



Vol. 57, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 July 2, 2006

Little Hands, Little Faces

(Continued from last week.)

The little hands no longer stretched out to Faith Stewart from over the sea. They were now so close! There were so many dear, little children, with their sad eyes always pleading, it seemed, to be rescued. The modest building that first housed the "Home" soon became too small. A larger one was needed. There was a steady inflow of children of all ages. Some came from the places of awful bondage, others came because of famine. They came to the "Home" sad, starving and sick or needy, and filled the place.

Faith knew where to go for help and guidance. Through earnest prayer and waiting on God, money gradually came in to build a more suitable home. They were able to buy enough land to build a large two-story building with a wide veranda (porch) stretching along the entire length in front of it. It was well planned to meet the needs of caring for little children.

A spacious lawn surrounded the building. Faith and the helpers were extremely thankful for the good home God had provided. Funds continued to come in so a nursery building was put up to care for infants. Later, a school building and a beautiful chapel for worship were built on the grounds.

After more years passed, a weaving shed was built for the older girls. Here they were taught to weave. The Government bought all the cloth they wove on their looms that was not used at the Home. They also wove baskets and other needed articles, and, in time, the older girls became self-supporting.

The building was finished and they were well settled and moving along nicely in the new location. Two brothers from the States were making a tour of the mission field, looking at different institutions as they traveled through the countries. While visiting India they came to see Faith, bringing along a notebook of suggestions, hoping to be of help to her in her work.

After touring the grounds, inspecting the buildings and seeing the operation, they told her, "On our way to India, we have visited many homes for children, taking down notes to share with you."

"I will be very glad to have any help or ideas you may have obtained to aid me in the work and will appreciate your giving them to me," Faith told them.

"No," they replied, "we shall not need to do so. This Home is the best planned for little children that we have found in our travels! We feel that we could add nothing to it."



FREEDOM!

John 3:16-17

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

John 8:32, 36

32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

Romans 6:16-18, 22; 8:1-2

16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

17 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you.

18 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye haveyourfruit untoholiness, and the end everlasting life.

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in

Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Galatians 5:1

1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

James 1:25

25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetfulhearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

1 Peter 5:8

8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

The Message: We cannot be truly free until we are free from sin. Only Jesus can give you such freedom.

Questions:

- 1. Who gave His only begotten Son?
- 2. Who will have everlasting life?
- 3. Why did God send His Son into the world?
- 4. "Ye shall know the ____and the ___shall make you free."
- 5. Who can make you free indeed?
- 6. How do we become servants of God?
- 7. What will we have in the end?
- 8. What law did Jesus free us from?
- 9. Who is your adversary and what is he like?

Verse to Memorize

If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

John 8:36.



In a few days, July 4th, our nation will celebrate its Independence Day. On July 4, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was signed in Philadelphia. This announced to the rest of the world that the colonies were now free and independent from Great Britain. They were now free to set up their own government and make their own laws. The founding fathers called this new nation the United States of America. Since they had won their freedom from Great Britain they no longer had to obey British laws; Great Britain no longer had the power to tax and oppress the new nation.

It is wonderful to be free! Freedom allows us to make the decisions that are best for our situation; it gives us the power to reach our full potential. In other words, being free means we choose instead of having others dictate what we can or cannot do.

Residents of the United States tend to take freedom for granted. They have never lived under the tyranny of dictators who completely control their lives and choices. Those who come to the free world after living in such bondage have a true appreciation of their newfound liberty and the many advantages it gives them. Many are willing to even risk their lives to escape to a free country such as ours.

When a man becomes a slave, he loses the power to govern himself; he cannot make his own choices but must do as his master tells him. Freedomis the deepest need of man's nature. The Bible explains that freedom from sin, through salvation, is one of the greatest privileges of the

child of God. Only after we are free from sin can we become all that God intended for us to be.

God created man in His own image—free from sin. But when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, their sin separated them from God and Satan took control. Because of their disobedience, man's very nature became sinful.

Adam and Eve were driven out of the beautiful Garden of Eden. God could no longer come to talk with them in the cool of the evening. Now Adam had to work hard just to feed his family. Eve had sorrow and pain that she would never have known if she had not sinned. Cain, her oldest son, killed his brother, Abel, because he was jealous of him. There was a dreadful change in their lives. They soon found out how awful it was to be a slave to Satan!

Sin is an evil power. It rules over man and takes away his power to obey God's commandments. It makes him a slave of the devil.

It grieved God when sin came into man's heart. He was not willing to leave men in such bondage. John 3: 16 tells us that He loved the world so much He gave His only begotten Son so that anyone who believed on Him would be made free; he would have everlasting life.

So, by the death of Christ we, as believers, are made entirely free from the devil's control. He has no more power over us! We might say then that the gospel is our Declaration of Independence! Through the good news of the gospel we are free to do what we, as God's children, would gladly do—serve God. Understanding this freedom reveals the power of the life that the grace of God has prepared for us.

Jesus brought us the good news that we can be free from the slavery of sin. Because of Him, we can choose to live pure, holy lives.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Then as they stood looking out over the mission's spacious lawn and the buildings, one of the men asked, "Where did the money come from for all this outlay?"

"I know one thing," the other man said, "it did not come from the Mission Board, for we have not sent it."

"It has all been supplied by God and faith in His promises," Faith told them. She was thankful to hear this commendation from those who had been so reluctant to send her to the field. God had led her to her work with the children of India. He had sent the means to build a Home for them. It was He who had given such success that even these men recognized His blessings. She glorified the Lord for His love and faithfulness.

At one time, Faith made a trip to Puri with the Government Water Inspector hoping to rescue at least one child. They made their way into the building where they suspected young girls were being held. The Inspector went about his business while Faith looked around. Not very far away, she saw five little girls. The youngest was a baby of only about nine months old. This infant had been married to a god when she was only three months old! The oldest girl was about ten or eleven years old.

Speaking to their nurse, Faith asked, "Are these children registered?"
"No." the nurse answered, "I can-

not get away to get it done."

"Don't you know that the law requires that you register these girls?"

"Yes, but I have no one to care for them."

"I will stay on while you are gone."

The woman hesitated to leave a foreigner in charge and seeing this Faith drew back her jacket and showed her the Government Star of Inspectress. Seeing her badge, the woman got her things together to

leave. As soon, then, as the nurse was out of sight Faith picked up two of the children after giving the baby to the oldest girl to carry. Then she called to the other little girl to follow and hurried with them to the closed car.

The poor little girls were no doubt terrified by this strange white woman who snatched them away from the only home they knew. For all they knew, she might be taking them to greater trouble and sorrow. They only knew that they must do as they were told and obey as little slaves. So they quietly did as Faith commanded, climbing into the strange car. Now they were well hidden from sight.

Faith sat in the car surrounded by the little hands, the little faces filled with terror and fear. The vision had indeed become reality! These precious little girls leaned heavily against her. She felt their great need of love and protection and her heart swelled with gratitude that she could rescue at least these little ones from the horrors of a hell on earth.

Soon they arrived at the Home where they would find food, shelter and loving care. Now they were free to enjoy a happy, normal childhood. Faith prayed that in time the memories of past horrors would be erased from their childish minds.

Such rescues were not easy. When Faith was successful it brought anger and hatred from the officers and priests of the temples as well as the keepers of these little children. Her life was constantly in danger.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. God 2. Those who believe on Jesus (the Son). 3. To save the world. 4. Truth, truth. 5. The Son (Jesus). 6. By being made free from sin. 7. Everlasting life. 8. The law of sin and death. 9. The devil; like a roaring lion.)





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Answered Prayer

(Continued from last week.)

Children often came to the Home because they were left alone by the death of their parents. Relatives or friends could not take them in. They were, themselves, hungry and facing starvation. One day two little girls, perhaps two or three years old, made their way to the Home. Their tiny faces looked old from suffering. Their bodies were so emaciated from hunger, their arms and legs looked like only skin and bones. A dull expression of misery was stamped on their faces.

Everyone was touched with pity by the sight of these little girls. Tenderly they were led into the Home and given a good meal. After only four months of loving care, they could not be recognized as the same children.

God, in His great love and mercy, had called Faith many years before to rescue them and many others. She obeyed His call. Others joined her to show loving pity to the needy children. Now these little girls were privileged to live sweet, innocent lives just as those do who have homes and families to protect them. In the Home they soon learned how much God loved them. They learned to pray and trust Him to supply all their needs.

One Saturday morning, there was.

more excitement than usual in the Children's Home. The children who were big enough to have duties hurried to get their chores finished. As soon as the work was done, they planned to go to the riverside. They would pack a lunch and have a good time that afternoon in the open air. But it was understood that the work must be well-done before they could go.

Just as they were finishing, the sky got dark. Great storm clouds gathered. Soon, it started raining! The children were extremely disappointed. All their plans for such a special afternoon seemed ruined.

The children gathered to discuss their problem. They reminded each other that God was their Father. He knew their plans and how disappointed they were. They knew from experience that He answered prayer for those who ask and believe. So they decided on a plan and immediately put it in action.

Going to their separate bedrooms, the children began to pray. Every few minutes, some child would slip out on the verandah to look at the sky to see if it was clearing. Sure enough, before long the rain suddenly stopped! The sky was still dark and threatening, but that didn't hinder the children's faith. God, their Father, had answered their prayers and



A Handful of Meal

I Kings 17:10-16

10 So he (Elijah) arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.

11 And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me. I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.

12 And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth. I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die.

13 And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son.

14 For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.

15 And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days.

16 And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Elijah.

John 6:9-13

9 There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes:...

10 And Jesussaid, Make themensit down....So themen sat down, in number about five thousand.

11 And Jesus took the loaves; and when he had given thanks, he distributed to the disciples, and the disciples to them that were set down; and likewise of the fishes as much as they would.

12 When they were filled, he said unto his disciples, Gather up the fragments that remain, that nothing be lost.

13 Therefore they gathered them together, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves, which remained over and above unto them that had eaten.

The Message: Unbelief is the only thing that can limit what God can do!

Questions:

- Where did Elijah go?
- 2. What was the widow woman doing?
- 3. What did Elijah ask her to bring him?
- 4. What else did he ask for?
- 5. How much meal was in the barrel?
- 6. How long did the Lord say the meal and oil would last?
- 7. How many loaves of bread did the disciples have?
- 8. How much was left over?
- 9. How many had eaten?

Verse to Memorize

For with God nothing shall be impossible.

Luke 1:37.



In our story, the children prayed for God to stop the rain so they could have a picnic by the river. But in our lesson, the widow Elijah met was suffering because there had been no rain for a long time. Crops would not grow; she was down to her last handful of meal and just enough oil to make one more meal for herself and her son. After this they would have no more food to keep them alivel

God had told Elijah to go to Zarephath. He even told him that a widow there would give him food. So Elijah obediently went to Zarephath. Just as he got to the gate of the city, he saw a woman gathering sticks. He could tell she was poor by the clothes she wore. He thought, "Maybe this is the widow the Lord told me about."

So Elijah called to the woman and asked her to bring him a drink. She had just turned to do as he asked, when he added, "And bring me some bread to eat too!"

At that, the widow stopped and looked at Elijah. "I have no bread to give you," she told him. "I only have a handful of meal and a little oil at home. I am gathering sticks to make a fire. Then I will bake the last bit of meal for my son and myself before we die of hunger."

"Don't be afraid," Elijah told her.
"Do as you said but first make me a
cake. Then bake cakes for you and
your son. The Lord God of Israel has
told me that your barrel of meal and
your bottle of oil will not be empty
until there is rain and the famine is
over!"

The widow took courage from Elijah's words. She rushed home and did as he had told her. When she reached into the barrel she found enough meal for three cakes instead of two. Every day after that she found another handful of meal and enough oil to make the cakes! There was always just enough to feed the three of them. Elijah stayed with the widow for several months until God sent rain again.

Just as God provided food in our lesson, He supplied food for a multitude of people who had come to hear Jesus teach in the desert. They had been eagerly listening to all He had to tell them and almost before they realized it, the day was just about over. They had seemed to forget that they could not find food or shelter for the night here in the desert!

The disciples told Jesus He must sendthepeople away while they could still buy food in the towns and villages on their way home. Instead, Jesus turned to Philip and asked, "Where will we find bread to feed all these people?"

Looking out over the people, Philip shook his head. "If we bought two hundred pennyworth of bread," he answered, "there would not be enough for every one to have even a small piece!"

"There is a boy here who has five loaves of barley bread and two small fish." Andrew told Jesus.

"Bring it to me," Jesus answered. Then, turning to the disciples he said, "Make the people sit down in groups of fifty and a hundred." Jesus then took the loaves and fish and, after He had given thanks, He broke the food into small pieces. He filled a basket for each disciple to pass to the hungry people.

When the crowd had eaten all they wanted, Jesus had the disciples gather up all the food that was left. There were twelve baskets full!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

stopped the rain. They could trust Him to finish what He had started.

Insisting that it would not rain, the children got ready to go to the river as planned. Faith and the other workers honored their faith and they all started out. There was a missionary visiting the Home from another part of India. As she walked out, she picked up her umbrella. The children insisted that she would not need it, but she took it along anyway.

They walked to the riverside and enjoyed a perfect afternoon. There were just enough clouds scattered through the sky to block the glaring heat of the sun. They enjoyed eating their lunch in the open air, then played until almost dark. Not a drop of rain fell the entire, happy afternoon.

Then they trouped back toward the Home. Then, just as they got inside, the rain poured down. It was as if it had been held back by an unseen hand! Itrained all that night. The children were convinced that God had planned an afternoon of rain, but held it back in answer to their prayers.

Each year, the Home would prepare a Christmas dinner for their poor, destitute neighbors. This was always an exercise of faith. The money to provide extra food must come in over and above that necessary to keep the Home operating.

One year, the crowd was larger than usual. The supply of food dwindled and still more people came. Finally, all that was left was enough food for the young girls who had worked hard serving others. Then, yet another group of hungry people came to be fed. Anxiously, the girls turned to Faith and said, "Mama, shall we give them our food and eat rice for our dinner?"

"No!" Faith answered sympathetically. "Perhaps we can make them a

meal of something else that we have. Go and look in the kettles."

"But Mama," they protested, "we have taken out all the food and have scraped the kettles for the last bit. The pots are empty!"

However, they obediently went back into the kitchen to check the empty pots. Suddenly, one girl cried out, "It was scraped to the bottom, and we put the spoon in again to see and look—food, plenty of good food for these people! God has sent food and put it in the kettle for us to give to these people!"

They rushed back to serve the food God had miraculously provided. Even among the people there was great excitement with much rejoicing and thanksgiving. God had shown His goodness by working this miracle right among them! As the young girls joyfully served the people they chatted together about the greatness of God and His great love for them. He had provided food for the people when they could not.

Later, Faith told them the Bible story of the barrel of meal spoken of in the Bible. When it was shared, there was always a bit more to meet the next need. The meal did not run out until the famine was over. She explained that nothing is impossible for God. The story was etched into the girls' memory because God, in His great love, had also been with them that day. He saw how much they wanted to feed all the needy people who came. In His own way he sent food when their own supply had failed!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. To Zarephath. 2. Gathering sticks. 3. A drink of water. 4. A piece of bread. 5. A handful. 6. Until the Lord sent rain. 7. Five. 8. Twelve baskets. 9. Five thousand.)





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Helping Others

(Continued from last week.)

In the course of her work, Faith met a British official. He knew that she was an American woman struggling alone to help India. He knew that hers was a work of faith in God, but offered no support to the work or encouragement to Faith. It seemed particularly foolish to him that Faith prayed for the sick, trusting God to heal them, instead of seeking medical help. But Faithwent on with her work undisturbed by his disapproval. She knewshe was where God wanted her to be and He was the only One she was trying to please.

One day, this official and his wife drove up to the door of the Home in their fine family car. Faith wondered what their visit meant, a little fearful of what they might want. But she had no reason to be concerned. The official had studied the records of various schools under his jurisdiction and found that the school of the Home had the most favorable record of all. And even more significant, the report showed that the general health of the students was best of all schools!

Sometime later, this official's wife became very sick. In spite of all they could do for her she got worse. Finally, the family doctor told her husband, "Sir, your wife is suffering with cancer. We have done all we can for her, but now we have come to the end. We have no hope to offer you for her life."

Sorrow and grief at this news overcame the official. Science had failed. There seemed to be no hope or help anywhere. He felt desperate in his helplessness. Then, he thought of Faith. She and even the little children in her care believed in praying for the sick. He had probably heard of some of the wonderful answers to these prayers.

Up to now, this plainly dressed, humble woman of God and her ministry had meant less than nothing to this British official. But when his suffering wife heard that Faith prayed for the sick and God heard her prayers, she insisted that her husband call Faith to pray for her. Quickly, he sent word for Faith to come.

Faith was as willing to minister to the rich as to the poor. She was soon on her way to the home of the official. When he saw her he asked, "Do you know that I have not been a friend to you?"

"Yes," she answered simply, "I knew this."

"And you are still willing to come and pray for my sick wife?" he wondered.

"I am glad to be of any service that is possible," Faith assured him.



God's Little Ones

Exodus 2:2-8,10

- 2 ...and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.
- 3 And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.
- **4** And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.
- 5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.
- 6 And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children.
- 7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter. Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?
- 8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother.
- 10 And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

Mark 10:13-16

13 And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them:...

14 ...Jesus...said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

15 Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein.

16 And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them.

The Message: Little children are especially precious in God's sight.

Questions:

- 1. Howlong did Moses' mother hide him?
- 2. What did she put the baby in when she could no longer hide him?
- 3. Where did she place him?
- 4. Who stood watching?
- 5. Who came to wash herself?
- 6. When she opened the ark what was the baby doing?
- 7. Who became the baby's nurse?
- 8. Why did she name him Moses?
- 9. What did Jesus do to the little children who were brought to Him?

Verse to Remember

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. Matthew 18:10.



It is wonderful to know that God loves little children. He gives special love and attention to those who are helpless and dependent.

God blessed Faith's work with needy children. He answered prayer and proved to the children that He was their heavenly Father. They learned that they could tell Him all their problems. Faith gave them something more valuable than a place to live and food to eat—she taught the children to trust this heavenly Father who would always be with them and defend them.

Psalms 27:10 says, "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the LORD will take me up." The following story proves this truth:

The Stowaway

An English steamer left from Liverpool headed for New York. The ship had been out to sea four days when a little ragged boy, aged nine years, was discovered—obviously a stowaway! The first mate had dealt with many such cases so the boy was taken to him.

His first question was who had brought him on board. The boy's face was the very mirror of honesty as he explained that his stepfather did it because he could not afford to keep him, nor did he have money to pay his fare. He was sending him to Halifax, to an aunt who was well off. Hopefully she would offer him a home.

The mate did not believe his story. He had seen too much of stowaways. This one would not easily deceive him! He believed that the boy had been brought on board and provided with food by one of the sailors.

The little fellow was treated very roughly. Day by day he was questioned and re-questioned, but his story was always the same. He did not know a sailor on board. His father alone had secretly put him on board and given him the food that he ate.

At last, the mategrew weary of the boy's persistence in the same story. So one day he grabbed the boy by the collar, and dragging him to the fore, told him that unless he told the truth in ten minutes from that time he would hang from the yardarm. He then made him sit down under it on the deck.

The passengers and sailors stood around waiting to see what would happen to the young stowaway. The stern mate stood before him holding his watch. It was a touching sight to see the pale, brave face of the noble boy as he listened to the minutes ticking away. He held his head erect, tears glistening in his eyes.

When eight minutes had passed, the mate told him he had only two minutes left to live. He advised him to speak the truth and save his life. With the utmost simplicity and sincerity the boy asked the mate if he might pray. The mate said nothing, but nodded his head in permission.

The stern first mate became as pale as a ghost as the boy knelt to pray. All eyes turned toward the brave and noble fellow—this poor boy that had no one to care for him—as he knelt with clasped hands and eyes turned toward Heaven. Suddenly, the hard-hearted mate burst into sobs. He rushed to the boy, hugging and kissing him. He told him he now sincerely believed his story. He blessed him for being brave enough to face death and willing to sacrifice his life for the truth of his word.

Adapted from Touching Incidents

Going to the dying woman, Faith laid hands on her as the Bible teaches and prayed the simple prayer of faith. God honored that prayer and worked through those hands that Faith had dedicated only to work for Him in loving service to others. That day, the wife of the British official was healed of cancer! To the official's surprise and great joy, she was raised up from her sickbed and made normal and whole. The cancer that had been eating her very life away was destroyed by the power of God. She was able to once more assume her duties and help her husband in his work.

One morning, just before daybreak, there was a frantic knock at the door of the Home. When the sleepy helpers finally opened the door, a little girl about nine or ten vears old darted frantically through the door and begged them to shut it at once. The workers questioned her to find out why she was so frightened, but she only begged for a place to stay. She said she had heard of a home where Jesus was taught and she had come to live in the Home and learn about Him. In spite of all their questions, that was all they could get from her.

Although she wore the dress of a better class Indian home, Bedu, as she was called, was happy to have shelter in the Home. She was satisfied and willing to live on the level of the poor outcasts of the lower class Indian girls. Later, during a revival meeting, Bedu went to the altar and was really saved.

After this, she confessed to them her life story. It was the old story all over again so often heard in India. She had been given in marriage to a grown man at the pitiful age of four years. Her life was pitifully hard and cruel under the rule of her husband and mother-in-law. At the age of nine or ten years, Bedu's life became

unbearable. She was desperate to find a way out of her misery.

She could find no way until somehow in the mercy of God she heard there was a refuge somewhere in the city for girls of India. She heard that it was a place where they told about Jesus the Savior and where love and protection was offered to those in need. She made careful inquiry as to where the place was located. Then she watched carefully day after day for a chance to escape.

Planning carefully just how she would go, she was ready when the opportunity came to get away. Getting up very early, Bedu covered her face in the usual custom of India. Then, running silently through the streets just before daybreak, she made her way to the Home. She was desperate and fearful as she pounded on the door with her small fist. When the door finally opened, she could only dash through it, pleading for safety and protection. She was so afraid that someone had seen her leave. Perhaps they were looking for her at that very moment!

For weeks after that, a knock on the door would bring terror to Bedu. She would run and hide under a bed or anywhere to get out of sight until the person had gone away. But God saw her sad plight and in mercy looked down and watched over her. No one was ever able to find her and claim her. She lived in the Home and grew up to be a fine Christian girl. How happy she was that she found Jesus for herself!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Three months. 2. An ark. 3. By the river. 4. Moses' sister. 5. Pharaoh's daughter. 6. Crying. 7. His mother. 8. Because she had drawn him out of the water. 9. He took them in His arms, put His hands on them and blessed them.)





Vol. 57, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 4 July 23, 2006

A Little Leper

(Continued from last week.)

God continued to bless Faith's efforts to help the needy children of India. One day a little girl named Ramah was brought to the Home for shelter. Ramah had evidently known much sorrow in her short life. She seldom smiled and was so quiet and sober that the other children seemed to feel sad with her. Gradually, however, she began to join in with the games and laughter of the other children and, in time, seemed like any other normal child.

But after about two years, a change came over Ramah. She seemed to withdraw from the other children. Her face wore the same sad expression as when she first came. The children noticed the change and mentioned it to Faith. They insisted that she should find out what was wrong.

And Faith did try. She went out of her way to speak to her about the sadness, but Ramah would give no clue as to the problem. Faith became more insistent. She told her that she knew something was wrong. Her sadness was affecting the other children. For everyone's happiness, she must open her heart to them and let them help her out of her trouble.

Finally Ramah told her, "When I came to the Home I was sad because

my father and motherwere both dead. They died of leprosy and I was afraid I would get it and have to go away from the Home. Then everything seemed to be all right. I almost forgot about that awful fear that used to come over me. But not long ago, I noticed a white spot on my arm and knew it must be leprosy. Oh, Mama, you can't realize how badly I felt when I saw that white spot! I was a fraid that you would send me away from this Home. So I have been trying to keep away from the other girls, not because I want to, but because I do not want them to touch me and get this awful disease!"

"But it is the law in India that all lepers must be segregated," Faith said firmly. "We must go at once to see about this for the sake of the other children."

All the children were sad when they learned Ramah's tragic secret. As soon as possible, she was taken to a doctor to check the spot. He declared it to be a real case of leprosy. However, there was no vacancy at the leper colony right then. All they could dowas send Ramah back to the Home with the strict instruction to keep her separate from the other children. As soon as there was a place ready for her in the colony, they would send for her.



Jesus Heals Eleven Lepers

Mark 1:40-42

- 40 And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.
- **41** And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will: be thou clean.
- **42** And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.

Luke 17:11-19

- 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.

Leviticus 13:46

46 All the days wherein the plague shall be in him he shall be defiled; he is unclean: he shall dwell alone; without the camp shall his habitation be.

The Message: Jesus shows loving compassion to everyone who comes to Him. We should always be thankful for His great mercy to us.

Questions:

- 1. What was wrong with the man who begged Jesus to make him clean?
- 2. What feelings did Jesus have toward the leper?
- 3. What happened as soon as Jesus said, "I will; be thou clean"?
- 4. How many lepers met Jesus as He went into the village?
- 5. What did they say to Jesus?
- 6. What happened as they went to show themselves to the priests?
- 7. Which of the ten came back to thank Jesus?
- 8. Where did lepers have to live?

Verse to Memorize

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Colossians 3:15.



Leprosy was a horrible disease. The leper was considered to be a "walking tomb," or a "parable of death." He had to wear mourning clothes, leave his hair in disorder, keep his beard covered and cry "Unclean! Unclean!" so everyone could avoid him. As long as the disease lasted, he was to live in isolation away from other people. Gradually, his body would decay; first the skin, then the bone, then all his flesh! The unfortunate victim might live in this pitiful condition for some time. The disease was generally hereditary.

In our story, little Ramah had watched as both her mother and father were slowly eaten up by this hideous disease. She knew it was very likely that she too was doomed to such a life and slow death. If she got leprosy she would have to leave the Home, her friends, and Faith, who was like a mother to her. This was enough to take away her happiness!

