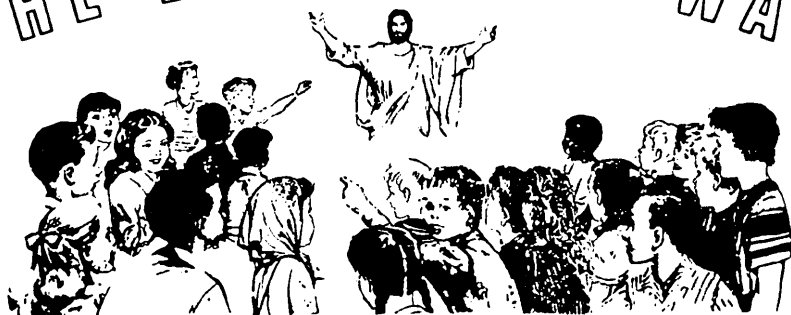
1. What did the disciples share?
2. Did some people sell land and houses and give the money?
3. What did Jesus do?
4. What did Ananias sell?
5. Did he give all the money?
6. Did Sapphira agree with him to be dishonest?
7. How did Peter know what they had done?
8. What happened to Ananias and Sapphira?
9. Does it pay well to be dishonest?

9. No. Holy Spirit told him. 8. They both died. Apostles. 4. Land. 3. No. 6. Yes. 7. The He sold land and gave the money to the 3. Answers: 1. Food and money. 2. Yes.



Lesson Text: Acts 5:1-11.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 24 Sept. 11, 1988

GOOD TIMES AND BAD TIMES

"My little girl is sick," a woman said to her neighbor.

"Take her to one of Jesus' disciples, everyone who they touch gets well."

The two women went to Jerusalem with the sick child. The city was full of people. There were sick people everywhere! "Why are all these sick people beside the road?" they asked.

A man said to them, "Peter is coming and if his shadow passes over the sick, they will get well."

The woman wanted her little girl to get well, so she laid her beside the road also. After a while some poor men came down the road. It was Peter and the Apostles! Their shadow fell on the little girl and she got well!

The Apostles always said to the sick, "Jesus makes you well." Almost everyone who saw the sick getting well, believed in Jesus.

The temple priests were very angry because so many, many people were following the Apostles, and would not listen to them. They caught the Apostles and put them in jail. During the night an angel opened the jail door and told the Apostles to go to the temple and preach. That is just what they did.

In the morning the priests sent for the Apostles. How surprised they were to find them preaching in the temple. They took the Apostles into a room away from the people.

"We told you not to speak about Jesus again," they shouted angrily at the Apostles.

"But it is better to obey God rather than you men," the Apostles said.



"And they were healed every one."



cts 5:16)

The Life Of A Sparrow



Walter was up in the apple tree when his grandmother came looking for him.

"Walter, it is time for lunch," Grandma said as she stood looking up at him from under the shady, green apple tree.

"Okay, Grandma," said Walter as he slowly began to climb down. Then he took hold of Grandma's hand as they walked together back to the house.

"You know, Grandma," said Walter thoughtfully, "I would like to be a bird. I would like to be a sparrow. They can fly all day and sing songs and they don't have to worry about anything. Wouldn't that be nice, Grandma?"

"Oh, you don't have to be a sparrow to be happy," replied Grandma. "You can sing and be happy when you're just a boy."

"But some boys have too many problems," said Walter sadly.

"You are worried about your mother being sick, aren't you, honey? Let's keep praying for her. Jesus can make her well. She is already doing better."

"Is Mother really doing better?" asked Walter, his face lighting up with happiness.

"Yes, her fever is not so high today and she is eating a little more. Do not be so worried. God will take care of all things. Do you know what Jesus said about the sparrows?"

"No," Walter said looking up at Grandma. "Did Jesus say something about birds?"

"Well, He talked about the sparrows when He mentioned to His disciples not to worry about evil men or what they can do. Jesus said, 'Though sparrows are not very important to most men, yet God cares about them. God notices when a little sparrow falls or is hurt. God doesn't forget sparrows and He doesn't forget people either for they are much more important to God than sparrows. God even knows how many hairs you have on your head! He is that concerned about you!'"

"But sparrows don't have any problems, do they?"

"Yes, they do have problems," replied Grandma. "At any moment a hawk may swoop down on them, or they may hit an airplane or tall building, or worse yet, in the winter they have a hard time finding food. Sparrows have survival troubles, but they sing anyway. Let's just pray extra for your Mother all day long. Jesus can heal her. I know He can."

"Yes, let's pray all the time," said Walter. At the lunch table Walter prayed a special prayer for his sick mother.

In two days, Walter's mother was doing much better. Before long she was able to be out of bed again and take care of Walter. Walter was so glad to be back home again!

He had learned an important lesson: Jesus is with you through the hard times and the happy times if you will trust in Him. —Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Why were the sick people beside the road?
2. Were the sick healed if Peter's shadow passed over them?
3. Did many, many people believe in Jesus?
4. Why were the priests angry at Peter?
5. What did the priests do to the Apostles?
6. How did they get out of jail?
7. Where did they go after getting out of jail?
8. What did they do in the temple?
9. Did the Apostles believe they should obey God or men?



(Answers: 1. They wanted to be healed. 2. Yes. 3. Yes. 4. Because they preached Jesus and the people believed in Him. 5. Put them in jail. 6. An angel opened the door and let them out. 7. Into the temple. 8. They preached about Jesus. 9. God.)



Lesson Text: Acts 5:12-28.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 Sept. 18, 1988

HAPPY TO SUFFER FOR JESUS

The big priest looked at Peter and the other Apostles. Then he shouted angrily, "We commanded you not to speak again about Jesus. Why did you disobey?"

"It is better to obey God than to obey you," the Apostles said to him. "We have got to talk about Jesus, for He is the best thing we have ever known. He is the Saviour of the world. He is sitting on the right hand of God, and is ready to bring repentance and forgiveness of sins. He will even forgive you who crucified Him."

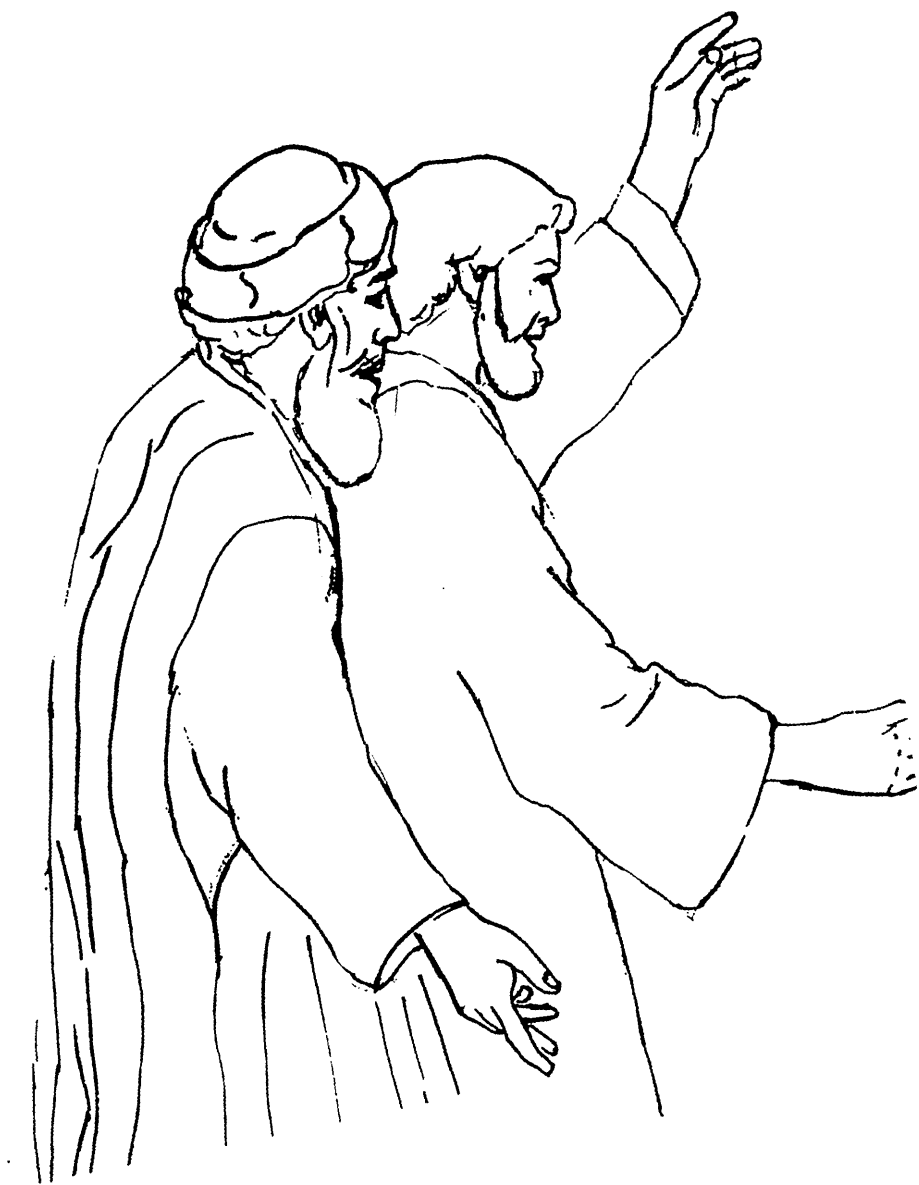
"We need to have these men killed," the priests said one to another.

Then Gamaliel stood up, "I think we should let these men alone. Other men have preached, and got a lot of people to follow them, but after they died the people who followed them came back to us. The followers of these Apostles will do the same if this Jesus isn't really of God. If Jesus really is the Son of God like they say, people will follow Him whether we kill these Apostles or whether we let them live. Let's turn them loose and wait to see what happens."

The priests agreed to let the Apostles go, but first they gave them a beating.

The Apostles smiled happily as they left the priests. They were happy that Jesus had chosen them to suffer for Him.

Where did the Apostles go? Do you think they went away to hide? Do you think they went home? Do you think they quit talking about Jesus? They went right back to the temple and started preaching about Jesus again!



"Blessed are ye, when men shall hate

a



you." (Luke 6:22)

Life For Life

It was a terribly hot day in the country of China. Communist soldiers were working their way through country villages and watching for anyone who opposed the communist way of life. The main people they were looking for were Christians. Communists do not want people to trust in God. They want people to give their life and all their belongings to the communistic government. They do not like Christians who pray to God or give Him anything. Communists let the devil live in their hearts.

In one Chinese village, the communists found a husband and wife who were missionaries for God. The husband and wife were from America and they were teaching the Chinese people about God. The Chinese people in that village loved the missionaries.

They were sad, but too afraid to speak when the communist soldiers were mean to the missionaries. Finally, the missionaries quickly and sadly said to the Chinese people, "Good-bye, keep your salvation and meet us in heaven!" and then they died. The communist soldiers killed this husband and wife because they loved God and would not give Him up.

Then the communists found the missionaries' baby who had been sleeping in a basket hidden in the house.

"Let us kill the baby, too," said one of the mean soldiers.

"Well," said another soldier, "it can't live long without its parents, anyway. Who will give their life for the life of this baby? If a Chinese man or woman will die for this baby, then we will not kill it."

"I will die for it," said an old man, stepping forward. His heart was already sad because he loved the kind missionaries and He loved God and Jesus. Quickly, the wicked soldiers killed him and left the village.

Friends of the missionaries secretly sent the baby from village to village in its basket. Soon the baby reached the harbor where the parents had first stepped foot in China.

The overseer of the shipyard read the letter that was in the basket with the baby. It told who the parents were, where to ship the baby, and then it said, "This baby is free to go home because this privilege was paid for by the blood of a friend."

Finally the baby arrived in the United States.

How shocked its Grandpa and Grandma were when they saw their grandbaby for the first time! They were both sad and happy. They were very sad because the baby's Mama and Daddy had been killed, but they were happy Jesus had spared their little grandbaby to be with them.

When that little baby grew up to be a lady, she lived for Jesus. Not only had a Chinese man given his life for her life, but also Jesus had died and risen again that she might someday see her parents again in heaven. She became a missionary for Jesus, also.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

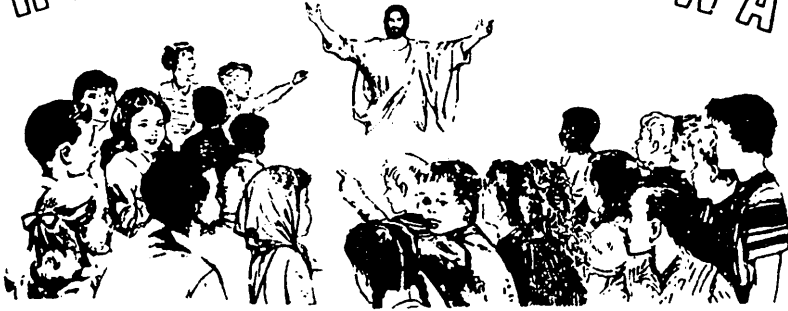
1. What had the priests commanded the Apostles not to do?
2. Who did the Apostles obey?
3. Why did the Apostles want to talk about Jesus?
4. What did the priests want to do to the Apostles?
5. Did Gamaliel think they should let the Apostles go?
6. Did the priests let them go?
7. Were the Apostles happy when they were let go?
8. Why were the Apostles happy?
9. What did the Apostles do after they were let go?

(Answers: 1. To speak about Jesus. 2. God. 3. Jesus was the best thing they knew. 4. They wanted to kill them. 5. Yes. 6. Yes. 7. Yes. 8. Because they could suffer for Jesus. 9. They went to the temple and began preaching about Jesus.)



Lesson Text: Acts 5:28-42.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 3 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 Sept. 25, 1988

WHAT THE HOLY SPIRIT DID FOR PETER

Peter was a fisherman whom Jesus chose to be one of His special helpers. Peter loved Jesus and wanted to always follow Him, but sometimes he was afraid. Once he was so afraid that he said he did not know Jesus.

