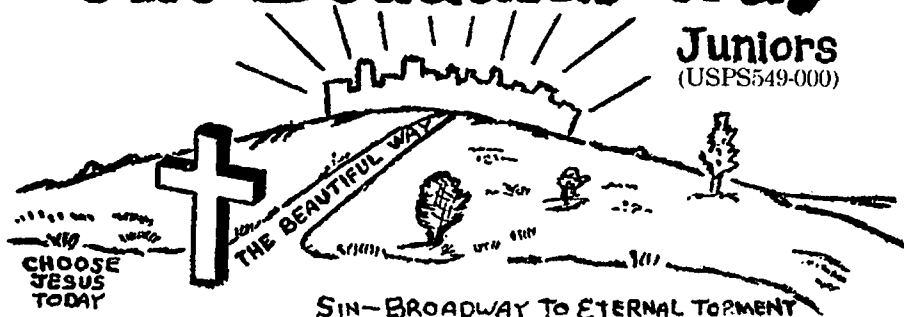


# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 35, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1984

Part 1

January 1

## The Pilot's Voice

(Continued From Last Lesson)

### A LIGHT IN THE DISTANCE

Yes, Mother was there—dear patient, sorrowing Mother, with lines of grief and distress written plainly upon a face that was lighted by a smile of welcome! Byron could now read beneath the smile and was beginning to understand the effort his mother was making to be brave. He noticed that the sleepless hours of the previous night had left their imprint on her features, and as he thought of the hours of mental suffering that she had borne, he wondered if he could ever make atonement.

Almost before the horse had stopped, she was beside the carriage reaching for her boy, and as Byron threw himself into her outstretched arms, unbidden tears began to flow.

"Oh, tell me," she said when at last she could speak, "all about everything and how the trial came out!" and then as she brushed away the scalding tears, she listened while her eldest son said, "Byron is greatly favored, but the other boys have been sent to jail. Go with Mother, Byron," he added, turning to

his brother, "and tell her all about it. She would rather have you tell her, I'm sure." So while his brother attended to the horse, Byron entered the house with his mother.

"O my son!" she said as she led her boy to an easy chair, "you don't know how glad I am to have you at home with me again. I prayed and plead last night that God would, if possible, spare you from prison and bring you back to us again, and He has answered my prayer!"

Then clasping his hand in hers, she listened to his broken account of all that occurred while he was away.

"And, Mother dear," he added, "I knew that you were praying for me. I felt the influence of your prayers, and I, too, feel that God has heard and answered prayer. I know you have often prayed for me, and I have felt the effect of those prayers many times. O Mother, I feel that I have not only been disobedient and have filled your heart with sorrow, but have brought an awful disgrace upon the family name. Can you forgive it all? I feel unworthy of being called your son any more. My life is unhappy. My sins rise up as mountains before me, and oh, how I wish I could be free and feel myself the same inno-

cent boy I was when I used to bow in prayer at your knee. The voice that you called the Holy Spirit has spoken to me, and since that time I have found no peace of mind. The things I used to enjoy and take pleasure in I have no desire for now. A change has already come into my life, but oh, what a burden and weight I feel all the time! How I long to be rid of it! Do you suppose, Mother, there is any help for me?"

"Yes, indeed, my son," his mother said as she looked earnestly into his eyes, "there is help for you! God has surely been talking to your heart and urging you to forsake your sins. Jesus at this very moment is holding out the life-line to you. The things that have just taken place seem severe and hard to bear, but it sometimes takes severe measures to awaken souls to their condition and danger. You are a great sinner in the sight of God. You have grieved and disobeyed Him, but He is merciful. It was for this very purpose that God sent His only Son into this evil world to suffer and die. It was not possible in God's plan of salvation for man to be saved without such a sacrifice. His Word tells us that whosoever believes that Jesus is the sacrifice for sin may be saved. Do you believe it?"

"Yes, Mother, with all my heart I believe it!" Byron answered.

"You must listen to the voice of God's Holy Spirit who has been talking to you of late," his mother continued. The work of the Holy Spirit is to pilot you to the Father, where with groanings that are too deep to be uttered, He will make intercession for you. In other words, the Holy Spirit will plead your case and will open your understanding so that you will see how to consecrate yourself to God. Then God, for His Son's sake, will pardon and redeem you, and you can live a life that will be worth living.

"But you will find that there is only one way to enter heaven, and that is by

forsaking everything that is sinful and doing those things alone that will bring honor and glory to the Lord and His cause. You see, we are not our own. Jesus has bought us, and the price He paid was His own precious blood. When we have done all that our human abilities will enable us to do, we are still unprofitable servants. So it is not our goodness that takes us to heaven, (although our deeds must be righteous), but it is through the goodness and mercy of God that we shall be able to enter heaven. When we have done all that is in our power to do, we are still debtors to God and to Christ; for Jesus paid our debt and blotted out the account against us, when He died upon the cross of Calvary.

"You may have the idea, Byron, that the life of a Christian is a hard one, but this is not true. The Christian's life is the only life that is truly happy. It is the office of the Holy Spirit to make it so, for upon Him rests the responsibility of piloting us about among the rocks and through the storms of life. Life's journey is no imaginary voyage. All must take it, and the ocean is wide. How I wish that all would start out upon it fully prepared and see to it that they are aboard salvation's ship with the Holy Spirit as their Pilot.

"I believe that God has permitted the things that have occurred to come upon you in order to help you to see your great need of the Savior. Jesus died for every one in the world, and that includes you. God sees you now through His dear Son and wants to save you, and He will send His Holy Spirit into your heart. All you have to do is to be truly sorry for your sins and to be willing to do what He bids you. God then will do the work in your heart and will give you a right to the tree of life, that was forfeited by our forefathers."

Reaching for her Bible, she then turned to the twenty-first chapter of Revelation and read:

" 'I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolators, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone which is the second death.' "

"Byron, can't you see by this," she said when she had finished reading, "how great God is to give to every one who will ask it, eternal life and how glad He is to accept them as His dear children?" Then she read, " 'Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.' "

"And," she continued, "further on we read that 'the Spirit and the bride [the bride is God's Church, or people] say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take of the water of life freely.' "

As the mother laid down her Bible, her older son came in from the barn, and the conversation was brought to a close.

*(To Be Continued)*

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". . . Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. . . ." Mark 12:31.

## Loving One Another

The Bradshaw's lived in a small town on a shady street with their twin daughters, Karen and Sharon. The twins had lived in the same house all their twelve years. And of course, they knew all the children in the neighborhood surrounding them.

Then one day a new little girl came to live just a few houses down from them.

Karen and Sharon were always happy when someone new moved in, so they were anxious to meet her. When their work was done they went over, rang the bell, and soon a nice lady came to the door. "Oh, I'm sure you want to meet our Susie. Please come in, and I'll get her," she told the girls.

When Susie came in, the girls noticed there was something wrong with one of her legs—she walked with a limp. Karen and Sharon introduced themselves, and asked Susie to come out to play. Susie was anxious to have friends to play with in her new neighborhood. The twins took Susie around to the other boys and girls to get her acquainted. The children all loved Susie from the start. She was kind and loving to all. Of course, Susie couldn't run and jump as fast as the others, but she was a brave girl and did her best.

After a while, Karen and Sharon came into the house. They both had a frown on their face and a worried look.

"Mother, what shall we do? Susie is so sweet and we all love her. It is hard to play with her because she can't keep up with the rest of us, and some of the children don't want to play with her."

"Well, girls, when we love someone, we do what we can to make them happy. I think if we pray, Jesus will give each of you ways to be able to play with Susie. That will show her that you really do love her," said Mother.

After prayer the girls went outside and told the others what Mother had said. And Jesus did help them play with Susie, and they all had great times together. —D.W.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

In our lessons this quarter, we are studying about the different fruits of the Spirit. When we see apples on a tree, we say, "This is an apple tree." It's the same with peaches or pears: by the fruit we know what kind of tree it is.

The same is true when people look on

a Christian. They should see the fruits of the Spirit in our lives. In our walk with the Lord, we have quite a few different fruits that we must bear. One of them is the fruit of love.

How wonderful it was when Jesus came into our hearts, and put His divine love in our hearts! Now we have God's love to help us love Him and others.

The Bible tells us that we should love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, and might. And when we love Jesus with all our being, we will live completely for Him. We will love and help others at home, school, and at play.

In the Scripture we read of a woman who loved Jesus so much and she wanted to show her great love for Him. Jesus was in Bethany, eating at Simon's house. When she heard of it, she thought what she would do. She brought a very expensive ointment (or perfume) and poured it on His head. This was her way of showing Jesus how much she truly loved Him.

As we live for Jesus, we should show our love for Him by doing especially nice things for others.

—Aunt Dot

—o—

**Lesson 1, January 1, 1984**

## **THE FRUIT OF LOVE**

Gal. 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

Deut. 6:5 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

Matt. 26:6 Now when Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper,

7 There came unto him a woman having an alabaster box of very precious ointment, and poured it on his head, as he sat at meat.

8 But when his disciples saw it, they

had indignation, saying, To what purpose is this waste?

9 For this ointment might have been sold for much, and given to the poor.

10 When Jesus understood it, he said unto them, Why trouble ye the woman? for she hath wrought a good work upon me.

1 Cor. 13:1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

4 Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,

5 Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh not evil;

6 Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth;

7 Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

13 And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

**Memory Verse:** For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.

Gal. 5:14

### **Questions:**

1. What kind of fruit are we studying about?
2. What kind of fruit is our lesson about today?
3. Whom should we love with all our heart, soul, and might?
4. Why did the woman pour the ointment on Jesus?
5. Were the disciples displeased? Was Jesus displeased?

—o—

**Bible Search:** Who climbed a tree to see Jesus? (Answer next week).

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 35, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1984

Part 2

January 8

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

"I know that you are both hungry," Mother said, rising to go into the dining room. "Come and eat your dinners. I prepared an early dinner, but, not knowing when you would arrive, I arranged to keep a part of it warm."

Although the brothers had felt no desire for food since the night before, they were soon at the table and eating heartily. It seemed so good to have the great load of anxiety at last lifted. When the meal was ended, Byron slipped away to his room. Dropping wearily down upon his bed, he said to himself: "How could I ever have been so foolish? Why have I been so blind? Thank God that I can see at last what Mother's interest is worth to me! that before I have utterly crushed her heart and life I can make amendment!"

Sleep finally came to his relief. When he awoke, his mind and body were so rested that he was able to go into the field and spend several hours at hard work before supper time.

As he passed up and down between the long rows of corn in the field where

when a child he had planted more beans in a hill than his mother had instructed him to plant, he remembered how his disobedience was discouraged and how he was punished and admonished. He thought of the carefulness with which he had endeavored to hide his misdeed then, and he saw that the motive was the same as the one that had been leading him onward of late. His evil deeds had developed and grown just as the beans did, and their growth had been no more rapid nor surprising.

He saw not only the advantage of a pure, clean life, but the possibilities of attaining such a standard for himself. Jesus had really died for him, and God was willing and anxious to save him from a life of sin and to give him the Holy Spirit to guide him into all truth. He was anxious to make the start in this new life, but he felt that he must first endeavor to make his wrongs right, and he did not know where or how to begin.

When his brother returned the following day from the post office and laid the local newspaper down upon the table, Byron made no haste to read what it contained, as had been his custom. A feeling of fear and shame swept over him. What if an account of his misdeeds was there? He was sure that if it

was they were pictured in glowing colors, and how could he look at it? He had often wondered how his name would look in print and had even wished that it might appear in the paper some time, but now he was really afraid that it was there.

When at last he could muster sufficient courage to do so, he slowly opened the paper and glanced hurriedly over the first page. He was surprised to find that there was nothing there about him and his companions; neither was there in the next few pages; and when he came to the last his fear had quite subsided. He was just about to decide there was nothing in the paper about them when his eyes fell upon the glaring headlines that told the awful truth. Their arrest, their crimes, and their trial—all had been given to the public. Dropping the paper upon the table as he would have done had it been a coal of fire, he buried his face, burning with shame, in his hands. What, oh! what would his friends say and think? How could he ever face them again? He felt that with this thing hanging over him he was disgraced forever.

With many thoughts of this nature in his mind, he endeavored to keep busy the remainder of the week. He longed to unravel the past, but it was in such a tangle that straightening it out would be no easy task. Many a time the miller's story came to his mind, and as he pondered upon it he was often reminded of his own duty. As the stolen tenth had grown and become troublesome to the miller, just so the results from the stealing of the eggs had increased on Byron's hands, and the wrong to his mother had spread to others. But his mother, dear, patient, faithful mother, forgot that she had been wronged and did all in her power to help her penitent son out of his difficulties. She gladly gave her assistance, both in money and in making suggestions, until Byron could

again look even Mr. Davis in the face with a clear conscience.

Some battles, however, Byron was forced to fight alone, for it is the only way that some conflicts can be rightly fought. For his own sake he needed some self-won victories, and they could come only through efforts that were put forth by himself.

(To Be Continued)

The joy of the Lord is your strength."  
Neh. 8:10b.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION  
(Act of Aug. 12, 1970: Section 3685, Title 39, U.S. Code)

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10. Extent and Nature of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	Actual No. of Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
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B. Paid Circulation--By Mail and Carrier	895	985
C. Total Paid Circulation	895	985
D. Free Distribution (including samples) by Mail, Carrier, or Other Means.	N/A	N/A
E. Total Distribution	895	985
F. Office use, left-over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing.	155	165
G. TOTAL	1050	1150

I1. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete. Maybelle Pruitt, President

## A Joyful Reunion



It was soon after the war, and Olga and Nickey were living in a refugee camp. They were separated from their mother, father, and little sister. And now each day they waited and prayed that they would once again be together. Olga was the oldest of the two, so she looked after Nickey.

"Nickey," said Olga, "we just have to pray and pray. Don't give up; Jesus knows where they are. Remember Mother taught us that even when our life is all mixed up and everything is going wrong, we can keep the joy of Jesus in our hearts. He will help us through each day."

"Yes, I remember what Mother has told us about Jesus, and I love Him so dearly," answered Nickey. "But it has been such a long, long time. Sometimes I almost forget what they looked like. When new people come to camp, I run to see if it might be them. Then I'm sad again."

The days came and went. Olga and Nickey helped as much as they could around the camp. They especially liked to help the refugees get settled. Sometimes they would play with the children, and maybe get a chance to tell them about Jesus. "If you would give your heart to Him, He would help you in this sad time of your life," they told the others.

"I'm so glad Mother taught us about Jesus, so we can have His joy in our hearts now," exclaimed Nickey.

"And because we know Jesus, we can tell others about Him. Then they can have Jesus in their hearts, too," said Olga.

Then one day Nickey came running to Olga. "Come quickly, Olga! Hurry!" Nickey cried, all out of breath.

"What is it, Nickey? You look like you've just seen a ghost or something," said Olga.

"These people that just came into camp—I think it might be them! Come and see, Olga!" Nickey was so excited and out of breath that he could hardly speak.

They were soon in the camp offices looking everywhere. Then suddenly, Mother saw the children and ran toward them. There were hugs and kisses all around. They were all so happy!

After a while, Mother, Father, the two children, and the baby sister all joined hands and thanked the Lord for answering prayer. They were all back together again.

—D.W.

Dear Boys and Girls:

When we have the joy of Jesus in our hearts, it does not always mean that everything will be happy and joyous. But our love for Jesus will help us to be overcomers, and make the joybells of heaven ring in our hearts. Joy is our next fruit to study.

Paul and Silas were Christian missionaries in Philippi. Each day they would go to the river to pray. There was a slave girl who had an evil spirit and she would follow them. Paul was distressed about this, and he commanded the evil spirit to depart from her, and it left her immediately. When her masters found she could no longer get them money, they were angry with Paul and Silas. They caused Paul and Silas to be beaten with many stripes and then thrown into the inner prison. As if that wasn't enough, their feet were put in stocks.

What a place for men preaching about Jesus to be! But what do we hear from Paul and Silas? Praying and singing praises to God! Yes, at midnight they were doing just that! All the prisoners heard them. And do you know who else heard them?—God. He caused an earthquake, and it opened all the prison doors. The bands on the prisoners were even loosed.

The keeper of the prison was awa-

kened, and, fearing that all the prisoners had escaped, he was about to kill himself. Paul called out to him, "Do thyself no harm, for we are all here."

The keeper called for a light and ran to Paul, saying, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Paul told him, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved."

That night he took Paul and Silas home and washed their sore and bleeding backs. Paul and Silas told all that were in the house about Jesus, and they were all saved.

Sometimes we have to go through suffering so that others may find Jesus as their Saviour. Because of Paul and Silas going to prison several souls were saved.

When we have troubles and temptations we must "count it all joy." Sometimes this is hard to do. But as Paul and Silas, we too can pray and sing praises to God, and He will give us the help we need. These trials are to increase our faith in God, because we get closer to Him through prayer.

—Aunt Dot

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**Lesson 2, January 8, 1984**  
**REJOICING AS WE SUFFER**

Acts 16:16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

17 The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

18 And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

26 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

27 And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

28 But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

29 Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas,

30 And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

31 And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

32 And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.

**Memory Verse:** Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart. Psa. 32:11.

**Questions:**

1. What were the missionaries' names in our lesson?
2. Why were they sent to prison?
3. What do we find them doing at midnight?
4. What happened and what did the jailor do?
5. What fruit are we studying in our lesson, and is it to be in our lives?

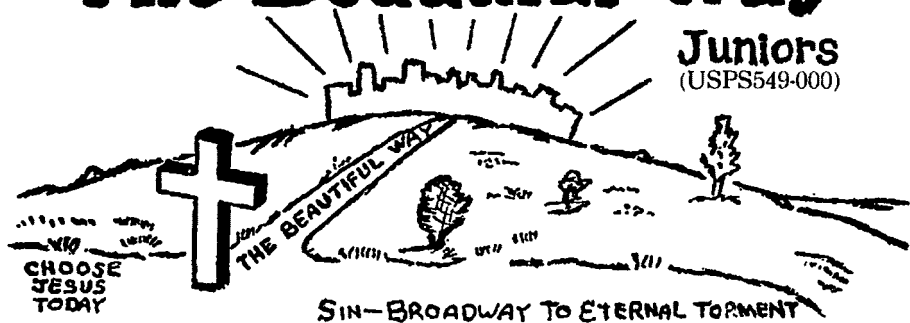
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**Bible Search:** In what garden did Jesus pray? (Answer next week).

**Answer to last week's question:** Zachaeus. Luke 19.5.



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 35, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1984

Part 3

January 15

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

The Sunday morning following the trial Byron's mother was, as usual, up bright and early preparing the breakfast for her family. As different members came, one by one, into the kitchen where she was at work, she greeted them with a pleasant smile and a word of welcome; but when Byron came she kissed him and said, "Be sure, dear, not to be late for Sunday School. You know we must be there on time." Her words confused Byron. He did not want to meet his teacher and much less the other members of his class, and for this reason he had decided not to attend church that day. "Mother," he said solemnly, "I have decided to remain at home today. I would like to be quiet and alone."

His mother noted and understood the positiveness of his voice, but she quickly said: "O Byron, don't say that! You must go! I know it will be hard, but strive to be brave, and hasten with your work so that we shall not be late! You must meet your friends sooner or later. and the first meeting will be the hard-

est. Remember how very kind every one has been to you thus far."

Through his mother's persuasion Byron was finally induced to accompany her; but as they came in sight of the chapel, the fight within his breast increased and the struggle became fierce indeed. Several boys were in the churchyard standing near the hitching rack. Byron was well acquainted with all of them, and he knew that they must have either heard or read the piece in the newspaper. He would have been glad to avoid meeting these boys had it been possible to do so, and although they were looking at him, he did not speak to them as he passed on into the chapel to take his accustomed seat.

The service was especially good, but nothing impressed Byron so much as did the kindness of his teacher. Although she expressed no word or admonition on the subject of Byron's trouble, he knew that she had sympathy and he appreciated it with all his heart. The boys, too, were kind (or rather, meant to be kind), but they did not realize the change that had already taken place in Byron's heart. Byron did not have salvation, but he had found that there was no happiness in a life of sin. If it had been for nothing more

than his own comfort, he had decided to do right because it was right; but the other boys did not know this. Supposing that he was sorry only because his wicked deeds had been uncovered, they crowded around him as soon as the class was dismissed and began telling him how George and James were getting on in prison.

"They are having a fine time," one of them remarked. "Bob and I were at the county seat last week, and we made it a point to pay them a visit, and say, boys, listen to what they told us. They said that already they had learned to play several new games with cards, and no doubt they will catch on to a good many new tricks while they are there."

These words found no response in Byron's heart. He did not care to listen to them. James and George had passed out of his life, and he wanted to forget, if possible, all the evil he had learned while in their company. Turning from the boys, he met his teacher's gaze and read the troubled look on her face; but it instantly vanished as their eyes met, and an encouraging smile took its place. She, like his mother, seemed to understand something of his burden.

The preaching service that day was unusually good. The minister, an elderly man, talked upon the perfect plan of salvation, and the thoughts he brought forth in his discourse made deep impressions upon Byron's mind. As Byron had not been in the habit of paying close attention to the preaching, the old, old, story of the creation seemed strangely new. And when he had heard of God's great love for mankind after the fall and of the day not far distant when the Lord will no longer invite men to accept His proffered love, but will judge them according to the way they have lived upon the earth, he would have been glad to plead at once for the pardon of his sins; but Satan whispered, "Just wait a little while; you are

not quite ready," and Byron listened.

As he rode home in the carriage beside his mother after the meeting, he was still sad, for the burden of his sins was resting heavily upon him; but his finer, better nature was aroused, and he drank in some of the beauties of nature. The bird songs made him glad, and their melody found an echo in his heart. The corn fields reminded him of husking time with its long hours of tedious toil. The chickens running along the roadside and the orchards made him think seriously. He wondered if Mr. Davis' young trees that George had disfigured would ever amount to anything, and if Jason would ever steal any more chickens from the tree near Mr. Sibley's home.

Passing an old farmhouse which was vacant and in which there was a window with a broken pane, Byron shuddered. His mother noticed and asked, "Are you cold, Byron?" but he replied, "No, I was only thinking." She said no more.

When they crossed the river bridge, the scene upon the foot-log farther up the stream came to his mind. He could almost hear the gentle voice of the Holy Spirit warning him of danger, and he thought it strange that this voice had not been silenced, since he had so rudely cast the warnings aside. He was still being urged by the same patient, tender voice not only to change his course but to prepare himself for the journey of life.

## THE LIFE-LINE

Byron had not yet discovered the wonderful life-line that had been cast to him by the loving hand of the Savior. He was still clinging, as it were, to a part of the wreckage of his past life, and his soul was in constant danger of being swept away either by the rising tide of discouragement or by the whirlwinds of temptation. God, by His Holy

Spirit, was endeavoring to show him his only hope of safety and the things that had hindered him in his former efforts; but as yet he could not understand.

As they drove in through the gate, Byron drew a deep sigh of relief. It seemed so good to be at home again. Home was now to him a shelter from the tempestuous storms that were without—a haven and a place to rest. Mother understood. She asked no questions. They were not necessary. In morning worship, however, her prayers were a real source of comfort, for Byron realized that she was not talking into space with no one to hear. He knew too much now about that silent Listener who is ever ready and waiting to carry a message either to God or to some loved one, not to understand in part the value of a mother's prayer.

*(To Be Continued)*

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## Blessed are the Peacemakers

John and Jeff loved to play in their sandbox in the backyard. Daddy had made it for them, so it was big with lots of clean sand. The boys had so many little cars to play with: some were red, some green, and some blue. They were all different colors. Although there were so many cars, John and Jeff knew just which ones belonged to them. With the sand they would build roads and bridges for the cars to go on. They would spend many happy hours in this way.

One day something happened, though, that caused a great lot of trouble. "John, just look what you have done with this car!" exclaimed Jeff.

"What? Let me see that old car. Look, almost all the paint is worn off. It's so old, it probably broke by itself," said John.

"No, it didn't break off by itself. I

saw you run it into that board so hard that this part came off," John said, looking it all over.

"Well, what do you want me to do about it?" asked John. "I couldn't help it."

"I think you should buy me a new one!" cried Jeff.

Just then Mother came out. "What is it, boys? What's the trouble?" she asked.

After the boys told her about the cars, Mother said, "I wonder what Jesus would do."

At this, the boys quieted down and became really thoughtful. Finally John said, "I think I should give Jeff one of my good cars. Will that be all right with you, Jeff?"

"Yes, I think that would be fair," answered Jeff.

"Here, Jeff, look them over and take the one you want," said John, happy that he was able to do what Jeff wanted.

John looked Jeff's cars over and then picked the one he wanted. "Thank you, John. I appreciate what you did," Jeff told John, as they went back to the sandbox to play. Once again they were happy and had lots of fun together.

—D.W.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

What do you think it means to have the fruit of peace in your heart? When Jesus comes into our heart, He gives us sweet peace.

Let us look at a Christian with peace abiding within. He is a person who delights in reading the Word and being with the Lord in prayer, and putting his trust in Him. He has committed his whole life to the Lord, knowing that Jesus will lead him in the heavenly way. Also, he is resting so sweetly, and waiting patiently for Him to help through any trial or temptation. The Christian is not murmuring or complaining about the bad things going on around him.

He is always trying to help others instead. This is the life of a Christian with peace in his heart.

The Word tells us, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." Matt. 5:9. To be a peacemaker we must have the peace of God in our hearts. When others are doing us wrong, we can "have the peace of God that passeth understanding," and do good to them.

I once heard of a farmer who was always doing bad things to his Christian neighbor. He would cut his fences, thus letting the cows out of the field. He'd let the Christian's pigs out, and you know how hard it would be to catch a pig. He was always trying to do something mean. But the Christian kept peace in his heart, and prayed for him. Whenever the farmer needed help, he would go over and help in the fields or whatever needed to be done. And he brought vegetables; sometimes he'd bring bread or pies. By doing these things, it melted the old farmer's heart, until one day he gave his heart to the Lord, too.

—Aunt Dot

—o—

### Lesson 3, January 15, 1984

#### BE A PEACEMAKER

Psa. 37:4 Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

5 Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.

6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday.

7 Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because

of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass.

8 Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.

9 For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

10 For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be.

11 But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace.

37 Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace.

Isa. 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

4 Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:

Phil. 4:7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

**Memory Verse:** Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom. 5:1.

#### Questions:

1. What is our fruit in this lesson?
2. Should we have peace in our heart?
3. What is a "peacemaker"?
4. How can we be a peacemaker?
5. What does the Bible say a peacemaker will be called?

—o—

**Bible Search:** What little baby was taken out of the river? (*Answer next week*).

*Answer to last week's question:* Gethsemane. Matt. 26:36.

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 35, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1984

Part 4

January 22

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

During the week and the days that followed, Byron found plenty to occupy his time and thoughts. The farm work was very pressing; and as he toiled day after day in the field, his mind became filled with new inspiration. He saw, as never before, his mother's responsibilities in caring for her family and discovered that it was not only his duty but his privilege to help her bear this burden. The thought seemed to arouse and cheer him, and his efforts became very noticeable and praiseworthy; but underneath this outward show he carried a burden which at times was almost unbearable and of which he could not rid himself.

One time while he was in a back field at work, his team needed rest; so while the tired horses endeavored to stamp beneath their feet the flies the troubled them, he climbed upon the top rail of the fence and with his jack-knife began whittling a small piece of wood. He soon became buried in deep thought. His past life came before him as a book, and he read it page by page. He began

with the early years of childhood, and the sweet memories thrilled him through and through. In those days his mother was all the world to him. He could go to her then with all his little troubles, and her word and kiss would brush them all away. As he read on in this imaginary book, he found that he had not maintained the same tender feeling and that a time came when he ceased to carry his troubles to Mother. "But why should I?" he reasoned. "I did not want to bother her unnecessarily."

Ah, that was not the reason. Reading on, he found that the voice of his conscience had often reproved him as a worthy pilot would a captain who was running his vessel into dangerous waters. His conscience had endeavored to pilot him in the right way, but his dear friend's counsel he had ruthlessly cast aside and to the gentle pleadings he had turned a deaf ear. He had not consulted or informed his mother regarding his troubles, and her good advice given from time to time he had not been heeding.

