

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



Vol. 21, No. 1

Jan., Feb., Mar., 1970

Part 14

Jan. 4

THE EARLY LIFE AND CONVERSION OF SAUL

Acts 3; Acts 22:27, 28; Rom. 11:1; Phil. 3:5; Gal. 1:13, 14;
Acts 7:58-60; 8:1-4

When Saul was five years old he began to learn to read the Bible. He read about Samson, Noah, David, and Daniel. When he was older he studied the law of Moses and learned that it was wrong to steal and tell lies. His teacher was strict with him. But Saul was never taught about Jesus. He did not know that Jesus had come to save the people from their sins, although Jesus lived about the same time Saul did. They did not live in the same place. When Saul came to Jerusalem and saw many people loving Jesus, he thought they were doing wrong. He thought they were turning away from God to love someone else. He did not know that Jesus was God's son. He became angry with the people. He tried to put them in prison and have them killed for not worshipping God.

One day some men wanted to kill Stephen who loved Jesus. Paul stood by and was glad they did it. Some of the false witnesses laid their outer garments at his feet while they threw stones at poor Stephen. Stephen asked God to forgive those who stoned him. God answered this prayer and talked to Saul who got saved.

Memory Verse: Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. Acts 7:60

The Patched New Year's Resolution

Bobby and Betty made a New Year's resolution. They resolved that all during the bright new year that was to come they would not pout—not a single time, not even when Mother corrected them, or thought it best not to let them do what they wanted to do. They made it on New Year's Day.

When they awoke the next morning, the first thing they thought of was their resolution, and when Mother called them they hurried to get out of bed and scramble into their clothes. And after breakfast when Mother asked Betty to take care of the baby, she did it cheerfully, and when Bobby was told to run on an errand, he put down the new Christmas puzzle and hurried away, whistling.

"We have had a good time this morning, haven't we, Betty?" whispered Bobby at noon, and Betty smiled and nodded.

But that afternoon things did not go right. They played in the snow until they were tired. Then they sat down on the floor before an open fire and began roasting apples. Soon Mother called them to do the evening chores. "We don't want to come," said Bobby. "Let Dina do it."

"My apples aren't done! I don't want to come," chimed in Betty. They forgot their New Year's resolution, and they pouted and pouted because Mother made them leave their play.

That night, when they were getting

ready for bed, Betty began to cry. "O Bobby!" she sobbed, "we broke our New Year's resolution."

"There isn't anything we can do," answered Bobby dolefully. "A broken New Year's resolution is broken. We will have to wait a whole year and then make another."

He sat down on the floor with his knees under his chin and gazed into the fire. Neither of them spoke for several minutes.

"I know what we can do!" exclaimed Betty. "When we break our toys Papa always says he can patch them up, and he does; and when we tear our clothes Mother doesn't wait a year and then get us new clothes. She patches them. Let's patch our resolution!" Bobby jumped to his feet.

"Let's tell Jesus that we are sorry," said Betty, "and then we'll tell Mother that we won't pout any more. That will patch it." And hand in hand they went to Mother.

When they had told her all about it, Mother took them both in her arms.

"I am very glad that my little boy and girl did not give up just because they failed once," she said. "You have patched your New Year's resolution beautifully."

QUESTIONS:

1. Whom was our lesson about today?
2. Did he go to school? What book did he read?
3. Did Saul love Jesus?
4. What happened to Stephen?

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Part 15

Jan. 11

SAUL CHOOSES TO SERVE JESUS

Acts 9:3-9, 13, 15-18

Saul was hurrying down the road to the city of Damascus. He was very angry. He thought there were some people in Damascus who loved another God called Jesus. He wanted them to love God only. Suddenly something happened. A great light from heaven shone round about him. He was so afraid that he fell to the ground. He heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" Saul asked, "Who are you, Lord?" And the Lord said, "I am Jesus whom you are treating very mean. I know it is hard for you to keep doing this. You are not happy." Saul trembled with fear. He was sorry for now he knew that Jesus of Nazareth was really and truly God's Son. How sorry he was that he had been fighting against Him and harming those who loved Him. Now Saul was willing to do what Jesus said. Jesus told him to go to the city and there he would be told what to do. Ananias loved Jesus. Jesus told him to go see Saul, but he knew about Saul and how he had harmed the Christians. He feared to go, but God told him Saul was praying. He prayed and Saul's eyes were opened.

Memory Verse: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief. 1 Tim. 1:15b.

The Snowman

"Mother, come look at my snowman!" Billy yelled at he pounded on the window.

Mother dried her hands and looked out the window. She was getting supper. She was greatly surprised to see a pipe in the snowman's mouth. She called Billy to the house.

"Why do I have to come in now?" Billy said as he stuck his head in the door. He hoped to find out why without taking off his boots. Mother did not like for him to step on her clean floor with his wet boots and he knew it.

"Where did you get that pipe?" Mother asked as she came to the door.

"Henry got his dad's old pipe and we put it in our snowman's mouth. It's just a snowman. Is there something wrong with that?"

"Well, dear, you know that we do not smoke and we don't want a snowman in our yard with a pipe in his mouth. You go and take it out and give it back to Henry. Then you had better come in the house and get ready for supper. Daddy will be here soon."

"Billy, Mother tells me that you put a pipe in your snowman's mouth," Daddy said at the supper table.

"It was Henry's dad's pipe," Billy said. "Is there anything wrong with that?"

"Well, I am sure you didn't think anything about it and we are not blaming you, but we want to help you understand how wrong it is for

anyone to smoke. Since we do not smoke, we do not want the people who pass our house to see a snowman with a pipe in his mouth in our yard. They might think we approved of things like that. Did you know there are eighteen different kinds of poison in cigarette smoke? They are all very harmful to your body. It has been proved that cigarette smoke causes cancer in people. Cancers are real bad sores that eat up the body and cause death. It is terrible and people suffer greatly who have it. Our bodies belong to God and we are to take care of them for His sake."

"Yes, I can see it was a bad example, Daddy, and I won't ever do it again. I just didn't think about it. You know that I know better than to smoke myself, but I did not think about the snowman being a bad example."

"I know you didn't, and I wanted to explain it to you. I am glad you understand now." —M. Miles

QUESTIONS:

1. Whom was our lesson about today?
2. What happened to Saul on the road to Damascus?
3. Was Saul sorry he had harmed Jesus by hurting His people?
4. After Saul was saved did he live a different life?
5. Was Saul filled with the Holy Spirit and baptized?

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Part 16

Jan. 18

MAKING THE RIGHT CHOICE

Luke 18:18-23

One day Jesus was walking along the road when he saw a man running toward Him. The man knelt down at his feet and said, "Good Master, what shall I do that I might inherit eternal life?" Jesus said, "Why do you call me good? There is none good but one, that is, God. You know the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honor thy father and mother." The man answered, "Master, all these have I obeyed from my youth." Jesus looked at him with love and then said, "One thing you lack yet. Go your way and sell what you have and give to the poor. You will then have treasures in heaven. Then I want you to come and take up your cross and follow me." Oh, this poor rich man! He had lots and lots of riches. He loved them. He did not want to follow Jesus who did not have any certain place to stay. He did not want to take up his cross, which would mean leaving all of his worldly friends and being different. He went away very, very sad. The man had chosen to keep his riches and not go to heaven. Was this a wise choice?

Memory Verse: Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God! Mark 10:24b.

The Echo

Jack lived in the country. Near his home were some woods. Jack liked to play in the woods.

One morning Jack went to play in the woods. It was a beautiful day. The wind was blowing softly. The birds were singing. Jack was very happy as he went into the woods!

In a little while Jack came back to the house. He found his mother busy baking pies. He stood and watched her for a few moments. Then he said, "Mother there is a bad boy in the woods! He is mocking me. Everything I say, he says after me. I said, 'Hello,' and he said, 'Hello.' I said, 'Who are you?' and he said, 'Who are you?' I said, 'What is your name?' and he said, 'What is your name?' He made me mad when he mocked me like that! I said, 'I'll punch your head,' and he said, 'I'll punch your head.' "

Mother looked at Jack and said. "Jack, go back into the woods and tell the boy that you love him. See what happens."

Jack left the kitchen and went back to the woods. In a few moments he returned and said, "Mother, I did what you said. I said, 'I love you,' and the boy in the woods answered back, 'I love you.' "

Jack's mother said to him, "Jack, what you heard in the woods was only an echo. There is no other boy in the woods. When you said, 'I love you,' the echo answered, 'I love you.' Jack, you can learn a good lesson from what happened today in the

woods. All through life you will hear an echo. If you speak kindly to others, others will speak kindly to you. If you say angry words to others, others will say angry words to you. Jack, always be kind to others. Always say kind words. Then you will receive kindness from others. Life is an echo of what you are and of what you say."

TEACHINGS OF JESUS

Read Matthew 5:43-45. Draw a line through the wrong words.

1. We should (love, hate) our enemies.
2. We should do (good, bad) to those who hate us.
3. We should (curse, pray for) those who are unkind to us.
4. God gives sunshine and rain to (the good, all people).

QUESTIONS:

1. What did the man who came running to Jesus want?
2. What did Jesus tell him he needed to do?
3. Had the man been living a good life?
4. What did Jesus tell him that he did not want to do?
5. What does it mean for us to follow Jesus today?

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Part 17

Jan. 25

SAUL TELLS ABOUT JESUS

Acts 9:20-28

Saul was happy now that he loved Jesus and had been filled with the Holy Spirit. He talked to the disciples in Damascus and must have asked them all about Jesus' teachings and His life. Then we read where he went into their places of worship and preached that Christ was the Son of God. Everyone was amazed. They said, "Is not this he that came to harm the Christians and intended to take them bound to Jerusalem to the chief priests?" But Saul continued to tell them that he had been saved by Jesus Christ and was changed. He wanted others to love Jesus, too. Saul then went down to Arabia to be alone. There God taught him many wonderful truths. After three years he came back to Damascus and some heard about him being there. They wanted to kill him for serving Jesus, but his friends let him down over the wall in a basket. Soon those who watched the gates night and day for him decided they couldn't find him. Saul went up to Jerusalem and there Barnabas persuaded the others to believe that truly Saul had changed. There he preached Christ to all. Saul loved Jesus.

Memory Verse: Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth. 1 Cor. 2:13a.

Forgive Others

"Mother I felt sorry for Betty today," Janie said as she turned away from the window. "She was walking down the sidewalk and Jackie ran right into her with his tricycle."

"Did she get hurt?" Mother asked as she looked up from her mending.

"She cried, and when she got up her mouth was bleeding. I ran over to her and I said, 'Don't you hate that Jackie?' "

"Jane, you should not have said that," Mother said as she stopped her mending and looked at Janie with surprise.

"But, Mother, Jackie was mean to her!" Janie said with a frown on her face.

"I know it wasn't nice for Jackie to run into Betty, but we have to forgive others when they do us wrong. What did Betty say when you asked her if she hated Jackie?"