On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit filled Peter's heart. He was never afraid like that again. On that day he spoke and people of different languages could hear him in their own language. He told them to repent. They did and 3000 men were saved.

A few days later, he took a man who had never walked by the hand and said, "In the name of Jesus, rise and walk!" The man walked! Then Peter preached to the people that Jesus would save them from evil, sin, trouble, and sorrow. After that sermon, there were 5000 believers in Jesus!

The priests did not like for the people to listen to Peter and believe in Jesus. They put Peter in jail and tried to scare him into not preaching. He was not afraid. He was honest and said, "I will always preach Jesus."

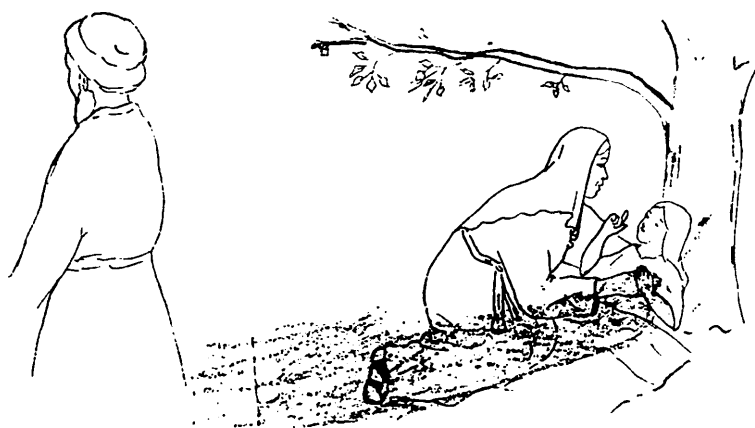
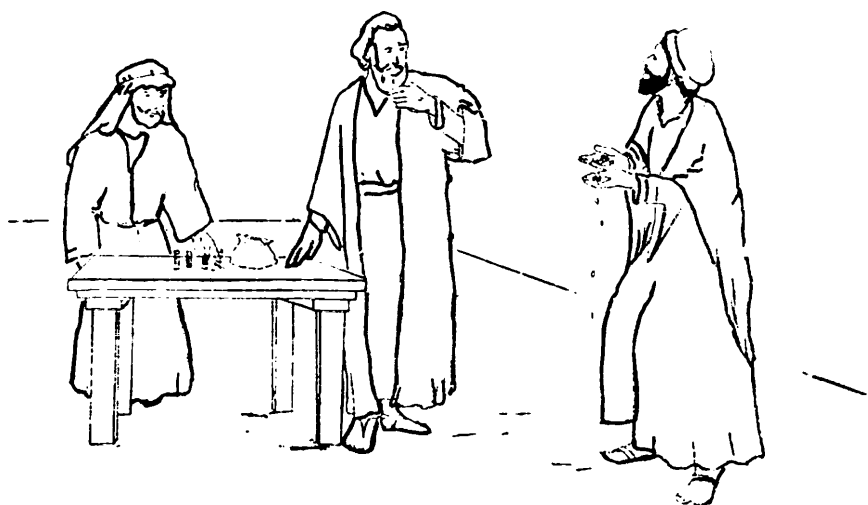
After that, a man and his wife tried to be dishonest to God and the Church. The Holy Spirit told Peter what they were doing. Peter told their secret. They dropped dead!

Soon many, many sick people were being healed. Even the shadow of Peter passing over them encouraged their faith in Jesus so much that they were healed.

Peter was again put in jail. An angel let him out. He was caught again and beaten before being turned loose. In all this suffering Peter was happy that God chose him to suffer for Jesus.



"I can do all things through Chris



which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13

Acts One Through Five



Jesus stood on the Mount called Olivet
Said He, "Wait for my Holy Spirit."
Then a cloud received Him in the sky
And took Him to the Father on high.

The disciples went to the upper room
And there in prayer they did resume.
On the day of Pentecost came a sound
That blessed all of those around.

Peter was filled with such boldness
From the Spirit that he did address
All people from different nations
Who listened in great admiration.

He preached a message on salvation
And his message brought conviction.
For that day three thousand people
Believed when they heard this disciple.

By the Holy Spirit working in them
The disciples began to heal again.
They helped a lame man by the gate
Who was then made to stand up straight.

"Who's healing and what's going on?"
Said the people to Peter and John.
Peter said, "It's the Spirit in us
Sent from God by His Son, Jesus."

"Turn from sin, do right and believe,
This Holy Spirit you can receive."
Then five thousand more were saved;
But in the temple the priests, they raved.

They threw Peter and John in prison,
But Peter and John weren't forgotten.
The Holy Spirit gave them comfort
And freed them after a good report.

In every house and in the temple
Daily they preached to all the people.
"Believe on Jesus, receive His Spirit!"
And many obeyed who did hear it.

One man, Joses, having land, sold it
And gave the Church all the profit.
Then said Ananias to his wife,
"Let us do this as it is rife."

But money they kept, to God they lied
And because of this they both died.
Said Peter, "To God, don't lie
For the Spirit tells, that is why."

Then the people had great fear
And there wasn't a liar who came near;
So the Holy Spirit dealt with each one
And searched hearts until sin was gone.

When with Jesus they were disciples,
But the Spirit made them Apostles.
Throughout the world, they spread His
Word
And thousands believed when they
had heard.

—Connie Sorrell



So Much To Thank God For

It was bedtime and little Mary knelt
down to pray. This night she prayed
unusually long. As Mother tucked her
little girl in bed, she asked, "Why did
you pray so long tonight?"

"Mother," replied her little girl so
sweetly, "It was because I had so much
to thank God for tonight!"

"In every thing give thanks: for this
is the will of God in Christ Jesus con-
cerning you." 1 Thessalonians 5:18.

Questions:

1. Who was Peter?
2. Was Peter afraid to say he knew Jesus?
3. What happened to Peter on the day of Pentecost?
4. Was Peter afraid after the Holy Spirit came on him?
5. Did Peter help a crippled man walk?
6. What did the priests do to Peter?
7. Who let Peter out of jail?
8. Did even the shadow of Peter help people?
9. Why was Peter happy?

(Answers: 1. A fisherman whom Jesus called as a helper. 2. Yes. 3. He was filled with the Holy Spirit. 4. No. 5. Yes. 6. They put him in jail. 7. An angel. 8. Yes. 9. Because he could suffer for Jesus.)



Lesson Text: Acts 1-5.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 14 Oct. 2, 1988

STEPHEN

In Jerusalem more and more people were believing as they heard about Jesus. As they gave their hearts to the Lord and were saved, the Church grew very fast.

Many of the new believers were very poor and needed special help and care. The apostles soon found they were so busy trying to help the poor that they did not have enough time to read, pray, preach and show others how to be saved. How could they find others to help take care of the poor?

They decided what to do. They would choose seven good men to take food to the poor while they continued to preach about Jesus. The men they chose were wise, honest and holy.

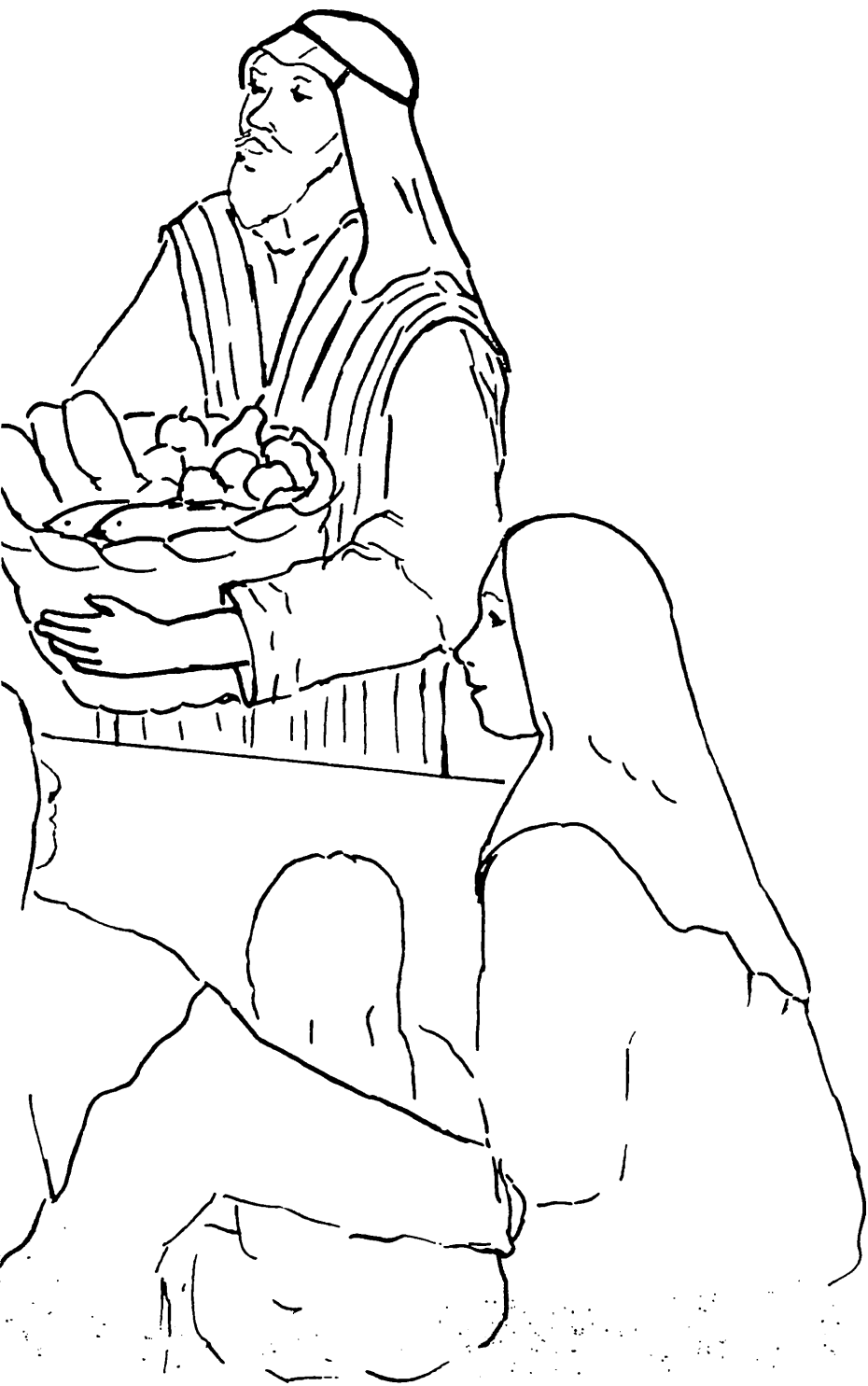
One of the men they chose was named Stephen. Our Bible tells us that Stephen was a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost. His life was so pleasing to God that God worked great wonders and miracles through him.

Although Stephen went among the people doing only good, it made the leaders of the Jews very angry to hear Stephen teach the people about Jesus. They argued with him, trying to prove that Jesus was not the Christ. God gave Stephen so much wisdom to speak about Jesus that the Jews were left with nothing more to say. Since they could not stop him, they paid men to go among the people telling lies about Stephen.

Many people became upset when they heard the lies against Stephen and some even believed them. When the rulers saw that the people were stirred up, they caught Stephen and brought him before the council.

**“Visit the fatherless and
widows. . . .” (James 1:27)**





Helping Great-Grandma

"Mama, let's go now, or we will be late to Great-Grandma's birthday party!" called Nicky to his mother.

"There!" said Mother. "I just finished dressing the baby. Here, Nicky, carry Great-Grandma's card and birthday gift for me, and we are on our way!"

Nicky carefully watched over Great-Grandma's gift all the way to the nursing home where Great-Grandma lived.

"Does Great-Grandma like to live in this big house with all these people?" Nicky asked his mother, as they got out of the car.

"She does now," replied his mother. "It took Great-Grandma time to get acquainted with some friends and nurses, but she feels at home here now. They make her comfortable."

Nicky and Mother walked up the wide sidewalk and into the large sitting room. There in the corner of the room they saw Great-Grandma and some of the family already gathered around her.

"You're just in time to sing, 'Happy Birthday' with us, Nicky," greeted Uncle Charlie as Nicky set his gift down beside the others on the table with the birthday cake.

From her wheelchair Great-Grandma waved to Nicky and he went over to kiss her. Then together the family sang, "Happy Birthday."

Nicky patted Great-Grandma's arm. "If you have a hard time opening up your gifts," he told her, "I will be glad to help you. I've already had five birthdays and I know what to do!"

Great-Grandma and everyone laughed with Nicky and then all agreed he could help her since Great-Grandma could only use her left hand. As careful as a boy can possibly be with a gift, Nicky helped with the ribbons, paper, and tape, but by the last gift he was getting rather tired of unwrapping house shoes, powder, and clothes. He was ready for the cake and ice cream when Aunt Betty said, "It is time to cut the cake."

"Oh, I'll cut the cake," said Nicky as he came over to the cake table.

"Well, we can let you serve everyone a piece of cake if you would like," said Aunt Betty, so that is what Nicky did.

Later, he helped gather up the empty plates and clean up the cake crumbs. By then it was late and Nicky insisted he had to help Uncle Charlie wheel Great-Grandma to her bedroom. There a nurse came to help her to bed. Everyone kissed Great-Grandma good-bye and left.

"Where is Great-Grandpa?" Nicky asked Mother on the way home. "Is he already up in heaven with Jesus?"

"Yes," replied Mother. "Great-Grandma is a widow which means her husband has died. Now her family cares for her and since she is crippled, the family pays special people to care for her. I was glad you helped so nicely, Nicky, and Great-Grandma was glad you sat by her and helped her so kindly."

