



## CHRISTIE'S OLD ORGAN

Part I  
Continued  
*CHAPTER XIII*

### CHRISTIE'S WORK FOR THE MASTER

It was a hot summer's afternoon, some years after, and the air in Ivy Court was as close and stifling as it had been in the days when Christie and old Treffy lived there. Crowds of children might still be seen playing there, screaming and quarrelling, just as they had done then. The air was as full of smoke and dust, and the court looked as desolate as it had done in those years gone by. It was still a very dismal and a very forlorn place.

So Christie thought, as he entered it that sultry day; it seemed to him as far as ever from "Home, sweet Home." For he could not forget those dreary days when he had been a little homeless wanderer, and had gone there for a night's lodging. And he could not forget the old attic which had been the first place, since his mother's death that he had been able to call home. It was to this very attic he was going this afternoon. He climbed the rickety stairs, and as he did so he thought of the night when he had crept up them for the first time, and had knelt down outside old Treffy's door, listening to the organ. Christie had never parted with that organ, his old master's last gift to him. And scarcely a week passed that he did not turn the handle, and listen to the dear old tunes. He always finished with "Home, sweet Home," for he still loved that tune the best. When

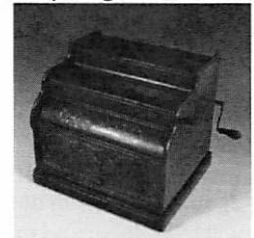
Miss Mabel came to see him, she always wanted to turn the old organ in remembrance of her childish days.

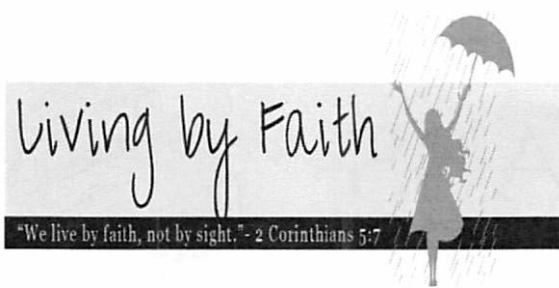
She was not Miss Mabel any longer now, though Christie still sometimes called her so when they were talking together of the old days, and of Treffy and his organ. Mabel was married now to the clergyman under whom Christie was working, and she took great interest in the young Scripture-reader, and was always ready to help him with her advice and sympathy. She would ask Christie about the poor people he visited, and he would tell her which of them most needed her aid. Where she was most needed young Mrs. Villiers was always ready to go.

So it came to pass that when Christie knocked at the old attic door, it was opened for him by Mrs. Villiers herself, who had just come there to see a poor sick woman. She had not met Christie in that attic since the days when they were both children, and Mabel smiled as he came in, and said to him, "Do you remember the occasion when we met here before?"

"Yes," said Christie, "I remember it well; there were four of us here then, Mrs. Villiers, and two out of the four have gone to the bright city which we talked of then."

"Yes," said Mabel, with tears in her eyes; "they are waiting for us in 'Home, sweet Home.'"





### Hebrews 11:1, 3, 8, 9, 10

- 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 12:1-5

- 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 Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.
- 5) And . . . into the land of Canaan they came.

### Genesis 12: 7-9

- 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. How old was 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?

## MEMORY VERSE

**(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.

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 is 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. 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

#### Living by Faith Crossword Puzzle

T	W	D	Z	A	S	H	P	S	H
B	S	J	O	N	C	R	F	B	A
C	E	U	J	Y	O	J	Q	E	R
Z	T	L	R	M	H	O	I	X	A
N	W	L	I	T	A	U	Y	I	S
B	Y	S	I	E	W	R	Q	K	K
E	E	A	W	V	V	N	J	W	Q
M	F	I	A	A	E	E	W	A	W
L	S	I	G	H	T	Y	P	L	M
M	A	H	A	R	B	A	C	K	U

ABRAHAM BELIEVE FAITH WALK SIGHT  
PROMISE JOURNEY SARAH TRUST LIVE

### CHRISTIE'S Continued from front page

The attic did not look any more cheerful that day than it had done when old Treffy lived there. The window-panes were nearly all broken and filled with pieces of brown paper or rag. The floor was more rotten than ever, and the boards seemed as if they must give way when Christie crossed the room to speak to a forlorn-looking woman who was sitting on a chair by the smoldering fire. She was evidently very ill and very unhappy. Four little children were playing about, and making so much noise that Christie could hardly hear their mother speak when she told him she was "no better, no better at all, and she did not think she ever should be."

"Have you done what I asked you, Mrs. Wilson?" said Christie.

"Yes, sir, I've said it again and again, and the more I say it the more miserable it makes me."

"What is it, Christie?" said Mrs. Villiers.

"It's a little prayer, ma'am, I asked her to say: 'O God, give me Thy Holy Spirit, to show me what I am.'"

"And I think He has shown me," said the poor woman, sadly. "I never knew I was such a sinner. Every day as I sit here by my fire I think it all over, and every night as I lie awake on my bed I think of it again."

"I've brought another prayer for you to say now, Mrs. Wilson," said Christie. "I've written it out on a card, that you may be able to learn it

quickly: 'O God, give me Thy Holy Spirit, to show me what Jesus is.' God has heard and answered your first prayer, so you may be sure He will hear this one also. And if He only shows you what Jesus is, I am sure you will be happy, for Jesus will forgive you your sin, and take away its heavy burden."

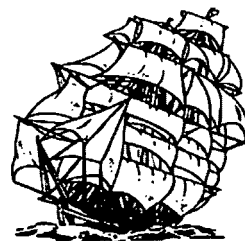
The poor woman read the prayer aloud several times, and then Mrs. Villiers took a book from her pocket and began to read. It was a little, much-worn Testament. It had once been blue, but from constant use the color had faded, and the gilt edges were no longer bright. It was not the first time that same Testament had been in that old attic. For it was the same book from which Mabel's mother had read to old Treffy fifteen years before. How Mabel loved that book! Here and there was a pencil-mark, which her mother had made against some favorite text, and these texts Mabel read again and again, till they became her favorites also. It was one of these which she read to the poor woman to-day: "The blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin." And then Mrs. Villiers explained how ready Jesus is to save any soul that comes to Him, and how His blood is quite sufficient to take away sin.

The sick woman listened eagerly, and a tear came into Christie's eye as he said: "There is no text that I love like that, Mrs. Villiers. Mr. Wilton preached on it in the mission-room the second time I went there, and I felt as if I could sing for joy when I heard it; I well remember how I ran up the stairs to this attic, to tell it to my old master."

(To be continued)

### Answers:

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



## CHRISTIE'S OLD ORGAN

Part 2

Continued

### CHAPTER XIII

When Mrs. Villiers and Christie took their leave, Christie said, "Have you time to call on Mrs. White for a few minutes, ma'am? She would be so pleased to see you, and I don't think she will live very long."

Mrs. Villiers gladly agreed to go; so Christie knocked at the door at the bottom of the stairs. A young woman opened it, and they went in.

Mrs. White was lying on a bed in the corner of the room, and seemed to be asleep. Presently she opened her eyes, and when she saw Christie her face brightened, and she held out her hands in welcome. She was an old woman now, and had given up taking lodgers several years before.

"Oh, Christie," she said. "I *am* glad to see you. I have been counting the hours till you came."

"Mrs. Villiers has come to see you to-day, Mrs. White."

"Oh! How good of you," said the poor woman. "Christie said you would come someday."

"You have known Christie a long time, have you not?" said Mrs. Villiers.

"Yes," said the old woman. "He came to me first as a little ragged boy, shivering with cold; and I liked the look of him, ma'am. He was so much quieter than some that came here. I used to give him a crust sometimes, when he looked more starved than usual."

"Yes, Mrs. White," said Christie. "You were often very good to me."

"Oh! Not as I should have been, Christie. They were only crusts I gave you, bits that were left from the men's meals, and not so much of them either. You've come to me and you've brought me the Bread of Life,—not just bits and leavings, but enough and to spare, as much as I like, and more than enough for all I want."

"Oh, Christie," said Mrs. Villiers. "I am glad to hear this; the dear Lord has been very good to you. Your work has not been in vain."

"In vain!" said the old woman. "I should think not! There's many a one, Mrs. Villiers, that will bless God in the home above for what you and your father have done for this lad; and there's no one that will bless Him more than I shall. I was as dark as a heathen till Christie came to me, and read to me out of his Bible, and talked to me of Jesus, and put it all so clear to me. And now I know that my sins are forgiven, and very soon the Lord will take me home; and oh! dear, how nice that will be!"

After a little more conversation, Mrs. Villiers took her leave, and Christie continued his round of visits. All that long, sultry afternoon he toiled on, climbing dark staircases, going down into damp cellars, visiting crowded lodging-houses; and everywhere, as he went, dropping seeds of the Word of life, sweet words from the Book of books, suited to the hearts of those with whom he met.

For in that book Christie found there was a word for every need, and a message for every soul. There was peace for the sin-burdened, comfort for the sorrowful, rest for the weary, counsel for the perplexed, and hope for the dying.

**CHRISTIE'S, See Page 4**

# TROUBLES BECOME A BLESSING



## Genesis 37: 5, 9-10

- 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...?

## Genesis 37:19-20

- 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:

## Genesis 37:23-28

- 23) And it came to pass when Joseph was come unto his brethren, that they stripped 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 the Ishmaelites came...with 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 Ishmaelites...  
28) Then...they...sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver: and they brought Joseph into Egypt.

## Genesis 42:6

- 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.

## Genesis 45: 4, 5,7 & 8

- 4) And Joseph said unto his brethren...I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.  
5) Now therefore be neither 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 Ishmaelites 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?

## MEMORY VERSE:

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 eleven 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 toward 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 Ishmaelite 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.

--By Charlotte Huskey

## CHRISTIE'S Continued from page 1

And Christie always prayed before he went out that God's Holy Spirit would give him the right word for each one whom he went to see. And, as he knocked at the door of a house, he always lifted up his heart in a silent prayer.

And so it was no wonder that God blessed him. It was no wonder that wherever he went Christie not only found opportunities of doing good, but was able to use those opportunities to the best advantage. It was no wonder that when the people were ill they always sent for the young Scripture-reader to read and pray with them. It was no wonder that the little children loved him, or that the poor, tired mothers were glad to sit down for a few minutes to hear him read words of comfort from the Book of life. It was no wonder that all day long Christie found work to do for the Master, and souls waiting to receive the Master's message. He was generally very tired when he went home at night, but he did not mind this. For he never forgot old Treffy's sorrow, a few days before he died, because he had only a week left in which to show his love to his Savior. And Christie thanked God every day that He had given to him the honor and privilege of working for Him.

Christie lodged in a quiet street not far from Ivy Court. He used to live some way out of the town, for he liked to have a walk after his day's work was done. He moved nearer to the people and nearer to his work. And very often they would come to him with their troubles, and sit in his little room pouring out their grief. The young men

especially were very glad to come to Christie's lodging to have a talk with him; and once a week Christie had a little prayer-meeting there, to which many of them came. And they found it a great help on their way to heaven.

When Christie opened the door of his lodging one day he was surprised to see his old friend, Mr. Wilton! They had not met for many years so it was a very affectionate meeting between Mr. Wilton and his young friend. They had much to talk about, not having seen each other for so long.

Then Mr. Wilton and Christie knelt down and prayed that God would give Christie a blessing on his work, and would enable him to lead many of the people, in the courts and lanes of that wretched neighborhood, to come to Jesus, that they might find a home in that city where Treffy was gone before.

(To be continued)

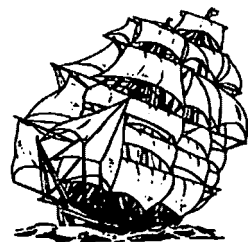


Joseph's Coat

## ANSWERS:

1. Because of his dreams
2. His father
3. To kill him
4. They sold him to the Ishmaelite's
5. To Egypt
6. Twenty pieces
7. Yes
8. Joseph
9. To save the lives of





**Bible Lessons for Juniors**

**January 19, 2014**

**CHRISTIE'S OLD ORGAN**

Part 3

Continued

**CHAPTER XIV**

**HOME SWEET HOME, AT LAST!**

It was Sunday evening, and Christie was once more in the little mission-room; but not now as a poor ragged boy, sitting on the front bench, and in danger of being turned out by the woman who lighted the gas-lamps. She would not dream of turning Christie out now, for the young Scripture-reader was a well-known man in the district. He was always there early, before any of the people arrived, and he used to stand at the door and welcome each one as they came in, helping the old men and women to their seats, and looking out anxiously for those whom he had invited for the first time during the week. If any little ragged boys stole in, and seemed inclined to listen, Christie took special care of them, for he had not forgotten the day when he had first come to that very room, longing to hear a word of comfort to tell to his old master.

Mr. Wilton was to take the service to-night, and Christie had been busy all the afternoon giving special invitations to the people to be present, for he wanted them very much to hear his dear friend.

The mission-room was quite full when Mr. Wilton entered it. "Come, for all things are now ready." That was Mr. Wilton's text. How still the mission-room was, and how earnestly all the people listened to the sermon! The clergyman first spoke of the marriage feast in the parable, so

carefully spread, so kindly prepared—and yet no one would come! There were excuses on all sides, everyone was too busy or too idle to attend to the invitation; no one was ready to obey that gracious "Come."

And then Mr. Wilton spoke of Jesus, and how he had made all things ready for us; and how pardon is ready and peace is ready; the Father's arms ready to receive us; the Father's love ready to welcome us; a home in heaven prepared for us. That, he said, was God's part of the matter.

"And what, my dear friends," he went on, "Is *our* part? *Come*; 'come, for all things are now ready.' Come, you have only to come and take; you have only to receive this love. 'Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.'"

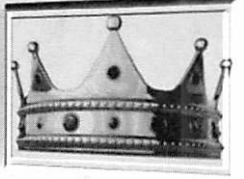
"Are *you* one of those blessed ones?" asked the clergyman. "Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? Will you sit down to that supper? Have you a right to enter into 'Home, sweet Home?' I know not what is your answer to these questions. But if you cannot answer me now, how will you in that day answer the Great Searcher of hearts?"

And with this question the sermon ended, and the congregation left. Those of them who had known Mr. Wilton still lingering behind, to shake hands with him, and to get a parting word of counsel or comfort. Christie walked home by the clergyman's side.

"And now, Christie," said Mr. Wilton, "do you think you can be ready to start with me to-morrow morning at eight o'clock?"

"To start with you, sir?" repeated Christie.  
**See CHRISTIE'S, Last page**

# 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

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 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?

## MEMORY VERSE:

**. . . 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?

Just yesterday 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 he looked 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?

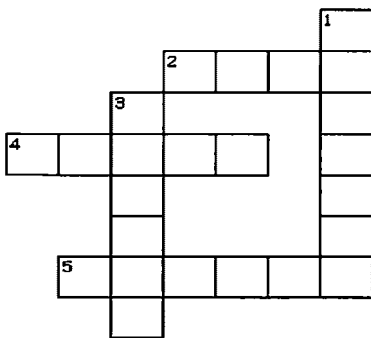
Thomas Edison, the great inventor, was sixty-seven years old when he suffered the loss of a lifetime of work. A great fire destroyed his factory! Yet the very next morning while walking among the smoldering rubble of the buildings that had housed so many of his projects, Edison said, "There is great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

Abraham realized 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



### Across

2. Whosoever will \_\_\_\_ his life will lose it.  
 4. I \_\_\_\_ toward the mark.  
 5. What will it \_\_\_\_ a man to gain the world but lose his soul?

### Down

1. If thou wilt be \_\_\_\_, sell that thou hast.  
 3. Reaching forth for those things which are \_\_\_\_.

### CHRISTIE'S Continued from first page

"Yes, Christie; you have had hard work lately, and I have asked leave from Mr. Villiers to take you home with me, that you may have a little country air and quiet rest. I am sure it will not be lost time, Christie; you will have time for quiet reading and prayer, and you will be able to gain strength and freshness for future work. Well, do you think you can be ready in time?"

Christie thought there was no fear of his being late. He thanked Mr. Wilton with a voice full of feeling, for he had sometimes longed very much for a little pause in his busy life.

And the next day found Christie and Mr. Wilton rapidly traveling towards the quiet country village in which Mr. Wilton's church was to be found.

What was the result of that visit may be gathered from the following extract, taken from a letter written by Christie to Mr. Wilton some months later:—

"I promised you that I would let you know about our little home. It is, I think, one of the happiest to be found in this world. I shall always bless God that I came to your village, and met my dear little wife.

"At last I have a 'Home, sweet Home,' of my own. We are so happy together! When I come home from my work, I always see her watching for me, and she has everything ready for me, and the evenings we spend together are very quiet and peaceful. Nellie likes to hear about all my visits during the day, and the poor people are already so fond of her they come to her in all their troubles. And we find it such a comfort to be able to pray together for those in whom we are interested, and together to take them to the Savior.

"Our little home is so bright and cheerful! I wish you could have seen it on the evening on which we arrived. Mrs. Villiers had made all ready for us, and with her own hand had put on the tea-table a lovely bunch of snowdrops and dark myrtle leaves. And I need not tell you that they reminded me of those which she had given me when she was little Miss Mabel, and when she taught me that prayer which I have never forgotten, 'Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.'

"And now, dear Mr. Wilton, you may think of Nellie and me as living together in love and happiness in the dear little earthly home, yet still looking forward to the eternal home above, our true, our best, our brightest 'home, sweet home.'"

—By O. F. Walton

### 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.



## The Drummer Boy

In the hospital in Gettysburg a Jewish surgeon, Dr. M. L. Rossvally, looked over the papers before him. There were twenty-eight men needing emergency surgery that day. He could not operate on them all in the same day. "I'll have to help the ones who need it most," he said. Every day was the same. More and more wounded soldiers were being brought into the hospital.

He arose from his chair and entered the room lined with narrow roughly made beds. Never before had there been so many beds; it could not hold them all. There were beds out under the trees, and in smaller tents. What a gloomy sight greeted him. Soldiers were missing an arm, or a leg. Others had gunshot holes in some part of their bodies.

There were many needing immediate help. He started down the aisle, examining each man. Bed after bed he passed, stopping at each one, and seriously considering that soldier's condition, then moving on to the next patient. He stopped and looked at the chart hanging on one cot. "Charlie Coulson," he said, greeting the boy. "You look very young to be a soldier."

"Yes, I am too young to be a soldier, but I wanted to help so I enlisted as a drummer boy." While talking to Charlie, he was studying the condition of the boy's leg. After a moment he said, "I have sad news for you. To save your life, I must remove your leg. Losing a leg will be better than dying, though. I will send for you shortly, and see what I can do."

**"Yes, I am too young to be a soldier..."**

"Prepare Charlie for surgery," he told the nurse. While getting him ready, one of the assistants said, "We must give you chloroform. It will cause you to go to sleep."

"Sir, I wish to not take chloroform," Charlie said.

"But you must."

"Please, don't make me take it," he begged.

"It is the doctor's orders. Nor could you stand to have your leg amputated without it," he insisted.

"Please let me talk to the surgeon," he pleaded. When the doctor came, Charlie said, "I don't want to take chloroform."

"May I ask why?"

The drummer boy laid his hand on the doctor's and said, "One Sunday morning in Sunday school when I was nine and one-half years old I gave my heart to Jesus. I have trusted Him from that day,

and wish to trust Him now."

"Young man, when I first saw you, I thought you were too far gone to

help, but when you opened those large blue eyes, and looked at me, I felt I must try to save you. I thought your mother would be hoping to see her boy alive. You have lost so much blood, and are too weak to endure an operation without chloroform. You had better let me give you some."

"Jesus has always been ready to help me. I believe He will give me strength."

"I know God helps people," answered the doctor. "Jesus, though, what can He do for a man? A drink of brandy will ease your ability to feel pain. Allow me to give you some brandy."

**See DRUMMER, Last page**

# PURPOSE TO SERVE GOD



## Daniel 1: 6

6) Now among these (captives) were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishaël, and Azariah:

## Daniel 1:8-19

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

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

10) And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king.

11) Then said Daniel to Melzar . . .

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

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

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

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

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

17) As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

18) Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

19) And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishaël, and Azariah:

## THE MESSAGE:

**God will give strength and power to those who purpose to obey Him.**

## QUESTIONS:

1. Daniel, Hananiah, Mishaël, and Azariah belonged to what tribe of the Israelites?
2. Who purposed in his heart to not defile himself?
3. Who brought Daniel into favor with the prince of the eunuchs?
4. How long did Daniel ask him to prove them?
5. Compared to the others how did they look after this time?
6. What did they eat and drink instead of what the king offered?
7. What did God give these four?
8. What special understanding did Daniel have?

## MEMORY VERSE:

. . I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him . . .  
2 Timothy 1:12



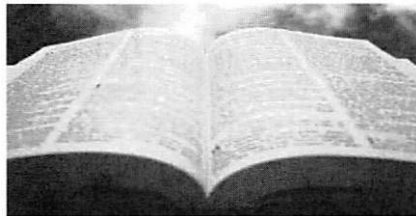
When Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, won a decisive victory over the king of Judah he carried away many captives. Among those taken captive were Daniel and his three friends, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.

Nebuchadnezzar wanted many wise men in his kingdom. He ordered that young men should be chosen from the captives who were strong, had good countenances and intelligence so they could be taught the learning and language of the Chaldeans.

God had especially blessed Daniel and his friends. They were among those chosen to be given certain privileges and training to prepare them to be rulers. They were even to have special food from the king's own table!

Daniel knew the meat from the king's table would be some that God commanded they should not eat, such as swine or meat that had been offered to idols. His captors had stripped him of many things but one thing he would never give up: his love and trust in the one true God. He purposed in his heart that he would not displease God by eating the king's meat no matter what trouble it caused him. The prince of the eunuchs could not understand why

Daniel and his friends would refuse the delicious food that was served to the king. Especially when Daniel told him that they only wanted vegetables to eat and water to drink! He was afraid to grant his request. He was sure that such a diet would never



make these young men as strong and healthy as those who ate the king's meat. And if Daniel and his friends looked scrawny compared to the others he could literally have his head cut off!

But God honored Daniel's faith and courage. He gave him such favor with this man that he was willing to even risk his life to allow him to prove that God's way was the best!

At the end of ten days Daniel and his friends were obviously in better shape than those who ate at the king's table. The steward was so impressed that he gave them only vegetables and water from then on! Not only did they look better, but God also gave them knowledge, skill and great wisdom. When we give up anything for God, He gives us so much MORE in return!

Daniel and his three friends' obedience to God prepared them for the great trials they would face. When Daniel was thrown into the lions' den and his three friends went into the fiery furnace they knew God would protect them. By their faithfulness the

king saw that there was one true God.

Charlie Coulson knew Jesus personally. He also purposed to obey Him no matter what the consequence. His experience of Jesus' love

gave him confidence that He would be with him to give strength and courage to stand true to his convictions

God has not changed. When we dare to take our stand and do His will even when it is dangerous and seems impossible, He will make a way for us! Give your heart and life to God and get truly acquainted with Him. Talk to Him often in prayer and let Him talk to you through the Bible. You will learn that you serve a mighty God. Then when you are tested you will not be afraid to let Him prove His power, just as Charlie Coulson, Daniel, and many others have done.

--Sis. Nelda Sorrell

**DRUMMER** Continued from first page

"Jesus has always been ready to help me. I believe He will give me strength."

"I know God helps people," answered the doctor. "Jesus, though, what can He do for a man? A drink of brandy will ease your ability to feel pain. Allow me to give you some brandy."

Charlie looked into the doctor's face and very seriously said, "Doctor, I have no father. Mother said that he died a drunkard. She made me promise to never taste any alcoholic drink. I promised. I was only five years old when I made that promise. Now I am seventeen, but to this day I have never tasted beer, wine, whiskey or brandy. If I drink brandy, I'd be breaking my promise. What if I die during the operation? I would die drunk, just like my daddy, and also with a broken promise on my heart.

"You wouldn't be dying like your father. You are clean-and honest-and pure, I'm sure. It is just a medicine in your case."

"Doctor, will you send me into the presence of God with brandy in my stomach? Please, don't."

War raged in the doctor's mind. How could he, a notable surgeon, let a boy tell him how he must do a surgery? How could he have courage to tear into his flesh and nerves with the boy feeling the sharp teeth of the saw? Why should he force himself through this horrible task, when there were so many more needing help?

How could Jesus so deceive a heart that it would be loyal through such severe pain? The doctor did not believe in Jesus, but there was something about the boy's loyalty that he loved. He stood thinking for a few minutes. When he finally spoke, he said very gravely, "Charlie, I will send the army chaplain. Please discuss this with him." "Yes, sir," Charlie answered.

When the chaplain came, he greeted the boy by name for he had seen Charlie often in the camp prayer meeting. "I am sorry to see you in this condition," he said.

"I'll be all right," Charlie answered. "If I die, I am ready to go right into Jesus' arms."

"Don't talk about dying. You may live a long time yet," the chaplain said. "Say boy, is there anything I can do for you?"

"Yes there is," Charlie continued. "Please take the Bible from under my pillow and send it to my mother. Her address is on the inside of the front cover. Do write a letter also and tell her I have read God's Word and prayed for her every day. And be sure to add that I kept my promise of never taking anything that would cause my mind to be unclear."

The doctor listened while the chaplain encouraged Charlie to stay true to his promise, and while he prayed for God to give Charlie grace to endure the pain. (To be continued)

## Letters from Readers

God has let us adopt HannahKate and have her in our family. We had been praying for HannahKate for years. A few times when we were afraid things might not work out, we prayed for God's will and for him to help us, and everything worked out. I am thankful to have my new sister, HannahKate!

-Whit Martens, age 9, AL

## Answers:

: 1. Judah. 2. Daniel. 3. God. 4. Ten days. 5. They were fairer and fatter. 6. Pulse (vegetables) and water. 7. Knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom. 8. An understanding of visions and dreams.





## Bible Lessons for Juniors

February 2, 2014

### Charlie's Prayer

Charlie was lying on the operating table when Dr. Rossvally came in to do the surgery. Just thinking of amputating a leg with the patient awake so unnerved the doctor that he had to go out and take something to calm himself. He was still wondering if Charlie could stand the pain. "If he does, it will be because of some power more than just human," he said to himself.