"That is just what I have been thinking about. She said, 'I am going to pray for Jackie.' I don't understand how she could pray for him. I think I would ask God to knock him down."

"Oh! Janie, you must not talk like that," Mother said in surprise. "It looks to me like you need to pray for yourself. You are not the one who got hurt, but you are letting hatred creep into your heart. Betty is a good example of what Jesus would want you to do. She has forgiven him and you ought to forgive him. God has told us in His Word, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, saith the

Lord.' In other words, God will punish Jackie for his wrong-doing. It is not your business to hate him. If you continue to feel that way you will find yourself trying to do something wrong to Jackie and you will be trying to take God's place. That is not right. God knows how to punish people in this life so they will be sorry for their wrong-doing."

"Do you think God can help me to feel better toward Jackie?" Janie said as she wiped away the tears. She knew she should not feel as she did.

"Yes, dear, He can. Why not go to your bedroom and pray to Jesus and tell Him all about it? You have felt pretty sad since you were having such bad thoughts." Later Janie appeared, all smiles. Jesus had helped her just as Mother had said He would and she was ready to forgive Jackie for being mean to her little friend. We need Jesus' help in order to live as His Word teaches. We need to seek Him often and ask Him to help us to live right and feel right toward others.

—M. Miles

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Saul change from doing evil to doing good?
2. Did others want to harm Saul for teaching that Jesus was the Christ?
3. How did his friends help him?
4. Was Saul bold in preaching that Jesus was the Christ?
5. Should we be bold to stand up for right?

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Part 18

Feb. 1

BARNABAS FINDS PAUL

Acts 11:19-26; 2 Cor. 12:2-4, 7-10

Paul went back to his home in Tarsus. It had been three years since he had left home. No doubt, he told his parents, relatives, and friends about meeting Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus and how he got saved. We hope that they also learned to love Jesus. After Stephen was stoned many of the saints were afraid to stay in Jerusalem so they left. Some went to Antioch. There they told others about Jesus. Many began to love Him and a revival broke out. The church at Jerusalem heard about the revival. They sent Barnabas down to find out about it. Barnabas was a good man and was full of the Holy Ghost and faith. He was happy to see those who were saved. He told them to cling to Jesus and love Him with all their hearts. He saw much work there to be done for God, so he went to Tarsus to find Paul. Paul was glad to go back with him to Antioch. There he preached and labored for God about a year. Many loved the true God instead of worshipping idols. During this time God let Paul see into Paradise, the place of rest for the souls until the Judgment. He could not describe the beauty of it.

Memory Verse: The hand of the Lord was with them; and a great number believed. Acts 11:21a.

Neesima

Neesima was a little boy who lived in Japan. Neesima did not know about the true and living God. Neesima did not know about Jesus, the Saviour. In Neesima's home was a shelf. On the shelf stood the household idols. These idols were made of wood and of stone. Neesima believed that the idols would take care of him if he gave them offerings, and if he worshipped them. Neesima believed that the idols would punish him if he did not worship them.

One day when Neesima was worshipping the idols on the shelf, he noticed that they were made of wood and of stone. He noticed that they were made by men. Neesima thought, "I wonder if the idols can really help me?" He placed some rice and tea in front of the idols. The next day, the rice and tea were still there. Neesima thought, "These idols cannot talk. They cannot see. They cannot smell. They cannot hear. They cannot do anything. Why, they never eat the rice nor drink the tea which I place in front of them!"

Neesima began to lose faith in the idols. Then Neesima buried an idol in the corner of the garden. Neesima said, "If that idol comes up out of the dark hole, I will know that it is a god. If it says in that dark hole, I will know that it is not a god. If it stays there, I will never pray to an idol again!"

The idol did not come up. It stayed in the dark hole. Then Neesima said,

"I do not believe that idol is a god!" After that Neesima did not worship idols anymore.

Neesima was a sad little boy. He knew that idols could not help him. Who could help him? One day a missionary told Neesima about the true and living God. She told him about Jesus, the Saviour. After that, Neesima was a happy little boy.

WHEN TO PRAY

Pray when you are happy,
Pray when you are sad,
Pray when you are good,
Pray when you are bad.

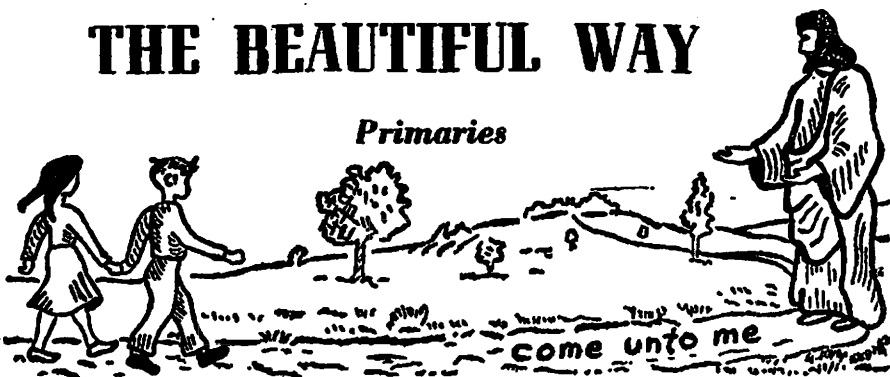
Pray when you're at home,
Pray when you're at school,
Wherever you may be,
"Pray always," is the rule.

QUESTIONS:

1. What was happening down in Antioch?
2. Who was sent by the church to find out about it?
3. Who helped Barnabas in the great work in Antioch?
4. What was the name given to the followers of Jesus in Antioch?
5. Had this name ever been used before?
6. What did Paul see when he was caught up to Paradise?

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Part 19

Feb. 8

SHOWING MERCY TO OTHERS

Acts 11:27-30; 12:1-25

The saints in Jerusalem were in need because there was not much food in the land. There had not been much rain. Saul and Barnabas took an offering from the saints at Antioch to the saints at Jerusalem. While they were there, the king caused trouble among the saints. He killed James and put Peter in prison. But the saints went to Mary's house and prayed without ceasing for Peter. God heard their prayer. He sent an angel down and woke Peter, who was sleeping between two soldiers. The angel caused the chains to fall off, and Peter got up and followed him. He led Peter down through the first and second ward and caused the big iron gate to swing open without any help. This gate took twenty men to open it. The angel left Peter when he was out on the street. "Knock, knock," Rhoda heard as she kept the door to Mary's house. She looked out and saw Peter. She ran to the others and said, "Peter is at the door." Peter kept knocking and soon was let in. All were very happy to see him and hear how God answered prayer. Saul and Barnabas took John Mark and went back to Antioch.

Memory Verse: Let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. Gal. 6:10b.

Liberty Bell

If you ever go to Philadelphia, be sure to go to Independence Square. There you will see a lovely white building. It is the Old State House.

One of the first things you will see when you go inside is a large bell. It is one of the most famous bells in the world. We call it the Liberty Bell.

Many, many years ago the people in the new land called America wanted to be free. They wanted to worship God as they chose. They wanted to be able to speak what they wanted to. They wanted to be able to write and print what they wanted to.

So they fought a war for freedom. We call it the Revolutionary War. George Washington was the great general of the army.

It was a long, hard war. If you travel outside the city of Philadelphia a short way, you will be able to visit Valley Forge. There Washington and his men stayed during a long, cold winter. They were hungry and cold. But they would not give up.

At last, victory came. To tell the world that they were free, the people rang this bell. If you will look on the bell you will find a verse of Scripture. It is found in Leviticus 25:10.

The bell is cracked now. But we still remember July 4, 1776. We call it Independence Day.

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a first step. Watch ALL your steps!

Mr. Rightway Says:

Do you walk through the door
Without stopping to rap?
It's much nicer
To make yourself known
Than to interrupt something—
A talk, or a nap,
Or a wish to be left
All alone.

—Mary C. Adams

WE THANK THEE

We thank Thee for the sunshine;
We thank Thee for the rain,
For food and home and those we love;
We thank Thee, Lord, again.

King Solomon, the wise man in the Bible, wrote words of advice to a lazy person. He said, "Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest." Prov. 6:6-8.

QUESTIONS:

1. Did the saints send help to the poor saints in Jerusalem?
2. Where did the bad king put Peter?
3. Who helped Peter to get out of prison?
4. Did Rhoda open the door as soon as Peter knocked?
5. Whom did Peter and Barnabas take back with them to Antioch?

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Part 20

Feb. 15

PAUL AND BARNABAS WORK FOR GOD

Acts 13:1-12

Five prophets and teachers had a prayer meeting. They fasted and asked God to show them who was to go tell others about Jesus and His great love. The Holy Ghost said for them to send Paul and Barnabas. They laid hands upon the two men and prayed God to bless them as they went forth. They sailed to an island called Cyprus. There they preached about Jesus. They told the people Jesus would forgive them of their sins and take them to heaven when they died if they would believe on Him. The deputy of the country, whose name was Paulus, was glad to hear about Jesus, but another man named Elymas did not want this deputy to love Jesus. He tried to turn him away from God. This grieved Paul and Barnabas. Oh, how awful it is to get others to do wrong! Paul was full of the Holy Ghost and he said to Elymas, the bad man, "You are full of mischief and are an enemy of those who want to do right. Behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you and you will be blind for a while, and not see the sun." Right away he became blind and someone had to lead him. The deputy believed on Jesus.

Memory Verse: Flee youthful lusts: but follow righteousness.
2 Timothy 2:22a.

Mary Slessor

Over one hundred years ago, there was born in Dundee, Scotland, a baby girl. Her name was Mary Slessor. Her parents were very poor. Mary went to school until she was eleven years old. Then, because she had many younger brothers and sisters she quit school to go to work that she might help her father to feed the children. She was so glad that she had learned to read and write because she loved to read her Bible, and a little church paper that was sent to her mother. The paper often had testimonies from missionaries in Africa. Since she was a very little girl she had been hearing about missionaries and about the savages in Africa, who needed Jesus so much. Many, many times she would play, gathering little sticks and lining them up before her; she would call them her black children, and she would play like she was teaching them about Jesus. She wanted so much to be a missionary. She had read about a place in Nigeria called Calabar. It was said that it was the hardest place of all to work for Jesus. They had no laws, no government, and the people practiced witchcraft. They had many cruel customs and superstitions. When twin babies were born they were killed, and their mother sent out into the wild jungle. When a chief died, his wives were killed, to keep him company in the spirit world. They didn't have any knowledge of right and wrong as we do. When someone was suspected of doing

wrong, they tried him by an ordeal of poison or boiling oil!

All the time that Mary was working long hard hours, and earning only three dollars a week, she longed and prayed that God might send her to Calabar, so that she might be able to teach the poor people about Jesus' love.

One day God sent a missionary to Dundee, from Calabar. He told all about the people and their great need. Then he asked if there was any one who would like to go, anyone who was willing to suffer for Jesus. Here was the answer to Mary's prayer! She told them with great joy, "Yes! I want to go for Jesus."