"Well," said Nicky thoughtfully, "I thought that once you are old like Great-Grandma, you may be worn out with birthdays, 'specially if all you get is powder and clothes!" —Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. In what city was the Church growing rapidly?
2. Who was being saved?
3. Who needed special help and care?
4. How many men did the apostles choose to help them?
5. What was the name of one man they chose?
6. What does the Bible tell us about Stephen?
7. Who did Stephen teach about?
8. Who was angry with Stephen?
9. Where did the rulers bring Stephen?



(Answers: 1. Jerusalem. 2. Men, women, children, rich, poor, and even priests. 3. The poor. 4. Seven. 5. Stephen. 6. He was full of faith and the Holy Ghost. 7. Jesus. 8. The rulers. 9. Before the council.)



Lesson Text: Acts 6:1-15.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 15 Oct. 9, 1988

STEPHEN TELLS ABOUT ABRAHAM

Last Sunday we learned that Stephen was caught by the leaders of the Jews and brought before the council because he had been teaching the people about Jesus. The men who were being paid to tell lies about Stephen were there too. While they told their false stories, the men of the council watched Stephen closely. They saw his face shining, like the face of an angel!

When the men finished telling their lies, the high priest asked Stephen, "Are these things so?" Stephen knew they might kill him, yet he stood up and bravely preached to the council. He hoped that they too would listen to the truth and be saved.

Stephen began his answer by first telling the story of Abraham. Of course all the Jews knew this story very well as it had been told to them since they were very small children. But Stephen reminded the Jews that Abraham, whom they called their father, had always believed and obeyed God.

Stephen told them again how Abraham had left his home and gone into a strange land because God told him to. He wanted them to think about all the times Abraham gladly obeyed God, even when he did not understand why God was asking those things. Stephen wanted to remind the Jews that Abraham believed God and was willing to wait for whatever God promised because he knew God would keep His Word.

Stephen was trying to show the Jews that if they were true children of Abraham, they would believe the message God sent through His own Son, Jesus.





“They went out from the land of Egypt.” (Exodus 12:41)

Counting Stars

The Miller family was on a camping trip for a whole week, and they were enjoying every minute of it! They were sleeping in a tent and cooking on a propane grill. At night time, Timmy loved to hear the night creatures singing their praises to God.

"Do you like to look at the stars like I do?" Timmy asked his Daddy one night as they sat together under the dark blue sky where thousands of stars twinkled.

"Yes, I like the stars, too," replied Daddy. "The sky would be awfully dark without them right now, wouldn't it?"

Timmy nodded. "Did you ever count the stars?" he asked.

"Well, no," said Daddy. "One time God told a man to count the stars and see if he could number them, but he couldn't, either. God alone knows how many stars there are in the sky."

"What man was that who tried to count the stars?" asked Timmy.

"Abraham, God's friend, as the Bible tells us," replied Daddy. "God took him out to a hillside and had him look up at the stars. God said, 'Can you count them?' 'No,' answered Abraham. Then God gave Abraham a very wonderful promise. God said, 'You shall have a large family; so large that no one can count all the people in it, just as no one can number the stars.' Abraham believed and trusted God to keep that promise and God did keep it. All the books in the Old Testament tell about Abraham's children and what they did, what would come to them, and how they should live. The Old Testament in our Bible tells about Abraham's natural family, but do you know why it is important to us today?"

"Why?" asked Timmy. "Was Abraham our great-great-great-great-grandfather?"

Daddy smiled. "No, we are not a part of Abraham's natural family here on earth. Abraham is important to us because Jesus Christ was given through Abraham's children. Abraham is Jesus' great-great-great-grandfather. That is

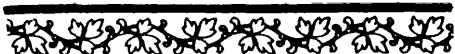
why the Old Testament is so important to us.

"Then in the New Testament of our Bible, the life and ways of Jesus are told and Jesus said He wanted everyone to be His brother and sister. God is the Father. Jesus is the Son. If we believe on Jesus and belong to His family through salvation, then God is our Father and Jesus our brother and Redeemer. When you believe Jesus and obey His Word, then you belong to God's family, too."

"Is God Abraham's father, too?" asked Timmy.

"Yes," said Daddy. "God is the Father and Creator of Abraham, also. Do you see now how Abraham's family became so large that no one is able to count all of them? Because Jesus went to the cross, died for our sins, arose from the tomb, and now pleads with God our Father for us; because Jesus did all that for us, now we belong to His family. Abraham began a family with one son, but you know how only God can count Abraham's big, big family."

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. What were some men hired to do?
2. How did Stephen's face look?
3. Was Stephen's life in danger?
4. How did Stephen face the council?
5. Stephen told them a story about whom?
6. Who did the Jews call their father?
7. What did Abraham do when God told him to leave his home?
8. What did God promise to give Sarah and Abraham?
9. If the Jews were the true children of Abraham, what would they do?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

(Answers: 1. Tell lies to accuse Stephen. 2. Like an angel's. 3. Yes. 4. Bravely. 5. Abraham. 6. Abraham. 7. He obeyed. 8. A son. 9. Believe the message of Jesus.)

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Lesson Text: Acts 6:15; 7:1-6; Gen. 15:13, 14; Ex. 12:40, 41.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 16 Oct. 16, 1988

STEPHEN TELLS ABOUT JOSEPH AND MOSES

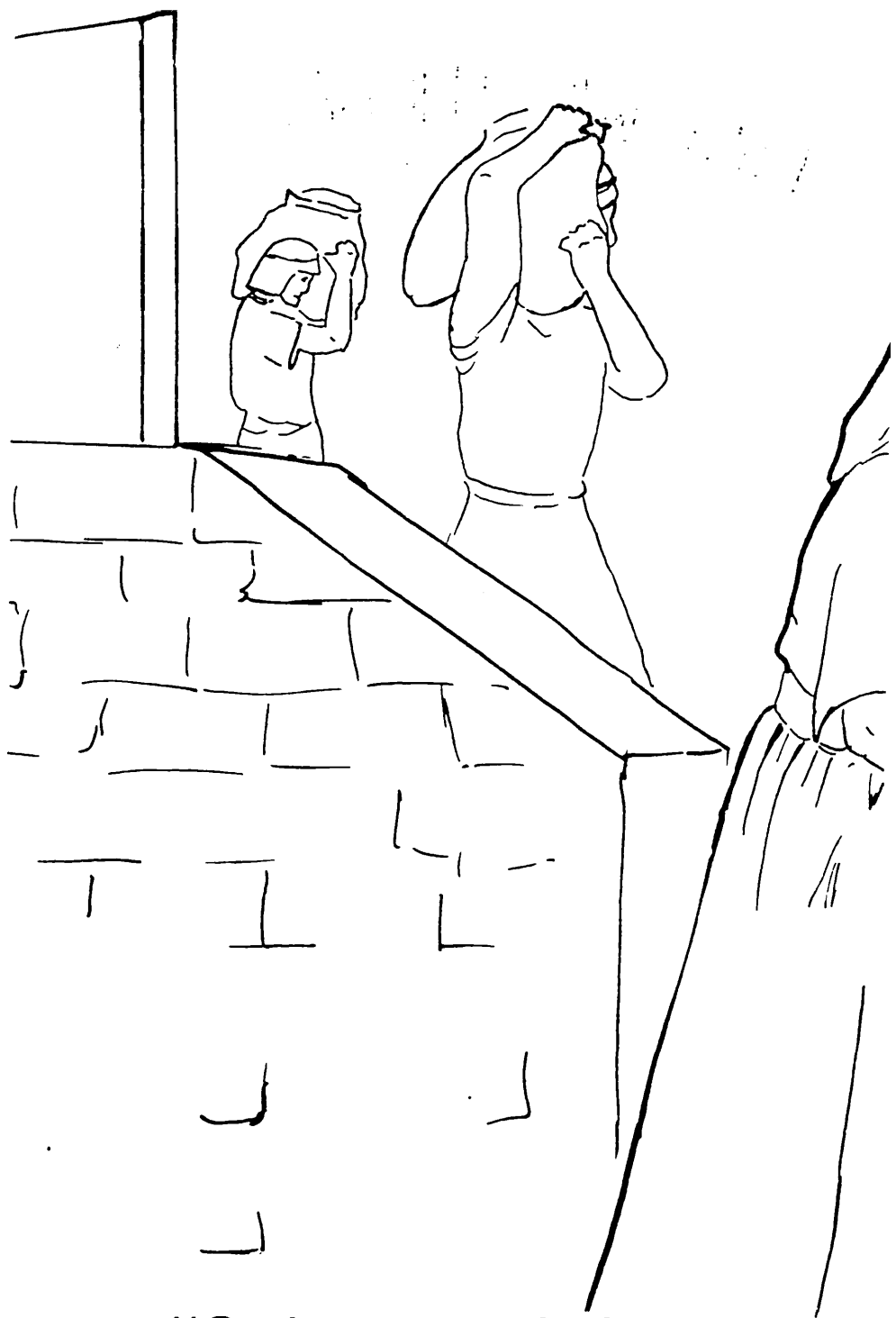
After reminding the Jews about the faith and obedience of Abraham, Stephen went on to tell them the story of Joseph, who was Abraham's grandson.

No doubt everyone in the council remembered the story well. They had all heard how Joseph was taken to Egypt and sold to Potiphar to be his servant. They remembered how he had been thrown in prison because a lie was told about him, even after he had served Potiphar faithfully.

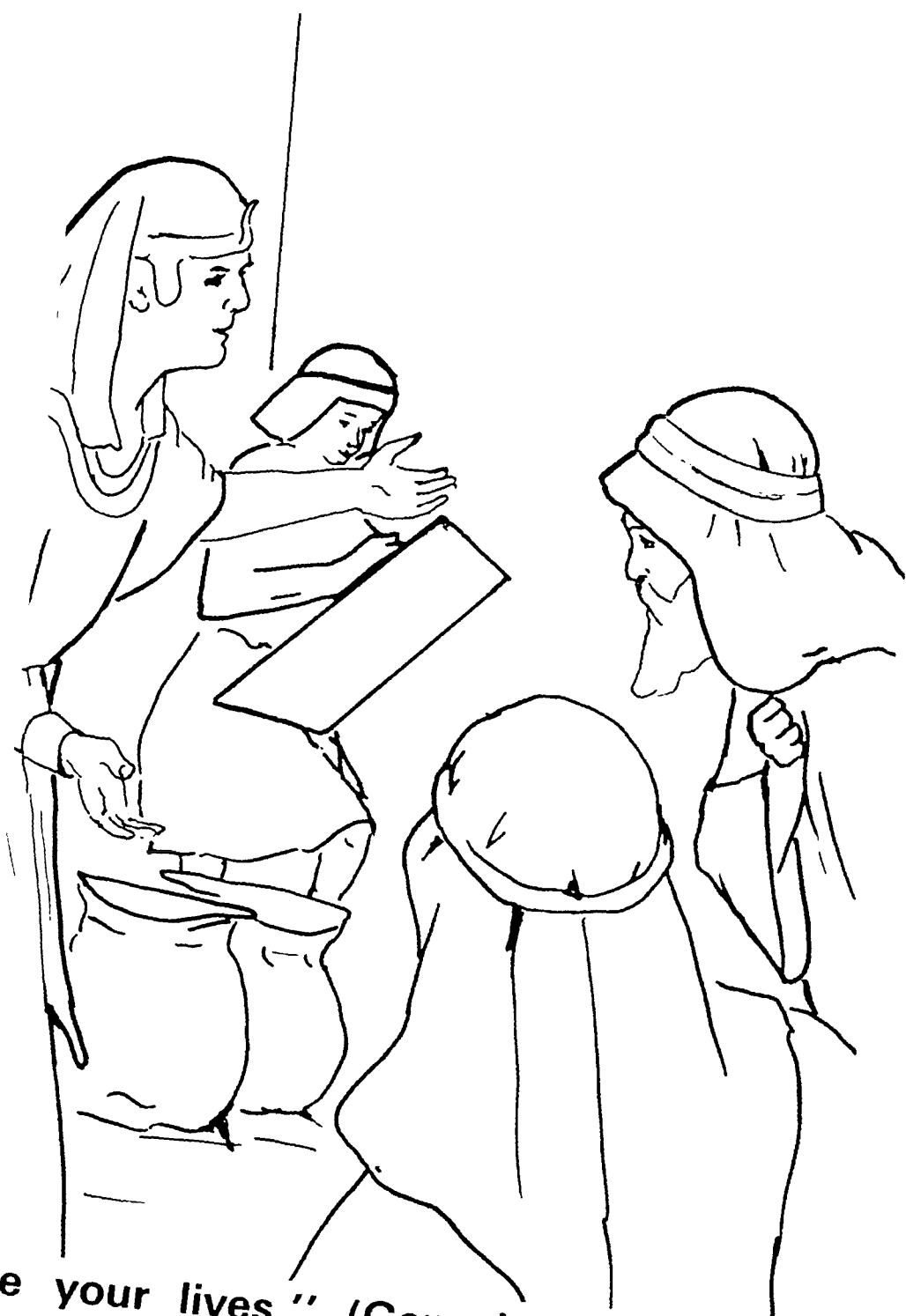
Stephen told them this story to show how God let Joseph go through all this trouble to prepare him to save His people. When there was very little food because of a famine in all the land, God already had Joseph in Egypt with plenty of food stored up. Joseph brought his father and brothers with all their families to Egypt where they would not starve.

Many years later, long after Joseph had died, the Egyptian king became very cruel to the Israelites, making servants of them. They had to work very hard. The king even commanded that all their baby boys be killed.

We all know the story of baby Moses and how his mother hid him in a little basket on the water to save him from being killed. The Jews knew this story too, but Stephen told them again how the princess felt sorry for the baby she found floating on the water and decided to keep him as her very own little boy. This was God's way of sparing Moses' life and teaching him about the kingdom of Egypt. Like Joseph, Moses would some day be used of God to save His people.



"God sent me before . . . to



ive your lives." (Genesis 45:7)

Brothers and Friends

"Mama, Larry took my red car and won't give it back!" cried Darrel, coming from the living room to the kitchen where Mama was cooking supper.

"Now, I noticed you boys had several cars each with which to play," said Mama. "Try not to fuss over one."