The surgeon took his sharp knife and sliced through the muscle of Charlie's leg. Charlie never groaned. Then the doctor laid down the knife and picked up the saw. He laid the saw blade through the flesh until it touched the bone. Charlie never flinched. Back and forth Doctor Rossvally pulled the saw, through Charlie's leg. Suddenly Charlie turned his head to the side and bit the corner of his pillow. With his teeth clamped tightly on the pillow he said softly, "Blessed Jesus, stand by me now."

After a long hard nauseating day, the doctor went to bed, but he could not sleep. Those whispered words, "Blessed Jesus, stand by me now," kept ringing in his ears. Finally he got up. "I must go see about Charlie," he said.

"What are you doing here?" the hospital nurse questioned. "Did someone call you?"

"No, no one called me, and I have never visited the hospital in the middle of the night unless I was called. I-I couldn't sleep, so thought I would check on Charlie."

"That's the drummer boy who had his leg amputated today? I hear he's a brave Christian lad."

"Yes, yes. How is he doing?"

"Sleeping like a baby. I don't know how he could with all the noise. We've carried out sixteen dead men since I came on duty."

"Oh, so many, and a miracle that Charlie wasn't one of them. I must go see him," the doctor said.

A nurse who noticed the doctor's special interest in Charlie said, "About 9:00 o'clock the chaplain and two young men came through to read the Bible and sing. When they came to Charlie's bed, they knelt around his bed and prayed for him. While still kneeling, they sang, 'Jesus, Lover of My Soul.' Although I could hardly believe my ears, I am sure I heard Charlie singing with them."

Five days later, Charlie asked for the doctor. When the doctor came he said, "Doctor, you have been good to me. Thank you. I know you did all you could, but I think I will die tonight. Before I die, I wanted to tell you about my best friend. He is a Jew, and I believe you are also."

"Yes, I am a Jew. My parents were Jews and taught me very carefully in the Jewish religion. My father wanted me to be a rabbi, and made me promise to never go into a church which worshiped Jesus as the Messiah. I have kept my promise, just as you have kept the promise you made to your mother."

"Though I know you do not believe in Jesus, I wish you to be here when I leave my body and go to meet with my Savior, Jesus."

The doctor did not have the courage to watch Charlie die, so he gave the excuse that he had many things to do and hurried away. About twenty minutes later a nurse knocked on Dr. Rossvally's door.

"Come in," he said.

"Charlie Coulson is calling for you." The doctor just sat there with head bowed and hands over his eyes.

**See CHARLIE'S, Last page**

# STEPHEN'S PRAYER



## Acts 6:5

5) . . . : and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost . . .

## Acts 6:8-13

- 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 set up false witnesses . . .

## Acts 6:15

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

## Acts 7:2

2) And he said, Men, brethren, and fathers, hearken; . . .

## Acts 7:54-60

54) When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth.  
55) But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,  
56) And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

- 57) Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord,  
58) And cast him out of the city, and stoned him: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.  
59) And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.  
60) And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

## THE MESSAGE:

**While Stephen was being stoned, he prayed that God would 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. Why were 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?

## MEMORY VERSE:

**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**



The church in Jerusalem grew rapidly. Soon 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."

Stephen was the first man who was chosen. He was a man full of faith and power who did many wonders and miracles among the people.

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 could not deny that he spoke the truth.

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 it was 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. While the false witnesses spoke, the council watched Stephen closely. Even though his face shone like an angel's, they continued 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. This made the leaders very angry!

God let Stephen see into heaven to give him courage to face his enemies. Looking up, Stephen said, "I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God."

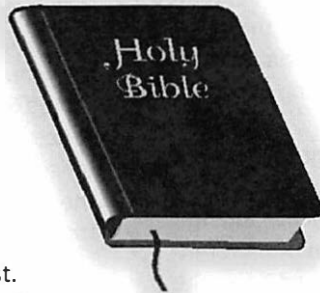
At once the rulers cried out loudly. They held their hands over their ears so they would not have to hear Stephen say another word. Suddenly they rushed at him, seized him, and dragged him outside the city gate and stoned him. His murderers laid their clothes at Saul's feet.

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." No doubt it was in answer to that prayer that Saul was saved.

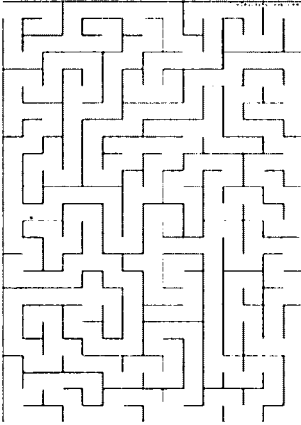
In our story Charlie Coulson, even while in extreme pain, showed this same spirit of love and concern that others should know Jesus and His power to forgive their sins. He made Dr. Rossvally promise that he would always remember that he had prayed for him to be saved. Nor could he forget. That prayer followed him until he finally yielded himself to God.

Most of us have godly parents, relatives or friends who have prayed for us to be saved. Some, however, have not had this blessing. But Jesus prayed for everyone! He said, "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;" (John 17:20)

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell



## Stephen's Prayer Maze



### CHARLIE'S Continued from first page

"I have just seen him, I cannot go every time he calls," the doctor said, not raising his head.

"He won't last another hour, and he says he must see you before he dies. Maybe he has an important message for you."

The doctor knew that the drummer boy wanted to give him a message about Jesus, and the boy thought that having the doctor see him die trusting the Lord would be a good way of giving him the message.

Something was pulling the doctor to Charlie like a mysterious magnet. He decided to go once more and say a kind word to the boy and leave, but not allow Charlie's faith to influence him.

The boy's big blue eyes were closed when the doctor got to his bed. "He looks like he is already dead," the nurse whispered.

Dr. Rossvally was tired so he sat down in a chair beside Charlie's bed. The boy moved and opened his eyes. "Take my hand, please?" he begged the doctor. "I love you doctor, because you are a Jew, and my Jesus is a Jew. I think He must have looked like you. I hope you will learn to know Him like I do. I believe you keep promises. Will you promise to never forget what I am about to tell you?"

"I promise."

"While you were amputating my leg five days ago, I prayed for God to save your soul. You are too good to be lost."

The doctor couldn't understand how a person suffering so intensely could be thinking about His Savior and wanting others to know Him. "Well, my son, you will soon be all right," the doctor said, "I must go now."

Twelve minutes later Charlie Coulson died. Dr. Rossvally didn't usually go to soldier's funerals.

There were funerals and burials every day, but there was something about the drummer boy that pulled on the doctor.

He had Charlie Coulson dressed in a new uniform, and placed in a officer's coffin with a United States flag over it. Then he rode three miles to see him buried. The rich doctor said to another officer standing by, "I'd give all my wealth to have the peace and power that boy had. He said it came from Jesus."

"I thought you didn't believe in Jesus?" his friend said.

"I don't believe in Jesus, I will never believe in Jesus—at least that is what I was taught, and that is the promise I gave my father before leaving Germany."  
(To be continued)

## Answers:

1. Stephen.
2. Great wonders 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 right hand of God.
8. By stoning him.
9. At Saul's feet.



### THE BARBER (part 6)

Dr. Rossvally was as busy as ever trying to save the lives of the men who were wounded in battle. Each time he amputated a leg or arm, he remembered Charlie, the boy who was loyal to his Savior to the end. Many soldiers were treated by the army doctor. But not one had refused every form of drugs as the drummer boy had done.

After the war was over, the doctor was put in charge of the military hospital at Galveston, Texas. Ten years passed by. The doctor had forgotten Charlie's words, but he had not forgotten Charlie Coulson.

He continued going to the synagogue, praying standing facing the East and believing that Jesus was a deceiver, not the Messiah. He was now living in Washington, D.C. with his wife, Ruth, and children, Abraham and Sarah. Besides having responsibilities of the hospital in Texas, he had been appointed to be an inspecting surgeon.

One very cold day in February he was returning home from an inspection trip. The train stopped in New York City, so he rented a hotel room to get some much needed rest. After dinner, he went into the barber shop to get his face shaved before catching the evening train for Washington.

On the walls of the barber shop hung sixteen different Bible verses. Dr. Rossvally had just begun reading the Scriptures when the barber began brushing on the shaving soap and talking at the same time. "I see we are kinfolk," he said, "I'm a Jew. And you?"

"I'm a Jew by nationality and also by religion," the doctor answered.

"I thought so," he said. "Then we are both important people in this world. The Jews were

God's special people. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the old patriarchs brought God's Word to the people. Even the laws of our United States are based on the Commandments God gave the Jews."

All the while he shaved the doctor, he talked about the Bible. The doctor had to keep his mouth still so he just listened.

Before long the barber began saying that Jesus was the Messiah that the Jews were looking for. Then he said, "When I was a little boy, I prayed toward the East. I was taught that Jesus was a terrible impostor, and that I should never worship Him. However, one day, something happened that changed my thinking." Then he went into detail about where he lived and who he met leading up to his change.

There was something about this man that caused the doctor to remember Charlie Coulson. He felt drawn as if to an unseen magnet.

Dr. Rossvally was so interested in what the barber was saying that he asked for a haircut. When his hair was cut, he asked for a shampoo. He still wanted to stay and listen but didn't want the man to know he was interested. What else could the barber do for him? Nothing. So he said, "I need to catch the next train to Washington, so I'd better hurry on."

He paid the barber, and took his coat down from the hook. While he was putting on his coat, the barber said, "Say, it's awfully icy out there, and you're not accustomed to the walkway. I shall walk with you."

He steadied the doctor all the way to the station. He said little except cautioning about dangerous places in the walk.

**See BARBER, Last page**

# SOWING SEEDS



## Matthew 13:1-8

- 1) The same day went Jesus out of the house, and sat by the sea side.
- 2) And great multitudes were gathered together unto him, so that he went into a ship, and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.
- 3) And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;
- 4) And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:
- 5) Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:
- 6) And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.
- 7) And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:
- 8) But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.

## Matthew 13: 18-23

- 18) Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.
- 19) When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.
- 20) But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it;

- 21) Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.
- 22) He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.
- 23) But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

## THE MESSAGE:

The Word of God is like a seed. When it is planted in a good and honest heart it will bring eternal life to that person.

## QUESTIONS:

1. What does the seed represent?
2. Who are those who sow the seed?
3. Men's hearts are represented by what?
4. What happens when a person does not understand the Word?
5. What happens to the Word that falls on stony ground?
6. Why did the plants die, which fell on stony ground?
7. What choked the plants among the thorns?
8. He who hears and understands the Word is called
9. How much fruit did the plants on good ground bear?

## MEMORY VERSE:

Now the parable is this:  
The seed is the word  
of God.  
Luke 8:11



Farmers in Jesus' time did not have fenced protected areas in which to plant their seed. Their fields were usually just open areas. Only ancient landmarks or perhaps ridges of stones divided one field from that belonging to a neighbor. Through these open fields were paths where people walked from one place to another.

So when the farmer, as the one in Jesus' story, went out to sow his seed he would try to scatter it where it would have the best chance to grow. But as he walked along throwing his seed this way and that some would fall on the hard beaten paths. Some would fall in rocky places or in corners where weeds, nettles and thistles grew thick.

Jesus wanted to show that those who preach the gospel are like the farmer. First they must receive the good seed to sow. They must, by spending much time with God, learn the deep gospel truths so they may teach them to others. Only then are they ready to share the gospel with others.

Their field is the hearts of men. Only God knows a man's heart. As the preacher gives out the truth he has no way of knowing which hearts will receive it. His responsibility is to faithfully preach the gospel at every opportunity to everyone who will hear. After he has sown the seed that God has given he must commit the seed to the Lord who alone can make it fruitful.

Jesus said some seed fell by the way side and the birds came and devoured the seed. It didn't

have a chance to take root and grow. The devil knows the power of the gospel seed. He never misses a service where God's word is taught. He will quickly take the truth from your mind if you allow it. The seed is then lost; your life will never produce the good fruit God intended.

Then Jesus tells about seed that fell on stony places. This seed sprouted quickly but, just as quickly it withered away. We must prepare our hearts by confessing and turning from all sin before the gospel can grow there.

Some seed fell among thorns. The soil was good and before long the seed sprouted and grew. But alongside it were other little sprouts growing too. These weeds soon grew so thick they shut out the light and took up the nutrients that should have gone to the good plant. These weeds are like the cares and temptations that everyone faces in life.

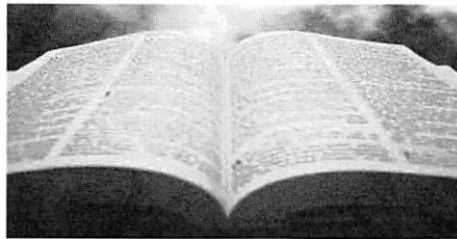
Last of all Jesus told about the seed that fell on good ground and produced much fruit. God wants

to make our heart a beautiful and fruitful garden. As we yield to Him He will teach us His own ways. He may use trials to break up the hard places. But all is done in love and for our good.

Dr. Rossvally was entirely opposed to Jesus and all He stood for. As a Jew he was taught that Jesus had wrongfully claimed to be the Messiah. His people still expected the true Messiah to come. His dark hard heart appeared to be a most unlikely place for the gospel to grow and bear fruit.

But Charlie and the barber wanted everyone to know Jesus, the One who had given them such peace and joy. They faithfully offered the seed; God caused it to eventually sink into Dr. Rossvally's heart and take root. His life was wonderfully changed.

*--Sis. Nelda Sorrell*



**BARBER** Continued from first page

Once at the station the barber continued to talk about the peace, strength, and happiness that he had found in Jesus. Then he added, "You may think it strange that I talk to you like this and walked you to the station, friend. Take my Friend, Jesus, as your Friend" he pleaded with tears flowing down his cheeks.

The two men shook hands. The doctor was eager to get away, but the barber held the doctor's hand with both of his as he would an old friend with whom he hated to part. "Now sir," he was saying, "if you don't mind, I would love to have your name, or business card. I promise you that each day, for three months, I shall call your name in prayer. May God go with you and Christ speak to you, until you find that He is your Savior and the Messiah for which you are looking."

The doctor took a card from his pocket and handed it to the barber, saying rather sneeringly, "I fear there isn't much danger of me becoming a Christian."

"And now, Sir, my parting words. Will you please send me a letter if God should ever answer my prayers? Here is my card."

"I certainly will," the doctor said very confidently, for he thought the man's prayers would never be answered.

"It is good to be home," he said to his wife, the next morning.

After breakfast, Dr. Rossvally picked up the newspaper. One of the first things that caught his eye was the announcement of a revival in one of the largest churches in Washington. A little voice seemed to whisper, "Go to the revival."

"Me, go to that church?" he questioned himself. "I have never been inside a Christian

church during worship service." Yet he felt an irresistible pull. "I'll just walk by and see what's going on," he told himself.

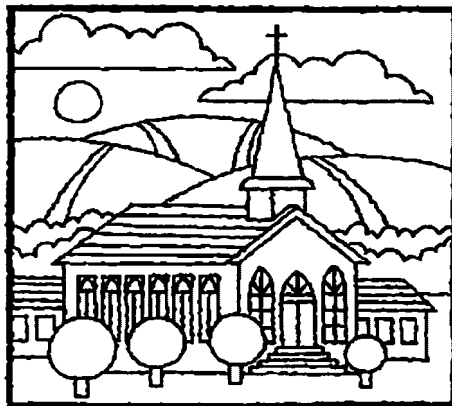
"I will be going out for a while," he told his wife. "Bring my wraps, please."

She brought his wraps and bid him goodbye.

Against the cold bitter February wind, he made his way to the church. There it was standing big and beautiful. Hatred welled in his heart. "In that building, people are being deceived," he muttered to himself. Then he looked all around. Were any of his friends watching him? What if his wife found out what he was doing? She was also a Jew. She would be ashamed of him. How would this affect his children or his in-laws, who lived in the house across the street from his?

"I can't go in there," he told himself. Yet the pull became stronger than ever. "I'll come back tonight when it's dark," he promised, hurrying back to the warmth of his house.

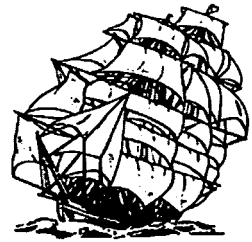
(To be continued)



## Answers:

1. The Word of the kingdom, or God's Word
2. Jesus & His ministers
3. The different kinds of earth
4. The wicked one takes it away
5. It grows up fast, but soon dies
6. Because their roots were not deep in the earth
7. The problems of life, the idea that riches would bring happiness
8. Good ground
9. Some 100, some 60, and others 30.





## SEPARATION

### Part 7

After his children were in bed, Dr. Rossvally excused himself and left the house. He arrived at the church early and very few people were there, so he found a seat close to the front. The service was different all right. For one thing, the people that he could see acted like they were really enjoying themselves. There was nothing sad or monotonous about the service. He saw in their eyes the same look of peace and contentment that he had seen in the eyes of Charlie and the barber.

When the preacher was talking, Dr. Rossvally thought he kept pointing to someone behind him. Finally he turned to see who it was. To his surprise, the house was full! Some of the faces he recognized. He felt like 2,000 pairs of eyes were looking at him and saying to them, "There's a Jew in the house!"

He had a sudden eagerness to get away, but he couldn't do that. He was crying, and if he walked out many people would see his tears. He didn't want anyone to see him crying. He knew they would if he took out his handkerchief. "I'll not cry anymore," he told himself, but the tears kept coming. He couldn't understand. It was something he couldn't control.

Finally the service was over. He was anxious to leave, but the preacher was inviting people to stay for another service. Dr. Rossvally waited until the aisles were empty then arose and headed for the door, slipping on his coat as he went. Just as he was passing through the door, he felt a tug on his coat. He turned around to see an old lady.

"Excuse me, Sir," she said. "I believe that God is speaking to you to be saved. I beg you not to leave this house until you find your Savior. God may not speak again, and we must answer when He calls. Do come back; I want to pray with you."

"Madam," he answered. "I am a Jew."

"That is wonderful. Jesus was a Jew." Dr.

Rossvally followed the woman back into the chapel and up the aisle to the front.

"Now if you will kneel, I will pray for you," she said.

"I have never kneeled to pray, I have no plans of ever kneeling to pray. Jews stand when they pray."

The lady said, "That will be fine. I know the God I serve can save a Jew standing on his feet. I will now kneel and ask Him to do it."

The doctor, dressed in officer's uniform, stood gallantly tall in the chapel, while the old lady kneeling at his feet began praying in earnest for God to save this Jew.

He felt embarrassed and wondered who of his acquaintance had by now recognized him. Yet he was intrigued by the lady's way of praying. It was not legalistic or repeated from memory like the prayers of the Jews. She was talking as if God was standing right beside her. She was speaking to Him like one would to a good friend.

He was too respectful to leave while the old woman was praying, so he waited. When she arose, she offered her hand saying at the same time, "Will you promise me that you will pray before you go to bed tonight?"

"Yes, I will. I will pray to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."

See SEPARATION, Last page

# THE JOY OF THE LORD



## **Nehemiah 8:10**

10) ... for the joy of the LORD is your strength.

## **Psalms 5:11**

11) But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.

## **Psalms 16:11**

11) Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.

## **Habakkuk 3:18**

18) Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

## **Acts 2:28**

28) Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.

## **Galatians 5:22**

22) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

## **Philippians 4:4-7**

4) Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

5) Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.

6) Be careful for nothing: but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

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

## **Romans 14:17**

17) For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

## THE MESSAGE:

When Jesus comes into our hearts He brings us great joy!

## QUESTIONS:

1. What is your strength?
2. Who should be joyful in the Lord?
3. Where will we find fullness of joy?
4. "I will joy in the God of my \_\_\_\_\_."
5. Joy is one of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Spirit.
6. When should we rejoice?
7. The kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Holy Ghost.

## MEMORY VERSE:





When Dr. Rossvally humbled himself and prayed for God to forgive his sins God answered prayer. The heavy load of guilt suddenly lifted and instead great joy filled his heart. He had never been so happy! He knew he had found the Messiah; Jesus was his Savior!

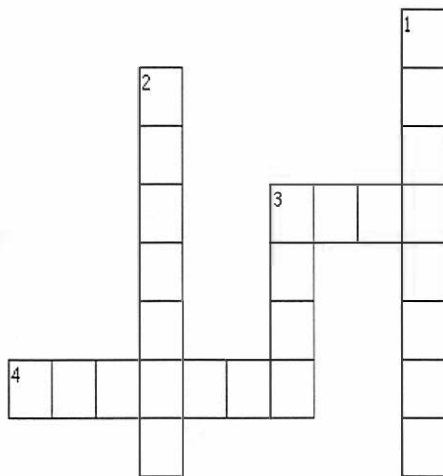
His first impulse was to share the good news with his wife. But her heart had not been prepared; she could not accept the truth nor share his newfound joy.

I hope everyone who reads this has experienced the miracle of the new birth when Jesus comes into your heart! You can never forget the overwhelming joy and peace that suddenly replaces the dark heaviness of guilt and sin! Paul said, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

The blood of Jesus cleanses our hearts of sin and all that made our life so gloomy. Then the Holy Spirit takes away the roots of sin and fills us with power to overcome the temptation to sin. He enables us to resist the devil and instead do what Jesus would do. Jesus' life was spent doing the will of God, His Father, and pleasing Him. He did not sin. (1 Peter 2:22.) He gives us that same power. It is a great joy to be able to overcome temptations to sin and always have God's approval!

--Sis. Nelda Sorrell

## THE JOY OF THE LORD CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

3. Thou has made known the ways of \_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_ in the Lord always.

Down

1. The joy of the Lord is your \_\_\_\_.
2. The \_\_\_\_ of God is not meat or drink.
3. Let them that \_\_\_\_ thy name be joyful.

"Then you will be praying to my Jesus," she said, "For my Jesus is also the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and He is your Messiah. I am Mrs. Young, if you ever need me."

The doctor thanked the lady for her kindness, and left the church as hurriedly as possible. He fairly flew home, never noticing the bitter cold.

"You're out of breath. What has happened?" his wife questioned.

He trembled to think of telling her where he had been and what he had done. Neither did he wish to lie to her, so he said, "Ruth, please don't ask me any questions; and if you don't mind, I would like to be alone in my study for a while."

"Very well, I am going to bed."

He closed and locked the door. Then standing facing the East, he began to pray. He repeated every prayer he knew, always addressing them to "the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." The longer he prayed the worse he felt. The feeling of guilt for all his sins just got heavier.

Finally he submitted to kneeling as the old lady had done. Fear gripped his heart. "Would I become deceived by this Jesus if I bowed to pray, as the Christians do?" he asked. "I promised my father, I would never worship Jesus."

"I must share this with my wife," he said. "She is looking for the Messiah just as I have been." Even though it was 2:00 a.m. he rushed into their bedroom to share the good news.

"I've found the Messiah!" he told her.

He fell to his knees and began praying much like the woman at the church had done. To his surprise, he started feeling better. The darkness and confusion in his mind cleared. He could understand prophecies in the Old Testament, which he had never before understood. The heavy feeling of guilt lifted and he felt light enough to float. He was happy, happier than he had ever been. Jesus was his Savior!

But his wife did not share his enthusiasm. She jumped out of bed and pushed him back.

Without another word she put on her clothes. She then went to the closet and took out some other clothes.

"What are you doing?" he asked. "Aren't you happy that the Messiah has come? We've been expecting Him."

She still said nothing. Putting on her coat and throwing the clothes over her shoulder, she walked out into the freezing wind. He could only stand and plead, "Ruth, Ruth, please don't."

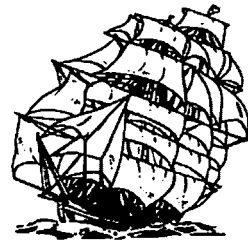
From the open door, he watched her go across the icy street to her parent's house. She went in and closed the door behind her. He knew by what she had done, that she wanted to remain a Jewess. Her religion would not allow her to live with a Christian, even though the Christian was her own husband.

(To be continued)

## Answers:

1. The joy of the Lord.
2. All who love God's name.
3. In the presence of God.
4. Salvation.
5. Fruits.
6. Always.
7. Righteousness, peace, joy.





## Bible Lessons for Juniors

February 23, 2014

### THE LETTERS

#### Part 8

Dr. Rossvally could not help crying, "Oh, Ruth, Ruth, why did you leave me?" He had hoped his wife would be glad that he had found that Jesus was the Messiah. He fell on his knees in prayer.

While he was praying, someone knocked on the door. Old Josh, the gardener for Ruth's parents, was standing on the porch. "Ruth has sent me to get the children," he said. The doctor had already decided to let her have the children. He hoped they would soon all come back to him.

Later that day his wife sent a note. It said: "I will never again call you my husband, nor will the children be allowed to call you Father, unless you admit that Jesus is not the Messiah. I would rather lose you than to be cast out of the synagogue and be counted as dead by my parents."

Every day the doctor watched the house across the street, hoping that he might see his Ruth or one of the children in the yard. He sent messages, but the notes were torn into tiny pieces before they were read.

Five days later, Dr. Rossvally was ordered to go away on government business. He planned many ways to see his family and tell them good-bye, but every scheme failed.

Ruth must have heard that he was leaving, for just before he left she sent another note. It said: "As long as you call Jesus the Savior, I nor the children will have any dealings with you. You must give up your Jesus or us. Which will you choose?"

**"I can but choose my Jesus, for He is God,"**

"I can but choose my Jesus, for He is God," he told himself. Dr. Rossvally waved to the house across the street as he was driving away. "Abraham or Sarah might be peeking out a window," he mumbled.

He was a strong man but after he got seated on the train, he broke down and cried. He was going 1,300 miles away and did not know when he would be back. Nor did he know when he would get to hear from his children or his dear wife.

The very next morning, he wrote a letter to his wife. The next day he wrote another. Every day he wrote a letter and every day he prayed that God would soften her heart and cause her to read the letters.

Back in Washington, D.C., the snow was deep. Sarah was building a snowman in the yard when a pony came galloping up. The rider reined the pony to a slow trot and shouted to

Sarah, "A letter from Mr. Rossvally."