Fear thou not, for I am with thee; be not dismayed, for I am thy God. I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. Isaiah 41:10.

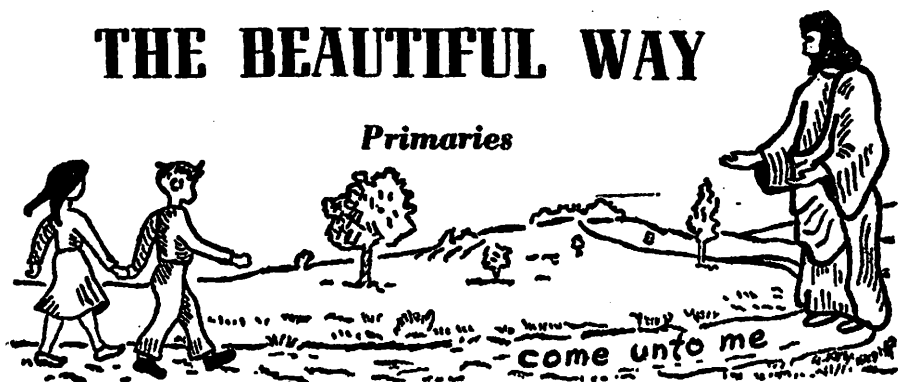
QUESTIONS:

1. Whom did they send to work for Jesus?
2. Did they sail in a boat to Cyprus?
3. Was there a man on this island who wanted to hear about Jesus?
4. What happened to the man who tried to keep him from loving Jesus?
5. Is it a bad sin for us to keep others from loving Jesus and doing right?

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Part 21

Feb. 22

PAUL PREACHES ABOUT JESUS

Acts 13:13-42

Paul and Barnabas sailed from the island to Perga and then crossed the rugged mountains to Antioch. There were many robbers in that country. Paul and Barnabas were weary when they arrived in this city full of sinful people. These people needed to hear about Jesus. Paul went to their chapel and preached to the people. He told them how God had brought the Israelites out of Egypt to the land of Canaan. God showed His power to the people. They wanted a king to rule over them. David was a good king and taught the people to obey God's laws. God promised that through David's family Jesus would come to the world. Paul told the people about John the Baptist and how he preached that people should be sorry for their sins and repent. He told them about Jesus coming to save from sin. The people had not loved Jesus so they had nailed Him to the cross. They put Him in the grave, but boys and girls, Jesus did not stay there. He arose right out of the grave and many saw Him. Paul told the people that through this man Jesus they could get forgiveness of sins.

Memory Verse: Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. Acts 16:31.

Mary Slessor

When Mary arrived at Calabar, God gave her great courage and His Spirit was with her in all that she did. The natives soon learned to love and respect her. She often would walk alone through the jungles. The wild animals never hurt her. (Do you remember someone else who was able to walk among the wild animals and God protected him from being hurt?) The people were amazed at this, for they had great fear of the wild lions and leopards. They began to call her their "little white mother," or "Ma" for short. She taught school, and had services on Sunday. The people were drunken so much, many times she took their liquor away from them. They were like children to her. She remembered when she was a child, and had played with the sticks, calling them her little black children. God had given her the desire of her heart. She kept very busy, caring for the sick, binding up the wounds from knife and spear fights, and removing bullets. She would sometimes cuff them to get them to obey her. At one time there was a fierce savage visiting them from another tribe. He had many bottles of liquor and was drunken and fighting. Mary took the liquor away from him, and walked a mile into the jungle with him. Then she gave him the bottles and made him promise to go home. This man was a very dangerous man; the other people feared him. Mary trusted in God, and she knew that the Lord and His Spirit were with her. The sav-

age man could easily have killed her, but the Lord was with her.

God will give us the same courage and the same protection if we trust in Him and love and obey Him. Isn't it wonderful to know that the Lord is with us? He will protect us from wild animals and every dangerous thing. He will be with us just as He was with Mary, helping her to do the work He wanted her to do.

Now that the people of Calabar were learning to love and serve God, and had their own services, Mary's heart longed to go farther to a tribe in Okoyong. They were more fierce and wild than the people of Calabar had been. God let Mary go to Okoyong.

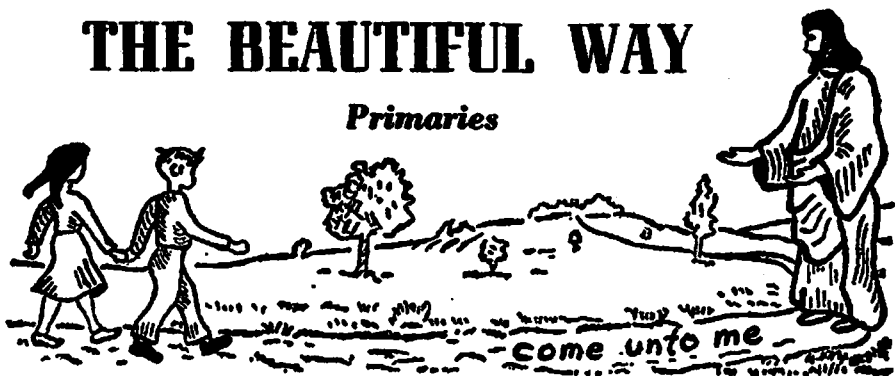
Very often we must do things we do not feel like doing. Mother may not feel like getting up to prepare breakfast, but she does anyway. Father may not feel like going to work on a cold winter morning, but he braves the wind and snow in order that he may earn money to buy food, fuel, and clothing for his family. And Juniors must learn to do many things they do not feel like doing.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where did Paul and Barnabas go?
2. What did they do when they arrived in Antioch?
3. What did Paul tell the people?
4. What did he tell them Jesus would do for them?
5. Will Jesus forgive us of our sins today?

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Part 22

Mar. 1-

GENTILES GLORIFIED GOD'S WORD

Acts 13:42-52

"Won't you preach to us again next week?" asked the people. Paul was glad that they wanted to hear about Jesus. After the meeting broke up, the people followed him and he told them to love God always. The next Sabbath the whole city came together to hear about Jesus. There were some Jews who did not like it because so many people came to hear Paul. They were filled with envy. They said bad things to Paul and Barnabas. They talked against Jesus. Paul and Barnabas told them that because they did not want to be saved and have eternal life, he would just preach to the Gentiles. Paul told them that God said he would be set for a light to the Gentiles so they could be saved. He showed them the way to heaven. The Jews stirred up some good women and the chief men of the city against Paul and Barnabas and they put them out of the city. Oh, how sad that they did not want to know how to go to heaven! But Paul and Barnabas left the city and shook off the dust from their feet and went on their way rejoicing in the Lord. They enjoyed telling the people about Jesus.

Memory Verse: He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. Mark 16:16a.

Mary Slessor

Mary went to Okoyong; with her she took five children from Calabar, orphans that she had adopted—three boys; eleven, eight, and three, and two girls, one five years old and a baby.

After working with this savage tribe for six months, teaching the wrong in their customs of killing baby twins, and of human sacrifice, she opened her first school, then a second one at Ifako. These wild people were beginning to know Mary's Jesus. She had no chalk, blackboards, paper, nor pencils for her schools. They used a smooth board and a piece of charcoal for each child.

At last, with the help of the people, Mary built a little mission house. It had two rooms. Each was 10x12 feet. The walls were three feet thick made of mud and plaster. The roof was made waterproof with woven palm leaves. There was a shed at the back and a porch in front, also a fire place with an outside chimney. The people marveled at this wonderful house. She had a bed with a deerskin stretched over it for a mattress.

This home was in Ekenge, so the Ifako chief begged her to build the church building in Ifako.

Mary taught the people to take their palm oil down the river, to trade for many things that they needed, like knives, kettles, bolts of cloth and many useful articles. The people began to be more ambitious, drinking less, and working more. How

true it is, when God is accepted in a community everyone prospers more and is happier!

Mary's work was recognized by the English government and she was made vice-consul in Okoyong, representing Queen Victoria.

After seven years Mary left her home in Ekenge, to go with the people to a new district called Akpap. Mary's people wanted to try all that she had been teaching them about agriculture, in a new fertile district. This was fine with Mary, as it meant she could reach more souls in the interior of Nigeria, teaching them of the love of God and His Son who came to save sinners.

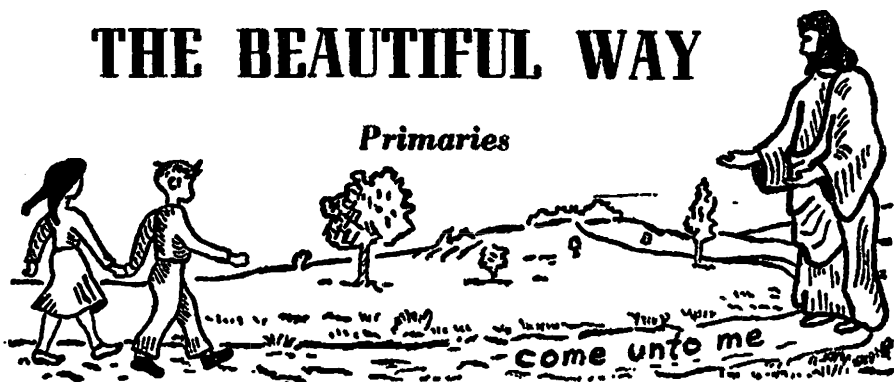
A wonderful safeguard against being overcome with temptation is to practice the presence of the Lord in our lives. That is, always acknowledge His presence, realize that He is seeing you every moment, in all you think, say, or do. This, of course, should be the constant attitude of every Christian.

QUESTIONS:

1. What people liked to hear Paul preach?
2. What did Paul preach about?
3. What did those who were against Paul do to him?
4. What did he do when he left the city?
5. Did Paul and Barnabas rejoice because the Lord had taken care of them?

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



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Part 23

Mar. 8

THE LAME MAN HEALED

Acts 14:1-18

Paul and Barnabas loved God. They told others about Him. They wanted all the people to love God. Some people did not want to hear Paul and Barnabas. They stoned them. Paul and Barnabas went to Derbe and Lystra. There they preached about God. They told how Jesus could heal crippled people. One man was crippled. When he heard this he was happy. He wanted to be healed. Paul saw how happy he was and that he had faith to believe that God could heal. Paul said, "Stand upon your feet." The man leaped and walked. The people were surprised and happy. They thought their heathen gods had come to visit them. They wanted to offer sacrifices to Paul and Barnabas and honor them. Paul and Barnabas wanted God to be praised. They tore their clothes and begged the people not to do that. They wanted the people to know they were just men, that God was the one who had healed the man. Paul told them God wanted them to love Him. He was the God who had sent the rain upon the earth and had done good to them. The people stopped and listened to what Paul and Barnabas had to say.

Memory Verse: If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: but if we deny him, he also will deny us. 2 Tim. 2:12.