Some of the pages were full of trouble, and some told of things which appeared as nothing to commence with, but which grew to be black, ugly moun-

tains. He could now see how gently his mother had tried to lead him, how careful she had been lest some word of hers should cause him to think her harsh or unkind. He perceived that he had misjudged her. The farther on he read, the more he realized that, although the results from the course that he had chosen were gradual, they must have been certain. Each sin had led to a greater one.

He shuddered as he read the account of the stolen eggs. It was all there in black and white upon the pages of this memory book—the premature flight of the hen, the burning sensation of the eggs upon his hand, the trip into the loft with the stolen product, and his removal of the eggs to the grocer's remarks and the miller's story later on. Oh! why had he been so blind? Had he a right to a part of the produce that he had helped to raise? Yes, indeed, he had, but in no such way as that! He should have gotten his share with the rest and in an honorable way.

Little by little his wrongs came before him until he had reviewed his whole life and could see that his recent trouble with the boys was only the outcome of his disobedience and the result of his smaller sins. He saw, too, that those sins had robbed him of his innocence and childhood's happiness, and why he was void of rest and comfort.

He was a guilty sinner lost on the ocean of sin. The wreck of his former self was stranded upon the mighty rock of Hope, but was liable to be swept away any moment by the waves of despair. He could see the Savior's life-line, but it seemed so far away. He would have been glad to grasp it, but thought the effort too great.

Poor Byron! He had endeavored to drown his feelings with hard work and had found it an impossibility. It could not be done! Within himself he felt that he was unable to raise himself out of

his trouble by his own strength; that unless he obtained salvation his life was ruined. The words, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I am in trouble," flashed across his mind. His mother had read them in morning worship that very morning, but they had not appealed to him then as they did now.

Springing down from the fence to the soft earth below, he quietly knelt upon the ground and tried to pray; but all that he could say was the words of the Psalmist which his mother had read. He was indeed in trouble, and he had never realized it so keenly as he did at that very moment. Oh, if only he had someone to whom he could unburden his heart!

In this state of mind he spent the remainder of the afternoon in the field; and when he returned to the house at the close of day, the load upon his heart had grown heavier and his sufferings were almost greater than he could bear.

*(To Be Continued)*

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## T.V.

Suppose for supper tonight, you went out to the trash can and dug around a while for a meal. Would you like to do that? Why, of course not! You want only fresh, clean, wholesome food to eat so that you won't get sick.

When you want some entertainment, do you turn the T.V. on? No, of course not! You don't want your mind feeding on trash, soon to be sick with lusts and evil thoughts. Instead, get involved with a hobby, craftwork, or read a good and pleasant book. There are *plenty* of things to do. Watching T.V. is a waste of time. —C.S.

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## Longsuffering

It was Sunday, and the Walter family had been to church service that morn-

ing. The children, Janet and Scott, had tried to listen to the message as the pastor always told such interesting stories.

Now the family was sitting around the lunch table relaxing, eating, and enjoying one another's company.

"That surely was a good message this morning," Daddy said, while he helped himself to another fried chicken leg.

Janet looked down at her plate. "I sure do feel sorry for God," she said softly.

Mother and Daddy looked at her, surprised. "What do you mean by that, Janet?" Mother asked, in a puzzled voice.

"Well, the pastor said God suffers a long time, and. . . ."

Scott burst out laughing. "When the pastor said the Lord is longsuffering to us, Janet must think that meant the Lord is sick! No, Janet," Scott then said seriously to her. "That isn't what he meant."

"That's the way it sounds to me," said Janet, bewildered.

"No, Janet," Daddy said. "This word 'longsuffering' means that the Lord is patient with us. He is patient with the wicked as well as the good people. Even though the wicked do God wrong, He still gives good things to them. He is a mighty, powerful God. He could be harsh and angry at people—He could stop the sun from shining; He could dry up all the water on earth and leave us all thirsty—but God doesn't do that. He doesn't want to, because He is patient or longsuffering with each one of us. God wants everyone to realize He loves them and He wants them to be in heaven some day with Him." (2 Pet. 3:9, 10).

"Didn't the pastor say that some day God will destroy the earth with fervent heat?" Scott asked.

"Yes, that is right," Daddy replied. "Some day God's patience or longsuffering will run out. However, it will be our own fault if we are caught guilty, living

wickedly in sin. God has warned us, and the Bible, His written Word, tells us how to please God. People should respect our great God, but do they?"

"Not very many do," replied Scott sadly.

"That is why the Bible says that God is longsuffering—He sees people in sin, disobeying Him. This makes Him sad but He patiently waits 'a little longer' hoping they will some day want to love Him."

Janet hadn't been eating, but was listening to Daddy and Scott. Her eyes were bright with comprehension. "I understand now!" she cried. "God suffers a long time watching people live out in sin. He is so patient and good to people even when they are doing Him wrong."

"That is right." Daddy smiled at Janet. "Now you know what longsuffering is."

The next day, Janet climbed up on the cabinet and got into the cookies. She got into the cookies right after Mother had told her not to eat any cookies until after supper. As usual, Mother caught Janet. She had one cookie in her mouth and two in her hand.

"Janet, you disobeyed me!" Mother scolded her.

Janet just hung her head. Mother took the cookies from her hand.

"You know, Janet," Mother said, "I should punish you. You disobeyed me. I said, 'No cookies until after supper,' but you got into them anyway. You need a spanking, but let's try out that new word you learned on Sunday. This time I will be longsuffering with you. I will give you another chance to obey me if you promise not to do this again."

Janet put her arms around Mother's neck. "I promise, Mama. I don't want to be naughty anymore."

"Try hard to do good, Janet, and I will be longsuffering with you one more time," Mother said and she kissed Janet on the cheek.

—C.S.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Longsuffering is our fruit to study today. Remember we are looking at the different fruits of the Spirit, and endeavoring to apply them to our lives.

In our Scripture today, we are reading some of Paul's writings. He tells us that we must walk worthy of the vocation wherein Christ has placed us. Sometimes as we live for the Lord, we have many temptations and trials. Different situations come our way that aren't very nice. Maybe our playmates don't like us because we live for Jesus. One might tell a lie on us, and we may have to suffer a long time before it will be cleared up. It might never even get

straightened out, but we have to go on loving Jesus anyway. And we have to love the one who did us the wrong to hurt us.

Read 2 Cor. 6:4-6, of Paul and the many adversities in his life as a minister of Jesus Christ. There were afflictions, persecutions, being put in prison, being beaten, and put in stocks. All these things happened, but Paul said, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13.

As Jesus is our example in longsuffering, we need to show the spirit of longsuffering to others. It isn't always easy. I once heard someone say, "How long do we have to suffer?" And the answer was, "Just as long as there is something to suffer for."

Some other examples of suffering are Joseph and Job. Joseph was sold as a slave. Then, because his master's wife told a lie about him, he spent over two long years in prison.

Job, in one day, had all his possessions taken away, and all his children were also killed.

—Aunt Dot

Lesson 4, January 22, 1984

## SUFFERING FOR JESUS

Eph. 4:1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called.

2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

3 Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

I Tim. 1:16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

2 Tim. 3:10 But thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience,

12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

**Memory Verse:** Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering. Col. 3:12.

### Questions:

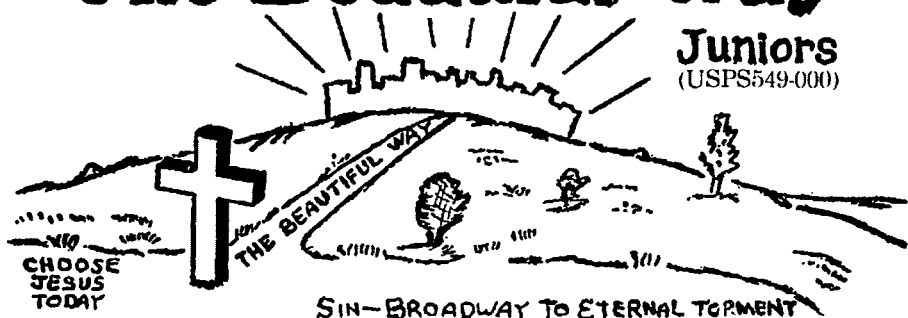
1. What do we mean by "longsuffering"?
2. Should we have the fruit of longsuffering in our lives?
3. Who are some examples in our lesson?
4. Are we to be examples for Jesus today?
5. Discuss some things that might happen in our lives where we would need to use the fruit of longsuffering.

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**Bible Search:** What ruler talked to Jesus by night? (*Answer next week*).  
*Last week's answer:* Moses. Ex. 2:5, 6.



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Part 5

January 29

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

That evening Byron took a seat upon the porch as the golden streaks were fading away in the western sky. The scene before him was indeed beautiful, but he saw it not. He was looking away into the future and wondering what it held in store for him. "Oh for the power to look beyond those hazy gates and read my own destiny," he sighed. Sitting thus in the twilight, with no definite purpose in view, he began to wish that something would happen to break the monotony of his thoughts, which were becoming almost unbearable. While he waited and thought, he heard a step behind him. Turning, he saw his mother approaching. She took the chair beside him.

She had noticed the sadness in her son's face from day to day, and as she saw it constantly deepening, she longed to see him happy and free again as he used to be when a child. Realizing that nothing except full salvation could bring this to pass, she daily prayed for his conversion. Her mother heart was yearning to see him reach out and grasp the

life-line that was being held out to him, before it was withdrawn, and ere he was swept away again into the billows of sin.

At first they talked only of the crops, the weather, and the probable harvest. Then a silence fell between them. It was one of those times which are so keenly felt because each, knowing the other's thoughts, waits for the other to break the silence.

"Byron," his mother finally said, "there is to be a series of meetings held in our neighborhood chapel, and they will begin next Sunday. A minister and some helpers and singers from a distance are to conduct the meetings. I am earnestly praying that God will grant us a profitable meeting. I feel sure it will be a source of help and inspiration to each one of God's children who will attend. And," she added, "I am praying that it may be a benefit to those who have not accepted Christ as their Savior, as well. I want to attend every service and should be pleased to have you to go with me."

The talk was continued long after darkness had covered the earth with its mantle and the stars were peeping out of the sky. There in the solitude of the

night the confidence between mother and son, which had been broken, was restored. The mother found that her son was longing for that which she had been desiring him to possess, and her heart was cheered. The painful wound that she had received through his disobedience was instantly healed when she found how close the Savior had been to him that very day.

When Byron went to his room that night, he knelt beside his bed and tried to pray, but his words seemed to fall back upon his heart as lead. It seemed that he could think only of the coming meeting. This subject was still uppermost in his mind when he fell asleep, and he dreamed that he was in the chapel listening to a very touching sermon.

When Sunday came he was eager to go with his mother. He was moved, however, by quite a different desire than he had been in the past: then he thought only of the boys and of the good times he expected to have in their company; now he was eager to go in order to learn how to give his heart and life to God and to be a whole-hearted Christian. Sinful pleasures and disobedient actions had lost all attraction to him, and he longed for the comforting influence of a conscience that was void of offense.

## A NEW VOYAGE

The meeting was in progress when Byron and his mother arrived, but the minister had not taken the pulpit. The company of workers consisted of one elderly woman, a middle-aged man, and three younger persons. As they sang, Byron noticed the happy expressions on their faces. They seemed to be singing from the depths of their hearts, and these were the words:

Salvation's free, glad joy to all  
Of Adam's fallen race;

We'll tell to all, both far and near,  
Of saving, keeping grace.

### CHORUS:

There's joy, glad joy,  
Now flowing from above;  
There's joy, glad joy,  
In the fulness of his love.

From wells of everlasting joy,  
Our strength by faith we bring;  
The joy that thrills my ransomed soul  
Can make the dumb heart sing.

How sweet the soul that's purged as pure  
As gold without alloy!  
How peaceful is the flowing stream  
Of deep eternal joy!

I'll live for Christ through this dark world  
And faithful I will be;  
The joy I know that keeps my soul  
Shall last eternally.

How the words thrilled Byron's soul! That was the experience for which he was longing! Oh, to be able to draw joy from a well that would never run dry! What a privilege! How gladly he would live for Christ and be faithful if in return he could have that joy that would last eternally.

When the song service was ended, someone said, "Let us pray." A number of the congregation knelt beside their seats, and Byron, although he only bowed his head, joined with them as best he could in prayer. After prayer another song was sung, and then the minister, stepping upon the rostrum, opened his Bible and began to preach about Christ's ministry upon the earth.

It was indeed a wonderful sermon. He recalled to the minds of the people the words of Jesus when He walked and talked in Galilee, and spoke of His simple life. He pictured the Savior's loving interest in mankind when He fed the hungry people and healed the sick.

He rehearsed a part of the wonderful Sermon on the Mount, in which Jesus taught His disciples how to join Him in His work. He mentioned the great love of Christ when He stood at the grave of Lazarus and wept. Then dropping down to the last supper in the upper chamber, he related how, after Judas had passed out, Jesus spoke of the sad event that was about to take place and introduced the simple memorial of His death and gave a true emblem of humility.

*(To Be Continued)*

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Jesus knows what we are needing.

Jesus loves and cares for all;  
We can tell Him all our troubles,  
And He'll hear us when we call.

## Finding Grandpa's Sheep

Oh, Johnny was so happy! School was out for the summer. And, best of all, he was staying with Grandpa and Grandma for a while. He surely loved it in the country. He helped Grandpa all he could. Sometimes he would help milk the cows or help fix fences, or just anything that needed to be done. Johnny was always happy to help Grandma, too. He'd feed the chickens or help weed the vegetable garden, even though pulling weeds was not his favorite job. When he got his work done he could go swimming in the creek with the other boys.

One day Grandpa came in for the noon meal, having a frown and a worried look on his face. "I've been looking at the sheep, and I think Susie is missing. I've noticed some different animals around that might have gotten her. I sure hope not," he said, as he sat down to eat.

"I hope not, too," said Grandma, and Johnny agreed. All afternoon Grandpa and Johnny kept watching for the lost sheep. But she was nowhere around.

After supper Grandpa said, "I'll just have to go in the woods and ravine to

see if she is anywhere out there."

"May I go with you?" Johnny asked Grandpa.

"Yes, if you want to, but dress warmly, as it gets pretty cool out there at night," answered Grandpa.

Soon they were ready to start out to look for Susie, the lost sheep. Johnny and Grandpa trudged through the woods and down into the ravine. Suddenly Grandpa said, "Stop, Johnny! I think I heard something over there in that direction." And quickly Johnny stopped and listened, too.

Finally Johnny whispered, "I think she's down in that hole. Shall I look?"

"Go on, and take this light with you," replied Grandpa.

Sure enough, there was Susie, one foot caught between two stones. Grandpa and Johnny worked to free her. Then they gently lifted her out and carried her home. They were so careful not to hurt her leg.

As Grandpa washed and bandaged her leg, Johnny thought of his Sunday School lesson. Johnny told Grandpa about the Good Shepherd. "I remember that Jesus is the Good Shepherd, and that we are His sheep. How gentle He is with us! He went out looking for us when we were yet sinners. He saved us and brought us home, too. Then He fixed up all the hurt places."

"Yes, Johnny," agreed Grandpa. "Jesus is our Good Shepherd. He loves us more than we can possibly love Susie. We should love Jesus for all He has done for us. I know Susie will be grateful for what we have done for her."

—D.W.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

The precious fruit of the Spirit in this lesson is gentleness. Remember we are studying the fruits of the Spirit in Gal. 5:22, 23.

As I think of gentleness, it brings to my mind a shepherd and his gentle-

ness. Let's watch how careful and gentle the shepherd of the flock of sheep is. Did you know that He names each sheep? And they know their names. The sheep will not follow any other shepherd. Also, the shepherd knows each one of their good and bad ways. Some sheep will always go astray. Then the shepherd will have to take his staff, with its crook and bring it back to be with the other ones. The shepherd watches out for wild animals that try to kill the sheep. David, as a shepherd boy tells us how he killed a lion and a bear while caring for his father's sheep. (1 Sam. 17:34, 35). The shepherd is very careful with his sheep. He gently leads them to the best feeding places and good, fresh water. He will carefully check them for thorns or cuts, and if they have any of these, he will take care of them. Each night before going to bed he checks to see if they are all in. Oh, if one should be missing, he searches through the night until the one little sheep is found. What tender compassion he has, for he loves each one.

All this reminds us of the Great Shepherd, Jesus. Yes, Jesus is our Shepherd, and we are His sheep. He knows each one of us by our names, and He kindly cares for us in such a grand way. He loves us so tenderly, and is so gentle with us.

As boys and girls for Jesus, we need the fruit of gentleness in our lives, too. Then we can be gentle and kind to others.

—Aunt Dot

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**Lesson 5, January 29, 1984**

## **THE GENTLE SHEPHERD**

Isa. 40:11 He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs

with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.

John 10:14 I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.

15 As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Matt. 18:12 How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?

13 And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray.

14 Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

**Memory Verse:** And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient. 2 Tim. 2:24.

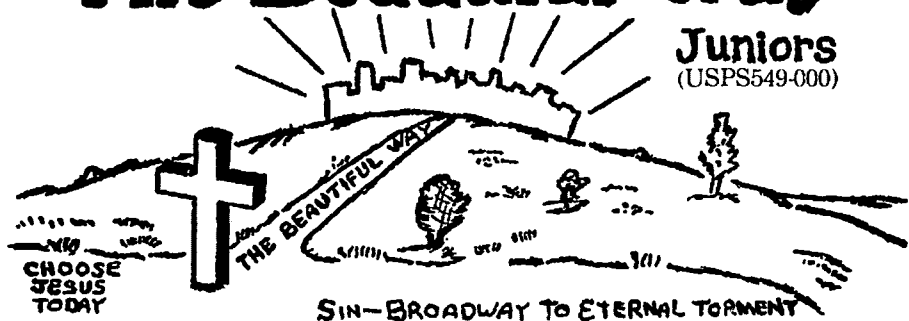
### **Questions:**

1. Is gentleness another fruit of the Spirit?
2. Do we see gentleness in a shepherd towards his sheep?
3. Who is the Great Shepherd, and who are His sheep?
4. Do we need to be gentle with one another?
5. Tell some ways that we can be gentle with others.

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**Bible Search:** What mother lent her son to the Lord? (*Answer, next week*). *Last week's answer:* Nicodemus. John 3:1, 2.

# The Beautiful Way

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Part 6

February 5

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

Then following the Savior across the brook Kedron, the minister led his hearers on into the lonely Garden of Gethsemane. There he showed them Jesus bowed in prayer pleading to have the bitter cup taken from Him, if possible, but willing to drink its contents to the dregs, if necessary. Next he pointed out the clamoring mob, a short distance away, awaiting the Savior's approach, and the Roman soldiers grouped about the foot of the cross. The mangled Savior pleading with the Father to forgive them, was a beautiful testimony of God's undying love.

The scene changed, and the congregation were allowed to look in ecstasy as he realized the full meaning of the empty vault. He seemed to see the risen Lord seated on the throne beside His Father—the place which He had occupied before His visit to the earth—and heard Him saying; "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find

rest to your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

After the discourse there was singing and a few testimonies from the strangers, and Byron was more inspired than ever to make heaven his home. He became anxious to give his heart to the Lord; but as no opportunity was given, he returned to his home with the burden of sins still resting upon him.

The following day he could think of little else than the sermon and the happy faces of the strangers that he had looked upon in the chapel, and a picture of the ocean of life came before him. He could see the crafts floating about upon its surface, and he saw some of the rugged rocks upon which many of these vessels were wrecked. Some of these dangers were entirely hidden beneath the surface of the water, but each was shown on a chart with which all good seamen were familiar. On this chart there was a description of every hidden rock and a course mapped out whereby it could be avoided. Each obstruction that was visible bore a sign whereby its character might be discerned but many of the signs were dimmed and blurred.

Some of the vessels that were floating carelessly about in the shallow waters,

not heeding the instructions upon the chart, he saw torn to pieces and sunk-en. Others, although not so soon destroyed, were so battered and injured that they were unsafe.

On one of the flags that was floating above a forbidding rock, he saw the motto, "Do As I Please," and, to his amazement, he discovered, upon examining the chart, that more than one-half of the hidden dangers were located close around it. There was lying, stealing, hypocrisies, gambling, drunkenness, and many other rocks just beneath the surface of the water. Above another he read "Worldly Pleasures," and around and about this he found such evils as he had not even dreamed could exist.

Many other things were pictured before him; but of all the sights in this great body of water, the one that interested him most was that of persons clinging to the parts of wreckage and floating about where the waters were deep and full of sharks and other dangers. Every moment he saw some one hurled down from a portion of a mast, a broken hull, or some other part of a wrecked vessel, to go shrieking and groaning to his doom.

Byron shuddered as the scene passed before him, and he began looking out away from the shore. Here he discovered a well-proportioned ship with beautiful banners and streamers floating from it. Upon the banners he read, "Purity," "Honesty," "Kindness," "Holiness," and many other mottoes explaining the character of the inmates of the vessel.

The ship, too, he discovered, was not only strong and well built, but traveled in a direct course and was out in mid-ocean. There it was in no danger of running into the snags with which the shallower water was dotted, for the depth was too great for them to find a lodging place.

Now and then a e-boat was low-

ered, and he saw that it was manned with the most competent sailors on board the ship. Watching the course of these life-saving crews, he saw that although they went in among the snags and hidden rocks they went only close enough to throw the life-line to those who were in distress. Those who did not realize their danger were simply warned, and the boat passed on to rescue those who were calling for help.

Looking back upon his own life, he saw that he had been stranded upon the hidden rocks near the obstruction, "Do As I Please," and that he was now clinging to a very frail piece of wreckage. His danger was great, but the little company had come to his rescue in time and were throwing to him the life-line.

*(To Be Continued)*

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## A Cheerful Giver

God loves a cheerful giver,  
A giver from the heart;  
Of gifts given grudgingly  
The good Lord wants no part.

So when you give to the Lord,  
Be cheerful and be glad;  
Remember He's the giver  
Of all you've ever had.

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## The Two Prizes

The children in Mrs. Telford's room were all excited. She had just told them that they were to take a test. And the boy or girl who had the most correct answers was to receive a prize. "What kind of prize?" asked the children.

"Oh, it is a very nice one. It's pretty and will taste so good," explained Mrs. Telford.

When the children heard that it was tasty, they wanted more than ever to win the prize, especially Eric. His mo-

ther had been so busy caring for his two brothers and sister, that she didn't have time to make a lunch for him. And he was feeling a little hungry right about then.

Soon the class settled down and started the test. Each time the teacher asked a question, the children tried hard to get the right answer. After a while the papers were handed to the teacher for correction.

"I hope I get it," said Tom.

"Oh, I think Peggy will get it. She's the best in the class," Mary said, wishing she could get at least one of the prizes.

Finally the papers were all corrected, and Mrs. Telford was ready to tell who the winners were. But first she showed them what the prizes were to be. She reached in her desk drawer and brought out the first prize. It was a lovely large chocolate egg with a blue ribbon around it.

"Oh, how pretty!" exclaimed Angela. "I'd like to have that."

Mrs. Telford reached in the drawer again, and brought out a little white box. It wasn't pretty, but it had four chocolate eggs in it.

"This is the second prize," explained Mrs. Telford. "And now I will name the winners. Eric Jones gets first prize." And all the children turned towards him.

As he walked up to get his prize, he was trying to decide what to do. He was thinking of his brothers and sister, and he surely wanted to be good and share his prize with them.

"Mrs. Telford, would you mind if I took the second prize?" stammered Eric. The children and teacher were so surprised.

Mrs. Telford thought, "Eric is such a fine boy. He must have a good reason for this." She handed him the second prize and Peggy got the large, pretty egg after all.

Eric wasted no time getting home. In

fact, he ran all the way, not even stopping to open the precious box.

When he got in the front door, he went searching for his brothers and sister. Opening the box, he handed each of them a chocolate egg. They all enjoyed eating them together. But Eric was happiest of all because he was sharing his prize with the ones he loved.

—D.W.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

In preparing this lesson, we let our minds think about the goodness of God. Do you ever think about how good God is? He takes care of all the people. The Bible says, "He maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." Matt. 5:45. His goodness and mercy has made a way for all to be saved and go to heaven.

Then we thought of Jesus and His goodness. Remember how good He was to the people when he walked the shores of Galilee? He loved us so much that He went to Calvary for us, that we can have His Spirit in us. Now we have this goodness in our hearts as we live for Him.

King Saul had a son named Jonathan. David and Jonathan loved each other very much. King Saul was very jealous of David, because he knew that David was to be king after him. Also, the people were giving more honor to David than to him. So he was always trying to find ways to kill David. Jonathan loved David and he helped David escape from his father many times.

After King Saul and Jonathan were killed, David was made king over the people. One day David asked his servant if Jonathan had any children. He was told of Mephibosheth, who was crippled in his feet. David wanted to do good for him. So he gave him all the land of his father and had him always eat at his table. Mephibosheth was happy and thankful.

When we have Jesus in our hearts,  
we try to find ways to do good to others.  
—Aunt Dot

Lesson 6, February 5, 1984

## DAVID DOES GOOD TO MEPHIBOSHETH

Eph. 5:8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

7 (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)

10 Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

Num. 10:32 And it shall be, if thou go with us, yea, it shall be, that what goodness the Lord shall do unto us, the same will we do unto thee.

2 Sam. 9:1 And David said, Is there yet any that is left of the house of Saul, that I may shew him kindness for Jonathon's sake?

2 And there was of the house of Saul a servant whose name was Ziba. And when they had called him unto David, the king said unto him, Art thou Ziba? And he said, Thy servant is he.

3 And the king said, Is there not yet any of the house of Saul, that I may shew the kindness of God unto him? And Ziba said unto the king, Jonathan hath yet a son, which is lame on his feet.

4 And the king said unto him, Where is he? And Ziba said unto the king, Behold, he is in the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, in Lodebar.

5 Then king David sent, and fetched him out of the house of Machir, the son of Ammiel, from Lodebar.

6 Now when Mephibosheth, the son of Jonathan, the son of Saul, was come unto David, he fell on his face, and did reverence. And David said, Mephibo-

sheth. And he answered, Behold thy servant!

7 And David said unto him, Fear not: for I will surely shew thee kindness for Jonathan thy father's sake, and will restore thee all the land of Saul thy father; and thou shalt eat bread at my table continually.

9 Then the king called to Ziba, Saul's servant, and said unto him, I have given unto thy master's son all that pertained to Saul and to all his house.

10 Thou therefore, and thy sons, and thy servants, shall till the land for him, and thou shalt bring in the fruits that thy master's son may have food to eat: but Mephibosheth thy master's son shall eat bread always at my table. Now Ziba had fifteen sons and twenty servants.

11 Then said Ziba unto the king, According to all that my lord the king hath commanded his servant, so shall thy servant do. As for Mephibosheth, said the king, he shall eat at my table, as one of the king's sons.

**Memory Verse:** A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things. . . . Matt. 12:35a.

### Questions:

1. Is God good to all people?
2. What does Matt. 5:45, say He does for all?
3. Was Jesus good to people when He lived on earth, and is He good to us now?
4. Whom did David love very much?
5. What was the name of Jonathan's son?
6. What did David do for him?

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**Bible Search:** When did God shut lions' mouths? (*Answer next week*).

*Last week's answer:* Hannah. 1 Sam. 1:28.



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



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Jan., Feb., Mar., 1984

Part 7

February 12

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

As he went to the meeting that night, he felt the burden of his sins more keenly than he had ever felt it before, and he was anxious to be rid of them. Night by night the plan of salvation was becoming more and more clear to him. He could see the two great kingdoms so strictly opposite and could discern the antagonism between them. He learned that in the beginning, man was heir to the kingdom of God, but that through lack of appreciation he lost his inheritance. He saw that when people reach the age of accountability, Satan, the cruel taskmaster, disguises himself and with enticing words and methods seeks to induce as many of them as possible to work for him. He saw, too, that it is only through the great love and mercy of God that it is possible for any one to return after forsaking the Lord to follow Satan.

He came to understand that heaven, so pure and holy in all its aspects, and so full of bright and happy beings, cannot contain one sinful atom; that man must become pure in heart in this world

if he would enter those realms above. He perceived that it was only love, infinite love and pity on the part of God, that had prompted Him to send Jesus to complete the plan of salvation, and that Jesus is the only door through which man can ever enter heaven or approach God.