"But it is my favorite one!" declared Darrel. "He knows I like that one best, so he took it!"

Mama sighed. "I wish you boys could settle your fusses without me having to stop them. Trade another car with your brother for the red car. Count out the cars and make sure you both have the same number."

Pretty soon Darrel was back in the kitchen. "Larry wants the red car, too!" cried Darrel. "He knows I like it best!"

Mama sighed again. "Boys, boys," she said sadly. She went into the living room with Darrel. There she saw a set-up of car tracks and garages made of blocks that the boys had made together. Larry was hiding behind the chair.

"Larry," said Mama. "Come and show me the cars that you have. Darrell, you do the same."

Slowly Larry brought Mama five cars of different colors. Darrel brought Mama eight cars, while still complaining that Larry had his red car.

"Well, Darrell," said Mama. "You didn't divide the cars fairly like I told you. See, you have three more than Larry."

"But he still has my red car," wailed Darrel. "I want it back!"

"Why don't you let Larry pick two of your cars and give you back the red one? You would still have one more car than Larry," said Mama.

Soon Larry was happily playing with six cars, and Darrel with seven. Then Daddy came home from work and it was supper time. At the table, Darrel and Larry both wanted the blue cup.

"Now, boys," said Daddy. "You should not fuss together! You are brothers! Brothers should be friends, no matter what! Mama, why don't you give one boy

a green cup and one a yellow, and put the blue cup back in the cabinet for now."

Mama did as Daddy said and the boys quieted down. After supper it was bath time. Then there was a fuss in the bath tub.

"What is the problem now?" asked Mama, as she came in to help the boys. They both wanted the yellow duckie to play with! "Let's just get out of the tub!" said Mama, and that is what they did.

At bed time, Daddy got out the Bible story book for devotions. "Boys," said Daddy, "I want you to learn how important it is for brothers to get along and not fuss. Let us read a story about twelve brothers who decided to do evil to one brother. It caused that family a lot of sorrow. Brothers should be the best of friends, not the worst of enemies."

Then Daddy read to them the story of Joseph and how he was sold into slavery by his brothers. As the lesson goes, it took many, many years before God used Moses to end that sad problem.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who was Abraham's grandson?
2. Who sold Joseph to be a slave?
3. Where was Joseph taken?
4. Why was Joseph thrown in prison?
5. Why did God let Joseph go through all this trouble?
6. What did Joseph store up?
7. After Joseph died, how did the king treat the Israelites?
8. What did the king want done to all the baby boys?
9. How was baby Moses saved from being killed?

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(Answers: 1. Joseph. 2. His older brother. 3. To Egypt. 4. A lie was told about him. 5. To prepare him to save his family. 6. Food. 7. He made them work very hard. 8. He commanded that they all be killed. 9. His mother hid him in a basket on the water where the princess found him.)

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Lesson Text: Acts 7:9-23; Gen. 45:7, 8.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 17 Oct. 23, 198

STEPHEN TELLS ABOUT THE BURNING BUSH

As Stephen stood bravely facing the angry men of the council, he continued telling them about how Moses grew up in the palace as the son of the princess. They knew the Egyptians were a very wise people and had much to teach Moses.

Since Moses was an Egyptian prince, it was expected that some day he would be a ruler in Egypt, perhaps even king. But Moses never forgot that he was really an Israelite. When he saw the Egyptians treating the Israelites cruelly, he wanted to do something to help them.

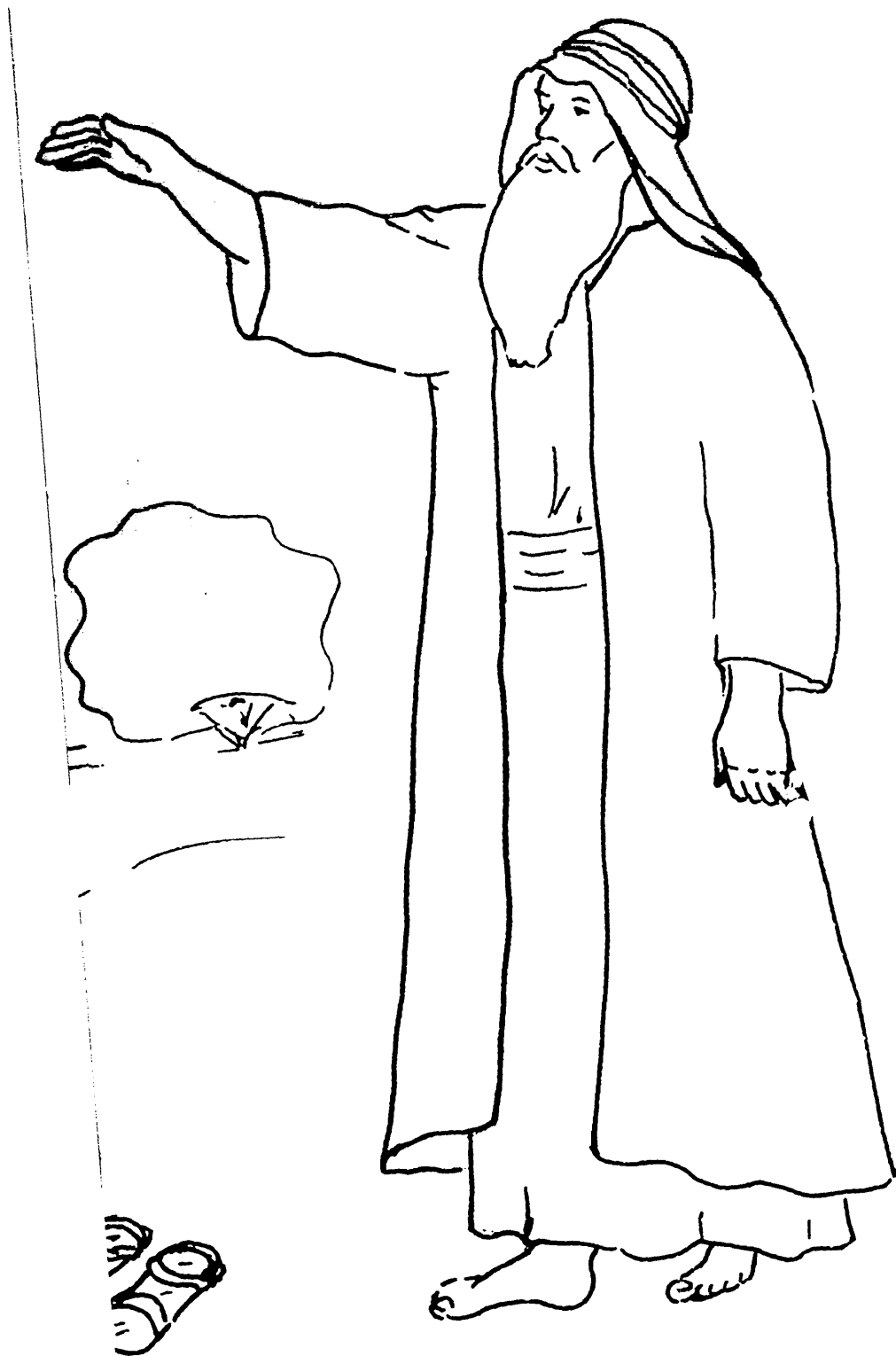
One day when Moses was forty years old, he saw an Egyptian beating an Israelite. This made Moses so angry he killed the Egyptian and buried him in the sand. The next day Moses saw two Israelites fighting. Moses asked them, "You are brothers; why are you fighting?" But one answered him crossly, "Who made you a ruler and a judge over us? Are you going to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?"

Now Moses was afraid for his own life. His own people didn't want him for their leader. If the king heard he had killed an Egyptian, the king would want to kill him.

Moses became a shepherd and lived in the desert for forty years. One day, while Moses was leading his sheep near a mountain, he saw a bush on fire. He watched, expecting the bush to soon burn to ashes, but the bush did not burn up. God used this burning bush to get Moses' attention so He could talk to him. He told Moses he was to go to Egypt to help His people escape from the bad king.



**"I am come down to deliver
[my people]" (Exodus 3:8)**



Training for a Big Job

It was Sunday school time and Sis. Anna had all the children seated at their places.

"Do you know what I want to be when I grow up?" Ronnie asked Sis. Anna.

"No. What do you want to be?"

"I want to be a jet airplane pilot and fly people overseas and all around the world!" said Ronnie excitedly. "I have gone flying in a jet before and it was fun! Daddy says it is funner yet to go overseas on a jet. That's what I'm going to do someday, I'm going to fly!"

All the other children looked at him and smiled because they thought that if Ronnie could be a jet pilot, maybe he would give them rides.

"It isn't easy to be an airline pilot, Ronnie," said Sis. Anna. "You don't just jump into the plane and take off. Do you know what all it takes to be a pilot?"

"Daddy says that you have to be very smart," replied Ronnie.

"Yes," said Sis. Anna, "and you must study for thousands of hours before you can be a pilot of an overseas jet airplane. First you must study and know navigation which is mapping paths through the air with a compass and other delicate instruments. You must know the airway laws and signals used by air traffic officers. Then you must learn to fly a small, private plane with an instructor. He teaches you how to take care of the plane and what to check out before you go into the sky. After flying a small plane for at least 200 hours or more, then and only then will you get to start flying a big jet plane. That is, if you are healthy and pass a close physical exam by a doctor."

Ronnie's eyes were sparkling with excitement as he listened to Sis. Anna. "I'll have to be smart and strong if I do all that and be a jet airline pilot, won't I?" he asked.

"You'll have to be *really* old," Terry informed him.

"Oh, not so old," said Sis. Anna. "You must have 1500 hours of flying time

before becoming an official airline jet pilot, so your dedication and determination would make a difference on how long it took you. The harder and more skillful the job, usually the more money you make."

"I would be rich!" exclaimed Ronnie.

"You would make quite a bit of money," agreed Sis. Anna, "but money is not so important as doing the work well and, most of all, if you are pleasing God in your work and with your money."

"Let's talk now about our Sunday school lesson. Moses, the man in our lesson, was raised up to be a prince and have lots of money. He was taught at the palace from a lot of books, for God had special plans for Moses. Let's read how God, after all the studying, trained Moses for 40 years in the desert. Then Moses was allowed to lead God's chosen people and he performed miracles for God. To be a good workman for God, you need to be trained, also."

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Where did Moses live as he was growing up?
2. Moses was raised as an Egyptian prince, but who were his real people?
3. How old was Moses when he tried to help the Israelite who was being beaten?
4. Why did Moses kill the Egyptian?
5. Why did Moses run away to the desert?
6. What did Moses do in the desert?
7. What did Moses see in the desert that made him stop and watch?
8. Who spoke to Moses out of the burning bush?
9. What did God want Moses to do?

★★★★★★

(Answers: 1. In the palace. 2. The Israelites escape from the had king.)
didn't burn up. 8. God. 9. To help the Israelites. 7. A burning bush that was beating an Israelite. 5. He was afraid the king would kill him. 6. He was being an Israelite. 4. Because he was 40 years old. 3. Forty years old. 2. The Israelites. 1. In the palace.)

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Lesson Text: Acts 7:23-36.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 18 Oct. 30, 1988

STEPHEN TELLS ABOUT MOSES' LEADERSHIP

In this lesson Stephen is still talking to the Jewish council. He is telling them how God told Moses to lead His people, the Israelites, out of Egypt. Moses remembered how the Israelites had not wanted him to be their leader. They said to him, "Who made you a ruler and a judge?" He was afraid that neither the Israelites nor the Egyptian king would listen to what he had to say.

Finally, Moses obeyed God and returned to Egypt. God commanded him to do many wonders and signs before the king. For a long time the king would not let the people go. He wanted to keep the people because they worked hard for him. God punished the king by sending ten plagues upon Egypt. At last he let them go.

God delivered the Israelites when the Red Sea was in front of them and the Egyptian king and his army were coming after them. God made a way right through the water so His people could pass through. When the king and his army tried to pass through too, God brought the waters back together so they were all drowned.

Stephen especially wanted to remind them that it was Moses who said that God would some day raise up a prophet in Israel like himself. Moses was talking about Jesus.

These Jews were rejecting Jesus just as the children of Israel many times refused to obey God as He spoke to them through Moses. They often complained, saying they wished they had stayed in Egypt! Once, while Moses was up on the mountain talking with God, the people grew restless because he did not come back right away. They had Aaron make a golden calf saying, "Make us gods to go before us and show us the way."



“Worship him that made heaven



and earth.” (Revelation 14:7)

A "Really Good" Witch?

"Mama, Megan is dressing up to be a witch for Hallowe'en," Martha informed her mother as she came into the laundry room where Mother was ironing. "Megan looks like a real witch with her black hat and long plastic nose! I tried it on and I really looked good, too! She wants us to dress up like witches and go trick-or-treating together. Can we, Mama, please?"

"Now, Martha," Mama began. "I do not see how you could look 'really good' dressed like a witch. I don't think there is anything about witches that looks good. A real witch deals with the devil and his wicked spirits and I don't want my precious little girl to look like one of those wicked women."

"Oh, Mama," whined Martha. "We just pretend! We don't want to be like a real old witch!"

"Did you know that there are still witches today?" Mama asked. "They aren't so old, either. Young children start out by playing with a ouija board and become interested in the devil's spirits. The ouija board has letters on it and when the devil answers their questions, he moves these letters to spell out the answer."

Martha's eyes were wide open in surprise. "That sounds spooky!" she said. "You mean the devil really moves the letters?"

"That is what I understand," Mama said. "I have never seen it work, and do not want to, either. The devil is for sure 'really real' and you never want to talk to him or listen to his voice. Dressing up like a witch just isn't pretty for someone who wants to do right and live for God."

"God doesn't like the devil, does He, Mama?" Martha asked.

"No, God is against the devil. He told Moses to tell the children of Israel that any of them who talked to the devil was a witch. A witch was to be stoned to death with stones. Moses did not let witches live among the Israelites when he was their leader. Moses obeyed God and had the witches destroyed."