Mary Slessor

When Mary moved from her little home in Ekege, to the new district of Akpap, she walked the fifteen miles through the forest with all the children who were old enough to walk following her. Behind her came the women; after them the men carrying all of Mary's household possessions on their heads.

By Christmas time M. Ovens had the new mission house built. The governor and a friend of his came, bringing dolls, toys, candy, fruit and cookies, also many useful things for the house. What an exciting time that must have been for the little children of Akpap! The mission house in Akpap soon became a place of refuge to people all over the country who were in trouble.

One time while traveling down the river, Mary saw a big hippopotamus. The big river animal came close to the boat, almost overturning it. The paddlers cried out, "Ma! Please save us!" They called on her because they knew she could pray to Jesus and get help. She shoved a basin at the beast's open mouth. He crunched it with his powerful jaws and teeth, crumpling it as though it were paper. The noise frightened him and he dove out of sight in the water.

Mary had up until this time saved fifty-one twins from death. The people were being delivered from this terrible superstition. One lady desiring to save her twins brought them hidden in a gourd and gave them to Mary. Once she was heard to say

that she felt like the old woman who lived in a shoe.

Soon God led Mary even further inland. She went to the Aro tribe. The village of Ito was a place that sold many slaves to the traders who took them to other countries, selling them like animals, separating families, children from their parents and husbands from wives. Mary knew that all these poor people needed Jesus, the slaves as well as those who sold them. Mary built a school and church building in Ito. Someone asked her how she learned to make cement. She said, "Well, I just mix it with sand and stir it like porridge, and then I tell the dear Lord, 'If it looks right to you, please make it set.' And it always sets!"

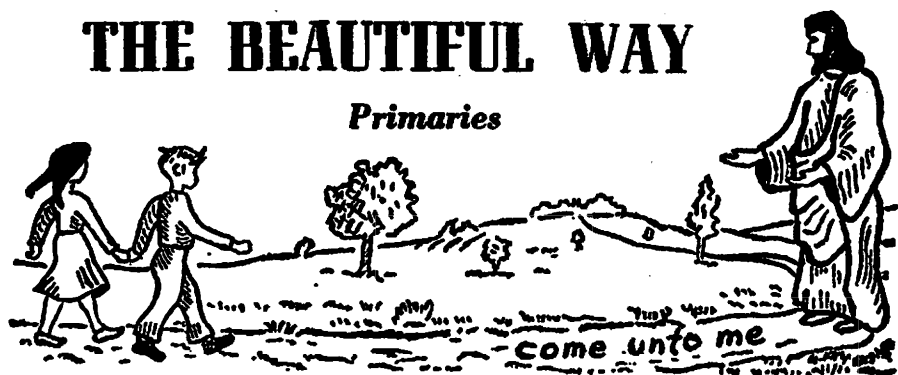
"Do you love Jesus?" "Friend, I can tell you something better than that which you asked me. He loves me. He loved me when He was in heaven before He was born in Bethlehem. He loves me now, and He will always love me. He wants me to live for Him so I can go to be with Him." He loves you, too. Won't you live for Him?

QUESTIONS:

1. Did the people try to stone Paul and Barnabas?
2. Did the crippled man listen to the preaching of Paul?
3. What did Paul say to him?
4. What did the crippled man do?
5. What did the people want to do to Paul and Barnabas?

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Part 24

Mar. 15

GOD HELPS PAUL

Acts 14:19-28

Paul and Barnabas were glad the people did not want to worship them as they had tried to do. But some Jews came from another town who did not like Paul and Barnabas because they believed in Jesus Christ. They said bad things about Paul and Barnabas to the people. The people believed them and turned against Paul and Barnabas. Soon a riot was started. The people talked in loud and angry voices. They chased Paul out of the city and stoned him. They thought he was dead, so they left him there. The saints stood around Paul and, no doubt, prayed for him. God touched and healed him. Paul got up from the ground. Where do you think he went? Right back into that city! He was not afraid because, live or die, he belonged to the Lord. The next day he and Barnabas went to Derbe. They preached the gospel there. Then they went back through the cities where they had been to tell the saints to love God and not let troubles cause them to turn away from Him. They chose leaders for each church and prayed for them. They left then for the place where they had started.

Memory Verse: If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Matt. 16:24.

Mary Slessor

God supplied the needs of Mary Slessor in wondrous ways. She always seemed to be able to go ahead and build homes, schools, and churches. She always had a big houseful of orphan children that she was caring for. Her children and the work of God always came first with her. Her devotion to God and His work did not allow her to think about Mary Slessor or her needs or her comfort. To work for God was her delight. It is said that she almost always had a cheery smile. God tells us that if we delight ourselves in the Lord, He will give us the desires of our heart. Mary's life proves this to be true.

We can decide while we are very young, as Mary did, that our life will be given to God. God will start using us right away, but we won't always know that He is using us, because we will be so very busy pleasing Him and doing His will, delighting ourselves in the Lord.

God gave Mary such great wisdom that she was called on by governments and traveled great distances to judge in a problem or disagreement. Her judgments were always fair and very wise. One time she was called on to judge a dispute between two tribes about the ownership of land. They had been fighting, shedding much blood over these things. She went right to the heart of the matter. She asked them to surrender 3000 rifles, stop selling slaves, and agree that Jesus' plan and way should be practiced. They were to build

churches, schools, and roads and keep law and order. The savage people agreed to all of this. We know that only God could have moved on their hearts to change so completely.

The government told Mary that if she would teach this group, they would be able to withdraw their troops of soldiers that were guarding the natives from doing violence. Praise God for the working of His Spirit! God wants to show His power and greatness in YOUR life. He needs little children that He can lead and teach and prepare for a great work. He wants to save many, many more souls. There are places in the world that God's love is needed just as greatly as it was needed in the jungles of Nigeria, and still is needed in Africa.

If you are keeping company with those who are leading you down and away from the right, it would be wise for you to break that companionship. You cannot afford to be led astray.

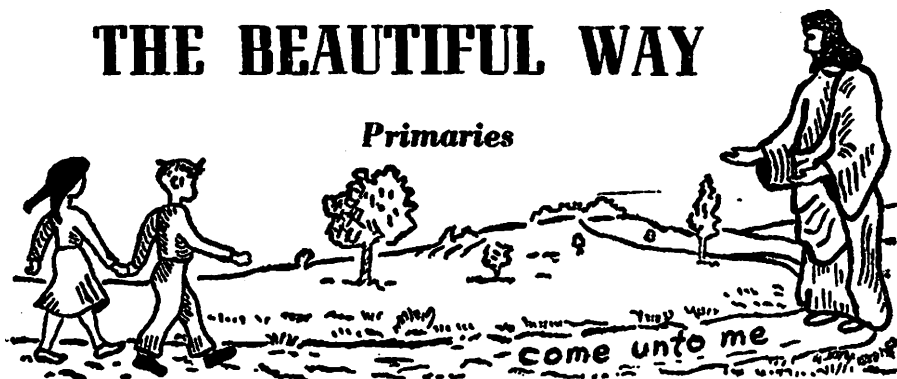
QUESTIONS:

1. What did the people do to Paul?
2. What did God do to help him?
3. What did Paul do after God healed him of the awful beating he had received?
4. Did Paul tell the saints they would have troubles in this life?
5. What did Paul and Barnabas tell the saints in Antioch God had done on their trip?

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Part 25

Mar. 22

THE CLEANSING POWER OF THE GOSPEL

Romans 1:16-18, 29-32

Paul and Barnabas went from city to city preaching to the people. They were glad to tell them that Jesus could save them from sin. They were not ashamed of Jesus Christ. Paul told them that the wrath of God was against all who sinned. Paul named some of these sins in a letter to the people at Rome. He told them it was wrong to delight in hurting others. God wants you to be nice to other boys and girls. Paul told them they should not be full of envy. Instead, they should be glad when others have nice things. Paul told them not to tell lies nor have evil thoughts about others, nor try to get other boys and girls to dislike a certain one. Paul told them to talk nice to everyone and love them. He taught that children should love and obey their parents. He wanted them to know that God would love them if they obeyed His laws, but if they did not they would be choosing for themselves the punishment set for all who disobey. God wants us to keep the promises we make and show mercy to others. God will bless all those who will do as He tells them to. Do you obey God?

Memory Verse: I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation. Romans 1:16.

Mary Slessor

God used Mary many, many times to work reforms in governments. She was requested to give a report about the import, sale, and use of liquor in Nigeria. This she felt to be a door God opened for her. She prayed much and spoke very firmly. The result was that restrictions were put on the import and sale of all liquors. The condition of the people began to improve right away.

There were times when Mary's faith was tried, but she kept her trust in God. There were no airplanes in those days, and the mail steamships were slow and sometimes the river was flooded. At these times supplies would be delayed and the need would be great. Suppose your mother could not get to a store, or maybe the stores were all out of groceries. It would be very hard, wouldn't it? One note in her diary read, "Have only three pence in the house. Exchanged a couple of school books to buy food. Got five small yams, oil and shrimp with pepper, and a few small fresh fish." At that time Mary had quite a few orphans and twins living with her.

It was at this time that God moved on the hearts of her people, and they began to bring in offerings. Sometimes little children would come to school with an egg or two clutched in their little hands. Others sent in oil, and some shared their crops with her. God usually works His wonders through people, His love giving them a desire to help one another.

God will supply all of our needs, too, if we trust in Him. All the earth is the Lord's and all there is in it, and we are His. We know that He loves us so we know that He will supply our needs. Just as our Mother and Father love us and work to earn and prepare for us the things we need. God is our loving Father and has promised to care for us. God wants us to trust in Him for all our needs. Just as we look to Father and Mother to take care of us.

HEAVEN

One night a girl, walking with her father was looking intently at the skies. Her father asked her what she was thinking about, and this is what she said: "I was thinking if the wrong side of heaven is so glorious, what must the right side be?" We cannot tell what a glorious place Jesus is preparing for us, but we know it will be a beautiful place. And best of all He will be there! —Sel.

QUESTIONS:

1. Was Paul ashamed of the gospel of Christ?
2. What will Christ do for those who come to Him?
3. Name some of the wrong things that boys and girls do.
4. What does God think of those who do wrong?
5. Why do you want to go to heaven when you die?

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Part 26

Mar. 29

JESUS AROSE FROM THE GRAVE

Mark 16:1-8; 1 Thess. 4:13-18

Real early in the morning three women went to the tomb of Jesus. They were very sad as they thought they would never see Him again. As they walked along the path that Easter morning they wondered who would roll away the big heavy stone at the door of the tomb. Suddenly they looked and the stone was already rolled away. They saw an angel sitting on the stone. They were afraid. The angel said, "Be not afraid. You are looking for Jesus who was put here after He died on the cross. He is risen; He is not here. Come and look at the place where they laid Him." As they looked into the tomb, it was empty. The angel then said, "Go and tell His disciples and Peter that He will see them in Galilee as He told them before He died on the cross." The women quickly fled from the tomb as they were afraid. They did not know what to think of all they had heard and seen. Jesus appeared to His disciples, as He had said He would. They were real glad to see that He had arisen from the dead. Because He arose, we, too, will arise from the grave in the last day when Jesus comes bursting through the clouds. Be sure that you live so you are ready to meet Him.