The laws of Satan's kingdom, Byron had found from experience, have for a time the appearance of liberty and freedom, but there is about them that which keeps the subjects from enjoying themselves for any length of time. On the other hand, he saw that the laws of heaven afford not only liberty but an inexhaustible supply of happiness as well.

Byron now wanted this liberty more than he had ever desired the freedom that the boys had suggested to him down by the river. He longed to be free so that he not only might do all that he could in return for what Christ had suffered for him, but might also redeem his lost character, and if possible, make his dear mother feel that her efforts to place him before the world a respectable and honorable young man had not been in vain.

The sermon on repentance was deep

and heart searching, and the solemnity that rested upon the congregation was almost painful. When the minister ceased speaking a young man arose and urged the people to heed the words to which they had listened. He also gave them a kind and touching invitation to come forward for prayer. Then the company of workers joined in singing a beautiful invitation song.

Byron was glad for such an opportunity. With his poor aching heart painfully throbbing in his bosom, he hastened to the front and there with several others humbled himself in prayer. The minister bowed beside him and explained in a simple manner what it really means to repent and to be truly saved from a sinful life.

"My dear young man," he said, "you have acknowledged to your friends, by the simple act of humbling yourself in prayer, that you intend to live a new and different life. But you cannot do this in your own strength. God alone can save you and He can help you meet the conditions laid down in His Word. He says, first of all, to repent, and this means to be sorry for all the sins that you have committed.

"Now there is a kind of sorrow that arises from the fact that the deeds of a wicked life have been discovered, but this is not true repentance. To have godly sorrow is to be troubled and pained because one has violated God's holy law, brought dishonor to his character and government, and shown ingratitude toward His infinite love and benevolence.

"John the Baptist went about preaching repentance, and Jesus a few years later re-echoed the message of God's commandment to mankind; and the commandment was not issued to a few individuals, but it is given to every one."

Turning to his Bible, the minister read Acts 17:30, and then said:

"When a person has become truly sorry for his sins he is to call upon God for help, for in Isaiah we read that we are to seek the Lord while He may be found.

"There are, of course, conditions to be met in repentance. When you have become truly sorry for having offended your Creator, you must seek for His pardon. He will be close to you when He sees your sorrow, and you must call upon Him to help you."

Again he read from his Bible: "'Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near.' By this you see that you not only must 'call' upon God to save you, but must actually seek His favor. See, this next verse will show you how: 'Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.'

"To forsake your way is to turn from every evil motive that has prompted you in the past to commit sin and to utterly abandon your old life of sin. You must make an unconditional surrender to God. You must not only acknowledge your sins to Him, but be willing to have them all exposed if necessary."

*(To Be Continued)*

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To follow Jesus means to do as He tells us in His Word.

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## Old Faithful

Let us talk a little while about a geyser. A geyser is a special kind of hot spring. Hot water does not flow from a geyser all the time, but it is quiet for a while. Then it suddenly erupts and shoots hot water several feet into the air. After the water stops shooting up, all that

can be seen is a hole in the ground where it sprayed from.

Geysers are found only in a few places in the world, like: Iceland, New Zealand, and Yellowstone National Park in the United States. Perhaps some of you have been to Yellowstone in Wyoming and have seen the beautiful sights there. There is a lovely canyon with rock sides, colored yellow, red, white, orange and brown. There are cold, clear streams where fish abound in numbers. And there is over 200 active geysers that shoot hot water.

The most famous of these geysers is Old Faithful. Ever since it has been found (in 1870), it is known to shoot water every 65 minutes, summer and winter. The water goes 120 to 170 feet in the air, and this lasts about 4 minutes every time. It sprays 10,000 gallons of water at a temperature of 200 degrees Fahrenheit. God made Old Faithful a beautiful sight to behold! Any time you get a chance to go see Old Faithful in Yellowstone National Park, please do so.

Old Faithful has something about it that we all can learn from. For at least 114 years it has done the same thing every 65 minutes. In other words, Old Faithful is faithful. It does its duty day in and day out; summer or winter; year after year. Nothing stops it. If anyone should dare to put a rock over the large spout or hole of Old Faithful, at the regular time Old Faithful would still shoot out its 10,000 gallons of water at the same temperature. Over 10,000 people go to see Old Faithful perform because they know Old Faithful will do the same thing it has done for many years. Old Faithful is regular and dependable.

We should be dependable also. Being faithful and dependable is an important lesson to learn. This is how it works:

When mother is busy in the kitchen

preparing a meal, are you faithful to ask if she needs any help? Do you wash your hands and get busy if she says, "yes"?

Are you faithful to help mother in a cheerful way when she calls you from play? Being a cheerful, faithful helper for mother is very important. It lets her know how much you *really* love her.

If you learn to be faithful to mother, daddy, and your teachers at school, then it will be easier to be faithful to God. God wants to depend upon you as a Christian. All your life be dependable and faithful to the quiet voice which speaks within your heart telling you what is right.

Whenever you're tempted to stop mind-ing mother or daddy or not to do your school work any more, then think of Old Faithful shooting hot water into the air every 65 minutes. Old Faithful is faithful and people admire that about it. If you are faithful to obey in a cheerful way, God will be pleased with you.

—C.S.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

Faith is the most important of our fruits of the Spirit. We must have faith in God. Having faith means believing in God and that He loves us, cares for us, and answers our prayers.

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen to help in the Church. He was a man full of faith, and did great wonders and miracles among the people.

Many of the religious leaders in that day discussed with Stephen the Word of God. Stephen was so wise in the Word, and the Spirit of God was with him, that they were unable to disprove what Stephen was telling them. So they stirred up the people against Stephen. They even had Stephen brought before the council and found false witnesses to testify against him. Stephen rehearsed before them all God's dealings towards

His people down through the years. He also told them that they were a stiff-necked people and wouldn't believe in Jesus.

The people became angry, and they started to stone Stephen. Stephen loved Jesus and truly had faith in him. As he looked up to heaven, he saw Jesus standing on the right hand of God. Jesus loved him and was there to help him through this trial. As they stoned Stephen the words he said were, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And then he prayed, "Lay not this sin to their charge."

Stephen believed in Jesus all the way to death. We need to have the same faith to take us through to heaven. Jesus is able to give us the victory.

—Aunt Dot

**Lesson 7, February 12, 1984**

### **FAITHFUL STEPHEN**

Acts 6:8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

12 And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon him, and caught him, and brought him to the council,

13 And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law:

14 For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us.

15 And all that sat in the council, looking stedfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

Acts 7:54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.

55 But he, being full of the Holy

Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God.

56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

57 Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,

58 And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.

59 And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.

60 And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Heb. 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**Memory Verse:** According to your faith be it unto you. Matt. 9:29b.

### **Questions:**

1. Is faith an important fruit in our lives?
2. Stephen was one of how many men chosen to help in the Church?
3. Did the religious people like what Stephen said to them?
4. What did they do?
5. Did Stephen see Jesus in heaven? Tell about it.

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**Bible Search:** Who was turned to a pillar of salt? (Answer next week).

**Answer to last week's question:** Daniel in the lions' den. Dan. 6:22.

# The Beautiful Way

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Part 8

February 19

## The Pilot's Voice

(Continued From Last Lesson)



"Now, Byron, God commands you to repent. There is no other way. If you want salvation, you must get it according to the rules laid down in the Bible. There are many other Scriptures bearing upon this subject. God says, 'Today, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your heart.' [Byron thought at once of the voice that had spoken to him down by the river.] You can apply this promise to yourself, for now is the time for you to hear His voice and to accept His salvation. Here is another, 'Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.'

"Do you willingly promise that you will do anything that God may require of you? God commands no impossibilities. He simply asks you to be willing and ready to make your wrongs right wherever you can. This is but just and right, and is one of the fruits worthy of repentance that is spoken of in Luke 3:8 and also in Acts 26:20. 'He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but who-

so confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy.' (Prov. 28:13).

"Then, too, you must not only be willing to confess your sins and ask forgiveness for them, but forgive all who have wronged you in any way, for 'if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive your trespasses.' "

"All of these things I have done," Byron said in a low voice when the minister ceased speaking. "I have confessed to God and have gone to the parties whom I have wronged and have made things right as well as I could. What more can I do?"

"There is still another step," the minister said very earnestly. "You are well on the way, but you still have a great barrier to remove. Unbelief and disobedience have severed you from God, and you can only win favor with Him again by replacing these with obedience and belief in the gospel. The Bible does not say to 'believe the gospel and repent,' but to 'repent and believe the gospel'; and what is meant by the gospel is found in John 3:16: 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have ever-

lasting life.' Can you not see God's love and mercy? Can you not believe that the great sacrifice that He made for sin is for you, too?

"You are changing masters. The power of Satan is broken. You are no longer his servant, but are instead to be subject to a higher, nobler power than his, if you will but believe. And God is waiting to give His Holy Spirit to direct and pilot you in all of your undertakings after you have discovered the secret of believing."

"I do believe," Byron said a moment later, and the tone of his voice and expression of his face showed plainly that a change had taken place. He had indeed discovered the secret of salvation. Arising to his feet, he faced the congregation, and in a voice that was clear and distinct and a manner that was happy and free, he spoke of the new life that he expected to live before them in the future. "My dear friends and companions," he said, "I want to tell you that I have decided to change my course in life. The rest of my days shall be spent in the Lord's service. I am truly sorry for all that I have ever done to displease Him."

Byron seemed already to feel a deep joy and satisfaction in the fact that he had made his peace with God and was able to claim an heirship with the Savior. So confident were his words that his old associates looked upon him with awe, and some felt in their hearts a desire to share his happiness.

## ANTICIPATIONS OF THE JOURNEY

After the close of the meeting in which he was converted, Byron returned to his home. When he had bidden his mother good night, he hastened to his room. There alone in the quiet of the night he bowed beside his bed and breathed a prayer of thanksgiving to God for His great love and compassion. For a moment his past life came before

him with all of its sinfulness and blunders pictured in glowing colors, but it instantly vanished, and his heart leaped with joy, for he knew that his old life was gone forever.

A picture of the future, made beautiful because of the presence of the Savior and a life of usefulness for himself, floated before him. He could see his pathway, leading ever upward in his Christian career at last disappearing in the glories of the life to come; and as he laid his head upon his pillow, angels seemed to be ministering to his comfort.

*(To Be Continued)*

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You have a little prisoner:  
He's nimble, sharp, and clever,  
He's sure to get away from you  
Unless you watch him ever.

And when he once gets out  
He makes more trouble in an hour  
Than you can stop in many a day,  
Working with all your power.

He sets your playmates by the ears,  
He says what isn't so,  
And uses many ugly words  
Not good for you to know.

Quick, fasten tight the ivory gates,  
And chain him while he's young!  
For this same dangerous prisoner  
Is just your little tongue.

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## How To Be Meek

Mother was in the kitchen washing the dishes. She had a double sink and in one side she had the wash water where white foam and clear bubbles popped and snapped each time she put her hands in the water. In the other side of the sink, Mother had the rinse water which was clear and very hot to touch. Mother was just beginning to wash when Billy came in to visit with her.

"Mother," asked Billy, "am I very meek?"

Mother smiled. "Do you know what meekness is?" she asked.

"Yes, we studied about it in Sunday School yesterday," replied Billy. "The teacher said it means: mild and patient, or not ready to be angry. I hope I'm meek so I can be rich some day."

"Rich some day!" exclaimed Mother, wondering what he could mean by that remark. Then she remembered a Scripture. "Did your teacher tell you the verse: 'Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth?'"

Billy grinned and nodded his head. "Then you misunderstood your teacher somewhere!" exclaimed Mother. "That isn't what that verse means. Some people use that verse to say Jesus will reign on this earth some day and all who are patient will reign with Him, too. That is not true, either. Let me tell you what is true.

"The Bible tells us many times to be kind, patient, and loving to each other. 'Meek' is another word that means the same as these words. If you will be meek to those around you, you will inherit or gain their respect, their favor, and their friendship. Suppose someone wanted to ride your bicycle. You let them and they rode it, and rode it, and rode it—until finally you wanted to ride it. If you are meek, you won't run up and yank it away from them, saying: 'That's enough! It's my bike anyway!' But you will say kindly, 'Now it's my turn, please.' If you stay kind and patient about it even if they did ride your bike a long time, then you will have the right feeling in your heart and your friend may be nicer about it the next time."

"Okay," said Billy, knowing who Mother was talking about. "I won't fuss with Chuck about my bike anymore, but I'll try to be meek about it."

Then, changing the subject, Billy asked Mother if he could help her wash dishes. The white, sudsy water looked so interesting to Billy! Mother had him wash his hands but she wanted Billy to rinse the dishes instead of wash them.

"But I wanted to wash the dishes in that sudsy water," pouted Billy.

"My son, my son," Mother began. "What did we just talk about? This is another lesson teaching you to be meek. Do what is given you without getting angry."

"Oh, well," said Billy, rinsing his first plate. "It's fun to be in the other water, too!" —C.S.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

Meekness is another fruit of the Spirit. Webster's Dictionary defines meekness as: gentle, submissive, not easily provoked.

Matt. 11:29, tells us, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." These are Jesus' words, telling us to take up our cross and follow Him. We all want to be more like Jesus, don't we? Do you remember how Jesus kept so quiet, never saying a word, when everyone around was treating Him so shamefully? Sometimes, to be a follower of Jesus, we must suffer, maybe even when we have done no wrong.

In our lesson about Moses (verse 3) we find that he was very meek. Aaron and Miriam became very jealous of Moses, saying, "Does not God speak to us, too?" We find that Moses didn't try to defend himself. God was angry and came down in a pillar of cloud. God testified of Moses, saying, "He is faithful in all mine house." After God spoke to them, Miriam was left with a dreadful disease, which is called leprosy. Her skin was turned white as snow. When

Aaron saw this on Miriam, he said to Moses, "We have done foolishly. Lay not this sin to our charge." Moses was so meek and submissive! He could have thought, "See what they have done to me; it just serves them right." But Moses had compassion on Miriam and felt sorry for her. He prayed to God, "Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee." God healed Miriam and her skin was made perfectly whole again.

It always pays to let God take care of our problems in life. —Aunt Dot

### Lesson 8, February 19, 1984

Num. 12:1 And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

2 And they said, Hath the Lord indeed spoken only by Moses? hath he not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it.

3 (Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)

4 And the Lord spake unto Moses, and unto Aaron, and unto Miriam, Come out ye three unto the tabernacle of the congregation. And they three came out.

5 And the Lord came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth.

6 And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the Lord will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream.

7 My servant Moses is not so, who is faithful in all mine house.

8 With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in

dark speeches; and the similitude of the Lord shall he behold: wherefore then were ye not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?

9 And the anger of the Lord was kindled against them; and he departed.

10 And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous.

11 And Aaron said unto Moses. Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not this sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned.

12 Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother's womb.

13 And Moses cried unto the Lord, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.

Psa. 147:6 The Lord lifteth up the meek: he casteth the wicked down to the ground.

**Memory Verse:** For the Lord taketh pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation. Psa. 149:4.

### Questions:

1. What is the meaning of meekness?
2. Was Jesus meek and should we follow Him?
3. Who was jealous and complained about Moses?
4. What happened to Miriam? Did God heal her?
5. Discuss how we should act when others hurt us.

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**Bible Search:** Who was called the Carpenter? (Answer next week).

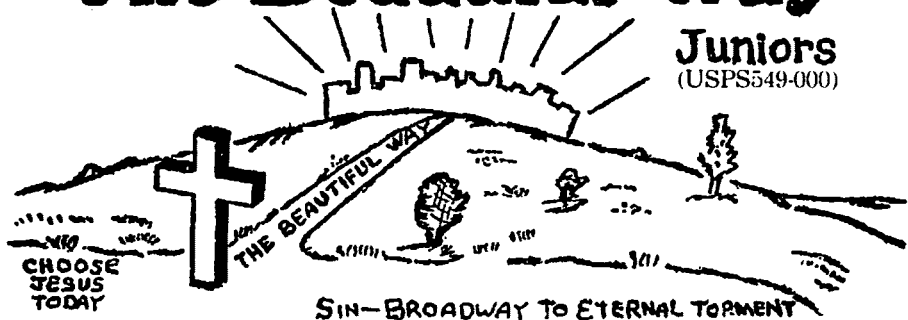
Answer to last week's answer: Lot's wife. Gen. 19:26.



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors

(USPS549-000)



Vol. 35, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1984

Part 9

February 26

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

When the worship hour arrived in the morning, Byron took the Bible that was handed to him by his mother; and as he read from its pages the words seemed strangely new and interesting to him. He was still thinking of what he had read when he went away to the field to work. "A day in thy courts is better than a thousand, I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness. For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee." These words had been committed at Sunday School, but never before had they appealed to him as they did upon that particular morning.

He was certainly enjoying more true happiness out there in the field alone with nature and his God than he had ever been able to imagine before. He felt that it would indeed be an honor to be able to fill the very lowest place in the house of God. So happy was he as

he worked that he seemed to be living in a new world. And while the merry songsters appeared to be warbling their sweetest anthems for his special benefit, he joined with them as had been his habit in childhood before his innocence had fled.

He realized that Christ the Savior had wrought the change, and he knew that he was not enjoying such happiness alone. His precious mother no longer bore the care-worn expression that she had endeavored to conceal by a smile when any one was around. She, too, was answering the little birds with a song of gladness.

Byron was now prepared for his ocean voyage. His former experience had taught him that he could rely upon the advice of the Holy Spirit, for no one understood God's chart, the Bible, better than this faithful pilot.

The meetings continued for several weeks, and many souls were enlightened, and some, like Byron, found deliverance from a life of sin. Among the number were some of Byron's associates before he met with James, and he found that he could still have them for his friends and companions.

When the morning service of the last

day's meeting was just about to close, the minister announced that in the afternoon there would be baptismal services at the river. At the appointed time, the river's banks on either side were thronged with people who desired to witness the solemn scene. The little group of Christians from the chapel passed down to the water's edge, and there, beneath the overhanging branches of the trees, they offered a short prayer to God. When they arose, their voices filled the air with strains of heavenly music, and one of the scenes of long ago was repeated. Slowly the minister and one of the candidates passed out into the stream as the sweet hymn floated upward.

Down into the flowing river,

Lo, the Lamb of God we see;  
There He speaks in clear example:  
Take the cross and follow me.

Chorus:

Gently buried with my Savior,  
Let me sink beneath the wave;  
Crucified to earth forever,  
Hence alone to God I live.

Now the sacred waters cover  
O'er the Holy Son of God;  
Thus He washed me in that fountain  
Of His sin-atoning blood.

Crucified with my Redeemer,  
Now I sink into the grave;  
I am dead to sin forever,  
By the grace of God I live.

Here I witness a confession,  
As I merge from human sight,  
In the tomb of yielding water,  
That the blood has made me white.

Oh, how sweet to follow Jesus,  
In this ordinance to show  
That we're cleansed in life's pure river,  
Even whiter than the snow!

One by one the candidates followed  
their Savior's example and were buried

in a watery grave, thus testifying to the world that they were dead to sin; and by representing the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, they were buried unto His death.

Byron was among the number. As he entered the water, there was a peaceful smile upon his face. He was thinking of the scene where John the Baptist was baptizing the people in the river Jordan, and he imagined that he could see the lovely form of Jesus just entering the water as he was now doing. He could see, in the picture, the troubled expression upon the face of the brave prophet and hear him humbly saying, "I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?" and then Jesus answering, "Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness."

In fancy Byron saw the Savior's form buried in Jordan's waters, and a moment later arise again; then the heavens opened and the Holy Ghost descending from above. He also seemed to hear the Father saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

*(To Be Continued)*

Children, big and little,  
As you live each day,  
If your friends should tempt you  
This is what you say:

Tell them you love Jesus,  
And you'll please Him best.  
Even if they laugh at you  
Leave with Him the rest.

For our God in heaven  
Sees all that you do,  
And some day you'll meet Him.  
Will you have been true?

Keep your heart turned toward Him.  
Don't forget His love.  
If you please Him fully,  
You will live above.

—B. L. M.

God wants you to prepare now to work for Him in a greater way when you get older.

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## Beer is Bad

"Grandma, look what we found in your alley," said little Allen, holding up an empty beer can.

"Have you been drinking beer, Grandma?" teased Marvin, who is seven years old and knows how to read already.

"Now you children know better than that!" exclaimed Grandma. "I never will drink that bad tasting stuff!"

"We have been!" giggled Amy. "We each took the can, acted like we drank some, then wiggled around like we were drunk!"

Everyone but Grandma laughed. She was wise about the wickedness of beer, liquor, and other strong drinks which harm a person's health.

"Let me tell you how bad beer is," Grandma said. She picked up that morning's paper and right on the front was a picture of a bad car accident. "Do you see this car? It is all wrecked and bloody," said Grandma to her three grandchildren. "A little girl about Amy's age and her Mama died last night in this car. A Daddy, Mama, little girl, and her brother were going home after eating out and having a nice time together. They were just driving down the road, and a man, coming from a nearby tavern, took a curve too wide in the road, and hit the edge of the road. Because he was drunk he couldn't think as well, so he lost control of his car and hit this family's car. The Daddy who was driving didn't even have time to get out of the way as the man's car came right at them. The Daddy and little boy are all cut and bleeding and in a hospital. When they go home, they won't have any Mama or little sister."

The children were speechless for a while, as they looked at the bent and twisted car. "Did the drunk man feel

bad about it?" asked Marvin.

"Yes, he did," said Grandma. "But do you know what? He probably won't even stop drinking that beer and liquor, but will be out doing the same thing again before long. This is just one bad story about drunk drivers. There are hundreds of others every year."

"If beer hurts people, why do they drink it?" asked tender-hearted Amy who had tears in her eyes.

"Well, children," said Grandma, "they had to take one drink first. Then they took another drink, and another and another—until their body became used to beer. It tastes and smells so bad that anyone who drinks it has to *learn* to like it. After several drinks, their body starts to crave it. Then instead of drinking one or two cans or glasses, they drink many in one evening. So much beer changes their thinking. After a while, the devil gets a person who drinks beer and liquor into a place where they depend upon it. It becomes a habit that they cannot control.

"God is not pleased with anyone who drinks beer. Never, no, *never* take the first drink or don't even act like this. People who drink cause many heartaches to themselves and others."

"I don't want this smelly beer can anymore!" exclaimed Allen, as he threw it into the trash can. —C.S.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

This is our final fruit of the Spirit lesson: temperance. Temperance is: "moderation in regards to natural appetites and passions." (Web. Dictionary). In other words, we should not do things that will harm us. We all know that strong drink or drugs are not good for us. So, naturally we should not partake of them. But there are some things that we can eat, drink, or do that won't hurt us, but we shouldn't overdo in these things.

Daniel and the three other young men were captives in Babylon. The king had chosen them for special work for him. They were to even eat of the king's food. But Daniel and the others were taught not to drink wine and other food that was served. So they purposed in their hearts to obey God. Daniel said to the officer, "It is wrong for us to eat the king's meat and drink his wine. Please don't make us do this." The king's officer was afraid. If the king was displeased with the boys, the king might even kill him!

But Daniel said, "Try us for ten days. Let us eat the food we should and then see if we are not as strong and healthy as the other young men." At the end of ten days the officer noticed that Daniel and his friends looked healthier than the others.

God blessed them with much wisdom for deciding to be temperate. Perhaps Daniel and the other young men had been tempted to eat of the king's food, but they decided to be temperate and eat only what was good for them.

—Aunt Dot

**Lesson 9, February 26, 1984**

## **BE TEMPERATE IN ALL THINGS**

Gal. 5:23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Dan 1:8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

9 Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the

king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall he make me endanger my head to the king.

11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.

13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.

14 So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.

16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink, and gave them pulse.

**Memory Verse:** And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. 1 Cor. 9:25a.

## **Questions:**

1. What does temperance mean?
2. How did Daniel and his friends obey God?
3. Did God bless them?
4. Who was the healthier after the ten days?
5. Why were Daniel and his friends in Babylon?

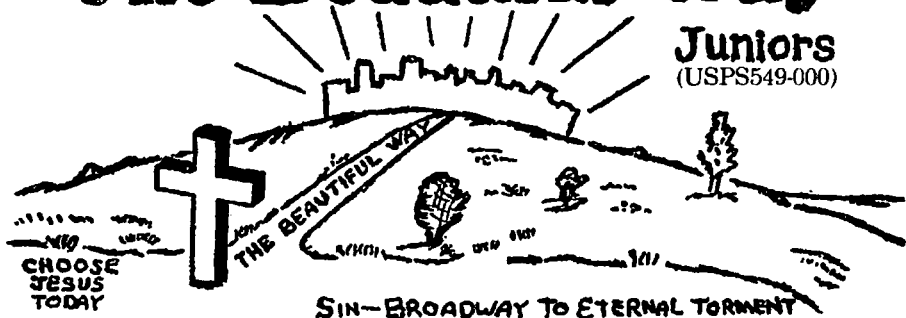
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**Bible Search:** Who made the golden calf? (*Answer next week*).

*Answer to last week's question:* Jesus. Mark 6:3.

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors

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Vol. 35, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1984

Part 10

March 4

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

How different this scene from the one that a short time before had presented itself to Byron while the Holy Spirit talked to him upon the foot-log. He thanked God that he had heard the voice and had heeded the warning in time to escape destruction. As he sank into the watery grave himself, he felt that sweet consolation that is the result of having fulfilled every known duty, and the assurance that his heavenly Father accepted him as His own dear son. There was no loud voice to utter the words, "I am well pleased," but the Holy Spirit whispered them in his heart.

Many regretted that the evening's service would be the last and that the little group whom they had learned to love must leave in the morning, but they were glad that so many had found deliverance from the bondage of sin.

As the minister bade Byron farewell, he remarked: "God surely has His hand upon you for service. Be faithful when He calls you into His work. There are many souls who are being tossed about upon the billows of sin, as you were.

They are calling for help from far and near. Be ready when you hear their pleading, and haste to their rescue. God bless you and make you a power in His hands."

As Byron began his various duties upon the farm the following day, his highest ambition was to do with his might what his hands found to do and to perform it cheerfully as unto the Lord. From a few words that his mother had dropped at the breakfast table he had learned a beautiful secret. "In our efforts to please God," she had said, "we cannot please Him perfectly unless we willingly and cheerfully do the little trying things that daily fall to our lot. When we have properly performed these, He trusts us with greater responsibilities for we are then more able to bear them. It is like testing a vessel in which we desire to put a liquid. We pour in just a little to test the vessel before we risk a large quantity to its keeping."

Byron wanted to bear the tests. He desired to be very useful for the Lord. Often, while his team was resting, he would steal away to some secluded spot and there pour out his heart in prayer to God. At times he was assailed by the enemy, but under such tests he went to his mother and there found the help

and advice that he needed. Her suggestions were so to the point and he was so much in earnest that he advanced rapidly in his Christian life and duties.

He no longer dreaded family worship, but, on the contrary, enjoyed taking an active part in it. His mother proposed many things that made it very interesting. Some times they would endeavor to find the most important thought contained in the chapter read and would meditate upon it through the day; sometimes they would take some Bible character and compare his or her life with some modern person whom they knew; sometimes each member of the family would choose some verse in the Bible, and they would read and discuss these, endeavoring to draw from them every good point that they possibly could. In this way God's Word became real to Byron and was daily food to his soul.

Byron had found the source of true happiness. He had found, too, that there were two days that never caused him trouble any more. One of these days was yesterday. Yesterday was gone! Whatever had occurred on that day he could never undo. Not one word could he recall. All of its pains, sorrows, and regrets were forever sealed and far beyond his reach. He was glad for this. He was glad that the storm clouds that had thickened but a few yesterdays ago could never sweep over him again. The past could never return. It belonged to God.

The other day was tomorrow. Tomorrow was also far beyond his reach. No human effort could bring it closer. Its burdens, its sorrows, its perils, its mistakes and blunders, were as yet a mystery and sealed. The sun might shine in all its splendor or be hidden by weeping clouds, but the day belonged to God. Tomorrow would appear, it must appear; but when it came it would no longer be tomorrow, but today.