Sarah took the letter and ran to the house shouting over and over, "A letter! A letter!" As she opened the door she called, "Mama; a letter from Pa—from Dr. Rossvally," she finished almost in a whisper.

Ruth was sitting beside the fireplace embroidering a rose on a new collar for Sarah. She laid down her sewing and came into the kitchen.

"I'm glad you caught yourself," she said to Sarah. "Remember, don't call him Papa or you will lose all four of your grandparents, also your uncles, your aunts and your cousins. Let me have the letter."

**See LETTERS, Last page**



### 1 John 4:8-21

- 8) He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.
- 9) In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him.
- 10) Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
- 11) Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.
- 12) No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.
- 13) Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.
- 14) And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.
- 15) Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.
- 16) And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.
- 17) Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.
- 18) There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.
- 19) We love him, because he first loved us.
- 20) If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?
- 21) And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

### John 3:16

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.

### Romans 5:8

8) But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

## THE MESSAGE:

God is love. When He lives in our heart, we, too, love everyone.

## QUESTIONS:

1. If you do not love you do not know \_\_\_\_.
2. God is \_\_\_\_.
3. How did God manifest His love to us?
4. Because He loved us we ought to love \_\_\_\_.
5. When we love one another, who lives in us?
6. The Father sent His Son to be the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world.
7. What casts out fear?
8. Why do we love God?
9. Anyone that loves God must also love whom?

## MEMORY VERSE:



**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. John 3:16**



Probably the first verse you learned was, "God is love." When we hear something so often it is easy to just take it for granted. We don't really stop to consider what we're saying or the great meaning of the words. Yet this is a message powerful enough to change the life of everyone who accepts it!

Two missionaries in China were troubled when they saw such misery and sadness all around them. These people worshipped many gods. They sacrificed their precious food to these idols. But these gods had no power to help them—they were merely statues made by men. They couldn't hear, speak or care a thing about the poor ignorant people who brought sacrifices.

What a contrast to the God of love and power that they served! The missionaries wanted to tell everyone they met about the true God. Their own lives were rich and happy because the God of love lived in their hearts.

It was the message of John 3:16 which many of us know by heart that drew these people to want to know more. Most of us can quickly recite, "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." We know the words so well we hardly have to think about what we are saying. Yet, to these hungry hearts each word brought wonder and hope.

"Will you explain how and why He died? Will you explain how it is He could love me?" some would ask eagerly. The wonder of God's love obsessed them. The story of Christ's death on Calvary filled their minds with awe and reverence.

Dr. Rossvally could not help but wonder at the courage and strength Charlie Coulson had to endure such extreme pain without a groan. He did not believe in Jesus but he could not deny that it had to be a divine power. He was amazed when Charlie told him that, while the doctor was cutting off his leg without anything to deaden the pain, he was praying that the doctor would be saved. He marveled at Charlie's great love for Jesus.

We have heard many times that God is love. But have we ever thought about the power it brings? If God did not love us we would have no peace here on earth and no hope of ever living with Him in heaven. If Jesus had not been willing to come and die on the cross at Calvary we could have no power to break out of the awful bondage of sin and selfishness. The devil would be our dreadful master and we would have no hope of escaping his cruelty.

But Jesus did come. God did make a way so we could be free from sin. He forgives everyone who will repent then He cleans our heart, fills it with His love, peace and joy and comes to live right in our heart! Such love is beyond our ability to understand. We must open our heart then we will experience its power and wonder!

What are you doing with the offer of salvation, the greatest gift you can ever receive? To reject God and His great love leaves you at the mercy of the devil that has no mercy or love for you. His only purpose is to destroy you in hell at last! But if you accept salvation it will fill your life with all the good that the God of love has purposed for you. -Sis. Nelda Sorrell

## Fill in the Blank

"F\_\_r G o\_\_ so I\_\_v\_\_d \_\_h\_\_

w\_\_r\_\_d, \_\_h a\_\_ H\_\_ g\_\_v\_\_

H\_\_s o n\_\_ \_\_ b\_\_g\_\_t t\_\_n

S\_\_...." John 3:16

She took the letter. Sarah and the cook watched from the door as she threw it into the fire.

"Mama, don't burn Daddy's letter. I want to read it."

"You'll get yourself in a heap of trouble if you don't watch out," the cook cautioned.

"You must never read a letter from him. God will punish you for it. Grandpa will curse us and send us away, and we could not go again to the synagogue. Remember, never read his letters."

Sarah went back outside biting her lip. She tried hard to finish the snowman, but all she could do was think of her papa so far away and wonder what his letter had to say. The next day another letter came. It was also burned. The next day, the third letter came, then the fourth, the fifth, the sixth, and the seventh. For a month Sarah and Abraham watched every day as their mother destroyed each letter from their father. Sarah loved her papa. She was the younger child and his little pet. Every time a letter came, Sarah hoped against hope that her mother would read it. Sometimes she said, "Please, Mama—." Her mother's quick rebuke made her stop.

More and more letters came: 49; 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, letters came. One letter came each day. All 54 letters were destroyed. Not one of them was read.

"Mama," Sarah said very softly, "can't I just read one letter from my dear—."

"Hush my child," her mother ordered.

That night Sarah went to bed with a sad troubled mind. The next morning she got up with a different attitude. Soon after breakfast she put on a sweater and went out into the fresh spring air. She busied herself watching a mud dauber roll a ball of mud and carry it away. Then she discovered a crocus breaking through the crusted ground. A red cardinal flew away to the blossom-covered cherry tree where she had seen her nest: All the while she was amusing herself, she was listening for the hoof beats of the pony.

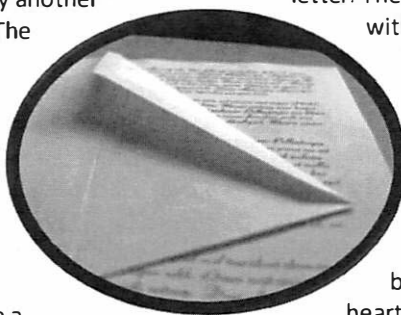
Suddenly she heard the sound of the horse's hoofs. She ran to the edge of the garden and reached her hand out into the lane to catch the letter. The pony rider dropped it into her hand without slowing up. That was good.

Mama might think it was just a rider going by.

Quickly she slipped it under her sweater and dashed light as a feather, into the house and up the stairs. She shut and locked the door behind her. There in her bedroom, she calmed her racing heart and wiped her sweaty hands. Then, carefully, very carefully, without making the least bit of noise, she opened her father's letter.

Fighting back tears, she read every word carefully. Then she read it again, and again. "Oh, daddy, daddy, you're the same good daddy you've always been." she sobbed quietly.

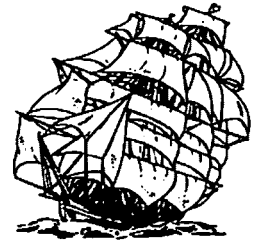
(To be continued)



## Answers:

1. God. 2. Love. 3. He sent His Son into the world.
4. One another. 5. God. 6. Savior. 7. Perfect love.
8. Because He first loved us. 9. His brother.





**UNITED**  
**Part 9**

Sarah held her father's letter close to her pounding heart. It was hers forever, the fifty-fifth letter that he had sent and the first one she had read. What it would cost her, she didn't know. One thing she did know was that her daddy wasn't bad like her mother and grandparents were saying.

When she finally went downstairs, her mother saw her tear-stained face and asked, "Sarah, why have you been crying?" Suddenly Sarah felt cold and sweaty. Her heart was racing like it wanted to run away. She opened her mouth to speak, but no words came out.

"Why have you been crying?" her mother asked again. "And why are you so frightened? What have you been doing?"

Sarah, trembling with fear, said, "Oh Mama, please, Mama, if you promise not to be angry, I'll tell you why I'm crying. Oh, mama, I'm so afraid."

"Don't be afraid, Sarah, dear, Mother won't be angry," she said softly.

"I had a terrible dream last night. I dreamed that Pa-Pa--"

"Go ahead, what did you dream."

"I dreamed, that Pa- Papa died," she blurted out. "He's a good, good Papa, he is! Last night I promised myself that I would keep his next letter. Mama, I've done an awful thing. I -I -I -I read his letter. Please don't be angry with me. But Mama, he's still good, as good as ever. A bad man couldn't write a letter like that."

"Hand me the letter," Mrs. Rossvally ordered.

"Please, Mama, please read it," Sarah begged.

Ruth hurried away to her bedroom with the letter. Sarah heard the door lock. Sarah waited in silence. Would her mother destroy the letter or was she reading it? Sarah wondered and waited for what seemed to be a long, long time.

Ruth's eyes were red and swollen when she finally came out of the room. Sarah breathed a sigh of relief. "Why are you crying?" she asked.

"Child, my heart aches."

"But did you read the letter? Are you going to tell Grandpa that I read it?"

"I read it through five times."

"Then you are going to keep it?"

"I hid it in my desk."

Mother was unusually quiet the rest of the day and stayed in her room hours at a time. It made Sarah afraid.

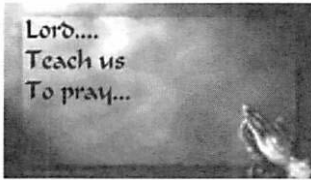
The next day, however, she did not destroy her husband's letter. Sarah felt very happy about that.

For days Ruth was very sad. She ate very little and stayed in her bedroom, crying. Then one day she came out happy. "I'm going to send a telegram to your Papa," she said.

Sarah went with her mother to send the telegram. This is what it said: "Dear Husband, Come home at once. I thought you were wrong, and I was right. I found that you are right and I am wrong. Last night at 11:19 p.m., I too found the Messiah. He is Jesus Christ your Savior and mine." Back in Washington, D.C., the snow was deep. Sarah was building a snowman in the yard when a pony came galloping up. The rider reined the pony to a slow trot and shouted to Sarah, "A letter from Mr. Rossvally."

**See UNITED, Last page**

## PRAYER



### Luke 18:1-8

- 1) And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;
- 2) Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:
- 3) And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.
- 4) And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;
- 5) Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.
- 6) And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.
- 7) And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?
- 8) I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

### Luke 18: 15-17

- 15) And they brought unto him also infants, that he would touch them: but when his disciples saw it, they rebuked them.
- 16) But Jesus called them unto him, and said, Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.
- 17) Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child shall in no wise enter therein.

### Matthew 6:9-13

- 9) After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

- 10) Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.
- 11) Give us this day our daily bread.
- 12) And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
- 13) And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

### Matthew 7:7

- 7) Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

## THE MESSAGE:

Prayer is a duty but it is also our greatest privilege! It is the channel through which we obtain God's favor for ourselves and others.

## QUESTIONS:

1. What did Jesus teach in His parable?
2. Who did not fear God nor regard man?
3. Who asked him to avenge her?
4. Why did the judge finally avenge her?
5. Who did they bring to Jesus?
6. Who rebuked those who brought them?
7. Who wanted the little children to come?
8. How must we receive the kingdom of God?

## MEMORY VERSE:

**"Pray without ceasing."  
1 Thessalonians 5:17**



Prayer is a powerful and wonderful gift from God. Since we are completely dependent on God we should always be in a spirit of prayer—continually lifting our hearts to God asking Him for help, guidance and, also, thanking Him for His many blessings to us. It is in this way that we are always praying.

Even the best earthly father sometimes is too busy or tired to listen every time we come with our little problems or desires. But God loves to have us pour out our hearts to Him and tell Him every detail of what is bothering us. Day or night and as often as you choose you can pray to Him and He will hear. In the most urgent and extreme need and danger He is there just in time.

I remember an incident that happened several years ago. My brother, Dale, and I were driving from Guthrie, OK to the camp meeting in Green Bank, WV. Dale had driven all night and we still had many miles to go. It was a difficult time to drive with the bright morning sun in his eyes. I looked down to choose one of Bro. Leslie Busbee's story tapes to listen to help keep Dale awake. When I looked up I saw that the cars ahead had merged into one lane and were stopped. On the left side was a concrete wall and in the right lane there were workers. We did not have time to stop at the speed we were traveling!

Dale saw the situation about the same time and braked as hard as he could. I said, "Lord, help!" but it seemed a crash was inevitable. Then, just as we screeched closer to the stopped car, that driver eased over to the right. By hugging close to the concrete wall Dale came to a stop about a half car

length beyond the back bumper of the car ahead of us. We did not hit the car or the concrete.

It was a miracle! I couldn't help exclaiming, "He did it!" I was certain there was no way to avoid a terrible collision yet God did it in answer to that short little prayer!

When we have a need we should bring it to God in prayer. Our prayer may not be answered immediately. We are taught then to continue to pray until the need is met. God cannot be compared to an unjust judge—He loves us more than we can realize and will give us the very best. If our prayers are not answered at once we must continue to pray, knowing that God has a purpose in the delay. Sometimes, God may be saying no to our prayers. We can rest assured in knowing that He knows what is best for us.

Charlie prayed for Dr. Rossvally to be saved. He never lived to see it but years later God wonderfully saved the doctor. Charlie's mother knew about his prayer for the doctor and no doubt added her petition for the doctor's salvation. God blessed Dr. Rossvally to be present when the mother told about Charlie's prayer. He was able to let her know Charlie's prayer had been answered. Both he and his wife were saved in answer to that prayer!

Prayer is a powerful privilege God has given us. Ask the Lord to teach you how to pray. Live a life of obedience to God and He will gladly answer your prayers.

*--Sis. Nelda Sorrell*

## PRAYER MATCHING

\*Match the verse to the scripture reference.\*

Ask, and it shall be given  
you; seek, and ye shall  
find; knock, and it shall  
be opened unto you.

I Thes. 5:17

Pray without ceasing.

Matt. 6:11

Give us this day our daily  
bread.

Matt. 7:7

When Dr. Rossvally received the telegram. He left all his work and got on the next express train heading for Washington.

The next day Ruth and the children went to stay across the street in their own home. Every day they watched the road for a carriage bringing their father.

One day the carriage came. Ruth, Sarah, and Abraham rushed from their house to the carriage. Dr. Rossvally jumped down and hugged all three at the same time.

Ruth's parents saw them together and pronounced a curse against them in the name of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

Later, a letter came from Dr. Rossvally's mother who lived in Germany. He was so happy to hear from her. He laid the other letters on the table and hurriedly opened the letter. "Oh, my," he said, "Listen, Ruth, and I'll read your Mother's letter. It doesn't say, 'Dear Son', as usual, it just says, 'Max: You are no longer my son; we have burned you in effigy; we mourn you as dead. And may the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob strike you blind, deaf, and dumb, and damn your soul forever. You have left your father's religion and the synagogue for that Jesus, "The Impostor," and now take your mother's curse. Clara.'

"Ruth she didn't even sign it, 'Mother.'"

"No, you're not her son any more, and I'm not a daughter of my parents. Max, we'll have to stand alone for Christ."

"No, not alone. We have each other and Jesus is always by our side. I found that out soon after I got saved."

Sarah asked, "Papa, what did Grandma mean by 'burning you in effigy?'"

"Well, burning in effigy means that Grandma and others who believe like her, got together and burned a picture of me and pronounced me to be dead."

Sixteen months later Dr. Rossvally was on a job in Brooklyn and went into a church for prayer meeting. Many people were standing up and telling of ways that God had shown His love to them. An old sister stood up and said, "Dear friends, this may be the last time I will get to testify. The doctor who examined me said one of my lungs is almost completely destroyed and the other is badly afflicted with the same disease. So you see, I don't have long to live, but what is left of me is all for Jesus. I do not fear to die, I am looking forward to meeting my son in heaven.

"My son died from being hurt in the Battle of Gettysburg. His leg was amputated by a Jewish doctor. The army chaplain sent me his Bible and wrote me a letter telling me that just before Charlie died, he called the doctor and said to the doctor, 'While you were amputating my leg, I was praying for you to believe in Jesus and be saved.'"

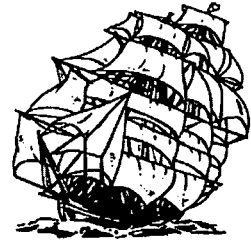
Dr. Rossvally thought the woman's son must have been Charlie Coulson, so he went and asked her name. Then he said, "I am the Jewish doctor who amputated your son's leg. Your son's prayers were answered about eighteen months ago when I was saved in my own home. Now my wife is also a Christian."

The End

--Selected

## Answers:

1. That men should always pray.
2. The judge.
3. A widow.
4. Because she was troubling him.
5. Infants.
6. The disciples.
7. Jesus.
8. As a little child.



## THE MIGHTY MESSENGER

### Part 10

"What will you read to us tonight?" John asked his grandmother.

"I have a letter to read," his grandmother answered.

"A letter? Is it from Mother and Dad?"

"No, we haven't gotten a letter from them. Maybe we will get one tomorrow. Where's Melissa? I'm ready when she gets here."

Just then Melissa came around the corner.

"Listen, and I will read you a letter," Grandmother said. When Melissa had seated herself

Grandmother began reading: "My Dear Christian Friend: I am only a little tract, but I have a message for the whole wide world. When you have read me, send me on; oh, send me on. What! Are you going to put me on a dusty bookshelf, or in a musty old book, or in your dark writing desk? Oh, dear me! Are you going to bury my talent? Please do not do it. Read me, then pass me on. Put me into an envelope and let me fly on and on, stopping here with my message and then off again in another envelope until I have encircled the entire globe with my message that is for 'every creature.' Then, but not until then, can I lay me down to rest.

God's messenger in haste,

A little tract

P. S. If you have any of my brother tracts safely tucked away in any place, shake the dust off them and send them on their way that they, too, might finish their course and hear, 'Well done, little tract. You have done all that people let you do.'

"That was written by Percy G. Near," Grandmother said.

"That was a funny letter," John remarked.

"I like it," Melissa retorted. "I'm writing an essay about Hudson Taylor for Literature I. He was saved by reading a tract."

"Can you tell us about it?" Grandmother asked.

"From what little I know," Melissa answered, "as a very young boy Hudson had tried to act good like a Christian does. The older he got, the more he realized he just could not be good. This made him doubt God. Another thing that influenced his feelings was that many of his friends did not believe there was a God. By the time he was 15, he also began to wonder if there was one, until the day he found a box of tracts and booklets while browsing in his father's library looking for a book with which to entertain himself. He thought these tracts might contain interesting stories. He would read the amusing parts of the tracts and ignore the rest.

"He couldn't ignore some words in one of the tracts. It caused him to realize that Christ paid for his salvation on the cross. Hudson realized that he did not have to force himself to be good. Christ would live the goodness right through him."

"It is wonderful that he got saved, for thousands of Chinese learned about Christ through Hudson Taylor's teaching," Grandmother said. "I will tell you a story about a Japanese man who also was saved because he read a tract.

"He had tried and tried to find God by worshiping his father's gods. He burned incense to idols.

**See MIGHTY, Last page**

# SPREADING THE GOSPEL



Go ye into all the world  
and preach the gospel to  
every creature

## Acts 17:15-28

15) And they that conducted Paul brought him unto Athens . . .

16) Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.

17) Therefore disputed he in the synagogue with the Jews . . .

18) Then certain philosophers . . . encountered him. And some said, What will this babbler say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods: because he preached unto them Jesus, and the resurrection.

19) And they took him . . . saying, May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is?

20) For thou bringest certain strange things to our ears: we would know therefore what these things mean.

21) (For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)

22) Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious.

23) For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you.

24) God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;

25) Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things;

26) And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

27) That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

28) For in him we live, and move, and have our being . . .

## THE MESSAGE:

Jesus lived in Paul's heart and directed his life. He wanted everyone to know about Jesus and the one true God.

## QUESTIONS:

1. Where did they bring Paul?
2. What was the city wholly given to?
3. What did Paul preach to them?
4. Who did the people think Jesus was?
5. Where did Paul stand to speak to the people?
6. What was the inscription on one of their altars?
7. Who made the world and everything in it?
8. He does not dwell in \_\_\_\_\_ made with hands.
9. In Him we \_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_ and have our \_\_\_\_.

\*Answers on back\*

## MEMORY VERSE:

**God that made the world  
and all things therein,  
seeing that he is Lord of heaven  
and earth, dwelleth not in  
temples made with hands;  
Acts 17:24**



Those who truly know Jesus and His power to change lives long to tell others who need Him. Many missionaries have risked their lives and some have died to take the gospel to those who have never heard about Jesus and His power to save.

While Paul waited in Athens for Silas and Timothy he toured the city. Everywhere he went he saw idols. He was amazed at how many different gods these people worshiped. There was even an altar to the Unknown God!

Paul found a Jewish synagogue and went there to speak to the Jews about Jesus. He met with anyone who wished to speak to him in the marketplace. He used every opportunity to preach Christ to the people. Some listeners were sincere but many were just curious. They had never heard about Jesus and His resurrection. They thought Paul was talking about some strange new god.

Soon he had so many wanting to hear what he had to say they asked him to speak on Mar's Hill. This was the place where important matters were discussed.

As Paul looked over the crowd of wise men and curious listeners he longed to present the gospel to them in a way they could understand. I'm sure he prayed for wisdom to know how to reach these people.

"You men of Athens," Paul began, "I see that you are too superstitious. As I was walking through the city I saw your many altars to different gods. I even saw one whose inscription read, 'To the Unknown God'. You ignorantly worship this God and He is the God about whom I preach to you.

"This God made the world and everything in it. He is the Lord of heaven and earth. He does not live

in temples made by men, neither is He worshiped by anything men make. It is He who gives us our life and breath.

"This God is not far from every one of us. He wants people of every nation to seek Him and worship Him. He is not like gold or silver or stone that man shapes into an idol. He is the true God. Now that you know about the true God He commands you to repent of your sins. The day is coming when He will call all men to judgment." Then Paul told them about how God had raised Jesus from the dead.

Many of the wise men laughed when they heard about the resurrection. Others asked him to come back another time and tell them more. But there were several who believed Paul's words.

Our story shows that everyone can have a part in spreading the gospel. When we give tracts we have no way of knowing whether their message is accepted or rejected. It brought great joy to the elderly man to hear about the miracle God worked in the life of this Japanese man all because of one tract left on a rocky cliff beside the ocean!

*--Sis. Nelda Sorrell*

## Bible Drill!

\*See if you can find these verses about spreading the gospel. Write them down on a piece of paper. The one who finds them the fastest is the winner!\*

Mark 16:15

Colossians 1:23

Jeremiah 1:7-8

Matthew 5:16

1 Peter 2:12

He decorated his father's shop with stalks of bamboo and straw ropes before New Year's. On New Year's Day he ate carp for energy and determination to overcome problems. He also ate chestnuts for success and seaweed for happiness. None of these things helped. He was just as depressed as ever.

"One night he went out on a high rocky cliff beside the ocean. Strong waves beat against the razor sharp rocks below him. Why they hadn't already worn them smooth, he didn't know. He perched himself in a very dangerous spot, waiting for the final inspiration to fling himself to his death below.

"Suddenly he was startled by a strange flapping noise. In a smooth spot not too far from where he sat was a paper held fast by a rock. He was sure that someone had placed the paper there. Being curious as to why anyone would put a note in such a place, he was determined to find out what the note said. Laboriously he crawled over the rocks and freed the paper. He took a small pen flashlight from his shirt pocket, sat down Indian fashion and read the tract. It was a tract explaining God's free gift of salvation for all mankind.

"'Oh, God,' he cried out, 'Are you there? Is this true? Do you give mortal men freedom from evil? Will you save me from my wicked self and give me peace in my mind?'

"As soon as he had said these words, a calm quiet peace came over him."

"He got saved out there on the cliff all by himself?" John asked.

"Yes, he did. God will save a person anywhere, when they repent and believe," Grandmother assured John.

"The Japanese man was so thankful for his salvation, that he became a minister so he could share this good news with others.

"He became the pastor of a church near where he had found the tract. One evening after he had been saved about 30 years, he told the story of how he was saved. 'Yes, on the highest, most rugged cliff around here, I was saved,' he said. Then he told the exact date.

"An elderly gentleman in the congregation stood up. In a quivering high-pitched voice he exclaimed, 'Pastor, I am, the man who put that tract under the rock. I had passed out about 300 tracts on the seaside that day. The tracts were not welcomed. I was

treated with contempt. By the

time I got to that cliff, I was very sad. I had just one more tract left, so placing it under a stone and breathing a prayer that it might fall into some welcome hands, I returned home.'

"The old man's face was aglow by the time he finished speaking and tears had thoroughly washed his face."

Grandmother took off her glasses and laid them in her lap. "We never know how much good a tract will do, so we should pass them out every chance we get."

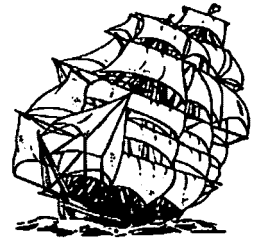
*--Charlotte Huskey*



## Answers:

1. To Athens. 2. Idolatry. 3. Jesus and the resurrection. 4. A strange god. 5. On Mars' hill. 6. TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. 7. God. 8. Temples. 9. Live, Move, Being.





## A SPIRITUAL MOTHER

(A true story)

Part 9

I was lonely and sad. My soul, so cast down, had forgotten that the Bible says, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord and He shall sustain thee." (Ps.55:22).

As I sat in a chair beside the window feeling sorry for myself, I heard the music of a street organ. I peeked out the window and saw a small boy playing a street organ. Immediately I went out to give him some money. From the looks of his face and eyes, I thought he must be both honest and intelligent but had met much sorrow.

"He is hungry," I said to myself and hurried back in. I placed bread and meat on a plate. Then I added a booklet, "How To Become A Christian," which had been laying on my dining table. I handed it all to him without a word. I wanted to cry. He so courageously played music to keep from starving, and I was depressed when I had everything I needed.

I continued watching him from my window, praying silently all the while for God to bless him. After he finished eating, he picked up the booklet and read the title. He smiled and put it carefully in his pocket. Years passed, and the little organ-grinder passed out of my mind. Later, war broke out and many of the wounded were brought to the hospital in the city where I lived.

Sometimes I visited the sick at the hospital. One day when I went in to visit, the wounded, holding the wounded man's wrist as if counting his pulse. I

could tell by the doctor's expression that he didn't expect the man to live. I stopped.