What a beautiful attitude Jesus portrayed toward the leper who knelt before Him! This poor man was cast out of his home and city. People would not come anywhere near him for fear of getting this dread sickness. Yet Jesus had reached out and actually touched him! That warm human touch of love and compassion brought hope and healing to his heart as Jesus' omnipotent words brought health and cleansing to his body. Jesus is our example. Let us seek Him to give us a humble, loving, fearless, compassionate attitude like His.

The second part of the lesson is a record of Jesus healing not one but ten lepers. The ten men were together. Living alone outside the protection of the city walls and its inhabitants was dangerous, besides being very lonely. Wild animals looking for a good meal were ever ready to attack. For their own protection and comfort, lepers lived together and helped one another.

As Jesus was nearing the village, the ten men saw Him. Somewhere they had heard about Jesus' compassion and power. Perhaps they had heard it from the other leper that Jesus had healed. Together they cried out, "Master, have mercy on us!" Again Jesus responded to the cry for help.

"Go show yourselves to the priests," He called to them. Immediately, the ten men started for the priests. In their hearts they must have believed that Jesus had made themwell. The law required the priests to look at them and pronounce them well before they could return to live again in the city. As they were going, each realized that his leprosy was gonel

Nine of them hurried on to find the priests. They could hardly wait to get his approval so they could return to their homes, families and friends. Now they could live normal lives!

But one could go no further. He was so overwhelmed by Jesus' love, compassion and power in healing him, he just had to go back and thank Him immediately. This man was a Samaritan. Yet this 'stranger', as Jesus called him, was the only one grateful enough to return and thank Jesus.

Ramah too was overjoyed at being healed. She could scarcely wait to get back to the Home to tell the others what God had done for her. Now she could be with the other children and join in their play. A bright smile lit her face. Her heart was filled with love for her Heavenly Father who loved her so.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

So they took the sad little girl back to the Home and made the necessary arrangements for her. Faith took her to her own private room. With a piece of chalk she drew a white line on the floor straight through the center of the room. Two beds were placed in the room, one on each side of the white line. Then she told her. "I will not leave you alone, Ramah. See, here is a line across the room. I will sleep on one side of this line and you will sleep on the other, but we will never cross over this line. We will see each other and be in the same room, but we will not get close." Then she added comfortingly, "Everyone in the mission will be praying for you."

Each evening Faith and Ramah would go for a walk out in the fresh air. Ramah looked forward to this special time with her beloved "Mama". But the leprosy was not healed. They knew word could come any time that there was a vacancy at the leper colony.

One day Ramah told Faith, "If you will pray for me I will be healed and not have to go to the leper colony."

"Butwe are praying for you," Faith answered.

"Yes, but I want you to pray the prayer of faith," Ramah said earnestly.

Faith felt a gentle rebuke from these words of the innocent child. She went to the other workers and told them Ramah's words. Again they all went to prayer for her but this time they were more in earnest. With greater zeal and faith, they presented the little girl's plea to her Heavenly Father. In a short time, the spot began to fade! Ramah's joy was boundless as she watched it disappearing.

Then one day the message came. There was a vacancy at the leper's colony and they had a place fixed for Ramah. She must be brought in at once to the clinic. After another thor-

ough examination, she was to be taken to the colony.

Ramah was inconsolable. "But I am healed. I do not need to go now," she protested.

"But we must obey the laws of the land. These doctors do not know about our praying." Faith said, trying to comfort her.

Ramah looked pleadingly at Faith and asked, "But don't you believe that I am healed?"

"Yes," Faith assured her, "but we must let these doctors be convinced themselves in their own way. We are sending you to them, but see—we are not sending the clothes they require for you to stay. We believe that you will be sent home!"

These words comforted Ramah. She and the workers set out to the city where they were to have the final test. Meanwhile, the whole family at the Home was praying and God heard their plea. By the time Ramah got to the clinic every sign of the terrible disease was gone! The doctor was astonished and made a very thorough test. But he could not find one sign of leprosy!

God gave Ramah the desire of her little heart and healed her. She was overjoyed and could scarcely wait to get back to the Home to tell the others what God did for her. Now she could be with the other children and join in their play. A bright smile lit her face. Her heart was filled with love for her Heavenly Father Who loved her so.

(To be continued next week.)

[Answers: 1. He was a leper. 2. He was moved with compassion. 3. He was healed immediately. 4. Ten. 5. "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us". 6. They were healed. 7. A Samaritan. 8. Alone, outside of the camp (city).]



Vol. 57, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 5 July 30, 2006

Meat for the Children

(Continued from last week.)

There was an occasion when Faith had an opportunity to witness to those of high social class. One of the officials planned a great social function to be given in his home. Faith was one of those invited to attend and she felt it would be good to do so. Now wherever she went, she was known for her simplicity of dress and for the neat, simple style in which she combed her hair. She didn't change for this occasion, either. Of course this caused her to stand out in sharp contrast to the other guests.

Another missionary was also invited and she tried to help Faith fit in with the activities. When all the other guests began playing cards, this missionary offered to show her how to play cards too. Faith graciously refused. Soon, liquor was served. Faith also refused this. As soon as possible. she excused herself and prepared to go home. She hated to embarrass her host by the stand she took, but she would not compromise what was right just to fit in with a higher social group. However, instead of being offended by her abstinence, her host respected her stand. He quickly called for his chauffeur to drive her home in his own private car.

Faith's heart was not in social prestige. It was set on rescuing the helpless girls of India. She was connected with the Missionary Board that had their headquarters in Anderson, Indiana, but she had no salary. When an offering came in for the work in India, they sent it on to her. The work was definitely carried on by faith.

Depending entirely on God to support the work, Faith wrote, "Our experiences were so great and the many answers to prayer so marvelous that I could write volumes and not tell it all. During those days, we frequently had to say, as did the psalmist of old, "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof I am glad."

One time, during the First World War, it was very difficult to buy meat. After awhile, the girls in the Home got very hungry for it. They realized they were in hard times because of the war so they said nothing to Faith or the other workers about their desire. Instead, a group of the older ones from ten to fourteen years old got together and went far out from the house under the shade trees. There they had a good prayer meeting. They told their Heavenly Father all about their desire to have meat for their meals. At first, they asked the Lord to either send money or meat.



Consider the Ravens

Luke 12:24, 27-31

24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?

27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; andyet! sayuntoyou, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you. O ye of little faith?

29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

30 ... your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31 But rather seekye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Numbers 11:21-23, 31-32

21 And Moses said. The people, among whom I am, are six hundred thousand footmen; and thou hast said, I will give them flesh, that they may eat a whole month.

22 Shall the flocks and the herds be slain for them, to suffice them? or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to suffice them?

23 And the LORD said unto Moses, Is the LORD's hand waxed short? thou shalt see now whether my

word shall come to pass unto thee or not.

31 And there went forth a wind from the LORD, and brought quails from the sea, and let them fall by the camp, as it were a day's journey on this side, and as it were a day's journey on the other side. round about the camp, and as it were two cubits high upon the face of the earth.

32 And the people stood up all that day, and all that night, and all the next day, and they gathered the quails: he that gathered least gathered ten homers: and they spread them all abroad for themselves round about the camp.

The Message: Our Heavenly Father loves to provide good things for us.

Questions:

- 1. Who provides food for the ravens?
- 2. What are more beautiful than Solomon, even with his gorgeous robes?
- 3. Who 'clothes' the grass with beauty?
- 4. What does God promise if we seek His kingdom?
- 5. How many footmen were among the Israelites Moses led?
- 6. How much flesh (meat) had God promised to send?
- 7. What kind of meat did God send?
- 8. How were they brought to the camp of the Israelites?

Verse to Memorize

The people asked, and he brought quails, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven.

Psalms 105:40.



"Do you believe in miracles?" Edward turned toward John in perplexity.

John looked up from his work. "Why the question?" he asked. "Do you?"

With a sigh, Edward dropped his hammer. "I wish I knew," he answered. "I'd hate to doubt those Bible stories, but—well—take that one about Elijah being fed by the ravens. I never saw a bird with sense enough to bring food to a man."

"Would you like to meet a man who saw a miracle as great as that of Elijah's being fed by the ravens?"

"Would!?" Edward gasped. "Where is he?"

John smiled. "Not very far away," he answered.

Edward wondered whom John could be talking about. He was surprised when he took him to Mr. Lawton's house. They took the offered chairs then John told Mr. Lawton, "I told Edward you had seen a miracle as great as the feeding of Elijah by the ravens," he explained, "and he would like to hear about it."

"Certainly," Mr. Lawton said. "It was a long time ago, and I don't know that it was really any greater miracle than the crops we have every year which feed the multitudes. God performs a miracle every day before our very eyes, but we are too blind to see.

"That's what I told Edward," said John kindly, "but he wanted to hear of a specific instance."

"Of course, of course!" Mr. Lawton agreed. "Well, this happened many years ago in Kansas. The grasshoppers had eaten almost everything. The fields were reduced to sticks, and

even the men's coats, if left out overnight, were eaten beyond repair. Everyone was discouraged, some to the point of desperation. Finally, it was decided that the entire community would have to move on, hoping they could find a place where food could be obtained. The women and children, being weaker than many of the men, were scarcely able to travel, but plans were made to start soon and move as rapidly as possible.

"I shall never forget the looks of that place, or the depressed spirits of the people. There wasn't a blade of grass or a green leaf in sight. Food was so scarce, it was portioned out and no one allowed to eat anywhere near enough to satisfy the natural appetite. The animals were suffering from hunger, and the prospects were anything but promising. It was hard to tell how many would survive to reach new territory, if any good place could be found.

"When it was almost night of the day before we were to start, the whole community was aroused by a man rushing down the road, yelling at the top of his lungs, flinging his cap in the air and acting like a mad man. Everyone wondered what calamity was about to overtake them. At last he came near enough so we could distinguish his words. He was crying, 'A buffalo! A buffalo!' The men followed his lead to a spot outside the village where, sure enough, a buffalo had straved. A single shot killed him, and it did not take long to have the savory meat cooking. There is no question in my mind but what that buffalo saved our lives as truly as the ravens saved Elijah, and I consider it as great a miracle."

—The Youth's Comrade Never forget that God is your Father. He faithfully provides for the birds and He says we are much more valuable than they are. Be like the little birds and trust your Maker, then your life will be as cheerful as theirs.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

Then one of the girls spoke up. "But girls, if God sends money, Mama will not know it is for meat when there are so many other needs. She will surely buy something else with it!" So they went in prayer again. This time they asked the Lord not to send money but to send meat. By the time they finished praying they were confident that He would grant them their request.

Faith knew nothing about the girl's prayer meeting. She did notice that for two days the girls stayed right up close to the house. She would urge them to go out under the trees where it was cooler, but it did no good. About noon on the second day after the girls prayed, a man came to the house with a large basket of meat on his head. With it was a note telling Faith that the meat was for the children.

The girls were on the back verandah listening to what the man said. When he left, they rushed in overjoyed by the answer to their prayer. They told Faith of their prayer meeting and how they had waited for the promised answer. She rejoiced with them. Together they tearfully expressed their gratitude and adoration to their Heavenly Father.

The next day, Faith went to visit Mrs. White, the lady who sent the meat. She told her how she had been used of God to answer the children's prayer. Relating the story of the girl's prayer meeting, she explained how they had waited in faith and expectancy for two days, scarcely leaving the house. Hearing this, Mrs. White burst into tears. "Miss Stewart, I am so ashamed of myself!" she said.

Mrs. White then told Faith that the family owned two sheep and cared for them as pets. Just two days before she sent the meat, God spoke clearly to her telling her to have a certain one of these sheep butchered. He further directed her to send the meat over to the Girl's Home. These sheep were such pets, Mrs. Whiterefused to have one killed. But the very next morning when she went out to open the door of the little house where the sheep were kept, she found the very one God had called for on the floor. It was dead!

She was convinced that God had taken the animal because she had withheld it and refused to obey Him. So at once she and her husband called a butcher. They asked him to kill the other sheep and prepare the meat so it could be sent to the Girl's Home. God again proved His faithfulness in answering the children's earnest prayer. Even children can love and serve the Lord. They can get their prayers through and God will give them what they ask.

Those who visited the Home were impressed. The plan of the Home as well as Faith's system of work and schooling was admirable. It won the respect of everyone who knew about it. At last, even the government recognized Faith's valuable work of rescuing so many little Indian girls. In honor of her success in making these girls fit for a finer and nobler life, she was presented with a Kaiser I. Hind Medal. She also received a letter from a member of the Council congratulating her for her admirable and courageous work.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. God. 2. The lilies. 3. God. 4. To supply all our needs. 5. Six hundred thousand. 6. Enough so to eat for a whole month. 7. Quails. 8. A wind blew them in.)





Vol. 57, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 6 August 6, 2006

Home Again!

(Continued from last week.)

It had been nine long, busy years since Faith first came to India to begin her work of rescuing little girls. Time and again, the Board at home had suggested she return to the United States for a furlough, but she had always declined. At their continued insistence, she felt she must comply. With great reluctance, she began to prepare for her long absence from her beloved little ones. Each of them looked to her as to a mother and even called her Mama.

Finally the day came when, leaving others in charge, she said goodbye to the last little one. She boarded the ship and sailed toward home. Her feelings were mingled as she drew nearer and nearer her homeland. One question troubled her: Would her father receive her? Would she be permitted to look on his face again?

A short while before sailing Faith had taken a little boy into the Home who had been left homeless. This presented many thoughts to her mind. The girls in the Home were growing. A problem came with that growing up. In India, girls had very few opportunities. Somehow, the older girls must find a means of supporting themselves so that the Home could continue to take in other little ones. Also.

the girls must be fitted for a life of usefulness. Then there was the one big question that haunted Faith's mind—where to find suitable husbands for these girls when they became old enough to marry.

Togive the noble, educated, Christian girls in marriage to heathen men was unthinkable. Women in Hindu homes had no voice in anything. They must, without question, strictly obey their husbands in everything. If one of the mission girls desired to marry a Hindu, she would have to sacrifice every Christian principle in the very beginning and submit to a heathen marriage ceremony. Then, after marriage she would be forced to bow down in worship before their idols and to submit to all of their heathen customs. It would be impossible to even do this in outward form without sacrificing their consciences and losing their own soul.

Faith wrote a report outlining the problem. In it she wrote: "In Christian lands, our young women meet with people and form their own friendships that lead to matrimony. This is not true in India. The girls are kept in seclusion in their own homes and do not go out in public. If they attend school, from the time they are eight years of age, they must attend a school for girls only. All conditions are such that bar them from forming acquain-



Our Comforter

John 14:23-26, 16:7

- 23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.
- 24 He that loveth me not keepeth notmy sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.
- **25** These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you.
- 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name. he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.
- 7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

Luke 11:9, 11, 13

- **9** And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
- 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?
- 13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Acts 1:4-5, 8

- 4 ...wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.
- **5** For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.
- 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

The Message: Jesus returned to His Father in Heaven, but now He comes to live right in our heart when we accept Him as our Savior!

Questions:

- 1. What will we do if we love Jesus?
- 2. Who will then come and abide in us?
- 3. Who is the Comforter?
- 4. What does the Comforter do?
- 5. Why was it expedient (best) for Jesus to go away?
- 6. How willing is God to give us His Holy Spirit?
- 7. Ye shall be baptized with the
- 8. What would they receive after the Holy Ghost came upon them?
- 9. What is the duty of every person who is baptized with the Holy Spirit?

Verse to Memorize

For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

Acts 1:5.



The disciples were shocked when Jesus was arrested and crucified. He had been with them every day for the past few years. But now He was dead! Those three days Jesus lay in the tomb were dark, dismal, hopeless days for the disciples.

Then, bright and early the first day of the week, the women came saying that the tomb was empty—Jesus was not there! The angel at the tomb sent them to tell Peter and the other disciples to go to Galilee where Jesus would meet them. Then Mary Magdalene further surprised them by saying she had not only seen Jesus, but He had spoken to her!

For forty days after His resurrection, Jesus often talked with His disciples about the kingdom of God. It was hard for them to understand that this kingdom was not an earthly one; Jesus must leave them and return to Heaven. There, He would be at God's right hand, making intercession for them. But He promised to send the Holy Spirit to be with them always. He instructed them to wait in Jerusalem until they received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Ten days after Jesus ascended to heaven, the Jews celebrated the feast of the harvest, called Pentecost. Strangers from all over the world filled Jerusalem. People of many different languages gathered at the temple to thank God for their good harvests.

Instead of going to the temple to observe the feast, Jesus' followers were gathered in an upper room. One hundred and twenty of them watched and prayed while waiting for the promised Comforter to come. Then, suddenly they heard a sound like a mighty rushing wind. They saw little tongues of fire on the head of each person. This was the baptism of the Holy Spirit!

At once, they began to praise God. They had new boldness and courage and a desire to tell everyone that Jesus really was Christ, the Savior of the world. Every trace of fear was gone; they wanted everyone to know they were Jesus' followers.

The one hundred twenty left the upper room and went into the street below. They had to tell others about their wonderful Savior! Crowds of foreigners stopped to listen. Then they realized each of them was hearing the message in their own language! They marveled, knowing the disciples were men of Galilee who could only speak their native language. This was just the beginning of the many signs and wonders that were done by the power of the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem.

Jesus is just as anxious to give us the Holy Spirit. When we repent and are saved, all our committed sins are washed away by the precious blood of Jesus. They are forgiven and forever forgotten. But there is still a sinful nature within us that we inherited from Adam. It takes the baptism of the Holy Spirit to completely destroy this evil, inherited nature. As our lesson says, God and Jesus come by the Holy Spirit and actually live in our hearts, giving us power to deny ourselves and conquer sin.

And, best of all, this gift of the Holy Spirit is for everyone! He will come into the heart of anyone who has been saved from their sins, young or old and all in between. Then we, too, have power over all evil and boldness to witness for Jesus.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

tance with the opposite sex. The parents or guardians plan for their marriage.

"So those who live in such institutions as the Home are under the guardianship of the missionary in charge. That missionary is entirely responsible to plan for the marriage of those in her care.

"There is," Faith's report continued, "only one solution for this tremendous problem. We must have a home for boys where we can rear and train Christian husbands for the girls."

Faith proposed opening a home some little distance from the Girl's Home as there was plenty of land to do so. There they could take in small orphan boys, surround them with strong Christian influence and give them an elementary education. They would be taught good trades that would fit them to become independent. These boys would be good husbands for the girls of the Home. Their homes would form a Christian community to reach out and help others.

"It will place the girls in a position where they can have something to live for." Faith continued in her report. "Their lives will broaden out and be a blessing to humanity. Who can measure the good it will be to a community, if in a few short years, we could have as the fruit of these two schools more than one hundred Christian homes? What a power of good this would be; one hundred homes shining out for God in the very midst of heathen darkness! This is the plan on which the Roman Catholics and others have worked, and they have the results to show today. We too can have results if we work to the same plan. But unless we open a boy's home and rear Christian husbands for these girls, we shall, in the end, lose much of what God has designed to accomplish through His work."

Faith realized what a great undertaking this would be. She estimated that it would take thirty thousand dollars to erect the buildings and put the work in operation. Convinced that this was God's will, she was willing to make any sacrifice to accomplish it. But only God could open the way and send in the money. The report ended with Faith's challenge, "As God has ordained that His children should be workers together with Him, I take the liberty of bringing this great need before the friends of such a cause in Christian America."

So, although she was brought home for a rest, Faith's purpose was to raise the amount needed to open the Boys' Home as soon as she returned to India. She appealed earnestly to all that read the report to assist in rescuing the children of India.

Finally, the ship reached its destination. Faith set foot in America again after an absence of nine long years. As soon as possible, she went to the Board of Missions. Those who knew her looked at her in surprise. After nine years in a country so hot that others failed in health, she returned weighing one hundred and thirty-four pounds instead of ninetyeight as when she left. Apparently, she was in perfect health. They listened to her enthusiastic report of the past and her plans for the future. Obviously this woman, who was so frail when she left, trusting completely in God, had not trusted Him in vain!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Keep His words. 2. God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. 3. The Holy Ghost (Spirit). 4. He teaches us and brings Jesus' words to our remembrance. 5. So the Comforter would come. 6. More willing than a good parent is to give good gifts to his child. 7. Holy Ghost. 8. Power. 9. To be witnesses for Jesus.)





Vol. 57, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 7 August 13, 2006

Broader Visions and Greater Faith

(Continued from last week.)
The missionary Board members listened to Faith's enthusiastic report of the past accomplishments in India and her plans for the future. It was obvious that she had not trusted

God in vain. He had blessed both her and His work abundantly!

One of them said, "If we had known that you were in this fine physical condition, we would not have been so persistent on your returning at this time."

Best of all, a telegram and letter were waiting for her. In them she read that she would be allowed to come home. This was the news she hoped for. As soon as possible, she went to her old home place. There, her father welcomed her warmly and God opened the door for a true and lasting reconciliation with him. Before Faith returned to India, her fatherwas saved and baptized. He took his full stand for the truth at the age of seventy-five years!

It was a busy year in the States. Faith immediately told the Board of the absolute necessity of a Boys' Home in India. But they had no money for such a project nor enough vision or faith to believe it could be done. They

turned down her earnest plea. But Faith knew how to be denied. She vividly remembered the long years of waiting through many refusals and sad delays. Again she waited, and then with hope and persistence she laid her plea before them once more. This time she was told that it was an utter impossibility.

Faith knew where to turn when men failed her. She knew that with God nothing is impossible, so she took her plea to a higher source and presented her case continually before Heaven's throne. Though others could not see the dire need. Faith held firmly to her purpose. That purpose was to erect and establish a home and school for Indian boys.

Time went by quickly because of her busy schedule. She traveled over many states to tell the good news of the work in India and to stir up interest in missions in general. Now the year was drawing to a close. She would soon be returning to India. So with the burden still heavy on her heart, she faced the Mission Board once more. She was not obligated to the Board as she never received a salary from them, but she desired their approval of her work.

The secretary would send some little offering as he could as well as any donations designated for Faith's



Our Shepherd

Psa ms 23:1-2; 25:9; 48:14; 73:23-25

- 1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- 2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- **9** The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.
- **14** For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.
- **23** Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand.
- 24 Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.
- 25 Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee.

Isaiah 30:21; 42:16; 48:17-18

- 21 And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying. This is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.
- 16 And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not: I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them.
- 17 Thus saith the LORD, thy Redeemer. the Holy One of Israel; I am the LORD thy God which teacheth

thee to profit, which leadeth thee by the way that thou shouldest go.

18 O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:

Luke 1:76-79

76 And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet of the Highest: for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

77 To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins,

78 Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

79 To give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The Message: We are not capable of making it safely to heaven without God's help!

Questions:

- 1. Who did David say was his shepherd?
- 2. In what kind of pastures did he lie down?
- 3. What kind of waters did he lead him by?
- 4. Who will He guide in judgment and teach His way?
- 5. How long will God be our God?
- 6. How long will God be our guide?
- 7. Who promised to lead us in the way that we should go?
- 8. What would have been like a river if they had followed His commandments?

Verse to Memorize

Teach me thy way, O LORD, and lead me in a pla n path, because of mine enem es.
Psalms 27:11.



David, who wrote several of the verses in our lesson, was a shepherd boy. All day, he led his father's sheep over the hillsides finding the greenest pastures for them. He loved every sheep and watched over each one carefully.

One day, a hungry lion roared into the flock of sheep and seized a lamb in his giant jaws. David was on the lion in a flash striking it with all his might. The lion dropped the lamb, but turned on David snarling fiercely. David grabbed the lion by his beard with one hand, while knocking it senseless with the other. Then, he attacked the lion with all his might until finally the beast lay at his feet dead. David carefully scooped the lamb up in his strong arms and carried it back to safety where he nursed it back to health.

Whilehewatched the sheep David realized that people are like the simple, defenseless sheep. The devil is like a roaring lion looking for anyone he can devour. I Peter 5:8. We are no more a match for the devil than that little lamb that David rescued. We must have a good Shepherd to protect us.

David's sheep would become so intent on looking for the most enticing and tender grass that they would soon be in great danger without knowing it was near. But David was watching and would quickly herd the wanderer back to safety. This is a good illustration of the way the Lord watches over us. We are not

able to see the dangers all around us. God sees every trap and will keep us out of harm if we keep our eyes on Him and follow Him carefully.

What doyou think would happen if a sheep would say, "Now wait a minute. I am tired of this nonsense of getting pulled back every time I see greener grass! I'm going to get out on my own and find my own pasture.

"Just look at that stretch of green grass over there—I'm sure it will taste much better than this scraggly stuff I'm eating. I can do better than this! I'll just slip off and the shepherd won'tknow anything about it. I won't be gone very long—I'll just try that pasture out a little bit and then I'll sneak back before it gets too dark. He'll never miss me!"

Of course we know what would happen. Without the shepherd's guidance and protection, the wayward sheep would soon be dinner for a lion or whatever hungry beast that lurked out of sight, just waiting for the sheep to get off by itself.

Like the sheep, we soon wander into trouble and danger without the guidance of our good Shepherd. We fall an easy prey to the snares and traps of the devil, because he knows how to entice us. The way he offers looks so much better, like the greener pasture does to the wayward sheep. But he doesn't let us see the awful pit of sin we will fall in or his own savage treatment of those who follow him.

This is why it is important to learn to follow the Lordwhile you are young. As soon as you realize that you have done wrong, this is the time for you to come to Jesus, asking forgiveness and accepting Him as your Savior and Shepherd. Then you will have Him to guide and protect you all through your life. He alone can safely lead you to Heaven!

-Uncle Dale

work. She well remembered when eight little girls were taken into the Home. The Board wrote asking that she take in no more as it would be too many to support. But Faith was in the position to see the hand of God in her work and the awful need of the little girls she was rescuing. "If the Church of God is too small to support more," she wrote the Board courageously, "then God is able to do it." Anyone could see that God had abundantly supplied the needs and prospered Faith's work.