Byron's only day, then, was today.

What he accomplished must be done on that day, for he had no assurance that he would be alive when the next arrived. His decision was that he could and would be faithful in all that was committed to his charge, and the thought that he could fearlessly leave his yesterdays and his tomorrows to the supervision of his all-wise Creator brought him great relief.

It was well for Byron that his days had been thus committed to God, for on one occasion he was permitted to have a glimpse of the future with all its varied possibilities. A relative from a distance, who was a Christian man, came to the farm for a week's visit and during his stay became greatly interested in Byron's faithfulness in the performance of his various Christian duties. Several times he accompanied Byron to the field and there, as they worked side by side, Byron's character and principles were displayed to the other's satisfaction.

One evening, shortly before this man's departure, while in conversation with Byron's mother about the decided change in her son's life and conduct, he surprised her by saying: "I do not know what you will say when I tell you of what I have been thinking, but when I have made my proposition to you you may consider it or not as you wish. Now, I realize your care and anxiety concerning Byron's future, and how hard it will be for you to part with him, but I should like to have him return with me to my home and enter my place of business. What do you say to his going?"

So sudden was the thought of parting with her son that for a few minutes the mother was speechless, and in spite of her efforts the tears began to trickle down her cheeks. Realizing the depth of her feelings, the relative continued:

"I do not wonder at your sorrow but I do not think that you will ever regret

the sacrifice if you will permit him to go. Byron is a bright young man, and his possibilities are great. I feel a deep interest in him, and I not only will help him to develop into a good business man, but will see that he has opportunity to move out spiritually as well. I know that you will miss him here in the home and upon the farm, but I believe that his younger brother will soon be able to take his place in the work, and your heart will be comforted by the thought that your boy is where his mind and character can broaden out in God's service. The result of your faithful efforts to instill within him noble traits of character will then be shown, and I promise to be to him all that anyone except his own mother can be."

*(To Be Continued)*

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The Lord desires for you to live for Him in such a way that He can be pleased with you.

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"He enjoys much who is thankful for little. A grateful mind is a great mind."

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## Seventy "Thank You's"

"What are we going to do?" asked Father. "I've been out looking for work all morning, and I can't find a job anywhere!"

Mother looked sorry for Father, but she didn't know what to do, either. They both bowed down and prayed again, asking God to help them in their need.

That evening, during family worship, Mother said, "Let's all take a piece of paper and write ten things that we are thankful for." There were five children, and a mother and father. That would be seventy "thank you's". That's a lot, isn't it? Do you think you could think of that many to write?

They all got busy thinking and writing down all the "thank you's" to Jesus. It wasn't long until they were done, and each one read what they had.

Martha wrote, "I'm thankful for a mother and father, and how they care for us. I'm thankful for school, too."

Bobby said, "I'm thankful for my new puppy Aunt Peggy gave me," and other things.

When they had all read what they had on their papers, they were all so encouraged. And when they got down to pray, they believed God was going to take care of them in some special way. The next day they were expecting an answer to their need.

"Maybe the mailman will bring us a letter; you never can tell what the Lord will do," said Mother.

So the children all watched eagerly for him to come. There was only one letter, but they ran to the house for Mother to open it. And, thank the Lord, Uncle Clayton had sent them some money! He felt impressed to come and visit them, too. When he found that Father needed work, he gave him a job.

Now their troubles were over. And do you know what? They didn't forget to pray. A prayer of thanksgiving went up to God for His wonderful care to them.

—D.W.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

We should all be very thankful for the things God does for us. I once read a story about a little girl who was to make a list of all the things for which she was thankful. And, do you know, she couldn't think of one thing to put on her paper! Wasn't that sad? All she thought about was that Mother didn't get her the shoes she wanted and that she couldn't go to the party after school, and so on. So she had to hand her paper in without one thing written on it.

There are so many things to be thankful for. Can you think of some of the blessings God has done for you?

In our lesson today, we read of ten lepers that Jesus healed. Leprosy is a terrible disease. In Jesus' time, if you had leprosy you had to be separated from everyone. Can you imagine not being able to be around your mother and daddy, or brothers and sisters?

Jesus came to the town where these men were. They wanted to be healed so badly that they cried out to Jesus. "Master, have mercy on us!" Jesus looked at them with compassion and told them to go to the priest. And as they went they were all healed! They were so happy! But, as they went, one turned back. He fell at Jesus' feet, thanked Him, and praised God for healing his body. But, what of the other nine? Even Jesus wondered why they didn't come back to thank Him.

When someone does something nice for us, we ought to say "thank you." Sometimes we are neglectful in this. Let's ask Jesus to help us, and let's not forget to thank God for all of His blessings too.

—Aunt Dot

## Lesson 10, March 4, 1984

### BEING THANKFUL

1 Chron. 29:13 Now therefore, our God, we thank thee, and praise thy glorious name.

1 Thess. 5:18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Phil. 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Luke 17:11 And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed

through the midst of Samaria and Galilee.

12 And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:

13 And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.

14 And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God.

16 And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine?

18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God save this stranger.

19 And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way, thy faith hath made thee whole.

**Memory Verse:** It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High!

Psa. 92:1.

### Questions:

1. What does it mean to be thankful?
2. When others do nice things for us, what should we say?
3. How many men came to be healed of leprosy?
4. Were they all healed?
5. How many came back to thank Jesus?

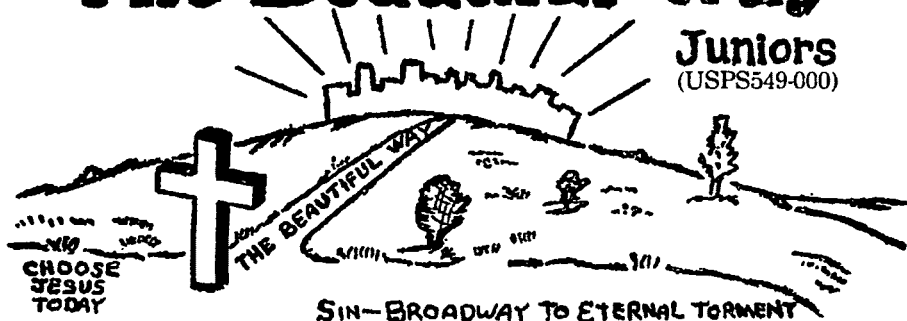
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**Bible Search:** What king sought to kill Jesus? (Answer next week).

Answer to last week's question: Aaron, the high priest. Ex. 32:3, 4.



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
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Part 11

March 11

## The Pilot's Voice

(Continued From Last Lesson)



It was some time before the mother could speak, but at last she said:

"It is certainly hard to give him up, but, as you say, it may be the best to let him go. Byron has had some talks with me concerning his future course in life, and I have been at a loss just how to advise him. I believe that what you suggested will be just what he has been aspiring to, although of late he has said nothing about it. But here he is coming now. Let us talk the matter over with him."

When Byron entered the room, he was perplexed; he could not understand why his mother and the visitor looked so solemn. But when the cause was made known to him, his countenance instantly brightened, and when asked what he thought of the plan, he said in an animated manner:

"Oh, I'm sure I should like to go! But," he added, looking into his mother's tear-stained face, "I don't see how I could go. Mother needs me here at home. The work on the farm has

increased in the past two years so much that I could not be spared, and then," with a little break in his voice, "I'm afraid that you will—or might—I mean, perhaps—" Poor Byron! He could not say what he desired to say, but his mother helped him out.

"You mean, Byron, that you are afraid that I could not give up my boy?" she asked.

"Yes, Mother, it was that. I was thinking how hard it would be to part with you, and I know that a mother's love is much deeper than her child's."

The love which that mother's eyes spoke could not be described—so deep yet so submissive and firm.

"Yes, my boy, I am willing for you to go," she replied. "It will, of course, be very hard to give you up, but there is no blessing without some degree of sacrifice, and I am glad to commit you to the care of one whom I believe is more able to help you now than myself. With the Holy Spirit as your guide and this good man as your friend and counselor, you should be able to develop into a useful Christian man and be a blessing to the world. I shall be consoled with the thought that although you are far away you can return to me occasionally

and that you will write and tell me how you are prospering."

## THE PILOT'S WORK

The evening after the talk in the library, Byron was alone with his mother in her room. To leave his home was hard, but to part from the one who had been so loving and patient with him even in disgrace was harder still. Through his past failures he had discovered his own weakness and short-comings, and had learned the true value of his mother's counsel.

"Tell me, Mother," he said when they were comfortably seated, "all that will be helpful to me in times of trial and temptation. I want to be all that God wants me to be, but you know I might be tempted to do wrong; and if I am not warned by you of danger, I may unconsciously make mistakes by not understanding the instructions of the Holy Spirit."

"My son, you are right," his mother replied. "The young must be warned of danger and taught to avoid the snares that are laid for their feet. There is one danger of which I have told you, but now that you are about to leave me and form new acquaintances in other places, I should like to impress the warning more deeply, if possible, upon your mind.

"Byron, the drunkard is not made in a moment. Neither is the young man liable to fall dead from the effect of his first drink, although the first drink may be his ruin. He must shun the first drink if he would escape the second.

"Some people are born with an unnatural appetite and desire for liquor that makes it hard for them to resist temptation. Others have the weakness of character and will-power that makes them unable to bear the ridicule and threats of their comrades, as you found in your association with James. Such

people are to be pitied and taught the results of yielding to temptation."

"Mother," Byron said thoughtfully as she paused, "I do not remember having told you about a certain experience I had last summer. The truth was I was ashamed to tell you. I knew you ought to know it, but I did not feel then as I do now. It is really a relief to tell you about my troubles, for you encourage me so much."

*(To Be Continued)*

—o—

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

—o—

## Obedient Helpers

Two brothers were out in the front yard of their home, playing a good game of football with their friends. Michael and John were on the winning side, and their team was about to make another touchdown when Daddy called: "Michael, come here!"

Oh, Michael didn't want to go to Daddy! What if Daddy needed help and he had to stay there a long time? Michael pretended not to hear Daddy call and he went on playing football with his friends.

John looked over to see where Daddy was calling Michael. Daddy was under the car doing some work on it. "What if Daddy needs something?" said John to himself. "I will go and see if Michael doesn't."

Michael didn't go to Daddy, so John went instead. Sure enough, Daddy needed some tools handed to him. Daddy said, "John, I'm so glad you came to help me! You were faithful to me when I needed help."

In the back yard, little girls were playing with their dolls. They had a table all spread with plates and cups for each of the girls and dolls. There was Mary and her doll, Beth; Linda

and her doll, Sarah; Karen and her doll, Kim; and Angela and her doll, Tina. Everybody was busy talking and arranging their own doll just the way each wanted her doll to be, when Linda's mother called: "Linda, please come here and set the dinner table. We are about ready to eat supper."

Linda's face became angry. Why was it every time she was having the most fun, Mother needed her help? "Don't mind Mother; do as you want to," said a naughty voice inside.

At first, Linda pretended she didn't hear Mother. She set her doll on her lap and acted like it was eating mashed potatoes and gravy. Then Linda heard Mother call again, "Where is my little helper? Daddy will be home soon and we *always* have supper ready and the table set. I need my faithful little helper."

Mother sounded so kind and patient. Linda felt bad that she had tried to listen to that naughty voice. "I'm coming, Mother," she called, getting her doll, Sarah. Once Linda came inside, she was glad she had minded Mother. Daddy was just driving up and Mother had cooked her favorite meal which was smothered steak and mushroom gravy with mashed potatoes. Linda finished setting the table before Daddy reached the dining room. Then they all sat down to eat a real meal which was as much fun as playing dolls with the girls. Also, Linda had a good feeling in her heart because she had been obedient to mind Mother.

Being faithful to mind Daddy and Mother will help you to be obedient to God. Never disappoint Daddy and Mother, but always come when they call you. That will please Daddy, Mother, and God.

—D.W.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Do you know what it means to be

obedient? In our Bible lesson, the first boy said, "I will not go!" But then he might have thought how much his father loved him and all the things that he did for him. He went to do what his father had asked him to. The other boy said, "I will go, sir." Then he didn't bother to work in Father's vineyard. Which one do you think was obedient to his father? Of course, the first boy obeyed his father. It is always better to do what we are told to do. When Father or Mother ask us to do something, let's be quick to do as they want us to.

At first when Saul was king, he wanted to do God's will. After two years he was in a battle with the Philistines. The battle went against them. Saul's men were becoming afraid, and they began running away. Some were hiding in caves, deep holes, or between rocks.

When Samuel heard of the trouble, he sent word to Saul that he would be in Gilgal in seven days to offer a sacrifice to God. He would then tell Saul what he should do. Saul and his men waited and waited. Samuel hadn't come yet, and Saul's men were becoming more and more afraid. Saul thought surely he must do something!

Finally he said, "Bring the offering to me and I will offer them." Saul knew this was wrong. Only the priests and Levites were to do this. But he disobeyed God's command.

While the sacrifice was still burning, Samuel arrived. He said to Saul, "Why have you done this?"

Saul answered, "We waited, and you didn't come. We thought that the Philistines might come before the offering was made. I forced myself to offer this sacrifice."

Samuel said, "Because you have disobeyed God's command, the kingdom is taken from you and your family. The Lord has chosen a man to follow His ways." Samuel looked very sad as he walked away.

—Aunt Dot

## OBEY GOD'S COMMANDS

Matt. 21:28 But what think ye? A certain man had two sons; and he came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard.

29 He answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented, and went.

30 And he came to the second, and said likewise. And he answered, I go, sir: and went not.

31 Whether of them twain did the will of his father? They say unto him. The first.

1 Sam. 13:5 And the Philistines gathered themselves together to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots, and six thousand horsemen, and people as the sand which is on the sea shore in multitude: and they came up, and pitched in Michmash, eastward from Bethaven.

6 When the men of Israel saw that they were in a strait (for the people were distressed,) then the people did hide themselves in caves, and in thickets, and in rocks, and in high places, and in pits.

8 And he [Saul] tarried seven days, according to the set time that Samuel had appointed: but Samuel came not to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him.

9 And Saul said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. And he offered the burnt offering.

10 And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him, that he might salute him.

11 And Samuel said, What hast thou done? And Saul said, Because I saw that the people were scattered from me,

and that thou camest not within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered themselves together at Michmash;

12 Therefore said I, The Philistines will come down now upon me to Gilgal, and I have not made supplication unto the Lord: I forced myself therefore, and offered a burnt offering.

13 And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the Lord thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the Lord have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever.

14 But now thy kingdom shall not continue: the Lord hath sought him a man after his own heart, and the Lord hath commanded him to be captain over his people, because thou hast not kept that which the Lord commanded thee.

**Memory Verse:** If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land. Isaiah 1:19.

### Questions:

1. Which of the two boys obeyed his father?
2. What kind of king was Saul at first?
3. Why were Saul's men becoming afraid?
4. How many days were there before Samuel was to come?
5. Why did Saul offer the sacrifice?
6. What was to happen because he disobeyed?

**Bible Search:** About what tiny seed did our Lord teach a parable? *Answer next week.*

*Answer to last week's question:* King Herod. Matt. 2:13.

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 35, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1984

Part 12

March 18

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

"Mother, do you remember the time when I was sent to Mr. E—'s to help in the harvest field? Well, it was an extremely hot day, and the men worked so hard at picking up the bundles of grain dropped by the reapers that they were very thirsty, and one of the boys was kept busy carrying water to them.

"About the middle of the afternoon, Mr. E— himself took the water pail and left for the house and when he returned I noticed that he held a dipper in one hand. Some of the men that were gathered about him, and from their merry mood I decided that the farmer must be telling them some very interesting story.

"I quickly dropped the bundle I was holding, and joined them. But upon my approach they all became strangely silent. In a moment, however, they began speaking in low tones to one another, and by their winks and glances in my direction I decided they must be talking about me. Being very thirsty, I did not wait to investigate, but reached for the dipper and was just about to dip

it in the pail when I discovered that the pail did not contain water.

"'Oh, take a drink, Byron,' one of the men said when he saw me draw back. 'Here is something that will quench your thirst all right.'

"I told him that I wanted something of that nature, and was just about to take a drink, but hesitated again, and said:

"'Mr. E—, what is this, anyway? I like to know what I'm drinking.'

"'Oh, it's just something to brace you up and strengthen you for hard toil and keep you from drinking so much water,' he answered.

"With this assurance I tasted what was in the dipper. It was not what I was expecting, and I did not like it; but when one of them said, 'It is only a little cider,' I took another swallow.

"'Cider,' I thought: 'why I have never tasted cider like this, and how is that they can have cider at this time of year?' When I asked for an explanation, Mr. E— said:

"'You see, Byron, this is some that I kept over from last year, and it is just a little aged, but it will do the work, all right. All the other fellows here are drinking it, and pronounce it fine.'

"Well, if it's all right as you say, I will try to drink some more," I told him; "for I don't like to drink so much water."

"So I tried it again. This time I drank several swallows, and in a short time I took a little more.

"Not long after I had taken that second drink, I began to feel queer and dizzy. When I would reach for a sheaf, it would suddenly come toward me. The men noticed my condition and began to laugh and make sport of me. Finally I had to stop work altogether and go and lie down in the shade.

"Now, Mother, I had heard that hard cider contained alcohol, but I had no idea that it was really hard cider that I was drinking or that its effect upon the system would be so rapid.

"I did not feel any better after I had laid down, and it was some time before I could resume my place in the field. One of the men afterward explained to me that my bad feelings were brought on by the effects of the alcohol in the cider that I had drunk. I was so ashamed of it all that I decided to keep the matter from you if possible, and here I have told you all about it myself. I am sure of one thing, however, and that is, no one can ever induce me to drink hard cider again."

*(To Be Continued)*

"Patience is putting up with someone you'd rather put down."

## Waiting for Ice Cream

It was spring time—the time when birds begin to sing, trees begin to bud, and the rich brown earth begins to feel warmer and warmer in the afternoon sun. David's Mother was planting flower seeds when he came up beside her. He was hot and breathing heavy after playing games with his friends.

"Mother," said David, "may I have some ice cream with chocolate syrup, nuts, and a cherry on top?"

"Let's have some ice cream together," said Mother. "But wait until I plant this last package of seeds."

Mother was nearly finished planting her flowers, but David thought she was too slow. He got down on his knees like Mother and he started making holes beside her in the dirt. He thought he was helping her to speed up, but he was digging right where she had planted seeds.

"Well, why don't you just dump the whole package of seeds in one spot and be done with it? Why take so much time anyway?"

"David, do you see these seeds?" asked Mother, holding out a handful for him to see. "Do you believe they will make flowers once they are planted?"

David looked at the little brown seeds laying in Mother's hand. After they were covered with dirt, he couldn't even tell they were there. "If they got a lot of sunshine and a lot of rain, some day they will be flowers," he declared.

"You are so right!" agreed Mother. "But we will have to wait for them to come up. They will be beautiful for us to look at in a month or so. Even nature has times of waiting. A passage in the Bible says: 'To every thing there is a season, a time to every purpose under heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted.' Learning to be patient is an important part of living."

"That's right," remarked David. "All your life you have to stand in some kind of line to ever get things. I have to stand in the lunch line at school and you have to stand in line at the grocery store."

Mother laughed softly at David, whose plump form told everyone he enjoyed eating. "Not only do we have to be patient in lines but we need patience with ourselves and with others," she said. "Be patient with the faults we see in other

people. Don't be so quick to condemn them if they 'step on your toes.' "

"Just holler loud so they will get off," giggled David.

"Now, David, you know what I mean. If someone says something that hurts, don't try to get even with him; pray and bear it patiently. God will take care of it. There are so many ways to be patient that it would be hard to mention all of them. Humans, in general, do not like to be patient. That is so sad, because God is a patient God and He loves to see patience in His creation."

While Mother had been talking, she had finished planting the rest of her seeds. The flower bed looked neatly level without a weed in sight. Underneath the warm and pleasant-smelling earth, rows of flower seeds were patiently waiting for the rain to come and soften their shells. Time and nature would bring about the change and the seeds would patiently wait.

"Is it ice cream time yet?" asked David, helping Mother pick up the packages and garden tools.

"It's ice cream time," Mother replied.

"Good," David said. "It's all right to be patient but being patient forever sure wouldn't fill my tummy!"

"Being patient brings about rewards." Mother's voice had an edge of sternness to it. "If you had kept acting impatient your tummy wouldn't get ice cream, chocolate syrup, nuts, and a cherry. I would have said, 'No way; not today, impatient boy.' Impatience would have not paid. Remember this: God favors those who are patient, also. The Bible tells us this many times."

"I'm glad I waited," sighed David. "Because I was so patient, can I have two cherries on my ice cream?"

"Well, I'll half mine so you can have two bites. We'll save the rest of the cherries for other times."

"Okay," said David. "I'll be patient."

—C.S.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Have you ever heard anyone say about a person that they have the patience of Job? Do you sometimes wonder what they mean? Patient means: "Able to endure afflictions and trials without murmuring." The most important part is *not murmuring* in time of trial.

Job was a righteous man and he truly loved God. God loved Job, too, because he was willing to worship Him. Job was a very rich man—he had many cattle, sheep, and camels. He also had seven sons and three beautiful daughters.

One day Satan went before God. God said to Satan, "Have you noticed my servant, Job? There is none like him in the earth; he is a perfect man."

"You have a hedge around Job. That's why he serves you. Let me take everything away. Then we'll see if he will still serve you," answered Satan. God knew He could trust Job. He told Satan he could take these things away, but he was not to touch Job's body.

After this, while Job was worshipping God, three of his servants came. One said, "Your oxen and donkeys were working and eating, and they were all stolen." Another said, "Fire came down from heaven and burned up your sheep." While this servant was talking, yet another came. "Your camels are all gone: the Chaldeans took them all away."

Job could hardly understand all this. While he was thinking about it all, another servant came and told him the worst news of all. "Your sons and your daughters were feasting and a wind came and blew the house down, killing all of your children." Oh, what a sad time for Job!

As Job thought of all these things, he said, "I had nothing when I came into this world. The Lord gave to me, and

He hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."

Job did not murmur against God. He continued to be patient and worshipped Him.

—Aunt Dot

## Lesson 12, March 18, 1984

### BE PATIENT

Job 1:1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil.

8 And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?

9 Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?

11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

12 And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord.

14 And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them:

15 And the Sabeans fell upon them, and took them away; yea, they have slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

16 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The fire of God is fallen from heaven, and hath burned up the sheep, and the servants, and consumed them; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

17 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, The Chaldeans made out three bands, and fell

upon the camels, and have carried them away, yea, and slain the servants with the edge of the sword; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

18 While he was yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

19 And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped,

21 And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

**Memory Verse:** For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. Heb. 10:36.

### Questions:

1. Did Job love and worship God?
2. Who came to God one day about Job?
3. Did God tell Satan he could harm Job?
4. What all was taken from him?
5. What happened to Job's children?
6. Did Job become discouraged? What did he do?



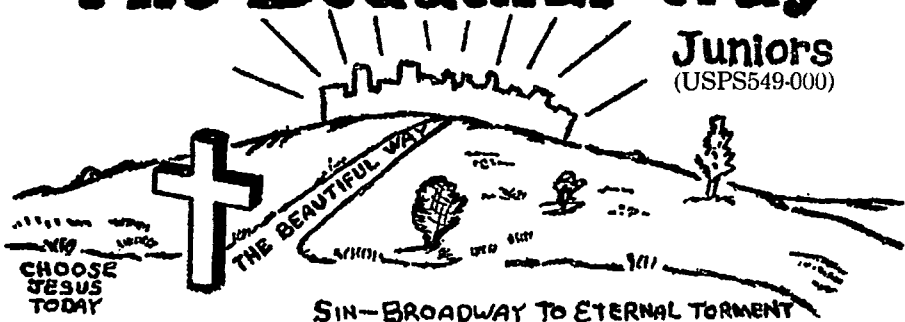
**Bible Search:** What father made his son a coat of many colors? (*Answer next week*).

*Last week's answer:* Mustard seed. Matt. 13:31.



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 35, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1984

Part 13

March 25

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

"Your experience is like that of many a boy, Byron" his mother remarked. "Unwarned of the dangers that are in the world, many are caught unaware in the traps that are laid for their feet. I see that I have been a little tardy in warning you of some things, but I rejoice to know that the cider did you no greater harm.

"But strong drink is the ruination of many a life. Some time ago I found and marked a few Scriptures on this subject in my Bible, and I want to read them to you now.

" 'Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow? Who hath contentions? Who hath babblings? Who hath wounds without cause? Who hath redness of the eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.' (Prov. 23:29-32).

" 'Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow

strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!' (Isa. 5:11).

" 'Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor drink.' (Hab. 2:15).

" 'And be not unwise, but understanding what the will of God is and be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the spirit.'

"Wines that intoxicate and ruin both soul and body of mankind should be let alone.

"And Byron, there is another thing I wish to speak to you about before you leave me. It is the choosing of your friends. You have had some experience of this nature, but I believe you still need advice.

"In the choice of your friends do not be hasty. Be sure that the one whom you take for a friend is an excellent person in every sense of the word. You may wonder how this can be told, for human nature is so deceptive. You may perhaps be deceived by some, and you will find that all have their own peculiar faults; but this need not discourage you. There are many who are worthy and whose company you will enjoy, but through your association with them you will receive a lasting benefit.

"Never choose a friend beneath your-

self except when you see in him virtues that need to be brought to the surface, and you can be a help to him. Never sink to such a person's level, but strive to bring him up to yours. When you find that this cannot be done, drop him at once. In helping another without yielding to his influence, you make advancement yourself, for every good deed will move you forward and upward.

"Through an encouraging word spoken at the proper time many have not only won a life-time friend, but have helped some one to surmount a difficulty that might have utterly discouraged him. Let 'Kindness and Duty' be your motto, Byron, and strive to make friends of those in whom you see virtue and honor. Have a purpose in all that you do and thus build up your spiritual character.

"Remember that you are in God's ship now ready to do service for your Master and King. You may sometimes go out upon a life saving expedition and throw the life-line to the lost, but you cannot help them unless they will grasp and hold firmly to the line. Your Pilot will guide you to those who are worthy if you will listen to His voice, and by helping them you may find a true and lasting friend."

It was hard to find a stopping place in the conversation, but at last Byron bade his mother good night. As his lips touched her brow, he smoothed back the locks above it with his hand and whispered, "God bless you, Mother! I will strive to put into practice what you have told me, and listen for my Pilot's voice."

Byron was extremely busy during the next few days that followed the talk in his mother's room. There was a trip to town for a new suit, shoes, and other things needed, and then all of his belongings had to be carefully gone over to see that nothing was missed that would be useful to him. Mother cleaned,

brushed, washed, mended, and ironed until the last article was ready to be packed.

When all was in readiness and the day of his departure had arrived, he again slipped away to his mother's room. He found her waiting for him with her Bible in her hand, for she was expecting her son. She had something more to tell him.

*(To Be Continued)*

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## WHAT IS SIN?

"What is sin?" asked Raymond during the Sunday School discussion.

"Sin is a transgression of God's Word, or disobeying His commandments," Sister Brown said. "If you know something is wrong and that God doesn't want you to do it and you purposely do it, that is sin. You must be sorry for that sin and ask God in Jesus' name to forgive you or you will not get to heaven."

"I surely want to go to heaven," Raymond said firmly.

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## Mary Anna's Song

Have you ever noticed that when some one thinks they can do anything so much better than anyone else, something happens to humble them?

Mary Anna was such a proud little girl. She was very pretty with long curls and bright blue eyes. Of course, she knew how pretty she was, too! Beside all this, she could sing very nicely. Whenever the school had a program, Mary Anna was asked to sing.

One day Mary Anna came home from school all excited. "Oh, Mother! I've been asked to sing my very best song for our awards night in school!" she exclaimed. "I'm so happy about it. Every-

body likes to hear *me* sing."

"That's fine, Mary Anna, but you had better do some real practising on that song. There are some hard places to do," Mother told her.

"Oh, I know I can get them without much practice," said Mary Anna and went on her way. She really felt she didn't need to practise.

Several times Mother said, "You'd better go over that song," but Mary Anna was so sure she had it all done right, that she didn't even bother.