"Do they still kill witches today?" Martha asked. She hadn't known all this about witches.

"No, they don't. Today witches still talk to the devil and do very wicked things. If they keep working for the devil, someday they will be with him in the lake of fire that the Bible tells us is for the devil and his workers."

Martha was quiet a minute, thinking all this over. Finally she said, "I really don't think black is a pretty color, anyway. I think I'll tell Megan I don't want to go trick-or-treating with her after all."

"Good!" exclaimed Mama. "We can pop popcorn as a family and read a few Bible stories together that night when others are out walking the streets."

"Okay!" agreed Martha. "Let's read about angels, too! Angels dress in white and wear beautiful crowns!"

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Who was telling this story about Moses?
2. What had Moses been told when he tried to help the Israelites?
3. Why did the king want to keep the people?
4. How did God punish the king?
5. What was the name of the sea that God helped them cross?
6. What happened to the king and his army?
7. What prophet did Moses say God would raise up who would be like Moses?
8. Were the children of Israel always obedient?
9. What did they want to worship instead of God?

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(Answers: 1. Stephen. 2. "Who made you a ruler and a judge?" 3. The people worked hard for him. 4. By sending ten plagues. 5. The Red Sea. 6. They were drowned. 7. Jesus. 8. No, many times they refused to obey God. 9. A golden calf.)

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Lesson Text: Acts 7:37-50.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 19 Nov. 6, 1988

STEPHEN IS STONED

Stephen continued telling the council about how Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt. He told them of the many times the Israelites disobeyed. Even though God had worked miracles for them, they would soon forget God's goodness and wish they had never left Egypt.

Stephen saw the men's wild angry eyes, he knew they might kill him, but he still spoke the truth to them. He said, "You are stiffnecked and refuse the Holy Ghost; you are just like your fathers who wouldn't believe. They killed the prophets who told them Jesus would come. And now you have killed Jesus Himself."

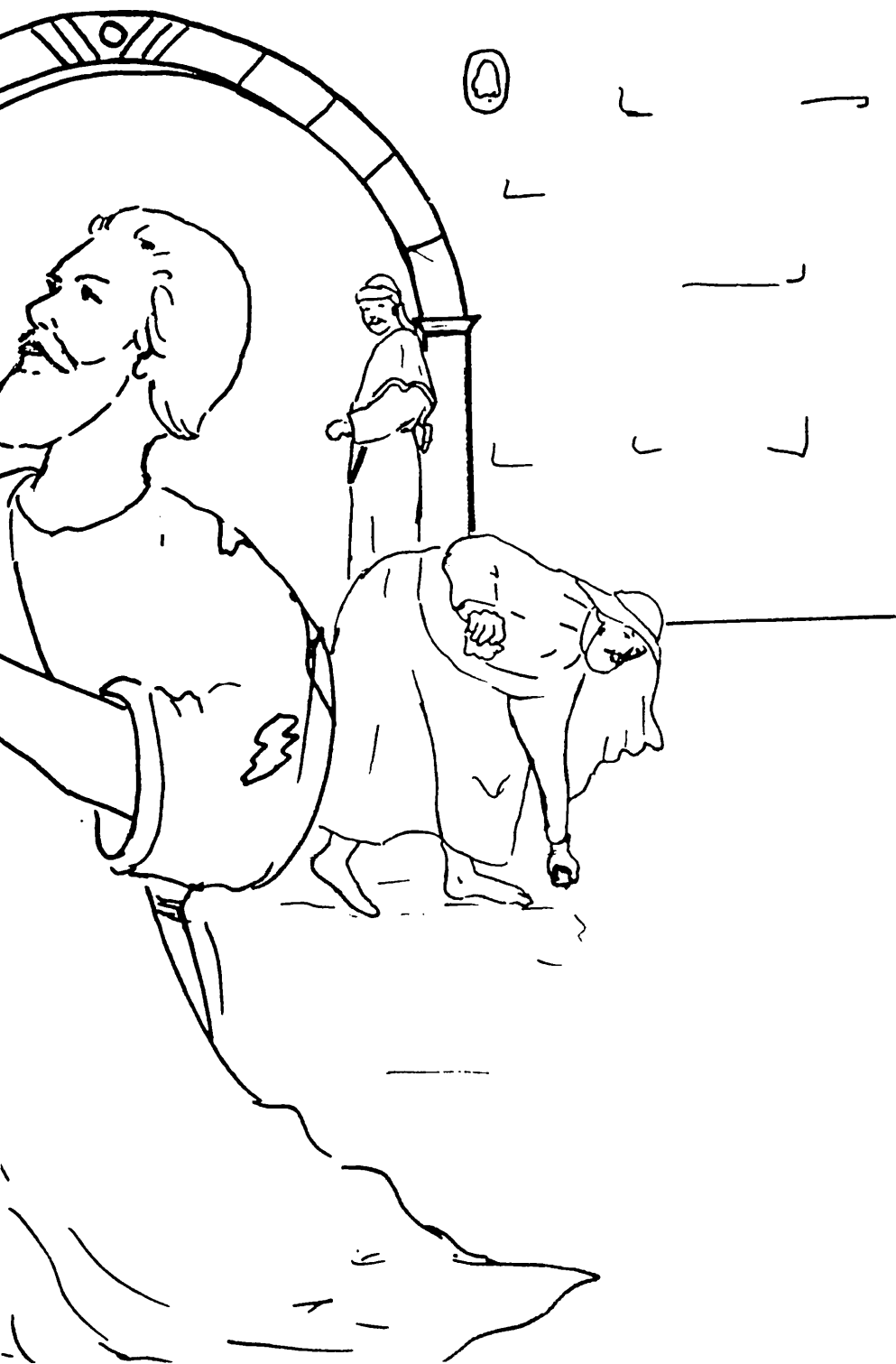
The truth made these men mad with anger. They wished to kill him right then. While they raged, Stephen looked up into heaven. He told them, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God."

This made them furious! They refused to hear anything else he had to say. They yelled and covered their ears, then all ran and dragged him out of the city. Soon they were throwing stones and hitting Stephen.

While the stones were bruising and gashing his body, Stephen called upon God and prayed, "Lord, Jesus, receive my spirit." As he felt his strength leaving him, he kneeled down and said loudly, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge." The hard-hearted men heard Stephen's prayer, but they didn't stop throwing stones until they knew he was dead. Stephen died like Jesus, praying for God to forgive those who caused his death.

**"Lord, lay not this sin to
their charge." (Acts 7:60)**





In Heaven We're Well

It was bed time and Amanda had just finished saying her prayers.

"Now it is time to go to sleep, dear," Mother said, as she tucked the covers around Amanda's chin.

But Amanda wasn't sleepy just yet. "Mama," she said, "we used to pray for Sis. Dottie that the Lord would heal her. Why don't we pray for her anymore?"

"Jesus took Sis. Dottie's soul to be with Him in heaven," said Mother. "She doesn't suffer anymore now, but she is well and singing in heaven with the angels."

"And we can't go visit Sis. Dottie anymore or take her anymore food or cards or anything, can we? She is hiding from us, isn't she?" Amanda asked.

Mother smiled softly. "I guess you could say she is hiding. We can't see her but if we are faithful to Jesus and keep His commandments, then when we die we will see Sis. Dottie and all the other saints who have lived and died for Jesus. Sis. Dottie is well and living in heaven with Jesus right this very minute."

"She will never be sick again, will she, Mama?" Amanda asked.

"No, never again will Sis. Dottie be sick," agreed Mother. "When Jesus answered our prayers for Sis. Dottie, He just decided it was best to take her to be with Him in heaven. Jesus healed Sis. Dottie and took away all her suffering. Now she is walking on streets of gold where everything is bright, perfect, and beautiful."

"Oh, I want to go there, don't you, Mama?" asked Amanda, her eyes sparkling with excitement. "We won't ever be cold or hot in heaven, will we? And we won't ever have to clean the house, or wash dishes, or do the laundry when we get to heaven, will we? We'll just play and sing all day long every day!"

"Yes," said Mother. "We don't know all about heaven because if we did, we would want to go so *much*! Jesus told us it is there and if we believe in Him and God, His Father, and obey their

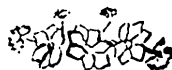
Word, someday we will see for ourselves the beautiful city of gold."

"But the only way to get there is to die, right, Mama?" asked Amanda.

"Yes, everyone must die and after that comes the Judgment," agreed her Mother. "Those who do not die with Jesus in their hearts will go to torment—hell—the lake of fire. But those people who have Jesus in their hearts, and lived and died for Jesus; they will go to heaven. Bad people and good people will all die. The Bible says so. No one will escape death. That is why you must know Jesus while here on earth, so He will know you when you die."

"Oh, I want to live for Jesus all my life," said Amanda. "I want to be faithful to Jesus just like Sis. Dottie was."

"So do I," agreed Mother. "Now you must go to sleep, honey," she said as she turned out the light and kissed her daughter good night. —Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. What did the children of Israel forget?
2. Was Stephen's life in danger?
3. Who did Stephen say their fathers always resisted?
4. What evil did their fathers do?
5. What affect did the truth have on the council?
6. Where did Stephen look while the men raged?
7. What did he see?
8. How did they kill Stephen?
9. Who did Stephen pray for as he was being killed?



(Answers: 1. God's goodness to them. 2. Yes. 3. The Holy Ghost. 4. They killed the prophets who told them of Jesus' coming. 5. It made them very angry. 6. Into heaven. 7. Jesus standing on the right hand of God. 8. They stoned him. 9. His murderers.)



Lesson text: Acts 7:51-60; 8:1-3.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 20 Nov. 13, 1988

PHILIP PREACHES IN SAMARIA

After Stephen's death it was not safe for believers to live in Jerusalem. Both men and women were put in prison and persecuted. Because of this, many other believers left their homes in Jerusalem and moved into homes in other areas of Judaea and Samaria. Wherever they went they told about Jesus, so the gospel was preached in many new places.

The apostles remained in Jerusalem, bravely facing the persecution. They were sorry to see the believers mistreated and driven from their homes in order to escape, but God had a great purpose in allowing His people to suffer. As the people were scattered, they went everywhere preaching about Jesus. In this way other people who had never heard about Jesus learned that they could be saved by calling on Him.

Philip, like Stephen, was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve the poor believers in Jerusalem. He had little to do in Jerusalem now that many of the believers had left the city. He soon found other places to work for Jesus. He traveled about, preaching the gospel where they had never heard it before.

Then he came to the city of Samaria. All the people listened eagerly to his preaching. God blessed mightily as Philip preached. Unclean spirits cried loudly as they came out of those they had possessed. Many lame people were made to walk and other sicknesses were healed. As the people saw Philip work miracles in the name of Jesus, they were surprised at the great power God had given him. The gospel brought great joy to that city and many believed in Jesus and were baptized.



"They went everywhere pre



...ing the gospel." (Acts 8:4)

Evangelists and Pastors

"Daddy," said Tommy, "today in school we talked about what our fathers do all day at work. Joshua said his Daddy was an e-van-gel- something, but I thought his Daddy was a preacher. Is Joshua's Daddy not preaching anymore?"

"Did he say his Daddy was an e-van-gel-ist?" asked Daddy as he sat back in his chair at the table.

"Yes, that's what he called him!" exclaimed Tommy. "What is an e-van-gel-ist?"

"That is a traveling preacher," answered Daddy. "A preacher who is a *pastor* stays in one congregation and mainly helps the people in that one congregation, but an *evangelist* goes to this congregation and then to that congregation of people and he preaches mostly at night. An evangelist has a revival meeting wherever the Lord leads him to go. A revival is church every night for usually a week for one congregation. In the revival, people get saved and those who are saved check their lives and make sure they are pleasing the Lord."

"Oh, is that why Joshua's Daddy is gone a lot from home?" asked Tommy.

"Yes," said Daddy. "We love and respect Joshua's Daddy for the special work the Lord has given him to do. An evangelist has to read and study the Bible a lot through the day. He prays to the Lord to give him just the right message for each congregation and for each night that he is there preaching. An evangelist is very important in the work of the Lord."

"What is the other preacher that you said?" asked Tommy.

"A pastor," answered Daddy. "He is very important, also. A pastor sometimes goes to other congregations to preach if the Lord leads him to, but a pastor mainly stays in one congregation while the Lord works with him there. He also has to read and study the Bible for messages from the Lord. Then he prays and asks the Lord to give him just the right message for just the right

service: Sunday morning or night. Both a pastor and an evangelist pray for the sick and care for them if they need help. A pastor is responsible for his congregation of people to pray for them and see about their needs in the things of God. An evangelist takes care of those who don't have a pastor or he helps a pastor. If each preacher lets the Lord lead him, then people are blessed and won to the Lord. The Lord's plan is very lovely to see at work."

"The Lord tells a pastor and an evangelist what to do, doesn't He?" asked Tommy.

"That is right," agreed Daddy. "We let the Lord call men to preach and work for Him. They must stay close to the Lord so that they will always know what the Lord wants them to do. That is a big job!"

"I guess you said it right," agreed Tommy. "An evangelist and a pastor are very important in the work of the Lord."
—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. Why did so many believers leave Jerusalem?
2. Who stayed in Jerusalem?
3. Why did God allow His people to suffer?
4. Who was Philip?
5. Why did he have little to do in the city of Jerusalem now?
6. What work did Philip find to do?
7. What city did he visit?
8. Would the people of that city listen to Philip's preaching?
9. How did God bless in this city?

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(Answers: 1. To escape being put in prison and persecuted. 2. The apostles. 3. So the gospel would be preached to people who had never heard. 4. One of the seven, chosen to help the poor. 5. Many of the believers had left the city of Jerusalem. 6. He traveled about and preached. 7. Samaria. 8. Yes, eagerly. 9. Many sick were healed and many believed and were baptized.)