So Faith appealed to the Board once more. This time she made a new proposition. "If I can raise money for the establishing of a Boys' Home and get all my support from the outside not asking any help from the saints here, will you then consent to my going ahead and doing this work?"

The Board did give their consent to this proposal, stressing that the money must come from strangers. She was to ask none from the saints.

Faith had no idea how she could go out to strange people in the few days remaining and raise the money needed for the Home. It seemed impossible, but she was trusting in God to make a way.

About that time a telegram came from New York asking her to come immediately. The pastor of the Church there had already planned many engagements for her to speak. There were so many, it was necessary to have noon meetings with businessmen and afternoon meetings as well as evening meetings for others to crowd them all in.

At one noon meeting with businessmen, a man stepped up and asked, "About what will it take to support a boy for a year?" Faith told him the approximate amount. He immediately pulled that amount from

his wallet and laid it on the table for

A second man stood up with tears in his eyes and said, "My wife and I just had two children and they were twin boys. We lost both of them with a severe sickness when they were young. I would like to give enough to support two boys for five years."

And so the figures mounted until there was enough money raised for forty boys for anywhere from one to two and five years. Beside this, offerings were taken. Soon the necessary money was collected to start building the Home for the boys. Those on the Board who gave their permission were surprised to hear that the impossible had already happened it seemed to them that there was no limit to the plans and accomplishments of this frail woman who had been told that she would probably not last more than six months in India.

When the year was up. Faith left the States to return to India. She was anxious to return to her 'little ones' and her work of rescuing more. God had fulfilled her purpose when it seemed impossible. Her heart was lifted up in praise because He had done even more than she asked. In addition to funds for the Boys' Home. He supplied two helpers for her. Just before her departure, two young girls volunteered to go back to India with her. She looked forward to added assistance in her great field of labor. These girls proved to be good, true workers. They were her helpers as long as she was in India.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The Lord. 2. Green. 3. Still waters. 4. The meek. 5. For ever and ever. 6. Unto death. 7. The Lord. 8. Their peace.)





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Reaching Others

(Continued from last week.)

Faith Stewart's work for God in India extended beyond rescuing orphans. One day a British gentleman came to the Home and asked for help. His wife, whom he loved dearly, was expecting a baby, but the doctors told her she could never give birth to a child. According to the doctors, the only way to save his wife's life was to take the unborn child. Otherwise, both would die.

Sympathy and concern filled Faith's heart as she listened to the troubled husband's story. "I would not feel competent to give advice on such a serious case, but we can take this matter to God," she assured him.

The husband was eager for prayer. He told Faith that he and his wife had discussed their difficult situation. They did not feel that they could be responsible for taking the life of the little one. Together, they decided to put the case in God's hands. They would trust Him to undertake in the very best way.

Some time passed. Then one day a message came asking Faith to go to the home of this gentleman. Reaching the home she found a woman doctor present, but only to observe. No doctor would accept the case because it was hopeless.

Hours passed by with the wife in

deep suffering, but no deliverance. The sad husband walked the floor agonizing over his wife's pain, but utterly helpless to assist her. Finally, the doctor suggested that since there was no change in the patient's condition, she would hurry to her home to eat and rest a bit. She promised to return soon.

Left alone with this serious situation, Faith lifted her heart in prayer to the mighty God she trusted. Only a miracle could save the lives of the mother and child. She pleaded earnestly to God to spare them both.

And God did just that! Before the doctor returned, a little child was born, perfectly normal. Both mother and child were in good condition. Such miracles showing the mighty power of God to save, to keep and to heal caused Faith's name and influence to spread far and wide. God used her in many ways to extend His kingdom in India.

One morning, some time after this, while looking over the incoming mail, they found a check for one thousand dollars. The amount was so unusual that they read the figures over and over to make sure they did not make a mistake, but the check was genuine. At once the two American girls, who had come to India on the return trip with Faith began to plan several much needed improvements to the Mission.



God Prepares Us

Hebrews 11:7

7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Genesis 6:13, 17

13 And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

17 And, behold, I...bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh,...and every thing that is in the earth shall die.

Genesis 7:1, 4, 5, 7, 12, 21

1 And the LORD said unto Noah, Come...into the ark:...

4 For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights;...

5 And Noah did according unto all that the LORD commanded him.

7 And Noahwent in, and his sons, and his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, because of the waters of the flood.

12 And the rain was upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

21 And all flesh died that moved upon the earth,...

1 Kings 19:5-8

5 And as he (Elijah) lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then

an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat.

6 And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And hedid eat and drink, and laid him down again.

7 And the angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee.

8 And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.

The Message: God often prepares us by warning us of impending danger.

Questions:

- 1. Who did God warn?
- 2. Why did God purpose to destroy every living thing upon the earth?
- 3. What would He bring upon the earth to destroy every living thing?
- 4. How long before the flood did Noah and the others go into the ark?
- 5. How long did it rain?
- 6. What happened to every living thing outside the ark?
- 7. Who touched Elijah while he slept?
- 8. How many times did he tell him to get up and eat?
- 9. How long did he go on the strength of that food?

Verse to Memorize

...the Spirit of truth,...will guide you into all truth:... and he will shew you things to come.

John 16:13.



There was so much violence and wickedness that finally God decided the only way to get rid of sin in the world was to destroy it and start all over. Then, God remembered Noah. Even with all the evil around him, Noah did his best to please and obey God. He taught his sons to do right also. This pleased God.

Sometimes, God talked to Noah. One day, He told him about His plan to destroy the world. He promised Noah and his family that they would not be destroyed and told them how to escape the coming disaster.

"Build an ark," God told Noah.
"When it is finished, you and your family may go into the ark and live there safely until the flood is over."

It took Noah a long time to build the ark just as God instructed him. It had to be big enough so a pair of each kind of living thing could live in it during the flood! This huge boat was three stories high and must have looked ridiculous sitting on dry ground with no water for it to float in.

While Noah worked he did his best to warn others that there would soon be a great flood. He wanted others to be saved too. No one believed him; no one changed from their wicked ways.

When everything was ready, God told Noah that it was time for him and his family to get into the ark. The animals God purposed to save went into the ark. Then God shut the door.

After a few days, the rain began to fall. It poured down until soon the rivers were overflowing their banks. Peopleran to higher ground hoping to be saved, but the water continued to

rise until all the earth was covered by water! Now the people knewwhy Noah had warned them; but it was too late!

Another person God was watching over was Elijah. He was running for his life. The wicked queen, Jezebel, had threatened to kill him because he had killed the prophets of Baal. Exhausted, he stopped to rest under a juniper tree. He was so discouraged that he threw himself on the ground and begged to die. Soon he was fast asleep.

Suddenly, he felt someone touch him. When he opened his eyes he saw an angel standing over him who said, "Get up and eat." Elijah ate, but he was so tired he lay down and went to sleep again.

The angel woke him up again. This time he warned him, "Get up and eat; you have a long way to go!"

Elijah obeyed. This gave him strength for what he faced. The strength from that food lasted him forty days and nights!

Faith believed God knew and controlled everything that happened in her life. When she received the extra money she was sure God had a special need in mind that He was providing for.

I have heard the statement, "Every anxiety is a call to prayer." This is a wise motto to follow. When something troubles you it is always safe to pray. Whether it is actually impending danger or just the enemy trying to depress you, prayer is the solution.

The Lord is a good shepherd. He knows beforehand what we will meet. He knows just how to prepare us and take us through safely and victoriously.

We might not always know or find out why we were burdened to pray. Many times when we were saved from a serious accident it was no doubt because someone was praying. And how many times the Lord protects us from dangers we never see! How wonderful to serve God who is "a very present help in trouble!" Psalms 46:1.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

But Faith stopped them, saying, "God does not send money for a mission field just for nothing. There is a special need for this amount, or it would never have been sent. We dare not spend one dollar of it until God speaks. We will lay it aside until we hear definitely from God as to its use."

That very afternoon, a great hurricane struck about four o'clock. It swept through causing a great wave of destruction across that section of India. Those watching from the Home saw the roof of the school building lifted from its moorings and carried away in the sweeping gales of winds that tore through the grounds. Other property was damaged, but the building where they gathered for shelter was untouched! God's power and goodness was made more evident to them as they felt His loving hand of protection over them. Much damage was done to the mission property by the destructive fury of the winds, but not one of them was injured!

As soon as the storm subsided, they assessed the damage. Major repairs were needed to the buildings, so workers were hired to replace the roof and make other necessary repairs. Finally, things were back in working order. When the last bill for repairs came in, the last dollar of the one thousand-dollar donation was spent. Ahead of time, God had sent just enough to cover the unexpected bills, to the very penny. How wonderful to trust One who knows our needs and never makes a mistake!

An outcast woman was hired to help with the cleaning. She was called the 'sweeper woman.' As she went about her work she heard the girls singing at their worship hour. The music drew her, but she could only listen. Being an outcast, she was not supposed to mingle with others.

Soon, she was hurrying with her work so she could slip into the very back of the room and listen to the sweet voices of the girls. Through these songs, the light and beauty of the precious Gospel slowly penetrated her darkened mind. The whole story of salvation opened before her and she repented and turned to Christ for salvation. Then what blessed peace came into her troubled soul!

But her husband was a heathen. When he learned that she had accepted this strange new religion he was angry! He threatened that if she did not give up this new belief, he would cast a spell on her.

The poor woman told Faith and the workers, but they told her she had nothing to fear. They were quite sure her husband had no power to cast a spell on her. So she was calmed and things went well for a time. Then one day the children came running in great excitement, saying that the sweeper woman had fallen down and could not get up. Sure enough, they found her lying helpless. No doubt her wicked husband had put her under a spell.

Making her as comfortable as possible, they began to pray for her healing. Five days later, she could walk about and talk, though with some difficulty. When two brethren from the States saw her going about the grounds with her arms still paralyzed they felt sorry for her. They laid hands on her and prayed. God healed her arms and she was free from the awful spell cast on her.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Noah. 2. The earth was filled with violence. 3. A flood. 4. Seven days. 5. Forty days and forty nights. 6. They died. 7. An angel. 8. Two times. 9. Forty days and nights.)



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Spreading the Gospel

(Continued from last week.)

One day while sitting on the verandah, Faith saw a group of ten Indian students walking slowly down the road. When they came to the entrance of the Home, they all turned and entered the grounds. She very graciously invited them to be seated. After they all sat down they stated that they had come to ask her some questions.

"What do you want to know?" Faith asked.

"We are students who have come to Calcutta for the first time," they told her. "We had never heard about these strange religions until we came to Cuttack. We came to one temple, and we saw on it the name 'Episcopal', on another we saw the word 'Baptist', and so on, and here we see another called the 'Church of God.' We've been hearing about this God since we came here, but we want to ask a question.

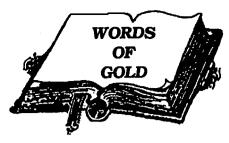
"We are all Hindu as to religious belief, but we all have the very same teaching, there is no difference among the Hindu teachers of doctrine. These Christians say that they believe in the same God, yet they build separate temples with different names on them, and different beliefs are taught in them. "Now, if you all believe in this one God and all are Christians, why do you have such separate groups, and why do you not stay together as one? Or, which church amongyou is right?"

"Well." Faith answered. "if you were to visit any one of these church groups and ask that question, each one would answer immediately and say. We are the ones who are true. and this is the right Church.' If you would ask me that question. I would also say that. I shall, therefore, not answer you at all. I have a small book here which will answer all your questions if you will faithfully read it through. Mark every scripture you find which mentions the Church and what it says about it, and it will tell you the truth and what there is to know about it."

Then she presented ten New Testaments to the ten students who very graciously received them and went on their way.

Soon after this incident, six of the students returned saying they had read the little books through. She asked them, "Did you notice any Church mentioned in its pages?"

"Yes, there is but one name," they answered, "and that is called the Church of God. We believe it must be the true Church, because no other is mentioned and the teachings are true."



Suffering for the Gospel

Acts 4:3, 5-8, 10, 13, 15-16, 22, 18, 19, 21

- 3 And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold (prison) unto the next day: for it was now eventide.
- 5 And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes.
- 6 ...and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.
- 7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?
- 8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,
- 10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whomyecrucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.
- 13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.
- 15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves,
- 16 Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed a notable miracle hath been done by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny it.

- 22 For the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shewed.
- 18 And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus.
- 19 But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye.
- 21 Sowhen they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding nothing how they might punish them, because of the people: for all men glorified God for that which was done.

The Message: God has often allowed His servants to suffer imprisonment.

Questions:

- 1. Where did Peter and John spend the night after healing the lame man?
- 2. What did the rulers ask?
- 3. Who filled Peter and gave him boldness to answer?
- 4. By whose name was the lame man healed?
- 5. What did the rulers notice about Peter and John?
- 6. Who were ignorant and unlearned men?
- 7. How old was the lame man that was healed?
- 8. What did the rulers command Peter and John to do?

Verse to Memorize

And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicingthat they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.

Acts 5:41.



The priests and rulers were furious when they heard Peter and John preaching that Jesus had been resurrected from the dead. They arrested them and took them to prison where they spent the night. The next morning they stood before the same priests and rulers who had tried Jesus. Their crime, like that of Jesus, was obeying God.

John Bunyan spent twelve years in prison in England. Though he, like Peter and John, was 'ignorant and unlearned,' he used his time in prison to write his famous book "Pilgrim's Progress".

Madame Guyon, one of the greatest Christian leaders of all time, lived in the 1600's. She was often persecuted for teaching that everyone should liveholy and that each should know God personally. When she died, she left behind about sixty volumes of her writings. Her most helpful books and sweetest poems were written in prison.

Corrie ten Boom and Betsie, her sister, were arrested for helping Jews escape death. When they arrived at the Barracks to which they had been assigned it was in the wee hours of morning. Each day things grew harder. There was too much misery, too much suffering.

But as the rest of the world grew stranger, one thing became increasingly clear. And that was the reason why they were there. They did not know why others had to suffer such misery. As for them, from morning until lights-out, whenever they were not in ranks for roll call, their Bible was the center of an ever-widening circle of help and hope. Like waifs clustered around a blazing fire, they gathered about it, holding out their hearts to its warmth and light. The blacker the night around them grew, the brighter and truer and more beautiful burned the word of God.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." (Romans 8:35, 37).

Corrie looked around as Betsie read. She saw the light leap from face to face. More than conquerors—it was not a wish; it was a fact! They were experiencing it minute by minute. Although they were poor, hated, hungry, yet they were more than conquerors. The observable, external prison life grew more horrible every day. The other, the life they lived with God, grew daily better and brighter. Corrie let God make these experiences a blessing to her own life. Years later, many people were blessed as she related how God had helped them even though their enemies intended to destroy them.

Faithwas busypreparing for meetings in hopes that many people would hear the truth and get saved. Then suddenly her entire right side became paralyzed! Even when the second stroke paralyzed her left leg also, Faith patiently and expectantly waited for God to work it out.

We often do not understand at the time why such trouble attacks us right when we are trying to work for God. The Holy Spirit inspired Paul to write, "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28. We can trust Him to work it out for His glory!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

About the time of this visit of the students, the workers of the Home began to prepare for special services in the hopes of winning others to Christ. An Indian minister named Moses promised to come and help in these special meetings. An American brother had come to India almost a year before this time and had gone on to Calcutta to work there. He had also promised to come and assist.

But about three days before the meetings were to start a terrible thing happened to Faith. Suddenly, she lost the use of her right arm and leg. Both were paralyzed, no doubt due to overwork and the many burdens and problems. This was an awful disappointment to her. There was nothing they could do but pray and hold on for her healing. Just before the meeting, word came from the Indian brother that his wife was very ill and that he could not possibly come. Soon, another message came saying that the American brother also could not be there.

The first night had been well advertised, and the two girls who assisted Faith came telling her what numbers were coming in. The attendance was much better than ever before. They asked her what could be done.

Calmly, Faith told them, "Help me change my clothes and we will get some men to carry me over in the chair. I will preach sitting in the chair."

Night after night the special series of meetings went right on with Faith preaching from her chair. The six students were still in Cuttack and attended the meetings, hearing the Gospel message for the first time in their lives. All six took their stand and became Christians. Faith felt that if they alone had been the fruits of such hard labor on her part, it was well worthwhile!

Besides the special meetings, the workers were reaching out to other villages. One young native was converted, and his high caste relatives disowned him and cast him out. He had no way to even exist. The only thing he could do was to teach in a school somewhere. Faith saw this as an opening for the Gospel to be spread. By paying him a very small sum, barely enough to exist on, he was able to teach in a village school. Here he could teach Christ to the children. which he did faithfully. As time went on, another teacher was placed in another village and then a third until there were three teachers giving out the Gospel.

About six months after this a second stroke of paralysis struck Faith, leaving both legs and one arm useless. She was in this condition for about a year and a half. After this time, God undertook. She improved rapidly until all signs of the paralysis disappeared. She was completely healed!

Soon Faith was as busy as ever, teaching, governing, preaching and superintending the mission. It is hard to realize how different a heathen's realization of what it means to live a Christian life is from those who had good Christian parents. They have no godly lives to follow as examples. To these precious souls, the past is only a void of darkness. The task, therefore, at times seems almost stupendous. Much labor, waiting, praying and patient training is necessary for every new convert, young or old, before they can become established.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. In prison. 2. "By what power have you done this?" 3. The Holy Ghost. 4. Jesus Christ. 5. Their boldness. 6. Peter and John. 7. More than forty years old. 8. Not to speak or teach in the name of Jesus.)





Vol. 57, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 Sept. 3, 2006

Totally Blind!

(Continued from last week.)

In May of 1923, Faith noticed her vision was blurring when she tried to read, but thought little about it. This blurring continued and got so bad, she decided she needed glasses for reading. She would have to go about 250 miles to be fitted for glasses. This would take her away from the work for several days. They were short of workers at the time, so she put it off until the beginning of September. In August, Faith gave up reading, for fear of damaging her eyesight further.

At the beginning of September, she finally took time away from her work and went to one of the best European opticians in Calcutta. After spending over an hour trying to fit her eyes, the optician told her that he did not understand them. Since he could not help her, she went to another optician. After some time, he seemed to find what she needed. The glasses had to be made up, so she gave the order and went home to Cuttack. thinking she would have no more trouble once she got the glasses. She had also been suffering much with pain in her eyes, but believed that this also would stop when her eves were relieved from strain by the use of glasses. One week later she got her glasses. Eagerly she put them on and

tried to read but she could see no better with them than without them! She was greatly disappointed.

From that time on, her sight failed very fast, and the suffering grew more intense. By the beginning of October, she was almost blind. At this time, an American brothervisited and encouraged her to go again to Calcutta to see if she could get glasses that would fit. He also sent a cable to America for prayer in her behalf. One of the girls who worked with her accompanied her to see the optician who had made up the glasses at first. As soon as he examined her eves that day, she could see that he was much troubled. Finally, he told her that he would not attempt to fit them again unless she would first have them examined by a specialist. He then sent her to Dr. Mukerjeo, saying he was the best in the city. She was not in the office of this eye specialist five minutes when he told her that her eyes were past ever being fitted with glasses. Then, after a very thorough examination, he finally told her that nothing could ever be done to help her eyes.

This news was a severe shock to Faith, but she knew there was no case too hard for God to heal. He had been her healer for over 25 years. "I believe God wants to heal us and if we



Better than Gold!

Acts 3:1-13, 16; 4:22

- 1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.
- 2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;
- 3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.
- 4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.
- 5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.
- 6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.
- 7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.
- 8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.
- 9 And all the people sawhim walking and praising God:
- 10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.
- 11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whomye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.

16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

22 For the man was above forty years old, on whom this miracle of healing was shewed.

The Message: Peter and John had something better than silver and gold to give the lame beggar.

Questions:

- 1. Where were Peter and John going?
- 2. Who did they see?
- 3. What did the lame man ask for?
- 4. What was Peter's answer to the man?
- 5. What did God do for this man?
- 6. Why were the people surprised to see him leaping and walking?
- 7. How did Peter say the man was healed?
- 8. Will faith in the name of Jesus bring healing today?
- 9. How old was the man who was healed?

Verse to Memorize

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

Acts 3:6.



One day Peter and John went up together to the temple at the hour of prayer, which was 3 p.m. Just outside the gate of the temple called Beautiful they saw a man sitting on the ground. This man, who was over forty years old, had never walked a step: he had been lame from birth! Every day kind friends carried him to this gate of the temple. All day he begged from those going in to the temple to worship. Some felt sorry for him and gave him money; this was the only way he had of supporting himself. He could not work: he could not even stand up.

The lame man saw Peter and John coming toward him. As soon as they were close enough he called out to them, hoping they would give him some money. The two stopped and looked down at the poor beggar. They could see his pitiful condition and felt sorry for him. Both felt themselves suddenly drawn to him by the Holy Spirit. "Look at us!" Peter told him.

The cripple looked up, expecting to receive a coin. But Peter said, "Silver and gold have I none, but what I have I give to you." Then he commanded, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk!"

Then Peter reached down and took the man by the right hand and lifted him up. Immediately, strength came into his feet and ankles that had always been useless. The man leaped up and began walking, leaping and praising God for sheer joy!

He went right in to the temple with Peter and John. He was so happy and thankful to be able to walk, he couldn't keep his feet still. He shouted the praises of God. The people soon gathered to see what was causing all the commotion. They recognized this happy man—he was the cripple who always begged at the gate of the temple! They were amazed to see him walking and leaping and shouting for joy.

The grateful man grabbed Peter and John and held them. He was so thankful for what they did for him he hardly knew how to express it. As the people gathered closer in wonder at what they saw, Peter began to preach to them. "Men of Israel," he said, "why do you marvel at what has happened to this lame man? Why do you look at us so strangely as though we had healed this man by our own power or holiness?"

Peter told the people that the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob had glorified His Son Jesus whom the Jewish people had refused to believe. "You denied Jesus when Pilatewanted to let Him go," Peter said boldly. "You killed the Prince of life, but God has raised Him from the dead. We are His witnesses. Through faith in the name of Jesus this man, who was crippled, now walks. You can see that he is perfectly well.

"And now, if you will repent of your sins, they will be blotted out. God will forgive you and free you from guilt." Five thousand people who listened believed in Jesus and were saved that day!

The gift God gave the lame man through Peter and John was worth more to him than gold. No amount of money could have purchased his healing; only God could perform such a miracle. The disciples then told the wondering crowd about the wonderful plan of salvation. Those who were saved received a gift even greater than physical healing!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

are fully His and trustwithout wavering, He will heal unless He can get more glory out of our affliction," she stated firmly. "And if this is so, then we should be willing for Him to have His own way."

The last time Faith made any attempt to read God's Word, her eyes fell on Psalm 26:1 "Judge me, O Lord, for I have walked in mine integrity; I have trusted also in the Lord; therefore I shall not side." She had never been impressed by this verse before, but it came like a message to her soul that day. Prayerfully, she replied, "Yes, oh Lord, I have trusted without wavering for these many years, and I will trust without wavering through this."

Her complete trust in God brought peace to her heart. She was enabled to rest and wait on God to work. By the end of October, she could scarcely tell light from dark and then only in bright sunlight. The specialist said that the disease was eating the back of the eyeballs. That was what destroyed the sight and also caused the terrible suffering. At times she had to stay in a room with every window darkened to ease the pain; not one ray of light could be in the room.

On January 2, the last ray went out; she could no longer see even a shade of difference between night and day. She knew then that unless God worked a miracle, she would never again see light. In that distressing hour, she felt the dear Lord fold her in His strong arms. He carried her through in a wonderful way. From the time that her eyes first got bad, the Lord showed her and others that she would go blind. But He assured her that it was for His glory, so she gladly said, "Amen," to His will. Most of the time, she believed she would be healed. At other times, she believed that it might be through her blindness that He would get the most glory.

Two cables were sent to America and different days of special prayer were observed, yet there was not the least change in her sight. She knew she must pray through to be able to face the possibility that it was God's plan that she be permanently blind. After earnest prayer, God gave her the grace to accept His will with gladness. She decided from the beginning to neither be helpless or unhappy.

One time, during the days when the test was most severe. Christ took a special way to encourage Faith. After services one Sunday morning, a man whom she had met several times came to speak to her. He had not seen her for a long time and knew nothing of her affliction until he came to service that day. He told Faith that the Lord woke him up and told him to come to the meeting and tell her that he had a message sent by God for her. The message was this: that she was passing through very deep waters and could not possibly understand why, but that He, the Lord, was very near her, and His thoughts of her were very deep. She must hold steady through the severe trial and someday she would understand. This message inspired Faith and gave her great spiritual strength.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Into the temple. 2. A manwhohad been lame from birth. 3. Alms (money). 4. "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk." 5. He healed him. 6. They knew he had never walked. 7. Through faith in the name of Jesus. 8. Yes. 9. More than 40 years old.)





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Healed of Blindness!

(Continued from last week.)

Faith had been totally blind for about three months and for several months before this her vision was very dim. God sent a messenger to encourage her to hold steady in the trial. Although she knew God was able to heal her, she wondered at times if it was His will for her to remain blind for His own glory. Through it all God enabled her to maintain her peace, joy and confidence in Him as she submitted wholly to His will.

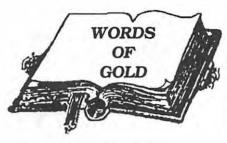
It is scriptural to anoint a cloth and send it to be applied with prayer when the person being prayed for is too far away to be reached personally. This was done in the early church of the New Testament, Acts 19:12. One day an anointed handkerchief came from America. It was a surprise, as Faith had not sent for it. The Lord had impressed some of His children there to send it. This gave her faith to believe that it was the Lord's will to heal her and that at last that time had come.

About five o'clock in the afternoon, a group of brothers and sisters gathered in Faith's room. They applied the handkerchief and prayed. This was March 31. As they prayed,

the power of the Living Christ went through her eyes. Soon she could tell where the open door and windows were. A few moments later she could see different objects. From that moment, her vision cleared rapidly. Two hours later, she looked up and saw the starlit heavens. Oh, the sight was wonderful! Before noon the next day, she read a portion of God's Word, the first for many months.