Memory Verse: He is risen; he is not here. Mark 16:6.

The Awakening

So many times God's great plans follow a beautiful pattern. He uses this pattern again and again to remind us that it is His own lovely pattern. God has a pattern of resurrection that is repeated again and again. Our dear Lord Jesus was crucified and laid in the tomb for three days. Then He arose in all His glory to show us that we may rise and live with Him forever. It is very interesting to watch for and notice all the ways that God repeats this pattern. The most common one that we are all acquainted with is in the life of a butterfly. The butterfly lays her eggs on or near a plant with nice green leaves. A little worm or caterpillar hatches out and begins to eat the leaves. He eats and grows and eats and grows. The day arrives when he spins his cocoon. He spins it all around him until he is all closed in. Then he goes to sleep until the time is right; then to waken he works his way out of the little tomb he has been in, dries his wings in the sun, and flies away—a beautiful winged butterfly.

The lady-bug, too, starts out as a crawly bug, and must lie in the tomb a while before she can fly with her pretty red wings.

The earth blossoms in spring, and in summer bears her fruit. But in the fall the flowers wither and fade and fall. The trees lose their leaves and all is covered with a blanket of snow or ice, to sleep the long winter through—but when the time is right

the warm sunshine awakens all to life again. The flowers bloom, the leaves begin to grow, and God's nature is working in all.

In the springtime we take little dry hard seeds that look dead, as though there was no life in them. We bury them in the earth and wait. The rain and sun warm and moisten the earth until the hard covering on the little seed cracks. Then the life that was there all the time begins to force out tender little shoots upward, and tender little roots downward; until that little seed is changed into a beautiful plant!

All this should give you some idea of the great awakening that will take place some day when all the bodies that have been put in the graves will come forth with a new body to live forever somewhere. If we have lived for Jesus, our bodies will be made like His and we shall go to live with Him in heaven. Those who did not live for Jesus will have to go away into everlasting punishment. How sad!

QUESTIONS:

1. Where did the three women go early in the morning?
2. Who rolled away the stone from the grave of Jesus?
3. What did the angel say about Jesus?
4. What did the women think about what they saw and heard?
5. Where is Jesus today?

THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



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April, May, June, 1970

Part 14

April 5

THE BEAUTIFUL WOMAN AND HER CHILDREN

Eph. 3:8; Rev. 12:1, 5a; Acts 2:41, 47; Phil. 2:15

Paul preached to the Gentiles. He told them they must be born again or be saved to be in the church of God and be ready to meet Jesus when He comes again. John told us about a beautiful woman. She is clothed with the sun and under her feet is the moon. On her head she wears a crown of twelve stars. This woman is a symbol of the church of God. Those who are in the church are beautiful because they are kind, pure, holy, good, sweet, and tender. God loves them. They are like this beautiful woman. The good life a saved boy or girl lives shines like this woman who is clothed with the sun. This woman stands for those who were pure and holy in the early church. The twelve stars mean the twelve disciples who told others about God, Jesus, and heaven after Jesus went back to heaven and left them. This woman had a man-child. This man-child were those who were saved when the disciples and apostles told them about Jesus. In one day there were 3000 saved. God added them to the church as they were saved. Their godly lives made a bright light for Jesus in a dark world.

Memory Verse: Ye are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Matthew 5:14.

The Beautiful Woman*

"What was your Sunday School lesson about today?" Daddy asked Minnie as they drove home after attending services at the little brick chapel by the river. It was a beautiful late winter day. The sun was shining on the new-fallen snow causing it to glisten. The few birds were flying and hopping about trying to find something to eat. The trees were beautiful with snow on their branches and the family was enjoying the drive. But most of all they were happy in their hearts. They knew about Jesus and loved Him. They had heard a message of God's love to all people and had sung the songs of praise to their loving heavenly Father.

"We talked about a beautiful woman," Minnie answered.

"She had clothes like the sun," chimed in Larry.

"I imagine her clothes looked like this snow the sun is shining on today, don't you think so?" Minnie asked Larry.

"Yes, and she had a crown on her head. It had stars on the crown. My, it must have been beautiful," Larry said.

"Who was this woman? Did she have a name?" Daddy asked.

"Yes, she had a name, but it was a strange name for a woman. Our teacher said her name was 'The Church.' And she said this woman is everybody who is in the church," Minnie answered.

*parable

"She had the moon under her feet, too," Larry added.

"The Apostle John saw this woman in a vision when he was on the Isle of Patmos. God wanted him to know that everyone who belongs to God is beautiful, pure and holy. He let him see a beautiful woman so he would know just what they were to be like. Don't you think that was a beautiful picture?" Daddy asked.

"I want to be a beautiful woman, too," Minnie said.

"My dear, 'Pretty is as pretty does,' as my mother used to tell me. She said I would be pretty if I acted pretty. It's not just how you look on the outside, but it is how you are inside that makes you kind, loving, and sweet," Mother explained.

"This woman had some children, too. Our teacher said if we love the Lord and help others to love Him, too, that will cause Him to have more children. I want to be pretty, too, and help others to love God," Larry said.

"Yes, we all want to be beautiful in God's sight. We must pray and watch so we will act like Jesus wants us to, then we will be the church in the world today." —M. Miles

QUESTIONS:

1. Did Paul tell the Gentiles about the church of God?
2. What did the beautiful woman represent?
3. What was on her head?
4. Did she have any children?
5. What will cause us to shine as lights?

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Primaries



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April, May, June, 1970

Part 15

April 12

THE DRAGON IS CAST OUT

Acts 19:26; Rev. 12:3, 4b; 7-11

Last Sunday we studied about the beautiful woman, which is the church, and that she had lots and lots of children. Today we will study about her enemy. This enemy was real ugly. It was called a dragon. This red animal was huge. He had seven heads and ten horns. Oh, but he was ugly! He had an ugly heart, too. He wanted to kill the beautiful woman and her children. Michael, who was a powerful archangel, and His ministers came and fought the big dragon. The ministers of Michael were Paul and all the other gospel workers in his day. They loved God with all their hearts. They loved Him more than their own lives. They were not afraid of the big dragon because God was with them. They went right among the people who loved their idols and worshipped them and told them about Jesus and heaven. Many of the people turned against the dragon which was pagan or idol worship. They no longer worshipped idols, instead they worshipped Jesus. The dragon, or pagan worship, was overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the testimony of those who loved Jesus.

Memory Verse: They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony. Rev. 12:11a.

The Dragon*

"Was your lesson today in Sunday School about a woman and dragon, too?" Bill asked Mary after they had changed their clothes. They had eaten dinner and were sitting on the porch as they had nothing to do.

"Yes, and it was a big, ugly dragon, too. It had seven heads and ten horns. I would be very afraid of something like that if I should meet it on the street. But you wouldn't meet anything like that, for our teacher said it was just a symbol, which means it stands for something else. I forgot what she said it stood for. Something about Rome. Oh, yes, it was all those people who worshipped idols or images that could not see or talk. They bowed down to them and prayed to them. I am sure Paul was very sad as he looked at them doing such a useless thing when he knew about the true God who is alive and able to help them. He wanted them to know that God and pray to Him for He is real."

"I liked the part about the fight," Bill said. But didn't they use strange weapons? Maybe they didn't call them weapons for they just stood up and told the people about Jesus and how He died on the cross. When the wicked people would kill one preacher, others would tell the same story of Jesus and His love. Even if they were stoned they would get up and tell it again and again. They didn't back up one time. They loved Jesus

so much that they would face all kinds of dangers to tell about Him over and over. The teacher said they had God on their side and they won in the fight. The old dragon was cast down and was not even able to raise his head up. I am sure they were glad to get rid of that ugly old dragon."

"Children, do you understand that this war was a war between right and wrong—God and those who did not believe in God?" Mother said as she stood in the doorway listening to what was being said.

"But why did the teacher say that you could not see the dragon and the woman and the angels?" asked Sally who had walked up and was listening.

"The woman stood for the good and the dragon stood for evil. For instance, if we saw a lot of bad people who hated those who lived right, we would call all those people the dragon. The good people would be like a beautiful woman, clean and pure. The ones who are saved are like this. The bad people tried to make the good people do wrong, but they would not. That is the way of the fight," Mother explained.

"I don't want to be like a dragon, do you, Bill?" said Mary. —M. Miles

QUESTIONS:

1. What was the enemy of the beautiful woman called?
2. Did the dragon have horns and lots of heads?
3. Who fought against the dragon?
4. Was the dragon cast out of his high place?
5. How did the saints overcome the worship of idols in that day?

*parable

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THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



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April, May, June, 1970

Part 16

April 19

THE BIBLE IS THE ANSWER TO ALL QUESTIONS

Acts 15:1-20

Paul and Barnabas were preaching at Antioch. Some men went there and caused trouble. They said that the people should have to keep the law of Moses. Paul told them to obey Christ and His teachings. Paul and Barnabas went to Jerusalem and called the apostles and elders together to settle the question. Peter arose and told about how Cornelius, a Gentile, had prayed for someone to come and teach him more about God. When Peter preached to them, God blessed them and gave them the Holy Spirit, yet they had not kept this one law. Peter did not think the yoke of keeping this law should be put on the Antioch Gentile Christians. Then James, the brother of Jesus, stood up and opened his Bible. Boys and girls, all the answers to every question are in the Bible. James read that the Gentiles could seek after God. He told them not to trouble the Gentiles about this law, but that they should be taught not to eat things offered to idols, nor eat blood, nor commit fornication. This pleased the apostles and elders. They agreed to write a letter to the Antioch church and tell them this.

Memory Verse: We believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they. Acts 15:11.

The Squirrel

One time my father wrote that he was bringing something home for all of us children. He had gone up into Kansas to hold a meeting. We were anxious for him to come. When the day arrived we watched with anxious eyes to see if the next car that turned the corner would be his. Finally he arrived. And what do you think he brought us? It was a little squirrel. It was just a little ball of fur, and so cute! At first some of us were afraid of him. But he would jump from person to person so quickly that your eye could scarcely follow his movements. He dashed here and there. He would crawl down into my father's pocket and come out with a nut. This would please all of us as we watched him sit on my father's shoulder and crack the nut, making the shells fly everywhere. Mother wasn't very pleased with this scattering of shells on her floor, but she bore with us, telling us that we would have to clean them up very soon.