Finally the night came for the program. Just about everyone was there; even the superintendent of schools. All the boys and girls wanted to do their very best.

Joseph said, "I have said my poem over and over so many times that I think I can say it by heart now."

Several others were nervous, hoping they would say their parts just right.

"I know I'll do mine right," said Mary Anna. "I *never* make a mistake!"

The program was ready to start, and everyone quieted down to listen.

Joseph said his poem so well without any mistakes. He was glad he had taken the time to recite it over and over.

When it was Mary Anna's turn, she went on the stage. She looked so nice: her eyes sparkled and her long hair was combed so neatly. Mother had even made her a blue dress just for the program. Mary Anna started her song and did just fine, when all of a sudden she made a mistake. This made her so nervous she completely forgot the words to the song.

How horrified she was! She ran off the stage, crying. Mother was there, and she felt so sorry for her little girl, but she knew she needed a lesson in humility. Mary Anna said, "I know it is all my fault. I've been so proud—thinking I could sing so well. So I didn't practise as I should have. This has taught me not to

be so proud. I must be humble, and thank the Lord for my voice, using it always to His glory." —D.W.

Dear Boys and Girls:

We always need to show forth a humble spirit. In other words, be submissive to God and others. Be sure that we don't feel that we are better than others, and need to have the best of everything. Our lesson tells of King Josiah being humble and desiring to do right before God. Not all the kings were humble before God.

Josiah was only eight years old when he became king of Judah. He always wanted to live for God and do the right. After he was king for eight years, he began to take all the idols and images from Jerusalem and Judah. Then he had others repair the temple. While they were busy with this, they found a book which was the Law of Moses. When the book was read before King Josiah, he wept and had others enquire of the Lord what to do. Because of the great sin of the people, God's mighty wrath would be poured on Jerusalem and Judah. But God saw that Josiah's heart was tender, and that he humbled himself after he had heard the words of the book. Because of this, God said, Josiah would not see the destruction of Jerusalem and Judah.

When Jesus was brought before the governors, many told things that were not true about Him. But Jesus "answered never a word." We need to follow Jesus' example when others are saying and doing wrong against us. Others will notice our humble spirit, just as the governor marvelled at Jesus.

—Aunt Dot

Lesson 13, March 25, 1984

**WALK HUMBLY BEFORE GOD**

2 Chr. 34:1 Josiah was eight years

old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem one and thirty years.

2 And he did that which was right in the sight of the Lord, and walked in the ways of David his father, and declined neither to the right hand, nor to the left.

3 For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet young, he began to seek after the God of David his father: and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem from the high places, and the groves, and the carved images, and the molten images.

8 Now in the eighteenth year of his reign, when he had purged the land, and the house, he sent Shaphan the son of Azaliah, and Maaseiah the governor of the city, and Joah the son of Joahaz the recorder, to repair the house of the Lord his God.

14 And when they brought out the money that was brought into the house of the Lord, Hilkiyah the priest found a book of the law of the Lord given by Moses.

18 Then Shaphan the scribe told the king, saying, Hilkiyah the priest hath given me a book. And Shaphan read it before the king.

19 And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the law, that he rent his clothes.

21 Go, enquire of the Lord for me, and for them that are left in Israel and in Judah, concerning the words of the book that is found: for great is the wrath of the Lord that is poured out upon us, because our fathers have not kept the word of the Lord, to do after all that is written in this book.

27 Because thine heart was tender and thou didst humble thyself before

God, when thou heardest his word against this place, and against the inhabitants thereof, and humbledst thyself before me, and didst rend thy clothes and weep before me; I have even heard thee also, saith the Lord.

Matt. 27:11 And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And Jesus said unto him, Thou sayest.

12 And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing.

13 Then said Pilate unto him, Hearst thou not how many things they witness against thee?

14 And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly.

**Memory Verse:** He hath shewed thee O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God? Micah. 6:8.

#### Questions:

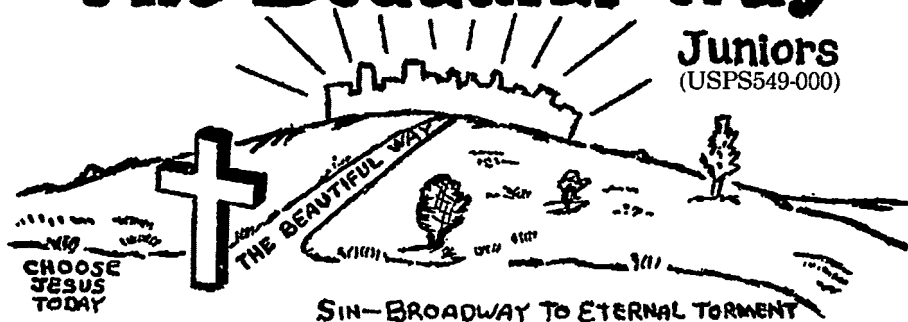
1. What does it mean to have a humble spirit?
2. How old was Josiah when he became king? Did he want to please God?
3. What are some of the things he did to please the Lord?
4. What book was found in the temple?
5. Did Josiah humble himself when he heard the words in the book?

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**Bible Search:** What prophet prayed that it might not rain? (*Answer next week*).

*Last week's answer:* Jacob (Israel). Gen. 37:3.

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS49-000)



Vol. 35, No. 2

April, May, June, 1984

Part 1

April 1

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

"Byron, my boy," his mother said drawing his chair closer to her own, "there are a few more things I wish to speak about before you leave me.

"When you go away, I trust that you will remember the little seasons we have spent together in this room. I shall often bow here again in prayer for you, as I have done in the past, for I well know you will have many new and strange trials to meet. You cannot expect to go through the world and escape them. They are inevitable. But there will be something about every trial that you may have that will increase your understanding of God's will concerning you and will make you stronger and wiser for those that follow. Remember, dear, that nothing can separate you from God except transgression and disobedience. God will carry you through every difficulty if only you will allow Him to do so.

"I hope you will improve every opportunity for gaining knowledge that will be useful and helpful to you in later years. I believe you understand now why it is necessary to keep company with good people if you do right, but

there are other companions with whom you can associate and receive even greater harm than from sinful persons.

"Bad literature, I believe, is the worst comrade that one can have. In your short association with James you discovered some of the effects of novel reading, for you have told me how it inspired you to be bold and daring and anxious to perform evil deeds. Well, there is a class of reading that is a shade better than this and that many peruse, but in its effect upon the mind and character it is quite as injurious. It is found in books that have been written simply to entertain and amuse, and not in any wise to improve the reader. Such books may be termed trash and compared to things to eat that have a pleasant taste, but contain practically no nourishment. A child fed upon such things could not develop properly, but would become dwarfed and be unable to accomplish much of anything. Just so it is with those who feed their minds with unwholesome literature.

"You may be sure that Satan does not allow an opportunity of that kind to escape his notice. With all of his alluring powers he seeks to draw such an individual away from God. The old a-

dage that 'Satan finds mischief for idle hands to do' is just as true of idle minds. Little by little readers of trashy literature fall into a careless, haphazard way of thinking and are unable to concentrate their thoughts long enough to gain a benefit from wholesome reading when they try.

"But books that contain the biographies of good men and travels narrated in a sensible way will not have this tendency and are safe to read, and I wish that you would read some books of this character. Reading about good men will be helpful in drawing out your own better qualities. And books that treat nature, astronomy, history, etc., are all good. By reading them you will gain a wider, broader knowledge of the earth and the people who live upon it. Classical reading, too, will be helpful in elevating your mind and ideals.

"I want you to improve every opportunity that you can to gain knowledge that will be helpful to you, but above all things else do not neglect your Bible. Read it often and read it carefully. Let it be your daily food. Nothing will be more uplifting to your principles. It is indeed a library in itself and is acknowledged by the best authorities to be the choicest and most important collection of books in our literature. It enlightens the mind and satisfies the soul. It makes impossibilities possible, and its words and teaching are eternal. And best of all, it will give to all who read it a purpose in life worth striving for.

"Byron, those who have a purpose in life do not need a set of rules governing what they shall and shall not do. They will not be running to this one and that, asking, 'Do you think I could do this or that and keep saved and out of trouble?' Their thought will be, 'Can I do this to the glory of God and the advancement of His cause, or will it injure my influence among those whom I wish to help?' They may go to some

one for counsel; but if they receive an explanation showing that the thing in question would prove a hindrance to themselves and others, they will not complain or think themselves martyrs without any freedom. God wants His people to be examples of His kingdom. And it is for the purpose of guiding them aright that He has sent His Holy Spirit into the world. One duty of this Pilot is to warn Christians of danger by bringing to their mind the many snares that the enemy has prepared to entrap them and to teach them by the aid of his chart, the Bible, how to avoid them.

"It is true that God's people are in the world and must in many ways live just as worldly people do. They must eat, drink, sleep, and go about their daily toil; but in their actions and desires they are different from worldly people. They desire to please their heavenly Father in everything they do, and they do not consider such service a hardship or a burden.

"It takes but a very tiny sin to stain the soul; so, Byron, if you would be a child of God, have your heart and life set against everything that is evil.

"And now, my son, a word about your Christian duty, and I think you will be quite well prepared to leave me. Do not neglect your Christian obligations, Byron. Remember that there are responsibilities placed upon every one that can be performed only by them. If you shirk responsibility because you think yourself unqualified for the task, remember that your heavenly Father will correct you as an earthly parent does a disobedient child. If God does not want to use you, He will not burden you for service."

"Well, then, Mother, why is it," Byron asked in a perplexed manner, "that some people have been mistaken in regard to their calling and have found that they did not understand what the Lord really wanted them to do? I have

heard several testify in prayer meeting that they had been mistaken in their calling."

"It was because they failed to consult with the Holy Spirit and did not wait until they knew what the Lord really wanted them to do," his mother answered. "You see, every one has his own ideas of service, and some seek promotion, while others care more for a humble place. Those of the class you mentioned act upon their own desires, instead of tarrying until God gives them a special line of work; in other words, they use their own judgment in the matter. God will make the course that He wishes you to pursue very plain if you are not hasty, and with the Holy Spirit to pilot you, there is no reason for your making mistakes.

"Satan may attempt, should your calling prove an enviable one, to exalt you in your own estimation; but remember this: when you have done all that in your power lies for the good of the cause; when you have sacrificed your friends, home, and all that human ties hold dear; when you have suffered affliction and sorrows, you still are an unprofitable servant. You never can erase by human effort the blot of sin, nor pay the debt of the world. God's sacrifice was so great that none of us can ever cease to be under obligations to Him, and we should rejoice that it is our privilege to serve One so worthy and gracious. Byron, you are now a servant, but a servant of the most noble and glorious King that ever sat upon a throne."

*(To Be Continued)*

Jesus has told us to watch. He said that He will come in a moment when you will not know. But if you are always doing what He has told you to do, you will be always ready for His return. So "watch" your words, your actions, and your deeds.

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



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Dear Boys and Girls,

Our lessons in this quarter will be parables that Jesus taught the people. A parable is like a story-sermon. It tells a simple story that the people can understand, and helps them to know the deeper spiritual lessons about God and His will in our lives.

After Jesus taught the long sermon on the mountain (Matt. 5, 6, 7), He said that whosoever would do the things He had taught them would be like a wise man.

The wise man was interested in his house standing in the time of rains, winds, and the floods that would all come against his house. He knew that if he built his house on a strong foundation that it would withstand all the storms. First he sought out a good founda-

dation rock and built his house. When the stormy winds blew and the rains fell and the floods came, his house stood solid on the rock.

Those who would not practice Jesus' sayings, He said, were like the foolish man who didn't think ahead to all the storms that would come. He was in too big a hurry and didn't bother to get a good foundation. He built his house on the shifting sand. When the winds, rains, and floods came, his house soon fell down. The Bible says, "and great was the fall of it." (verse 27) Have you ever built "houses" or "castles" on the beach? What happened to your castle when a big wave came over it? It was gone, wasn't it? That is the same with the foolish man's house.

Jesus is our Rock. We need to build our Christian lives on Him. Then when troubles and cares of life come, He will help us to stand up for Him.

Jesus is also our hiding place and covert, or cover. When we go to Him in prayer, He will draw ever near to us, covering us with His love and tender care.

—Aunt Dot

## Lesson 1, April 1, 1984

### BUILDING OUR HOUSE

Matt. 7:24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

25 And the rains descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Psa. 18:2 The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

3 I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

Isa. 32:1 Behold, a King shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment.

2 And a man shall be as a hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

1 Cor. 10:4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink; for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

**Memory Verse:** But the Lord is my defense; and my God is the rock of my refuge. Psa. 94:22.

#### Questions:

1. If we obey Jesus, what kind of man will we be like?
2. What did this man want to build his house on?
3. When the rains, winds, and floods came, what happened to his house?
4. What happened to the foolish man's house, and why?
5. Who is our Rock, hiding place, and covert?

**Bible Search:** When did a bush burn without being destroyed? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Elijah (Elias) James 5:17.



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 35, No. 2

April, May, June, 1984

Part 2

April 8

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

### THE LIFE-PRESERVER

The hour of departure had at last arrived. The carriage was driven up in front of the house, and the valises and suit cases were carefully loaded. It was several hours before the train time, but as the station was several miles distant, it was thought best to start in good season.

As the family gathered about Byron and one by one grasped his hand to bid him good bye, it was with difficulty that he managed to keep back the tears. Mother came last. Unable to control himself any longer, he threw himself into her arms and wept. The pent-up fountain of tears gushed forth as rain, but the cloud burst lasted only for a moment. Whispering, "Dear Mother, good bye," he kissed her tenderly and stepped into the carriage.

As he passed out upon the highway, he noticed that the sun was just settling down behind the western treetops and, glancing backward, he saw his mother standing near the gate. Instantly two other scenes flashed before his mind. In one of those pictures he had

left without his mother's consent and in the other with a broken heart because of his transgression. Now he was leaving the same gateway with a mother's benediction and approval resting upon him. Then his heart, full of guilt and condemnation, was miserable and wretched, but now he was free and happy in the assurance that he was doing right and that God's Spirit was leading him. What a change! And in so short a time! Byron could hardly realize it himself. Truly he was a new creature. Old things had passed away, and the world appeared to him differently. He now had not only a Pilot to guide and direct him according to God's chart, the Bible, but a life-preserver as well. The latter had been discovered in the atoning blood of Jesus after his heart had been cleansed and made pure and white.

As Byron rode on toward the station his thoughts were continually returning to his home and mother. Nothing could ever erase the memory of the happy times that he had spent upon the farm and about the old fireside. Now and then little glimpses of summer time games and of winter time frolics flashed before him. They were all over now. Never again could he expect to mingle

his voice in those boyish sports. They were past. He might return, but everything would be different. Some time he might again crack nuts in the dining room on the stones about the open fireplace and pop corn upon the kitchen range; but the children like himself, would be older and changed. Was he, deep down in his heart, glad for the change?

As he thought of the expression upon his mother's face when she waved him farewell from the gate, he was both glad and sorry. He was glad that he was going away with his mother's approval resting upon him, and sorry because he was leaving the home that had sheltered him from both the literal and the spiritual storms of life.

Realizing suddenly that he had been meditating upon his yesterdays, which were forever sealed to him, he turned his thoughts into the future with all its possibilities of both failure and success. Would he have success in his business life, or would his efforts to win be a failure? He seemed to hear his mother saying as she had so often remarked, "What is worth doing at all, Byron, is worth doing well," and he instantly decided to accept these words as his motto in his business career and to leave his tomorrows to the care of his Pilot.

The train was late. While they were waiting, Byron's companion said:

"I hope, Byron, that you will not regret the step you are taking and that you will like your new home and surroundings when we reach our destination. A sudden change from the freedom of the country is sometimes keenly felt by the young when they first enter the city. I have no doubt that things will be strangely different to you, but I trust that as you throw yourself into your new line of work you will like it.

"Success does not come in a moment,

and those who would attain to it need an abundant supply of courage and determination and a decision to make the best of everything. It will be necessary for you to be on your guard and watchful for both advantages and temptations."

"I am determined," Byron answered, "to put forth every effort to win. Others whose opportunities were far beneath mine have succeeded, and I believe that I may if I will."

"Yes, Byron, you may succeed financially," his companion replied, "but I want to see you reaching out in another direction as well. Never forget your mother's teachings and warnings. Be ever on your guard, for the enemy is very sly and cunning. He is roaming the earth seeking unwary souls as his prey. It will be necessary for you to diligently read and pray and then to apply the various Scriptures that you find in your Bible yourself. Never think that because some one else who is professing is doing a certain way, it is proper and right for all of God's children to follow that person's example.

"Upon such occasions listen for the voice of your Pilot, heed His warnings, and be sure that you obey the orders that He gives you. It will be right and proper to refer often to the chart and see that the orders agree perfectly with the directions that you are there given and to know that you thoroughly understand them; but never cast any carelessly aside, considering them of no profit to you. The warnings of the Holy Spirit are very necessary and valuable, but God wants you to prove all spirits by the Bible, and to know that it is really the Holy Spirit that is talking to you, for there are many spirits in the world awaiting to deceive the Christian. Their highest aim and endeavor is to cause a soul to lose its way. Beware of such spirits, Byron. They are false and will not agree with God's Word.

"There may be some terrific storms, but remember that although the

Thunder rolls and storm-clouds fall,  
God's loving hand is in it all,

and that His grace is sufficient to keep you."

Byron was truly thankful for his friend's advice and interest in him, and he later realized how needful it had been.

The delayed train at last drew up to the station and a few minutes later Byron and his friend were speeding toward their distant home. After a long and tiresome journey they arrived at their destination. As Byron stepped from the train, he felt himself in a strange land.

*(To Be Continued)*

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The Bible is like a mirror; reflected in it is one's inward appearance. One can look in this Mirror to see if one's robe is dirty and wrinkled, or clean and spotless.

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## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls,

On a bright, sunny, spring day, have you ever gone for a ride in the country with Dad and Mom? Isn't it beautiful?

Everything is turning a lovely green after the long winter, when the trees, shrubs, and fields were such dull, drab colors. What a welcome sight is the lush greenery after that!

Now is the time for farmers to be busy in the fields, and getting them ready for the spring planting of those tiny seeds. First, the ground has to be plowed deeply, then discing has to be done (breaking the big pieces of dirt), and after all this, they work the ground until it is fine and level and ready to receive the tiny seeds.

Our lesson today is a story-sermon of Jesus about sowing seeds. The sower is busy throwing the seed in the field that has been prepared. We find his seed falling in different places. Some seeds fell along the roadside—the birds came along and ate it right away. Other seed fell on some stones where there wasn't much soil, so the roots couldn't grow—when the sun came out, the seed soon dried. Along the way there were thorns, and some seed fell amongst them—the thorns grew so quickly that the seeds had no room to grow. Some other seed fell on good ground—it yielded thirty times more, sixty times more, and some a hundred times more seed!

In our story, the sower is God sowing His Word in our hearts. As we listen to the Word being preached, it depends on how we have prepared our hearts to receive it. Are we interested in hearing God's Word? If not, the Word will be as the seed falling on the roadside. The devil is always ready to take it from our hearts before it can help us to learn about Jesus. Maybe we would like to live for Jesus, but are not willing to give up all the worldly ways. We try to live for the Lord, but soon give up for we are not rooted in Jesus. That is like the seed that fell to the stony ground—it just cannot endure the sun, and soon withers away. Sometimes we get rooted in Jesus, and follow quite well. Then we

neglect reading His Word and praying. We seem too busy and soon go away from the Lord. This would be related to the thorns in our story that choked the plants, leaving no room for them to grow. Then there are others who truly love the Lord and desire to follow Him all the way. They are busy in His work and increase in their love and grow in His graces. This is the good seed that fell on well-prepared hearts.

Let us prepare our hearts to receive His Word that we can walk in all His ways. Jesus is pleased to see us loving and living for Him. —Aunt Dot

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Lesson 2, April 8, 1984

### SOWING THE SEED

Mark 4:3 Hearken; Behold, there went a sower to sow:

4 And it came to pass, as he sowed, some fell by the wayside, and the fowls of the air came and devoured it up.

5 And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth:

6 But when the sun was up, it was scorched; and because it had no root, it withered away.

7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up, and choked it, and it yielded no fruit.

8 And other fell on good ground, and did yield fruit that sprang up and increased, and brought forth, some thirty, and some sixty, and some a hundred.

14 The sower soweth the word.

15 And these are they by the wayside, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts.

16 And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, immediately receive it with gladness;

17 And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time: afterward, when affliction or persecution ariseth for the word's sake, immediately they are offended.

18 And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word,

19 And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

20 And these are they which are sown on good ground, such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some a hundred.

**Memory Verse:** He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him. Psa. 126:6.

#### Questions:

1. What does the sower do with his seed?
2. Is it good seed?
3. In what kinds of places did the seed fall?
4. What happened to the seed as it fell in these places?
5. Is God the sower, and is the seed His Word in our hearts?
6. On what kinds of hearts does the Word of God fall?
7. Explain each one.

**Bible Search:** Which priest's rod blossomed? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Moses watched it burn. (Ex. 3:1, 2)

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
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Part 3

April 15

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

Byron's simple life upon the farm had given him a very limited knowledge of the world, but he soon became adjusted to his new surroundings and applied himself diligently to every new duty. His faithful efforts to perform each task properly as the days and weeks sped by were very noticeable, and he was often promoted to a more responsible place.

Realizing his need of a better education, he spent the greater part of his spare time in the study of instructive books, and of these books his Bible was the most important. While alone in his room, in the stillness of the evening time, he often recalled his mother's comforting words and advice, and they always seemed to strengthen him to press on toward success.

One evening as he sat by the window in deep meditation, his thoughts wandered back to the old home and farm. It was an ideal summer evening, and in fancy he could see his mother and all of the dear ones scattered about in the yard and upon the porch, and could hear the merry laughter of his younger brother with his playmates upon the lawn. As past recollections one by one

crowded in upon his mind, he felt a great sense of loneliness stealing over him. He longed for those hours of pleasure once more, but they were gone. He wished for the comforting words of his mother, but he was too far away to hear her soothing voice.

Comfort—oh yes, it was for words of comfort and encouragement that his heart was yearning, and, having learned the true source of this fountain, he quickly turned to his Bible. Before opening it he thought, "I will read tonight just where the book happens to open!" and when he looked upon the pages, he saw the name "James" in large letters before him.

The sight of the familiar name of his former friend and teacher brought with it a flood of recollections. In imagination, he was once more back near his old home with "the boys". James, his companion and teacher, was giving instructions. Instinctively shrinking from the sight in his memory, he thought, "I can safely take this other James as my teacher and guide"; and he began reading at once.

"Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which

the Lord hath promised to them that love him. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: but every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. Do not err, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: for the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the Word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth herein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed. If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridlETH not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

Long after reading this portion of Scripture, Byron sat in deep meditation. It meant more to be a Christian than

he supposed when he started in the Lord's service, but he was glad that the way was daily becoming plainer to him and that the Lord was so patient with him regarding what he did not know and understand. He did not want to be like the man who after beholding himself in the glass went away and forgot what manner he was; he wanted to understand and do the entire will of God and to abide by the instruction obtained from His Word. The Book of James he found to be one of his best instructors.

He encountered many trials and tests along the way, but they only drove him closer to his Saviour, and in earnest supplication he poured out his heart to God in prayer for more strength and ability to win the battles that were ahead of him.

The weekly letters from home were bright spots indeed in his life, and with eagerness and pleasure he looked forward to the days when they were due. Many times while reading about the happenings upon the farm, he felt a degree of loneliness and longed to be back with the loved ones again.

Thus the weeks and months sped by. At the end of the first year he was permitted to return to his former home for a short visit. How good it seemed to be with Mother! How glad he was to sit and hear her talk to him as she used to do! He was as much interested as ever in all the proceedings upon the farm and noted every improvement. The meetings at the little chapel filled his mind with both pleasant and unpleasant memories; but when all of his old friends, eager to know of his new life, inquired of his success, he was glad to tell them that he was prospering in both soul and body.

When the family gathered from time to time around the family altar, Byron realized as never before what his mother's prayers were to him. In bygone days he had grown accustomed to hear-

ing her evoke heaven's blessings upon him until he failed to realize the true value of her prayers. While listening to her voice now, he understood as he had never been able to understand before, her earnestness and why he had so often been blessed while away from her. Her prayers had followed him, and God had heard and answered.

His visit passed all too rapidly, and when the time arrived for him to return to his work, he was sorry; but as he would be expected upon a certain date, he made arrangements accordingly, and on the day appointed he was at his desk ready for service. Resuming his former duties, he was soon helping to push the business forward with commendable zeal.

(To Be Continued)

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls,

You know, there are many different things that happen in our lives that we have to forgive, or be forgiven of. Let's look at some of the experiences that come our way, in which we need to have compassion and be forgiving.

"Well, you just wait. I'll get even with them some day." Have you heard anyone say that? Or have you said it? It sounds like someone has been so hurt by someone else, that they want to hurt them back. But, wait! What would Jesus have us to do? Stop a minute and pray. Instead of hurting anyone, we should be ready to forgive them. You say, "But I've been hurt so badly, that I can't forgive." Remember how much Jesus loved us? I'm sure we made Him sad and hurt Him, too, but when we come to Him, He's always willing to forgive us and help us.

Has there been someone who's been asking forgiveness over and over? We might grow weary of always having to say, "Yes, I forgive you." Jesus told His disciples that we must forgive "seventy times seven." That's 490 times!

Sometimes you might say, "I'll be willing to forgive when they come and ask." We should forgive them in our hearts even if they *never* ask for forgiveness.

The servant in our lesson today was forgiven of such a great debt when he fell at the king's feet. He had no money to pay, so the king had compassion and mercy on him. The servant didn't have to pay that debt at all! How thankful he was! He should have been willing to forgive his servant that owed only a little money. Instead, though, he caught him by the throat and demanded that he pay all. The other servant couldn't pay, so he put him in prison.

When the king heard about this, he called him and said, "O thou wicked servant, I forgave you all that debt. You should have had compassion on

your servant and forgiven him, too.”  
Jesus has such a love for us! When we ask Him to forgive us our many sins, He has pity on us and freely forgives us. When someone comes to us asking us to forgive them, we also need to freely forgive because Jesus did that to us.

—Aunt Dot

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**Lesson 3, April 15, 1984**

## **THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT**

**Matt. 18:23** Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants.

24 And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents.

25 But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made.

26 The servant therefore fell down and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

28 But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellow servants, which owed him a hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest.

29 And his fellow servant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all.

30 And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt.

31 So when his fellow servants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done.

32 Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me:

33 Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellow servant, even as I had pity on thee?

34 And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

35 So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.

**Memory Verse:** But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

Mark 11:26.

### **Questions:**

1. Was the king's servant able to pay him?
2. How much money did he owe him?
3. Did the king have compassion on him and forgive him?
4. What did the first servant do to his servant?
5. Why did he do this to his servant?
6. How much money did he owe him?
7. What did the king do to his servant when he heard what he had done?
8. Will Jesus forgive us if we don't forgive others?
9. Should we have a forgiving heart?

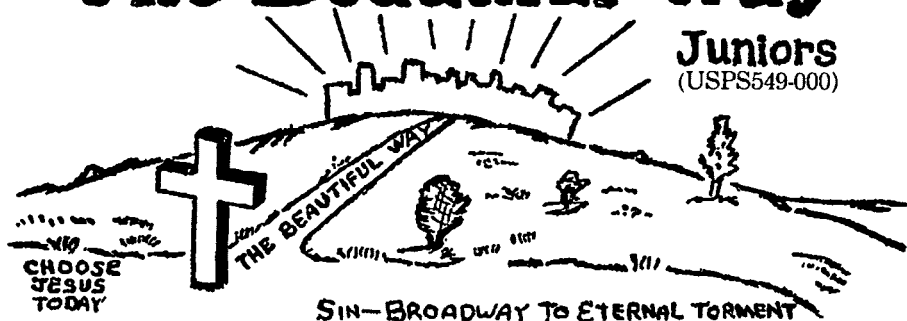
**Bible Search:** What water was bitter and then made sweet? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Aaron's rod. (Num. 17:8).