In telling of this experience Faith said, "God could just as easily have given perfect vision instantly, but it would have been too much for the human; I could not have endured it. As it was, it almost overwhelmed my soul. Oh, the wondrous beauties of nature, the light of human faces, and the joy of again reading His Word. Oh, it has all been wonderful! The glory fills my soul day by day as I meditate on His love and His power. How can we help but love Him? How can we help but trust Him?"

Many were blessed by this healing. Over in the land of Egypt, a faithful missionary and his wife were laboring for God among the people there. They heard about Faith's sad condition and were burdened for her healing. They set a day for fasting and prayer, praying several hours until they felt there was no need to pray longer. They were sure God had an-



The Blind See

Numbers 22:23-28, 31

23 And the ass saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned aside out of the way,...

24 Butthe angel of the LORD stood in a path of the vineyards, a wall being on this side, and a wall on that side.

25 Andwhenthe ass saw the angel of the LORD, she thrust herself unto the wall, and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall:...

26 And the angel of the LORD went further, and stood in a narrow place,...

27 And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she fell down under Balaam: and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he smote the ass with a staff.

28 And the LORD opened the mouthof the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times?

31 Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face.

John 9:1, 6, 7-8, 10-12

1 And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

6 ...he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he

anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

7 And said unto him. Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went hls way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

8 The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?

10 Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

11 He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.

The Message: God can make the seeing eyes blind and He can make the blind eyes see!

Questions:

- 1. What did the ass see?
- 2. What was in his hand?
- 3. How was Balaam's foot crushed?
- 4. What did the ass do when she saw the angel standing in a narrow place?
- 5. How did Balaam finally see the angel?
- 6. How long had the man been blind?
- 7. What did Jesus put on his eyes?
- 8. Where did He send him?
- 9. What happened after he had washed?

Verse to Memorize

...with God all things are possible.

Mark 10:27.



Just ahead was the Yugoslav border. For the first time in his life Bro. Andrew was about to enter a Communist country on his own. He stopped the little VW on the outskirts of a tiny Austrian village and thought about his predicament.

The Yugoslav government in 1957 permitted visitors to bring in only articles for their personal use. Printed material especially was liable to be confiscated at the border as it was regarded as foreign propaganda. Now, here he was with car and luggage literally bulging with tracts, Bibles and portions of Bibles. How was he to get them past the border guard? And so, for the first of many times, he said the Prayer of God's Smuggler:

"Lord, in my luggage I have Scripture that I want to take to Your children across this border. When You were on earth, You made blind eyes see. Now, I pray, make seeing eyes blind. Do not let the guards see those things You do not want them to see."

And so, armed with this prayer, he started the motor and drove up to the barrier. The two guards appeared both startled and pleased to see him. From the way they stared at his passport, it might have been the first Dutch one they had ever seen. There were just a few formalities to attend to, they assured him in German, and he could be on his way.

One of the guards began poking around in his camping gear. In the corners and folds of his sleeping bag and tent were boxes of tracts. He again breathed the prayer, "Lord, make those seeing eyes blind!"

"Doyou have anything to declare?"

"Well, I have my money and a wristwatch and a camera..."

The other guard was looking inside the VW. He asked Andrew to take out a suitcase. He knew that there were tracts scattered through his clothing.

"Of course, sir," he said, pulling the front seat forward and dragging the suitcase out. He placed it on the ground and opened the lid. The guard lifted the shirts that lay on top. Beneath them, and now in plain sight, was a pile of tracts in two different Yugoslavian languages. How was God going to handle this situation?

"It seems dry for this time of year," Andrew said to the other guard and without looking at the fellow who was inspecting the suitcase, he fell into a conversation about the weather. He told him about his own homeland. Finally, when he could stand the suspense no longer, he looked behind him. The first guard wasn't even glancing at the suitcase. He was listening to the conversation. When Andrew turned around he caught himself and looked up.

"Well then, do you have anything else to declare?"

"Only 'small' things," he said. The tracts were small after all.

"We won't bother with them," said the guard. He nodded to him that he could close the suitcase, and with a little salute handed him back his passport.

—Taken from God's Smuggler by Brother Andrew

God healed Faith Stewart's eyes. He healed the blind man in our lesson. At other times He kept men from seeing what was right before their eyes. An angel stood to block his way, but Balaam could not see him.

We grow strong in faith by trusting God to work out every little problem for us. Then when we face a true crisis, we know that He can and will work it out just right.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

swered prayer. They were so certain about the matter that they wrote a letter telling her of the day that they had set aside and the very hour that the assurance had come to them that all was well. They asked her to write and inform them of the good news. She was healed on that very day!

First, God in His mercy had burdened friends in America to send the handkerchief, then the hearts in India to set the time for prayer. Then He spoke to the faithful missionary and his wife in Egypt whom He could trust with having part in this great miracle. As they fasted and prayed, a circle of united prayer went up and healing was the result. God can and will span the continent, if need be, that His children may have a part in the blessings He imparts in answer to prayer. The very day the two faithful missionaries in Egypt fasted and prayed, the missionaries in India united in prayer and the work was done!

An infidel man, who was visiting India, heard about Faith's blindness. He remarked that if God, in whom she trusted and believed, would now heal her eyes, he would believe. But if He did not heal her, he would know that there was no divine loving God. The time drew nearer and nearer for his return to his own land. But just before that day came, God sent His divine healing power and Faith was healed. One of the first things she did was to travel to the city where he was to witness that there truly is a God and that He is still on His throne!

News traveled over India that a wonderful healing had taken place. The God of the missionary had healed her of her great affliction and she was able to see and read as well as ever before. A heathen family of high caste Indians heard of the marvelous healing. It was of special interest to them because their little daughter was

blind. They longed to have her prayed for, but they feared they would have to give her up for life to the Home. This was a very real fear, because it was a custom in India to dedicate the daughters to idols in order to receive favors from the gods.

The parents talked the matter over in their home. Finally, they decided that they would make the sacrifice so that the child might see and be able to enjoy life. So they brought their little one to the Home and told of their fear and hope. They were assured that in a Christian Home children were not taken from the parents, because it was God's will that little children should be with parents that loved them.

Then the little girl was anointed and prayed for as the Bible teaches in James 5:14-15. God manifested his power that day by healing the child. In a few days, she was able to see and pick up toys and objects as well as anyone her age. God, in His loving mercy, healed this pagan child!

Someone has said, "Whom God calls, He also qualifies." And so it was. When God called Faith Stewart to the field, He also qualified and equipped her for the great work she was to do. As a child, she had such poor health and eyesight that she was not able to obtain the education that many young people attain to. But through the many years of preparation, she made such good use of what she had that no person meeting her could ever discern a lack.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. An angel. 2. A sword. 3. The ass threw herself against the wall. 4. She fell down under Balaam. 5. The Lord opened his eyes. 6. His whole life. 7. Clay made with spittle. 8. To the pool of Siloam. 9. He received his sight.)





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The Last Years in India

(Continued from last week.) During World War I there was much suffering on the mission fields. Nations were suspicious of each other and this often brought hardships on those who went to work in the different countries. Faith Stewart never had a salary. She depended on personal mail to support her work, and since this was not allowed to come through, the Home began to suffer. Every means of management and economy possible was used to stretch the limited resources. Clothing wore thin and supplies dwindled. Afterwards, they often wondered how they managed through those long hard months.

One day when they had eaten the small Indian cakes as thin as a wafer made for their breakfast and drank a little tea, there was nothing more in the house for food. They prayed earnestly for God to send something for their next meal. God had been sending means from America, but this was cut off. They were sure that He could send them help from the very land where they lived.

Later that very morning, the vegetable man came walking down the street with a huge basket on his head. The basket was filled with all kinds of fresh vegetables. He came to the verandah of the Home and, without asking anyone, began to set the vegetables out. Faith tried to stop him, telling him they had no money to pay for the vegetables. But the man insisted on emptying his basket. Finally, Faith went inside to get someone who could make the man understand. After the person talked with the vegetable man they turned to Faith and explained, "The man was selling vegetables down the street, and he came to the home of an Indian gentleman who bought the whole basket and has sent them to the Home for a gift!"

That day they had a good dinner of fresh vegetables. God showed He could send them help from right there in India as well as from America. The man who sent the vegetables was of another religious belief and not in sympathy with the Gospel message, yet God used him to answer prayer.

Children in India, like all children, love sweets. One day some kind friend left some candy for the children and workers. It was divided among the children. What was left over was laid on a table for the workers when they should come for it. However, when someone went to get the candy, the plate was empty!



All Because Achan Stole

Joshua 7:10-12, 19-26

- **10** And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up;...
- 11 Israel hath sinned,... and have also stolen,...
- 12 Therefore the children of Israel could not stand before their enemies....
- 19 And Joshua said unto Achan, My son, give, I pray thee, glory to the LORD God of Israel, and make confession unto him; and tell me now what thou hast done; hide it not from me.
- **20** And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done:
- 21 When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and the silver under it.
- **22** So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran unto the tent; and, behold, it was hid in his tent, and the silver under it.
- 23 And they took them out of the midst of the tent, and brought them unto Joshua, and unto all the children of Israel, and laid them out before the LORD.
- **24** And Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah.

and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had: and they brought them unto the valley of Achor.

25 And Joshuasaid, Whyhastthou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones.

26 And theyraised over him a great heap of stones unto this day. So the LORD turned from the flerceness of his anger....

The Message: Because of one man's sin, the entire camp of Israel was in trouble.

Questions:

- 1. What did the Lord tell Joshua to do?
- 2. Who did the Lord say had sinned?
- 3. Because of this the children of Israel could not stand before their
- 4. Who told Achan to confess?
- 5. What three things did Achan steal?
- 6. Where did he hide these things?
- 7. What was Achan's punishment?
- 8. Who turned from the flerceness of His anger?

Verse to Memorize

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9



God had worked great miracles for the children of Israel. When they came to the flooded waters of the Jordan River, He stopped the river's flow so the people could pass over on dry land. Then God caused the walls of the great city, Jericho, to fall flat so they easily entered and conquered it.

After this victory at Jericho, the Israelites felt they could conquer any enemy they met. They were anxious to move further into the land of Canaan that had been promised to them for an inheritance.

So Joshua sent spies to spy out the next city in their path. When they returned they told Joshua, "The whole army does not need to fight against this city; it is a small one. We will only need two or three thousand to go take Ai."

Joshua did not ask for God's guidance. After conquering the great city, Jericho, Ai would be no problem to capture. So Joshua sent three thousand soldiers to Ai. But this time they did not win a great victory; instead they turned and ran with the men of Ai right behind them! Thirty-six Israelite soldiers were killed.

The Israelites were discouraged by this defeat. Joshua was so troubled he tore his clothes and fell on his face before the ark. He asked God, "O Lord God, why did this happen? Why did our men turn their backs on their enemies? What will people say about our God when they know we have been defeated?"

"It is because Israel has sinned," God answered. "They have disobeyed my commandment to take nothing from Jericho. I cannot fight for the Israelites when there is sin in the camp."

The next day, Joshua discovered that it was Achan who was guilty of disobeying God's commandment. "My son, confess your wrong to the Lord and tell me what you have done. Do not hide it from me." Joshua told him.

"Yes, I have sinned against the Lord," Achan confessed. "I saw a beautiful robe and much silver and gold in one of the houses of Jericho. I wanted them so much that I took them. They are buried under my tent."

Joshua sent men to look for the buried treasure in Achan's tent. They found them and brought them back to Joshua. Then Joshua commanded that Achan and all that belonged to him be brought to the valley outside the camp. There they stoned Achan and burned all his belongings and afterwards covered the ashes with a pile of stones. This was to remind the Israelites how God punished the man who disobeyed Him.

After this was done, the Lord told Joshua to go fight against Ai again. He promised to give the city and everything in it to the Israelites. This time Joshua took thirty thousand brave men to fight the enemy. The Lord delivered the city into their hand and gave them a great victory that day because they obeyed Him.

Our actions affect many others. In our story God withheld money for food for the older children because one little girl had stolen candy; she and others had eaten it. He loved them too much to let them get by with this sin. Until they confessed their wrong, it would continue to separate them from His presence and approval. He was anxious to forgive them and as soon as they confessed, God brought the blessing they needed and had been praying for.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

All the children were called in to be questioned, one by one, but no one would admit taking it. There was nothing to do but let the Lord work it out. You might think this was a lot of trouble over just a little thing, but principles must be taught and acted on if good character is developed. This happened during the war when everything was so scarce. Yet they had never gone hungry. God had always provided for each day as it came.

So it seemed strange when just then no money came in nor any provision for the children's meals. Only a tiny bit of rice, enough to make a small dish for the youngest children, came in. The older children had only the rice water to drink, and they were hungry. All day the second day, there was nothing but the small allowance of rice for the babies, and the rest went without. On the third day, Faith Stewart wept bitterly as she saw the need. She gathered the children all around her and talked the matter over with them.

"But, Mama," one of the girls cried,
"Why is it that God never sends
enough for all and only sends a little
for the babies?"

"I do not know," she answered, "unless there is sin in the camp and God is waiting for it to be cleaned out. I am quite sure that not one of the babies came in and stole the candy. But we must pray earnestly because this is serious. We must have food!"

Suddenly, from the back of the group of girls, a beautiful little eight year-old girl with lovely dark hair and a sweet face stood up. She slowly made her way through the other girls then fell at Faith's feet crying bitterly.

"It is me," she cried. "It is my sin, and all my sisters are suffering hunger because of what I have done." "Did you take the candy? Did you eat it all?" Faith questioned.

"Yes, it was I who took it, but I only ate one piece. I gave a piece to some of the other girls," she answered.

"Every girl who ate a piece of that candy please hold up your hands," Faith instructed.

Several girls bravely raised their hands. After this act of confession they all went down on their knees crying, confessing and praying for forgiveness.

It is so hot in India that the mailman comes very early, before the heat of the day. So at six-thirty the next morning the mailman brought. among other things, a letter containing a money order. Everyone rejoiced that God had heard their prayers and answered so quickly. At last there was money for food! When they took time to examine the stamp on the envelope they could see that the letter had been in the post office, just three blocks away, for three days. God allowed them to suffer hunger three days until the sin was cleared up, then the money was released. They never forgot that experience!

Faith spent 15 years in India. There was much to show for her prayers, sacrifice and labor. 140 girls were being cared for in the Home. The Boys' Home had become a reality and 50 boys were being raised for God. Besides the effort for the children, a good congregation was established. God had abundantly blessed her efforts!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Get up. 2. Israel. 3. Enemies. 4. Joshua. 5. A Babylonish garment, two hundred shekels of silver and a wedge of gold. 6. In his tent. 7. He was stoned. 8. The Lord.)





Vol. 57, No. 3 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 13 Sept. 24, 2006

A New Work For God

(Continued from last week.)

It was not Faith's choice to leave India. Her work there was dearer to her heart than ever—she lived for her precious children and those who had accepted Christ as their Savior. Then, just when things seemed to be going so well, she was asked to leave. A new overseer was sent to supervise the work. He did not agree with Faith's 'old fashioned' views of plain, modest dress and completely trusting the Lord for healing.

Some would have contested the decision, but Faith did not try to seek justice and defend herself. As ever, her sole trust was in God. In prayer she begged for grace to forget the injustice. "There is one thing I am resolved to do," she said bravely. "I will not let this grief ruin my life. As long as I live, by the help of God, I will strive to be useful in the work of the Lord. I will pray God to forget India and the dear ones I left behind. All, all must be laid in the past so that I can labor for souls wherever I find myself. God will meet the need."

So Faith was sent back to the States. She began visiting congregations wherever she was invited, speaking and encouraging the saints. She pastored a congregation in Chicago, building it into a prosperous work for the Lord. From there, she accepted

the pastorate over a congregation in Indianapolis that was very needy. It, too, flourished under her spiritual guidance.

One night, while she was in Indianapolis, she suddenly woke up. It was as if someone had awakened her. Although it was two o'clock in the morning, she felt deeply impressed to visit a certain member of the congregation. She got up and got dressed, then called a taxi that took her to this home. When they reached that address the house was dark. Faith hesitated. Could she be mistaken? But then she again felt the definite call. She told the taxi driver to wait for her while she went to the back of the house.

Going around the house she saw a dim light in the kitchen. She motioned the driver to go on and then opened the kitchen door and went in. There was the woman she had been impressed to call on. She was sitting in a chair but had had a heart attack that was so bad she could not notify her family. Shewas helpless, but had been praying for God to send her help. Faith knew that God woke her up and sent her to the house at that hour to pray for the woman.

After being in America for three years, a terrible homesickness swept over her for the foreign fields. She knew that she would never be satis-



Proving the will of God

Judges 6:36-40

36 And Gideon said unto God, If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said,

37 Behold, I will put a fleece of wool in the floor; and if the dew be on the fleece only, and it be dry upon all the earth beside, then shall I know that thou wilt save Israel by mine hand, as thou hast said.

38 And it was so: for he rose up early on the morrow, and thrust the fleece together, and wringed the dew out of the fleece, a bowl full of water.

39 And Gideon said unto God, Let not thine anger be hot against me, and I will speak but this once: let me prove, I pray thee, but this once with the fleece; let it now be dry only upon the fleece, and upon all the ground let there be dew.

40 And God did so that night: for it was dry upon the fleece only, and there was dew on all the ground.

2 Kings 20:8-11

8 And Hezekiah said unto Isaiah, What shall be the sign that the LORD will heal me, and that I shall go up into the house of the LORD the third day?

9 And Isaiah said, This sign shalt thou have of the LORD, that the LORD will do the thing that he hath spoken: shall the shadow go forth ten degrees, or go back ten degrees? 10 And Hezekiah answered, It is a light thing for the shadow to go down ten degrees: nay, but let the shadow return backward ten degrees.

11 And Isaiah the prophet cried unto the LORD: and he brought the shadow ten degrees backward, by which it had gone down in the dial of Ahaz.

Luke 2:11-12

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12 And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

The Message: God wants us to know what His will is so we can follow Him confidently.

Questions:

- 1. What had God told Gideon He would do?
- 2. What was Gideon going to put in the floor?
- 3. What sign did he ask of God?
- 4. How much water did he get out of the fleece?
- 5. What was the second sign he asked?
- 6. Why did Hezekiah want a sign?
- 7. What sign did he ask for?
- 8. Who did the angels say was born that day?
- 9. What sign did the angels give the shepherds?

Verse to Memorize

Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

Ephesians 5:17.



The scriptures in our lesson tell about two men who asked for signs to assure them that what God told them would actually happen. Gideon knew he and all the armies of Israel were not strong enough to defeat the Midianites. He asked for two signs to be very sure God was really with him. Hezekiah, too, asked for a sign to confirm the good news that he would not die but live fifteen more years.

While Gideon threshed wheat an angel came and sat down under a nearby oak tree. Gideon was surprised when he looked up and saw the strange visitor!

The angel told Gideon that the Lord would use him to save Israel from their enemies, the Midianites. So Gideon sent messengers to call all the soldiers of Israel together. As they gathered, Gideon felt he must know for sure that the Lord would help them drive the Midianites out of their land. That evening he put a piece of wool on the floor.

Gideon prayed to God, "If you will help me save Israel, let there be dew on this piece of wool and let the ground all around it be dry."

When morning came, the ground was dry all around, but the fleece was so full of dew Gideon was able to squeeze a whole bowl full of water out of it!

Gideon still could not believe that God could use him to overcome such a mighty enemy. He prayed again, "Do not be angry, O God, but let me prove your words by one more sign. This time let the fleece be dry and the ground all around it be wet." God was merciful and again granted Gideon his request. The next morning Gideon found the fleece dry but the ground around it was wet." Now Gideon felt confident that God would give him victory overthis great enemy.

While King Hezekiah was very sick Isaiah, the prophet, came to tell him, "The Lord wants you to get your business taken care of because you are going to die!"

Hezekiah felt that his people still needed him. He had been a good king and had turned the people of Israel back from idolatry to serve the true God. When he heard Isaiah's words Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall and prayed, "O Lord, I have followed you with all my heart. I have always tried to do what was right and to please you." Just the thought of leaving his people made Hezekiah cry sorrowfully.

God was touched by Hezekiah's prayer. Before Isaiah could get far away God told him to go back and tell the king that he would add three years to his life. In three days he would be strong enough to go to the temple to worship!

Hezekiah was very happy at such good news; but it seemed too good to be true. He wanted to see some sign that he was really going to get well. So Isaiah asked if he wanted the shadow on the sundial to go backward or forward ten degrees as this sign. Hezekiah chose to have it go backward and God granted his request. Now he knew he would live!

Faith felt that God was sending her to Cuba but she must know for certain; she could never accomplish such a mission on her own! It was such a critical decision she must have clear direction.

God sent a clear and definite answer to her prayer. Now she was ready to move forward to the new work He had appointed her.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

fied again to stay at home while there were so many in other lands waiting to hear the Gospel. In the late spring of that year, she resigned her pastorate in Indianapolis and packed up all her clothes and possessions. She was not sure where she was going, but her first stop was at the national campgrounds. Once more, she was waiting on the Lord for direction.

One day while she was on the campgrounds, she spoke to one of the Mission Board and voiced her conviction that the Lord had a work for her to do in a foreign land. She laid her burden before him explaining that she had tried faithfully for three years and found that she could not remain in the homeland contented with the easy life she found in the States. She yearned for the rigors of the mission fields. It was true that she was 52 years old. But she was in good health.

At this camp meeting, in June 1930, she felt a call to work in Cuba. She knew the step was too great to be taken without clear and definite leading from God. So one night she closed herself in, alone with God, until 2 p.m. the following day. About 8 a.m. a burden came on her to put out a "fleece" so she could know that it was God directing her.

At that hour, she was practically without money. She had been looking to the Lord to supply her needs and expected Him to do so. Being on the campground, it would not be unusual for someone who heard she was going to Cuba as a missionary to give her something. So she felt burdened to put a financial test out before the Lord as a "fleece". At this critical time, she knew she must have such clear direction there could not be any confusion concerning the matter.

So she prayed and asked God to send her some money from some source clear away from the campground. It must not to be less than \$10.00. Anything received on the campgrounds would not be an answer to this prayer. Then she prayed even more fervently. So much was at stake!

About 6:30 p.m. that very day God sent a definite answer. She was sitting in Young People's service when a boy entered with a Special Delivery letter—for her! Her hand trembled as she reached for it because she felt sure it was the answer to her "fleece". She felt she was in the very presence of God and He was directly answering her prayers.

The letter had been sent from Chicago, Illinois, just after noon. It read something like this, "My dear Faith, I was burdened for you during the night, and since early morning the weight has hourly grown heavier. It is on the financial line that I feel burdened. I have scarcely been able to work this morning for thinking of you. I do hope there is nothingwrong. I am rushing this check off to you and hope it will be of use to you at this time."

Enclosed was \$20.00. She had her full answer. God sent this clear answer to prayer as an assurance that she was not mistaken in the divine call He had placed on her heart. From that day, she moved forward in full preparation for this new field of work for God.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Save Israel by Gideon's hand. 2. A fleece. 3. That the fleece be wet with dew but the ground dry. 4. A bowl full. 5. That the fleece be dry but the ground wet. 6. To prove that the Lord would heal him. 7. The shadow to go backward ten degrees. 8. The Savior. 9. A babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.)



Vol. 57, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 1 October 1, 2006

Cuba!

(Continued from last week)

Faith Stewart was deeply grieved when she had to leave India. She never lost hope that God would again permit her to work in rescuing needy children. She longed for the opportunity of teaching them and leading them to Christ. Now that day seemed to be drawing very near. She was on her way to Cuba!

True, she did not even have enough money to get there but God had assured her that this was to be her new field of labor. He had also shown her that this new field would be much harder for her. She must go through many tests and trials. But, like Paul, none of these things moved her. She set her face toward Cuba. Her heart was light and her hopes were high because she knew God would not fail her. At last she was bound for the work she loved!

So Faith started with just enough money to take her to Florida. She took the least baggage possible and reached Miami, Florida without money to go further. She knew that from there she must pray in the means to go the rest of the way.

She was invited to speak to the small congregation worshiping there. Among the group was a poor woman

who listened intently to Faith's message. Before Faith finished speaking, the woman got up and handed her an envelope, saying, "I shall have to leave and return at once to my home, but I wish to leave this with you."

Faith thanked her, and hoping to have more time to read it later, put it in her purse and went on. The meeting closed and no offering was taken for her. After the service, she went to the home of a friend to wait until time for the last train for Key West. Her friend told her that her son, a boy of about 14 or 15 years would be willing to take her to the depot.

All during the conversation, Faith had been praying silently for God to send the twenty dollars necessary for the rest of the trip. Finally she remembered the envelope given her. Thinking it was a request for prayer she openedit. Injoy and surprise she cried out, "Thank God!"

"Why are you praising God?" her friend asked.

"Because He has kept His promise to see me through. Here is twenty dollars. Now I can buy my ticket."

"Do you mean that you did not have enough money to buy your ticket?" the boy asked in surprise.

"Yes," she said quietly.

"And you knew that you did not have the money. Then why did you start?" he questioned.



Living By Faith Hebrews 11:1-19

- 1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
- 3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.
- 8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.
- **9** By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:
- 10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

Genesis 12:1-9

- 1 Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country...unto a land that I will shew thee:
- 2 And I will make of thee a great | nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:
- 3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.
- 4 So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lotwentwith him: and Abram was

- seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.
- **5** ...and...into the land of Canaan they came.
- 7 And the LORD appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto the LORD, who appeared unto him.
- 8 And he removed from thence unto a mountain on the east of Bethel, and pitched his tent, having Bethel on the west, and Hai on the east: and there he builded an altar unto the LORD, and called upon the name of the LORD.
- **9** And Abram journeyed, going on still toward the south.

The Message: When you live by faith you tap into the vast resources of God's power.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. What is the substance of things hoped for?
- 2. How do we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God?
- 3. What did God tell Abram to do?
- 4. God promised to make a _____ of Abram.
- 5. Howoldwas Abram when he left Haran?
- 6. Where did he go?
- 7. What did he build on the mountain east of Bethel?
- 8. Whose name did he call upon?