One day we brought the squirrel over to the office where the machinery was running. He would dash around here and there and finally he jumped into a moving wheel and was hurt. Oh, we were so sorry, and how we cried! My father took him out so tenderly and laid him on some old clothes we got for him. We asked Father to pray for the Lord to heal our pet. He was touched because of all our tears. So all of us knelt around the little squirrel and prayed for the Lord to heal him. Day after

day we watched him. Soon he was able to crawl around some. We were happy as we felt that he surely would live since he was better. Soon he was able to get around and was running everywhere. Sometimes he would get outside and up the tree he would go and jump from limb to limb. For a long time he would come to us when we called, but soon he left to find other squirrels to play with. At times we would see him. He would come close to us but would never let us touch him. When we would get close, he would give his bushy tail a flip and off up the tree he would go and sit and look at us with those bright eyes of his. When the pecan tree bore nuts he would gather them as fast as he could and run here and there burying them in the ground. He was storing up food for cold days ahead.

Boys and girls, we need to be like the squirrel. We need to store up the Word of God in our minds so when we are alone, or even in the night, we can think of a verse and it will help us to feel the presence of God.

—M. Miles

QUESTIONS:

1. Did some of the Jews want to make the Gentile Christians keep the law of Moses?
2. Name some of the men who were at this meeting to settle this question.
3. Does God love all the people in the world?
4. Did the Apostle James use the Bible to settle the question?
5. Did they write a letter to the Gentiles as an answer to the question?

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Part 17

April 26

A LETTER IS WRITTEN

Acts 15:22-35

Do you like to receive letters? Our lesson today is a letter that was written by the elders and apostles of the Jerusalem church to the Antioch church. Some men had gone from the church at Jerusalem and had told the church at Antioch that they should keep some of the laws of Moses. The elders and apostles at Jerusalem had not told them to teach this. After they had a discussion of the question, they wrote a letter. They sent it back to them with Paul and Barnabas. In the letter they made mention of Paul and Barnabas who had suffered many things for the name of Jesus. One time Paul was stoned and dragged outside the city and left for dead. The saints prayed for him and God healed him. He arose and went back into the city. The saints at Jerusalem loved Paul and Barnabas for their bold stand for Jesus, just as you love those who are brave and won't do wrong.

When the letter was read to the church at Antioch, they rejoiced and were comforted. They were glad the trouble had been taken care of and all was well. Judas and Silas preached to them.

Memory Verse: A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. Proverbs 25:11.

Larry's Lunch

Larry opened his lunch bag. Then he bowed his head. He hoped Jim was not around to make fun of him, but he was going to thank God for his food, anyway.

Before Larry had finished praying, Jim grabbed his lunch bag. He took the lunch out—four slices of bread and butter. Jim held them up for the other boys and girls to see. "Just bread and butter!" he laughed. "Larry is thanking God for just plain bread and butter!"

Some of the children laughed. But some did not. Bob was angry. "You give Larry back his lunch!" he said. He was ready to hit Jim. Jim gave the bread and butter back to Larry. "Why do you look so happy for just bread and butter, Larry?" asked Jane.

"This is a good lunch for me," said Larry. "My father has been sick and could not work. Mother could not work because she had to stay home and take care of Daddy and the baby. We have not had much to eat. Yesterday I just had a cooked potato for lunch. It did not taste good. But last night I helped our neighbor carry things home from the store. She gave me two loaves of bread and some butter. So I am thankful for bread and butter."

"I have such a good lunch!" said Jane. "But I did not thank God for it. I am going to thank Him right now. I want to thank Him because my father is well and can work, too." She bowed her head right then and

prayed. Larry saw that some of the other boys and girls did, too.

"I have more lunch than I can eat," John told Larry. "Mother does not like me to waste food. Will you eat this apple for me?"

"Mother put two slices of meat in my sandwich. I don't like two slices. Will you eat one with some of your bread and butter?" asked Becky.

"Please eat some of my cookies," said Billy. "Mother put in too many for me."

"Thank you!" said Larry. "What a good lunch! I'm going to thank God again."

When he had prayed again, he said, "My father is well enough today to take care of the baby, so Mother can look for work. I have lots for which to be thankful."

All the other boys and girls were glad, even Jim. —Sel.

QUESTIONS:

1. To whom was the letter written?
2. Had the ones who caused all the trouble been sent by the church?
3. How had Paul and Barnabas suffered for Jesus' sake?
4. Who went with Paul and Barnabas to Antioch?
5. Were the saints at Antioch happy to receive the letter and to know that the trouble had been taken care of?

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Part 18

May 8

PAUL HELPS PETER DO RIGHT

Galatians 2:11-21

Peter was in Antioch visiting with the Gentile people and eating with them. All seemed to be just fine. But some people came from his home town who did not believe in eating with the Gentile people. They felt that since the Gentile Christians had kept the law of Moses, the Jews should not eat with them. Peter was afraid of what the Jews might say about him, so he quit eating with the Gentile people. Barnabas also followed Peter's example. Paul felt this was very wrong. He thought Peter knew better than to do this. Perhaps Peter had not been watching and praying as he should have and he needed someone to help him see where he was wrong so he could do better. Paul boldly told Peter before all that he was wrong. He told him that only through Christ can we be accepted by God and not by keeping the law of Moses. He told Peter that if he would do again those things God had told him not to do, he was wrong. No doubt, Peter was very sorry. Paul said, "I am living here in this world, but I do not please self. I please Christ who loved me and died for me."

Memory Verse: The trial of your faith is more precious than gold. 1 Peter 1:7a.

Two Pies for Johnny

"Did you make a little pie for me, Mom?" asked Johnny, as he ran into the kitchen.

"One for you and one for Jean, too," said Mother. "Do you want to take it to her now?"

"I will take mine along, too. We will have a picnic in her back yard," said Johnny. So Mother put the two little pies in a sack for him.

"Jean was sick in the night," said her mother when she came to the door. "I do not think she should eat pie for two or three days. Thank you very much for bringing it over, Johnny. Thank your mother for sending it. But I guess you will have to eat two pies by yourself this time!"

Two pies! Mother's pies were so good!

"I will go to the park and eat them," thought Johnny.

When he got to the park old Mr. Williams was sitting on one of the benches. Mr. Williams lived by himself. Johnny did not think he cooked much. He had been sick, too, and looked very weak and thin. Johnny sat down beside him.

"Mother baked a little pie for Jean. But she is sick and cannot eat it," said Johnny. "Could you eat it?"

"I sure could, if you are sure you do not want it yourself," said Mr. Williams.

First he prayed, and then he ate the pie. Johnny forgot to eat his. It was so much fun seeing Mr. Williams eat. But he still looked hungry.

"Please eat this one, too," said Johnny.

"I would not want to eat your pie," said Mr. Williams.

"Mother made big pies, too. We will have one for supper," said Johnny, smiling.

"Then let us divide it," said Mr. Williams. "It is such good pie!"

So they broke the other pie in two. How good it tasted!

"God will pay you back," said Mr. Williams. "It says in the Bible that if you give someone even a cup of cold water, because you love Jesus, God will pay you for it."

"He has paid me already," said Johnny. "I enjoyed watching you eat pie more than eating it myself."

QUESTIONS:

1. Why did Peter quit eating with the Gentile people?
2. Did Paul think this was right?
3. Should we let others cause us to do wrong?
4. Will God be pleased if we act right and yet have wrong in our hearts? Why?
5. Who gave Himself for our sins?

I will heal their backsliding and love them freely (Hosea 14:4).

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).

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Part 19

May 10

PAUL GOES ON A MISSIONARY TRIP

Acts 15:36; 16:1-5

Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the Word of the Lord and see how they are getting along." Barnabas thought that would be good, and he wanted to take his young cousin, John Mark with them. Paul remembered how John Mark had left them at another place and he did not want to take him. Since they could not agree, Paul took Silas with him and Barnabas and John Mark went out together. When Paul and Silas arrived at Lystra they met Timothy, a young disciple of whom the brethren spoke well. He was the son of a Jewess mother and Greek father. Paul loved Timothy like a son. We have two letters written to Timothy by Paul which are books in our New Testament. Timothy was a good young man. His mother and his grandmother both loved the Lord. They had taught him about God. Paul and Silas took Timothy with them on their missionary trip. They visited the cities where the churches were and gave them the decrees that had been given by the elders at Jerusalem. They were encouraged.

Memory Verse: Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men. 1 Cor. 7:23.

The Twins Kept on Praying

The twins, Mary and Larry, were at school when it happened. A man came to the door and called their teacher out into the hall. She came back soon with a very sad face. After school she called Mary and Larry to her. "Your father and mother had an accident," she said. "A big truck ran into their car. They are in the hospital."

Mary and Larry went to stay with Mr. and Mrs. Kinney. The Kinneys had a boy and a girl, Ronnie and Sue. They were older than the twins.

When they sat down to eat, Mary and Larry closed their eyes and bowed their heads. But no one prayed. So they both thanked God for their food, but did not pray aloud.

"Why did you do that?" asked Sue. "We were thanking God for our food," said Larry.

"That is silly!" Sue told him. "Mother bought that food at the store!"

At bedtime Mary and Larry prayed. "Why do you get down on your knees like that?" Sue asked Mary.

"I am asking God to make my father and mother well," Mary told her.

"Well, He isn't going to do it!" Sue said. "I heard Daddy tell Mother that they are hurt so badly they can't get well! Maybe you will have to stay with us always!"

When she was in bed Mary prayed some more. She prayed until she went to sleep.

The next morning the twins thanked God for their food at the breakfast table.

"Do you think we should stop praying when we are around them?" Mary asked Larry on the way to school.

"No!" said Larry. "God says in the Bible to pray without stopping. Why should we stop praying because people want us to? We must mind God!"

So the twins prayed more than ever. They prayed when they walked to school. They prayed after they were in bed. They did not pray aloud, but they knew God could hear them.

Then one day Mrs. Kinney said, "Your father and mother are much better. They will soon be well enough to leave the hospital. The doctors say they never saw anyone who was hurt so badly get better so quickly."

"God answered the twins' prayers after all!" said Sue. —Sel.

QUESTIONS:

1. Why do we have Mother's Day?
2. Why didn't Paul want to take Mark with him on this trip?
3. Whom did Paul take?
4. Whom did Paul and Silas meet in Lystra?
5. Do we have two books in our New Testament written to Timothy?

Don't you just love Jesus for creating dogs and kittens and birds and so many nice animals?

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Part 20

May 17

PAUL AND OTHERS WORK FOR GOD

Acts 16:6-18

Paul, Silas, Timothy, and Luke wanted to preach the gospel in Asia, but God, by His Spirit, let them know that was not the place to go. While he waited, Paul had a vision. He saw a man of Macedonia, standing and begging him, saying, "Come over into Macedonia and help us." They knew then that was where the Lord wanted them to go. They set sail for Europe and came to Philippi, which was one of the chief cities. They heard of a prayer meeting being held on the river bank outside the city. When they arrived there some women were ready to hear the Word of God. Lydia, a seller of purple who worshipped God, listened, and God helped her to understand His Word. She was baptized and then asked the missionaries to come to her house and stay awhile. How wonderful that she and her household believed on Jesus Christ!

Later, as the missionaries were walking down the street, a girl followed them. She did not know about God, but she had an evil spirit living in her. This evil spirit knew God and it caused her to cry out, "These men are servants of the most high God."