At that instant, the hospital chaplain came to the bed. He leaned over the young man anxiously, to see if life was still in him.

All at once the young man opened his eyes and asked, "Am I going to die?" The doctor left without saying a word. The chaplain, looking sad, made no answer either.

"I cannot tell you my young friend," was the chaplain's answer. "I do not know. But do you know the Savior of all sinners? Do you know Jesus?"

"Yes. Yes. I know Him, I have just seen Him. I must tell you about it before I go. I am not wondering if I will go to heaven."

"Have you a mother that we should notify? Can I do anything for you?" the chaplain asked.

"My mother is not here. I am going to be with her soon; she is in heaven." As he said these words, a lovely expression settled on his face. He rested a moment, then, making a special effort, he drew from under his pillow a Bible, a photograph, a worn, dirty, blood-stained booklet and a purse in which were a few gold pieces. Curious as to why he would keep such a dirty old booklet, I looked at it. "How To Become A Christian," was the title on the crumpled cover.

"That little booklet," he said. "Brought salvation to me and my mother.

**See SPIRITUAL, Last page**

Surgeon was making his rounds. When I

came by, he was standing by one of the

## LIONS OBEY GOD



### Daniel 6:16-23, 25, 26

16) Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

17) And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel.

18) Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him.

19) Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.

20) And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

21) Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever.

22) My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

23) Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

25) Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

26) I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and steadfast forever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

## THE MESSAGE:

God has power over the fiercest creatures to restrain them from hurting His trusting children.

## QUESTIONS:

1. Where did they cast Daniel?
2. Who did the king say would deliver Daniel?
3. What did they put over the mouth of the den?
4. Who could not sleep that night?
5. Where did the king go very early the next morning?
6. What did he ask?
7. What did the angel do?
8. Why was Daniel not hurt?
9. The king decreed that all men in his kingdom should tremble and fear before whom?

## MEMORY VERSE:

My God hath  
sent his angel,  
and hath shut the  
lions' mouths. . .  
Daniel 6:22



Daniel had been taken captive when he was young and brought to Babylon. The Babylonians worshipped idols but Daniel purposed in his heart to always worship God alone.

God blessed Daniel for his faithfulness. When Darius, the new King of Persia came to power he appointed Daniel as one of three presidents to oversee his kingdom. He was so efficient and trustworthy that Darius decided to give him sole administrative authority over all the kingdom.

This made the other rulers jealous. They watched him closely so they could find some fault with him. Daniel was neither corrupt nor negligent. They devised a scheme to trap Daniel by making it illegal for him to worship God. They convinced Darius to make it mandatory for all his subjects to worship him for the next 30 days and anyone caught worshipping anyone else must be thrown into a den of hungry lions.

Daniel was a man of prayer. He faithfully prayed to his God three times a day. When Daniel heard about the law he did as he always did. He went to his house, opened his window toward Jerusalem, kneeled down on his knees and prayed and gave thanks to God.

His enemies saw him praying—their scheme had worked. They rushed to the king to let him know that Daniel had disobeyed his law.

The king realized too late that the princes had tricked him into passing such a law in order to destroy Daniel, his most faithful servant. He worked feverishly to find some way to save Daniel. But at sundown the wicked men came to demand the execution of the law saying it could not be repealed.

The king gave the commandment and Daniel was brought to the den of lions. "Your God will deliver you," the king told Daniel. Then he was thrown in with the hungry lions and a huge rock was put over the mouth of the den. There was no way for Daniel to escape!

The king went home vexed at himself for signing such law. His heart was so heavy he could not eat or sleep. At the crack of dawn he hurried to the den of lions and cried out anxiously, "Is your God able to deliver you from the lions?"

The king was overjoyed to hear Daniel reply, "My God sent His angel and shut the lion's mouths! They have not hurt me."

While the king spent a restless night in his palace, an angel of God kept Daniel company all night. He enlightened the dark den and shut the lions' mouths so Daniel could not have been in a safer place!

King Darius ordered Daniel's release. He had suffered the penalty of the law; his enemies could not say the law had not been fulfilled. Daniel was a free man. They brought him out of the den and when they examined him they saw that he had not been hurt in any way.

Those who boldly trust in God to protect them as they stand faithful to Him will always find Him right there to help them.

*--Sis. Nelda Sorrell*



## SPIRITUAL Continued from first page

"When I was a little boy, I was a poor organ-grinder. I played the organ on the streets and parks to try and earn enough money to care for my sick mother and wee little sister. One evening when I was playing, a good lady gave me this little book." He had to pause to rest, then he continued, "Until then, no one had ever given us anything to show us the way to heaven. That dear lady; we prayed for her every day. How I wish I could see her again and thank her for this booklet. . ."

I drew nearer and nearer to catch every word from the lips of the dying man, for I thought I recognized in him the little organ-grinder who had once cheered my depressed spirit. He mumbled on. Neither I, nor the chaplain could understand.

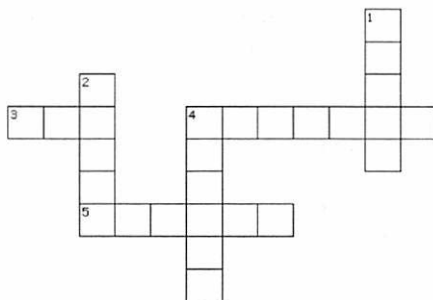
I could hear him again! He was saying, "What a beautiful dream it was! I had come to the gates of heaven and went in . . . everything was so lovely! But I wanted to see my Savior, then my mother. Then I thought of that good lady, the giver of the booklet, and I wanted to see her. But she wasn't there. I guess she had not gone over yet." I burst into sobbing aloud. The noise aroused the dying man, and he looked at me.

A flash of recognition lit up his face. Astonished, but unable to move, he said slowly, "I thank thee, Lord; I know you have heard my

prayer." Those were his last words.

--Ormer Sorunt

## Daniel Prays



### Across

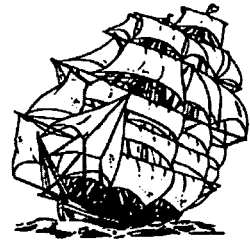
3. Daniel's enemies had him thrown into a lion's \_\_\_\_ for praying.
4. The king asked, "Daniel, is thy God able to \_\_\_\_ thee from the lions?" (Dan. 6:20)
5. The king made a decree that everyone should serve Daniel's God, for He is the \_\_\_\_ God. (Dan. 6:26)

### Down

1. The number of times Daniel prayed every day.
2. An \_\_\_\_ shut the lion's mouths.
4. \_\_\_\_ was king of Persia.

## Answers:

1. Into a den of lions. 2. Daniel's God. 3. A stone. 4. The king. 5. To the den of lions. 6. "Is your God able to deliver you from the lions?" 7. Shut the lions' mouths. 8. Because he believed in his God. 9. The God of Daniel.



## MAKE THE PAPER SPEAK Part 10

"Looks like our first job will be to get these Greenland Eskimos to believe that there is a God," John Beck told his missionary companions, Steve and Luther.

"How can we do that?" Steve questioned.

"I have an idea how we can teach them about God. Let's translate the creation story into their language and teach it to them. Think that sounds like a good one?"

"Terrific!" Steve shouted.

The next day, John began writing the creation story into the Eskimos' own language. Steve and Luther studied the language so they could communicate better with the natives.

In a few months the three men gave their first lesson about the Creator of the universe. The Eskimos laughed. "Our land has always been here," they said. "It was here long before the Eskimo fathers."

The missionaries went home and prayed. Then they went from house to house, helping the sick and comforting the depressed. Whenever they could get the Eskimos to listen, they told the beautiful story of a loving God who made everything. In some homes the Eskimos sat very quietly. This encouraged the missionaries. They thought the people were beginning to believe in God. Month after month passed as the missionaries trudged through rain, snow, ice, and sleet to help the Eskimos. It had been 3 years since they had come to Greenland. "Maybe there will soon be a lot of Christians in this place," Steve said one day as he returned from teaching.

"Things are looking promising," John agreed.

Soon afterwards the Eskimos got into a great fight and many were left badly beaten. The missionaries prayed harder than ever. They continued telling the creation story. They thought that someday the Eskimos would believe that there was a God, and that then they would be ready to hear the story of His Son, Jesus.

John decided to translate the life of Christ. Day after day he worked, translating. The language of the Eskimos had not yet been written. First, John decided what words of their language should be used for the English words. Then he had to spell the words from the different sounds he heard in the words. He worked hard for many, many months translating the story.

"I'll be back late this afternoon," Steve said as he put on his snowshoes and fur-lined coat. "I'm going over to talk with Kayarnak today. I think he's keeping some of the other men from believing in God."

"Hope you find him home," John answered. "Knowing him, he's probably already out doing some mischief."

As he waved good-bye to Steve, Luther spoke. "We came here five years ago today yet we see no change in the Eskimos. I would pull out of here tomorrow if I went by what I see. I believe there has been a change, although I can't see any."

"There has been some change, all right," John assured him. "They were at least friendly when we came. I think now they would like to kill all three of us!" "Well, I had better go and see that boy with the measles. See you tonight," Luther said, and closed the door behind himself.

See **MAKE**, Last page



## 2 Kings 5:1-11, 13, 14

- 1) Now Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria, was a great man ... but he was a leper.
- 2) And the Syrians had gone out by companies, and had brought away captive out of the land of Israel a little maid; and she waited on Naaman's wife.
- 3) And she said unto her mistress, Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria! for he would recover him of his leprosy.
- 4) And one went in, and told his lord, saying, Thus and thus said the maid that is of the land of Israel.
- 5) And the king of Syria said, Go to, go, and I will send a letter unto the king of Israel ...
- 6) And he brought the letter to the king of Israel, saying ... I have therewith sent Naaman my servant to thee, that thou mayest recover him of his leprosy.
- 7) And it came to pass, when the king of Israel had read the letter, that he rent his clothes, and said, Am I God ...
- 8) And it was so, when Elisha the man of God had heard that the king of Israel had rent his clothes, that he sent to the king, saying ... let him come now to me, and he shall know that there is a prophet in Israel.
- 9) So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.
- 10) And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.
- 11) But Naaman was wroth, and went away ...
- 13) And his servants came near, and spake unto him, and said, My father, if the prophet had bid thee do some great thing, wouldest thou not have

done it? how much rather then, when he saith to thee, Wash, and be clean?

14) Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan ... and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

## THE MESSAGE:

Although she was a little slave girl in a strange land, she knew the one true God. By sharing her knowledge this powerful man and his family came to know God also.

## QUESTIONS:

1. Who was Naaman?
2. What was wrong with him?
3. Who had the Syrians brought back captive from Israel?
4. Who did she say could cure the leprosy?
5. Who sent a letter to the king of Israel?
6. What did the king do after he read it?
7. Who told the king to send Naaman to him?
8. What did he tell Naaman to do?
9. What happened when he obeyed?

## MEMORY VERSE:

But I say unto you  
which hear,  
Love your enemies,  
do good to them which  
hate you.  
Luke 6:27



The Syrians lived in the country north of Israel. They sometimes attacked the cities of Israel and took anything they wanted from the Israelites in their raids. Sometimes they took people and even children for slaves.

In one raid a little girl was captured. She was taken, along with the other captives, to Syria. Here they were sold as slaves. Naaman, the rich captain of the Syrian army, saw the little girl and bought her to serve his wife.

No doubt the little girl's parents grieved over the loss of their little daughter and prayed for her safety. They would probably never see her again but they knew God would keep her safe though they could not. The parents did not know that God would use their little daughter to accomplish great good. She became a little missionary, though it was against her will.

Great trouble struck. Naaman discovered that he had the dreaded, deadly disease called leprosy! The king of Syria was very sorry when he heard the news. Naaman was a brave captain of his army.

The little slave girl, too, was very sad. She remembered Elisha, the prophet of Israel, who God used to do many miracles. She had faith to believe that Elisha would heal her master, Naaman. Bravely she told his wife, "If only my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would heal him of his leprosy."

Naaman would have gladly given all he owned to be well again. When his wife told him what the little girl said he hurried to tell the king.

This was good news to the king. He wrote a letter to the king of Israel, asking him to cure Naaman. When Naaman delivered the letter to the

king of Israel he was greatly troubled and tore his clothes to show his distress. He knew he could not heal Naaman and decided that the king of Syria was only looking for an excuse to make war against him. Elisha heard about Naaman and told the king to send him to his house. The king was relieved to direct Naaman there.

When Naaman and his servants came, Elisha did not even bother to go out to meet the great man. Instead he sent his servant to tell Naaman, "Go and wash in the Jordan River seven times. Then your leprosy will be gone and your skin will become new!"

This should have been wonderful news to Naaman. But Naaman was a proud man. He was used to being treated with dignity and honor. He was insulted that Elisha had not even come out to meet him. "Why should I bathe in that muddy river when I can bathe in the clear waters of our rivers at home?" he asked.

Naaman was ready to leave but his servants knew that dipping seven times in a river could never cure him. He must obey the prophet if ever hoped to be well. Finally, at their persuasion, Naaman did as Elisha instructed. God honored his obedience and healed him!

The little captive maid proved that even a child has a God-given talent and in difficult situations can be a faithful witness for Him. She did not hide her talent but instead let love conquer. Ignoring her own pain of being taken from her home she shared her knowledge of God's healing power so Naaman would not suffer. Her tragedy brought great good to Naaman—the knowledge of the one true God.

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

## Fill in the Blank

Fill in the blank to finish the verse about witnessing.

"L \_ \_ t \_ \_ y o \_ \_ \_ l \_ \_ \_ t \_ \_ o  
s \_ \_ i \_ \_ e \_ \_ e f \_ \_ r \_ \_ m \_ \_ n."

Clue: Matthew 5:16

**MAKE** Continued from first page

John bolted the door and breathed a prayer for Steve and Luther's safety. Only the scratching of his pen on paper and the crackling of the fire could be heard in the little cabin as John worked.

Bang! Bang! Someone was beating on the cabin door. Before he could get off his stool, the door fell from its hinges and hit the floor. Instantly John was surrounded by a mob of angry men. Kayarnak was with them.

One picked up his pen, another his bottle of ink. Other dirty hands fingered the precious papers on which he was writing the story of Jesus.

"What is this?" demanded Kayarnak, looking at the paper he held in his rough hands. "What are these black marks?"

John explained as best he could that what he called black marks were letters. "These letters make words. They are the same words that we speak." He talked as long as he could about letters and words, wishing for a chance to back himself into a corner. But he was sitting at his table and the Eskimos were all around him. His manuscripts were precious, but John was thankful they were mauling the papers instead of him.

Kayarnak stood looking at the paper a long time, as if thinking through all that John had said. At last he exclaimed, "This piece of

paper hears, and remembers, and says words?"

"That paper has a lot to say to you," John answered.

"Then make it talk," he demanded, "or else... we'll. . ." All the men began yelling in agreement and laughing at the impossibility.

John began reading the page. Then he read another and another, hoping that the story would calm the men enough so they would not kill him. The men became so quiet, he feared they were preparing to jump on him, so he looked up.

Kayarnak's dark face was clouded with grief, tears pouring down his weathered cheeks. "Don't stop," he cried, "Make the paper talk more. I want to know more about this Jesus."

Had the stones outside of John's cabin cried out as Kayarnak did, John would not have been any more surprised. He read on and on about the love of Jesus, until Kayarnak cried out for mercy and was saved.

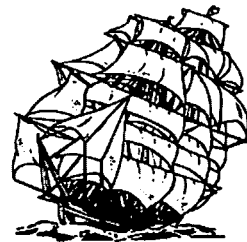
When Steve and Luther returned, tired, weary and disheartened from their work, they found John praying with Kayarnak, and a dozen Eskimos looking on very respectfully.

After Kayarnak was saved, he helped in the translation, and was a real leader; bringing many to salvation. Soon, there were 50 Christians, then 100, then 2000. Years later there were thousands of believers among the Eskimos of Greenland. *—Selected*

## Answers:

1. Captain of the host of Syria. 2. He was a leper. 3. A little maid. 4. A prophet in Samaria. 5. The king of Syria. 6. He tore his clothes. 7. Elisha. 8. Go wash in the Jordan seven times. 9. He was healed





## Bible Lessons for Juniors

March 30, 2014

### LIONS IN THE ROAD!

#### Part 11

We knew there were lions around, but we felt fairly safe on my big 500 c. c. motorcycle. Deng, my African friend, was riding on the seat behind, and I was driving the motorcycle as best I could over the rough dirt road in the half darkness of early morning.

We had left our S. I. M. station at Kabus Bridge before the sun rose; so we wouldn't have to travel in the fierce heat of a dry-season day. Deng and I often traveled together to preach the gospel to people who were serving false gods, and living in sin. We wanted to tell them that Jesus loved them so much that He died on the cross for them. As we roared along, kicking up dust behind us, I remembered one day when my wife and I saw 5 lions coming toward us as we rounded a bend. Only we weren't riding a motorcycle; we were walking! We looked around for trees to climb. There weren't any. We couldn't turn and run—they would have jumped on us at once. We had no guns. We prayed quietly for God's protection. (And I hope that you always pray for the safety of your missionaries. You never know what they are experiencing.)

They kept coming closer. The only thing we could do was to walk toward them. Then they stopped. God must have spoken to them. Suddenly they bounded off to the side of the road and stood there roaring at us. As we walked by, it was as if some unseen Hand was holding them back. While I was thinking about that frightening experience, we had been riding down a steep, rocky hill. I had to slow down, so we wouldn't slide in the loose stones.

Suddenly, I felt Deng's knuckles dig into my sides, and I heard him hiss in my ear. I looked up to see four eyes gleaming in the light of the headlamp. I jammed on the brakes as I saw the outline of 2 full grown lions. They were standing only 15 yards away, right in the middle of the road. The first rays of the sun were lighting the sky, and I could see that one was a hungry looking female, and the other a big male, his "collar" of fur bristling fiercely around his head.

Deng hung on tight, as we put our feet down on the road to steady the motorcycle, which I kept running. What should we do? I prayed that God would show us. I thought about how these lions were like Satan. The Bible says he goes about as a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. We have to ask God to keep us from Satan, just as Deng and I needed to be rescued from these lions. The male lion decided to act. He disappeared silently into the long grass beside the road. "That's bad," I thought. "The male lion always stalks the prey, chasing it towards the female, who does the killing. He's going to circle round and come up behind us."

If we had turned around, the lioness would have jumped on our backs. And if she had missed the first leap, we still could not have gotten away up the steep hill in time. I moved a little closer. She didn't budge. I blew the horn; I raced the engine; I flicked the headlight dimmer switch up and down. But she stood her ground. I didn't know how close her mate was behind us by now. Then she put her head close to the road and switched her tail back and forth like a cat watching a mouse. I knew she was going to spring on us.

See **LIONS**, Last page



### Mark 6:34-46

34) And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.

35) And when the day was now far spent, his disciples came unto him, and said, This is a desert place, and now the time is far passed:

36) Send them away, that they may go into the country round about, and into the villages, and buy themselves bread: for they have nothing to eat.

37) He answered and said unto them, Give ye them to eat. And they say unto him, Shall we go and buy two hundred pennyworth of bread, and give them to eat?

38) He saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? go and see. And when they knew, they say, Five, and two fishes.

39) And he commanded them to make all sit down by companies upon the green grass.

40) And they sat down in ranks, by hundreds, and by fifties.

41) And when he had taken the five loaves and the two fishes, he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke the loaves, and gave *them* to his disciples to set before them; and the two fishes divided he among them all.

42) And they did all eat, and were filled.

43) And they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments, and of the fishes.

44) And they that did eat of the loaves were about five thousand men.

45) And straightway he constrained his disciples to get into the ship, and to go to the other side before unto Bethsaida, while he sent away the people.

46) And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray.

### THE MESSAGE:

Jesus proved that God can provide for us when there seems to be no way!

### QUESTIONS:

1. What did the people remind Jesus of?
2. What kind of place were they in?
3. Why did the disciples want Jesus to send the people away?
4. What did Jesus tell the disciples to do?
5. How much food did they have?
6. What did Jesus do before He gave the food to the people?
7. How many baskets of fragments were there?
8. How many men had eaten?
9. Why did Jesus go into a mountain?

### MEMORY VERSE:

Trust in the LORD,  
and do good; so shalt  
thou dwell in the land,  
and verily thou  
shalt be fed.  
Psalms 37:3



Jesus knew His time on earth would be short. It was important that His disciples should be taught the work of spreading the gospel. One day He sent the twelve out to tell the Jewish people the good news of the kingdom of heaven and to heal the sick. When the disciples returned they told Jesus about the people who had been healed and where the gospel had been taught. Many more people heard about Jesus, and they came from everywhere to hear and see Him.

There was always a crowd around Jesus because so many people were eager to hear His words and have their loved ones healed. He did not have time to rest or even to eat. Finally Jesus called his twelve disciples to Him and said, "Come with Me to a quiet place. We must rest awhile."

So they sailed to the other side of the sea to a desert place far from any city. But somehow the people found out where He was going. When He reached shore there was already a great crowd gathered! The people had followed from the other side of the sea.

As tired as He was, Jesus felt sorry for the people who were so hungry to hear the good news of the gospel. Looking out over the multitude He said, "They are like sheep that have no shepherd!"

All day Jesus sat teaching the people about the kingdom of heaven and healing the sick. Evening came and the people still stayed. They seemed to forget their need for food and shelter for the night. The disciples reminded Jesus that they were in the desert and the people had a long way to go back home. "Send the people away," the disciples told Him, "so they can buy food in the towns and

villages as they go home. They have nothing to eat!"

To their surprise Jesus answered, "We must feed them before sending them away." Turning to Philip, He asked, "Where shall we find bread, that all these people may eat?"

Philip looked at the people and shook his head. "If we should buy two hundred pennyworth of bread," he answered, "there would not be enough for each one to have a small piece."

There were five thousand men in this great crowd besides all the women and children. They had left home without thought of food. They did not know they would walk so far to find Jesus. One boy, however, had a lunch basket with five little loaves of barley bread and two small fishes in it that his thoughtful mother had packed for him.

When the boy heard Jesus and the disciples talking about what to do, he went up to Andrew. Showing him his lunch basket, he offered to give the food to Jesus. Andrew told Jesus.

"How many loaves are there in the basket?" Jesus asked.

"Only five and two small fishes," Andrew said. "But what will that be among so many people?"

"Bring it to me," Jesus replied. He then told the disciples, "Make the people sit down in groups of fifty and a hundred."

Jesus took the loaves and fishes, gave thanks, and broke the food into small pieces. He filled a basket for each disciple to pass among the hungry people.

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

Mr. Duncan was not anxious when there was no more money for food. He trusted God to provide food for himself and the cook. He went right on with his work knowing that if he trusted in the Lord and did good they would be fed as the scripture said. His example preached the truth more effectively than any spoken sermon could have!

—Sis. Nelda Sorrell

## MAKE Continued from first page

I quickly opened the throttle wide, and headed the motorcycle straight at the lioness. For a second she watched us; then suddenly turned around and ran down the road. I knew I had to keep after her, or she might turn on us- and maybe her mate was following. The lioness kept running down the road, almost like a galloping donkey, with us roaring behind her for all we were worth. Then she wheeled off into

the grass and disappeared. And we kept sailing right on, thankful for the Lord's deliverance.

"Deng," I said, when we finally stopped for a rest," this reminds me of the Bible verse, 'Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.'" Deng pulled his robe close around him and blinked his dark eyes. The next time the devil tempted him to sin, he would remember that verse.

—Sudan Witness

## God Can Make A Way

D I S C I P L E S E X B P R M  
H P T V B F M E V F A H R O O  
D E S S E L B L F S W C A R U  
Y F L E H Y E E K T D S Y K N  
R B I A V W X E Q F O G B P T  
G A A S T A T O X Y U V V S A  
N Y V U H S O J E S U S E W I  
U S D G L I N L T K F T O R N  
H P F L W W Z O K Q R T F L S  
V N M D L W B U M C V K I Y M

BASKETS BLESSED DISCIPLES FISH HUNGRY  
JESUSLEFTOVERS LOAVES MOUNTAIN PRAY  
TWELVE

## Answers:

1. Sheep. 2. A desert place. 3. Because they had nothing to eat. 4. Give the people something to eat. 5. Five loaves and two fishes. 6. He blessed the food. 7. Twelve. 8. Five thousand. 9. To pray.



### Anna's New Home

**A**nna held her hands over the open oven door. Her mother, who was mending Anna's dress, sat with her back against the side of the stove. It was the only bit of heat in the basement apartment. The snowstorm that had buried East St. Louis made staying warm even more difficult. Anna's blue eyes clouded. "Why is Dad so mean?" she asked.

"He doesn't have Jesus in his heart, that's why," her mother answered.

"Oh, how I wish he would go to church so Jesus could change him," Anna sighed.

"I do too, my dear, but until that day, we will go alone." "Can't you walk any faster?" Anna said to her mother as they were going home from church. "We used to walk home in ten minutes, now it takes half an hour."

"I know, I know. But I just have to stop and rest," her Mother said very weakly. "I'd never make it if I didn't."

Anna's mother grew weaker and weaker. Finally the day came when she could not walk to church. "You'll have to go alone," she told Anna.

Anna did go alone, but when she got back, her angry father said, "You may not go to church again unless your mother goes."

Anna's mother died soon after this. The funeral was held on the south side of the town. Bro. Trotter, the pastor, comforted Anna as best he could. Her Sunday school teacher sat beside her during the funeral and held her hand.

After the funeral, Anna was left a short way from her house to walk home alone. When she got to the apartment, her few clothes were in a sack outside the door. Her drunken father shouted, "You cannot live here any longer. I don't ever want to see you again."

Anna thought for a moment that something inside her was bursting. She knew her father was mean, but she never dreamed he would turn her out into the street. She had no idea where her kind Sunday school teacher lived nor the pastor.

"If only Mother were here. Mother, Mother, I can't get along without you," she cried softly as she picked up her clothes and started back toward the cemetery.