Verse to Memorize

For we walk by faith, not by sight:

II Corinthians 5:7.



It is easy to believe a person whom you know to be honest, kind and dependable. You have faith in what they say and accept it as truth. It is easy to trust them because you know them.

Faith Stewart's life is an example of what it means to "walk by faith, not by sight." She was so well acquainted with God and had such strong faith and confidence in Him that she was willing to start for Cuba as soon as she knew that is where He was sending her. The fact that she did not have enough money to make the trip did not hold her back. From experience she knew He would make a way for her to do whatever He told her to do. She was faithful and obedient and God never failed to make a way for her.

Abraham is called the father of faith. He believed God and God guided him away from his family who were idol worshipers to a land where he could worship Him, the one true God. God promised to make a great nation out of Abraham's children even though he did not have even one child. Yet Abraham believed God.

It was many years before Isaac, Abraham and Sarah's only child, was born. Through all the years of waiting Abraham continued to worship God. The Bible tells us, "He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform." Rom. 4:20-21.

Abraham knew God's voice because He talked with Him often. He knew God could be trusted to fulfill every promise He made. Abraham was willing to wait for God to give them a child at the time that He saw best. Because Abraham obeyed God, trusted Him fully and lived by faith, an entire nation of people was blessed.

Faith is absolute trust in God. It's knowing God so well that you could never imagine that He would forsake you or fail to do what He has promised. When you live by faith you tap into the vast resources of God's power; you are not hindered by circumstances or your own limitations. Jesus said, "With God all things are possible." (Matt. 19:26.)

Learn to trust God while you are young. Get so well acquainted with Him that He is the first one you turn to when you are in trouble. Tell Him your problems, your desires and needs. Read His word to learn how to please Him and immediately obey everything He wants you to do. He will be your best Friend and Guide.

God wants to keep you from all the sin and traps the devil has set to ruin your life. He can keep your life pure and clean even with sin and evil all around you. He will only ask you to do what is best for you. When trouble comes, trust Him to work it out for your good. God will test your faith; this is only to strengthen your trust in Him. Learn to wait patiently and trust Him to answer at just the right time.

You will have tests all through your life of faith right up to the last great test—death. But you will know, through living a life of faith, that He is with you. He will take you through safely to always be with Him in Heaven.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"Because," said she, "my Father has promised to supply all my needs. He called me to serve so I came depending on Him to take care of me. You can see that He has kept His promise." The boy never forgot that lesson of faith in action.

Years later a friend of Faith's had the opportunity to visit the woman who gave the twenty dollars. She was then 85 years old and hard of hearing but she vividly remembered the money she gave Faith.

"Yes," she related, "I had saved that money for a long while to go to see my father who was very ill. It was very hard to get hold of it and save it up extra, but there came a day when I had enough saved and had the money all ready. You see, I was working in a factory supporting five grand-children, and I had not left the money at home, but put it away little by little in the bank.

"I wanted to visit my unsaved father and hoped towin himfor Christ before he died, for he was not expected to live. But God spoke to me and said, 'Give that money to Faith Stewart this evening.' I said, 'Lord, You know how I have worked and saved for a long time and now my father is sick, and I may never see him again.' But God said, 'Give it to her, and I will provide a way.'

"I went up and gave her the envelope and left the meeting and returned home with nothing but the promises of God to save the situation. A few days later a relative came by and stopped on their way to my father's home. They said. 'We have come by to take you to see your father.'

"How much better to go in a comfortable car and then after a four week's stay to have my sister kindly take me home again!"

So, in September, 1930, Faith reached Havana, Cuba. She was in a

strange land with less than five dollars in her hand. There was no missionary board backing her, no promise of any money to come. But she did have one great asset: her unlimited faith in God! In that boundless faith lay her only riches and hopes of success. Although she could not even speak the language, she felt in the depths of her heart that God had again called her to go to work for Him. She was anxious to begin.

When she arrived there was no one to meet her in this strange place. All she had was a slip of paper with the name and address a friend had given her. With nowhere else to go she took a cab to this woman's humble home. There she waited for the Lord to direct her next move. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday were spent in earnest prayer for enough money to rent an apartment. On Thursday morning, the mail came and with it the answer to her prayer. For twentythree dollars a month, she was able to rent a small apartment with a large living room, a bedroom, and a kitchen. Her bed was a wire spring folding cot with iron legs, but no mattress, a half-worn blanket loaned by the friend, and a traveler's pillow.

After awhile friends heard of her brave new venture. From time to time they would send her a small offering. Sometimes it would be one dollar, sometimes as much as five. Living on the very least she could, Faith used most of these offerings for rent and for lumber to make benches. These were plain board seats that she set in the living room, using it for a mission room.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Faith. 2. By faith. 3. Leave his country and go to a place He would show him. 4. Great nation. 5. 75. 6. To Canaan. 7. An altar. 8. The Lord's.)





Vol. 57, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 2 October 8, 2006

A Night of Terror

(Continued from last week.)

In September, 1930, Faith Stewart began her mission work in Cuba by holding cottage meetings. Eventually she developed a routine. Usually she spent every weekday up to Friday calling on the needy or sick. Friday was a day for fasting and prayer while Saturday was left open for whatever might come up.

One day Faith began to feel deeply burdened. It was Tuesday and she started out to make her calls. But the heavy weight was so depressing she soon returned home. That evening she went to the Spanish prayer meeting as usual. She told the people there, "I need your prayers for myself this evening. I have come with a heavy load on my heart and I do not know why. I only know I badly need prayer."

As she spoke, the load seemed to be lifted. But as soon as the service closed, the same heaviness fell on her again as though some awful thing had happened or was about to happen. When she got home she spent more time in prayer. Finally she fell into a fitful sleep.

The two girls living with Faith decided to wash out some clothes before going to bed. Quietly they brought a large tub of water into their

room where they did their wash. They decided that it was better to not disturb Faith so the tub of water was left standing in the bedroom over night. The girls got ready for bed and went to sleep, planning to empty it early the next morning.

Shortly after that Faith awakened again and went down in earnest prayer. At about one o'clock the heavy load lifted and a wave of relief swept over her soul. She still did not understand the awful heaviness, but she felt that at last she had prayed through and won the victory.

At three o'clock Faith's neighbor got up to attend to her restless baby. She noticed a car parked in front of Faith's house. She thought nothing of it because when someone needed Faith during the night a young man would come and drive her where she was needed. So, the neighbor did not suspect that anything was unusual about this car parked out front. She simply remarked to her husband that poor Miss Stewart was going to have to go out and make a night call. Then she retired without further concern for her friend and neighbor.

Meanwhile three or four men came quietly around to the rear of the house, leaving one man sitting in the car. Working quietly so they would not



Troubles Become a Blessing

Genesis 37:5, 9-10, 19-20, 23-28; 42:6; 45:4-5, 7-8

- 5 And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it his brethren: and they hated him yet the more.
- 9 And he dreamed yet another dream, and told it his brethren....
- 10 And he told it to his father,...and his father rebuked him,...Shall I and thy mother and thy brethren indeed come to bow down ourselves to thee...?
- 19 And they said one to another, Behold, this dreamer cometh.
- 20 ...let us slay him, and cast him into some pit, and we will say, Some evil beast hath devoured him:...
- 23 And it came to pass, when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stript Joseph out of his coat,...
- **24** And they...cast him into a pit: and...there was no water in it.
- **25** And they sat down to eat bread:...and behold a company of the Ishmeelites came...with their camels...going...down to Egypt.
- **26** And Judah said unto his brethren, What profit is it if we slay our brother....?
- **27** Come, and let us sell him to the Ishmeelites....
- 28 Then...they...sold Joseph to the Ishmeelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.
- 6 And Joseph was the governor over the land, and he it was that sold

to all the people of the land: and Joseph's brethren came, and bowed down themselves before him with their faces to the earth.

- 4 And Joseph said unto his brethren...IamJosephyour brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.
- 5 Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither:...
- 7 And God sent me before you...to save your lives by a great deliverance.
- 8 So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

The Message: Joseph's troubles turned out to be God's plan for him and a blessing for his family.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Why did Joseph's brothers hate him?
- 2. Who rebuked Joseph for his dreams?
- 3. What had Joseph's brothers planned to do with him?
- 4. What did they do with Joseph?
- 5. Where did the Ishmeelites take Joseph?
- 6. For how much silver was Joseph sold?
- 7. Did Joseph forgive his brothers?
- 8. Who became ruler over all Egypt?
- 9. Why did God send Joseph to Egypt?

Verse to Memorize

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God,...

Romans 8:28.



Joseph's brothers hated him. Each time they saw Joseph wearing the beautiful multicolored coat their father had made just for him, it made them angry. One day when Joseph returned from watching the cattle with his brothers, he reported their evil actions to his father. This intensified their hatred for him. After that he had two dreams. In the first dream, his sheaf stood tall while his brothers' sheaves bowed before his. In the second dream, the sun, moon and 11 stars bowed before him. Even his father rebuked him for that dream.

His brothers smoldered with anger. They watched for a chance to get rid of him. Then, one day while they were far from home with the cattle, they saw Joseph coming towards them.

"Look!" one of them said, "Here comes the dreamer!" They decided they would kill him and throw his body into a deep pit where it would never be found. "Then we will see what becomes of his dreams!" they agreed.

Reuben, Joseph's oldest brother, persuaded them to just put him in a pit instead of killing him. He planned to come back later and rescue Joseph. But when some Ishmeelite traders came by on their way to Egypt they decided to sell Joseph to them. They were sure they were rid of him forever!

Joseph was taken into Egypt and sold there as a slave. While he was cleaning pig pens, mopping floors, grinding corn and baking bread, he must have often asked, "Why has this happened to me?" He may have wondered if God was still alive. Perhaps he blamed himself, wishing he hadn't tattled on his brothers or told his dreams. We do not know what Joseph thought while working in Egypt.

We do know he obeyed God's commandments. Even when strongly tempted, he did not yield to sin. When suffering in prison, he did not grow bitter. He trusted God, although he did not always understand.

Joseph turned his troubles into stepping stones. He took each trial as a lesson sent from God to educate him for the future. Joseph did not know his future work, but he learned the lessons well. When the time came that God needed him, Joseph was prepared.

We, too, must learn lessons from trials. When we can't have things the way we want them, we must learn to be happy anyway. If others hate us and abuse us as Joseph's brothers did him, we must suffer patiently. If others try to force us to do wrong, we must be strong as Joseph was. Trials help us to build character which we will need in the future.

Remember, all things will work together for good to those who love the Lord—under one condition. The condition is that we keep the right attitude and do the very best we can under troublesome conditions.

Many times troubles turn into blessings. Troubles are like dark clouds that cover the bright sun. The sun, like God's will, shines always, but we may not see it. Sometimes the clouds bring rain that interrupts our plans but furnishes needed moisture. Later, when the hills are green and producing food for cattle and wildlife, we thank God, although the rain was unpleasant. It is the same with many troubles—later we see they work for our good.

-Charlotte Huskey

awaken Faith or the girls, they bored a hole in the back door, inserted a funnel through it, and blew gas into the house. This caused a deep sleep to fall over their victims in the house. After waiting long enough for the gas to have full effect, they broke in and began to plunder. They took everything of any value that could be used or sold.

They stripped the new blanket that covered Faith's bed right off of her. They took her glasses, typewriter, fountain pen, and all her clothes. In fact, they left her nothing to wear! She had to remain in bed for three days afterward, partly from the shock of the ordeal and partly because there was nothing to wear and no money to buy more.

Many more things than these were taken-any article of value was carried out to the car waiting in front of the house. Then they found the coin purse and the little that was in it. Immediately they began looking for more money. They reasoned that because this woman was an American. there must be money hidden somewhere. They went into the room of the girls. Little Caridad woke up. She was filled with fear and horror as she saw an evil-looking man standing at her bedside! He was holding an awful knife in his hand. She quickly covered her face and hid underneath the covers. But the man came closer and snatched the covers away roughly, saying, "Little girl, if you will tell us where she hides her money, we will go away and will not bother you."

"She does not have any money," the terrified girl managed to answer.

"We know that she must have money somewhere," argued the bandit, "and if you will just tell where it is, we will go away. But if you do not tell us, we will kill her." "I told you the truth," Caridad protested. "She has no money. When she gets any money, she gives it all away to the poor."

Leaving the girls' room the bandits continued their search, going into Faith's room. She was beginning to slowly awaken from the deep unnatural sleep. When she opened her eyes and looked around she saw the strange man.

"What does this mean?" she asked. One man was standing beside her bed with a gun and the other with a big knife lifted threateningly. They told her that they would kill her if she did not tell them where her money was hidden. She protested that there was none save what they had already found in the coin purse. The men roughly pushed her from one side of the bed to the other, jerking her first to the head of the bed and then the foot as they searched frantically for more money. They lifted up the mattress here and there, looking in every conceivable place that money could be hidden. Then, finding none, they left the room.

As soon as they were gone, the two girls began to sob and even cry out loud. From her bed Faith called to them softly, "Please do not cry, they have not left the premises yet. They will hear you and return. Be very quiet."

At last they heard the motor start. The men climbed in, the car doors closed, and in the quiet of the very early morning, they drove away. They left as they had come, without being detected by neighbors.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Because of his dreams. 2. His father. 3. To kill him. 4. They sold him to the Ishmeelites. 5. To Egypt. 6. Twenty pieces. 7. Yes. 8. Joseph. 9. To save the lives of his family.)





Vol. 57, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 3 October 15, 2006

The Bandit

(Continued from last week.)

The robbers finally left the house but Faith and the two girls lay in their beds still frozen with fear. Finally they heard the bandit's car engine start. They waited breathlessly until they were sure the car had pulled away. Then the girls ran frantically into Faith's room and jumped up onto her bed.

Faith soon found that the awful shock of the night's experience had left her in bad condition. The gas that was blown into her room had a terrible effect on her heart. She was not even able to get up but she began planning what they must do.

Since she could not go herself, she asked the girls if one of them would go next door and awaken the neighbor. Both were still so frightened neither would agree to go. Finally they consented to go together. Still trembling with fear they quietly slipped out into the darkness, looking carefully for any sign of the bandits. They saw no one so, gathering all their courage they raced to the neighbor's house, banging desperately on the door. As soon as it was opened the girls excitedly told about the robbery. The kind neighbor was stunned by the news. She regretted that she had not checked more carefully when she saw the car parked out front.

Before long other neighbors learned about the tragedy. They gathered in to offer their sympathy and see how they could help. No one had seen the bandits who had very successfully driven through the neighborhood and then made their escape undetected.

While the others talked, one of the neighbors stood gazing at Faith in surprise and alarm. Faith noticed this and asked her, "What is wrong?"

"Where is a mirror?" the woman asked.

When they handed her a mirror she held it in front of Faith. Faith, herself, was astonished at what she saw. In one night of horror, her long, heavy, auburn hair had turned white! The shock of awakening to see an evil-looking man holding the gleaming knife threateningly over her had been too much. From that night, she was a white-haired woman.

News of Faith's plight soon spread to other sections of the city. An American woman living in another area came and brought material to make a dress for her. At once two of the Christian women in the church began to make the material into a dress so she could get out of bed. There was nothing left after the robbery, not even a cent of money for food or clothes.



Liberated Through Loss Matthew 19:21,29

21 Jesus said unto him (the rich young ruler), If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me.

29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

Mark 8:35-36

35 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.

36 For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

Philippians 3:7-14

- 7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.
- 8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ.
- 9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:
 10 That I may know him, and the

power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

- 11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.
- 12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.
- 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
- **14** I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

The Message: God can turn great losses into our greatest good!

QUESTIONS:

- 1 What did Jesus tell the rich young ruler to do if he wanted to be perfect?
- 2 If he gave it to the poor what would he have in heaven?
- 3 Everyone who forsakes all for Jesus will inherit _____ life.
- 4 How can we save our life?
- 5 If we try to win the whole world, what will we lose?
- 6 Why was Paul willing to lose everything and count it as nothing?
- 7 Paul said he was pressing toward the prize of what high calling?

Verse to Memorize

...I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord...

Philippians 3:8.



The old man stood on a spot of ground where his little home used to be. He was grief-stricken. Why, oh, why, had this happened to him? He tried to do right. Was God angry with him?

Justyesterday the flash flood came so fast and the water built up so quickly it just swept his meager possessions away. It is true he didn't have much, but it had taken a lifetime to get them. He thought and thought but he did not get an answer to his dilemma.

Then, as helooked dejectedly down at the ground which had been swept clean by the flood, he saw something sparkling. Poking at it with the toe of his old shoe he noticed other sparkles here and there.

Upon closer examination he found that the bits of sparkle were actually gold! He was actually standing on great riches but it took his awful loss to reveal it. If everything else had not been swept away he probably would never have discovered the gold.

It is easy to get caught up in the busy activities of life and forget the things that really matter. God in His mercy often sends storms that sweep away the vain, temporary treasures that we may find Him and eternal life. Paul suffered the loss of everything he had worked for. But he said he could not count it a loss because He had found Christ, the true treasure! He lost his prestige among the strict Pharisees but God sent him to witness for Him before kings. Paul's name and life is known throughout the

world while the worldly dignitaries of his time are all but forgotten.

How do we as Christians handle the storms of life that come? No matter who we are, saint or sinner, trouble will come and it will hurt. But it all depends on how we face our troubles. Do we give up in deep despair or do we still, even while grieving our losses, remain confident of God's wisdom, love, and power and move on with hope into tomorrow?

Thomas Edison, the great inventor, was 67 years old when he suffered the loss of a lifetime of work. A great fire destroyed his factory! Yet the very next morning while walking among the smoldering rubble of the buildings that had housed so many of his projects, Edison said, "There is great value in disaster—all our mistakes are burned up! Thank God we can start anew."

Abrahamrealized God was calling him to leave his birthplace and follow wherever He led. First he gave up his home and family ties, convinced that God would always be a Father to him and provide all his needs. He gave up his inheritance to Lot, his selfish nephew, to keep peace. He was even willing to give up Isaac when God told him to offer him on Mt. Moriah. But through all the loss. God brought him great gain. He became the "father of the faithful", an example of the happiness and prosperity God reserves for those who are willing to give up everything to follow Him. His life is still an inspiration to all who hear it.

So no matter what hits our lives be like our dear brother Paul. Forgetting the past let us press forward! When God liberates us from our past by great loss it is only so that He may lead us to a wealthier place, a deeper acquaintance with Him and, in the end eternal life!

-Bro. Dale Doolittle

One visitor told Faith that on the same night of the robbery several other homes had been broken into and robbed. In each case, from one to three people had been killed. This home alone had escaped death! God had marvelously spared their lives, no doubt in answer to the burdened prayers of the day before.

But the effect of the gas was awful. Faith's heart was badly effected. She suffered many years because of that night. Then one day she was delivered from its effect by the healing power of God. The girls had left the tub of water in their room because they did not want to disturb Faith. This, a doctor explained, saved the health of the girls. The water in the tub had absorbed much of the gas, thereby counteracting its deadly effect. So their consideration for Faith resulted in their own protection. They did not suffer any after effects of the gas.

The months that followed were more difficult because they had lost so many things in the robbery. One day Caridad, the girl who was first awakened by the bandits, went to the nearby grocery store to get something that was needed. She had not been gone from the house very long when she came tearing back into the house crying, "I saw him, I saw him!"

"You saw whom?" Faith asked, trying to calm her.

"I saw the man!" was all she could say.

Finally Faith persuaded her to go back to the grocery store with her to see what was the matter. As Faith learned later, just as Caridad got to the door of the store, she noticed the grocer looking down the street. He kept looking at a man coming toward them. As the man came closer the grocer told Caridad, "That man has been around this comer watching

your house all morning. He stands on the corner, then starts down toward it, and turns just before he gets there and comes back. Have you seen him before?"

About that time the man turned his face in Caridad's direction. When she got a good look at him she was terrified to see that same evil face of the man who held a knife over her. She turned and ran as fast as she could, not stopping until she was safely in the house. Now, as she and Faith returned together to the store. a policeman came toward them leading the man. They had been watching his strange behavior and suspected he was one of the bandits. As they came closer to Caridad all the fear and horror of that night came back to her. It was too much: she fainted. falling backward.

The police felt the evidence was plain that this man was one of the bandits. The girl had been so strongly effected that no other evidence was needed. The man was sentenced to eight years in prison.

This incident happened in the time of an awful revolution in Cuba. There was danger everywhere. Many Americans left for fear of their lives but Faith Stewart had a burden for souls. She came to Cuba to live or die withthem. She stood faithful throughout this dangerous time.

Therewerehours that her life was in imminent danger but her faith held firm. She knew that the same God upon whom she relied to daily supply her food and shelter could be trusted to protect from the dangers and perils all around her.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Sell all he had. 2. Treasure. 3. Everlasting life. 4. By losing it for Jesus' sake. 5. Our soul. 6. So that he might win Christ. 7. The high calling of God.)





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Mama Gonzales

(Continued from last week)

Faith Stewart's whole purpose for coming to Cuba was to tell the people the good news of the Gospel. One day she spent the whole afternoon in prayer that God would send more people out to hear this good news. In answer to those prayers, a good number came to the service that evening. Among them was a woman about 60 years old, whose last name was Gonzales. She gladly accepted the truth and was sweetly saved. After that she attended each service faithfully. Those who knew and loved her called her "Mama Gonzales".

Some time later during a prayer meeting she heard the people pleading earnestly for God to send money. They had run short of funds and could not pay the rent for the building they used to hold services. As Mama Gonzales listened she thought of a sum of money her daughter in New York had sent her. She decided to loan them the money to pay the rent. She was sure they could repay the money soon and since the saints were expecting mail from the United States any day with enough money to pay the rent, they accepted the kind loan.

The money had been entrusted to MamaGonzalesforhergrandchildren's tickets back home. Her daughter's

two children had spent time with her. Now it was almost time for them to go back to New York so the daughter sent enough money for their return trip on the boat. A friend of the daughter who was visiting in Cuba was asked to bring the children back with her when she returned home. She agreed to do this.

Day after day the saints eagerly waited for the mail. But no mail came, no offerings to support the work. There was no possible way to pay back the money. Then the friend of the daughter came to Mama Gonzales' home to get the money to buy tickets for the two children. It was deeply embarrassing for this true saint who faithfully trusted in God to admit that she did not have the money. Angrily the woman told her she was leaving on the boat that very evening. She would explain to the daughter how the money had been spent for other things! She insisted she would not wait another day to give time for the money to come in.

With heavy hearts the little group of saints met that afternoon for earnest prayer. They cried mightily upon Him to make a way for them, knowing there was nothing too hard for Him to do. Before the time for the boat to leave that evening, a terrible storm broke out over the city and also over the waters and speedily



Stephen's Last Testimony

Acts 6:5, 8-15; 7:2, 54-60

- 5 ...:and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:
- 8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.
- 9 Then there arose certain of the synagogue,...disputing with Stephen.
- 10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.
- 11 Then they suborned men, which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God.
- 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 setup falsewitnesses, 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.
- 2 And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken;...
- **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 sawtheglory 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.

The Message: Stephen died praying God to forgive his murderers. Paul was saved in answer to this prayer.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Who was full of faith and the Holy Ghost?
- 2. What kind of works did he do among the people?
- 3. Whywere those who disputed with him not able to resist his reasoning?
- 4. What kind of witnesses accused Stephen?
- 5. What did Stephen's face look like?
- 6. How were the listeners affected after Stephen's speech?
- 7. Who did Stephen see when he looked up to Heaven?
- 8. How did they kill Stephen?
- 9. Where did the murderers lay their clothes?

Verse to Memorize

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.

Acts 7:60.



As the church grew rapidly the apostles were faced with the problem of taking care of the many widows. Calling the multitude of disciples together they explained, "It is not right for us to leave the word of God and serve tables. Choose seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, who we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer and preaching the word."

The first man they chose was Stephen. Another was Philip. Both men were preachers of the gospel. Little is known about the other five. After prayer the apostles laid their hands on the seven, asking God's blessing upon their work.

Everywhere throughout Jerusalem people talked about Stephen. Because he was full of faith and power he did many wonders and miracles. Then certain religious leaders argued with Stephen about his teachings. They tried to prove that Jesus was not the Christ. But God gave Stephen such wisdom to speak about Jesus that the leaders were left without a word to say.

They were enraged by Stephen's convincing proof that Jesus was indeed the Christ. Since they could not stop his teachings by disputing them, they hired men to go among the Jews and accuse Stephen. Wherever these men went, they lied, "We have heard Stephen speak against Moses and against God!"

The people were upset by these words; some believed they were true. As soon as the rulers and scribes heard it, they seized Stephen and brought him before the council.

The men who had been hired to tell lies about Stephen came to the council meeting too. They were called on to tell what they knew about Stephen. They said, "This man never stops saying terrible things about the temple and the Law. We have heard him say that Jesus of Nazareth will destroy the temple and change the customs that Moses gave us."

While the false witnesses spoke, the council watched Stephen closely. Even though his face shone like an angel's, they proceeded to accuse him.

Bravely Stephen stood up and faced his accusers, telling them the familiar story of their people, beginning with Abraham. He reminded them that their fathers had disobeyed God's laws.

Enraged by his words, the leaders were furious that Stephen would dare accuse them of doing wrong. To give him courage to face his enemies, God let him see into Heaven. Looking up, Stephen said, "I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God."

At once the rulers cried out loudly. They held their hands over their ears so they would not have to hear Stephen say another word. Suddenly they rushed at him, seized him, and dragged him outside the city gate and stoned him. His murderers laid their clothes at Saul's feet.

As the rocks beat him mercilessly, Stephen called upon God, saying, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!" Then kneeling down, he cried with a loud voice, "Lord, lay not this sin to their charge."

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

spreadin great fury over the ocean. It grew worse and worse until finally the word came that no boats would run until the storm was over and conditions permitted. For three days, all boats were in the docks; all travel was discontinued.