Memory Verse: Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Ephesians 5:16.

Even Africa

One night the bedtime story was about boys and girls of other countries. Mother helped Patty Lou read the story aloud.

Patty Lou looked at the picture of a Mexican market place. "I would love to go there," she said. "Or else to Hawaii." She turned the page to look again at the sunny shore and palm trees of the new state.

Mother turned the page. "Here is Africa," she said. "See all the dark-skinned children with their bare feet and curly hair."

Patty Lou looked closer, then shivered. "Just see how dark the jungle is behind them, Mother. I have always been afraid of Africa. There's snakes and lions and the most awful bugs—" She closed the book with a snap.

"Do you want to pray now?" Mother asked.

Patty Lou knelt by her bed. She said "Thank You" to Jesus for dying for her. She told Him she loved Him. She prayed for the boys and girls all over the world. "Dear Father," she prayed, "I am willing to go as a missionary, if You want me. I will go to Holland, or Norway, or Mexico, or—" She stopped short, then said, "Dear Lord, save the children in Africa, but don't send me there! In Jesus' name. Amen."

Mother looked surprised. Then she opened her big Bible, "One time Paul wanted to go and be a missionary in Asia. That night God sent him a dream. He dreamed he saw a man

of Macedonia saying, 'Come over and help us.' "

"Where is Macedonia?" Patty Lou asked.

Mother turned to the back of her Bible. "Here is Asia, where all the big cities were." She moved her finger along the page. "And here is Macedonia! In the opposite direction!"

"Which way did he go?" Patty Lou asked.

"He obeyed God, and went to Macedonia. Aren't we glad he did!"

"Why?"

"Paul came toward the western half of the world, where we live. That is how we came to know the gospel today, and have the Bible."

Slowly Patty Lou opened the book to the picture of Africa. The boys and girls smiled at her from the page. Their eyes were friendly and full of fun. She bowed her head again and prayed. "Dear Father, if You call me to be a missionary, I will go anywhere in the whole world—yes, even to Africa!"

QUESTIONS:

1. What did Paul see in a vision?
2. Did they go to Macedonia?
3. Who was having prayer meeting on the river bank when Paul arrived?
4. Who was the woman who believed, and her household, and all were baptized?
5. What did Paul do about the evil spirit in the girl?

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Part 21

May 24

PAUL AND SILAS IN PRISON

Acts 16:19-34

The masters of the girl who was a fortune-teller and had been delivered from the devil, were angry with Paul and Silas. They dragged them into the market-place before the rulers. The people gathered around them and the rulers demanded that Paul and Silas be beaten. When they had been beaten with many stripes, they were cast into the inner prison. Their legs were put through holes in wood called stocks. What do you think Paul and Silas did? They prayed to God and sang songs so loudly that all the prisoners in the jail heard them. Even the jailer heard them. Their praises and prayers went right up to God's throne. He looked down and was displeased at what had been done to His servants. He sent an earthquake and shook that prison so hard that Paul and Silas were shaken out of the stocks. The prison doors flew open. The jailer was afraid. He started to kill himself, but Paul cried out, "Do yourself no harm; we are all here." You see, the jailer would have been killed if the prisoners had escaped. The jailer got saved and was baptized.

Memory Verse: Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved and thy house. Acts 16:31.

Ugly Fuzzy Made Beautiful

It was Saturday morning.

Mike and Daddy were working in the garden.

Mother came out with some cool lemonade.

"Here is a reward for you," Mother said. "You both have done such a nice job in the garden."

Daddy said: "Thank you, my kind lady."

"I thank you, too, Mommy," said Mike, who always wanted to help Daddy with everything he did.

Daddy called Mike his "shadow." He told Mike he called him that because Mike was always close by his side. Mike helped Daddy do little chores around the house. Mike liked to be called by that name, when he found out the reason for it.

Mike and Daddy sat down on the cool carpet of grass to rest and enjoy their cool drink.

"Look, Daddy, at that pretty butterfly," said Mike. They looked at a bright-colored butterfly that flew from flower to flower.

"It is pretty," said Daddy.

"That is the most beautiful butterfly I have ever seen," said Mike.

Just then a fuzzy caterpillar came crawling down the stem of one of the roses. It was brown with black stripes.

"That is the ugliest bug I have ever seen," said Mike, pointing to the rose.

"Look, Daddy, at that ugly, fuzzy bug!"

"Mike," asked Daddy, "do you know

that that ugly, fuzzy bug will one day real soon turn into a beautiful butterfly? It will look like the one you just saw. It might be a little different in color, but it will be beautiful."

"Why, Daddy," said Mike, "how could that be? How could that ugly, fuzzy bug ever turn into anything that is pretty?"

"Mr. Ugly Fuzzy, as you call him," said Daddy, "is a caterpillar right now. He will soon be flying around, a beautiful butterfly. God has made this possible. God takes hearts that are ugly from disobedience and other kinds of sins. He makes them white and beautiful. He has made this little bug so that one day it will be beautiful. He makes beauty out of ugliness, Mike. The same God who helps you to be a good boy and obey Mother and me, makes the pretty butterfly from the ugly, fuzzy worm you see."

QUESTIONS:

1. What did they do to Paul and Silas?
2. What did Paul and Silas do in jail?
3. Did God hear their prayers and songs?
4. What did God do for them?
5. What did the jailer do?

Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends (John 15:14).

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May 31

A MOB STIRS UP TROUBLE

Acts 16:35-40; 17:1-10

After the earthquake had shaken the prison where Paul and Silas were held, the rulers were afraid. They sent word for the jailer to let them go. Paul and Silas said they were going to stay there until the rulers themselves came and told them they could go. Paul said he was a Roman citizen and it was against the law for a Roman to be beaten. The rulers were afraid when they heard this. They begged Paul and Silas to leave. They were afraid they would be in trouble with the Romans for what they had done.

Paul and Silas went back to Lydia's house from the prison, spoke to the brethren, and then departed. They went to Thessalonica and into the synagogue where the Jews worshipped. There Paul preached to them that Jesus, who had suffered and arisen, was the Christ who was to come and save them from their sins. Some believed, but others did not. They got some wicked men to help them and they stirred up a riot. They set the city in an uproar. They rushed up to Jason's house and brought them out. They said, "These men say Jesus is the king instead of Caesar."

Memory Verse: No man can come unto me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him. John 6:44.

Lisa in God's House

Lisa scooted over to the end of the bench. Dean was still sitting close to their mother. Lisa rolled a pencil to him along the bench, and Dean rolled it back. It made a noise. Mother shook her head at Lisa.

Lisa scooted back by Dean, and they played a game with a piece of paper. Lisa would guess in which hand Dean held the paper. If she was right, she took the paper, and Dean had to guess. Mother was listening to the sermon. When she looked at the children, they stopped playing until she looked away again.

On the way home Father said, "I was so glad to see Mr. Brownfield in meeting with his wife."

Mother looked sad. "I heard him tell his wife that he didn't get much out of going to meeting. He didn't think he would come again," she said. "I wonder why."

Lisa's face got very red. "I know why!" she said. "He was watching Dean and me playing. He was not listening to the preacher."

"That is too bad!" said Mother. "We have prayed for Mr. Brownfield for so long. We hoped he would come and give his heart to God. But now he says he is not coming back!"

"Oh!" said Lisa. "If he doesn't go to heaven, maybe it will be my fault! Do you think it would help if I would go and tell him I am sorry?"

"It might," her mother said.

So after dinner Lisa went to the Brownfield's house. She was afraid. She almost went back home without

knocking at the door. And when she saw Mr. Brownfield, she began to cry.

"Mr. Brownfield," she said, "I am sorry I played in church this morning. I know what the preacher said would have helped you. But I kept you from listening. Won't you please come back to church? I will listen to the preacher after this and not play."

"Well, I might try it one more time," said Mr. Brownfield.

That night Mr. Brownfield went to meeting again. He sat right behind Lisa. This time Lisa did not play. She listened to the preacher. She prayed that Mr. Brownfield would give his heart to God. Sure enough, after the sermon, he did! —Sel.

1. Why did the rulers want Paul and Silas to leave town?
2. Where did they go when they got out of prison?
3. What did Paul preach in Thessalonica in the synagogue where the Jews worshipped?
4. Did anyone believe what he told them?
5. What did the mob cry out when they brought Paul and Silas to the rulers?

GLENTIN FEEDS HIS PUPPIES

Glentin has three puppies all his own. He is very careful to feed them every meal. They look to Glentin to feed them, because they belong to him. The Lord Jesus takes care of all those who belong to Him, too. He knows every need we have, and is glad to supply each need.

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Part 23

June 7

READING THE BIBLE

Acts 17:10-14; 1 Peter 1:10-12

Paul and Silas left Thessalonica by night and went to Berea. There they went into the synagogue where the Jews met to Worship God. Paul and Silas preached to them. They told the people that thousands of years before Jesus came the prophets foretold many things that would happen to Him, and it came to pass. The people got their Bibles and searched through them to find out if what Paul and Silas had told them was true. Paul and Silas would tell them more, and they would get their Bibles and read it. They found it to be true. They were glad, and believed that Jesus was truly the Christ. They were happy to know that it had been foretold that through David's family Jesus would come. They found out this was true for He did come through David's family. They read in Isaiah how Jesus was to suffer for their sins and by His stripes they would be healed. Micah told the place where Jesus was to be born. Daniel told exactly the date of His birth. Moses told about the Star. The Holy Spirit had told the prophets these things and they wrote them down. This proves Jesus is the Christ.

Memory Verse: Prove all things, hold fast to that which is good. 1 Thess. 5:21.

How to "Rub Out" Mistakes

Mike hurried off the school bus. "Mom! Mom!" he yelled as he ran into the kitchen. Mother was paring some apples for a pie. "Mom, do you know what?"

"Why, no, dear," said Mother, smiling. "What?"

"I learned to 'rub out' today at school. It won't come back," said Mike.

"Now, Mike," said Mother, "come, let's sit down over here. You tell me just what you mean about 'rubbing out.'"

"You see, Mom," he said, "today at school the teacher said, 'Now, children, you will learn to print your name.'"

"Did you print yours, Mike?" his mother asked.

"Well, at first I did not know if I could," said Mike slowly.

"It is always a little hard when you are learning to do things right," said Mother. "I am sure you did your printing right."

"Not until after I tried and tried," said Mike. "Do you know what, Mom? I made many mistakes trying to print my name right. The teacher gave me an eraser. She told me to 'rub out' my mistakes. She showed me how to do it. I rubbed them out, and they did not come back. Look!"

Mike held up the sheet of paper for Mother to see.

Mother took the sheet of paper. "Why, Mike," Mother said, hugging her little boy close to her, "you have done very nice work. I know you are

happy that the mistakes you made at first are all rubbed out. Do you know something, Mike? That is just the way with our lives. When Jesus forgives us for doing something wrong, He 'rubs out' that wrong thing. It never shows again. God's Word tells us in Acts 3:19, 'Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be **BLOTTED OUT.**'"

WE SHOULD DO IT CAREFULLY

When we do things for the Lord Jesus, we should do it carefully. We should not do it just "any old way."