Her ragged coat sleeves were wet from rubbing the tears from her face by the time she found her mother's grave. She threw herself across the fresh mound of dirt that separated her from her mother. The loose dirt packed into the wet coat sleeves, but she didn't notice. "Oh, Mother, Mother, what will I do? Where will I go?" she cried. Anna remembered the teacher saying, "Always pray when you need help." Then she thought of a verse the teacher had taught her on the way home from school. "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee." At that instant she reached her dirty hand into her pocket. Her fingers touched a piece of paper. Pulling it out, she read, "If you ever need help, please come to this address."

# OUR MANSION



## 2 Corinthians 5:1

1) For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

## John 14:1-4; 11-15

- 1) Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.
- 2) In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- 3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.
- 4) And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.
- 11) Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.
- 12) Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
- 13) And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.
- 14) If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.
- 15) If ye love me, keep my commandments.

## Psalms 31:19

19) Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!

## 1 Corinthians 2:9

9) But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

## Hebrews 11:16

16) But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

## THE MESSAGE:

Jesus died to give us eternal life.  
He has prepared a wonderful  
home where we will always  
live with Him!

## QUESTIONS:

1. Who built our "house not made with hands"?
2. Where is our eternal home?
3. Let not your heart be \_\_\_\_\_.
4. What did Jesus say were in his Father's house?
5. Jesus said He went to prepare what for us?
6. How will we get to our new home?
7. What was prepared in the presence of his enemies?
8. What better country did they desire?
9. What has God prepared for them?

## MEMORY VERSE:

In my Father's house  
are many mansions  
... John 14:2



Jesus knew that in just a few days He would be arrested by His enemies and crucified. He warned the disciples that He would soon be taken away from them. Telling them before it happened it would help them understand that God was in control of all the events.

Jesus tried to explain that it was best for them that He should go back to His Father. Then the Father would send the Holy Spirit to comfort them and always be a personal Guide to each one of them.

"Don't let your hearts be troubled," He assured them. Then He shared the wonderful news that after He was crucified He would go back to His Father in order to prepare a place for them to live with Him eternally.

He wanted them to know it would be a very special place, beyond their ability to understand.

### **"In my Father's house are many mansions!"**

He told them. Not just an ordinary home—but a mansion! And the best part was that there they would be with Him forever and ever.

When God created man He intended for him to always live in the beautiful Garden of Eden. But when Adam and Eve listened to the devil and disobeyed God, sin entered their hearts. God had warned them that if they ate the forbidden fruit they would surely die. Though they lived physically for many years yet on that day they died spiritually. They could no longer talk to God face to face. Sin and guilt separated them from Him.

But, as John 3:16 tells us: "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." Jesus came

to earth knowing His mission was to teach men the will of God and then die as a sacrifice.

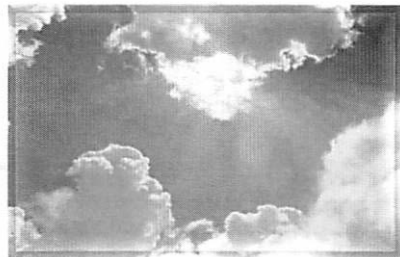
Everyone must die. After that we will face the judgment. Hebrews 9:27 says, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" We have no choice about that. But we do have a choice of where we will live eternally. Jesus wants us to always be with Him in heaven. He paid the full price for us to go there and live with Him in the mansion that He has prepared for us!

Everyone wants to go to heaven and it is God's desire that we all live there eternally. He sent Jesus to show us the way to obtain eternal life. But unless we follow Him we will never reach heaven.

Hell is horrible beyond description. It was prepared for the devil and his angels, not for men. Yet so many are refusing to follow Jesus to heaven so they can escape that awful place. When we make our choice, God must honor it, just as Adam and Eve chose to disobey and suffered the consequences. The devil intends to keep us from inheriting our mansion.

Anna's own father cruelly took away the only place she had to call home. God miraculously gave Anna an address where He had prepared someone to care for her. She had to follow the instructions to get there before she found the love and security He had prepared for her. We must follow His instructions if we hope to live at last in the beautiful mansion He has prepared for us.

--Sis. Nelda Sorrell



## Anna's New Home, Continued...

## OUR MANSION

"A place to go!" she shouted. The mile and one-half back seemed like nothing. East St. Louis was the only place where she knew she could find a policeman. She found one and gave him the note.

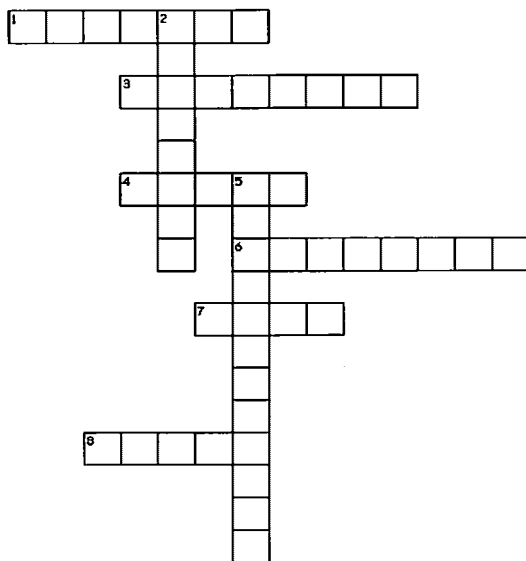
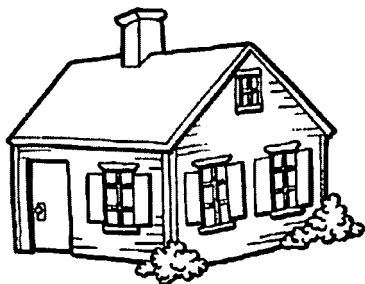
After a little investigation, he set out to help her find the address. It was almost dark by the time they found the house. Anna knocked at the door. A kind looking woman answered the door. "So you are the little girl the Lord has sent? Come right in. I have supper ready for you," she said.

After the policeman was gone, Anna asked, "When did you put that note in my pocket?"

"I did not write a note." "Then who did? It was in my pocket. How did you know I was coming?"

"My child, I know nothing about a note. This morning in prayer the Lord spoke to me saying that He was sending a little girl for me to raise. This is your home as long as you wish to stay." Anna was happy in her new home. She received love like her own mother's love and was provided for better than her father would have done.

--Written by Charlotte Huskey, as told by A. M. Trotter



### Across

1. "...they desire a better \_\_\_\_."
3. "How great is thy \_\_\_\_."
4. "I go to prepare a \_\_\_\_ for you..."
6. "In my Father's house are many \_\_\_\_."
7. "Whatever ye ask in my \_\_\_\_, that will I do."
8. "...we.. have a \_\_\_\_ not made with hands."

### Down

2. "Let not your heart be \_\_\_\_."
5. "If ye love me, keep my \_\_\_\_."

1. God. 2. In the heavens. 3. Troubled. 4. Many mansions. 5. A place for us. 6. He will come again to take us. 7. A table. 8. An heavenly. 9. A city.

## Answers:





### **The Tale of the Three Trees**

**O**nce upon a mountain top, three little trees stood and dreamed of what they wanted to become when they had grown big and strong. The first little tree looked up at the stars and said: "I want to hold treasure. I'll be the most beautiful treasure chest in the world!" The second little tree said: "I want to travel mighty waters and carry powerful kings. I'll be the strongest ship in the world!"

The third little tree looked down into the valley below where busy men and women worked in a busy town. It said, "I don't want to leave the mountain top at all. I want to grow so tall that when people stop to look at me they'll raise their eyes to heaven and think of God. I will be the tallest tree in the world!"

Years, passed and the little trees grew tall. One day three wood cutters climbed the mountain. The first wood cutter looked at the first tree and said, "This tree is beautiful. It is perfect for me." With a swoop of his shining ax, the first tree fell. "Now I shall become a beautiful chest. I shall hold wonderful treasure!" the first tree said. The second wood cutter looked at the second tree and said, "This tree is strong. It's perfect for me." With a swoop of his shining ax, the second tree fell. "Now I shall sail mighty waters!" thought the second tree. "I shall be a strong ship for mighty kings!" The third tree felt her heart sink when the last wood cutter looked her way. She stood straight and tall and pointed bravely to heaven. But the wood cutter never even looked up. "Any kind of tree will do for me," he muttered. With a swoop of his shining ax, the third tree fell.

The wood cutter brought the first tree to a carpenter's shop where it was fashioned into a feed box for animals. The once beautiful tree was not covered with gold nor filled with treasure. She was coated with saw dust and filled with hay for hungry farm animals!

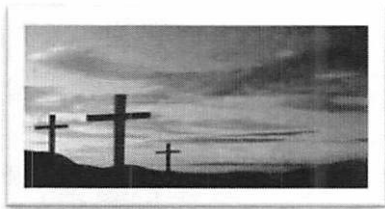
The second wood cutter took his tree to a shipyard. But instead of a mighty sailing ship the once strong tree was hammered and sawed into a simple fishing boat. She was too small and too weak to sail to an ocean, or even a river. Instead she was taken to a little lake.

The third tree was cut into strong beams and left in a lumberyard. "What happened?" the once tall tree wondered sadly. "All I ever wanted was to stay on the mountain top and point to God..."

The three trees nearly forgot their dreams. But one night, starlight poured over the first tree as a young woman placed her newborn baby in the feed box. "I wish I could make a cradle for him," her husband whispered. The mother smiled as the starlight shone on the smooth and sturdy wood. "This manger is beautiful," she said. And suddenly the first tree knew he was holding the greatest treasure in the world.

One evening a tired traveler and his friends crowded into the old fishing boat. The traveler fell asleep as the second tree quietly sailed out into the lake. Soon a thundering and a thrashing storm arose. The little tree shuddered.

# JESUS' DEATH



## Mark 15:15, 17-19

15) And so Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged him, to be crucified.  
17) And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his head,  
18) And began to salute him, Hail, King of the Jews!  
19) And they smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing their knees worshipped him.

## Luke 23:27, 33-34

27) And there followed him a great company of people, and of women, which also bewailed and lamented him.  
33) And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.  
34) Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

## Matthew 27:39, 41-42

39) And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads,  
41) Likewise also the chief priests mocking him, with the scribes and elders, said,  
42) He saved others; himself he cannot save. If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him.

## Matthew 27: 45, 50-52, 54

45) Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

50) Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost.

51) And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;

52) And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose,

54) Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.

## THE MESSAGE:

**God showed by many miraculous signs that Jesus was truly His Son!**

## QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Pilate release Barabbas?
2. At what place did they crucify Jesus?
3. What did Jesus say while He was on the cross?
4. What did the mockers say to Jesus while He was on the cross?
5. What happened after the 6<sup>th</sup> hour?
6. After Jesus died, what was torn in two?
7. And the \_\_\_\_\_ did quake and the \_\_\_\_\_ rent.
8. What were opened and who arose?
9. What did the centurion and those with him say about Jesus?

## MEMORY VERSE:

**... Truly this was the  
Son of God.  
Matthew 27:54**



God loved His only Son, Jesus, deeply—much more than the best earthly father could love his son. How then could such a Father Who has all power allow weak and puny men to spit in His Son's face, to mock Him, to beat Him and finally put Him to death in the most cruel way?

And why would Jesus allow men to cause Him such shame, agony and even death? When Peter tried to protect Jesus and attacked His enemies, Jesus told him to put up his sword. He told him, "Don't you know that I can now pray to my Father and He will immediately give Me more than twelve legions (72,000) of angels to defend Me?" (Matthew 26:53) Jesus certainly was not defenseless! Yet He allowed His tormentors to shame and abuse Him. Why?

**It was because of love.** Love caused God to willingly offer His only Son. Love caused Jesus to suffer and die that you and I could be saved and someday live forever with them in heaven! John 3:16 explains: "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."

God created man in His own image so He could be near him. He longed to talk to him as He did with Adam and Eve in the beautiful garden. His plan was for man to enjoy a wonderful life and to always love Him in return.

But all that was changed when Adam and Eve sinned. They disobeyed God and ate the fruit that God told them they should not touch. This sin unleashed the forces of evil in their hearts and lives. They lost God's presence and protection when they believed God was deeply grieved. But He still loved

man. Immediately He planned a way that men could be rescued from the devil's grip. One day He would send a Savior to break the power of the devil and give men power over sin and evil.

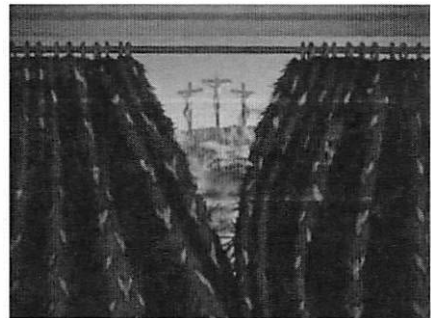
This would require a great sacrifice. Not just any sacrifice would do. The lambs sacrificed under the law had to be perfect, without blemish of any kind. These lambs were the type of the only sacrifice that would bring man back to a state where he could once more be acceptable in God's sight. Jesus, God's only Son, was the only one who was worthy to be this sacrifice.

As Jesus hung on the cross, the sky suddenly became dark even though it was noon, when the sun is normally at its brightest. It was as if all nature was in mourning. For three hours the sun was darkened while Jesus suffered in agony.

No doubt all heaven was standing at attention as Jesus fulfilled the plan of our salvation and died on the cross. When Jesus said, "It is finished!" the great veil of the temple was torn from top to the bottom. An earthquake shook the ground, rocks were broken in pieces and the graves of saints were opened!

The soldiers watched all this in great fear. The centurion was convinced. "Truly this was the Son of God!" he declared.

--Sis. Nelda Sorrell



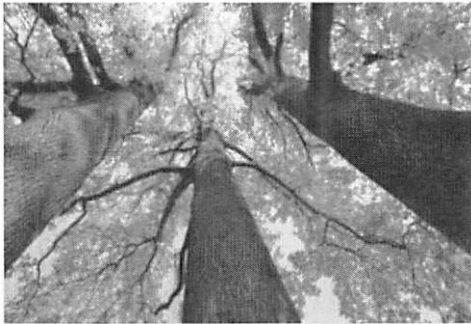
## The Tale of the Three Trees, Continued...

She knew she did not have the strength to carry so many passengers safely through the wind and the rain. The tired man awoke. He stood up, stretched out his hand, and said, "Peace." The storm stopped as quickly as it had begun. And suddenly the second tree knew he was carrying the king of heaven and earth.

One Friday morning, the third tree was startled when her beams were yanked from the wood pile and carried through an angry jeering crowd. She shuddered when soldiers nailed a man's hand to her.

She felt ugly and harsh and cruel. But on Sunday morning, when the sun rose, the third tree knew that God's love had changed everything. It had made the third tree strong. And every time people thought of the third tree, they would think of God. That was better than being the tallest tree in the world!

--Selected



## JESUS' DEATH WORD SEARCH

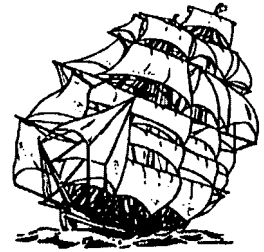
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S	A	S	D	I	K	R	D	A	V
S	S	O	L	D	I	E	R	S	E

BARABBAS	DARKNESS	SOLDIERS VEIL
EARTHQUAKE	SPIT	CRUCIFY
PILATE	THORNS	

## Answers:

1. To please the people. 2. Calvary. 3. "Father forgive them; for they know not what they do." 4. "Come down and we will believe." 5. Darkness was over all the land. 6. The veil of the temple. 7. Earth, rocks. 8. Graves, saints. 9. Truly this was the Son of God."

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## Bible Lessons for Juniors

April 20, 2014

### He Is Risen

**B**ishop Thoburn was once asked by an unbeliever, "Surely you do not accept the theory that a Jewish teacher, dead for nearly two thousand years, is alive today?" The bishop quietly but confidently replied, "I know He is, for I have been talking with Him this morning." To him the most convincing proof of the resurrection was daily communion with the living Savior. Jay S. Stowell tells of a man who was "window shopping" in a large city at Easter time. Through the plate glass of a department store window he was looking at a large painting of the crucifixion of Jesus. Suddenly he was aware of a street boy standing at his side. "That's Jesus," remarked the boy.

The man made no reply, but the boy volunteered further information, pointing to certain figures in the painting. "Them's Roman soldiers."

After a moment he added, "They killed Him." Surprised at the boy's enthusiasm, the man asked, "Where did you learn that?" "In the little mission Sunday School around the corner," was the reply. The man turned and walked thoughtfully down the street, but he had not gone far when he heard the boy calling after him.

"Say, Mister." He came to a stop and waited until the youngster caught up. "Say, Mister," said the boy, "I wanted to tell you that He rose again."

That part of the story, which the boy had nearly forgotten, is the message that has been coming down to us through the ages. It is the message of the triumph of life over death. "He is risen; He is not here."

—Selected

### Marie Learns About Easter

**A**nne came rushing in from school with pigtailed flying, and her sweet little face all smeared up with dirt and tears.

"Mamma!" she cried.

"Whatever is the matter?" asked her mother, drying her hands on her apron.

"It's Marie!" Anne wailed. "She's going to have a new dress and new socks and new shoes and new everything!"

"Why, Anne," Mother said, "I think that's fine. Aren't you glad Marie is going to have nice things?"

"Yes, but -Yes, but-"

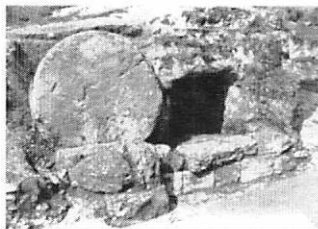
Mother found a hanky to wipe the tears away. "She's going to have them all to wear on Easter. And I won't have any! And she laughed at me. And-and she said that's what Easter is for! And -and-"

"Poor Anne!" Mother said. "Marie has got you all mixed up, hasn't she?"

"She's mean!" wailed Anne.

"No," Mother said, "I don't think she's really mean. She's just got Easter backwards. Sometimes we have new clothes for Easter, but Easter is not especially for wearing new clothes." Anne dried her tears and washed her dirty face. "I tell you what," Mother suggested. "You ask Marie to come to supper tomorrow. Then we'll get Daddy to read about the Easter story for our devotion."

# FROM DEATH TO LIFE



## Mark 16:1-14

- 1) And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.
- 2) And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.
- 3) And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?
- 4) And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.
- 5) And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.
- 6) And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.
- 7) But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.
- 8) And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid.
- 9) Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.
- 10) And she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept.

- 11) And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not.
- 12) After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.
- 13) And they went and told it unto the residue: neither believed they them.
- 14) Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

## THE MESSAGE:

Because Jesus died for our sins and rose again, we can also experience a resurrection from our old life of sin into a victorious life of power and purity.

## QUESTIONS:

1. What time of day did the women come to the sepulchre?
2. What covered the door of the sepulchre?
3. What did they see when inside the sepulchre?
4. Where did he say they would see Jesus?
5. Why did the women run from the sepulchre?
6. Who did Jesus appear to first?
7. What had Jesus done for Mary?
8. To whom did Jesus appear next?
9. Last of all He appeared to whom?

## MEMORY VERSE:

And they shall scourge him, and put him to death: and the third day he shall rise again.  
Luke 18:33



\*\*\*\*\*

## **"BUT HE ROSE AGAIN"**

I was going down a street in Chicago, when in a window I saw a very beautiful picture of the crucifixion. As I gazed spellbound at the vividly pictured story, I suddenly became conscious that at my side stood a street urchin. He, too, was gazing, and his tense expression made me know that "The Crucifixion" had really gripped his little soul.

Touching him on the shoulder, I said, "Sonny, what does it mean?"

"Doncha know?" he asked, his face full of marvel at my ignorance. "That there man is Jesus, and them others is Roman soldiers, and the woman that's cryin' is His mother, and," he added. "They killed Him."

I was loath to leave that window, but I could not tarry always at the world's tragedy, so I turned and walked quietly down the street. In a moment I heard pattering footsteps at my heels, and there stood my little street urchin. "Say, mister," he breathlessly announced. "I fergot to tell yer, *He rose again!*"

--Selected

\*\*\*\*\*

Jesus promised, "Because I live, ye shall live also." (John 14:19) If we have given our hearts to Him and He lives within we, too, will be resurrected by the same divine power. We will have our 'Easter morning' and go to be with Jesus forever!

1 Corinthians 6:14 says, "And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power."

Of us, too, it shall be said, "He is not here!" This is our faith; this is the great hope of Easter morning.

--Nelda Sorrell

Today is Easter, the day on which Christians commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We celebrate the birth of our Savior at Christmas. This was a most wonderful event.

## **Christ's resurrection was an even greater event.**

God showed His exceedingly great love and power when He raised Jesus from the dead after He had lain in the tomb three days.

Jesus told His disciples that He would be crucified, adding that after three days He would rise again. They could not bear the thought of their Master being taken away from them so they pushed His words from their minds; forgetting that He had added, "After three days I will rise again."

After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples and followers numerous times and in miraculous ways. He gave them positive proof that He had indeed risen from the dead and was alive.

Mary Magdalene was the first to see Jesus after He arose from the grave. She hurried to tell the others but they did not believe her words. Next Jesus came up to two disciples as they walked into the country. They too rushed to tell the others the good news. They had seen the Lord! But they did not believe them either.

Finally Jesus appeared to the eleven apostles as they were eating. He scolded them because they did not believe the others when they told them they had seen Jesus. Finally they realized that Jesus was indeed alive!

Mary Magdalene was the first to see Jesus after He arose from the grave. She hurried to tell the others but they did not believe her words. Next Jesus came up to two disciples as they walked into the country. They too rushed to tell the others the good news. They had seen the Lord! But they did not believe them either.

## Marie Learns About Easter, Continued...

The next day everybody was seated around the supper table with bright faces and clean hands. Daddy put on glasses and cleared his throat. He opened the big Bible carefully and started to read about Easter.

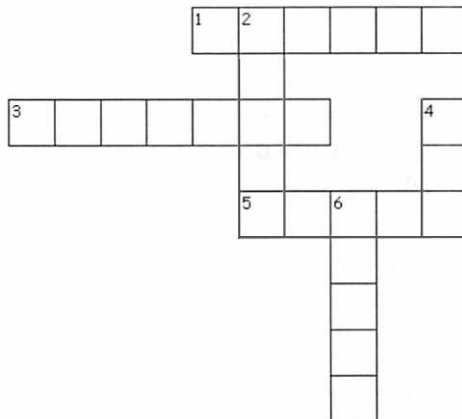
Anne smiled at Mother and sat very quietly to listen. She loved stories.

When he had finished reading, Daddy closed the Bible and began to pray. "Dear Father in heaven, look down on us tonight, and bless our little family and our little friend. Thank you for this food You have given us. Thank you, too, for Jesus who died in our place. Help us to love Him as much as we should and to keep His Easter with all our hearts. Amen."

--Selected



## FROM DEATH TO LIFE CROSS WORD PUZZLE



### Across

1. Three women brought \_\_\_\_ to anoint Jesus.
3. It was the \_\_\_\_ day.
5. Jesus had \_\_\_\_ on the first day of the week.

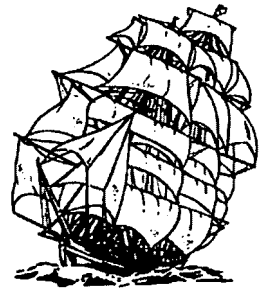
### Down

2. "Go.. tell the disciples and \_\_\_\_."
4. They saw a young \_\_\_\_ in a white garment.
6. They saw the \_\_\_\_ was rolled away.

## Answers:

1. Very early in the morning. 2. A great stone. 3. A young man clothed in white. 4. In Galilee. 5. They were afraid. 6. Mary Magdalene. 7. Cast seven devils out of her. 8. Two of them as they walked. 9. The eleven.





## Bible Lessons for Juniors

April 27, 2014

### Thanksgiving for Bibles

**O**n the edge of the forest in Hanover, Germany, many years ago there lived two God-fearing farmers, named Drewes and Hinz. Grandpa Hinz was nearly 80 years old.

A terrible war was raging in Germany, causing much grief and sorrow. However, the Christians persevered in faith, enduring the trial because they loved the Lord. In the evening, they would gather as father read a portion of Scripture. Father sat in a large upholstered chair which had a secret compartment underneath the seat. It was the hiding place of the large family Bible.

One evening as father Drewes read to the family, there was suddenly a knock at the door. It was Grandpa Hinz. He exclaimed excitedly, "Quick, neighbor! Loose the cattle and let us flee. The troops are on the way!"

All rose up in fear. Quickly a few clothes and some food were gathered together and then everyone hastened toward the nearby forest.

Grandpa Hinz brought up the rear, and as soon as all had disappeared into the woods, he climbed a tree to watch. Soon a heavy column of smoke showed that all their buildings were in flames. When the soldiers had left, Grandpa Hinz came down from the tree and they all bowed on their knees and thanked God for sparing their lives and their cattle. They were setting about to erect a shelter when Mr. Drewes tearfully remarked, "Dear ones, where is our treasure, the Bible? In our haste we thought only of food and clothing. Perhaps it went up in the flames."

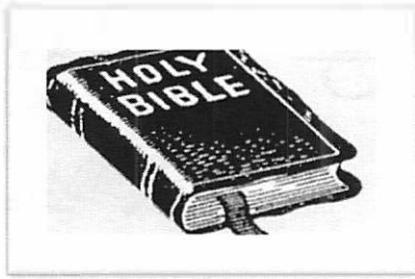
Everyone felt the great loss of their precious Book. Then Grandpa Hinz broke the silence saying, "Be comforted, even though our precious Book is gone. Our Lord and Savior abides the same; we have Him in our hearts, and have His Word in our memories. Each morning and evening I will recite you a chapter until the Lord be pleased to give us a Bible. We shall begin at once."

Without waiting for an answer he began in a clear voice, "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want," and quoted the twenty-third chapter of Psalms." As he finished, all seemed to be conscious of an inward peace and joy, and in a short time all were sound asleep amid the aroma of the evergreens.

The next morning after a simple breakfast, Grandpa Hinz recited another Psalm and a chapter from the New Testament. After this, it was decided that a few men would go and check the remains of their homes.