# The Beautiful Way

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Part 4

April 22

## The Pilot's Voice

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

Time sped along, and soon the years passed as the months had done before them. Now and then Byron made a short visit to his old home. Suddenly he awoke to the fact that his beloved mother was no longer a young woman. She was fast passing into her declining years and was rapidly failing in health. One day a letter came saying that his mother was sick, and another the next day saying that she was no better.

Sorrow settled over Byron's heart like a great darkness. "What if Mother should die?" When he asked himself this question, his courage and strength seemed to fail him. "It would be so hard, oh! so hard to give her up," he thought. "How can I part with her? She has been so much to me!" He hardly dared to ponder upon the subject and he seemed to be living in constant dread of something that he shrank from forming into words.

While he was sitting at his office desk struggling to drown his feeling by applying himself diligently to his work, a messenger boy entered with an envelope in his hand. With trembling fingers Byron took the envelope from the boy

and finding it addressed to himself, tore it open and read the message: "Mother is dangerously sick. Come at once."

As he had been hoping for favorable news, the message shocked him greatly. Fortunately there was nothing to hinder him from going to her, and he was soon on board a train hastening to her side. She might pass away before he reached her bedside, he thought, and then, remembering God's tender mercy, he plead with Him to spare her until he could speak to her once more.

As Byron stepped upon the platform in front of the depot in his home town, he saw the hackmen clapping their hands to keep them warm, and he drew his collar tighter about his neck, for the wind was blowing and he felt the change from the heated train. His brother was waiting for to convey him to the old home at once, and the two hastened away to the carriage. Neither said much as they drove along through the country. Each was busy with his own sad thoughts. Their mother, Byron learned, was somewhat better, but there was little hope of her recovery.

When the old farm house came into sight, Byron could scarcely wait, and the horses had hardly slackened their

speed when he sprang to the ground and hastened to the house. Opening the door very softly, he entered, and there beside the stove, in her easy chair, sat Mother. It was a happy surprise for Byron to see his mother in her chair and able to greet him. God had answered his prayer, and he learned that her improvement had commenced not long after the telegram was started.

How the face of that fond mother lighted with smiles as she saw her son hastening toward her! and how his heart throbbed with joy as he embraced her frail form! Byron spent the entire day with his mother, and her strength to visit with him was marvelous to all. During the night she slept well and was able to rise again in the morning, but she wanted no breakfast.

"I will stay with you, Mother," Byron said, and while the remainder of the family ate breakfast, Byron remained beside his mother. When they were alone, she said, "Byron, I wish that you would read to me from the Bible. Please turn to the 103rd Psalm, and read."

As Byron read he seemed to realize as never before the food and strength contained in the Bible for the Christian. Every word seemed an inspiration; and when he finished the Psalm, he said, "Mother, I never knew before that there was so much in that chapter. It seems to contain just the encouragement that we both need this morning."

"I know it, my son," his mother replied in a weak voice. "It has comforted me many times, but, as you say, I think I have received more courage from the reading of it today than ever before. Isn't the tenth verse marked? Commence there and read it to me again." So Byron read:

"He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy

toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us. Like as a father pitieth his children, so the Lord pitieth them that fear him. For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust. As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more. But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; to such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them. The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all. Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. Bless ye the Lord, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure. Bless the Lord, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the Lord, O my soul.' "

"Do you know, Byron," his mother said when he ceased reading, "that if God dealt with us according to our sins He would not only have cut us off from our inheritance, but have blotted our names out of existence and made us worse than the animal kingdom or the flowers and grass of the fields? Instead of this He has pitied us, for He knows how weak we are, and remembers that our frames are dust. If we do well, we shall reign with Him in heaven."

Byron noticed that she seemed very weak, and bowing beside her chair, he prayed, thanking God for sparing her so long, but little realizing how very close the death-angel was standing.

"Byron, I've enjoyed our little worship together more than I can tell," she said as he arose from prayer. "I'm so thankful that I've been spared until you

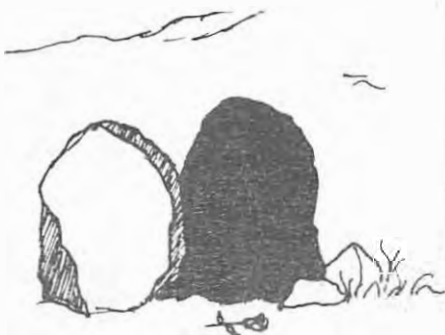
could be with me, but I'm tired now and should like to lie down."

Those were the last words that she ever spoke. Byron assisted her to bed, and she seemed to rest easy. But a short time later they found that she was unconscious, and in a few short hours the summons came for her to depart from her loved ones to be with the Saviour whom she had loved so dearly and who had helped her through so many of the perplexing difficulties of life.

As Byron looked upon the lifeless form of his mother, he noted her noble brow and finely chiseled features. Age and suffering had left their stamp, but there remained the same gentle expression and delicate lines that had marked the strength of her character and the depth of her wisdom. The ashen lips could no longer warn him of danger, but they had directed him to the One who could not only warn him but pilot his soul into the haven that she had at last entered.

## THE END

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



He is risen!

One word can either make or break that first impression. Let's be impressive for God!

Dear Boys and Girls:

It is all right to have new clothes, but we do not want to think more about them than we do the real meaning of Easter, which is the remembrance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. When we think of the egg and how marvelously the chicken pecks its way out of the shell we marvel at the greatness of God's mysteries in life. It can't all be explained but we know that God is the author of life. There is also a great mystery of the power of Jesus coming back to life after He had been put in the tomb. It was even hard for the disciples to believe this wonderful miracle. Thomas said he would not believe unless he could put his finger in the nail prints and thrust his hand in His side. Jesus appeared to him and let him do this. He said, "My Lord and my God!" (John 20:25-31). We know that He arose because we have many witnesses to that fact, even though the power of God is a mystery. Our lesson tells us because He arose that we also will arise. Thank the Lord for that hope within our souls. When we put the bodies of those we love in the grave we know that some day they will arise with a new body. This new body will never die nor decay. The soul will be reunited to the body and they will live with God in heaven if they have chosen Him as their Savior when they were in this life.

We do want to be ready when Jesus comes bursting through the clouds in that great day. The Lord will come from heaven with a great shout and the archangel will shout, also. The trump of God will sound and those who died in Christ will arise first; then those who are alive at His coming will be changed

and arise to meet Him in the air, and together they will also be taken to heaven. But it will be sad for those who are not saved. They will have a new body but they will be cast into hell fire. We want to be God's at His appearing and we can if we will obey His Word. This is what Paul taught the Jews and Gentiles on his missionary trip.

—Aunt Marie

Lesson 4, April 22, 1984

## THE POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION

John 19:30 When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.

Mark 16:6 And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.

9a Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene,

1 Cor. 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

23 But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

24 Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

1 Thess. 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

**Memory Verse:** That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death. Phil 3:10a.

### Questions:

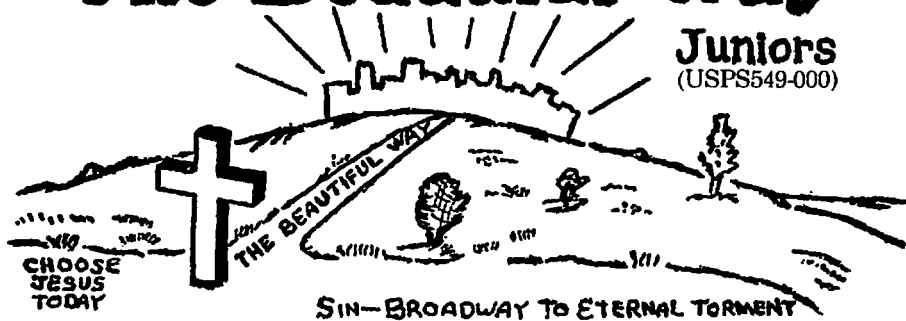
1. Why did Jesus say, "It is finished," just before He died?
2. Why is Christ the firstfruits of those who arise from the dead?
3. Does anyone know when Jesus will come? Read Matt. 24:35, 36.
4. What will Jesus do in the end?
5. Why are we not ignorant of what will happen to those who are asleep in Jesus?
6. Who is coming with Jesus when He comes again?

**Bible Search:** What was Aaron's sister's name? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Marah (Exodus 15:23-25).

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 35, No. 2

April, May, June, 1984

Part 5

April 29

## The Man of His Counsel

By Effie M. Williams

### A MODEL FAMILY

Joe Holmier stood leaning against the door of his big bank barn, gazing across the well-kept acres of the farm on which he lived. Rich indeed had been the fruitage of his fields that year. His wheat, oats, and hay had been harvested and stored away, and the corn, with stalks seared by the touch of an early autumn, promised an abundant yield. His cattle were sleek and fat; his horses well groomed and in good condition; and his young porkers which he could see in the field some distance away promised meat for Joe and his family for the winter.

Joe's labors on the farm that summer had been well rewarded and he had been blessed above many of his neighbors. The wool from his sheep had netted him a nice little sum, sufficient to provide clothing for himself and family, and the fowls in his yard had been a great help. On the hillside Joe could count thirty-seven young turkeys that would be ready for the Thanksgiving market.

All this did not escape his eye as he stood there in deep meditation. The October sun was just sending its last faint rays across the meadow before it disappeared behind some trees which fringed the river at the rear of his farm. Its slanting rays fell full upon the house, which stood some distance from the barn, lighting up its windows with a fiery glow.

Joe gazed about the place for some time, then directed his glance toward the house as he saw the curtains at the window separate and a little curly head appear between them. The rays of sun falling full upon the curls made them shine as gold. There was a wave of a child's hand at the window, which Joe returned, and which seemed to break the spell that had come over him. "God bless the dear little fellow," said he; "I have done as I desired to do for him and am glad that I have a good living for my babies. But all this has not satisfied me. There is something more that I want: and just what this is I do not know, but I must have something that will give me rest. My fields of grain, my stock, my money, have not brought to me the satisfaction that I desire. I mean to tell Susie tonight." And at this he

closed the barn door and started toward the house.

From his youth Joe Holmier was known as a good man. His morals were perfect. No one had ever heard him utter a profane or vulgar word, for none ever fell from his lips. He formed no bad habits and was strictly temperate; in fact, he was a leader in the temperance society in that community and had been for some time. He never used tobacco in any form and did not know the taste of intoxicants. Being religiously inclined from his earliest childhood, when sixteen years of age he united with a church which was near and to the best of his ability lived according to the teachings of his leaders in that particular faith. He was a very industrious young man and as he had to labor hard for the money which he possessed he considered well how it was spent. His name was upon the lips of many of the parents in that community and he was pointed out to some of the wayward boys as a model after which they should pattern. Mothers would often make the remark to their son, "Oh, if you were only like Joe Holmier I would never have any occasion for worry."

Parents who looked well to their daughters of marriageable age often spoke of Joe as a desirable husband, and many glances were bent his way from the fair damsels of the community. But Joe seemed to be oblivious of it all and went about his business unconcerned. He never asked for the company of the young girls and all had formed the conclusion that Joe Holmier was destined to be a bachelor. None knew that all the time they were talking about his spending his life alone that he had let his heart go out to Susie Dietrich and was only waiting until he felt that he had accumulated sufficient means to provide a little home before he asked her to become his wife. Susie had been

reared on the farm and was just the kind of girl to make a young farmer such as Joe a good wife; so at the age of twenty-five Joe decided that he was not destined to be a bachelor, for Susie promised to become his wife.

The Dietrich family were of the same religious faith as Joe and the father and mother rejoiced to know that Susie had been able to get the model young man of the community for a husband. Susie was also very proud of her husband but she had been married to him but a few months when she was one day awakened to the fact that Joe had a very high temper and sometimes could not keep control of it. It all came about because Susie failed to close the garden gate and the hogs got into the potato patch and rooted up most of the potatoes, also destroying some other vegetables. Poor Susie regretted the loss as much as Joe and felt very bad indeed because of her neglect, but she was not prepared for the outburst of temper on the part of her husband and burst into tears at his stinging, cutting remarks. After this incident Susie strove to keep Joe in a good humor but at best he would sometimes lose control of himself and that over the most trifling things. After each outburst, however, he would repent and ask her forgiveness, and as Susie was of an even temperament their married life together was quite congenial.

Although they worked early and late on the farm they were never too busy to be present at services, and each Sunday found them in their accustomed places, each attired in the plain dress of their faith—Susie in her white cap and bonnet and Joe in his broad brimmed hat. Both were members in good standing, and as Joe was a liberal giver, many a dollar found its way into the treasury box from his hand. All looked upon them as a model couple, and if their pastor had been asked to point out the

best members of his congregation, Joe and Susie Holmier would have headed the list.

*(To Be Continued)*

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## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



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Dear Boys and Girls:

Do you have a friend who seems to be able to do everything so well? Maybe they can sing or play an instrument exceptionally well. Do you ever think, "I wish I could do that. I'm not good at anything." You seem to be average in all that you do. Sometimes I feel like that, too. There are more average people, though, than there are those with special talents.

There is one verse that I especially like in our lesson: "To every man his several ability." (verse 15). The Lord knows just what we are capable of doing. We can't always be exceptional at everything. Jesus gives us certain things

that He knows we can do in His service.

Each of the servants in Jesus' parable were given a different amount—according to what the master felt that they could earn for him. He expected them to put the money, or talents, to use. The first two servants put theirs to work and gained the exact amount they had been given. The last servant had his talent taken away from him because he didn't use it to gain more.

The servants had to use their talents to gain more. Just so should we be workers for Jesus and use all the talents that He gives us. When the Lord gives us something He knows that we can do for Him, we need to be careful to use whatever it is, or we might have it taken from us.

In our parable today, the man going to a far country represents Jesus. As His children, He has given us work to do for Him. We all have different work that He has for us to do. Some are especially gifted to sing, or preach, or teach. Some of us can talk to others about the Lord and lead them to Jesus. We are all able to do something for the Lord. Whatever the Lord has for you to do, be sure not to bury it as the wicked servant did in our lesson. We must do our very best, using whatever gift God has bestowed upon us. As we work for Him, He may increase what we can do for Him. Our utmost thought in life must be: "What can I do for Jesus?" A little motto that we often read says, "Only what is done for Christ will last." Let us pray and see what God would have us to do.

—Aunt Dot

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Lesson 5., April 29, 1984

## DOING OUR BEST FOR JESUS

Matt. 25:14 For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods.

15 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.

16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.

17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strawed:

25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

28 Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents.

29 For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath.

**Memory Verse:** Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful. 1 Cor. 4:2.

### Questions:

1. What did the man in this parable give to his servants?
2. How much did he give to each one?
3. What does a talent represent?
4. What did two of his servants do with their talents?
5. What did the third servant do with his talent?
6. When the master came back and talked to the two servants, what did he tell them?
7. Was he pleased with the last servant and what did he tell him?
8. Explain what the parable means.
9. If we don't use the gift God gives us, what might happen?

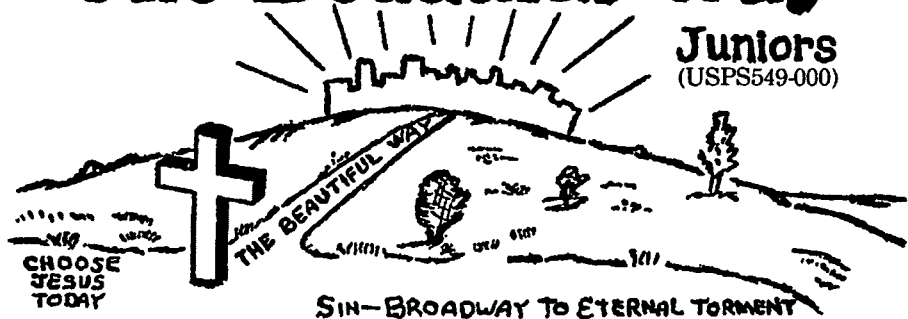
**Bible Search:** How many times did the Israelites pass through waters that divided for them? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Miriam. (Ex. 15:20).



# The Beautiful Way

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April, May, June, 1984

Part 6

May 6

## The Man of His Counsel

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

### JOE'S AWAKENING

As has already been stated, Joe was of an unusually quick temper, which often caused him quite a great deal of sorrow. After he had lost control of himself he would always express himself as being weak, but perhaps there would be something in the sermon on the next Sunday morning that would be of help to him. As each Sunday came and went, however, Joe found himself not gathering strength from the messages that he so much desired. The sermons to which he listened were usually along the distinctive doctrines of that particular faith, and Joe and Susie were well schooled along the line of sobriety, baptism, honest toil, and plainness of dress. In all this Joe felt that he was truly a model to any member who might desire to look upon him as a pattern, but still his heart cried out for something that he felt he needed. So strong was the desire within his soul for something that he did not possess that he one day called upon the minister for a conversation along the line of his spiritual needs.

After listening for some time to what Joe had to say about himself as to the longing of his soul, the old minister said, "Now, Joe, I have known you for a number of years and if you come to me telling me that you are not what you feel you should be I will have to say I do not know where to turn to find one who is really a servant of God. Do you not know that you have lived a life here in this community that is above reproach?"

"That may all be true," replied Joe, "and I am glad that I have lived a good, clean, moral life, but all that I have done has not brought me the relief nor peace of soul that I so much desire." Here he paused for a few moments and then related to the minister the many times when he could not control himself and would give vent to violent outbursts of temper. "This," said Joe, "is the thing that is troubling me. I want to get stronger along this line, for after I have those outbursts I have such a fear in my soul. I wonder if I should die then if I could hope to enter heaven."

"Why do you let such trifling things trouble you?" inquired his pastor. "Do you really think that you shall ever

become a man greater than the apostle Paul?"

"No, I do not think that I shall ever become such a man as he was," reluctantly replied Joe, "but that is not the thing I am seeking after. I do not care for greatness, but I desire to feel that I am truly a child of God and ready to meet Him at any time. You know a few days ago my clothing got fastened in a piece of machinery and if help had not been given me immediately I should have been ground to pieces. The first thing that came to me after the excitement had died down was, 'If I had been ground to pieces where would my soul have gone?' I tell you, Brother Reinhart, this has become a serious thing with me and I want you to give me some advice as to what to do about it."

"My dear Bro. Joe," said the preacher, Mr. Reinhart, as he laid his hand upon Joe's shoulder, "did you not know that these are problems that confront all of us? The apostle Paul was not exempt from them, for we read where he had just such trials as you are now facing. Let me read you what he had to say about it." And opening his Bible, the pastor read Romans, the seventh chapter, beginning with the fourteenth verse. As he read the nineteenth verse, he said, "Now, Brother Joe, that is your experience also. You do not want to give vent to your feelings, but you do the thing that you do not want to do. I tell you it is an up-hill business all the way through and you can't go on your feelings. I must say that my experience is like the apostle Paul's also, for when I would do good evil is also present, and sometimes the things that I hate are the things that I do."

"But is there no way for us to know that we are ready to meet God at any time?" earnestly inquired Joe.

"We can know no more than the Bible tells us about such things," replied

Preacher Reinhart, "and I shall read to you what the good Book has to say about it." So opening his Bible to Mark, the sixteenth chapter, the preacher began to read from the fifteenth verse: "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth," here he paused, and looking at Joe, said, "Do you believe?" "I surely do believe," said Joe. The minister continued, "'And is baptized,' and have you been baptized?" To which Joe replied, "You know that I have been baptized for you administered that rite yourself." But the minister continued reading without making any reply to Joe's statement, "'Shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.' Now, if you believe and have been baptized, the Bible says you shall be saved. It does not say you are saved, but shall be. You know there is much to come up against us and something that we have to do."

"I want to read to you again from Paul's writings to the church at Philippi. In Philippians, the second chapter and the twelfth verse, Paul says, 'Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.' You see, Brother Joe, this is a job you have to work at and you must work it out for yourself for it is your own salvation. I can only say to you as Paul said to the church at Philippi, as you have always obeyed and lived up to the rules and regulations of the church, just keep it up and work out your own salvation. I will have to say that I have about all I can do to work out my own salvation, and then sometimes I think that I am not doing a very good job at it."

"Well, if that be the case," laughingly replied Joe, "I shall not bother you any more for I do not want to call you away

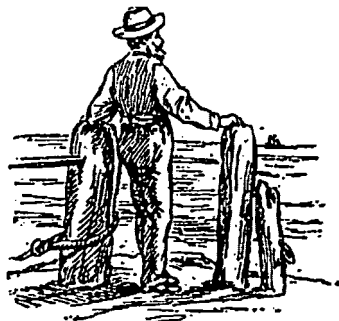
from your job. I want you to make good."

A few more remarks were exchanged between the two men and Joe climbed into his wagon and started for home. Although the heaviness had not left his breast he consoled himself with the thought that his pastor had given, that he would not be damned for he believed and had been baptized, and he said to himself as he drove along, "I shall work out my salvation more diligently than ever."

Upon his arrival at home Joe found his uncle awaiting him and he was very glad to see him. After supper was over and they were all gathered together in the living room his uncle made known to them the object of his visit. He owned a large tract of land in the Wabash bottoms in Indiana and as Joe had asked his uncle when he married to rent the place to him, the uncle came to tell Joe that he might now have the place as the tenant who was farming the land at the time of Joe's marriage was leaving. This was very fertile land and Joe desired to farm it very much, but as it was such a large tract he did not feel that he could handle it all alone, and mentioned the fact to his uncle. The uncle then told of a man and his wife who lived near him that he thought were the very people Joe needed to help manage the farm, and as there was a large two-story house upon it it was decided that all could live together in the house while they farmed the land for the first year and then if all were satisfied the uncle would erect a house on the place for the hired help for the next year. This place was so desirable for farming that Joe felt he could not let the opportunity slip by again; so before the uncle left they made arrangements to move onto the place the first of the next year.

*(To Be Continued)*

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Many people today are interested in getting money for the things that it will buy for them. It seems that the more of this world's goods they get, the more they want. All their time and efforts are in getting more and more.

One day, Jesus warned the people in a parable not to be covetous—desiring to gain more for their own profit. God had blessed the crops of a rich farmer so much that he didn't know where to put them any more. He thought, "What shall I do? I have no where to put my goods. I know what I can do—I'll tear down my old barns and build greater ones!" He had forgotten that it was God who had given him such a good crop.

Now, he thought, he had plenty for many years. He planned to take it easy: eating, drinking, and having a good time. God came to him in the night, though, saying, "Thou fool, this night you are to die. Now whose will these things be?" The farmer had been so busy laying up treasures and planning for this life, that he had neglected to lay up treasures in heaven.

We should not be so interested in laying up treasures here, but we should lay up treasures in heaven. Do you know how to do that? We are laying up treas-

ures when we are busy doing work for Jesus. Each thing that He has us to do for Him, is like an offering, and that is our treasure in heaven. Jesus is pleased when He sees all our deeds of kindness. "Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth." (Col. 3:2).

Do you think that if the farmer had decided to share his goods with others, that God would have been more pleased with him? As children of God, we should be willing to share what God has blessed us to enjoy. Sharing with others gives us a warm and happy feeling in our hearts.

—Aunt Dot

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### Lesson 6, May 6, 1984

## LAY UP TREASURES IN HEAVEN

Luke 12:16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?

18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; for there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Matt. 6:19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through and steal:

21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

1 Tim. 6:9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.

10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

**Memory Verse:** For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. Luke 12:34.

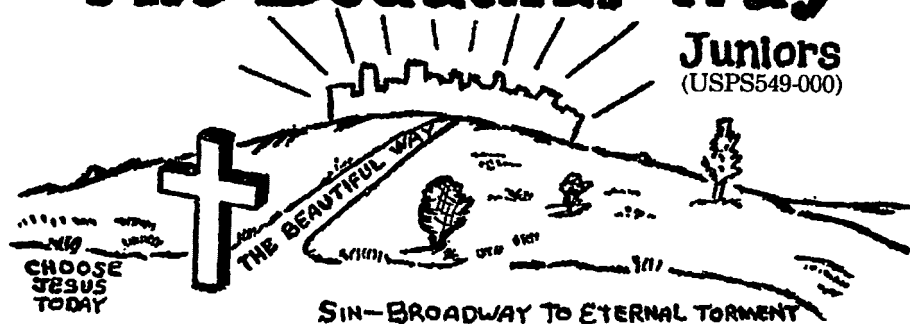
### Questions:

1. Did God bless the farmer with much goods?
2. Did the farmer have room for all of it?
3. What did he think to do for storing all his goods?
4. What was he planning to do in the future, now that he had plenty?
5. What does covetous mean?
6. Was God pleased with the farmer, and what did He tell him in the night?
7. Where should we have our treasures laid up?
8. How can we do this?

**Bible Search:** Who set up the brazen serpent and why? (Answer Next Week).  
**Last Week's Answer:** Twice. (Exodus 14:21, and Joshua 3:16).

# The Beautiful Way

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Part 7

May 13

## The Man of His Counsel

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

The weeks that passed between the visit of the uncle and the move the first of the year were busy ones and the first of the year found them on their uncle's farm. There was much to be done after the move, preparing for the spring work and also to make preparation for the hired man whom they were expecting about the first of March.

As there was a church of their faith at Steele's Crossing about two miles from their place, Joe and Susie were soon settled as members of that congregation. Joe was no longer troubled about his spiritual condition, for he knew that he believed and had been baptized and was doing all that he could to work out his salvation. It was with this confidence within himself that he met Alfred and Tillie Giese when they made their appearance the first of March to take up the position of helpers on the farm.

It was quite late in the evening when they came and Joe and Susie extended to them hospitality in urging them to remain with them for the evening's meal and also to spend the night with them as it was too late to think of ar-

ranging their own rooms in the house for the night. As they began to make preparation to retire for the night Alfred remarked that they always had reading and prayer before they retired and asked if there were any objections to their doing so now. To which Joe replied that he did not see how there could be any objections as he had been a church-member almost all his life. As Alfred opened his grip to get his Bible Susie stepped into another room from which she soon returned with a little white cap on her head, after the custom of her faith.

When all were seated Alfred read from the third chapter of First John, and Joe listened very attentively. The fourteenth verse sent a dagger into his heart, for he heard the words, "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." How those words rang in his heart and brought again that restlessness of soul, for he did not know that he had passed from death unto life, and he did know that he did not love all the brethren, for he had remarked to Susie only a few days before that there was one man in the church whom he just hated. God's

Word pierced him like a knife. But the Word was not all that gripped his heart, for the prayers that followed gave him such a heaviness in his chest that it seemed he could scarcely breathe. Alfred and Tillie Giese prayed as only those can pray who are fully acquainted with their God. There was no pleading for mercy and forgiveness or acknowledgement of sinfulness such as Joe had been accustomed to listening to, but praise and thanksgiving for sins forgiven and for the peace and rest which comes through the knowledge of salvation. Joe thought he had never heard such prayers before, and when in their own room expressed himself to Susie, as never having heard such, to which she replied, "I guess the prayer was all right, but I would have enjoyed it more if she would have had her head covered."

Joe laughed as he replied, "Her head was uncovered, but I believe she can beat you with your cap on."

### ATTRACTED BY A CHRISTIAN LIFE

Enough has been said in the previous chapter of my story about Joe Holmier to arouse both admiration and sympathy as well as pity on the part of my readers. Joe's high moral standing, his integrity, his hospitality, and his having the name of being the best worker in the community merits the admiration of all, but as we see him a man who cannot control himself and giving vent to outbursts of rage he at once becomes an object of pity. Through it all, however, the better Joe was always seen, for he was always ready to make right anything that he did. But it seemed that none escaped his sharp tongue when once he gave vent to his temper.

I said none escaped, but there were two against whom no one ever saw Joe get the least bit provoked. These were

the two little jewels in the home—a little boy and girl. They were the idols of his heart, and none ever saw him the least bit stirred against them, no matter what they would do, and they were children who did things that would often upset the mildest tempered man. Joe was never too tired to have a romp with the little boy or walk the floor with the baby girl long in the hours of night when she was screaming with the colic. Many times he would tell his wife, "If you take care of them in the daytime while I am working I ought to be willing to care for them at night." And he did. But patient as he was with the children he could not control himself at other times, and his neighbors, his stock, and even his good wife often felt the sharpness of his tongue when his anger was aroused and then saw him lapse into sullen moods which would often last for several days, from which he would emerge ready to make right the thing that he had done.