If we do some things carelessly, we need not think it is not seen. The person we are doing it for may not see us, but the Lord Jesus sees it. He sees all things.

Let us not forget that His loving and watchful eye is always upon us. That will help us to do everything in the very best way.

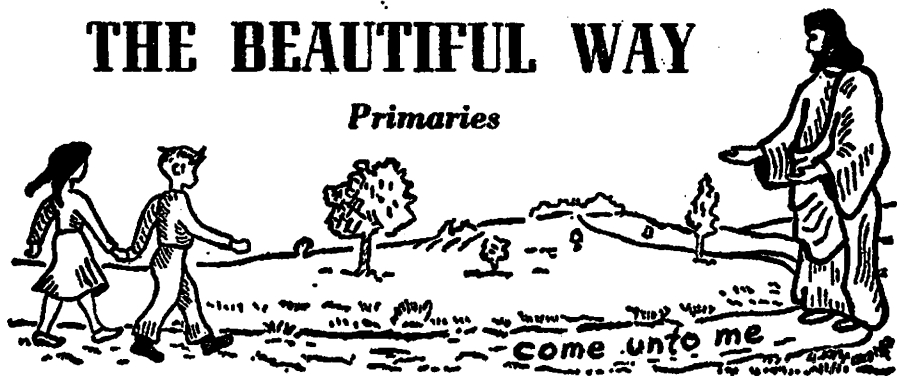
If the Lord Jesus had not done His best for us, we could not be saved.

QUESTIONS:

1. What town did Paul and Silas go to after they left Thessalonica?
2. What did Paul and Silas do first?
3. Did the people receive the Word of God?
4. What does it mean when it says they "searched the Scriptures"?
5. Did the angels want to know about Jesus' coming?

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Part 24

June 14

PAUL PREACHES IN ATHENS

Acts 17:14-33

Paul arrived in Athens, and while he waited for Silas and Timothy to come, he looked the city over. Everywhere he looked he saw idols and images. He was grieved and saddened because it seemed the whole city of people had not heard about Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. He went to the synagogue and down at the market place and taught about Jesus. Some men took him up before the big council that met on Mars' Hill. They walked up a long flight of stairs and there sat the judges out in the open air on seats cut out of the rock on a platform. They wanted Paul to tell these men what he believed. Paul said, "When I came up the hill, I passed by an altar that had written on it, 'TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.' Now I want to tell you about this God, whom you ignorantly worship, for He made the earth and everything in it. He does not dwell in temples made with hands, nor is He worshipped with men's hands. He is so great that He gives breath and life to all things. He is close to you if you will seek for Him. He has set a day when He will judge all by Jesus Christ, because He has commanded everyone to repent of their sins."

Memory Verse: Let no man deceive himself. 1 Cor. 3:18.

Teddy's Peanut Butter Sandwich

"I'm hungry!" said Teddy after school.

"Go fix yourself a peanut butter sandwich," said Mother. She was working in the garden.

So Teddy made a peanut butter sandwich. He got a glass of milk, too. Then the telephone rang. It was Bill wanting him to play ball.

When Teddy got back to the kitchen, the glass of milk was still there but the peanut butter sandwich was gone. Teddy drank the milk, but he did not want to take time to make another sandwich. He went to look for his ball, glove, and his bat. It took a long time to find them.

When Teddy went out the front door, he found his sister Betty in the swing on the front porch. She was eating a peanut butter sandwich.

"So that is where my peanut butter sandwich went!" he said. He was very angry. "I should think you are big enough to make your own sandwiches. I don't know why you have to take mine!"

"I made my own!" said Betty. "Mother told me I could!"

Teddy went on to play ball. But he was hungry and upset. Soon he went home. Betty's doll was in the swing on the porch. Teddy took it out to the back fence and threw it as far as he could. It landed in a big clump of weeds. "Now I am even with her!" he said to himself.

At suppertime Teddy was not hungry. "Did you eat too much after

school?" asked Mother. "Maybe you should not have had that peanut butter sandwich!"

Before Teddy could say anything, big brother Jack spoke. "I guess this family likes peanut butter sandwiches," he said. "I saw Spot eating one in the front yard when I came home from school. I wondered how a dog could make a peanut butter sandwich!"

"Oh!" said Teddy. "I thought Betty got my sandwich! I threw her doll out in the weeds. May I go and look for it right now, Mother?"

"I think you had better ask Betty to forgive you first, and then ask God to forgive you," said Mother.

Teddy was glad when he found the doll. "Her dress is torn," he said to Betty, "but I will buy her a new dress. I'll ask God to help me not to do mean things like that again!" —Sel.

QUESTIONS:

1. Where did Paul go?
2. What did he see in the city of Athens?
3. Where was he when he preached to the people?
4. Tell some of the things Paul preached to the people.
5. Did the people let him finish his sermon?

We need not look for God's plan outside of a life of serving others. God never planned for any life to be useless, nor for any boy or girl to be lazy, always getting, but never giving.

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Part 25

June 21

PAUL GOES TO CORINTH

Acts 18:1-11; 2 Cor. 9:6-8

Paul was happy to find Aquila and his wife Priscilla at Corinth. This was a big city on the coast where the ships came and went at the harbor. People came from all over the world. Many were very wicked and needed God. Paul preached about Jesus to them. He worked with Aquila and Priscilla making tents when he had time. He was very sad when many of the people refused to believe that Jesus was the Christ and forgive them of their sins. He left the synagogue and went to the house of Justus, which was just next door. Paul continued to preach. He was happy when many of the people believed and were baptized.

One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision and told him not to be afraid, but to be at peace, because He would not let any man hurt him. God had many people in Corinth who loved Him. This made Paul happy. He stayed there a year and a half and preached the Word. Paul taught the people to give to the gospel work. He said, "God loves a cheerful giver. Boys and girls, you should give of your money to help others hear the gospel story.

Memory Verse: Give and it shall be given unto you. Luke 6:38a.

The Busy Ant

Ants are mentioned only twice in the Bible. Both times we are told that they work hard all through the summer, in order to have food during the winter.

Ants belong to the same family as do wasps and bees. Most ants have thin, clear wings. The ants you see in the summer, running across the sidewalk, are the workers. They do not have wings. Ant nests are built under stones and in rotten wood. Ants live in underground colonies. They dig winding tunnels which branch out in all directions. There they lay their eggs, care for the young, and store their food.

Some ants make underground gardens in which they grow tiny plants called fungus. Other ants keep herds of "cows" and drink the sweet "milk" from them. The cows are tiny little animals called lice.

In very hot countries, the driver ants move along the ground like a marching army. They attack and kill animals many times larger than themselves.

Though the ants are small insects, and not at all strong, the Bible says they are very, very wise. During the cold winter months, when the ground is frozen, the ants have a home and food. When there is no food to be found above ground, the ants eat the seeds and grain which they have stored in their nests.

If the ants were to waste their time in the summer and play, and not gath-

er in any harvest, they would starve in the winter.

We know that God is interested in the smallest of His creatures. Surely He will take care of us and give us the things we need. It is also plain to see that the ants are not lazy. We can learn many lessons from them. Because they work faithfully above ground all summer, they have earned their rest during the winter. No job is too small for them to do well.

Pray for Dad who works hard every day. Pray for Mother who does so many nice things for you. Ask your heavenly Father to help you do your work well, without grumbling or complaining.

A SONG TO SING

"I love Him, I love Him,
Because He first loved me,
And purchased my salvation,
On Calvary's tree."

There is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother (Proverbs 18:24).

QUESTIONS:

1. Whom did Paul find in Corinth?
2. What kind of work did they all, including Paul, do?
3. Were there many in Corinth who believed on Jesus?
4. What did the Lord tell Paul in a vision at night?
5. Whom does Paul love?

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THE BEAUTIFUL WAY

Primaries



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PAUL FINISHES HIS SECOND MISSIONARY TRIP

Acts 18:11-22

Paul continued to tell others that Jesus was the Christ. He told them that Jesus came to forgive them of their sins. He wanted them to love Jesus, but they would not. They brought him up to the court. Gallio was sitting on the judgment seat. The people gathered around and said, "This Paul is causing men to worship God in a way which the law forbids." Paul started to speak, but Gallio did not want to be bothered with their religious troubles. He said, "If Paul is a wicked man, and it is a matter of wrong, I will listen, but I do not want to be bothered with your questions about your religion." He drove them out of the judgment seat. The Jews then caught Sosthenes, the chief ruler of the synagogue, and beat him right there. He was on Paul's side, as later Paul writes about him and calls him a brother. Paul stayed in Corinth for awhile and then sailed to Syria, taking with him Aquila and Priscilla. He went through Ephesus and left them there. He went to Jerusalem to the feast, but promised to return. From Jerusalem he went to Antioch, thus ending his second missionary trip.

Memory Verse: Serving the Lord with all humility of mind.
Acts 2:19.

Joe's Pal

Joe was selling his papers on a busy corner of a city street. A man stopped to buy a paper. While he searched for a dime in his pocket, he asked, "Where do you live, my boy?"

Joe answered, "In a little shack on the bank of the river."

The man was surprised. He asked, "Who lives with you?"

Joe said, "Jim. Jim is my pal. He is a cripple and he can't work. So I sell papers and take care of both of us."

The man said, "You would be better off if you didn't have Jim."

Joe said, "Oh, no, I wouldn't. I couldn't get along without Jim. If he wasn't there, I wouldn't have anyone to go home to. Mister, I wouldn't want to live if I didn't have someone to share with."

Do you like to share with others? God wants us to share. He wants us to always be kind and helpful.

What Will You Do?

Put X before the ways you will help others.

- _____ I will share my candy.
- _____ I will share my toys.
- _____ I will help with the work.
- _____ I will run on errands.
- _____ I will tell about Jesus.

Effects of Habits

A father, wishing to show his son the effect of habit in his life sent him for a hammer and a nail. This he deliberately drove into the parlor table. It went in with comparative ease. Then handing the hammer to the boy he said:

"Now, my son, pull it out." After a great deal of effort and much marring of the splendid table the nail was removed. Then the father said to the boy, "Now, my son, pull out the hole" adding, "Habits can be pulled out, but their effects never."

ALWAYS HELPING

Johnny's father was a preacher. One day a man came to the house. He asked Johnny, "Where is your father?"

Johnny said, "Oh, he is out helping somebody. He is always out helping somebody."

God wants us to always be busy helping somebody. We should follow the example of Jesus. He went about doing good.

QUESTIONS:

1. Whom did Paul have to face?
2. Did Gallio do anything to Paul?
3. What did the Jews do to Sosthenes?
4. Where did Paul leave Aquila and Priscilla?
5. Does today complete Paul's second missionary trip?