But God had not stopped working. During that timethemail brought in the required amount. By the time the angry friend could actually go, the full amount had come in. Mama Gonzales was able to hand the friend the money for two tickets which she took grudgingly. Although she had been unwilling to wait for the money God detained her by the forces of nature. He ordered a three-day wait in which time He answered the prayers of His faithful servants, though He allowed their faith to be sorely tested.

Some timelater during an annual convention money for food ran out before the meetingwas over. As usual they took their trouble to the throne of God. Again it was Mama Gonzales who met the need. She explained that her rent was due but the landlord had not come to collect it. While they were knelt in prayer she said that God plainly told her that she should lend her rent money to bridge over this special need.

Again she was trusting in God and His people to repay the money when it was needed. But again there was a deep testing of faith. The money did not come in. Day after day, prayers went up to God. The landlord refused to show mercy. He was not interested in mission work and its needs but he most certainly was interested in collecting his rent! Finally a day was set for her to be evicted from her little home.

The day came. Mama Gonzales sat calmly waiting. The most important thing in her life was her love for God and her absolute trust in Him. If

He wanted her to suffer this humiliation and hardship she was willing to do so.

Meanwhile Faith received twentyfive dollars from a complete stranger. She rushed uptown to get the money changed into Cuban money. At that time American money was of more value than Cuban money was. So when she cashed the twenty-five dollars she received \$27.70 in Cuban money. There were other obligations besides to Mama Gonzales. The room rent for one of the workers was due. This was six dollars. The rent for another of the missions was also due. That was nine dollars. So she really could only spare tendollars for Mama Gonzales. She felt strongly that that was the amount she should give her. The devil came against her on the way to pay the debt. "How can vou hand her ten dollars when you know the amount of her rent is eighteen?" he said, trying to shame her.

When she got to Mama's house she found her waiting to be put out. Quickly she told her, "Mama Gonzales, I have some money for you!"

"Well, praise the Lord!" Mama answered cheerfully.

Then Faith added apologetically, "But I have only ten dollars for you."

"Well," Mama replied, "my Father in Heaven has already sent me eight dollars, and ten dollars is enough."

When the landlord came, Mama Gonzales thankfully paid him the rentin full. God had answered prayer and come to her rescue again!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Stephen. 2. Greatwonders and miracles. 3. He spoke by the Spirit with great wisdom. 4. False witnesses. 5. An angel's. 6. They were cut to the heart. 7. Jesus standing at the righthand of God. 8. By stoning him. 9. At Saul's feet.)





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Little Faces, Little Hands in Cuba

(Continued from last week.)

During the 14 years Faith had been in Cuba she was often distressed by the fate of the many children who had no homes. The war caused even greater suffering among the children. Often there was no way for parents to provide them food and shelter. These conditions caused such despair that some parents committed suicide while some others deserted their families. Little children were the helpless victims of these cruel circumstances that surrounded their lives. Many mothers were left alone to struggle to care for their children. They were reduced to begging, to searching through garbage cans or stealing just to get a few scraps of food.

By this time the work in Cuba had expanded until there were 18 Sunday schools, 16 congregations, radio work in both English and Spanish as well a church paper that was published monthly. All this was a heavy load. Yet Faith knew she must do something to save at least some of the poor destitute children. She wrote, "I reached a place where I felt I could no longer refrain from putting my hand to the task and doing what I could to at least change the course of things in the lives of a few."

So, on February 10, 1944 she opened a small home a few miles away from Havana. She notified policemen and they began to bring the children in off the streets. Many of these children did not even know what the word home meant. They had never had a home and shelter and a proper bed. Some of them had slept on doorways and benches so long that they had forgotten, if they did once have them. Dressed in rags, undernourished, often unclean and neglected, they came in one by one.

Fifteen cots had been crowded into the small quarters. Soon every one was occupied. There was no more room. Just then a policeman came bringing in two little waifs from off the streets.

"We are sorry," the workers told him, "there is no more room, not even to lie on the floor."

"Do you mean that I must take these little children back after promising them a shelter and food and bringing them all the way here?" the policeman asked in distress.

They could only answer, "We have done our best, and you can see for yourself that there is not room for one more child." They could only assure the policeman that they would take the matter before God. As soon as He supplied larger quarters, they would notify him and he could bring the children back.



Set Your Priorities

I Timothy 6:6-14; 17-21

- **6** But godliness with contentment is great gain.
- 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.
- 8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.
- **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.
- 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.
- 13 I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;
- 14 That thou keep this commandment without spot. unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:
- 17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not

highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

18 That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;

- 19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.
- 20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:
- 21 Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen.

The Message: A Christian's most important priority is being godly and contented with life.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. What is great gain?
- 2. What does each person bring into life?
- 3. Will we take anything with us when we die?
- 4. What will happen to those who want to be rich?
- 5. What is the root of all evil?
- 6. What should a Christian follow?
- 7. Who gives the rich man his wealth?
- 8. How should a rich man use his wealth?
- 9. Timothy was warned to avoid what things?

Verse to Memorize

...follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.

I Timothy 6:11.



Tony was a street boy in New York City. Once he had shared a dingy apartment with his parents, six brothers and sisters, and who knows how many cockroaches and micel That was before his father died. After his father's death, his mother told him he would have to move out. "Get your own job and room," she said. "I just can't take care of all of you."

So he left his southern home and went to New York with a determination to get rich and show his mother how valuable he could have been to her. He was only 16 but he was smart. Within months he was making one hundred dollars a week, then two hundred dollars, then three hundred dollars. At the age of 19 he was making four hundred dollars every week, but he was not happy. He wandered into a shelter and asked for help. Why should a guy making four hundred dollars a week need help?

Tony had found out that his life was rotten. He was already tired of the fast life. He had plenty of friends when he had money and none when it was gone. He was often abused, sick from partying, and in constant danger.

"Can you help me?" he asked the man in charge of the shelter.

"We can help you if you will promise to obey the rules around here and stay on the program."

"Can you find me a job?"

"We can. In fact there is an opening for one today. It will be 40 hours a week at minimum wage." "Not much, compared to what I've been making," Tony said. "But it doesn't matter; money hasn't satisfied my needs. I want to finish my education and learn a trade. I need stable friends whom I can trust. I need my life turned around."

"We can help you with those needs," the man assured him.

Tony was getting his priorities straight. He had learned in three years what some take a lifetime to learn. Have you learned what Toney has learned, that money doesn't satisfy—that the love of money is the root of all evil?

Those who have set their heart to become rich have pierced themselves with many hurtful lusts. "Pierce" means to go all the way through. A desire to get rich will cause the joy and happiness of life to leak out. It will make one discontent with whatever they have. A new bike will not bring happiness; you will soon want a more expensive one.

What should a person want most—getting rich or loving God and being content with what God provides? Apostle Paul said, "Godliness with contentment is GREAT gain."

Jesus said that we could not love two masters because we will hate one and love the other. You cannot love God and money. Don't fool yourself in trying to love both money and God. It just can't be done. We must love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and trust Him to allow us to earn the money He sees is best for us.

If a person continues striving after riches he will come to spiritual ruin and lose his soul. If you are wishing to some day become rich, take Tony's advice. He would say, "Lay that down, buddy, before it gets you into lots of misery like it did me."

-Sis. Charlotte Huskey

Sorrowfully, the policeman turned away taking the little ones back to the hopeless streets and hunger and suffering. This caused a cloud of sorrow over the happy day of the opening of the new home. That day 15 children were admitted to the home but 17 had to be turned away. The burden lay so heavily on the hearts of Faith and her helpers to provide an escape for more of the children who were suffering continual hunger and the fear and danger of a life in the streets that they cried out to God for larger and better facilities.

Money began to come in and before long they were able to purchase a beautiful farm with about seven acres of rich land. There were many large fruit trees and a large roomy house on the property. A day was set to dedicate the home God had provided for the underprivileged children of Cuba. Even during the ceremony, groups of thin faced, poorly dressed children waited around the edge of the assembly wanting admission. Some had been brought by mothers who could no longer bear the struggle, and some by policemen. These little ones were lovingly admitted to the home, thus saving the lives of some and giving the poor mothers a chance to get work and support themselves. Many of these mothers could not get work with several little ones clinging to them. In such cases, they were able to save the children and help the mothers.

As the new home filled up with children, the workers and Faith had their hearts and hands full caring for them. They soon realized what a great task they had undertaken. Many of these children had only one place, and that was the street. They had learned very young to fight fiercely for every inch of liberty and opportunity they got. They had no idea of getting along peaceably with anyone. Life was a continual struggle, and they

felt more at home in that atmosphere. For many weeks, the very air of the place was filled with cursing and all kinds of bad language and with screams from the children as they fought one another.

Slowly the children learned something of the law of kindness and love. Finally Faith could write, "We seldom hear of a fight or of trouble between the children. Thank God for the power there is in the Gospel! Now the atmosphere of the place is entirely changed. We lift our hearts to God in grateful praise as we hear the happy laughter or snatches of songs as the children work or play.

"Now instead of hearing bad language and fighting from morning until night, happy laughter and song fill the air. And many times in the midst of my work, I stop to listen as I hear some sweet voice in prayer in some part of the Home. The children are responding in a wonderful way to the teaching of the Gospel, and it is marvelous, the changes that have been wrought in many of these lives.

Most of the children had never been to school a day in their lives. They were now too old to be admitted to public school. But in the home each child was given an opportunity to learn, no matter what their age. Three children about 11 or 12 years of age did not know even the alphabet. These were placed in classes and were soon able to read and get along in all their school classes.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Godliness and contentment. 2. Not a thing. 3. No. 4. They will fall into temptations, snares and foolish and harmful lusts which will drown them in destruction and perdition. 5. The love of money. 6. Righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience and meekness. 7. God. 8. He should be ready to share. 9. Profane and vain babblings.)





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Marcelino

(Continued from last week.)

When the first children were admitted to the home, Faith and the workers found that many had never used a plate for food or eaten with a knife and fork as most children do. They used their hands to eat. Nor had they ever slept in a bed! It took much prayer, infinite patience and wisdom to handle this large group of children who had lived on the streets.

Most every child admitted into El Hogar (which means literally, "the home") had a story behind its coming. There is the story of little Marcelino who was brought to El Hogar when he was about a year old. His mother had tuberculosis and was not able to nurse him. She could not afford to buy milk for him. He had never been fed anything but the water from rice. When someone discovered him who took interest in his case, he was not only starving to death but was as helpless as a tiny infant.

The doctors who examined him shook their heads over the tragic case. "This child you cannot save," they said. "He will never be able to walk, and will, if he lives, always be a care for others. Also his case has gone so far back in his infancy that his mind will never be right."

But Marcelinowas their case at El Hogar. He was brought in and placed in his little crib, receiving the diet prescribed for him. Those on duty gave him loving care. The other children showed him they loved him. They too had suffered out there in the cruel world and had been, some of them, in a sad condition. They loved him as though he had been their own baby brother.

Earnest prayerwent up from trusting hearts from day to day for the life of this little boy to be spared. It was God's mercy that sent him to their open door, surely He had great plans for his little life. Slowly a change came over the tiny baby. There was not so much sad crying, and the little boy rested more in his little bed. Slowly also, the pitiful arms and legs began to get rounder. Then steady, noticeable improvement set in.

One day the doctor who had examined Marcelino made another visit to the home. When Marcelino's name was mentioned he acted surprised, exclaiming, "You do not mean the little baby you had here some time ago? Surely he did not live. That would be impossible."

"He not only lives but is perfectly normal in both body and mind," they assured him. "He is a well boy and gets along in school with the other boys in studies."



The Daughter of Jairus

Mark 5:21-24; 35-43

21 And when Jesus was passed over again by ship unto the other side, much people gathered unto him: and he was nigh unto the sea.

22 And, behold, there cometh one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name; and when he saw him, he fell at his feet,

23 And besought him greatly, saying, My little daughter lieth at the point of death: I pray thee, come and lay thy hands on her, that she may be healed; and she shall live.
24 And Jesus went with him; and much people followed him, and thronged him.

35 While he yet spake, there came from the ruler of the synagogue's house certain which said, Thy daughter is dead: why troublest thou the Master any further?

36 As soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken, he saith unto the ruler of the synagogue, Be not afraid, only believe.

37 And he suffered no man to follow him, save Peter, and James, and John the brother of James.

38 And he cometh to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and seeth the tumult, and them that wept and wailed greatly.

39 And when he was come in, he saith unto them, Why make ye this ado, and weep? the damsel is not dead, but sleepeth.

40 And they laughed him to scorn. But when he had put them all out, he taketh the father and the mother of the damsel, and them that were with him, and entereth in where the damsel was lying.

41 And he took the damsel by the hand, and said unto her, Talitha cumi; which is, being interpreted, Damsel, I say unto thee, arise.

42 And straightway the damsel arose, and walked; for she was of the age of twelve years. And they were astonished with a great astonishment.

43 And he charged them straitly that no man should know it; and commanded that something should be given her to eat.

The Message: Jesus showed His care for the young people by raising a girl from the dead.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Who was Jairus?
- 2. What did he want Jesus to do?
- 3. What was the report Jairus received as he walked with Jesus?
- 4. What words of comfort did Jesus give?
- 5. Name the three disciples Jesus took with Him.
- 6. Why did the people in the house laugh?
- 7. What did Jesus say to the girl?
- 8. How old was the girl who was healed?
- 9. What were they to give the girl?

Verse to Memorize

...Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole.
Luke 8:50.



Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue, went looking for Jesus. It was an emergency. His twelve-year-old daughter was at the point of death! When he found Jesus he humbled himself and fell at Jesus' feet, begging Him to come.

As Jesus was going with Jairus to his home, a crowd of people were following. In the midst of the crowd, Jesus came to a sudden stop. He then asked, "Who touched me?" To the disciples this seemed like a foolish question since there were many people around who were brushing against all of them. However, Jesus knew there was something special about this touch. A woman who was very ill had touched the hem of Christ's garment with faith that she would be healed. When she touched Jesus He answered her unspoken request, and healing virtue went out of His body.

During this time, a servant came to Jairus. He told him there was no need to trouble the Master. The girl had died. Did this mean that Jesus had waited too late? No, He is always just in time. He told Jairus not to be afraid, just believe.

At this point, Jesus did not allow the crowd to continue to follow Him. He took only three of His disciples into the room with the girl and her parents.

When they arrived at the house, there was much grief and weeping, but it quickly turned to mockery when Jesus said she was only asleep. Jesus then asked this group to step out. This left the parents, the disciples,

and Christ alone with the girl. Jesus took the girl by the hand and told her to arise. She did. He then told her parents to give her something eat.

Everyone was amazed at this miracle. The parents were very grateful for what Jesus had done for their daughter. How wonderful that He would come aside from the great crowds needing help to heal a twelve-year-old girl!

Jesus still has a special interest in twelve-year-olds. He remembers when He was twelve and how his parents took time to seek Him out from the crowd. He, too, remembers the interest the doctors of the temple took in Him. And today He is still showing the same interest in young people like you.

-Altina Cox

You are never too young to give your heart and life to God. Those who serve God while they are young are able to accomplish the greatest good for Him when they are older.

The Bible records the young years of some of its greatest characters. They were normal children, yet they possessed faith in God which caused them to stand head and shoulders above their peers. Among these were Joseph, Moses, Samuel, David, Daniel and his three friends.

Do you remember when you were 8 years old? Can you imagine being a king at that age? Josiah became king of Judah when he was only eight. At 16, he began to seek after God. Four years later he began the most thorough, sweeping reform the nation ever saw. (2 Chronicles 34:3-7.)

Jesus was only twelve years old when he recognized the necessity and importance of being about His Father's business. While you are young you are full of energy, strength and stamina. Don't waste these precious years. Give them to God!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"Call him in here," the doctor demanded. "I want to see that child."

Marcelino was called and came in obediently, standing in front of the doctor with his bright dark eyes fixed on him. The doctor marveled, "It is a miracle. How was it ever accomplished?" The doctor gazed at the bright-faced little boy who through the love of God and His people, had been miraculously saved from death.

A short while later when roll call was made among the children, each one answered with his or her full name when their turn came. When they came to Marcelino he stood, at first confused. The poor dying mother had not told them her name. Suddenly his countenance brightened and he answered proudly, "Marcelino Stewart!" All the other children accepted his newly adopted name. He had chosen Faith's last name in love and gratitude to the one who had made both home and life a possibility for him.

Then there was little Ramon, He. too, had come to them almost too late. His poor stomach could only stand to have mashed potatoes, gruel, or milk for food. It took a long time for him to gain his health. Since he was too weak to play with the others, he wandered about the children's section. Then, though children were not usually allowed in the missionaries' rooms, he would wander through there also. He never stopped to play or bother anything. It seemed he was secretly hoping that someone would notice him as he walked past. Then very often as he sat in the large rocker on the front veranda, he would fall asleep and have an afternoon nap.

Ramon was about eight years old when the Home offered to give each of the older children their own personal copy of the New Testament as a gift as soon as they could read it. The offer was not made to Ramon because he had not been in school long. It was too much to expect of him. But one day he came to Faith saying, "Abuelita, (little grandma) may I have one of the New Testaments?"

"You know the conditions must be met, Ramon." Faith answered, "When you can read it for yourself, you may have one."

He went away evidently satisfied. Several weeks later he came to her, saying, "Abuelita, I have come for my New Testament."

"You remember the condition," she reminded him.

"Yes," he said excitedly, "and I can read it!"

In much doubt, but interested to know what he had done about the matter during the intervening weeks, she handed him a new copy of the Testament. He opened the book and slowly and painstakingly, read several verses. Faith was astonished at what he had accomplished. No doubt it had cost him hours of study, applying his mind to the task. When he finished he stood looking at her expectantly.

"Ramon, you shall have a New Testament of your very own," she said quietly. "You have earned it and you deserve it!"

Ramon walked out of the room holding his prized possession—his own personal copy of the New Testament. Only the older boys had been able to win such a prize.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. A ruler of the synagogue. 2. To heal his daughter. 3. His daughter was dead. 4. "Be not afraid, only believe." 5. Peter, James and John. 6. Because Jesus said she was not dead, only asleep. 7. "Damsel, I say unto thee, arise." 8. 12 years old. 9. Something to eat.)





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More Experiences in Cuba

(Continued from last week.)

At this time spiritualism was rampant in Cuba. In one year 17 little children were made sacrifices in this demon worship. One day some Christian workers in Cuba were passing a house when they heard the crying and moaning of a little child. They went up to the house and looked in through the iron bars of the open window. In the darkened room they could scarcely make out the form of a little girl about eight or ten years old.

"What is the matter, little girl?" they called.

"I am very hungry," answered the child.

"Come to the window, and we will give you a little money to buy bread."

"I cannot come. I am fastened to this bed," she wailed pitifully.

Wondering what to do, the workers finally decided to go to a policeman for help. With his authority they forced their way into the house and found the child chained to the post of an iron bedstead in the room. She hadbeen there several months, living like a cat or dog. Her pan, which was for food, was set on the floor, and she had lived in this fashion for several months, absolutely alone. When the time came she was to be offered as a sacrifice to the evil spirits. She understood the awful purpose of her

imprisonment and lived in constant fear of death.

She was freed and brought to the Home. Forweeks afterward, it seemed impossible to actually bring her back to civilization. She had been alone so long and her childish mind so warped with the wild fear of the future and her loneliness so terrible that she had become as wild as a little animal of the forest. She would hide behind the furniture and climb out of sight like a monkey when people approached her.

Finally, given time and infinite patience, she was able to take her place among the other children in the Home. In the end, it was the story of Jesus told in its beautiful simplicity that at last set her free from her fears. She lived several years in happy security among the other children. Often, under her leadership, the children would get in a group for prayer when there were urgent needs in the Home.

And there were such times of urgent need. Once the cook for the Boys' Home came to Faith saying, "There is nothing in the cupboard to fix for the next meal. What shall we do?"

"Do you have any one thing?" Faith asked.

"A few beans," the cook answered, "but not half enough."

"Go back and put on what you have," Faith instructed.



Elijah, A Prophet of Courage

I Kings 16:33

33 ...Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.

1 Kings 18:17-19, 21-24, 29, 36-39

17 ...Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel?

18 And he answered...ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.

19 ...gather to me all Israel unto mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty...

21 And Elijah...said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him....

22 Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

23 Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under:

24 And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken.

29 Andit came to pass...that there

was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded.

36 ...Elijah the prophet came near, and said...

37 Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again.

38 Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

39 And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God.

The Message: God will prove Himself to be real to all those who trust Him.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Who provoked God to anger more than any other king of Israel?
- 2. Who accused Elijah of causing trouble in Israel?
- 3. How had Ahab caused Israel trouble?
- 4. What did Elijah ask the people to do?
- 5. How many prophets did Elijah say were faithful to God?
- 6. How many prophets did not worship God?
- 7. How was Elijah to prove God was the true God?
- 8. Which God answered by fire?
- 9. In the end what did the people say about God?

Verse to Memorize

...if the LORD be God, follow him ...

I Kings 18:21



King Ahab and his wicked wife, Jezebel, erected many images of a god called Baal. These idols were in many major cities throughout the country of Israel. Priests were paid from the king's treasure to lead worship services for these idols.

It all sounds very strange to us that people would bow themselves to the ground and worship an image which they had carved themselves from wood or stone. However, in the time when Ahab lived, all the nations of the world worshiped idols. Anyone who did not worship idols was looked on as a very strange person. A nation which did not worship idols was rejected by all the other nations. Many times these other nations would join their armies together and fight against the people of Israel. These armies were always defeated by Israel when the Israelites were worshiping and obeving God's commandments. Whenever Israel failed to win it was because they had sinned.

One day the prophet Elijah went to Ahab to give the king a message from God. "As the Lord God of Israel lives," he told the king, "there shall not be dew or rain throughout the land until I announce it." At first Ahab paid no attention to Elijah's words. But when the dew did not appear and the rains stopped, he remembered what Elijah had said. Through the entire kingdom he sent men tolook for the prophet, but Elijah could not be found.

The people were suffering greatly because of the lack of rain. Elijah was

sure they were ready to again call upon a God who could help them out of their troubles. He toldAhab to have the people of Israel and Jezebel's prophets of Baal meet him at Mount Carmel.

When the crowd of curious people gathered at Mount Carmel, they saw Elijah for the first time in threeyears. They listened quietly as he said, "How long are you going to serve first one god and then another? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal is the true god then choose him."

Four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal gathered around one altar. They prayed to their god all day and asked him to send fire. Nothing happened.

Finally it was Elijah's turn. He prepared his altar and had his servants dig a moat around his altar. Then they poured twelve barrels of water over the wood laying on the altar so the people could see the great power of God.

"Oh, God," Elijah prayed, "let this people know that You are God and that You have turned their hearts back to You again and that I am doing this because You have commanded it."

As soon as Elijah said, "Amen," the fire fell from Heaven. It burned the meat and wood to ashes and licked up all the water in the trench that surrounded the altar.

When the people saw it, they fell on their faces and cried out, "The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!"

Now Elijah had some good news for King Ahab, "Eat and drink and have a good time, for a lot of rain is coming." Then Elijah hurried away to ask God to send the rain. When he saw a small cloud he went again to Ahab and said, "Hurry home or you will get caught in the rain!" A wonderful rain fell on the penitent land of Israel.

-Sis. Charlotte Huskey

"But it won't go around." the cook protested.

"Put that much on," Faith told her, "and then go into the closet of prayer and ask God to provide."

As this cook turned to obey, the cook for the Girls' Home came in saying, "There is nothing for dinner! What shall I do?"

Faith gave her the same instructions she had given the boys' cook. Just then one of the boys came in saying, "Abuelita, there is someone at the door who wishes to see you, please come."

She got up and went into the living room and saw a young man. He smiled broadly as he placed a large bag of rice on the floor. Then he brought in a bag of potatoes, a bag of other vegetables, a box of meat and some spices that the Cubans use to season their food. Faith's grateful heart overflowed as she thanked him. She asked him to sit down.

"I cannot," he answered, "My wife and baby are waiting out in front. I am of another faith, but when God gave us this first child, we were so grateful we felt that we would like to show our gratitude. We have heard of this home for destitute children, and we feel that we want to share with you in our deep appreciation for this little child."

The young man left and Faith never saw him again. God sent him right on time to answer the cry of the faithful workers.

The boys' cook had done as she was told and put the few beans on to boil. Coming back through the room she saw all the food! She fell on her knees right there and with tears flowing thanked God for answering prayer. Then the workers gathered in and thanked God in a little prayer service held on the spur of the moment for His goodness to them.

There was a notice in the city paper of a desperate mother with

three little boys who were starving. She was appealing to the policemen for help. One of the workers from the Home rushed to find the mother. The little boys were almost dead from starvation. They were admitted to the Home. The mother was so sickly she could not hold a job so she was given work in the Home. She did her work well and was a real blessing. She loved the Word of God, thanking God continually for the opportunity to live and also be saved from sin.

About that time they learned of Francisco. He was a soldier who was ordered to deliver three prisoners to the prison. If any one of them escaped he would have to serve out the sentence of the escaped man. On the way one of the men did escape. When the soldier faithfully delivered the other two, he was imprisoned to serve the escapee's term.

The soldier's wife came to the Home and shared her sad story with them. She asked if she might leave their young son in the Home so she could get a job to support herself. Everyone in the Home was deeply touched. They went to earnest prayer and kept holding on that God would show mercy to that innocent man and free him. And, after a few months, much to the soldier's astonishment, God worked things out and he was released. How grateful he was for his freedom! He was always a special friend to the Home after this. In times of special need, he could always be counted on to help out.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. King Ahab. 2. King Ahab. 3. He forsook the commandments of God and followed Baalim. 4. To decide who was God and then follow Him. 5. Only himself. 6. 450. 7. By seeing which God sent fire to burn the bullock. 8. The Lord God. 9. "The Lord, he is God.")





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At Death's Door

(Continued from last week.)

In December 1944 the Home held a three-day meeting. At the closing service, Faith preached a strong sermon on 'Divine Healing'. She urged the ministers and workers to uphold the doctrines of the truth and insisted that they stress divine healing in their messages to the people.