It did not take Alfred Giese long to understand what kind of man Joe was and the thing that he needed to make him the man he should be, and Alfred and his wife Tillie began to pray that Joe might be made to see his need. One day as Alfred came in to dinner he remarked that he could see why God had so arranged it that he be on the place with Joe that summer for he could see that Joe knew nothing of what real Christianity was and felt sure that he was tired of the profession that he had. But as Alfred could see that Joe was possessed of some conceit he knew that he would have to advance slowly and cautiously else the seed that he was trying to scatter would be wasted. Much as he desired to converse on the Word of God he never mentioned it unless Joe inquired regarding his belief.

It would seem to my readers that as the two families lived together in the same house and under the same roof

there would be almost the same familiarity between them that there would be with one family, but that was not the case. These two families were as much two families as though they were living miles apart so far as their familiarity was concerned. Alfred and Tillie had three rooms in the house, which consisted of a kitchen and living room downstairs and a sleep room upstairs, and when Alfred's day's work was done he went to his home and was as far from the Holmier family as though he lived miles away. Tillie, too, lived in such a way that Susie felt she had a neighbor and could not regard her as one of the family.

Alfred proved himself quite as competent a farmer as Joe, so there could be no complaint made in any way. Although the two lived such separated lives in their homes Alfred and Tillie sought for every opportunity they could to make themselves accommodating, and many times the two little ones were left in their care while Joe and Susie went to the town to do some trading. As Tillie was very fond of children and had been the eldest in a large family of children she knew how to care for the little ones, and Susie felt safe in leaving them in her care. But much as she appreciated the company of the little ones, when Susie returned they were sent home. How wisely these two dealt with their neighbors that they might be able to win them to the Lord!

*(To Be Continued)*

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As a man was stooping to steal a watermelon, his little son said, "Daddy, someone is watching you!" In surprise the man ran quickly to the car, whereupon he asked: "Who? Where? I don't see anyone!" "You forgot to look toward the sky. God is the one who saw you."



Dear Boys and Girls:

The Lord has His children live in the world along with the worldly people. We work around worldly people, go shopping around them, and sometimes play with the neighbor children who don't live for Jesus. We all live together. We are in the world, but we cannot do all the things that the worldly people do. Since we're around worldly people, we need to keep our eyes on Jesus to help us live for Him.

God helps us to live holy, clean lives right along with those who are not living for Jesus. Sometimes the devil will cause his children to make fun of us or hurt us in some way. God then gives us grace to go on living for Him. So, in the end of time, the children of God will go up with Jesus to be in heaven. What a glory that will be! The children of the devil that would not love Jesus nor serve Him will go with the devil and his angels to hell. What a sad time for the wicked.

In the parable, Jesus said that the good seed was planted. Then the wicked men planted tares among the good seed. The servants asked if they should take the tares out, but, no, the tares were to be left, because in getting the tares out, they might uproot the good seed, too. Both the good seed and tares would grow together.

Jesus told His disciples that the Son of man sowed the good seed which is the children of God. The field is the world, and the devil sowed the tares which are his children. They all grow together until the harvest time, and then the wheat would be stored in barns, and the tares burned up.

—Aunt Dot

Lesson 7, May 13, 1984

## LIVING FOR JESUS IN THE WORLD

Matt. 13:24 Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field:

25 But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way.

26 But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also.

27 So the servants of the household-er came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares?

28 He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up?

29 But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them.

30 Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

37 He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man;

38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world.

43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

**Memory Verse:** I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. John 17:15.

### Questions:

1. Who sowed the good seed and what does it represent?
2. Who sowed the tares and what do they represent?
3. What did the master tell his servants to do about the tares in the field?
4. Why were the servants not to uproot the tares?
5. What would happen at the harvest time?
6. Will God help us live for Him in the midst of the worldly people?
7. Where will the children of God go at the end of time?
8. What about those who live for the devil? Where will they go?

**Bible Search:** What city fell at the blast of trumpets? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Moses (Num. 21:8, 9).



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 35, No. 2

April, May, June, 1984

Part 8

May 20

## The Man of His Counsel

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

The sleeping room of Alfred and Tillie joined that of Joe and Susie, and the Holmiers had to pass the door of the Gieses before reaching their own room. Many times as Joe passed their door he would hear them reading from the Word and pause to listen and when he would do so he would often hear them in their evening devotions and found that they never failed to mention both his name and that of his wife in prayer; and he found that they were desirous of Joe and Susie finding the peace which they desired. Joe never listened to their prayers but that he did not feel disturbed in his soul and go to his room only to toss upon his bed unable to sleep. But much as the prayers disturbed him, the daily life of Alfred as they were thrown together in the field and in the other work about the farm disturbed him more, for he found Alfred possessing something that kept him when he himself gave vent to rage.

One thing happened while they were doing their spring plowing which caused Joe much disturbance and again made him seek his pastor for advice. While plowing he lost a bolt from his plow

and in trying to insert the bolt through a hole in the plow-beam he struck it with a hammer which caused the bolt to slip and the hammer to strike his finger. Immediately he threw the hammer with all the vengeance he could and in doing so it came so close to the head of one of his horses that it jumped to one side, turning over the plow, at which time he jerked on the lines which set both horses back on their haunches, and he then gave the plow a kick which turned it over again. All this Alfred saw from the other side of the field and when he came to see what had happened to cause this outburst he found Joe nursing a finger which had a large blood blister near the nail, and Joe was in a very unpleasant mood.

"I wish I had an ax to cut this old plow in splinters and knock out the brains of those old horses," said Joe as Alfred approached, "and just for two cents I'd do it, too."

"Well, I'd rather give you two dollars not to do it than to give you two cents to do it," said Alfred as he walked around and patted each of the horses' necks and then righted the plow. It took him but an instant to see what was needed about the plow and then he called

for the hammer that he might drive the bolt through the plow-beam.

"I think you will find it over there close to those bushes," said Joe rather shamefacedly as he saw Alfred meant to fix it for him. Alfred found the hammer but had no better success in driving the bolt through the beam than Joe had, for at the first lick the hammer slipped again and caught Alfred's thumb bursting the skin near the nail, causing the blood to flow freely. He, too, let go the hammer, but only to fall at his feet, and as he was kneeling on one knee near the plow he bent his head over on the plow-beam and groaned aloud, grasping the injured thumb tightly in the other hand. He remained in this position a few moments, then raising his head and looking Joe straight in the face said, "Praise the Lord." Had a bomb exploded at Joe's feet it would not have surprised him more than the "Praise the Lord" which came from the lips of Alfred at this time. Joe stood open-mouthed, wide-eyed, and speechless, for he took in the situation at one glance. Alfred's thumb had received a harder lick from the hammer than his finger had, for the blood was dripping from the injured thumb and he had only raised a blister on his finger, and here Alfred was saying, "Praise the Lord." For some time Joe stood speechless then said, "What made you say that?"

"Sit down with me on this plow-beam and I shall tell you what made me say that at this time," said Alfred as he seated himself on the plow, holding his hand out beside him so the blood could drip onto the ground. Joe sat down beside him and he began, "I said, 'Praise the Lord,' for He alone is to be praised at this time for my actions. I could not have done it within myself, but as I knelt there by that plow I could not help but recall an incident of my early teens. I was building a wagon for my little brother and he was standing near

me when the hammer slipped and I mashed my thumb as I did today. But no sooner had I done it than I threw the hammer as you did and in doing so I threw it in such a way that it struck my little brother just over the eye. For three days he lay in an unconscious or semi-conscious condition and when he emerged from the shadows the first words that he spoke were, 'What made Al do that?' Of course I could not tell him what had made me do it other than I just got so angry. I had something to remind me of that outburst of mine for my brother carried a deep scar just above his eye until he died and as I looked at his cold form in the casket that scar was still a reminder of my uncontrolled temper. Not only in this incident, but many other times I lost control of myself. But I am glad to say, 'Praise the Lord,' for one day I sought the Lord with all my heart, and when He came into my heart I found Him a present help in time of need, and when do we need Him more than at times when we are not master of ourselves? I do not know what I should have done today had I not had the Lord to help me, but since He has so completely filled me and helped me to be an overcomer in times like this why should I not say, 'Praise the Lord'? I do not enjoy being hurt any more than you do and even now the pain is severe, for my arm is aching to my shoulder and I know that I shall have a very sore thumb for several days, but I can say, 'Praise the Lord,' for sustaining grace and for the keeping power which I have found in Him."

Tears were streaming down Alfred's face as he related his experience to Joe and Joe felt the hot tears coursing down his own cheeks. He would have liked to inquire more into Alfred's life but his throat seemed to close and he could not find voice to speak one word. For some time they sat together in silence, but

the Holy Spirit was doing His work in Joe's heart. Over and over he said to himself, "Here is a man who really knows God."

At last Alfred arose and went to the house to have his thumb dressed and Joe picked up the hammer and after several trials drove the bolt through the hole in the plow-beam. But all the anger was driven from him, and as Alfred came again into the field and resumed plowing Joe could hear him whistling, "Take the name of Jesus with you." And this only deepened the conviction in his soul.

*(To Be Continued)*

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### LESSON ILLUSTRATION



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An accident occurred in a coal-pit in which several lives were lost. But a man and a boy, catching hold of a chain hanging by the side of the pit, were saved from death. As soon as possible a man was sent down with a rope to help them. He came first to a boy named Daniel Harding. On his reaching him, the boy cried out, "Don't mind me, I can still hold on a little. But Joseph Brown is a little lower down, and he is nearly gone. Save him first."

Joseph Brown was saved first, and then Daniel was drawn up to light

and life. That's the kind of spirit Jesus gives those who follow Him. He wants us to put others first. Are you doing it? Jesus will help you, and bless you for doing it.

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Dear Boys and Girls:

Sometimes it is good to be excused. You are sitting at the table and when you want to leave you say, "May I be excused, please?" Or you may need to leave the room when there is company. You say, "I need to go now; please excuse me."

Now we are going to think of other kinds of excuses. Sometimes we may do something wrong and blame it on someone else, saying, "They told me to do this," when we know all the time that we shouldn't have done it in the first place. After Adam and Eve had eaten the forbidden fruit, God came down to talk to them. He inquired about them eating the fruit, and Adam blamed it on Eve. He said, "The woman thou hast given me, gave it to me, and I did eat." Eve said that the serpent had told her to eat it because it would make her wise. God, however, had already told them not to eat of the fruit and they knew it was wrong!

Another excuse may go something like this: you are asked to do something and you say, "I can't do that because I just don't know how." When God asked Moses to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt, Moses told God that he was slow of speech and couldn't talk in front of Pharaoh. He asked God to send someone else to help him. God sent Aaron, Moses' brother. God knew that Moses was capable of doing the job; that was the reason he had been chosen.

Our parable today tells of those who were invited to a feast that was prepared especially for them. When the servants went to invite them, they each one made excuses. What silly excuses

they were, too! One said that he had bought a piece of ground; another said that he had bought five yoke of oxen; and still another said that he had just gotten married. Those who were invited were not interested in the feast and made excuses not to go. Then the servants were sent to invite many, many others to the feast, and they came until the house was filled.

God has prepared a feast for us, which is salvation. We are all invited. If we make excuses, we will not enter into heaven to be forever with Him. If we accept the invitation we will be with Jesus and all the glory that heaven has for us.

—Aunt Dot

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## Lesson 8, May 20, 1984

### MAKING EXCUSES

Luke 14:16 Then said he unto them, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many:

17 And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready.

18 And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused.

19 And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused.

20 And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.

21 So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.

22 And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.

23 And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.

24 For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

25 And there went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said unto them,

26 If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

Matt. 20:16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

**Memory Verse:** So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple. Luke 14:33.

#### Questions:

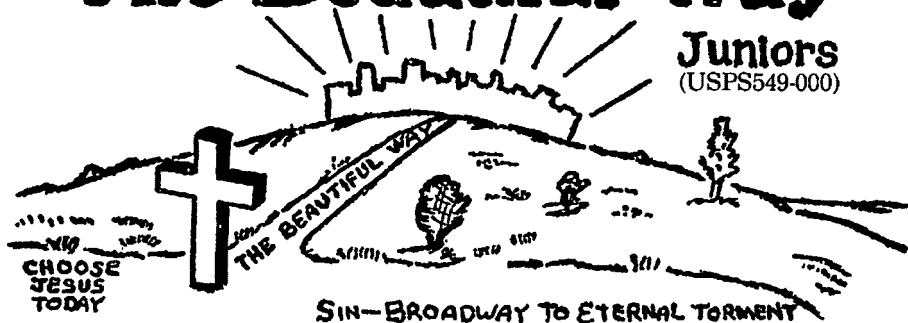
1. What did the man send out his servant to do?
2. Did the people come who were first invited?
3. What were the excuses that they offered?
4. What did the man tell his servant to do then?
5. Were there enough people to fill the seats at the house at first?
6. What did Jesus mean when He said we were to "forsake all" and follow Him?

**Bible Search:** What prophet did the birds feed, and what kind of birds were they? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Jericho. (Josh. 6:20).

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
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April, May, June, 1984

Part 9

May 27

## The Man of His Counsel

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

The next Sunday Joe again sought advice from his pastor. After the morning service, as Preacher Brumbaugh was leaving the chapel, he was confronted at the door by a very anxious member and listened for some time to the inquiries of a troubled soul as Joe related the happenings of the week which led to the interview. But if Joe hoped for encouragement he was sadly disappointed, for he received none. In his interview with Brother Reinhart he left with the consolation that he believed and had been baptized and if he only continued faithful to the end he would be saved, but Preacher Brumbaugh failed to give him the least bit of encouragement. After listening to Joe's story he said, "Uh huh, you mashed your finger and threw the hammer and your hired man saw you do it and he comes along and mashes his purposely so he can put a sanctimonious air with a 'holier than thou' attitude and then relates a sob story to you. The thing you should have done was to let him know that he was your hired man and not your master."

"But, Brother Brumbaugh," said Joe, "he does not take the position of mas-

ter, for there could be no better hired hand than Alfred. And I am sure that he did not strike his thumb purposely."

"If you will take my advice," replied Preacher Brumbaugh, "go on home and act like a man instead of a baby and do not let such trifling things trouble you. I have not found anything in the Word of God yet that says anything against throwing a hammer away when you mash your finger. In fact, we do not know what the Lord would have done in such cases for the Bible is silent about it and when the Bible is silent we ought to be silent, too. Our Lord was a carpenter and we do not know how many times He threw the hammer when He mashed His finger. We are not told all things that He did. In fact, one of the writers tells us that if all that He did had been written the world could not contain the books. And when we remember that He went into the temple and with a scourge of ropes drove out the money-changers, we might picture Him throwing away a hammer if He should mash His finger, for our Lord was human as well as divine and the human part of Him had feelings as well as you or I."

"I can understand why He should drive out the money-changers but I can-

not think of Him throwing away a hammer because of a mashed finger," replied Joe as he turned away.

"Well, we do not know that He did not," said Preacher Brumbaugh laughingly.

Joe could not understand why his spiritual advisor should answer his inquiries as he did that day, but had he been with him a few weeks previously he could well have understood for he, too, had lost control of himself and had thrown the hammer away because of a mashed thumb, and so the preacher could not have given advice other than he gave. His advice, however, did not help to lift the load from Joe's heart and he repeated to himself again and again, "Alfred has something that I know nothing about."

While Alfred was convincing Joe, Tillie, in her quiet way, was letting her light shine and often through some word or act of hers, though done unconsciously many times, was making Susie to see her real need. And while Joe was keeping his convictions to himself Susie was doing the same, both of them ashamed to confess to the other because both had been members of the same church for so long. Many times Susie would pass Tillie's door and hear her voice lifted in prayer and many times hear her own name mentioned. In this way Tillie kept such victory that her daily life was a real light to her neighbor. How Susie longed for such an experience, yet she never mentioned it to her husband! And Joe in turn longed for such an experience as Alfred had, yet he never mentioned it to his wife. Both of them were being attracted by a real Christian life.

## JOE UNLOADS

Although the advice given by Preacher Brumbaugh was not what Joe had desired it proved to be very helpful to him many times for the admonition

to go home and act like a man and not be a baby rang in his ears and many times when about to give vent to his temper this would come before him and he would say within himself, "I will be a man." And many times, too, when thinking of the occasion of his outburst when he threw the hammer away and the story Alfred told him he would try to comfort himself with the thought that if such tragedy had ever befallen him, he too would have learned to control himself. But all his reasoning could not lift the load from off his heart nor bring the peace in his soul for which he longed.

Often when alone, and thinking about his condition, Joe would groan aloud. How he longed to tell Susie, but it seemed something held him back. He felt too proud to acknowledge himself a sinner after having been a member of the church for so long, classed as a good member by his pastor, and pointed out by many as the model man of the community. Much as he tried to control himself there were times when Joe found that he was not master of himself and this would only make the load heavier. Poor Joe, he had not learned the secret of unloading.

As Alfred and Tillie lived in the country, far from any church except the one of which Joe and Susie were members, they did not have the church privileges they desired, so Alfred went to several of the neighbors and began to inquire about having some prayer meetings. He found a hearty response from many of the neighbors. So after ordering a number of songbooks they began having their weekly meetings. As Alfred was the one who first mentioned such meetings in the neighborhood he was appointed leader of the prayer-band, and as each week advanced he sought the Lord earnestly that he might read the right Scripture and give comments on it that would feed the souls of those who attended. For a few weeks there were

only a few who attended the meetings, but as reports went over the neighborhood of the enjoyable times spent together more began to attend until, in many of the homes where the prayer-band met, furniture was carried out of the house to make room to accommodate the people. Alfred and Tillie gave good reports of the meetings. They always invited Joe and Susie to go with them. Although the invitations were received courteously, there was always an excuse made for their remaining at home. When the prayer-band was to meet at the home of Alfred and Tillie they could not be so discourteous as to refuse to attend, for the meeting was under their own roof.

*(To Be Continued)*

Donna felt very uncomfortable. The girls in the little group with whom she ate lunch at school were discussing shows.

"Donna, why is it you don't go to shows?" one of the girls asked curiously.

Donna did not answer right away. She was thinking hard. It would be easier to say, "My mother doesn't allow me to," or "In the church I attend they don't approve of shows." But somehow she did not feel that was the right answer.

A little prayer for help went up from her heart to Jesus.

"The Lord Jesus has saved me from my sins and I want to please Him more than anyone," she said. "I don't believe I could please Him by going to such a worldly place."

After that the girls were not quite so friendly, but Donna knew that she had done the right thing, for she felt as though she had grown stronger inside.

We are becoming now what we will be when we are grown. If we are to be strong Christians, we must begin to grow strong while we are young.

"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you." 1 Peter 3:15.

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## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



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Dear Boys and Girls:

Prayer is a beautiful way to talk to our heavenly Father. When we kneel in prayer before the throne of God, all His power and glory are before us to use. Prayer is the key that opens God's storehouse to us, through faith in Jesus' name.

As we praise the Lord in prayer, we give God all glory that is due Him. He delights to hear praise and thanksgiving to His holy and righteous name. His ears are always opened to His children's prayers. God never slumbers or sleeps. (Psa. 121:4).

All our burdens and cares should be brought to God in prayer. As we, by faith in Jesus, bring each care to Him, we need to believe that He will hear us and help us in the way that He knows is best for us.

Solomon was king of Israel. God told him to ask what would, and He would grant it. Solomon asked for wisdom to guide all the people right. Because God was pleased with Solomon's request He

made him wiser than any man. (1 Kings 4:31). He gave him riches and honour, too.

Peter was delivered from prison by an angel when the saints prayed all night. Their earnest petition before the Lord was granted. What a wonderful answer to prayer! (Acts 12:1-19).

Jesus said, "Men ought always to pray and not faint." There was a certain widow in the city who had been wronged by someone. She went to the judge of that city for help but at first he didn't want to help her. She kept on returning to him again and again and finally he got tired of her.

He said, "Although I fear not God nor man, yet she troubles me with her coming. I will answer her petition and avenge her of her enemy."

In the parable, Jesus is teaching us to keep bringing our needs to Him in prayer. Our prayers may not be answered right away, but just as the widow continued to ask the judge for help, we should keep looking to Jesus to help us. He will never leave us nor forsake us. (Heb. 13:5) —Aunt Dot

## Lesson 9, May 27, 1984

### CONTINUE IN PRAYER

Luke 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

2 Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:

3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.

4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God nor regard man;

5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.

6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.

7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?

8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

Eph. 6:18 Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

Phil 4:6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

1 Thess. 5:17 Pray without ceasing.

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

### Questions:

1. Why did the widow need to go the judge?
2. Was he a good judge?
3. Did he want to help her?
4. What did she do when he wouldn't help her right away?
5. Did the judge fear God or man?
6. Why did the judge finally help her?
7. Does God always answer prayer for us right away?
8. What should we do when our prayers are not answered right away?

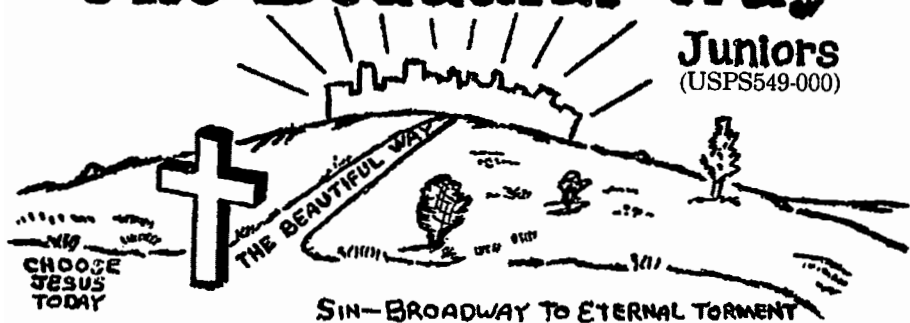
**Bible Search:** What three men were thrown into the fire and didn't burn? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Elijah, by the ravens. (1 Kings 17:1-4).



# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



Vol. 35, No. 2

April, May, June, 1984

Part 10

June 3

## The Man of His Counsel (Continued From Last Lesson)

At an early hour the crowd began to arrive. Some came in buggies, some in wagons, some on horse-back, while others living near came on foot. Joe could scarcely believe his eyes as he saw each room filled and still more coming. There was nothing left to do but to open his own doors that the crowd might be accommodated. This he did, and the crowd filled all the rooms. At the beginning of the singing Susie slipped from the room unnoticed and returned wearing her little white cap. The first song ended with Joe and Susie as listeners, but both joined in the second song, Susie with her clear soprano voice, and Joe with his rich, deep bass. The more they sang the better they enjoyed it. The song service had not ended until Joe decided if this was the the kind of meeting his neighbors were having he would not miss another one.

A number of songs were sung and then Alfred arose and opening his Bible began to read the Scripture lesson for the evening. He read the twenty-fifth chapter of Matthew, pausing many times to comment on the parables which are given there. He dwelt especially on the

five foolish virgins, and the man who buried his talent. Joe sat spellbound as he listened to his hired hand expounding the Scripture. The Holy Spirit was using an entrusted talent and Alfred was putting it out to the exchangers that it might be doubled. The words which he spoke were having their effect on his hearers. After the Scripture lesson Alfred then said, "We will now have a season of prayer. After Brother Holmier leads us in a few words of prayer I shall ask for a few volunteer prayers. Let us all bow while Brother Holmier leads us in prayer." Joe looked from room to room and saw all kneeling, waiting for him to lead them in prayer. At first he felt that he would just quietly withdraw from the room but on second thought knew that would not do for the whole community regarded him as a Christian man, a real model. Such an act would never do for him. So he knelt with the rest, thinking he would say only a few words. But his tongue seemed to cleave to the roof of his mouth. There was a profound silence for some time and Joe felt the beating of his heart shaking his whole frame. He must do something, but he could not think of one word. It seemed he was kneeling for

an hour and that all eyes were turned upon him, but such was not the case. All were in a worshipful attitude before the Lord and the time had been but a few seconds. At last Joe collected himself sufficiently to repeat the prayer that the Lord had taught His disciples to pray and was surprised at the close of the prayer to hear Alfred's "Amen." A number of others prayed and then Alfred led in prayer with such fervor and earnestness that Joe felt a tightening in his chest and found it difficult to breathe.

The prayer service over another song was sung, but Joe did not join in the singing. He felt little. He was sure that all there knew now that he was not the man that he had been posing to be for so many years. If the floor had opened and received him out of the sight of all it would have been a welcomed event to him. How miserable he felt.

But there was still more in the meeting to drive home the truth his soul needed. The service was turned into a praise-meeting and all were given the opportunity to tell what the Lord had done for them. The testimonies differed according to the respective persons. Some rose with a real praise and thanksgiving to the Lord for deliverance and for real victory, finding real pleasure in the service of the Lord and encouraged to go on in the way. Others testified to a hard time with their ups and downs, but asked the prayers of all that they might not give up but continue faithful to the end. Joe's testimony was even more brief than his prayer, but as all were having some word of praise, he, too, felt that he must say something. So he said in a shaky voice, "I thank God for this meeting for I feel that it has done me good." Alfred's testimony was full of praise to his God for complete and constant victory. As Joe was thrown into Alfred's company daily he knew that Alfred was not testifying any high-

er than he lived, for his life was one above reproach. How Joe coveted a like experience, but he was too proud to acknowledge his lack. The meeting was truly helpful to Joe, but it took something more to break his stubborn will and bring him to the place where he would seek for that which his soul was longing.

Among the work animals that Joe had was an old mare he called "Balky Fan." She received this name because she often balked and no one could get her to move. She was a good work animal until she took a notion to work no more and then her work for that time was done. Joe had often made the remark to his wife after Alfred had shown such an even temper when he struck his thumb with the hammer that he would like to see what Alfred would do some time if old "Balky Fan" should take a spell with him as she had heretofore when Joe was trying to work her. Joe had tried everything that anyone had told him to do to break her from balking but all to no avail. He could never deal with her without losing control of himself and Fan would get a hard beating. Yet this did no good. Joe really desired to see just what Alfred would do should she take such a spell with him.

The next day after the prayer meeting Joe told Alfred to hitch up old Fan with another one of his horses and haul some blocks up from the woods, for he wanted his winter's wood all ready before the cold weather set in. Alfred had hauled two loads and old Fan had behaved well, but just as he came into the lot with the third load, in trying to back the team old Fan refused to move. Alfred slapped her with the lines but she only stood stock still and did not move except to shake her head and bite on the bit. Alfred then got down off the wagon and walked around intending to pat her on the neck and try a little

coaxing, but when he touched her she reared up and threw her fore feet across the back of the other horse, which made the situation all the more puzzling. Joe stood witnessing the situation and at this time came up to where Alfred was standing and said, "Now what are you going to do about it?"

"There is but one thing to do, as I see," replied Alfred, "and that is to get the other horse out of there for she may injure him if we do not, and if you will loosen those traces I will unbuckle the neck-yoke and we will get him away from her and then perhaps we can do something with old Fan." And Alfred began to unbuckle the harness.

"Now is when I feel that she ought to be knocked in the head," said Joe as he gave her a kick in her side.

"That would do no good," replied Alfred, "for the horse is probably not to blame. She may have been ruined in breaking. The man who broke her for the harness is perhaps responsible for all this. Few dumb animals would take such balky spells had they been handled right in the breaking."

"That may all be true," replied Joe, "but that does not help us now. I just can't help but want to knock out her when she takes these crazy spells."

*(To Be Continued)*

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### Honesty Pays

"I have an idea. Let's put some rocks in with these walnuts that we have to sell and they will weigh more. That way we will have more money," Larry said to Bill as they weighed their sacks of walnuts.

They sold several sacks of walnuts with the rocks for added weight and it looked like they were getting away with it, as no one said anything about it. But one day a lady had them open one of the sacks so she could see the walnuts before she bought any. And there were the

rocks in plain sight for her to see. How embarrassed the boys were as she gave them a lecture on being honest. The boys were so ashamed that they never tried that anymore. It pays to be honest.