The men carefully approached the charred walls and smoldering ruins. All was deathly still but as they drew nearer they heard groans. They came upon two wounded soldiers and, lo and behold, they were sitting in their beloved upholstered chair! The enemy had left these wounded ones behind. The poor soldiers expected nothing but death as a revenge. Instead they were treated with utmost kindness.

## THE WORD OF GOD



### **Psalms 119:89**

89) Forever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven.

### **Isaiah 40:8**

8) The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

### **Matthew 5:18**

18) For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

### **Matthew 24:35**

35) Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

### **1 Peter 1:25**

25) But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

### **Jeremiah 15:16**

16) Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

### **1 Peter 2:2**

2) As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word that ye may grow thereby:

### **2 Timothy 3:16, 17**

16) All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17) That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

### **Colossians 3:16**

16) Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

## THE MESSAGE:

The Word of God is the only safe foundation to build our life on. It will never change or pass away.

## QUESTIONS:

1. How long is God's word settled in heaven?
2. The grass withers and flowers fade but what will stand forever?
3. What did Jeremiah do when he found God's words?
4. How is all scripture given?
5. It is profitable for \_\_\_\_, for \_\_\_\_, for \_\_\_\_, for instruction in \_\_\_\_.
6. Let the \_\_\_\_ of Christ dwell in you richly.
7. Admonish one another in \_\_\_\_ and spiritual \_\_\_\_.

## MEMORY VERSE:

Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.  
Matthew 24:35



Our Bible is the Word of God. It is the most valuable book because God talks to us through the Bible. There is great power in its words. By reading it, we learn about God, His great power, love and will. Those who obey its commands are changed into God's own likeness.

John Paton worked among the cannibals, teaching them about the true God. His work was very dangerous and for a long time it seemed that no one would receive the good news he brought.

One day, while he was serving as missionary on the island of Aniwa, he needed some tools from his hut. He wrote a note on a piece of wood and handed it to a chief named Namakei, asking him to take the piece of wood to Mrs. Paton.

"But what do you want?" the old chief asked.

"The wood will tell her," Paton replied.

Namakei thought this was some strange sort of joke but he did as Paton asked. He was amazed when Mrs. Paton sent just what her husband wanted. The missionary took advantage of this opportunity to tell him about the Bible, through which he could hear God "speak" to him. The old chief seemed to understand.

This made Namakei wish to have the Word of God printed in his own language. He did everything he could to help Paton with the translation and was a great help. Meanwhile, he saw that he needed to learn to read. When the first section of the Bible was finally printed, he asked eagerly, "Missi, can it speak? Does it speak my language?"

"Yes, it does."

"O Missi, make it speak to me!"

Paton read a few verses to him and the chief exclaimed joyfully, "It does speak! It speaks my own words! Please give it to me." After pressing it to his heart, he handed it back disappointedly saying, "Missi, it will not speak to me!"

Paton explained that he must first learn to read, and then he could make the book speak. Noticing that the chief's sight was poor, he found a pair of glasses to fit him and Namakei cried with glee, "I have gotten back the sight I had when I was a boy. O Missi, make the book speak to me now!"

Namakei studied hard. As soon as he could read, he would say to the people, "Come and I will let you hear how God's book speaks our own Aniwan words. Listen to these beautiful words, telling why the Missi came to live among us wretched people and of his friend Jesus who always goes with him, to make him strong in all his work."

Somewhat haltingly he read the words: "Go and make disciples of all nations.

## **Lo, I am with you alway."**

Little by little the savages learned that the missionary was not alone. They could see by his life that God was working through John Paton. Now God's precious promise could be read in their own language!

Paton wrote, "Among the heathens every true convert becomes at once a missionary. The changed life, shining out amid the surrounding darkness, is a gospel in largest capitals which all can read."

It is hard to imagine a time when Bibles were not available. Now anyone who wants a Bible can find a way to get one. If they have no money there are many places to get one for free. How thankful we should be for the privilege of reading God's Word at any time. Many have died so we might have this opportunity. Do you value your Bible? Do you read it often?

--Nelda Sorrell



## Thanksgiving for Bibles, Continued...

They were amazed to be cared for as friends rather than enemies.

When the secret compartment in the chair was opened, the beloved Bibles were found to be undamaged. What joy, rejoicing, and thanksgiving there was!

They decided to move the wounded men to a nearby farm, but they pleaded to be allowed to remain with their benefactors as they had not long to live. Grandpa Hinz took a special interest in them and made them aware of their soul's need of salvation. He showed them the way of salvation and soon they were rejoicing in the knowledge that their sins were forgiven. They were "brands plucked from the burning." Once they had been as "brute beasts," now they were washed clean in the most precious blood of Christ. There was great joy in that forest.

As the dying soldiers saw their end approaching, for the last time they expressed their gratitude, above all for having been led to the Savior. Then they gave instructions as to how their uniforms were to be opened after their death. After the funeral, according to their directions, several gold pieces were found in their tunics—sufficient to rebuild the homes which were destroyed.

--Selected

## THE WORD OF GOD WORD SEARCH

W	E	F	W	H	S	N	E	K	F
O	O	W	I	E	E	O	L	Y	O
R	G	L	T	A	T	I	T	F	O
D	I	K	H	V	T	T	T	O	R
L	F	C	E	E	L	C	I	R	P
E	F	Y	R	N	E	E	T	E	E
F	D	T	E	K	D	R	S	V	R
F	A	M	T	G	P	R	F	E	X
X	Z	C	H	F	L	O	G	R	Z
Y	P	C	K	Z	W	C	J	V	M

CORRECTION  
FOREVER  
HEAVEN

REPROOF  
SETTLED  
TITTLE

WITHERETH  
WORD

## Answers:

1. Forever. 2. The word of God. 3. He ate them. 4. By inspiration of God. 5. Doctrine, Reproof, Correction, Righteousness. 6. Word. 7. Hymns/songs.

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## Bible Lessons for Juniors

May 4, 2014

### God Knows Where You Are

**D**o you believe that God not only loves you, but knows where you are and what you're doing every minute of the day? I certainly do after an amazing experience I had several years ago.

I was driving near Dayton, Ohio with my wife and children. We turned off the highway for a rest and refreshment stop. My wife, Barbara, and children went into the restaurant. I suddenly felt the need to stretch my legs, so waved them off saying I'd join them later.

Suddenly the impatient ringing of a telephone nearby jarred me out of my doldrums. It was coming from a phone booth at a service station on the corner. Wasn't anyone going to answer the phone?

Noise from the traffic flowing through the busy intersection must have drowned out the sound because the service station attendant continued looking after his customers, oblivious to the ringing.

"Why doesn't somebody answer that phone?" I muttered.

I began reasoning. "It may be important. What if it's an emergency?" Curiosity overcame my indifference. I stepped inside the booth and picked up the phone.

"Hello," I said casually.

The operator said, "Long distance call for Ken Gaub." My eyes widened, and I said, "You're crazy!" Then I added, "This can't be! I was walking down the road, and the phone was ringing..."

"Is Ken Gaub there?" the operator interrupted. "I have a long distance call for him."

It took a moment to gain control but I finally replied, "Yes, he is here. I was walking down the road, the pay phone started ringing, and I just answered it on chance. You can't mean me."

"Well," the operator asked. "Is Mr. Gaub there or isn't he?" "Yes, I am Ken Gaub," I said, finally convinced that the call was real.

Then I heard another voice say, "Yes, that's him, operator. That's Ken Gaub." I listened dumbfounded to a strange voice identify herself. "I'm Millie from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. You don't know me, Mr. Gaub, but I'm desperate. Please help me." "What can I do for you?"

She began weeping. Finally she regained control and continued. "I was about to commit suicide, had just finished writing a note, when I began to pray and tell God I really didn't want to do this. Then I suddenly thought if I could just talk to you, you could help me. I knew that was impossible because I didn't know how to reach you. Then some numbers came to my mind, and I scribbled them down."

At this point she began weeping again, and I prayed silently for wisdom to help her.

She continued, "I looked at the numbers and thought, 'Wouldn't it be wonderful if I had a miracle from God, and He has given me Ken's phone number?' I decided to try calling it. I can't believe I'm talking to you. Are you in your office in California?"

I replied, "Lady, I don't have an office in

# GOD SEES EVERYONE



## Gen 3:8-10

- 8) And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.
- 9) And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where *art* thou?
- 10) And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I *was* naked; and I hid myself.

## 1Ki 19:1-4

- 1) And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword.
- 2) Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do *to me*, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time.
- 3) And when he saw *that*, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba ... and left his servant there.
- 4) But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness ...

## 1Ki 19:9-10

- 9) And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD ... said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?
- 10) And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have ... slain thy prophets ... I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

## 1Ki 19:9-10

- 9) And he came thither unto a cave, and lodged there; and, behold, the word of the LORD ... said unto him, What doest thou here, Elijah?

- 10) And he said, I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have ... slain thy prophets ... I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.

## 1Ki 19:15-19

- 15) And the LORD said unto him, Go, return ... and ... anoint Hazael to be king over Syria:
- 16) And Jehu ... shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha ... shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room.
- 17) And it shall come to pass, *that* him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay.
- 18) Yet I have left *me* seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal ...
- 19) So he departed thence, and found Elisha ... and cast his mantle upon him.

## THE MESSAGE:

God's eye is upon us a t a l l times.  
We can never hide from Him!

## QUESTIONS:

1. What did Adam try to do?
2. Why was Adam afraid?
3. What did Jezebel want to do to Elijah?
4. Where did Elijah hide?
5. Who found Elijah in the cave?
6. What did God tell Elijah to do?
7. Who was to be king in place of Ahab?
8. How many other men loved God and had not bowed to Baal?

## MEMORY VERSE:

Can any hide himself in  
secret places that I shall not  
see him? saith the LORD. Do not  
I fill heaven and earth?  
saith the LORD. Jeremiah 23:24



Adam and Eve were afraid to meet God because they had eaten the fruit that God had forbidden them to eat. Foolishly they decided to hide so they would not have to face God. But they could not hide. God knew exactly where they were!

God used Elijah to work a mighty miracle before King Ahab and all the people of Israel to prove He was the true God. The prophets of Baal worked themselves into a frenzy calling on their god to send fire from heaven to prove he was indeed a god. They shouted and even cut themselves until the blood gushed out. But no fire fell.

Then, at the time appointed for the evening sacrifice Elijah took twelve stones and built an altar to God. He even poured barrels of water over the sacrifice. He then prayed that God would send fire from heaven to consume the sacrifice. When fire from heaven came and burned not only the sacrifice but also the stones and licked up all the water, the people declared,

## **“The Lord He is God!”**

At Elijah's command, all the prophets of Baal were destroyed. Ahab's wife, Jezebel, worshipped Baal. When she heard that all her prophets were dead, she was so angry she told Elijah that he also would be dead by that time the next day.

Elijah was so frightened he ran all the way to Beersheba. Then just to make sure no one could track him, he left his servant at Beersheba and walked on another day into the wilderness. While he was there in hiding, an angel brought him food. Then he traveled forty more days on the strength of that food. Surely he was far from danger now! No one could find him. But God knew right where he was!

One day, Elijah was standing in front of the cave where he was hiding, when God spoke to him. “What are you doing here?” God asked. No doubt, God reproved Elijah for being afraid. Hadn't God worked a miracle when he sent fire that burned the sacrifice and lapped up the twelve barrels of water? He could easily protect him from Jezebel!

Elijah thought he was the only true prophet of God still living. But God told him He had seven thousand prophets in Israel who had not bowed to Baal.

God then gave Elijah work to do. He was to anoint Hazael to be king over Syria and Jehu to be king over Israel in place of Ahab. Last of all, he was to anoint Elisha to be a prophet in his place. Elijah took courage and did as God commanded him.

In Jesus' last words, He promised to always be with us. David Livingstone, John Paton and other missionaries relied on this promise and proved that Jesus was always with them, protecting and giving them strength and courage. Once Paton was surrounded by savages who intended to kill him. The Lord delivered him and later he wrote, “During the crisis I felt calm and firm of soul, standing erect and with my whole weight on the promise, 'Lo, I am with you alway.'” (Matthew 28:20)

--Nelda Sorrell



## God Knows Where You Are, Continued...

## GOD SEES EVERYONE CROSS WORD PUZZLE

California. My office is in Yakima, Washington."

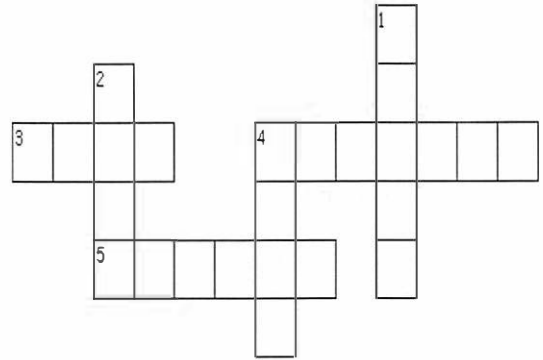
A little surprised, she asked, "Oh really, then where are you?" "Don't you know?" I responded. "You made the call." She explained, "But I don't even know what area I'm calling. I just dialed the number that I had on this paper." "Ma'am, you won't believe this, but I'm in a phone booth in Dayton, Ohio!" "Really?" she exclaimed. "Well, what are you doing there?" I kidded her gently, "Well, I'm answering the phone. It was ringing as I walked by, so I answered it." Knowing this encounter could only have been arranged by God, I began to counsel the woman.

As she told me of her despair and frustration, the presence of the Holy Spirit flooded the phone booth giving me words of Wisdom beyond my ability.

In a matter of moments, she prayed the sinner's prayer and met the One who would lead her out of her situation into a new life. I walked away from that telephone booth with an electrifying sense of our Heavenly Father's concern for each of His children.

What were the astronomical odds of this happening? With all the millions of phones and innumerable combinations of numbers, only an all-knowing God could have caused that woman to call that number in that phone booth at that moment in time.

--Selected



### Across

3. \_\_\_\_\_ and his wife hid from God.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ threatened to kill Elijah.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ was to be the next prophet.

### Down

1. God asked, "\_\_\_\_ art thou?"
2. Elijah hid in a \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Elijah anointed \_\_\_\_\_ as the next king.

## Answers:

1. Hide from God. 2. He knew he had sinned. 3. Kill him. 4. In a cave. 5. God. 6. To anoint Hazael king of Syria, Jehu king of Israel and Elisha to be a prophet. 7. Jehu. 8. Seven thousand.





### **A Mother's Faith**

**I**n one of the houses of a village in inland China, a baby boy of two years lay sick and dying in a small, hot room. His eyes were half open; his lips almost black; the little head, tossing restlessly, was hot and throbbing; the whole body limp. For three days, he had been utterly unconscious of his surroundings.

The father and mother had watched with breaking hearts as the little life flickered out. Three other children had been taken from them; this was the only one left. The native doctor had given him some vile concoction, which had only made him worse. He had muttered incantations over him and had even heated the cruel iron to place on the tender flesh to burn out the evil spirit. The mother had cried out in protest at this last, so the baby was spared that horror.

She and the father sat beside the little one, dry-eyed and mute with grief. Suddenly a neighbor rushed in crying, "The 'Jesus Man' is here and is coming to see you now." For the first time in days the light of hope flashed in that mother's face. "Perhaps the 'Jesus Man' can cure our baby!" Just then, the sound of many voices reached her ear, and the next moment the 'Jesus Man,' accompanied by a crowd of people, entered the room. Gently he spoke to the sorrowing parents. "Oh, 'Jesus Man,' you can make our baby well," cried the little mother, clasping her hands in anguish.

"If we only had some ice to apply we might save him," said the missionary, half to himself. But they were three days' journey from the city, the only

place where ice could be obtained. The baby would be dead before they could make the trip there and return.

"But when you were here before, you said your God could do anything," said the mother.

"Yes," answered the missionary, "I did say that." He was doing what he could to help the suffering child.

"Then He can send us ice," she insisted. "Ask Him for it, O 'Jesus Man' and He will send it quick, and my baby will live."

The missionary was startled; indeed, he was utterly dumbfounded! How could he pray for ice when it seemed impossible to expect an answer? Almost in a daze, he joined the parents on their knees. He opened his lips to pray. The words came haltingly at first, for what would these trusting ones say when no answer came? And *how could an answer possibly come?*

Nevertheless, he prayed. As he proceeded a strange feeling of exultation entered his soul. He forgot everything, except that he was pleading with his Heavenly Father—not only for the life of the little child, but that the on-looking Chinese who knew not the true God might see the faith of the parents honored. As they rose from their knees there was an inexpressible look of peace on the face of the mother. Fifteen minutes elapsed, and suddenly it grew dark! Increasingly so, until it seemed like night!

# A MOTHER'S PRAYER



## I Samuel 1:11, 20, 24, 26-28

11) And she (Hannah) vowed a vow, and said, O LORD of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and . . . wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life . .

20) Wherefore it came to pass, when the time was come . . . that she bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, Because I have asked him of the LORD . . .

24) And when she had weaned him, she took him . . . unto the house of the LORD in Shiloh: and the child was young.

26) And she said, Oh my lord, as thy soul liveth, my lord, I am the woman that stood by thee here, praying unto the LORD.

27) For this child I prayed; and the LORD hath given me my petition which I asked of him:

28) Therefore also I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the LORD. And he worshipped the LORD there.

## I Samuel 2:1, 11, 18-21

1) And Hannah prayed, and said, My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.

11) And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. . .

18) But Samuel ministered before the LORD, being a child, girded with a linen ephod.

19) Moreover his mother made him a little coat, and brought it to him from year to year, when she came up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice.

20) And Eli blessed Elkanah and his wife, and said, The LORD give thee seed of this woman for the loan which is lent to the LORD. And they went unto their own home.

21) And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she . . . bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD.

## THE MESSAGE:

**Hannah's longing for a son was not a selfish desire. She asked this gift from the Lord so that she could offer him back to God.**

## QUESTIONS:

1. What did Hannah pray for?
2. What did she vow if God answered her prayer?
3. What did she name her son?
4. Where did she take him after he was weaned?
5. For how long did she lend him to the Lord?
6. What did Samuel's mother make him every year?
7. Who blessed Hannah and her husband, Elkanah?
8. How many more children did Hanna have?

## MEMORY VERSE:

**Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the LORD, she shall be praised. Prov. 31:30**



Hannah wanted a son more than anything else. One year when she and Elkanah, her husband, went to Shiloh to offer sacrifices and worship God, Hannah was so grieved she couldn't even eat. As soon as she could, she slipped away and went to the temple to pray. She promised God that if He gave her a son she would bring him back to the temple to serve Him all of his life.

The old priest, Eli, saw Hannah praying. He told her that she could go in peace because God would grant her request. Hannah believed his words and was no longer sad. After Samuel was born, Elkanah still went to Shiloh every year but Hannah stayed home with her young son. During those short years, Hannah instilled a deep love for God in Samuel's heart. She taught him strict obedience. She wanted him to be his very best for God.

It must have been very difficult for Hannah when the time came to keep her promise. Hannah knew that she was giving up her young son for life—he wouldn't be coming back home with her. When they got to Shiloh, Elkanah and Hannah brought an offering to Eli the priest along with Samuel. "This is the child I prayed for," Hannah explained. "The Lord gave him to me in answer to my prayer. Now I am giving him back to God. As long as he lives he will belong to God for His service." Hannah thought of Samuel often. She anxiously waited for the time to come when they would return to Shiloh and see him. Each year she took a little coat that she had sewn for him.

The Bible tells us that God used Samuel mightily. He had a great influence on the nation of Israel for good. Eli was old and his

sons were wicked, so God could not speak through them to guide His people. But God spoke to Samuel even though he was still very young. Eli and all the people recognized that God had chosen Samuel to be His special prophet. All Israel was greatly benefited because Hannah was willing to give her son to God.

--Nelda Sorrell

## In His Mother's Footsteps

It was a busy day in our home. But then, with 10 children and one on the way, every day was a bit hectic. On this particular day, however, I was having trouble doing even routine chores—all because of one little boy. Len, who was three at the time, was on my heels no matter where I went. Whenever I stopped to do something and turned back around, I would trip over him. Several times I patiently suggested fun activities to keep him occupied.

"Wouldn't you like to play on the swing set?" I asked again.

But he simply smiled an innocent smile and said, "Oh that's all right, Mommy. I'd rather be in here with you," then he continued to bounce happily along behind me.

After stepping on his toes for the fifth time, I began to lose my patience and insisted that he go outside and play with the other children. When I asked him why he was acting this way, he looked up at me with sweet green eyes and said, "Well Mommy, in Primary my teacher told me to walk in Jesus' footsteps. But I can't see Him, so I'm walking in yours."

I gathered Len in my arms and held him close. Tears of love and humility spilled over from the prayer that grew in my heart—a prayer of thanks for the simple, yet beautiful perspective of a three-year-old boy.

--Davida Dalton

## A Mother's Faith, Continued...

The superstitious Chinese cried upon their gods for deliverance from this terror which the 'Jesus Man' had brought upon them by his prayer.

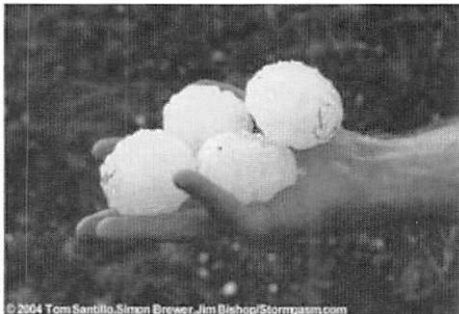
Then the storm broke in indescribable fury. It sounded as though thousands of pebbles were falling from the sky. The fear of the Chinese increased, but upon the missionary's face came a look of joy. He hurried from the house to find the street covered with hailstones!

The missionary rushed back into the house crying, "Give me a large dish! God has sent ice from the sky!"

They gathered up the ice; the missionary applied ice-packs. Gradually the fever left the little body; the restless tossing and moaning ceased. The child was restored to health!

Not for forty years had a hail-storm visited that part of China; it came just in time to honor the faith of that Chinese mother.

--Pilgrim Tract Society



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## HANNAH'S PRAYER WORD SEARCH

E	B	U	P	H	N	N	B	Y	X
P	M	S	E	A	R	O	Q	I	C
R	C	E	T	N	D	S	W	C	W
A	Q	L	I	A	I	G	O	O	H
Y	S	I	T	K	P	A	R	A	P
E	A	C	I	L	T	S	N	Y	P
D	M	P	O	E	H	N	W	I	W
P	U	G	N	I	A	O	W	O	I
H	E	E	P	H	W	Y	V	M	V
L	L	C	W	C	Y	X	Y	U	K

COAT	HANNAH	SAMUEL	WORSHIP
ELI	PETITION	SON	ELKANAH
PRAYED	VOW		

## Answers:

1. A son. 2. That she would give her son to the Lord. 3. Samuel.
4. To the house of the Lord at Shiloh. 5. For as long as he lived.
6. A little coat. 7. Eli. 8. Three more sons and two daughters.



## Bible Lessons for Juniors

May 18, 2014

### The Cracked Waterpot

**A** water bearer in India had two large pots, one hung on each end of a pole, which she carried across her neck.

One of the pots had a crack in it. While the other pot was perfect, and always delivered a full portion of water at the end of the long walk from the stream to the mistress's house, the cracked pot arrived only half full.

For two years this went on daily, with the bearer delivering only one and a half pots full of water to her master's house. The perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments, perfect to the end for which it was made. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its own imperfection and miserable that it was able to accomplish only half of what it had been made to do.

After two years of what it perceived to be a bitter failure, it spoke to the water bearer one day by the stream: "I am ashamed of myself, and I want to apologize to you."

"Why are you ashamed?" asked the water bearer. "I have been able, for these past two years, to deliver only half my load because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your mistress's house. Because of my flaws, you have to do all of this work, and you don't get full value from your efforts," the pot said. The water bearer felt sorry for the old cracked pot, and in her compassion she said, "As we return to the mistress's house, I want you to notice the beautiful flowers along the path."

Indeed, as they went up the hill, the old cracked pot took notice of the sun warming the beautiful wild

flowers on the side of the path, and this cheered it some.

But at the end of the trail, it still felt bad because it had leaked out half its load, and so again it apologized to the bearer for its failure.

The bearer said to the pot, "Did you notice that there were flowers only on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side?"

"That's because I have always known about your flaw, and I took advantage of it. I planted flower seeds on your side of the path, and every day while we walk back from the stream, you've watered them.

"For two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate my mistress's table. Without you being just the way you are, she would not have this beauty to grace her house." -Selected



# WHAT DID I DO TO DESERVE THIS?



## John 9:1-9, 18, 20-22, 35, 38

- 1) And as *Jesus* passed by, he saw a man which was blind from *his* birth.
- 2) And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?
- 3) Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.
- 4) I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.
- 5) As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.
- 6) When he had thus spoken, 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 his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.
- 8) The neighbors therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?
- 9) Some said, This is he: others *said*, He is like him: *but* he said, I am *he*.
- 18) But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight.
- 20) His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind:
- 21) But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself.

22) These *words* spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue.

35) Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God?

38) And he said, Lord, I believe. And he worshipped him.

## THE MESSAGE:

God's love for us and our usefulness  
to Him are not gauged by our  
physical condition.

## QUESTIONS:

1. How long had the man been blind?
2. What did the disciples ask?
3. What was the reason that the man was blind?
4. What did Jesus do after He spat on the ground?
5. What did Jesus tell the man to do?
6. What happened after he obeyed?
7. Who did not believe that he had been blind?
8. Why was the blind man cast out?
9. Who told Jesus, "Lord, I believe."?

## MEMORY VERSE:

But godliness with  
contentment  
is great gain.  
1Timothy 6:6



When trouble or afflictions come, many people ask, "Lord what did I do to deserve this?" When the disciples saw the man who was born blind they asked Jesus who had done wrong and caused this. But Jesus had a good answer for them. He said, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned. He was permitted to be blind so that the works of God might be glorified." Jesus was able to show the mighty power of God through this man's blindness.