"The standard of the Church of God has been lowered in too many places," she warned. "We must see to it, by the grace of God, that this shall not be our course in Cuba. We, as the people of God, must uphold the Christian standard in spite of suffering. God can work in all suffering through His people, but He must have instruments through which to work. And if I am to be used as such an instrument, then amen, so let it be."

She urged the brethren to honor her stand if she should ever get so sick she could not speak for herself. Her consecration was to trust God, live or die. She would gladly accept death rather than take one dose of medicine, however small, to prolong life. God had never failed her. Her life was in His hands.

Shortly after that, on December 30, Faith left Havana for Punta San Juan, which is four hundred miles

from the city, to hold a two-day meeting with several congregations of the Church of God. She reached home on January 3, 1945. On the following Friday, she complained of not feeling well and went to bed. On Saturday morning a telephone message was sent to three ministers telling of Faith Stewart's illness. Two of the brethren went in earnest prayer. A third left immediately to go to Faith.

When he arrived he found her very sick. Those who watched told him that she had passed through a night of suffering and intense pain. The minister contacted other workers and friends, telling them of Faith's condition. Saturday night, Sunday, and Sunday night, her suffering seemed to increase.

The friends who were caring for her decided she had better be taken to Buena Vista where she could have better care and be near the assistance of friends and ministers. A doctor came and examined her, diagnosing the case as gallstones. He plainly stated that she would not live unless she submitted to an operation; yet he admitted that she was too low for such an operation. He feared it would be too hard on her to be moved to Buena Vista so they waited a few more days. During this delay, Faith steadily grew worse.



A Psalm of Thanksgiving

Psalm 103:1-5, 8-19, 21-22

- 1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
- **2** Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:
- **3** Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;
- 4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies:
- 5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- 8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.
- **9** He will not always chide: neither will he keep his anger for ever.
- 10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities.
- 11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him.
- **12** As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.
- 13 Like as a father pitieth his children, so the LORD pitieth them that fear him.
- 14 For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust.
- 15 As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth.

- 16 For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.
- 17 But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children; 18 To such as keep his covenant,
- **18** To such as keep his covenant, and to those that remember his commandments to do them.
- 19 The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.
- **21** Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye ministers of his, that do his pleasure.
- **22** Bless the LORD, all his works in all places of his dominion: bless the LORD, O my soul.

The Message: Always be thankful and bless the Lord.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Whom should all men bless?
- 2. What should we not forget?
- 3. Who forgives, heals and redeems?
- 4. Who satisfieth thy mouth with

5.	The	Lord	is	slow	to	•

- 6. He hath not dealt with us according to our _____.
- 7. How far has God removed our transgressions?
- 8. How long is the mercy of God toward those who do His commandments?
- 9. Whom should we bless?

Verse to Memorize

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

Psalms 103:2.



The Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts, on December 26, 1620. They tried to build rough shelters to protect themselves but the bitter winter cold and illness took their toll. By the end of winter half the colonists had died.

Then the Pilgrims met Squanto who spoke English. He acted as guide and interpreter. With his help the colonists learned to plant corn, catch fish and hunt. He helped them identify edible plants and gather fruit and nuts from the forests. The Pilgrims realized the Indians had saved their lives. They were so thankful that they invited the Indians to celebrate their first harvest in 1621, an event now celebrated as Thanksgiving Day.

We live in a land of plenty. It's easy to take our many blessings for granted and forget justhow thankful we should be

Years ago during a famine in Europe, a baker gave a loaf of bread to every child who came to the bakery. Most of the loaves were bread that had not sold in his shop the day before. However, if there were not many loaves left from yesterday's sales, he would give away fresh ones.

At a certain time each morning the bread was put in a wooden barrel by the bakery door. How the children scrambled to get the largest loaf Sometimes rough boys or girls snatched loaves out of other children's hands. At such times the baker would reprove them, but it seemed to do little good. The loser would then push a smaller child

aside and get the next largest loaf possible.

As he watched the children day after day he noticed that one big girl never pushed or shoved. She stood patiently at the side until the other children each had a loaf. Then she would take whatever was left. Even though the loaf was sometimes very small she always kindly thanked the baker.

One day the baker decided to reward the girl for her good actions. Inside the dough of a very small, ill formed loaf he put some gold coins. After the other children had taken the loaves and gone, the girl lifted the tiny, ill shaped loaf from the bottom of the barrel. She smiled and said, "Thank you."

When the mother cut the loaf and the coins fell out she thought they had fallen into the dough by accident. She sent the girl back to the baker with them. "No," the baker said, "the coins are for you because you were always polite and thankful."

God is very much like the baker. He blesses those who are grateful. He does not always give gold coins, but He does reward. He gives the thankful person many material blessings. He also gives them contentment, happiness and many friends. We cannot always count God's blessing in dollars and cents. Money cannot buy the blessings that God gives to His thankful children.

He forgives our sins and removes them as far as the east is from the west. He heals our diseases. He crowns us with lovingkindness and gives us good things to eat. His mercy to us is as high as the Heavens. Shouldn't we be thankful for all these blessings?

Let us be thankful all through the year for the many blessings we receive from God!

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

The burden for her healing grew as the Church in Cuba prayed earnestly. Finally on Sunday, January 15, she was taken to Buena Vista. They took her to the home of the faithful Mama Gonzales, which was Faith's own request. She was as helpless as a little child when they put her in the car. Mothers and their children stood in front of the Home, crying and grieving for fear that she would never come back. God was with her and she made the trip to Mama Gonzales' where she was laid in bed.

Those about her went to earnest prayer and made plans for her care. Someone must be with her at all times. The Chapel doors were left open that prayer might go up from there both day and night. There was fasting among them for several days. By Monday night it seemed that all hope was lost. As she grew worse, she said, "Lord, into Thy hands I commit it all." She grew too weak to pray and finally lost consciousness. She was now no longer able to turn in the bed without the help of others.

Ministers from nearby districts were called requesting that they unite in earnest, believing prayer. Prayer groups were wrestling with God night and day but it seemed that the more they prayed, the worse she became. By the following Thursday night her condition had become alarming. To comply with the law they were compelled to call a doctor. He came and, after examination, said that he could not understand how she could be alive under the existing circumstances. He predicted that she would only live a few more hours.

When the doctor left it was as if a heavy cloud hung over the crowd of people who were praying and waiting. In the house where she lay, some sat, sad and fearful, some were weeping, some distressed, some still praying,

and others just holding on. There were those who anxiously asked, "What do you think?"

"Sister Stewart is in God's hands, and He will take care of her," others assured.

That night a message was sent to the States to some of Faith's dear friends urging prayer. But all this time she lay unconscious. She knew no one and was unable to utter a word.

On Friday the 19th, the Church fasted and prayed throughout the day and night that God would heal Faith Stewart. Brethren in the United States wired that they were standing with those in Cuba forvictory. Crowds pressed in and around the house, and somehow the rumor was sent out that she was dead. But the ministers from the various churches, as well as friends, sent word that they too were praying for Miss Stewart. As time went on, it looked more and more like a hopeless case.

The question would often come to them if God would, indeed, let her leave without a word of testimony. They were abiding in God's will and the whole case was in His hands. They would have to say, "Amen," to His will if He chose to take her. But there were some that felt that truly her work was not done. These believed that, in spite of the circumstances, God would spare her.

All through the following Saturday night, men and women kept on their faces before God. There was no apparent change—unless it was for the worse.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. The Lord. 2. All His benefits. 3. The Lord. 4. Good things. 5. Anger. 6. Iniquities. 7. As far as the east is from the west. 8. From everlasting to everlasting. 9. The Lord.)





Vol. 57, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 9 November 26, 2006

Victory!

(Continued from last week.)

Prayer for Faith's healing was offered continually. All who knew of her case kept on their faces in prayer before God. Yet there was no apparent change—unless it was for the worse.

At 5:15 Sunday morning, six saints were at her bedside. They sang softly, "Who Will Suffer With the Savior?" and again had prayer. Finally one said to her, "Sister Stewart, for several days you have not spoken. Is it possible that you are taking your departure without a single word? We are desperately concerned because people in Cuba are watching and listening. What will we tell the brethren? They will be expecting a testimony if you die. In Cuba, people are going to judge the work by your testimony."

Faith's tongue moved and in low, stuttering words, yet very clearly, she said, "God can heal me." They were overjoyed to just hear her voice again. But it was her clear testimony of unwavering faith in God's healing power that gave them a fresh surge of courage and faith.

That day the street was literally crowded with people. People came from as far as 40 miles away. One time a worker counted more than 500 people. These were not people from the Church of God but people whose lives Faith had touched. All seemed to despair for her life; they only waited to hear the last word.

One week later, on the following Sunday night, the horn of an ambulance tooted. A friend of Faith's walked in with a doctor. "We have come to take Miss Stewart to a private clinic where I have secured a bed for sixty dollars at my expense," the friend explained. "Miss Stewart is dying and it is necessary that she be taken to this clinic where medical attention can be given."

Saints explained that Faith wanted to be left in God's hands and that it was her express will that in case she became unable to state her stand, those who cared for her were to stand by and regard her wishes. Faith's friend was genuinely concerned about her and felt he knew what was best. He insisted, saying that they had taken a fanatical view. He further stated that if she was not taken to the clinic or given medical attention and should die that the person responsible would be arrested for murder!

Bravely the minister in charge answered, "I am very much surprised at you. As a friend of Sister Stewart, you know her stand on divine heal-



God Heals!

Acts 3:1-12, 16

- 1 Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.
- 2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;
- **3** Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.
- 4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.
- **5** And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.
- 6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.
- 7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.
- 8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.
- **9** And all the people saw him walking and praising God:
- 10 And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

- 11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.
- 12 And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?
- 16 And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whomye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

The Message: Jesus is still our Great Physician.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Where were Peter and John going?
- 2. What was the name of the gate where they laid the lame man?
- 3. How long had the man been lame?
- 4. Why did they carry him to the temple every day?
- 5. What did the lame man do when he saw Peter and John?
- 6. What did Peter say he did not have?
- 7. In whose name did Peter command him to rise and walk?
- 8. When Peter took him by the hand and lifted him up, what happened?
- 9. What did all the people see the lame man doing?

Verse to Memorize

...I am the LORD that healeth thee.

Exodus 15:26.



It started as just another dreary day for the lame man. It would be the same routine as the day before and the many days before that one. He waited patiently knowing someone would come soon to carry him to the temple where he would sit by the wayside and ask alms of anyone going into the temple.

From the day that he was born—over 40 years ago now—he had never taken a step or even stood on his feet! His ankles and feet had never grown strong like the other children's.

Then one day Peter and John were going into the temple to pray. They saw the beggar sitting on the ground. He held out his cup and asked for alms as he did from everyone who walked by. Suddenly Peter felt powerfully drawn to this beggar. He realized that God wanted to do something very special for him.

Looking at him intently Petersaid, "I have no silver or gold. But I do have something to give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk!"

As he spoke Peter reached out and took the man by the hand and lifted him up. Instantly his feet and ankles were made strong. He leaped to his feet and began to walk. He went into the temple with Peter and John walking and leaping and praising God.

The Bible tells of many people that Jesus healed. His whole life was spent doing the will of God. So, through Jesus we learn that God not only saves our souls but He also loves to heal our bodies. And as Sis. Faith preached and proved, He still heals us.

One night when I was just a little girl I woke up with a very bad earache. After my mother prayed for me I went to sleep and had a dream that I still remember vividly. I was sitting under my favorite large flowering shrub in our front yard. I was holding my head because of the pain. Then suddenly Jesus was there. He reached out and, without saying a word, He touched my ear. When I woke up the pain was all gone. I do not remember ever having another earache!

Howwonderful to know that Jesus brought us such a wonderful salvation that includes our bodies as well as our souls! It is a vast treasure. The more we learn of what He has purchased for us the more we realize there is so much more that we have not yet experienced.

When I was 14 years old my sister and I were privileged to travel with Bro. and Sis. Stover from Los Angeles, California to Jefferson, Oregon to attend the camp meeting there. On the way we stopped at Bro. and Sis. H. P. Huskey's home and spent the night. The next morning Sis. Ella Mae Huskey came out to the car to see us off. Her last words that I remember as we drove away were, "The Lord is all to us that we will let Him be."

Her words have come back to me many times when I had a special need and through the years I have found they are true. The Lord has been, and still is, my Healer, my Strength, my Courage and my Guide.

When you know Jesus and have Him living in your heart you have a greater treasure than all the diamonds, silver, gold or other riches of earth! Learn to trust Him fully while you are young. God wants to use you, just as He did Peter, to be a blessing to everyone you contact.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

ing. Then why all this? I am sorry, but Sister Stewartmay be taken to a clinic over my dead body. I remind you again of what she said in her message on December 29th. Men and women are dying for principles that are not worth the price of a hatbox. What does it matter if I am arrested for a cause I know to be right, especially one that I know is founded on the Bible?"

The friend left the house but the doctor asked permission to examine Faith. It was granted him but he soon stated that the case was very complicated. It would be necessary to take her to the clinic to give a thorough examination. But he was sure of one thing—her hours were numbered.

Later, this same kind friend sent an oxygen tent to be set up over Faith's bed. Wondering what to do, friends caring for her decided among themselves that since it was for her relief and could only bring comfort, they could not object. But God knew that many native Cubans were watching this battle between life and death. God also knew that this oxygen tent was the symbol of scientific help in sickness to these natives and would spoil a clear testimony of God's healing power.

The doctors, two Americans working in a hospital in Havana and a Cuban doctor, were, all three, standing by Faith's bed. One of them was making all the preparations to connect the oxygen tent. Faith lay as still as death. Suddenly she opened her eyes! Looking up at the American doctor working over her. she asked, "Sir, do you know God? Do you know how to pray?"

The man was so startled he dropped the fixtures he was working with. Turning to his companions he said, "Come, this is no place for us!" All three hurriedly left the room. The oxygen tent was never connected.

Still the workers prayed earnestly.

She had now lain in a coma for 28 days! A little food was put in her mouth by a dropper as day by day they waited on the Lord. On Friday, January 28, they were sitting up with her at night. During prayer one of the number, Sister Campins, saw a vision. About two o'clock that morning she saw Christ enter the room walking slowly with outstretched arms. She thought at once that He had come to call Faith home to Heaven. She almost cried out in her amazement. Then she sat transfixed as He slowly approached the bedside and laid His hand on Faith Stewart and then passed on.

In utter surprise she cried out, "Did you see it? The vision—what does it mean? I believe that God has touched her. I feel that He has settled the matter!"

No one else saw the vision but their faith was greatly inspired. They spent the day in expectation of the mighty power of God. Then, Sunday morning, one of the watchers saw her move! He got up and stood closer asking eagerly, "Miss Stewart, do you know who I am?"

To their joy and amazement she answered clearly, "I cannot see you yet, but the voice sounds like the voice of the kind Dr. Verdece."

"Yes, it is I. You are right," he assured her.

Fromthattime they watched with great joy as Faith slowly gained strength. When she took sick she weighed 180 pounds. When she got up from her sick bed she weighed only 90 pounds. She had been in a coma for 29 days!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Into the temple. 2. Beautiful. 3. From birth. 4. To ask for alms. 5. Asked for alms. 6. Silver and gold. 7. In the name of Jesus Christ. 8. His feet and ankle bones received strength. 9. Walking and praising God.)





Vol. 57, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 10 December 3, 2006

The Communists

(Continued from last week.)

Communism was steadily gaining ground in Cuba. The Home became a target for their persecutions when the Communists bought the adjoining property. This property was then used as a training school for their young men. They never had an intention of being good neighbors but instead threatened to destroy the Home. They were soon devising many plans to try to accomplish their purpose.

One time two of the little children were lured outside the gate by the Communists who gave them candy. As soon as they were outside the gate they grabbed the children and took them away. When they finally let them go they had long, bloody scratches on their backs. Before releasing them the children were threatened and told they must say that the young man who had charge of the Boys' Home had beaten them. Then the Communists put a long article in the newspaper accusing the Home of cruelty to the children. As proof they used pictures of the two little children with the scratches on their backs.

Faith felt compelled to hire a lawyer to take their case. It was difficult to find any lawyer who would dare defy the Communists. At last she was successful. However, the day before the case came to court that lawyer disappeared. They found out later that he had fled for his life to another section of the island and stayed there for a time.

In vain they looked for a lawyer brave enough to take the case. At last they visited the American Embassy and laid the case before the Consul, telling him that no one would take the case.

"We have been expecting this, and this is the first outbreak of Communism against the church. I am sorry, but we would not dare to enter the case as our own lives would then be in danger," the Consul told thembluntly.

So, they were forced to face the case in court without a representative. The day finally came and Faith Stewart, with a few faithful members of the Mission, were there to present their side.

Cars were parked up and down the street for blocks. Ministers from other churches in the city had come to hear the case. Practically every denomination was represented. The judge, too, was there. But where were the Communists? Time went on. It was past time for the case to be tried. Finally a man hurriedly pushed through the crowd and made his way before the judge.



The Trial of Faith

1 Peter 4:12-14

12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

14 If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.

1 Peter 1:6-9

6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:

9 Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls.

Hebrews 11:36-38

36 And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

37 They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were

slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented:

38 (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

Job 23:10

10 But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

James 1:12

12 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.

The Message: Those who faithfully endure trials will be blessed and in the end receive the crown of life.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. What kind of trial will try us?
- 2. Why should we rejoice when we are tried?
- 3. How should we feel when we are reproached for the name of Christ?
- 4. How precious is the trying of our faith?
- 5. What is the end of our faith?
- 6. Name a few ways early Christians were tormented.
- 7. Where did they wander?
- 8. How did Job say he would come forth after he was tried?
- 9. What has the Lord promised to them that love Him?

Verse to Memorize

...when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.

Job 23:10.



God was able to use Faith Stewart to accomplish great things for Him because her life was completely surrendered to Him. Faith had many hard trials. Her great love for God enabled her to hold steady through each one. And in each one God showed His mighty power by delivering her.

Faith was brought to the truth through divine healing. God miraculously healed her after all the doctors told her there was no hope—she had only a short time to live. At that time she was 21 years old. She lived to be 80! Through the years she was healed of many maladies including tuberculosis of the bone, paralysis and blindness.

Although others were turning to doctors for their physical needs, Faith could not. The Lord had definitely shown her that it was His desire to be her Healer. Her body belonged to God; she would always trust Him to care for it. God healed her although He allowed her to lie unconscious for 29 days! We must be willing to go through heavy trials if we are to experience great victories such as this.

If we love God supremely this great love will make all our trials seem light. Do you remember how Peter and the other apostles were thrown into prison? (Acts 5.) The council of Jews warned them that they should not preach Jesus to the people and then they let them go. Instead of being afraid, they rejoiced. They regarded the trial as an honor. They were suffering shame for the name of Jesus!

The faith of early Christians had to be genuine to pass through the awful persecutions which they faced. They were given two choices: "Renounce-Jesus and live," or "Be faithful to Him and die." Every Christian was in continual danger of losing his life. Those who preferred Christ before their own life gave full proof of their sincerity. The fiery trial proved the quality of their genuine faith.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

"I'LL NEVER STEAL AGAIN—IF FATHER KILLS ME FOR IT."

A man once found a boy, about ten years old, lying in an abandoned building. When he asked what he was doing there the boy told him he was hiding and begged the man to not tell anyone where he was.

As he continued to question the boy he learned that his mother was dead. When he asked about his father, the little boy showed him where he had been severely beaten.

"Why, my boy, who beat you like that?"

"Father did. sir."

"What did your father beat you like that for?"

"Father got drunk, sir, and beat me 'cause I wouldn't steal."

"Did vou ever steal?"

"Yes, sir, I was a street thief once."

"And why don't you steal any more?"

"I went to the mission school, and they told me there of God and of Heaven, and of Jesus; and they taught me, "Thou shalt not steal" and I'll never steal again, if Father kills me for it! But please, sir, don't tell him."

"My boy, you must not stay here; you will die. Now, you wait patiently here. We will get a better place for you than this."

The gentleman went away and came back again in less than two hours. But the brave little boy was dead.

—Adapted from "Touching Incidents"

"Sir," he said, "I am sorry, but I have forced myself to come here today. The other three men are at home sick in bed and unable to get up and be here."

"It is about time you showed up," the judge replied. "The case is closed."

The man turned hurriedly and started for the door. Faith was sitting three seats back from the front on the aisle. She quickly got up from her seat and stepped out in the aisle, blocking the man's way.

"Wait a moment," she said in a clear voice. "Young man, the God in whomyou do not believe and the God whom I serve has stretched forth His hand against these men and made them sick. Be careful how you live and go back and tell them also that they had better take heed to their ways!" So the case closed.

Onc day, some time later, Faith was at her little home for a day or two in Buena Vista. She heard a knock at the front door. As she started toward the front of the house a distinct warning came to her that she must not invite the caller in. She must step outside. So, as soon as she opened the door, she quickly stepped outside and closed the door behind her. When she greeted the man who had knocked he was visibly angry.

In plain English but in a low tone he told her, "I came here to kill you, but you have closed the door and I dare not do it here in public because all your neighbors are out. But I will get you later!" With that he turned quickly and stomped angrily off the porch.

The Communists devised other plans but they were told to Faith or the workers. Each time their plans were frustrated. An officer of the law came to the Home one day and was admitted. He was obviously very fearful and asked to go further into the office. When they were in there he

closed all the shutters on the windows.

Then he quietly asked, "Is there anyone around that will hear?"

"I do not think there is anyone about." Faith answered.

"Then," he said in a low voice, "for some time your name has been on the death list of the Communists, and also the name of the assistant who is over the boys."

He warned her to never go out alone at night and to always be careful. Then he told her his name and office. Bidding them never to tell that he had come in mercy to warn them, he left.

The Communists may have spied on this honorable man who was brave enough to risk his life to warn a missionary. Somehow they found out. They went to his home determined to kill him. He had just left so his wife opened the door and told them that her husband was not home. In anger they shot her as she stood in the doorway. By this they got revenge on the poor officer.

God answered the cries of Faith and the workers. After some time the school next to the Home was broken up and disbanded. They had to sell out. The Home was able to buy many of the beds from the very enemy that had tried to ruin and destroy the work. Again God made them more than conquerors in the battle of Atheism against Christianity. What a mighty God we serve!

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Fiery trial. 2. Because we are taking part in Christ's sufferings. 3. Happy. 4. Much more precious than gold. 5. Salvation. 6. They were mocked, scourged, stoned, sawn in two, etc. 7. In mountains, deserts, dens and caves. 8. As gold. 9. A crown of life.)





Vol. 57, No. 4 Juniors (USPS549-000) Part 11 December 10, 2006

Problems and Victories

(Continued from last week.)

Things did not always go smoothly. Faith met many problems and perils in caring for so many children and the great work of spreading the Gospel. For instance, one time all the children in the Girls' Home took down with different illnesses, one after another. The Home seemed like a regular hospital with so many sick to care for. There was no special nurse. The two who were in charge soon became totally exhausted.

Then Ruby, a teenager who had been in the Home for a long time suddenly got very sick. She was one of the outstanding girls in the Home. Everyone watched anxiously as she steadily got worse and worse. There was a dread disease going around at that time called "horse disease." Those unfortunate enough to contract this disease usually died. When her case was diagnosed as this disease all were deeply concerned.

In a short time Ruby became so delirious and unmanageable that they could not take care of her in the Home. They were compelled to put her in the hospital for proper care. Her case was a bad one. Her arms and legs and body were strapped to the bed as she could not control herself. When she was in agony from the

awful suffering she would fall out of bed and be unable to get back in. Then, too, at such times she would scream so loud in pain that she could be heard for a long distance.

It was a pitiful sight. In her lucid moments, she would assure the nurse that God was going to heal her. The nurses watched her with interest. In spite of her constant assurances that God would heal her, her case seemed hopeless. They could not help but pity the poor girl. And she did grow steadily worse even with all the care they could give her. The doctors and nurses gave up all hope of her ever recovering. But still she protested that God would heal her.

One day after there seemed to be no hope for her, the priest came to her bed. He intended to minister the last rites to her as they do for Catholics. Strangely enough, Ruby's mind became clear. She resented and refused his offer, telling him she was a Christian and did not need the help he offered. Then she again relapsed and could not think rationally.

Ruby's mother was permitted to visit her in the hospital. When the nurses and doctors were all out of the room, she took that opportunity to knock poor Ruby's head against the back of the bed, hoping to kill her. She did this because Ruby had become a Christian. The mother was a



An Angel's Visit

Luke 1:5-8, 10-13, 17-22

- **5** There was...a certain priest named Zacharias...and his wife...and her name was Elisabeth.
- **6** And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.
- 7 And they had no child,...and they both were now well stricken in years.
- 8 And it came to pass, that while he executed the priest's office before God in the order of his course, 10 And the whole multitude of the people were praying without at the time of incense.
- 11 And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.
- 12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.
- 13 But the angel said unto him, Fear not. Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.
- 17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias,...to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.
- **18** And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years.
- 19 And the angel answering said

unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings.

20 And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season.

21 And the people waited for Zacharias, and marvelled that he tarried so long in the temple.

22 And when he came out, he could not speak unto them: and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple: for he beckoned unto them, and remained speechless.

The Message: God sent John to prepare the people for the promised Savior. He was like a signpost pointing to Jesus.

QUESTIONS:

- 1. What kind of people were Zacharias and Elisabeth?
- 2. Whatwere the people doing while Zacharias was in the temple?
- 3. What appeared to Zacharias?
- 4. What did the angel teli Zacharias?
- 5. Why didn't Zacharias believe the angel's message?
- 6. What was the angel's name?
- 7. Why could Zacharias not speak?
- 8. How long would he be without speech?
- 9. Why did the people marvel?

Verse to Memorize

And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias,...to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

Luke 1:17



The Scriptures tell us that Zacharias and Elisabeth were both righteous before God. They had never done anything spectacular to cause men to honor them but they were strict and punctual in their service to God. God honored that. When He needed someone dependable whom He could trust to bear His special messenger, He chose them.