—Marie Miles

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Dear Boys and Girls:

There is always so much excitement when a wedding is to take place. Most everyone is happy to know their friend, sister, brother, or whoever it may be, has set their wedding date. If you have been asked to the wedding, it is especially exciting for you. Or maybe you will help in some way to get things ready for that all-important day. There is so much planning to be done! The bride's dress, dresses for the bridesmaids and others will have to be bought or made. The groom and the men with him will need nice suits to wear. The wedding cake, food, and other things will have to be taken care of. Everything needs to be at the wedding scene on time and on the special date. I once went to a wedding that was about a half hour late because some that were to be in the wedding weren't there on time. The guests were all in the church waiting and wondering what could possibly have gone wrong. Finally the wedding began and everything was beautiful.

The ten virgins had been invited to a wedding, too. Each of them were to keep ready, for they didn't know when the Bridegroom would come. They all had lamps that were to be kept filled with oil. While they waited for the Bridegroom they all fell asleep.

Finally the call came: the Bridegroom is coming! The virgins all arose out of their sleepiness and began trimming their lamps. Now five of these virgins were foolish—they had forgotten to take extra oil with them and had allowed their lamps to go out. They asked if

they could have some oil from the wise virgins. The wise virgins couldn't spare any, though, lest they not have enough for themselves.

While the foolish virgins went to buy oil, the Bridegroom came, and the door was shut. The foolish were left out because they had not been ready at the appointed time.

One day Jesus is coming for each of us. We need to be saved and always living for Him as the wise virgins who were ready when the Bridegroom came. Jesus may come for us at any time and we must have His Spirit within our lives or we may be found wanting as the foolish virgins who had no oil in their lamps.

Let's be wise and be ready to go with Jesus to be with Him in heaven.

—Aunt Dot

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**Lesson 10, June 3, 1984**

**BE YE READY**

Matt. 25:1 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, which took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.

2 And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

3 They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:

4 But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

5 While the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.

6 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.

7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.

8 And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are gone out.

9 But the wise answered, saying, Not so; lest there be not enough for us and you: but go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.

10 And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage: and the door was shut.

11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.

12 But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

13 Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh.

**Memory Verse:** Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh. Matt. 24:44.

**Questions:**

1. How many virgins were there and how many were wise? How many were foolish?
2. Did they all have lamps?
3. What did they need to have in their lamps?
4. What did the virgins do while they waited?
5. When the Bridegroom came, did they all have oil in their lamps?
6. Did the wise think they had enough for themselves and the foolish?
7. What happened when the foolish virgins went to buy oil? When they got back was the door opened to them?
8. Should we be ready for Jesus when He comes?
9. Explain what we should do to be ready.

**Bible Search:** Which two men did not die? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. (Dan. 3:26).

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
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April, May, June, 1984

Part 11

June 10

## The Man of His Counsel

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

Alfred coaxed and petted, but Fan would not get up. All the time that he was working with her Joe noted the evenness of his tone as he spoke to her and saw that he was not the least bit angry. After each trial he wondered what Alfred would do next. At last when it seemed that all means were exhausted Alfred sat down on the wagon tongue and buried his face in his hands as if in deep thought for some time and then raising his face he looked Joe in the face and said, "Joe, we can't make old Fan get up, but there is One who can. I do not know what to do but He does, and that One is the Lord. He has promised me to be a present help and I need His help now." Walking to Fan's head he took hold of the bridle rein and said, "Come on, old girl," and as he lifted on the bridle rein the old mare got up much to Joe's surprise, as docile and meek as if nothing had ever happened. Alfred stood patting her neck and the old mare turned her head and began rubbing her nose on Alfred's shoulder. He then hitched the other horse to the wagon and came on into the lot with his load

of wood. All the balk was gone from old Fan.

Alfred worked old Fan all the rest of the day. That evening, after he had finished feeding the stock, he went to the house, leaving Joe standing in the open doorway of the barn where he stood for some time in deep meditation. He gazed far over his well-kept fields, looking at the fruits of his summer's labor. He had labored hard, early and late, but it had not brought satisfaction for which his soul longed. At last he turned his eyes toward the house. There he saw a little curly head in the window and the wave of a little hand. This seemed to bring him to himself and as he closed the barn door he said, "I'll tell her all about it," and at this started for the house.

He found Susie busying herself with the evening's meal. Walking up to her, and laying his arm about her shoulder, he said, "Susie, there is something that I want to tell you and I want to tell it to you now."

Susie looked up into his face with a very questioning expression in her eyes. She had never heard Joe speak to her in any such manner. When she saw the earnestness in his face she said, "All

right. I am sure that I shall listen to you. What is it?"

"I hardly know what to say or how to say it, but I must tell you. I have been carrying such a load around for some time and have been too proud to come and tell you what I really should have told you long ago. I am a miserable man, and I want you to help me. I have belonged to the church for a number of years, but I am no Christian. I am not right with God and not fit to enter heaven. I know you are a good woman, and I have not treated you right, but I mean to be a better man. I can't pray, but I know you can pray for me. I want to get to God, but just how to do it I don't know. I want you to help me and pray for me."

"Oh, Joe," exclaimed Susie, "I know you are as good as I am and I do not feel able to pray for myself."

"No, I am not as good as you are," hastily replied Joe, "for you know the many times that I have been so angry and said such ugly things to you, and then have been so pouty. You have always been so good to me in times like that and have never spoken cross or angry words to me. I know you are much better than I am, and I want you to help me."

"Oh, Joe," said Susie, as she began sobbing on his shoulder, "do not talk to me like that, for you have so much more patience with the children than I have that I know you are as good as I am, and I think much better."

"Well, this thing I know," said Joe in a positive tone of voice, "I am no Christian and I am unloading my profession of such and shall never lay claim to it again until I know that I am right with God and fit to enter heaven. I want to be able to pray and to live right every day and I want you to help me."

Susie placed her arms about his neck and as she kissed his cheek said, "I will help you all I can."

## SUSIE PROVES A HELPER

Three weeks passed and each day left Joe more miserable than he had been the day before. How he longed to find the peace for which his soul was craving! Nothing else seemed to occupy his mind, and this was the only topic of conversation between him and his wife. So serious had the matter become to him that Susie became very much alarmed about him and finally decided the best thing for her to do was to let him know again that she thought him the best man she knew. But when she began to tell him of his good graces she found that he could only see the worst part of himself and all her words only brought deeper conviction. Each Sunday morning he would say to Susie as they would prepare to attend services, "Surely I shall hear something today that will help me to find the peace for which I long." In this, however, he was disappointed, for the sermons consisted principally of an admonition to observe the rules of the church, to dress plainly and be industrious, to stand fast in the faith for the one who endured unto the end was the one who would be saved.

Among all the hearers there was none more attentive than Joe, for he was searching for that which would bring the peace for which his soul was longing. But it seemed that no light dawned on his soul. Instead the way became darker and darker. Although he was desirous to be a real Christian he did not confide in Alfred, but was free to speak on the subject to his wife, for he felt that she was really a Christian and could give him the needed help. The more she tried to assist her husband the more the arrow of conviction was plunged into her own heart, and many times after trying to encourage him she would sit in deep meditation, asking herself many questions. But usually the question that came first to her was,

"How can I instruct him when I am no nearer right than he is?" In this manner the two fought the battle together, neither confiding in their neighbors who were able to instruct them and show them the way to God and to the peace for which they both craved.

Alfred and Tillie were not blind to conditions in the Holmier home and many nights when unable to sleep they would arise from their bed and spend much time on their knees praying for Joe and Susie. They felt that the more they prayed the more miserable the two became. Although so burdened for them, they never mentioned their soul need to them in any way but went on about their labors on the farm as usual. How wisely they dealt with their neighbors, waiting for that moment when they could speak to them of God. When they felt that they needed help they went on their knees to talk to God, asking that He would send the Holy Spirit to talk to Joe and Susie, knowing the instruction given them would be effective.

*(To Be Continued)*

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Always take time to do good. Some day you will need help from others.

Dear Boys and Girls:

In our lesson today, Jesus has given us a beautiful parable of God's love to sinful people. God's plan of salvation is so precious and simple.

A father had two sons. The youngest boy thought, "If I had all the money that was mine, I could really enjoy life!" So one day, he said to his father, "Father, give me what is mine." The boy's father probably felt sorry about this, but he gave his son what belonged to him. Not long after, the boy gathered all his things and went his way. Now he could do just as he pleased, and he tried all the worldly ways, doing many things that were sinful. While he had money to spend, he had many friends. Soon, however, his money and friends were gone and he had to work for what he needed. Because he didn't have enough food to eat he would gladly have eaten some of the pigs' food.

By and by he thought of his father back home. All his father's servants had more to eat than he, with plenty to spare; yet he was always hungry. As he thought on these things, he decided to go home again, and be a servant, because he no longer felt worthy to be called a son.

His father was burdened for his wayward boy, and kept watching for him to come home again. Who was this coming down the road?! Could it be his boy? Yes, it was his son coming back to him! He ran to meet him and hugged and kissed him. His young son was sorry for all that he had done by causing such grief to his father. His father was so thankful and happy that his boy was home again that he told his servants to prepare a feast, and put a ring and robe on him.

Our heavenly Father loves us, too, just as the father loved his son in the parable. Sometimes there are those who leave the fold of God and go in sinful paths. Jesus is always watching over us, and through His gentle Spirit, is trying to lead us back to Him. When we come back He is always willing to forgive. There is joy among the angels in heaven when a sinner comes to Jesus. (Luke 15:10). —Aunt Dot

Lesson 11, June 10, 1984

THE PRODIGAL SON

Luke 15:11 And he said, A certain man had two sons:

12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.

13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living.

14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.

15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him.

17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants.

20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet:

23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry:

24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

**Memory Verse:** The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. Psalms 34:18.

**Questions:**

1. In the parable, how many sons did the father have?
2. What did the young son want his father to give him?
3. Why did he want his money?
4. Did the father give him his money?
5. What did the boy do with his money, and was it a wise thing to do?
6. Why did he decide to go back to his father's house?
7. Did he think he was worthy to be a son now?
8. Was his father watching for him, and was he happy to see him?
9. What did he tell his servants to do for his son?

**Bible Search:** Where did Moses die? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Enoch (Genesis 5:24), and Elijah (2 Kings 2:11).



# The Beautiful Way

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Part 12

June 17

## The Man of His Counsel

(Continued From Last Lesson)



Alfred and Tillie often went to services with Joe and Susie, but the evening of the third Sunday after Joe had confided in his wife and told her that he felt his need of a real experience the two went to spend the evening with another neighbor who had a very sick child, so did not go with Joe and his wife to church. The trip to Steele's Crossing was made in almost complete silence on the part of both, but as they neared the little chapel where they had attended services since the first of the year Joe remarked, "Susie, I feel that I shall hear something tonight that will be of benefit to me and help me to get the experience I so much desire."

"I truly hope that you do," replied Susie, "for I feel that if you get something good I shall, too."

"But you do not need it as I do," said Joe, as he assisted her to alight from the wagon. "If I were only as good as you I would not feel that I needed much more."

"Oh, Joe," said Susie, and her voice trembled; "if you only knew just what

you were saying you would not speak as you do. I feel so little and unworthy and feel my need also."

"That has always been the trouble with me," replied Joe. "I thought I was all right and did not need anything but awakened to the fact that I do not have what I really need. I only wish I were as good as you are." And with this remark they entered the little chapel.

Joe felt confident that he would hear something that would be of benefit to him. But the preacher gave out a sermon on the peculiarity of God's people—how they were different from anyone else or any class of people, dwelling especially on the thought that they did not follow the fads and fashions of the world, stating that if anyone, even a stranger, should come among them the stranger could readily tell the ones who had separated themselves from the world by the manner of dress that was worn. Joe felt more burdened than ever. For a number of years he had worn the plain dress of his particular faith, but he could not say that it had brought him the thing for which his heart craved and he decided that it took more to be a Christian than to attire oneself in any particular mode of dress.

The trip home was not made in such abject silence as that to the chapel had been, for Joe talked freely to his wife about the longing of his soul and how hungry he was really to know God and feel that all the wrongs he had done were blotted out. "But what shall I do?" asked Joe as he entered the lot and the team came to a standstill. "I do not know what to do. God knows I would do anything that is required of me so that I could feel that I was right with God and everything that I have done that is wrong has been forgiven. There surely must be some way, but what it is I do not know. Can't you help me? You promised me that you would help me all you could and I want you to help me now, for I cannot go on in this manner much longer. The burden is getting so heavy that I can scarcely bear up under it. Is there no way out?"

Tears were streaming down his face as he pleaded with Susie to help him. How she wanted to tell him that she, too, felt the need of help, but refrained from doing so, fearing it would discourage him, for she knew that he had made her his sole confidant and was looking to her at this time for help. How she longed to be a real helper. For some time they sat in the wagon and neither spoke. All at once a passage of Scripture which she had read a few days before came to her and said, "There surely is help or you would not have been made to feel your need. I think when we do our part God will surely do His part. Don't you?"

"It seems that is the way it should be," replied Joe, "but what does He want me to do? If I only knew what He wanted me to do I would surely do it."

"I think God works just as His Word says, don't you?" inquired Susie.

"I do not see how He could work otherwise," replied Joe. "But what does His Word tell us to do when we want to

know we are right with God and all that we have done is forgiven?"

"I can only tell you what I read a few days ago," said Susie. "'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness,' and 'He that cometh unto him must believe that he is and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.'"

"That sounds good to me," said Joe, "but I know that I have confessed the best I know. God knows I would do anything that is required of me that I might obtain that peace for which I long."

"You might have confessed," said Susie, "but failed to seek Him diligently. I am sure when we do our part that God will do His part."

"That may be true," replied Joe. "I might not have been so earnest about it as God requires me to be, but wherein I have lacked and whatever I have failed to do I mean to do, for I shall not give up until I know there is no hope for me."

"That sounds to me like diligence," said Susie as Joe alighted from the wagon and began to unhitch the horses. After caring for the team the two went to the house, each carrying a child in their arms, and as Joe laid his sleeping boy on the bed he said, "If I were just as innocent as he is I would be all right."

"Yes," replied Susie very slowly, "I read where Jesus said one time to some certain people, 'Except ye be converted and become as little children ye can in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven,' and I believe that is what He meant. We are to be just as innocent before Him as our little children are before us."

Poor Susie; how incompetent she felt of giving instruction, yet unconscious of the fact she was giving the enlightenment that was needed. After the children were undressed and in their night

ies, Joe said, "I wish you would take the children and go on to bed and leave me alone for awhile for I know there will be no sleep for me if I do go to bed." So Susie took the two children and went upstairs to their bedroom, leaving Joe to himself. For some time he paced the floor back and forth through the living room, through the dining room, and then into the kitchen. Only those who have had a like experience can understand the battle that was raging in his soul.

At last he sat down on a kitchen stool, and resting his elbows on his knees he buried his face in his hands and groaned aloud in his anguish. He sat there for some time. Then he arose and entered the little pantry, fell on his knees, and as he did so he felt so little and so mean that he could not lift his head. Falling over, he buried his face in his hands on the floor and again groaned aloud. He seemed unable to utter a word. The words his wife spoke to him, "If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us of our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness," kept ringing in his ears, and as he would think of them he would again groan aloud. At last the wrongs that he had done began coming up before him. This brought gushing tears and he said, "Yes, Lord, I did it, but I am sorry. Forgive me." These were the only words of prayer that he could utter. He thought himself all alone. But as Alfred and Tillie came in at a late hour Alfred heard heavy groans coming from the region of the Holmier kitchen and he went to investigate. As he entered into the dark room he heard Joe say, "Yes, Lord, I did it. Forgive me," and knew what was going on. So he withdrew as quietly as he had come. But he and his wife on their knees in their own home prayed earnestly for God to give Joe the needed help.

Joe kept confessing and asking forgiveness and at last found words to cry

out, "Now, Lord, I have done all that I know to do. What more do I lack?" Immediately the words of his wife came to him, "He that cometh to him must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." For some time he remained quiet, then again groaned aloud. He cried out, "Lord, I believe thou art, and thou art a rewarder of them that diligently seek thee, and I have sought thee diligently." As he spoke these words his faith took hold of God and he felt the load lifted from his soul. He arose from his prostrate position and going up the stairs, two at a time, he cried out, "Susie, I have found it! Susie, I have found it."

*(To Be Continued)*

Jesus has told us to watch. He said that He will come in a moment when you will not know. But if you are always doing what He has told you to do, you will always be ready for His return. So "watch" your words, your actions, and your deeds.

Dear Boys and Girls:

Do you have a little furry puppy or kitten? Aren't they the most adorable little things? They're so cuddly and fun to have around. If we love our little pets, we will see that they have food and water. If it is an outdoor pet, we need to see that it has some kind of shelter to help keep it warm in the cold winter months, and be protected from the hot sun in the summer time.

When we go away somewhere or to school and then come home, our little puppy or kitten is so happy to see us again. We're glad to be welcomed home, too. Suppose one day, though, we came home and our little pet isn't there to meet us? We start looking everywhere that we think it might be. Maybe it's in the garage or barn, or out in the woods.

So we call its name and listen really closely for any signs of it being around. It seems to be nowhere around and we feel so badly. Maybe we even pray and ask Jesus to help us find it. Finally our pet is found and we are so happy to see it once again.

A shepherd loves his sheep too. He goes before his sheep and leads the way to nice green grass and fresh water. He gets the very best for them. He is always looking for any thorns, cuts, or bruises so that they can be tended to. When his sheep need rest, he watches for any animals that may hurt or even kill any of them.

The shepherd in our parable is Jesus. We are His sheep and He loves and cares for each of us. When any of His sheep are hurting or in trouble, He is always ready to help them. He watches over us day and night, that nothing will harm us. If one should go astray, He will leave the others to search for the one lost sheep. When He finds it, He brings it home rejoicing that the one sheep that was lost is found.

—Aunt Dot

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## Lesson 12, June 17, 1984

### ONE LOST SHEEP

Matt. 18:10 Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.

11 For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost.

12 How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?

13 And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray.

14 Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

1 Pet. 2:25 For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

1 Tim. 1:15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

Ezek. 34:11 For thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out.

15 I will feed my flock and I will cause them to lie down, saith the Lord God.

**Memory Verse:** For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. Luke 19:10.

### Questions:

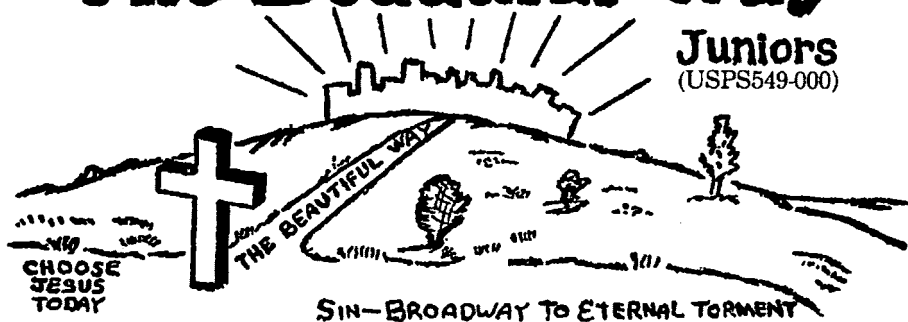
1. How many sheep did the man have in our parable?
2. How many sheep went astray?
3. Did the shepherd leave the ninety-nine to find the one sheep?
4. Did he rejoice when it was found?
5. Who is our Good Shepherd?
6. Are we His sheep?
7. Does He watch over and care for us?
8. Does He rejoice over us when we come to Him?
9. What did the Son of Man (Jesus) come for?

**Bible Search:** In what mountain was Joshua buried? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Mount Nebo (Deut. 34:1, 5).

# The Beautiful Way

Juniors  
(USPS549-000)



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April, May, June, 1984

Part 13

June 24

## The Man of His Counsel

*(Continued From Last Lesson)*

As Joe entered their bedroom he found a woman with a tear-stained face, and as he began walking the floor praising God she broke down and began sobbing and said, "Oh, Joe, pray for me, for I am not right." As Joe knelt down beside his wife he found his tongue had been loosed. He called on God to help and soon Susie's shouts were mingled with his as she too found that peace of soul that passeth all understanding. There was no sleep for them. The shouts had been heard in the adjoining room. Alfred and Tillie came in to rejoice with them in their new-found joy. Alfred then told Joe he had entered the kitchen unnoticed by him while he was in the pantry, to which Joe inquired why he did not try to help him. Alfred said, "I did not think you needed my help, for I knew the way you were doing that you would soon get what you were seeking."

At this Susie began to praise the Lord again and said, "The wonderful thing about it is that I have found peace, too." After the second outburst subsided Joe laid his hand on Susie's head and said, "How about your little cap?"

A look of surprise passed over her face as she exclaimed, "Ah, I did not have it on, did I?"

"No," replied Joe laughingly. "You forgot your little white cap but you did not forget to pray."

## JOE MEETS HIS OPPOSERS

Joe and Susie were so elated over their new-found joy that they wanted to tell it everywhere they went and to everyone they met. The joy within their souls was so great and so wonderful to them that they felt all would be interested in what they had to say, but in this they were mistaken. Very few seemed to care to listen to their testimony. It seemed to Joe that Wednesday night would never come so anxious was he to get to the prayer meeting.

When called upon Joe led in prayer. He came before the Lord with real thanksgiving for deliverance from sin and for the peace for which every hungry soul longs. Those present marveled at the prayer offered but were more surprised than ever when Joe added his testimony to the others' and made a public confession that he had been a church-member since he was a boy but had never known what peace with God really

was until the Sunday night before when he had confessed all to the Lord and now knew that God had forgiven him.

Susie, in her little white cap added her testimony also, thanking God for a real knowledge of sins forgiven. Those present marveled at the noted change in the Holmiers but were surprised to learn that neither had been a Christian all the years they had been professing. Joe had come into their community with such a good reputation and stood so high among the members of his particular faith that the news of his conversion was a surprise to all of them. There were only a few testimonies given after Joe and Susie made their confession, for all seemed to be absorbed in thought. The meeting was dismissed at an earlier hour than any previous meeting, and if Joe could have listened to remarks made in the different groups that congregated he would have heard remarks as follows: "Now, what do you think about that?" "Don't that beat the world?" "Who would have thought it?" "Well, what will happen next?" The prayer and testimonies of the Holmiers was a topic of conversation for the community for several weeks, some remarking that if the Holmiers were not Christians it would be a difficult task for anyone to find a Christian in the entire community. Thus one can see how easily man can deceive man, but truly "God looketh on the heart."

Among those present at the prayer meeting was one of the members from the church at Steele's Crossing. He called on Preacher Brumbaugh at a very early hour Thursday morning to tell him of the confession made by Joe and Susie at the prayer meeting of the evening before and the preacher, in turn, called upon Joe and Susie to make an investigation. He found Joe and Susie ready to welcome him and accepted their kind invitation to stay with them for the evening meal. Nothing was said of the

prayer meeting the night before until the meal had ended and Preacher Brumbaugh was preparing to take his departure. Joe felt that his pastor had called to talk about the report that had reached him and inquire why he should make a public confession but refrained from speaking on the subject, thinking it best to let his pastor approach him along that line so that he would be better prepared to talk to him. At last the minister said, "I hear your hired man is holding cottage prayer meetings around in the neighborhood and having quite a large attendance and people are becoming interested. Do you attend these meetings?"

"I have only been to two of them," said Joe.

"Is that true?" questioned his pastor. "I guess I have been misinformed then, for I heard that you not only attended but took an active part in the meetings."

"I do not know just what you would call an active part and do not know that I have been really active," replied Joe. "I surely have not been as active as far as I shall be from now on, for I mean to be at every meeting unless I shall be hindered otherwise and I shall have to have a reasonable excuse to keep me away."

Preacher Brumbaugh stood twirling his hat in his hand, looking down at the floor for some time, and then said, "That is all very well, and I think this is a good way to get the faith of your church before the people, but one has to be very careful or he will be led astray. I fear even now that you have gone a little bit too far. I hear that you said you had never been a Christian until you began attending these prayer meetings. Is that true?"

Joe stood looking first at Susie and then at his pastor, seemingly at a loss to know just what to say. At last he

found words to say, "It is true and it is not true."

"I don't understand you," said Preacher Brumbaugh. "Just what do you mean by its being true and yet not true?"

"I did not say that I had never been a Christian until I began attending the prayer meetings," said Joe; "but as I was converted last Sunday night after we came home from services and for the first time in my life found what it really means to have peace in my soul and know that I am right with God and as I did not begin to attend prayer meetings until last Wednesday evening the report that reached your ears is therefore both true and untrue."

"Come, come, now Brother Holmier," said Preacher Brumbaugh, "you are not trying to make me believe that you have lived for so many years in the church and kept all its ordinances and have been so faithful in every way and still were not a Christian."

"You may believe it or not," said Joe, "but although I have been a member of your church for a number of years I never knew what it meant to be free from guilt and condemnation until last Sunday night when there in my pantry God spoke peace to my soul. I knew it then and I know it now, thank God."

"And neither did I," exclaimed Susie.

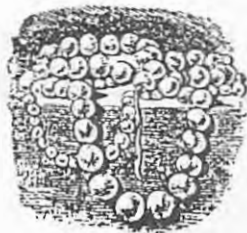
"I cannot understand," said Preacher Brumbaugh, "how you could do all the things that you have done and still say you were not a Christian. We are to know a tree by the fruit that it bears."

*(To Be Continued)*

"You can't be too young  
To choose to do right,  
And always remember  
You walk in God's sight."

God wants us to trust Him. Do not worry about tomorrow, but trust God to take care of all the problems for tomorrow.

## LESSON ILLUSTRATION



Dear Boys and Girls:

Have you ever hidden or lost something that was important to you? You looked everywhere for it, didn't you? After you had looked in every possible place, you started looking in places you thought it surely wouldn't be. Then you started looking all over again; maybe, you thought, you had looked right over it.

One time, after I had moved I noticed that something that was important to me was missing. I looked every place I could think of where it might be. It seemed that I looked in every possible place. In prayer, I asked Jesus to help me find it. One night after prayer a thought came to me: "Look in the dresser drawer." I went right away and there it was. I was so glad that it hadn't been destroyed or forgotten when we moved.

If something is hidden, it is of no use to us until it is found again. That's the way it was with the man who hid his talent in the ground. Because he buried it, even what he had was taken from him. (Matt. 25:24-28). A hidden treasure was in a field. A treasure is something that is precious and valued highly. The

man was diligent in searching for it. When he found it, he sold all that he had, so he could buy the field that the treasure was in. When we seek the Lord diligently, He will come into our hearts. Then we give up all the world and its ways so that Jesus will abide with us. He is the joy of our lives. To do His will is our most earnest desire.

Pearls are very precious gems. Men seek after them. They look for the most perfect pearl of great price. When they find it, they sell all other pearls and buy that one that is of greater value. Jesus is as the pearl of great price when we find Him and let Him into our hearts to live. Everything else in life grows dim next to Jesus' abiding love. His smile on us lets us know that He is satisfied with us, and is more precious to us than all the world. —Aunt Dot

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**Lesson 13, June 24, 1984**

## **SEEKING AND SEARCHING**

Matt. 13:44 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found, he hideth, and for joy thereof goeth and selleth all that he hath, and buyeth that field.

45 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls:

46 Who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had, and bought it.

Psa. 77:1 I cried unto God with my voice, even unto God with my voice; and he gave ear unto me.

2 In the day of my trouble I sought the Lord: my sore ran in the night, and ceased not: my soul refused to be comforted.

3 I remembered God, and was troubled: I complained, and my spirit was overwhelmed.

4 Thou holdest mine eyes waking: I am so troubled that I cannot speak.

5 I have considered the days of old, the years of ancient times.

6 I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search.

Matt. 6:19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt and where thieves break through and steal:

20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

**Memory Verse:** Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee. Psa. 119:11.

### **Questions:**

1. What was hidden in the field?
2. What is a treasure?
3. Was the man anxious to find the treasure, and did he find it?
4. What did he do after he found it?
5. What was the merchant man seeking for?
6. Did he find the pearl of great price?
7. When he found it, what did he do?
8. Who is our "Pearl of great price" or "Hidden Treasure"?
9. Should we give up everything to have Jesus in our hearts?

**Bible Search:** What mountain was called the "Mountain of God"? (Answer Next Week).

**Last Week's Answer:** Mount Ephaim (Judges 2:8, 9).