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Lesson text: Acts 8:1-14.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 21 Nov. 20, 1988

SIMON THE SORCERER

In the city of Samaria, where Philip had preached the gospel, there lived a man named Simon. Simon was a sorcerer, or magician, who claimed to be a great person because he could do tricks and work magic. The people were fooled by him.

Simon was impressed by the miracles that Philip did and followed him everywhere. He may have thought that Philip had a new kind of magic and if he watched very closely, he could learn to do some of the same miracles.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that many Samaritans had believed and been baptized, they sent Peter and John to help. When Peter and John found Philip and the new believers they laid hands on the new believers and prayed. Then God sent the Holy Spirit on them just like He did on the apostles in Jerusalem.

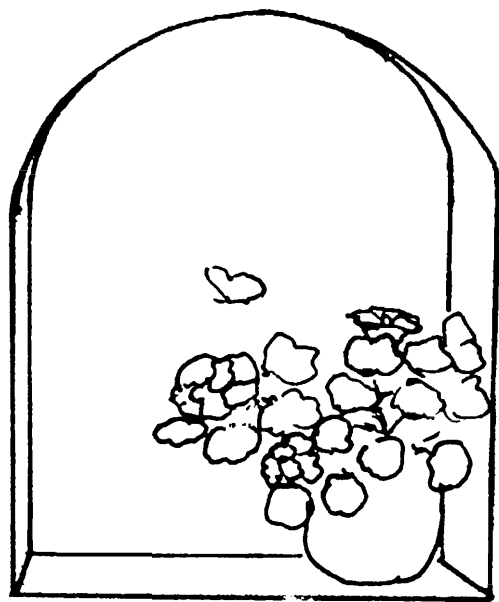
When Simon saw that by the laying on of the apostle's hands the people received the Holy Spirit, he was amazed. He wanted the kind of power that Peter and John had. Simon offered the apostles money and asked, "Give me this power that I may also lay my hands on people and they will receive the Holy Spirit."

Peter was much displeased that anyone would think they could buy the Holy Spirit. He told Simon, "May your money die with you if you think God's gifts can be bought. You have no part in this, because your heart is not right with God. You must repent of your sins and pray for God's forgiveness, for there is still sin in your heart."

Simon was very frightened. He begged Peter, "Pray for me that none of these things will happen."



"Thy heart is not right in t



sight of God.” (Acts 8:21)

The Power of God

The four Franklin children were busy playing church in their living room one afternoon.

"Let's sing one, one, six," said Billy, who was old enough to read the number at the top of the page.

"Number one, one, six, has been selected," repeated Tim who was the pastor of this meeting.

Linda and Sarah were both helped by Billy to find the right page. Then Billy began to sing:

"We are kept by the power of God. . . We are kept by the power of God. . . By trusting, obeying, By watching and praying, We are kept by the power of God."

Then they all sang with Billy and Billy sang it again.

"Now it is time for prayer," said Tim as he thumped his songbook shut. Each one put in a prayer request. Sarah had to get up and take Dolly out to the nursery before they all knelt down to pray. Billy prayed, then Tim, and they were just getting up from prayer when Sarah came back with Dolly to be seated.

"Let's sing one, one, six, again," said Billy. He was pleased that he had been able to sing the words and remember the tune.

They all sang it over two times. "We are kept by the power of God. . . We are kept by the power of God. . . By trusting, obeying, By watching and praying, We are kept by the power of God."

Next, Tim got up to preach. He put his Bible on the end table by the lamp and while Sarah kept Dolly quiet and Linda took her hoy doll, Maxwell, to the nursery. Tim preached a good message and Billy "Amen"ed it all the way.

"Now in the first book of Matthew," began Tim, "'it says that Jesus was born a little baby in a stable. But He didn't stay a baby long. In the book of Mark, it tells us that He grew up to be a man and preached the Word of God. Then in Luke it says that Jesus healed lots and lots of people. This made the wicked rulers mad, very mad. In the book of John it says they crucified Him

on a mean, ole cross. But Jesus didn't stay dead long! He popped on out of that tomb and talked to His men. Next in the book of Acts it says Jesus went up in the clouds into heaven and in His place He sent His men the Holy Spirit. Now Peter and John and all those men could heal others and live like Jesus had."

"Amen! Amen!" said Billy.

"The men of Jesus took care of the poor people like Jesus did," continued Tim. "They healed the poor, sick people and they didn't take any money for it. 'Just believe on Jesus and don't live wicked and you can have power from God.' That's what they said then and that's what we still do today. We believe on Jesus and don't live wicked and Jesus heals us and takes care of us. We don't have a lot of money; just a lot of faith. Amen."

With his final comment, Tim closed his Bible and sat down. The children sang their song again and their service was over for the time being.

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. In what city had Philip preached the gospel?
2. Who lived in that city?
3. How did he fool the people?
4. What impressed Simon while he watched and listened to Philip?
5. Who came to help Philip?
6. What happened when the apostles laid hands on the people?
7. What did Simon offer in return for the Holy Spirit?
8. Who was displeased with Simon?
9. What did Simon beg Peter to do for him?

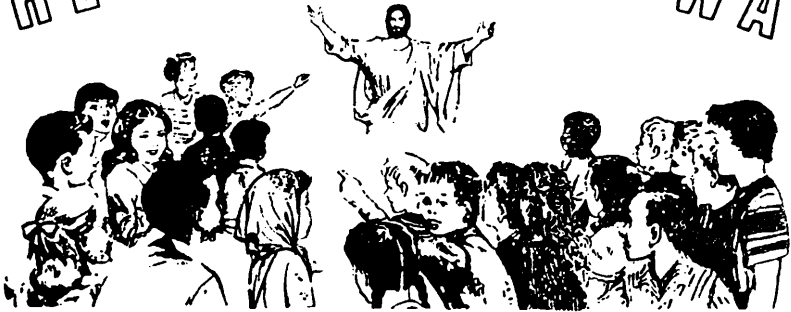
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(Answers: 1. In Samaria. 2. Simon. 3. By doing tricks and working magic. 4. The miracles that Philip did. 5. Peter and John. 6. They received the Holy Spirit. 7. He offered money. 8. Peter. 9. To pray for him.)

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Lesson text: Acts 8:14-25; Isa. 52:3; 55:1.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 22 Nov. 27, 1988

PHILIP BAPTIZES A QUEEN'S TREASURER

One day the angel of the Lord spoke to Philip and said, "Get up and go toward the south on the road that runs between Jerusalem and Gaza." Philip obeyed immediately.

As he walked along the road, he saw a royal chariot which was headed south toward Ethiopia. Inside the chariot sat the queen's treasurer. He was returning home after going to Jerusalem to worship God. He was holding a scroll of the Book of Isaiah.

"Go slowly," the treasurer called out to the driver of his chariot, "I want to read. How he longed to know more about God!

The Holy Spirit said to Philip, "Go, and catch up with the chariot."

Philip ran to obey. When he was close enough, he heard the treasurer reading aloud. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip called out as he ran beside the chariot. The treasurer answered, "How can I understand without someone to teach me?" He invited Philip to come up and sit with him in the chariot.

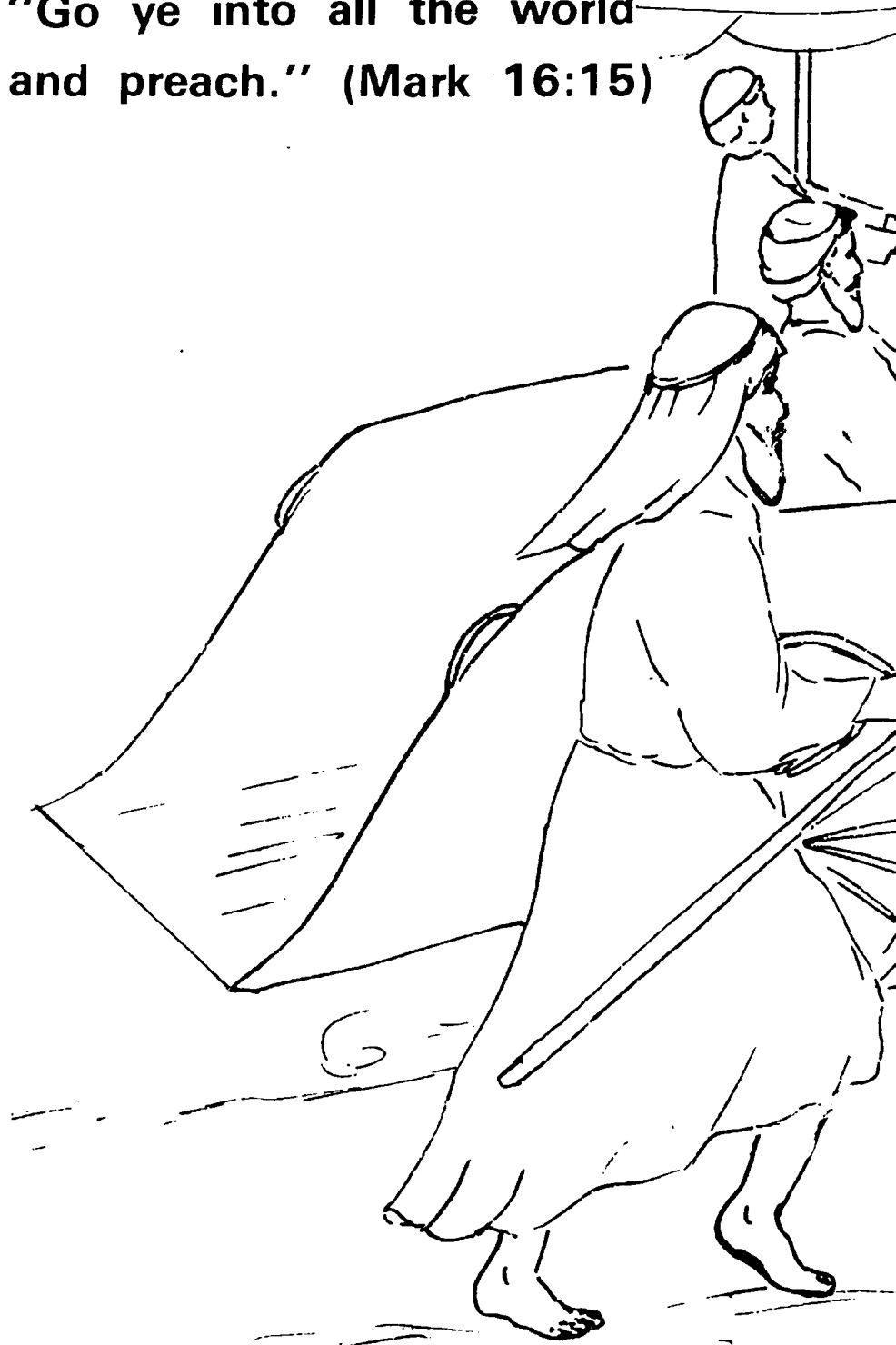
After showing Philip where he was reading, he asked, "Is the prophet writing about himself or some other man?"

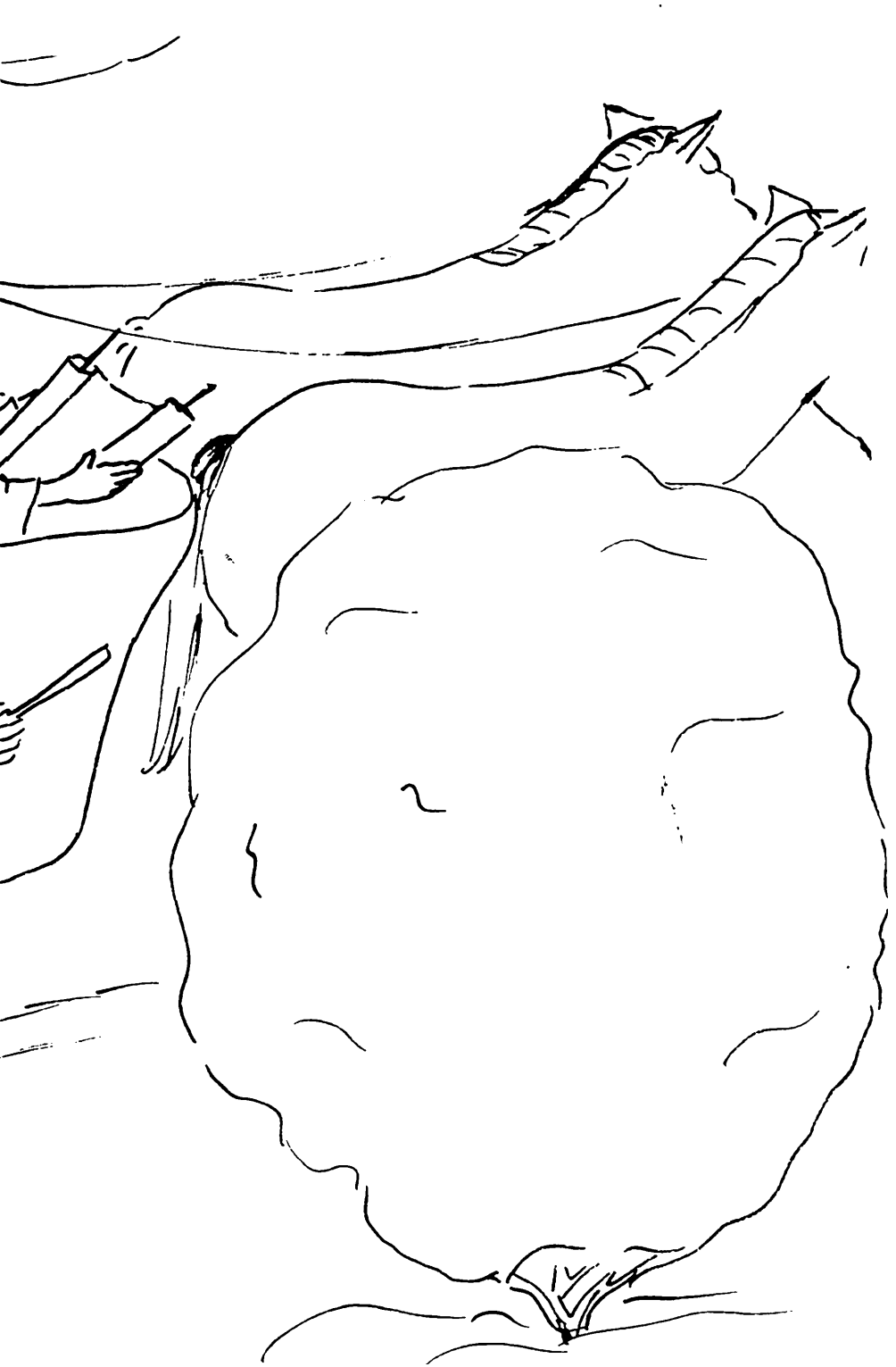
Philip started with the verses he was reading and told him the story of Jesus. As he listened closely, he believed that Jesus was surely the Christ.