Hundreds of years before, God spoke through prophets saying that He would send a messenger to the world before He sent the Messiah. This messenger would prepare the people to accept Jesus as their promised Savior. Zacharias and Elisabeth's son was to be this special messenger!

Zacharias was just an ordinary priest. He lived in a remote village far from the splendor of the beloved temple in Jerusalem. He was old now. All his life he had quietly served the people of his village. Each year when the lots were cast to see which priest should burn the incense in the temple, Zacharias no doubt hoped that he would be chosen.

Incense was burned twice each day in the temple but there were so many priests that some were never chosen. It was very rare for a priest to be chosen more than once in his entire lifetime. But now, in his old age, Zacharias had been chosen to go to the beautiful temple and offer the incense!

Zacharias and Elisabeth had never had a child though their constant prayer for years had been that God would give them a son. Now they were too old. They had given up all hope for a child.

But nothing is impossible for God! He heard all their prayers down through the years. Now He would give them their desire!

So, while Zacharias was offering the incense in the temple God sent an angel to tell him the good news. Of course, Zacharias panicked when he saw an angel standing by the altar!

"Don't be afraid," the angel assured him. "I have come to tell you that your prayers have been heard. You and Elisabeth will have a son!" The angel even told him that his son's name was to be John, which means "a gift of God."

Zacharias could not believe the good news. "How will I know that what you say is true?" he questioned. "I am an old man and my wife, too, is old."

"I amGabriel," the angel answered. "I stand in the presence of God. He has sent me to tell you this good news. Because you did not believe what I told you and asked for a sign to prove my words true, you will not be able to speak another word until the child is born." Then the angel disappeared.

When Zacharias finally came out of the temple he could only motion to the people. They wondered why it had taken him so long but he could not say a word. They supposed that he had seen a vision.

After some months Elisabeth's neighbors and relatives heard that she would soon have a child. They were amazed and rejoiced with her. When it was time to name the baby they supposed he would be named after his father. Elisabeth told them he was to be named John. Making signs to Zacharias they asked him what his name should be. He wrote that his name was John and immediately he was able to speak!

-Sis Nelda Sorrell

Spiritualist. They are cruel and do not hesitate to do wicked things under the direction of the evil spirits they worship. She threatened that if Ruby told who had mistreated her she would kill her for sure.

When the nurse came back, she found her much worse. When she askedwhat happened Ruby was afraid to tell her. Fortunately they were able to find out and the wicked mother was forbidden to see her daughter again.

Prayer, earnest, believing prayer was going up day by day for victory in this sad case, and other sick ones who were being cared for in the Home. Whenever possible, they went to the hospital to visit and encourage the sick girl. There still seemed no hope for her except the definite testimony of Ruby herself that God would heal her. But even then, the awful seizures of pain would take hold on her body, and she would writhe so that her body would leap up in spite of the straps around to hold her down.

Then—one day a marked change came over her.

"I have been healed," she announced, "and I want my clothes to go home."

In spite of protests, she maintained her stand. And she did steadily get better. At last she was released. The nurses who had shed tears, believing her case was hopeless, took notice. They had no doubt that God had healed Ruby. This was an outstanding case and a marvel to them. Because of the healing they had witnessed, several of the doctors and nurses asked for Bibles, which they gladly distributed to them.

Faith heard about a child who was very sick. She went to his home and found a young boy about 12 or 14 years old who was slowly dying of tuberculosis. Day by day as she had

opportunity, she visited the boy. When she told him about God's great love he gladly accepted Christ as his Savior.

The visits were bright spots in the hard days of suffering and he looked for ward to seeing Faith. She told him about God's healing power but the loving Heavenly Father did not see fit to leave him here in this world. Day by day he grew weaker and seemed to be nearer to God. One evening she stopped by his home on her way to midweek prayer meeting. He fixed his bright eyes on her and said, "What time does the prayer meeting close tonight?"

"At the regular hour," Faith answered. "Why do you ask?"

"I would like to hear them sing the songs of Zion before I go home tonight," he told her.

As she looked at his sweet face, she felt that he might truly be near the end of his life. "We will close early and come to sing for you," she promised.

Then she hurried to the mission to make arrangements. Later, the saints filed quietly into the room, singing his favorite songs. He listened in joy. A great peace lit up his young face as he closed his eyes and went to his eternal rest. The family was also brought to Christ. They dedicated their home to God for the use of a new mission where a Bible school might be held. They wanted their neighbors to hear the good news of the Gospel that brought such peace to their son.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. They were both righteous. 2. Praying. 3. An angel. 4. His wife would have a son. 5. Because he and his wife were old. 6. Gabriel. 7. Because he did not believe the angel's words. 8. Until his son was born. 9. Because Zacharias was in the temple so long.)





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Agusto

(Continued from last week.)

God worked miracles in cases needing help in other ways besides healing. There was the case of Agusto. His father and mother were both criminals. There was no place for the child but on the streets. The only future he could look forward to seemed to be a place of detention or correction. And, if he were left to run loose long, he would probably be there in short order. In pity a police officer brought him to the Home.

Agusto was accepted and he took his place with the other boys. But everywhere he went he started some kind of disturbance. He had never lived peacefully with others; had never been taught to consider anyone besides himself. He did not know the first principal of cooperation. The poor boy was a problem at once.

After a few weeks of desperate effort to manage him the workers told Faith, "We have tried hard to do our best by this new boy, but he fights with others, is arrogant, and knows not the first thing about getting along with folks. We feel it would be better to send him away than to spoil all the children."

"There are only two doors open for this poor boy," Faith responded. "One is here at the Home, and the other is the door to the reform school. Will we say that we are willing to give him up and send him to the reform school with no future before him? Cannot God help and deliver this poor boy who has never before had an even chance to learn to live right? What do you think we ought to do?"

The workers agreed to double their efforts and prayers in one more attempt to help Agusto. The weeks sped by and again, in desperation, they came to Faith. "We cannot control the boy. We have tried our best," they told her.

"Then we will send for his father. When he comes, send the boy in," Faith said.

When the father came Agusto was brought in. Seeing his father, he fell to the floor sobbing and winding his arms firmly around Faith's ankles. "Do not send me away," he cried. "I know I have been mean. Beat me, beat me hard, but let me stay here. I never had a home before. This is the only real home I know. Don't send me away."

So, once more, they decided to give him another chance. About two weeks later a minister came and preached at the Home. Agusto was one of the first to respond to the altar call and what a change came over him! All the problems of the last weeks were solved in that series of meetings.



Great News From Heaven Luke 1:26-40

26 And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,

27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women.

29 And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.

31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of

the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.

37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.

38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

39 And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda;

40 And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.

The Message: God's promise of a Savior was fulfilled. We can always rely on His promises!

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Who was sent from God
- 2. To what city was he sent?
- 3. To whom was the virgin espoused (engaged)?
- 4. What was the virgin's name?
- 5. With Whom had she found favor?
- 6. What was she to call her Son?
- 7. How long will His kingdom last?
- 8. Who else was expecting a son?
- 9. With Whom is nothing impossible?

Verse to Memorize

For with God nothing shall be impossible.

Luke 1:37.



As the time drew near for the birth of Jesus there must have been great excitement among the angels in Heaven. To them this was the most important event of the ages. The Lord, whom they adored, was about to leave the realms of glory to go and live on one of the smallest planets He had created. To show how much He loved all His creatures—even those who had rebelled against Him—He was going to wrap Himself up in a little bundle of human flesh and live as a man among men!

The angels wanted to tell everybody the wonderful news. They must have marveled that the people on the earth—except for a very few—did not give a thought to His coming; nobody was preparing a welcome for Him!

They watched eagerly as the years of Daniel's prophecy gradually came to a close. Then, at exactly the right time, not a moment too soon, not a moment too late, God called upon Gabriel to fly swiftly to the earth and find a girl named Mary.

The Bible does not say just why God chose Mary. But we do know that "the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him." No doubt Mary was the best girl He could find in all the world just then. He had been watching her all her life and knew that her heart was "perfect toward him." He believed He could trust her with this very great honor.

Of course He knew exactly where she was so when Gabriel went to

Nazareth he made no mistake. A moment later he was beside her. "Hail, thou that art highly favoured," he said kindly.

Mary wondered who her visitor might be and what he meant by these strange words. Seeing how frightened she was, Gabriel spoke more gently still. "Fear not, Mary," he said, "for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus."

To Mary this didn't seem possible. Her son to be a king! To sit on David's throne! To reign forever! Oh, no! She must be dreaming. Anyway, it couldn't happen, because she wasn't married. She was just betrothed to Joseph. that was all, and she told Gabriel so, in case he didn't know it.

Of course Gabriel knew it, and he was ready with his answer. If Mary were willing, he said, something very wonderful would happen to her. "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God," he explained.

Seeing that Mary still doubted, he told her, "Behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth monthwithher, who was called barren."

"Elisabeth having a baby!" Mary must have whispered to herself. "Not Elisabeth! And how does this stranger know that it's going to be a boy?"

Gabriel smiled. "With God nothing shall be impossible," he said.

Mary bowed her head. "Behold the handmaid of the Lord," she said. "Be it unto me according to thy word."

A moment later Gabriel vanished, and Mary was left alone wondering what it all meant.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell

A few years passed and Agusto was a big, healthy, nice-looking boy in his teens. There was a problem getting a suitable cook for the Boys' Home. Agusto had worked as assistant to the cook for some time. One day he said to Faith, "Abuela, (grandmother) I have come to offer myself as cook."

"But I am afraid that you are too young," Faith hesitated.

"I have watched the cook prepare the meals, and I hope some day to be a cook in a restaurant and maybe serve Americans when they come over. I would like very much to learn now and serve here in the Home."

From that time Agusto was the cook. Although he was only 15 years old he cooked for the annual conventions as well as the Home. The training of a Christian home helped him to develop into an upright and clean young man who later became a police officer. His parents had both been lawbreakers but he chose to be a protector of those same laws in the same city.

One day a man came to the door of the Girls' Home with five little girls at his side. The father begged for a place for his little girls, saying they had no home. He had lost his job so had no money for food. He could not look for work because he had no one to care for the little girls.

After hearing the father's plea they could only tell him there was not roomenough for even one more child. The government would not allow two children to share a bed. Every bed was full so all they could do was turn these poor little girls away. Since it was dinnertime they told the father that if he would permit the five girls to come inside they would give them a good warm meal before sending them away. Also, if he would wait on the veranda, they would bring out a plate of food for him.

The father agreed and sat down to wait. The children were taken inside for a warm dinner. When they took the plate of food out for the father there was no sign of him. He had fled, leaving the girls behind. Someone reported the matter to the police, asking for their advice. A full report was sent to the police station and they sent out a policeman to find the man. The policeman they sent was Agustol

So Agusto brought the man back to the Home. They found out he had had a night job at a hospital. Then his wife became mentally ill. One day she left home and never returned. About this time he was unable to pay his rent so they lost their home. Now he and the five little girls were turned out into the streets. In the daytime he would take them to a place under a tree where they would stay close together. At night when he had to report for work he took the girls to the rear of the building. They would lie side by side until morning while the father did his work.

Then someone reported the case to the hospital employers. Instead of helping the poor man, they laid him off until he could find a home for the children. Now he had no way to get money for a home or food! In desperation he had come to the Home. They must help him!

Since the officers had been notified, they were safe in accepting the children. So extra beds were made out and the necessary arrangements made. The little girls could stay there until their father found a job and could provide a home.

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Gabriel. 2. Nazareth. 3. Joseph. 4. Mary. 5. God. 6. Jesus. 7. It will never end. 8. Elisabeth. 9. God)





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The Gospel Spreads

(Continued from last week.)

The father of a family living close to the Home lost his job. He had no money to pay his rent when it became due. The family tried desperately to get the money but all their efforts failed. The father became sick with worry. The following day was the final day. If he could not pay the rent, the furniture would be set out on the street at night and his family would be homeless.

At last he told his wife that he would go to see a friend who lived in another part of the city. Maybe this man could loan him enough money to pay the rent before they were evicted. The family watched him leave. All they could do was wait and pray. Hours passed and he did not return. At last the family became alarmed. They knew that he had no money so must walk the few miles to the other side of the city. He was so weak from lack of food he might not make it!

Finally they had to face the grim reality; he had met some misfortune. Other poor Christians could not do much to help them. They began the fierce struggle of existing alone with this new sorrow to bear.

Themother decided to go tell Faith their trouble. She knew she would do

all she could to help. "My husband, after a sleepless night, went to visit a man six miles away, "she explained. "He hoped to get the money to pay the rent. We waited all day, but he never returned. Now the landlord has thrown the furniture out on the street."

Faith and the workers prayed earnestly for the family and the poor husband. But days then weeks and months slipped by with no sign of the father's return. But God was watching over him. Under the intense mental agony, the lack of food and his many worries, the father's memory had suddenly left him. He never reached his friend's house. Instead he wandered to a strange town. He could not remember his home, his needs, or his own name!

The simple village people, seeing his sad condition, had pity on him. They gladly shared their scanty meals with him. They let him live in a little empty building and whenever possible gave him a littlework to do. They could see he was harmless and gentle so were glad to befriend him.

Then, as he ate good nourishing food, his body gradually became stronger. His mind, too, became clearer. At last he remembered that he had a family. The events of that sad day when he left home came back to him. He was anxious to go back to his



The Savior is Born Luke 2:6-20

- 6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
- 7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.
- 8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.
- **9** And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.
- **10** And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
- 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
- 12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
- 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
- **14** Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
- 15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto

Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

- **16** And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.
- 17 And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.
- **18** And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.
- 19 But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.
- **20** And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

The Message: We are happy like the angels when Jesus is born into our hearts!

QUESTIONS:

- 1. Who was watching their flock by night?
- 2. What appeared to the men?
- 3. Were they afraid?
- 4. What did the angel bring?
- 5. Who was born?
- 6. How would they identify the new baby?
- 7. Where did the shepherds go after the angels left?
- 8. Did the shepherds tell others about Baby Jesus?
- 9. How did others feel about the shepherds' story?

Verse to Memorize

Him hath God exalted...to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance...and forgiveness of sins.

Acts 5:31.



The story of Jesus' birth has been told thousands of times. Yet we never tire of hearing it; it is a story that we all love to hear again and again.

Have you ever had the experience of lying out under the stars at night? How exciting it is to stay out on a hill all night; to see the moon rising slowly, hear the whispering of the wind, the squawking of night birds and an occasional bark of a dog or the cry of a wild animal! How near one feels to God when lying down, looking up at those stars. The vast sky, the awesome universe, makes a person feel so small! Yet the One who created it all wants to be our close Friend. He wants us to speak with Him often.

On the night of Jesus' birth shepherds were watching their flocks near Bethlehem. Maybe the shepherds were discussing the greatness of God or even the promise of a Savior as they gazed at the stars. You can imagine their terror when an angel suddenly appeared and a great light glowed around them! They trembled. yet were drawn by some mysterious power. They heard the angel say, "Fear not, for I bringyou good tidings of great joy. Unto you is born this day a Savior which is Christ the Lord. You will find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

This was wonderful news! Many angels sang, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." Then the angels returned to Heaven and the light

faded into the still darkness of the night.

The shepherds decided they would hurry to Bethlehem and see the wonderful Child who had been born. They left their flocks and hurried to find Him.

Therein a stable they found Mary and Joseph and Baby Jesus. They knelt humbly before the manger and worshiped the little baby as He quietly slept on the hay. They told Mary and Joseph how an angel had appeared to them out on the hillside. On their way back to their sheep they told everyone they met about the angel's visit and the Savior's birth.

Just as God announced Jesus' birth to the shepherds, He is still announcing it today. Every time a sinner feels his need to be saved, God is saying to him, "Wake up! Wake up! A Savior was born to save your sou!!"

Every invitation to be saved is an invitation from God to visit Jesus. When we are tempted to do evil and feel a caution not to do it that is an angel spirit saying, "Jesus was born to save you from falling into this trap of the devil." Listen carefully to your heart and I am sure you will hear an angel spirit inviting you to visit Jesus.

Will you be as anxious as the shepherds? They hurried in the night to find the Savior. When a message comes to your heart, will you hurry to your Savior and get help? If you do, you will find Him.

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. Then shall ye call upon me,...and I will hearken unto you. And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart." (Jeremiah 29:11-13.)

Hurry, every reader, and find the Savior!

-Sis. Charlotte Huskey

family at once and see what had happened to them.

When he explained all this, the kind village people said, "Bring your wife and children and make your home with us. Maybe we can help you."

So one day he appeared at the door of the Home. Everyone was full of joy, surprise and many questions. The first thing they all wanted to know as they crowded around him was "Why have you been gone so long"? So he told them where he had been and just how it had happened. They all rejoiced over the goodness of God who brought him back safely to his family and loved ones. It was good to see their dear husband, father and friend again!

After a few days the family accompanied the father back to the little village where the kind people had befriended him. There they lived very simply from day to day. Each evening they would read the Word of God. They lived good Christian lives in this village where there was not one Christian. One day a kind neighbor went to town after the harvest was in and brought back some needed articles for the family and some things for her daughters. She kindly remembered the two daughters of the stranger in their village and brought home some lipstick and such things. She had long noticed how plainly the girls were dressed and supposed it was because there was no money for the extra.

But when the mother saw the lipstick, she thanked her kind neighbor, refusing the gifts. She explained that her daughters did not use the lipstick because the Bible plainly states that God's children do not dress like the world, and they were Christians. Later when the tobacco crop was sold, a good neighbor came with a great roll of very fine tobacco to

share with the newcomer. He also thanked him for his willingness to sharewith him, but stated that he did not use anything unclean since he was a child of God.

The friends became interested. This was the first time they had heard about being a Christian. They asked if they could come to their home when the family read the Bible. The family was glad to share the good news of the gospel with the kind village people.

The interest grew and the number increased until the house could no longer hold the crowd. One day the man returned to the Mission. He explained that he had come for a teacher or minister to go back to the village with him. "Can't you come in and bring your family once in a while?" Faith asked. "It would be quite expensive to send someone just to visit one family."

"Yes, that is true," the man answered, "but there is a congregation waiting for a pastor to come, and they cannot all come this far to church services. We feel that they need to know more about the Lord than we can teach them."

So through this family a new field was opened in another section of Cuba. Many were saved and eventually there were two or three congregations in that area. Faith wrote concerning this: "From the beginning of our labors in Cuba, God has blessed above all of our expectations. Did He not say that He would do for us exceedingly, abundantly above all that we could ask or even think?"

(To be continued next week.)

(Answers: 1. Shepherds. 2. An angel in glowing light. 3. Yes. 4. Glad tidings of great joy. 5. A Savior which is Christ the Lord. 6. By His clothes and His manger-bed. 7. They went to find Jesus. 8. Yes. 9. They wondered about it.)





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Faithful Until the End

(Continued from last week.)

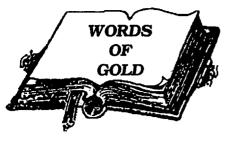
When Faith Stewart was only 21 the doctors told her she had only a short time to live. God healed her and she became His devout servant for 52 years. She spent 43 years on mission fields in India and the Island of Cuba. When she died she was over 80 years old. She left no surviving relatives to mourn her passing. Yet she had thousands of brothers and sisters in the Lord, and a host of little children in Cuba whose hearts were grieved because they would never see her again.

During all of her last sickness and suffering she maintained her definite stand upon the Gospel she had preached and practiced for 52 years. Repeatedly she said, "No Doctor, no Doctor." Her full trust and confidence was in the Almighty. This gave those who stood by great courage and helped them tighten their grip on the wonderful promises of God. It proved that the salvation she preached and possessed was not only good to live by but also to die by. Many in the hour of intense suffering weaken and throw themselves upon the weak arm of flesh. God help us to have genuine faith in Him and His promises so we will not flinch when the suffering comes.

Faith maintained this stand unto the end. When the final call came from God, she passed from this life as peaceful as a tiny baby going to sleep. A few moments after her departure a most pleasing and peaceful expression came over her countenance. It showed that even death can be peaceful to the true saint of God.

Faith's lifewas a great blessing to many. One who was inspired by her was Maria Paz. She wrote, "From my heart I thank God for the day Sister E. Faith Stewart came to Cuba, bringing God's Eternal Standard of Truth. I thank Him that through this knowledge of His Divine Truth-He is my personal Saviour and Healer. And having had the privilege of living with Sister Stewart a few years, I have learned the true life of faith. Yes, we still believe that when we obey the clear instructions given in His Word in James 5:14-16, the answer will come."

Maria told of a Catholic family who lived close to the Church of God mission. There were several small children in this family. She began visiting them and before long the children who were old enough began attending Sunday school regularly.



This is the One!

Luke 2:21-22; 25-34; 36-38

21 And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

22 And...they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord:

25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.

26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,

28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,

29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:

30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

31 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

32 A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. **33** And Joseph and his mother marvelled at those things which were spoken of him.

34 And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against;

36 And there was one Anna, a prophetess,...she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity;

37 And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day.

38 And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord, and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

The Message: God will reveal Himself and His Son to those who wait on Him!

QUESTIONS

- 1. Who had said Mary's paby should be Jesus?
- 2. Where did they take Jesus?
- 3. To Whom did they present Him?
- 4. What kind of man was Simeon?
- 5. What was he waiting for?
- 6. Who told him he would not die until he had seen Christ?
- 7. Who was Anna?
- 8. How did she serve God?
- 9. To whom did she give thanks?

Verse to Memorize

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Matthew 5:8. One night the parents sent word that one of the little ones was very sick. She immediately went over to their house and found the child was in a very critical condition. The mother sat holding the child. It looked even then as if the stamp of death was on it. The case was so grave that five doctors had gathered in a council over the case.

The mother of the child was also afflicted so Maria stayed with them to help the family. As she worked she kept quietly praying and even fasting. Whenever she had an opportunity she would tell the parents about God's love and power.

The doctors did everything they could yet the child grew rapidlyworse. Its eyes became fixed and did not move. The tongue also became immovable and the whole little body laid as one dead. The child laid in this condition for 15 days. The parents could only wait in agony, not knowing when the end would come. At the end of this 15 days, the doctor in attendance called Maria to one side and said there was nothingmore they could do. Turning away, he said, "Possibly your God can save this life. We can do no more."

This was a solemn moment for Maria—the family and nearly everyone around were Catholics. As the doctor went sadly away Maria thanked God for his decision. She knew this was the moment when God could prove His divine power and His compassion. She had a clear conviction that God would heal the child and get glory to His own name. She knew it would require a miracle, as the child was more dead than alive then.

After the doctor had talked with her and left, she went to the parents and told them all he had said. She asked them what they wanted to do—if they definitely wanted to put the child in God's hands, and trust Him. Their answer was prompt and definite. They said, "Yes, we do." Maria quietly gathered up the injections and all other medicines they had and threw them into the garbage can. The parents quietly and sadly looked on, not yet understanding. They had no hopes for their child.

She then called a few of the faithful brethren who had real faith, and talked with them. She reminded them of the incident when Christ went into the home of Jairus. His little daughter was lying apparently dead, and there with only a few of his faithful disciples, He raised her up. This encouraged their faith. They went into definite fervent prayer. They cried out to God to confirm His Word with signs following and He did that very thing!

The child began to move its eyes and then lifted one little hand and moved its mouth. All present saw this and began weeping and praising God aloud. He had worked in a mighty way—performing a miracle.

As the mother looked on she could hold out no longer. She broke down and, falling on her knees, she began calling on God to save her. That day she surrendered her life and all to Him.

This incident was taken from "Living Faith" by E. Faith Stewart. All the other stories are adapted from "Highways and Hedges" by Grace G. Henry.

(Answers: 1. The angel. 2. To Jerusalem. 3. The Lord. 4. Just and devout. 5. The consolation of Israel. 6. The Holy Ghost. 7. A prophetess. 8. With fasting and prayers day and night. 9. To the Lord.)



For years now old Simeon had eagerly looked at each baby boy brought into the temple for dedication. Simeon had been interested in babies for a long time now. Mothers thought he was a kindhearted old man, and he was. But he was more than that. He was a scholar, and knew the Holy Scriptures from Genesis to Malachi. For years and years he had been looking for "the consolation of Israel." He had studied all the prophecies about the Messiah and was sure in his heart that the time had come for Him to appear. What's more, the Lord had told him by the Holy Ghost that he would not die until he had seen the Child of prom-

That's why he looked so keenly at every baby boy brought to the Temple. Day after day he searched for the One he longed to see.

One day as he entered the Temple he noticed two poorly dressed people who had come to dedicate their little son. That they were Galileans he could see by their garments. That they were poor was clear from the fact that they were carrying two birds in a cage as their offering. "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons" was the gift that only the poorest people were supposed to bring.

Simeon had never seen these people before, but felt drawn to them. Then he looked down at their child and suddenly his heart stirred. It was as though the voice of God spoke to him saying, "This is the Messiah! This is the One for whom you have been looking so long!"

Tears of happiness rolled down the old man's cheeks. Taking the precious baby and holding Him close, he said, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

Joseph and Mary looked on, amazed. Then Simeon turned to Joseph and Mary and blessed them. Looking into Mary's eager, upturned face, he spoke directly to her, saying, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Mary wondered what he meant. What strange destiny was ahead of her precious little Jesus? How would He cause people to fall and rise again? And what was this about a sword piercing her soul? Was not her child to become King of Israel? How then could there be any suffering? Some day she would understand, but not now.

Hardly had she time to think about Simeon's strange words before an elderly woman came hurrying over to them. Her name was Anna. She was 84 years old, and a prophetess. All excited, she took one look at Mary and her baby, and began to thank God aloud that He had sent the Messiah at last. People around heard her and came to see what was going on. Eagerly Anna toldher story and "spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem."

Some believed her; others doubted; but most just said, "What a lovely baby!" and went on their way without giving the matter another thought.

But to Mary the words of Simeon and Anna meant a great deal. Now she was more sure than ever that her baby was indeed the Messiah, the Child of promise and prophecy.

-Sis. Nelda Sorrell