When trouble or afflictions come our way it is good to always take inventory of our lives. If we find anything that needs straightening up we must be sure and do it. If the Lord assures us that all is clear then we should put ourselves and our situation totally in God's hands. Our prayer then will be for God to be glorified and for His will to be worked out for our eternal good. If He chooses to not remove the affliction we can trust His love and wisdom. His Word assures us 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

God has a plan for each of our lives; He made us as we are for a purpose. As we submit our lives into His omnipotent hands He will work out this wonderful plan in us.

Handicaps in God's hands become blessings. Those who are not able to engage in normal activities and heavy work schedules have more time to spend with God in their quiet hours. It seemed unreasonable that God would allow the apostle Paul to be imprisoned when he was spending his life traveling from place to place spreading the gospel. Rather than bemoan his fate, Paul found another way to tell the good news of salvation. Even though he was denied every comfort, Paul

accepted it all as God's will for him. He called himself "the prisoner of the Lord!" He may have been shut up in some dungeon when he wrote, "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Philippians 4:11

Paul wasted no time in self-pity but quickly found another means of spreading the gospel within his present limitations. The epistles Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon were written while he was in the quiet confines of prison. By this means God preserved Paul's godly instructions for us!

Fanny Crosby was blind almost from birth. Even as a child, Fanny accepted her blindness as God's will for her. When she was only eight years old, she wrote:

"O what a happy soul am I!  
Although I cannot see,  
I am resolved that in this world  
Contented I will be;  
How many blessings I enjoy  
That other people don't!  
To weep and sigh because I'm blind,  
I cannot, nor I won't."

Fanny Crosby wrote many more poems and famous hymns. At the end of her long life, Fanny said, "I do not know but on the whole it has been a good thing that I have been blind. How in the world could I have lived such a helpful life as I have lived had I not been blind? I am very well satisfied."

--Nelda Sorrell



*Fanny Crosby*

## The Meatloaf

Recently, God sent a raven to supply for some starving children in India. It happened like this:

One day two missionaries planned a special lunch together on the porch of the hospital where they were working. Before her friend arrived, one lady unpacked the meatloaf she had made and went inside to get something she had forgotten. She returned just in time to see a large raven snatch up the meatloaf and fly away! She screeched and waved her arms, but the raven was too far away to be frightened by the woman. They ate the remaining part of their lunch, never dreaming they would hear what happened to the meatloaf.

A few days later, however, a poor Hindu woman came to them wanting to know about the Christian's God.

"Three days ago," she said, "My children were starving and I had nothing for them to eat. Knowing that no one would help me, I decided to say a prayer to every god I knew. I knelt and prayed to the god I thought most likely to help me. Then I waited for an answer. No answer. I prayed to another god. Nothing happened. This I did to all the Hindu gods. Not one sent me food.

"Then I remembered the Christian's God. Not knowing how to pray to Him, I just told Him I needed food for my starving children. Before I got up off my knees a large raven swooped down and dropped a nice meatloaf beside me! Now I want to serve this God. Can you tell me how?"

--Selected

## WHAT DID I DO TO DESERVE THIS CROSS WORD PUZZLE

### Across

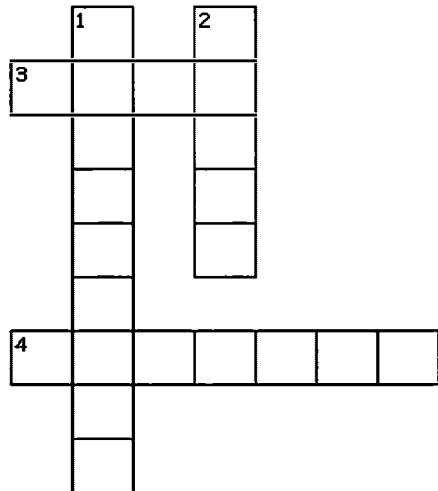
3. "Go wash in the \_\_\_\_."

4. "Lord, I \_\_\_\_."

### Down

1. \_\_\_\_ with contentment is great gain.

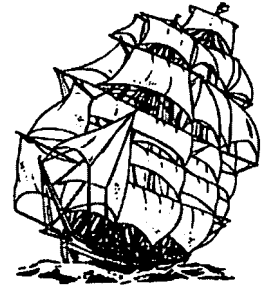
2. Jesus saw a man \_\_\_\_ from birth.



## Answers:

1. From his birth. 2. "Who sinned to cause him to be born blind?" 3. That God would be glorified in healing him. 4. Made clay and anointed the man's eyes. 5. "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam." 6. He was able to see. 7. The Jews. 8. Because he confessed Jesus. 9. The blind man who was healed.





## Bible Lessons for Juniors

May 25, 2014

### Fish for Supper

In June, 1962, my husband, James Huskey, and I were serving as missionaries in Baja California, Mexico. At that time, our family included five small children. We lived in a tiny house. Besides the family, three teenagers lived with us: Shirley, Mary and Rudy. We were poor and food was scarce; a salad was a real treat.

The usual breakfast was potatoes, cereal without milk, or some kind of bread. The other meals of the day consisted of either potatoes and dry beans, or dry beans and potatoes, whichever way it was said. Sometimes the family and their friends could hardly eat because they were so tired of dry beans and potatoes!

One morning after worship, I said, "Let's get our work done early today and then take a walk to the beach." Everyone was delighted, and all that were big enough to work began as fast as they could. Mary swept and mopped the floors; Shirley washed the dishes; Rudy helped fill the tubs for mother to wash the clothes, while the smaller children helped by making beds and putting their clothes up. Soon the work was all done and everybody was ready to go.

How pleasant it was to skip along singing newly learned choruses about Jesus! The sand felt warm on our bare feet. The huge span of blue ocean stretched before us as far as we could see. Mary began singing, "How Great Thou Art", then "The Love of God." As everyone joined in, we sang:

*"Could we with ink the ocean fill  
and were the skies of parchment made;  
Were every stalk on earth a quill  
and every man a scribe by trade*

*To write the love of God above  
Would drain the ocean dry;  
Nor could the scroll contain the whole  
Though stretched from sky to sky."*

For a long time, we sat singing and talking of our great Father in heaven. The children built homes, ranches and castles in the sand—all to be destroyed by the rising tide. I thought, "So it is with the homes, ranches, bank accounts and any other thing we have built upon this earth, they will all be destroyed before long by fire, as God told us in His Word. 'The earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.'" (II Peter 3:10)

"I wish I had a fishing pole. I could catch a fish for supper," said one of the boys. "Me, too," cried Timothy. Of course, everyone wanted fish for supper, but no one had a fishing pole and they didn't know where they could borrow one.

"Let's dig clams," I suggested, but that was of no avail either. The only thing anyone dug up was sand diggers. Late in the afternoon a car with some men peddling fish came to the beach.

# THE BLESSING OF GIVING



## Mark 10:17-22

17) And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?

18) And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God.

19) Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honor thy father and mother.

20) And he answered and said unto him, Master, all these have I observed from my youth.

21) Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

22) And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.

## Luke 6:38

38) Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

## Malachi 3:10

10) Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

## Acts 20:35

35) . . . remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

## John 3:16

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.

## 2 Corinthians 9:7

7 . . . God loveth a cheerful giver.

## THE MESSAGE:

**Those who give freely are promised great blessings and a rich reward from the Lord.**

## QUESTIONS:

1. What did the man who came running to Jesus call Him?
2. What question did he ask?
3. Jesus told him, "Thou knowest the \_\_\_\_\_."
4. How did Jesus feel towards this man?
5. What did Jesus tell him to do?
6. If he obeyed Jesus said he would have \_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_.
7. How did the man feel as he left Jesus?
8. It is more blessed to \_\_\_\_ than to \_\_\_\_.
9. What kind of giver does God love?

## MEMORY VERSE:

**. . . remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said,  
It is more blessed to give than to receive.  
Acts 20:35**



A minister heard about a great need in a new mission field and told his congregation about it. He knew many in the audience were able to give generously, but even as he spoke he could tell they just weren't interested. He sat down with a heavy heart while the collection plate was passed. Meanwhile, a little crippled girl who was about nine or ten years old sat listening in the back pew. She had lost part of her leg in a terrible accident. The future looked bleak until some kind friends in the church bought her a pair of crutches. They changed her life completely! She was like a ray of sunshine, cheery and bright, as she went hobbling about on her new crutches.

She sat alone this morning listening intently to the minister. "I wish I could give something," she thought. "But I can't. I don't even have a penny!" Then a very soft voice spoke to her heart, "There are your crutches!" She drew back at the thought—she could *not* give her crutches. "Yes," the voice persisted. "You can; and if you did then other people would learn about the Lord Jesus. He has done so much for you. When others learn about Him He will bless their lives too. Give your crutches!" "No, no!" she said passionately.

"Yes!" the quiet voice insisted.

It was a fierce battle for the little girl, but

**finally she knew what she must do.**

She waited for the collection plate with tears in her eyes. The one taking the collection hesitated when he came to her. "It is only cripple Maggie," he thought. "It isn't worth passing the plate to her." But, out of courtesy, he passed the plate to her. In her childlike

simplicity she picked up her crutches and tried awkwardly to balance them on the plate!

The man choked back tears when he realized the great sacrifice little Maggie was making. He put out his hand to steady the crutches on the plate and started walking back up the middle aisle of the church with the plate and crutches. This caught the attention of everyone. They all knew Maggie—how could she give her crutches? Suddenly the banker blew his nose; it was a moment of high emotion. The merchant reached for his checkbook.

The minister said, "Our little friend has given us a wonderful example of sacrifice!"

Then someone spoke up, "I want those crutches and will give \$50 for them!"

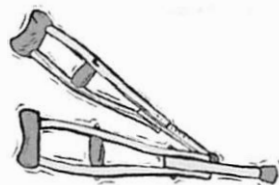
"Pass the plate again," someone else insisted. And when it came back the next time there was a large amount of money for the missionary work. Little Maggie happily hobbled out of the church on her crutches. She had obeyed and the Lord not only met the need but gave her crutches back too!

--Adapted from *Quiet Talks with Workers* by S. D. Gordon

Giving to God is the very best investment and it is an investment everyone can make. Jesus said that if you give you will receive; your return will be greater than what you gave. So, the more you give to God, the more He will give you!

Never hesitate because you have very little to give. God will bless your sacrifice, as He did Maggie's, to meet the need. The young boy gave his lunch to Jesus and with his gift Jesus fed a multitude of people with food left over!

--Nelda Sorrell



## Fish for Supper, Continued...

They looked up and down the beach for buying prospects, but there was no one left except me and the children. Seeing me, they came over with a fish the same height as Bobby, who was six-years old.

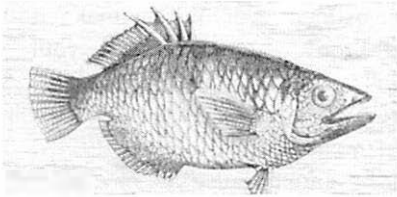
"Would you like to buy this fish?" asked the man. "It is very late in the evening and I have not been able to sell much today. I need to sell it. We will sell it to you for two dollars."

"I would love to have it but I don't have money to buy it," I answered. The man did not believe that I didn't have any money and became angry.

"I'll give it to you for the money you have in your pocket," he exclaimed.

So I calmly called all the children and teenagers together and asked for their money. Everyone was willing to give all they had because they all wanted fish for supper. All together we had seventeen cents. At first, the man became angrier and thought I was trying to trick him. Then God softened his heart and he said, "That's fine, I'll take that and you can have this big fish." We took turns carrying it home and had fish to eat for several days. We also gave some to the poor neighbors. Many families thanked God for "Fish for Supper" that night!

--Charlotte Huskey



## THE BLESSING OF GIVING WORD SEARCH

W	A	U	W	Y	O	D	L	T	M
O	R	O	O	P	C	U	N	I	E
L	B	B	P	T	F	L	Y	R	A
L	Z	P	I	R	J	V	C	E	S
O	E	E	E	E	V	I	G	H	U
F	N	E	U	U	H	K	Q	N	R
A	H	R	E	T	S	A	M	I	E
C	P	Z	P	R	E	S	S	E	D
S	E	H	T	I	T	X	Q	Y	O
K	P	T	C	D	O	M	F	Z	M

MASTER INHERIT GIVE POOR  
FOLLOW TITHES MEASURE PRESSED  
CHEERFUL

## Answers:

1. Good Master.
2. "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?"
3. Commandments.
4. He loved him.
5. Sell his possessions and give to the poor then come and follow Him.
6. Treasure, heaven.
7. Sad and grieved.
8. Give, receive.
9. A cheerful giver.



## Bible Lessons for Juniors

June 1, 2014

### Keeping His Covenant

I was greatly impressed with a true story that I heard recently concerning a young fellow who enlisted in the army of the South during the Civil War. He had been raised in a Christian home, and as he prepared to leave for the front, his godly mother persuaded him to make a covenant with her that each morning and evening, every day, they would come before God in prayer at the same hour. She would kneel beside his bed at the appointed time and wherever he might be in the battle lines he would also kneel before the throne of God.

Soon he found himself surrounded with all the elements of warfare, far from home, and little sympathy among his fellows for such a thing as prayer. He tried to slip out near his tent to keep his prayer rendezvous with his mother, but his comrades laughed and jeered him to scorn. So he decided he would slip out in front of the battle lines alone and find a secret place to pray. He discovered a cave among some rocks that afforded a most desirable place of private prayer.

As days went by, suspicions began to prevail throughout the camp that the secrets of the army were being given to the enemy. Every move, every strategy seemed to be anticipated by the Northern army, and as a consequence the losses of the South were mounting higher and higher. Every move of every man was watched, to discover the traitor. Soon this young man was seen to slip out day after day, each morning and evening, towards the line of the enemy.

After several days, he was taken into custody and brought before the court-martial. He was tried and convicted of treason, in spite of all his protests. When he sought to persuade them that he had only gone out there to pray because of the ridicule that had been heaped upon him in the camp, his story was brushed aside as ridiculous.

The day came for his execution. They dug a grave and stood him beside it. The firing squad loaded their rifles and prepared to fire the fatal shots, when the old General stepped forward and said to the boy, "Well, have you a confession to make or anything to say further, before we shoot?"

The boy replied, "No, sir, nothing else other than what I have repeatedly told you. I only went to pray at the appointed hour as I promised my mother before I left home."

"Well," said the old General, with a sneer stealing across his face, "if you have been doing so much praying out there alone every day, you ought to have plenty of practice by this time. Suppose you kneel down there and show us how you do it!" The boy fell to his knees and turning his face toward heaven, began to pour out his heart to God with all the earnestness of his being. Soon he became utterly lost in prayer. He seemed to have shut himself in alone with God, utterly oblivious to his surroundings and the circumstances under which he was praying.

## PRAYER



### **Acts 16:9, 16-18, 20, 22-30**

9) And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

16) And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us

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

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

20) And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city,

22) And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them.

23) And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:

24) Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

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

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

27) And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he

drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

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

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

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

## THE MESSAGE:

**Paul and Silas prayed for guidance and God sent them to Macedonia. They could sing at midnight even in prison with their backs bleeding because they knew God had sent them there.**

## QUESTIONS:

1. What appeared to Paul in the night?
2. What did the man of Macedonia ask them to do?
3. Where were they going when the damsel met them?
4. What did she say as she followed them?
5. What did Paul command the spirit to do?
6. Where did the jailer put them?
7. What were Paul and Silas doing at midnight?
8. What opened the prison doors?
9. What did the jailer ask?

## MEMORY VERSE:

**... The effectual  
fervent prayer  
of a righteous man  
availeth much.**

**James 5:16**



I have been thinking about the power of prayer and how God led Paul and Silas. They had been visiting the various churches, encouraging the saints in each congregation. But what they really wanted to do was to go to the people that had never heard the gospel before. With this in mind, they made plans to go to Bithynia. They were surprised when God let them know that they were not to go there.

So, after talking things over, Paul and Silas decided to go to Asia, preaching along the way. But the Spirit of God spoke to them very plainly saying they should not preach in Asia. Now they were puzzled! They wondered just where God would finally lead them. Finally, one night God spoke to Paul in a vision. He saw a man from Macedonia who begged him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

Do you remember ever having God answer prayer for you? When I was little, my parents had each of us children pray in family worship. My prayers usually went like this, "Dear Lord, help Daddy and Mommy, help me be good, help my brothers and sisters . . ."

But later I learned that I could ask God for what I needed and actually believe that He would answer my prayer. I learned that, just like I trusted my parents when they told me they would give me something, I could have the same confidence in God. Betimes I had to wait but I knew my parents would do what they said. It is the same way when we pray.

## **The Lord gives the answer to our prayer as He sees we need it.**

Sometimes He gives us something other than what we prayed for because He knows our need better than we do. And what He gives will always be better. Paul and Silas obeyed God and went to Macedonia. They found where the people met for

prayer and joined them. Everything went well until a girl possessed with an evil spirit began following them. Each day she would call after them, "These men are the servants of the most high God!"

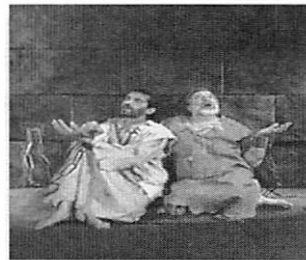
One day, Paul turned to her and commanded the evil spirit to come out of her. The girl immediately knew that she was at last free. But her masters were furious! They seized Paul and Silas and threw them into prison after giving them a brutal beating.

With their backs bleeding and their feet held fast in the stocks, Paul and Silas could have wondered just where they went wrong to get into so much trouble. But they knew God had sent them there in answer to their prayer. And since they were right where God wanted them to be they were so happy they sang praises right there in jail even though it was midnight!

The other prisoners heard them. They were used to hearing moaning and curses, but not singing! Then a great earthquake opened the prison doors. The jailer was sure all the prisoners had escaped but before he could kill himself Paul assured him that they were all there. The jailer's first response was "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

Look at the great deliverance that came from Paul and Silas praying for God to lead them. There is wonderful power in prayer. Though it may not look like the answer will come, keep looking to God expecting the answer. He still answers prayer!

--Dale Doolittle



## Keeping His Covenant, Continued...

One by one, the firing squad lowered their guns to their sides, as they wiped a falling tear from their faces. With increasing earnestness and passion, that boy prayed on.

At last the General could stand it no longer. He walked up beside the lad and laying his hand on his shoulder, said, "That is enough, my boy. Stand to your feet."

The young fellow arose to his feet, clicked his heels together, saluted the General and said, "All right, sir, I am ready to die."

But the old weather-beaten face of the General beamed with assurance and gratification, as he stepped up to the boy. Losing his hands that had been bound behind him, he said, "No, my boy, I am convinced you have been telling the truth. Nobody could pray before others as you have done, unless they had done a lot of praying in secret, somewhere."

So we see that it is in the secret place of prayer that we learn the great spiritual secret and mystery of Power in Prayer.

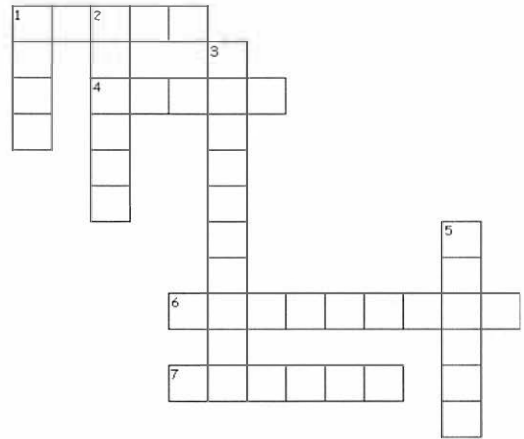
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## Answers:

Answers: 1. A vision. 2. Come and help them. 3. To pray. 4. "These men are the servants of the most high God." 5. Come out of her. 6. In the inner prison. 7. Praying and singing praises. 8. A great earthquake. 9. "What must I do to be saved?"

## PRAYER CROSS WORD PUZZLE



### Across

1. "What must I do to be \_\_\_\_?"
4. Paul and \_\_\_\_ were thrown into prison.
6. "Come over into \_\_\_\_ and help us.
7. The prison \_\_\_\_ thought his prisoners escaped.

### Down

1. At midnight, they prayed and \_\_\_\_.
2. A \_\_\_\_ appeared to Paul in the night.
3. An \_\_\_\_ caused their chains to loosen.
5. A girl possessed by an evil \_\_\_\_ met them.





## Bible Lessons for Juniors

June 8, 2014

### A Chinese Boy of Twelve

**Y**oung people need to realize that God still hears the voice of the boys and girls. (Genesis 21:17) The following true story is related with the earnest desire that prayer may be their heritage, their very life, and that answered prayer may be their daily experience. Some time ago, a Chinese boy of twelve years of age, named Ma-Na-Si, a boarder in the mission school at Chefoo, went home for the holidays. He is the son of a native pastor.

While standing on the doorstep of his father's house, he saw a horseman galloping towards him. The man—a heathen—was greatly excited. He eagerly enquired for the "Jesus-man"—the pastor. The boy told him that his father was away from home.

The poor man was much distressed and hurriedly explained the cause of his visit. He had been sent from a heathen village some miles away to fetch the "holy man" to cast a devil out of the daughter-in-law of a heathen friend. He poured out his sad story of this young woman, torn by devils, raving and reviling, pulling out her hair, clawing her face, tearing her clothes, smashing up furniture, and dashing away dishes of food. He told of her spirit of sacrilege, and outrageous impiety, and brazen blasphemy and how these outbursts were followed by foaming at the mouth, and great exhaustion, both physical and mental.

"But my father is not at home," the boy kept reiterating.

At length the frenzied man seemed to understand.

Suddenly he fell on his knees, and, stretching out his hands in desperation, cried, "You, too, are a 'Jesus-man'; will you come?"

Think of it—a boy of twelve being called to cast out a devil! Yes, but even a boy, when fully yielded to his Savior, is not fearful of being used by that Savior. There was but one moment of surprise, and a moment of hesitation, and then the boy put himself wholly at his Master's disposal. Like little Samuel of old he was willing to obey God in all things. He accepted the earnest entreaty as a call from God.

The heathen stranger sprang into the saddle, and, swinging the Christian boy up behind him, he galloped away. Ma-Na-Si began to think things over. He had accepted an invitation to cast out a devil in the name of Christ Jesus. But was he worthy to be used of God in this way? Was his heart pure and his faith strong? As they galloped along he carefully searched his own heart for sin to be confessed and repented of.

Then he prayed for guidance what to say and how to act, and tried to recall Bible instances of demoniacal possession and how they were dealt with. He then simply and humbly cast himself upon the God of power and of mercy, asking His help for the glory of the Lord Jesus.

On arrival at the house, they found that some of the members of the family were by main force holding down the tortured woman upon the bed.



### Luke 18:1-14

- 1) And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;
- 2) Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man:
- 3) And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary.
- 4) And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man;
- 5) Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.
- 6) And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith.
- 7) And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?
- 8) I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?
- 9) And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:
- 10) Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.
- 11) The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.
- 12) I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.
- 13) And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14) I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

### THE MESSAGE:

**God tells us to pray always.  
This assures us that He is always near us,  
always listening for our prayers.**

### QUESTIONS:

1. What is a parable?
2. How often should we pray?
3. Who did not fear God or man?
4. What did the widow want the judge to do?
5. Why did the judge finally do as the widow asked?
6. What will God do for His own elect who cry day and night to Him?
7. What two men went up to pray in Jesus' second parable?
8. Which thought he was better than the other?
9. Every one that exalteth himself shall be \_\_\_\_ and he that \_\_\_\_ himself shall be exalted.

### MEMORY VERSE:

**... men ought always  
to pray,  
and not to faint ...  
Luke 18:1**



Before telling the story of the unjust judge, Jesus first tells us the meaning of this parable—we ought to pray always. It is both a privilege and a duty to pray. What an honor it is to be invited to speak with God Almighty, the Creator and Ruler of the universe! Very few people are admitted to the presence of truly great people. If they are given this opportunity, they must do so at the convenience of the dignitary. But God invites us into His immediate presence at any time, day or night. He knows how weak and helpless we are. He knows that as long as we are in the world we will face trouble, heartache and danger. For these reasons He tells us we should always pray. I Thessalonians 5:17 tells us to "pray without ceasing".

Wisdom and humility teach us that we are dependent on God for everything. Without Him we can do nothing. This puts us into an attitude of complete dependence on God at all times and a spirit of prayer—of continually lifting our hearts to God in petition for help, guidance and, also, thanksgiving for His many blessings to us. In this way we are always praying.

## **Prayer strengthens us spiritually.**

In mythology, there is a story about a giant named Antaeus. In order to keep alive, Antaeus must touch the earth every five minutes. With each and every touch, he became twice as strong as before. This illustrates the power and nature of prayer. Every time we truly touch God through prayer we receive real strength and increased faith. When we have a need, we should bring it to God in prayer. Our prayer may not be answered immediately. We are taught then to continue to pray until the need is met. God cannot be compared to an unjust judge. He loves us far more than we can realize. He wants to give us the very best. The Bible tells us that all things

work together for our good if we love God. (Romans 8:28.) So, if our prayers are not answered at once we must continue to pray, knowing God has a purpose in the delay.

The prayer of faith waits on God. A minister was once holding a revival. An infidel came to the meeting to ridicule and hinder others from accepting God. Seeing his intent, the minister stepped up to him and asked, "Are you a Christian?"

"No," the infidel answered emphatically.

"Well, do you want to be one?" With a sneer the infidel answered, "I should say not!"

"Then shall we kneel and pray together?" asked the minister.

"I do not believe in prayer," answered the infidel.

"Well, then, will you allow me to kneel and pray for you?"

"Yes, but it will do no good," replied the infidel sarcastically.

The minister knelt and poured out his heart in prayer for the infidel's salvation. When he got up the infidel remarked, "I don't feel any different at all."

"Wait." the minister answered, "wait awhile. God works in His own time."

Two years later the minister met the infidel again. "See, your prayers were not answered," the infidel told him.

"Just don't get uneasy," the minister assured him, "We must not rush God."

After a few more years, this same infidel went to another service. God had been dealing with him. This time he yielded to God and was wonderfully saved in answer to years of continued prayer.

--Nelda Sorrell

## Chinese Boy of 12, Continued...

Although she had not been told that a messenger had gone for the native pastor, yet as soon as she heard footsteps in the court outside she cried, "All of you get out of my way quickly, so that I can escape. I must flee! A 'Jesus-man' is coming. I cannot endure him. His name is Ma-Na-Si."