When they came to some water, the treasurer begged to be baptized. He and Philip got out of the chariot and went down into the water. Philip baptized him.

When they came out of the water, the treasurer saw Philip no more. How happy he was to know Jesus!

**"Go ye into all the world
and preach." (Mark 16:15)**





Sunday Wanted A Story

Sunday was a little girl who lived in the dark, shady jungles of Africa. She was blessed to be born into a Christian family. She was named Sunday for two reasons: (1) because she actually was born on Sunday, the Christian's first day of the week, and (2) in honor of the praise and worship given God every Sunday.

Sunday was stirring fish gravy with the worn cooking stick while her grandfather and brother sat nearby the fire making rope twine from tree bark. The special bark from the monkey-bread tree had to be worked over and over through the fingers until it was smooth and strong. After several pieces of bark were made smooth and strong, Grandfather wove them into a very strong rope.

"Tell us a story, Grandfather," said Sunday, as she laid down her stirring stick on a mat near the fish gravy pot. "Tell us about when you first heard of Jesus Christ and how it changed your life for good."

"Oh, yes," said Grandfather. "That is my favorite story but I would think you would be tired of hearing it by now."

"Oh, no, Grandfather," said Sunday as she moved closer to him. "Tell how you were planning to kill a man because he had stolen money from under your bed mat and then in the village you met the missionary from America and he asked you to be his guide. The missionary talked to you about Jesus Christ and how Jesus was hung on a cross between two thieves even though Jesus hadn't done wrong. The missionary said Jesus forgave the one thief and took him to heaven and that Jesus died to save all men, no matter how wicked. That story touched your heart so that you wanted to know more about Jesus, didn't it, Grandfather? So you wanted to know more about Jesus. Soon you believed on Jesus and started living cursing, and beating others and you became the kind Grandfather we know today. Tell us that story again, Grandfather," said Sunday. She had been

talking as fast as Grandfather's fingers worked the tree bark into twine.

"It sounds like you already know that story by heart," replied Grandfather. "Yes, I was a wicked man full of hate and envy before the missionary came to our village and taught us about Jesus Christ. The missionary taught us that hate and envy is wrong and will only cause you pain and sorrow. He taught us a better way of forgiveness and kindness." Grandfather's voice was soft as his fingers kept working the rough bark to make it strong and smooth.

"Before I met Christ," Grandfather continued, "my life was very rough and mean like this old tree bark when it comes off the monkey-bread tree. After I heard about Jesus Christ and believed on Him and took His way, my life became like the smooth and strong twine that makes a good and useful rope. Live for Jesus, my children, and He will make your life good, strong, and useful."

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Who sent Philip out of Samaria on an errand?
2. Where did Philip go?
3. What did he see as he walked along the road?
4. Who was inside the chariot?
5. Who told Philip to catch up with the chariot?
6. What was the treasurer doing as he rode along?
7. What did Philip ask him?
8. How did Philip help the treasurer?
9. When he saw water, what did the treasurer want Philip to do?



(Answers: 1. An angel. 2. Toward the south. 3. A royal chariot. 4. The queen's treasurer. 5. The Holy Spirit. 6. He was reading. 7. "Do you understand what you are reading?" 8. He told him the story of Jesus. 9. To baptize him.)



Lesson text: Acts 8:26-38.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 25 Dec. 4, 1988

PETER WORKS IN LYDDA AND JOPPA

The believers of Jesus had scattered all over the country from Jerusalem so there were now many cities where the gospel was preached. The apostles visited these cities to encourage the believers and teach them how to serve the Lord.

On one trip Peter came to the saints who lived at Lydda to visit them. There he found a man named Aeneas who was sick with palsy. He had not been able to be out of bed for eight years. Peter said to him, "Aeneas, Jesus Christ makes you well! Get up and make your bed." Gladly Aeneas believed those words. Immediately he got up and was perfectly well!

When others who lived at Lydda saw Aeneas completely well, they came to see Peter and hear him preach the gospel. Many believed and turned to the Lord.

There were other believers who lived in a nearby city named Joppa. Among them was a woman named Dorcas who spent all her time caring for the sick, poor, and the needy.

One day Dorcas became very sick and died. The saints were very sad. They had heard that Peter was in Lydda and so sent for him to come at once. When Peter came, they took him to the room where they had laid Dorcas' body. Many friends stood by the bed weeping and showing Peter the clothes that Dorcas had made for them.

After Peter had asked everyone to leave the room, he knelt and prayed. Then he turned to the body and said, "Dorcas, get up!" Dorcas sat up, alive and well. Many believed because of the miracle.



"He spoke boldly in the



me of Jesus." (Acts 9:27)

Thinking of Others

Kevin and Rhonda came into the living room where Mother was busy addressing Christmas cards.

"Mother," said Kevin, "we have been talking and we want to make something special for Grandma and Grandpa but we don't know what to make. We want to make something useful, but what should it be?"

"And we don't have very much money, either," added Rhonda. "That is why we thought about making something ourselves."

"I think you have a wonderful idea," agreed Mother. "When you make a gift, it is special. Also, you can save money that way. Perhaps we should add up the money you have, then go to the store and see what we can buy and make do with what money you have."

"Okay, let's go!" exclaimed Kevin and Rhonda together. They added up their money and soon went to the store to buy something they could make.

"We don't have too much time to make it before Christmas," Mother told the children. "Maybe you should buy something you have made things with before."

"Oh, here are some wooden popsicle sticks!" said Kevin. "I made Grandma a wishing well with these for her birthday. Grandma has it right on the living room end table. I think she still likes it."

"Sure she likes it," agreed Mother. "It is special because you made it and did such a nice job on it, too. Maybe you both could make a napkin holder, coasters, and a small tray for the wishing well. Grandma could set them on the end table as a matching set and then Grandpa could use the napkins in the holder and the coasters for his drinking glasses."

"That's a good idea!" said the children together.

They bought the popsicle sticks and some glue. Also, Mother gave the children some paper slips to make a cute design on each piece. Carefully the children glued the sticks together to make

each piece look nice and neat. In three or four days they had their gifts all made.

"Daddy, look at what we made for Grandpa and Grandma," Rhonda said.

"Yes, it's a lovely gift!" said Daddy. "You children have done a nice job of gluing the sticks neatly together. They will be pleased and every time they use the set they will think of you."

Daddy was right, too. Grandpa and Grandma were pleased with Kevin and Rhonda's hand-made gift set. They set it all on the end table by Grandpa's chair and every time they used some of the set, they thought of Rhonda and Kevin.

That is one of the great blessings of giving. The receiver will think often of the giver and it draws both closer together in love and thoughtfulness. It is nice to be thought about often.

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Who visited the cities to encourage the believers?
2. What city did Peter visit?
3. What miracle did Peter do while he was in this city?
4. How long had Aeneas been in bed?
5. When others saw Aeneas up and well, what did they do?
6. In Joppa, what woman died?
7. Whom did the saints send for?
8. When everyone left the room, what did Peter do?
9. When Peter spoke to the body, what happened?

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(Answers: 1. The apostles. 2. Lydda. 3. He healed Aeneas. 4. Eight years. 5. They came to see Peter and hear him preach. 6. Dorcas. 7. Peter. 8. He knelt and prayed. 9. Dorcas sat up, alive and well.)

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Lesson text: Acts 9:31-43.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 24 Dec. 11, 1988

SAUL REAPS WHAT HE HAS SOWN

The Jews of Damascus were greatly surprised when they saw Saul worshiping with the disciples of Jesus. And they were even more surprised when he stood before all the people in the synagogue and preached boldly about Jesus.

The people asked one another, "Is this the man who put many people in prison in Jerusalem and even killed some because they believed in Jesus? Didn't we hear that he was coming here to arrest believers and put them in prison?"

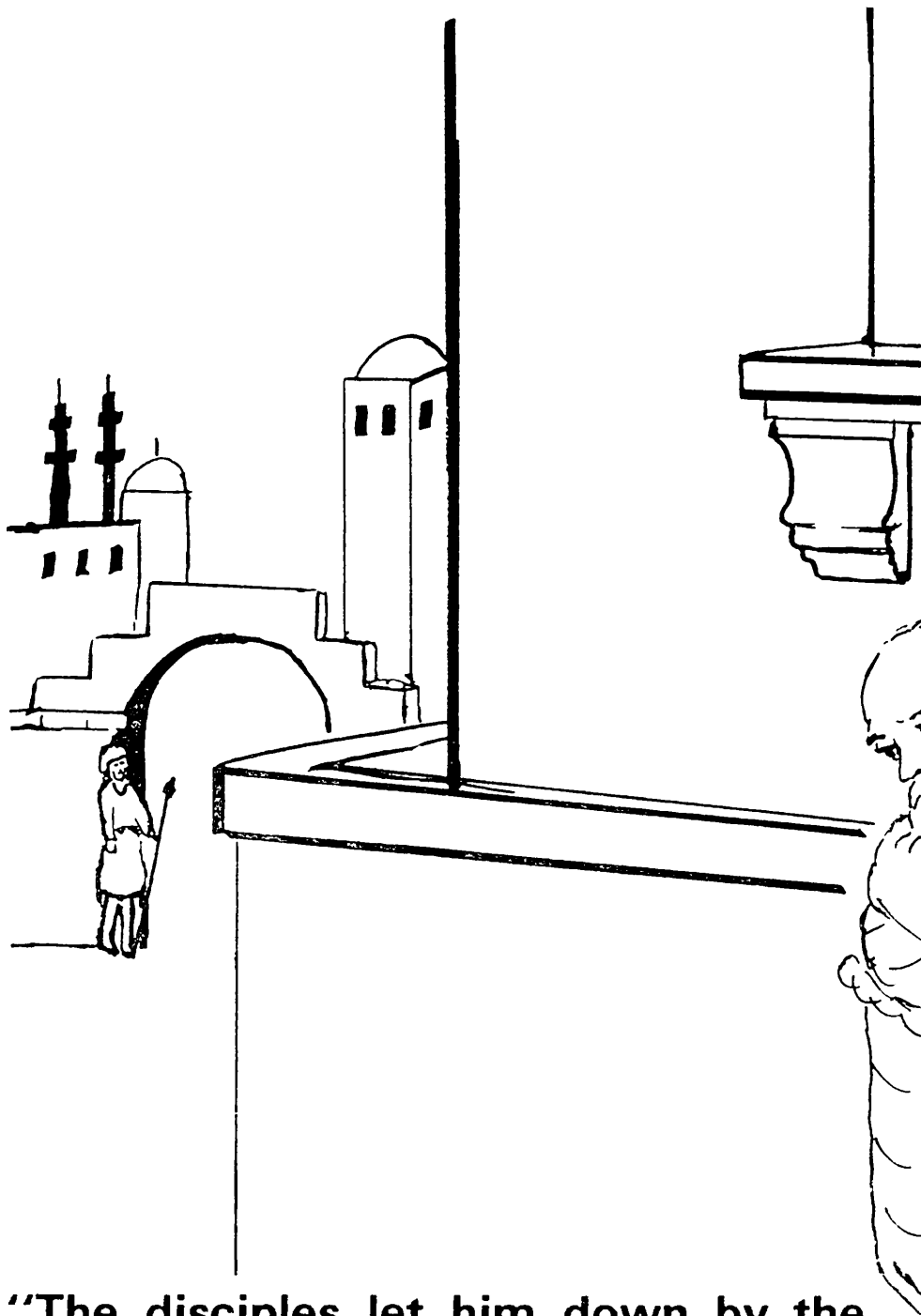
The Jews now turned against Saul and planned to kill him. At each gate of the city they placed guards with orders to kill Saul if he tried to leave the city. They were determined to get rid of him!

Saul heard about their plans. In order to help him escape, some of the disciples put Saul in a large basket and let him down over the wall in the darkness of night.

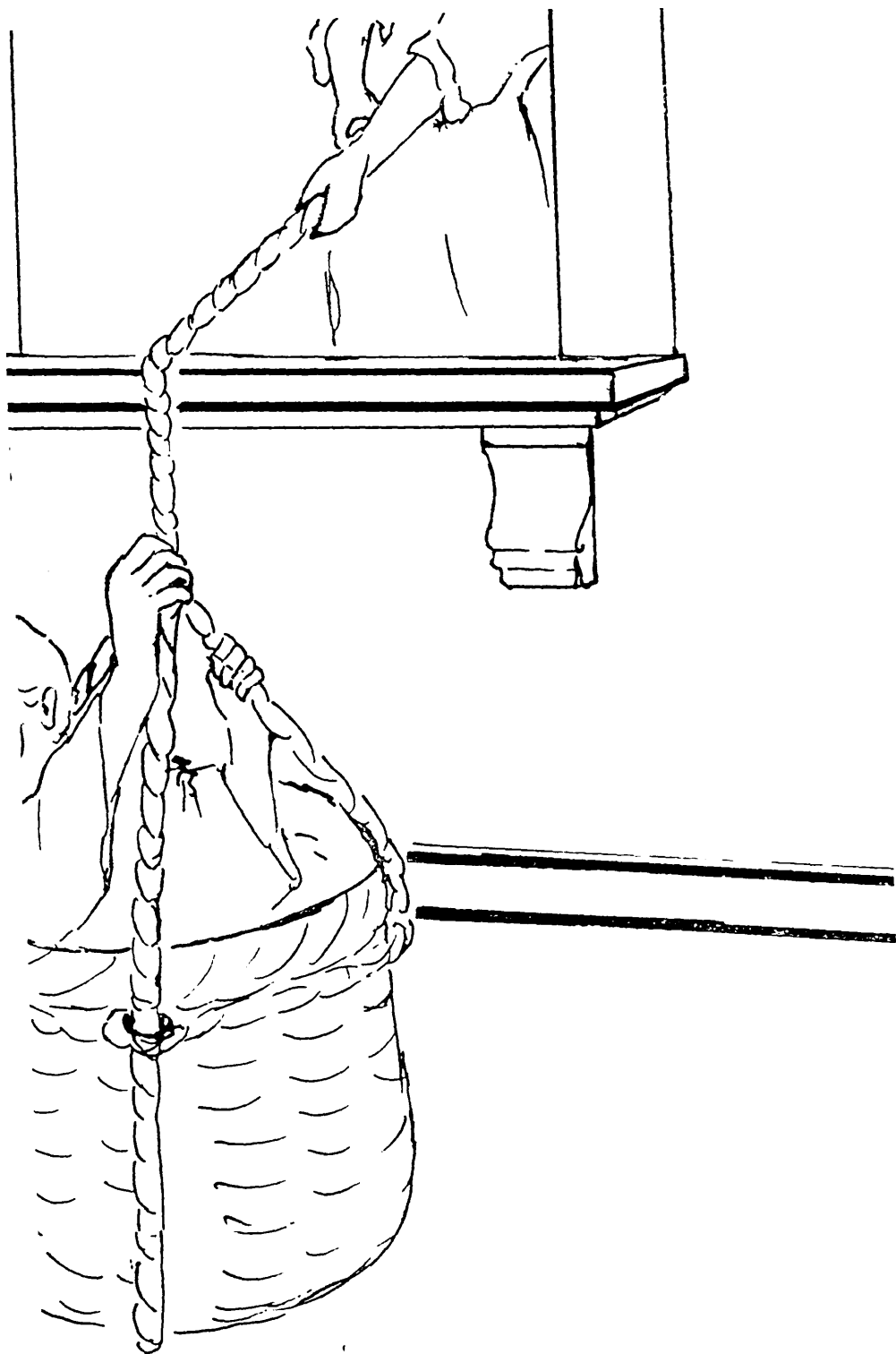
Saul returned to Jerusalem after his escape from Damascus. He wanted to tell the apostles how the love of Jesus had changed his heart and life. The apostles were afraid to welcome Saul. It was hard to believe that he was now a believer; it might be a trick.

However, Barnabas took Saul and brought him to the disciples. He told them how the Lord had spoken to Saul on the road to Damascus;

When the Jewish leaders heard Saul was back in Jerusalem, they wanted to kill him. Saul had left Jerusalem to persecute the believers but now those who had helped him persecute believers wanted to kill him. Saul, himself, had to leave Jerusalem to save his life.



“The disciples let him down by the wall in a basket.” (Acts 9:25)



Three Brothers Who Gave

Once upon a time there were three brothers: Big Brother, Middle Brother, and Little Brother. Each brother was thinking about Christmas.

"If you will be good," said Big Brother to his two brothers, "then I will get you a present for Christmas."

"Will you really?" asked the Little Brother. As Big Brother nodded his head, Little Brother added, "Then I will be very good to you!"

"If you will be good to me," said Middle Brother, "then I will get you both something, too!"

"Will you really?" asked Little Brother. As Middle Brother nodded his head, Little Brother said, "Then I will be very good to you, too!"

Time went on and Christmas came closer and closer. The two bigger brothers often reminded Little Brother that he should be good—and Little Brother was good. He never got into their things without asking, he helped them look for lost items, and he never pestered them while they studied.

In turn, the two bigger brothers were nicer to Little Brother. They never hollered at him nor pushed him around, but they helped him with problems that they could do for him.

The two bigger brothers were saving their allowances for final Christmas shopping. They knew what they were going to get for each other and Little Brother.

Little Brother did not have much of an allowance. Yet he wanted to get his brothers something, also. As it was getting closer to Christmas, Little Brother went to talk to Mother about his need.

"I want to buy my brothers something for Christmas, but I don't have enough money," he said.

Mother was very glad to help Little Brother. "I will take you shopping," she said. "We'll buy something together for the two boys."

Daddy and Mother had watched the peace and kindness among the boys with much happiness. They were glad to see each brother think of the others.

Mother and Little Brother went shopping and it made Little Brother happy! He was happy he could buy something for his brothers. It was fun to think of them and buy what they liked.

The bigger brothers went shopping with Daddy and they were happy, also. It was so much fun shopping for each other!

On Christmas Day, the boys were more excited about watching the others open a gift from them than in opening a gift to them!

"This is the best Christmas!" said Middle Brother to Mother.

"It is because you thought of each other," said Mother. "If you're thoughtful of others, you will be blessed two times more than what you give. That is the nice secret of giving and getting."

—Connie Sorrell

Questions:

1. What did Saul do in the synagogue at Damascus?
2. What had Saul done to believers in Jerusalem?
3. Why was he going to Damascus?
4. How were the Jews planning to capture him?
5. How did some of the disciples help Saul escape?
6. Where did Saul go when he escaped?
7. Why were the apostles in Jerusalem afraid of Saul?
8. Who brought Saul to the disciples?
9. Why did Saul have to leave the city of Jerusalem?



(Answers: 1. He preached boldly about Jesus. 2. He put them in prison, and killed some. 3. He went to arrest the believers. 4. By placing guards at each gate of the city. 5. They put him in a large basket and let him down over the wall at night. 6. To Jerusalem. 7. They were afraid it was a trick. 8. Barnabas. 9. To save his life.)



Lesson text: Acts 9:17-30.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 23 Dec. 18, 1988

APOSTLE PAUL (SAUL) IS SAVED

Saul hated the followers of Jesus. He had been there when Stephen was stoned and felt that the cruel men were doing right when they killed him. Saul did all he could to rid Jerusalem of the believers by mistreating them and having them put in prison.

The believers left Jerusalem to escape the persecution. Everywhere they went, they told the story of Jesus so that more and more heard about Jesus and believed on Him. The more the Jewish leaders tried to stamp out the gospel, the faster it grew.

When Saul heard that some of the believers had moved to Damascus and were preaching about Jesus, Saul rushed to the high priest to ask his permission to go there. He wanted to find the believers and bring them back to Jerusalem as prisoners or kill them.

As Saul and the men who were with him got close to the city of Damascus, all of a sudden a bright light shined all around them. Saul fell to the ground. The men thought they heard thunder, but Saul heard a Voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"

Suddenly Saul realized that he had been wrong in mistreating the followers of Jesus. Now he believed that Jesus was truly the Christ. Shaking with fear, he asked, "Lord, what do you want me to do?"

The Lord told him to go on to Damascus. Saul was blinded by the bright light and had to be led into the city. There a disciple of Jesus prayed for him. He was saved and his blinded eyes were opened.



**“Lord, what wilt thou have me do?”
(Acts 9:6)**



Christ Saved a Bold Man

Saul of Tarsus was a bold man,

A big, bold man was he.

"I'll find all Christians that I can,
And put them in prison," said he.

To different cities the Christians fled,
While Saul followed after with threats
That chilled the Christian's hearts with
dread,

And later filled Saul's with regrets.

Saul heard Christians were in Damascus
A six day's journey from home.
But determined Saul went for Damascus
To find Christians wherever they
roamed.

But Christ Jesus stopped Saul on the
road—

Christ had a better plan for him.
Around about Saul a bright light glowed
Stopping Saul and his men.

To the earth Saul fell on his knees.
To him spoke a voice from heaven:
"Saul, why persecutest thou me?"

"Saul said, "Who art thou that is
hidden?"

"I am Jesus whom thou persecutest;
It's hard for thee to kick the pricks,"
Spoke the voice in the lighted mist
That had stopped the men in their
tracks.

Saul was afraid and he trembled.
"Lord, what shall I do?" asked he.
As before the Lord he was humbled.
The Lord told him to go in the city.

Where a Christian could help him then.
Big, bold Saul was blind three days.
The Lord allowed it to happen
So Saul would change his ways.

There in the city of Damascus
The Lord spoke unto a Christian.
"A man named Saul needs you Ananias,
He's ready to be a Christian."

By the grace of God Ananias went
To the man who'd harmed those in
Christ.

"Brother Saul," said he, "God has sent
For me to bring you unto Christ."

Ananias prayed and the Lord heard;
Then Saul again received his sight.
And another miracle occurred—
Saul was saved and wanted to do
right!

Saul believed Christ, and his life was
new—

Now he wasn't bad at all.
He began to preach about Jesus, too,
And today we read the letters by Paul.
—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. What did Saul do to the believers in Jerusalem?
2. What did the believers tell everywhere they went?
3. Why was Saul going to Damascus?
4. What shined around Saul and the men who were with him?
5. What did the men hear?
6. What did Saul hear?
7. What did the voice say to Saul?
8. What did Saul ask?
9. Who was talking to Saul?

(Answers: 1. He mistreated them and put them into prison. 2. The story of Jesus. 3. To search for believers. 4. A bright light. 5. Thunder. 6. A voice. 7. "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" 8. "Who are you, Lord?" 9. Jesus.)

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Lesson text: Acts 9:1-14.

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY



Vol. 39, No. 4 Primaries (USPS549-000) Part 26 Dec. 25, 1988

REVIEW

For the past several lessons, we have been learning about four men who served God. We will look back now and try to remember what we have learned about these men.

We first read about Stephen and how he was chosen as one of seven men to help the apostles take care of the poor. Remember how wise and brave Stephen was as he stood before the council of angry men and boldly told them about Jesus? Stephen died because he told the truth. He was stoned to death.

Next, we studied about Philip who preached the gospel in Samaria where Simon the sorcerer lived. So many were being saved that the apostles sent Peter and John to help Philip. Then an angel told Philip where to go so he could meet the royal chariot in which the queen's treasurer rode as he studied the book of Isaiah.

Do you remember Saul who persecuted the Church? On his way to Damascus to arrest some believers, a very bright light blinded him and a voice spoke to him from heaven. It was Jesus who spoke to him, asking him, "Why are you persecuting me?" Then Saul realized he was wrong in mistreating the believers. He knew that Jesus really was the Christ.

This made a great change in Saul's life and soon he was preaching about Jesus. The Jews were greatly surprised, and then their surprise turned to hatred. First in Damascus, and then in Jerusalem they tried to kill him.

Last of all we learned how God used Peter to perform miracles. Aeneas was healed after being sick in bed for eight years. Dorcas was raised from the dead, and many people were saved.



**"All things work
that love God."**



or good to them
(romans 8:28)

Because of Jesus



Today we have the birthday of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. How wonderful to think that the Son of God came and lived and walked among men and women! He came as a little baby into the world. He was a little boy and He grew up to be a man of kindness and good works.

The three years that Jesus healed the sick and preached to the people, He had men following Him and learning of His ways. Twelve of them stayed right by Jesus all the time and were called the twelve disciples. God, the Father of Jesus, talked to these disciples and God let these men and others know that He was pleased with Jesus. God answered Jesus' prayers and God loved Him. God let people know that Jesus was His "well-beloved Son." Everything Jesus did pleased God, His Father.

The disciples saw all that Jesus did and they knew it pleased God. They wrote down what they saw and what Jesus said and how it pleased God. Today we read about Jesus because the disciples wrote about Him.

If Jesus had not come and lived on this earth, we would not have the written Bible that we love to read and obey. Jesus is the most important Being in the whole Bible. Through Jesus we can have salvation from sin, sanctification, baptism, healing from sickness, and we can gain heaven after we die. How wonderful it was when Jesus was born and brought us all these beautiful blessings!

If Jesus had not ever been born, you would not even be in Sunday school. You would not be learning about men like Stephen, Philip, Peter, John, and Saul. All they preached about was Jesus and how He pleased His Father. Philip, Peter, John, and the other disciples healed the sick people all in the power and name of Jesus Christ. Everything they said, did, or wrote was all because of Jesus. Glory to His name!

No wonder the angels sang in heaven when Jesus was born on this earth! The story of Jesus has made billions of peo-

ple happy. It should make you happy, also!

Do you love Jesus like you are taught to love Him in Sunday school? Has Jesus saved you from sin like He saved the many people Philip preached to? Have you been baptized like the queen's treasurer was baptized? Has Jesus made a change in your life like He made in the life of Saul? Have you asked the Holy Spirit to teach you every day how to live like Jesus did? Has Jesus ever healed you from a sickness like He did Aeneas and Dorcas. I hope you can say "Yes" to some of these questions.

Believe on Jesus and obey the Bible. It will bring you much happiness and someday you will live in heaven with Jesus. Then you will actually be able to sit on the lap of Jesus and ask Him all the questions you want to ask.

Indeed, we should be happy and sing praises to God for the birthday of such a wonderful Saviour! Jesus brought us so many precious gifts, that we should be glad to give Him our life.

—Connie Sorrell



Questions:

1. Who stood before a council of angry men and told them the truth?
2. How did Stephen die?
3. Where did Philip preach?
4. Who was riding in the royal chariot that Philip met?
5. Who persecuted the Church?
6. Who spoke to Saul from heaven?
7. Who wanted to kill Saul?
8. What two people did God heal when Peter prayed for them?
9. Name the four men we have been studying about.



(Answers: 1. Stephen. 2. He was stoned to death. 3. In Samaria. 4. The queen's treasurer. 5. Saul. 6. Jesus. 7. The Jews. 8. Aeneas and Dorcas. 9. Stephen, Philip, Saul, and Peter.)



Lesson text: Acts chapters 6 through 9.