Ma-Na-Si entered the room, and after a ceremonial bow knelt down and began to pray. Then he sang a Christian hymn to the praise of the Lord Jesus. Then, in the name of the Risen Lord, glorified and omnipotent, he commanded the demon to come out of the woman. At once she was calm, though prostrate with weakness. From that day she was perfectly whole.

She was amazed when they told her that she had uttered the name of the Christian boy, for she had never heard of it or read of it before, for the whole of that village was heathen. But that day was truly a "beginning of days" to those people. From then on the Word of the Lord had free course and was glorified.

--Taken from "The Kneeling Christian"



## PRAYING ALWAYS WORD SEARCH

W	C	Q	O	N	Y	V	C	P	W
X	E	F	Q	E	T	K	P	U	O
C	D	H	F	A	I	N	T	B	D
D	E	T	L	A	X	E	H	L	I
I	R	E	N	N	I	S	U	I	W
E	L	B	M	U	H	S	F	C	H
L	U	F	I	C	R	E	M	A	X
E	E	S	I	R	A	H	P	N	K
E	H	J	U	D	G	E	I	D	C
O	V	A	P	R	A	Y	P	Y	K

PRAY FAINT JUDGE WIDOW PHARISEE  
PUBLICAN MERCIFUL SINNER  
HUMBLE EXALTED

1. A story that teaches a lesson. 2. Always. 3. The judge. 4. Avenge her of her enemy. 5. So she would quit bothering him. 6. Avenge them speedily.
7. A Pharisee and a publican. 8. The Pharisee. 9. Abased, humbleth.

## Answers:



**"Make It So Plain That I Can Get Hold of It"**

I entered the room where a young wounded colonel, my son, was near death. As I entered, he aroused from his stupor, beckoned me to his bedside, and threw his feeble arms about my neck.

"Oh, Father, how glad I am to see you! I was afraid you would not come till it was too late. I am too feeble to say much. You must do all the talking." I soon perceived that there was no hope of his recovery. I at last inquired of the doctor, "Doctor, how long do you think he can live?"

"Not more than four days. He may drop away at any hour."

"Have you told him of his real condition?"

"No. We left the painful duty for you to do."

As I entered the room, the eyes of my son fastened upon me. "Have you been talking with the doctor? Does he think I shall recover?"

There was a painful hesitation for a moment. "He told me you must die."

With agitation he exclaimed, "Father, I am not prepared to die now. Do tell me how I can get ready! Make it so plain that I can get hold of it."

At once an incident came to my mind. "Do you remember when you came home from school one day and became very angry and abused me with harsh language because I had occasion to rebuke you?"

"Yes, Father, I was just thinking it all over a few days ago. I felt so badly about it that I wanted to see you and once more ask you to forgive me."

"Do you remember how, after the violence of your anger subsided, you came in and threw your arms about my neck and said, 'My dear Father, I am sorry I abused you so. I was very angry. Won't you forgive me?'"

"Yes, I remember it very distinctly. 'You said, 'I forgive you with all my heart,' and kissed me. I shall never forget those words.'"

"Did you believe me?"

"Certainly. I never doubted your word. I shall never forget how it relieved me when you said, 'I forgive you with all my heart.'"

"Well, now, this is just the way to come to Jesus. Tell Him, 'I am sorry,' just as you told me, and ten thousand times quicker than a father's love forgave you, He will forgive you. He says He will. Then you must take His word for it just as you did mine."

"Is this the way to become a Christian? Why, Father, I can get hold of this. I am so glad you have come to tell me how." He turned his head upon his pillow for rest.

I sank into my chair and wept freely. I had done my work and committed the case to Christ. He, too, I was assured, had done His. The broken heart had made its confession, had heard what it longed for, "I forgive you," and believed it. I soon felt the nervous hand on my head and heard the word "Father" in such a tone of tenderness and joy that I knew the change had come.

## A DESPERATE FATHER



### Mark 9:14-27

14) And when he came to his disciples, he saw a great multitude about them, and the scribes questioning with them.  
15) And straightway all the people, when they beheld him, were greatly amazed, and running to him saluted him.  
16) And he asked the scribes, What question ye with them?  
17) And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit;  
18) And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.  
19) He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long **shall** I suffer you? bring him unto me.  
20) And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tore him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.  
21) And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child.  
22) And ofttimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.  
23) Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.  
24) And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

25) When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.

26) And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead.

27) But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.

## THE MESSAGE:

Jesus still wants to do great things for us if we will only believe and have faith in Him.

## QUESTIONS:

1. Who were questioning the disciples?
2. What did Jesus ask the scribes?
3. What kind of spirit did the man's son have?
4. Who could not cast out the spirit out?
5. What did the spirit do to the boy when he saw Jesus?
6. How long had he had the unclean spirit?
7. How did it try to destroy him?
8. What did the spirit do when Jesus commanded it to come out?
9. What did many say about the boy?

## MEMORY VERSE:

Jesus said unto him,  
If thou canst believe,  
all things are possible  
to him that believeth.

Mark 9:23



The day after His transfiguration, Jesus and His three disciples left the mountain and started back to the valley. When they got close, they found the other nine disciples surrounded by a large crowd. Some teachers of the Law were arguing with them. When the people saw Jesus, they were greatly surprised, and ran to Him and greeted Him. Jesus asked the scribes, "What are you arguing with them about?"

A man in the crowd answered, "Master, I have brought my son to You. He has an evil spirit and cannot talk. The spirit attacks him and causes him to foam at the mouth, grind his teeth, and then faint away. It has often thrown him into the fire or into the water to destroy him. I begged your disciples to drive the spirit out, but they could not."

Jesus was greatly disappointed that His disciples did not have enough faith to heal the boy. "O faithless generation," Jesus said sadly, "how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you?" Turning to the troubled father, Jesus said, "Bring your child to me."

At the sight of Jesus, the spirit viciously attacked the boy knocking him to the ground where he rolled in the dust, foaming at the mouth. Jesus did not immediately rebuke the demon. Instead He expressed His great concern for the father and his son by turning to the father and asking, "How long has this been happening to him?"

The father sensed Jesus' deep compassion for him and his son. He confided to Jesus, "Ever since he was a child. Have pity on us and help us, if You possibly can!" He knew that nothing short of a divine miracle could help his son.

"If you can believe," Jesus answered.

**"All things are possible for those who have faith."**

The father at once cried out, "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief!"

Jesus noticed that the crowd was closing in on them, so He commanded the evil spirit, "Thou deaf and dumb spirit, come out of the boy and never go into him again!"

The spirit screamed out and threw the boy onto the ground. But it had to obey Jesus' command. It came out of the boy. The boy looked like a corpse as he lay on the ground motionless. Everyone said, "He is dead!"

But Jesus took the boy by the hand and helped him get up. When he was on his feet, He gave him back to his father. The boy was completely well. All the people were amazed at the mighty power of God!

As soon as the disciples could be alone with Jesus, they asked, "Why couldn't we drive the demon out?" They were at a loss as to why they could not cast out the demon. When Jesus sent them out to preach the gospel and heal the sick, He had given them authority to cast out devils and they had been able to do so. So in private, they asked Jesus, "Why did we fail?"

"It was because you do not have enough faith," answered Jesus. "If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you can say unto a mountain, 'Go from here to there!' and it will go. Nothing shall be impossible to you."

"Only prayer can drive this kind out. You cannot help such people unless you live a life of prayer."

Jesus was a good example of this. He often left His disciples to go alone to pray, to talk to His Father.

--Nelda Sorrell

## Make It So Plain.., Continued

"Father, my dear father, I don't want you to weep any more. You need not for I am perfectly happy now. Jesus has forgiven me. I know He has, for He says so, and I take His word for it, just as I did yours." The doctor came in and found him cheerful and happy. He looked at him, felt his pulse and said, "Why, Colonel, you look better."

"I am better, Doctor. I am going to get well. My father has told me how to become a Christian, and I am happy. I believe I shall recover, for God has heard my prayer. Doctor, I want you to become a Christian too. My father can tell you how to get hold of it."

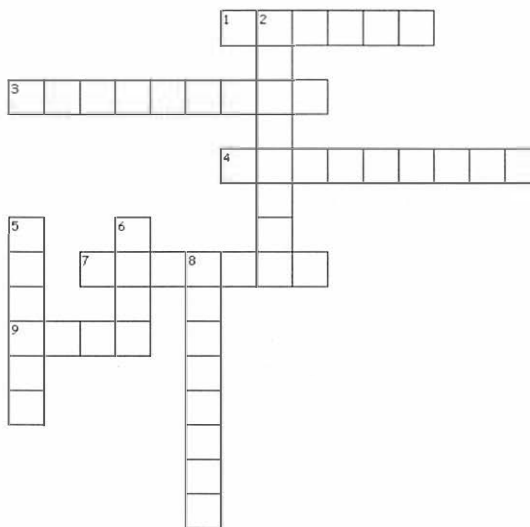
My son, the colonel, did live, and lived for Christ. I was made a better man and a better evangelist by that scene. I there resolved never to forget the charge he made me in his extremity, "Make it so plain that I can get hold of it."

—Selected

(Adapted from a tract published by Faith Publishing House)



## A DESPERATE FATHER CROSS WORD PUZZLE



### Across

1. The spirit cried and came out of him.
3. "O \_\_\_\_ generation..."
4. "...the \_\_\_\_ couldn't heal him."
7. Jesus \_\_\_\_ the spirit.
9. But Jesus took his \_\_\_\_ and helped him up.

### Down

2. "All things are \_\_\_\_ to him that believeth."
5. A boy's \_\_\_\_ came to ask for help.
6. Many thought the boy was \_\_\_\_.
8. "I believe, help thou my \_\_\_\_."

## Answers:

1. The scribes. 2. "What question ye with them?" 3. A dumb spirit. 4. The disciples. 5. It tore him. 6. Since he was a child. 7. By throwing him into the fire and into the water. 8. It cried and rent him sore. 9. "He is dead."





### **Sam's Clock**

**S**am lived in Africa. He had lived all his childhood in the jungle and had never been to a city. One day Sam had a chance to take a boat trip down the big river to the sea coast. At the mouth of the river was a large city. Sam's eyes and mouth opened wide when he saw the great high buildings, the cars and buses moving up and down the street, and the crowds of people surging in and out of the big stores.

At first, Sam's excitement knew no bounds. But when he got tired of watching the traffic, he walked down the street looking in the store windows. On the way, he came to a clock shop. Going inside, he asked the shopkeeper what they were and how to use one. Sam had always told the time of day by the sun, but now the watchmaker showed Sam how to tell time with the clock. A day or two later Sam came back and bought a clock to take home with him to the jungle. He carried it very carefully lest anything should happen to it along the way.

Back home in his grass and thatched hut, Sam told time by his new clock. It didn't matter whether the sun shone or not; he still knew what time it was. Sam was very pleased with his clock. Many months went by and then Sam noticed that his clock had stopped. Sam thought something had happened to the hands of his clock. "I'll take them to the shopkeeper in the city," thought Sam. "He will fix them." So he removed the hands, wrapped them carefully and soon was aboard the boat and on his way down the river to the city.

Entering the clock shop, Sam explained why

he had come. Handing the watchmaker the hands of the clock, he asked him to fix them.

"There is nothing I can do with these hands," explained the shopkeeper. "The trouble is inside the clock. Bring me the clock and I will find out what is wrong." Sam, however, was angry and would not listen. "There is nothing wrong with my clock," he said. "I don't need to pay you for fixing the whole clock." So, taking back the hands he returned to his jungle home and put the hands back on the clock. But it never ran after that. Sam went back to telling time by the sun.

Dear boys and girls, when we use our hands to do bad things, the trouble is on the inside, in our hearts. There is sin there, for our hearts are "desperately wicked." (Jeremiah 17:9) If we speak bad things with our lips it is only the bad coming out from inside us. If our feet carry us to places where we are ought not to go it is because our hearts want us to go there. We need to have our hearts cleansed from sin by the precious blood of Christ. Then his Holy Spirit will come to dwell there, and our hands, our lives, our feet, are all, will be used in doing those things that please and honor Jesus. When Jesus saves a person he cleans the inside. When the inside is clean the outside becomes clean. Luke 6:45 reads, "a good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil:

# GOD'S REQUIREMENTS



## Acts 16:30-31;

30) . . . Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

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

## Micah 6:8

8) He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

## Matthew 5:20

20) For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

## Luke 13:2-3

2) And Jesus answering said unto them, Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things?

3) I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish.

## John 3:5; 4:24; 6:53; 8:24

5) Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

24) God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

53) Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

24) I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he,

ye shall die in your sins.

## Acts 4:12

12) Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

## Ecclesiastes 12:13

13) Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

## THE MESSAGE:

God knows we can never meet all His requirements. He sent Jesus to do that for us!

## QUESTIONS:

1. On whom must we believe in order to be saved?
2. What three things does the Lord require of us?
3. We must be more righteous than whom, if we enter into the kingdom of heaven?
4. Since God is a Spirit, how must we worship Him?
5. How will we die if we do not believe in Jesus?
6. What is the whole duty of man?
7. Without \_\_\_\_\_ it is impossible to please God.
8. Who does God reward?
9. We are to follow \_\_\_\_\_ with all men and \_\_\_\_\_ if we hope to see the Lord.

## MEMORY VERSE:

I can do all things  
through Christ which  
strengtheneth me.  
Philippians 4:13



As you grow up there are things that you will want and actually need. One such need is to be able to drive. Your parents recognize this but they can't just hand you the keys and tell you that now you can drive. There are certain requirements to be met.

First, you must be old enough. Next, you must have a driver's license. To obtain a license to drive you must pass a written test to show that you know the traffic laws and a driving test to demonstrate your ability to safely handle a car.

For everything in life there is a price tag! To obtain anything there are requirements to be met; a price that you must pay.

Suppose you decide you need a college degree. Again there are requirements! First, you must finish high school before you can even enroll in college. Then, you must complete the prescribed course of study with satisfactory grades.

God is much wiser than even the wisest parent. A wise father would not hand a young child the keys to his car and let him take it for a drive. That could be a deadly mistake. So God, out of His great love for us, withholds those blessings that we are not mature enough to handle.

It is not God's will that anyone should be lost and spend eternity in hell. He is a loving Father and wants all of us to live with him in heaven when we die. But no sin can enter heaven. There is a price to pay to live in God's holy presence. That price was far too much for any human to pay; only Jesus could pay the price to save us from sin. But that is just where our part begins. We must accept the salvation that Jesus paid such an awful price for. If your parents bought a car for you it would never do you any good until you accepted the keys and got in and drove it.

**The gift God offers is so much more valuable!**

In the first verse of our lesson, the jailer asked Paul and Silas what the requirements were to be saved. They told him that he must first believe in Jesus. When you truly believe in Him you will have a deep sorrow for ever disobeying Him—you will repent of your sins and ask Him to forgive you. He will gladly forgive and will even come and live in your clean heart.

When Jesus comes in, He brings only good with Him: love, joy, peace, and power to meet every requirement to live a happy holy life! He will actually meet God's requirements for us as we carefully obey and follow Him.

Important decisions are just ahead of you. The choices you make will determine whether your life is blessed and happy or full of misery. They will even decide where you will spend eternity!

Only God's wisdom can help you make the right choices. This is why it is so important to study the Bible. In it God tells us all His requirements and instructs us how to let Jesus come in to our lives and fulfill them all.

When you buy a car, you want to get the very best that you can afford. It is the same way in your experience of salvation. Obey every commandment and follow Jesus so closely that you can enjoy all the benefits of salvation. Your investment will pay rich dividends in a happy life here and heaven afterwards.

--Dale Doolittle



## Sam's Clock, Continued...

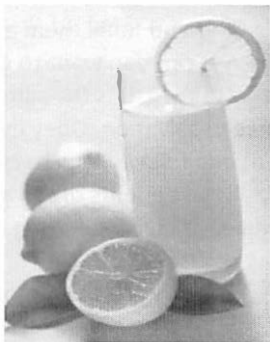
for of the abundance of The heart the mouth speaketh."

--Selected

### It Won't Come Sweet

A little girl sat at the table alternately stirring and sipping her drink. Presently, with tears of disappointment in her eyes, she exclaimed, "Mother, it won't come sweet!" Then the mother realized that she had forgotten to put in the sugar. This done, the sugar itself did the rest. No amount of stirring or trying can make our lives sweet; but when we let the Lord Jesus enter and take possession of our hearts, He makes them pure and lovely. Sweetness of life is only possible as He who is the sweetness dwells within.

--Selected



## GOD'S REQUIREMENTS WORD SEARCH

N	K	H	S	I	R	E	P	B	J
J	O	O	R	T	A	R	I	Z	W
S	U	I	B	E	L	I	E	V	E
T	N	S	T	F	B	S	U	H	J
M	R	A	T	A	F	H	P	V	H
L	Q	O	C	L	V	M	J	U	X
I	Z	R	B	B	Y	L	M	Q	J
T	N	E	P	E	R	B	A	I	S
D	E	V	A	S	L	M	L	S	J
G	O	O	D	Y	Y	C	R	E	M

SAVED GOOD JUSTLY- MERCY HUMBLY  
 RICHTEOUSNESS REPENT PERISH BELIEVE  
 SALVATION COMMANDMENTS

### Answers:

Answers: 1. On the Lord Jesus Christ. 2. Do justly; love mercy; and walk humbly with God. 3. The scribes and Pharisees. 4. In spirit and in truth. 5. In our sins. 6. To fear God and keep His commandments. 7. Faith. 8. Those that diligently seek Him. 9. Peace; holiness.

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## Bible Lessons for Juniors

June 29, 2014

### The Coal Basket Bible

**T**he story is told of an old man who lived on a farm in the mountains of Kentucky with his young grandson. Each morning, Grandpa was up early sitting at the kitchen table reading from his old worn-out Bible. His grandson who wanted to be just like him tried to imitate him.

One day, the grandson asked, "Papa, I try to read the Bible just like you but I don't understand it, and what I do understand I forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?"

The Grandfather quietly turned from putting coal in the stove and said, "Take this coal basket down to the river and bring back a basket of water."

The boy did as he was told, even though all the water leaked out before he could get back to the house. The grandfather laughed and said, "You will have to move a little faster next time," and sent him back to the river with the basket to try again.

This time the boy ran faster, but again the basket was empty before he returned home. Out of breath, he told his grandfather that it was "impossible to carry water in a basket," and he went to get a bucket instead.

The old man said, "I don't want a bucket of water; I want a basket of water. You can do this. You're just not trying hard enough," and he went out the door to watch the boy try again.

At this point the boy knew it was impossible, but he wanted to show his grandfather that even if he ran as fast as he could, the water would leak out before he got far at all.

The boy scooped the water and ran hard, but when he reached his grandfather the basket was again empty. Out of breath, he said, "See Papa, it's useless!"

"So you think it is useless?" the old man said. "Look at the basket."

The boy looked at the basket and for the first time he realized that the basket looked different. Instead of a dirty old coal basket, it was clean.

"Son, that's what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand or remember everything, but when you read it, it will change you from the inside out." That is the work of God in our lives, to change us from the inside out and to slowly transform us into the image of His Son. Take time to read a portion of God's word each day, and remind a friend by sharing this story.

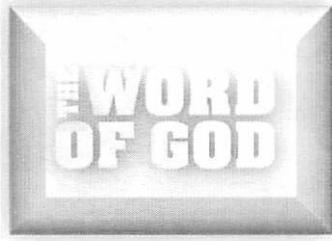
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### God's Word Is A Mirror

**T**he Word of God as a mirror faithfully reflects our detestable and faulty features, also fluently reveals to us the effective remedy for our undone condition. If we will cherish this truth and act upon it, then all shall be well,

The story is told of a missionary returning to Africa from furlough and taking with him a number of trifling presents for his people in the interior. Among, other things he took some small mirrors.

# THE POWERFUL WORD OF GOD



## **Psalm 56:3-4**

3 What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.

4 In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.

## **Genesis 50:21**

21 Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

## **Psalms 119:9-11, 18**

9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.

10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments.

11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

18 Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.

## **2 Timothy 3:14-17**

14 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;

15 And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

## **John 19:36-37**

36 For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken.

37 And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.

## **2 Peter 1:20-21**

20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.

21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

## THE MESSAGE:

**In the beginning the world was created by the word of God. His word is just as powerful today; it will never fail.**

## QUESTIONS:

1. What time I am \_\_\_\_\_, I will trust in thee.
2. In \_\_\_\_\_ I have put my trust.
3. I will nourish you and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. With my whole \_\_\_\_\_ have I sought thee.
5. What did he hide in his heart so he wouldn't sin?
6. The scriptures are able to make us wise unto \_\_\_\_\_.
7. How is all scripture given?
8. What is it profitable for?

## MEMORY VERSE:

**For the word of God is quick, and powerful ...  
Hebrews 4:12**



God spoke the Word and the world and everything that is in it was created at His command. Our Bible contains God's Word in written form and it is still as powerful as at the very beginning. It is more sure and lasting than heaven and earth. We may build our lives with full assurance upon the Word of God. Our verse to memorize tells us the Word of God is quick. That means it is alive. Our lesson tells us that "All scripture is given by inspiration of God." Although the writers of the Bible lived at different times and under different circumstances, it was God who, by His Holy Spirit, directed the writing. The Holy Spirit makes the words alive to us as we allow Him to apply them to our need. The Word of God was inspired, and it is inspired; it reaches the need of the human heart as no other book does.

During His time on earth, Jesus proved that

## **God's Word was so powerful it could tear down the devil's strongholds.**

By His Word He raised the dead, opened the ears of the deaf, made the blind see, the dumb to speak and the lame to walk. He released many who had been possessed by the devil.

One day, Jesus stood by the lake named Gennesaret teaching the people. More and more people came to hear. They crowded close to Him so they would not miss a word He said. Peter, Andrew, James and John had been fishing that day but they caught nothing so they pulled their boats to shore and got out to wash their nets.

Jesus stepped into Peter's boat. This made it easier for everyone to hear Him. After

teaching the people, he told Peter, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch."

Peter told Him, "Master, we have toiled all night, and caught nothing. But at your word I will let down the net."

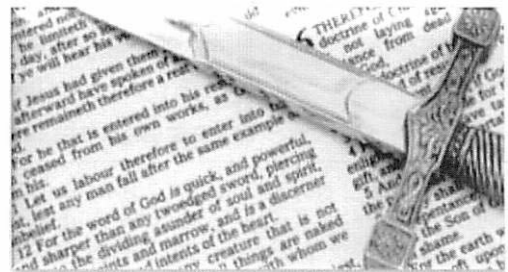
So Peter obeyed Jesus. When they let down the nets, they caught enough fish to fill both boats so full they began to sink!

There is no limit to what God can do when we obey His Word as Peter did. Noah obediently built an ark because God told him to. People mocked and laughed at him for building the huge boat on dry land. But one day, many years later, the floods came as God said they would. Noah and his family were saved because he obeyed God's Word.

Moses and the children of Israel faced the Red Sea with no way to cross over it. They could see Pharaoh and his army coming to capture or destroy them. Then, at God's Word, Moses stretched his rod out over the sea. God opened a wide highway and the Israelites walked through the sea on dry land!

The Word of God is just as powerful right now, in our life, if we are perfectly obedient! It is wise to store up God's Word in our minds by memorizing scriptures. This is a mighty weapon to use against the devil. It is a source of strength which cannot be taken away. Some have been stripped of everything and imprisoned. But those who had hidden the powerful Word of God in their hearts had a powerful source of hope, comfort and strength to sustain them.

--Nelda Sorrell



### God's Word Is A Mirror, Continued...

One of these he gave to an old lady, who was immensely pleased with her new-found treasure until she realized that it was reflecting her own features. She, of course, had never seen a mirror before. As soon as the poor soul realized what it was doing, seeing that she had no idea how withered and ugly she was, she proceeded to smash the mirror to pieces. She did not like to know the truth.

The parable is plain! The Word of God is the looking glass it shows us the truth as to the state of our own heart, as well as the love and the grace of God.

--A. Paget Wilkes

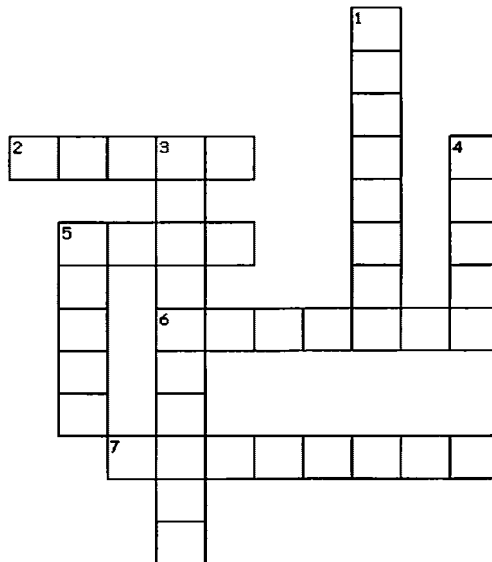
### The Weakest Saint

Little Mary knelt every night at her bedside and prayed. Mother stood nearby. One night little Mary prayed longer than usual. Finally she arose. "Mary," asked Mother, "why did you pray so long tonight?"

Said little Mary, "Today in church we sang a song that said, 'Satan trembles when he sees the weakest saint upon his knees.' I wanted to make him tremble longer!"

--Selected

## THE POWERFUL WORD OF GOD CROSS WORD PUZZLE



### Across

2. In God have I put my \_\_\_\_.
5. The \_\_\_\_ of God is quick and powerful.
6. That the man of God may be \_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_ came not by the will of men.

### Down

1. " \_\_\_\_ in the things thou has learned.
3. From a child thou hast known the \_\_\_\_.
4. Thy word have I hid in my \_\_\_\_
5. thoroughly furnished into all good \_\_\_\_.

### Answers:

1. Afraid. 2. God. 3. Your little ones. 4. Heart. 5. God's word.  
6. Salvation. 7. By inspiration of God. 8. Doctrine, Reproof,  
Correction, and instruction in Righteousness. 9. The scripture.