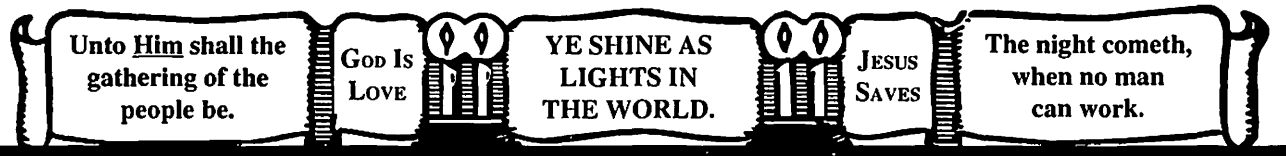


# FAITH AND VICTORY

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## Church of God Servant



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### “A Little Strength”

By Sis. Anita Adams

I was reading in Revelation recently and was struck by what the Lord said to the angel of the church of Philadelphia. “I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown.” Revelation 3:8-11.

The first thing that caught my eye was “a little strength.” This is one of only two churches

that the Lord gave His complete approval to when talking with John the Revelator. Why did He say “a little strength?” Why didn’t He say, “I have seen your great strength and am so pleased with how you have fought off satan?” That is what we humans would put approval on...the big and powerful. God, however, gave His approval to a church that, by His own description, is a needy church without great power or strength. The Lord brought to my mind what He told Paul in II Corinthians 12:9, “And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for **my strength is made perfect in weakness....**” That is the reason God commended this church above others. His strength, because they only had a little strength, could be manifested through them. Oh, that we would be humble and needy before our God so that His strength can be seen throughout the world.

Next, we noticed that God knows exactly who is His child and who isn’t. It doesn’t matter how much we may claim Christianity, how loud and how good our talk is about the Lord, if we really don’t have it on the inside then God knows. Here He knew who was of the synagogue of satan but said they were Jews. Our talk is cheap. Our walk is everything. Lord help us to be faithful and true.

God then told them that those very people that were hypocrites would come and worship at their feet. What a challenge to live in such a way that God can bring the powers of satan down to our very feet. But the next part is what stood out to me, “...behold, I will make them to

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come and worship before thy feet, and to know that **I have loved thee.**" What a blessing to have God's love showered upon us. Can we grasp what that means? God's love! His approval! His protection! His strength!

Deuteronomy 7:7 "The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people:" Here Moses is challenging the people of Israel to realize where they came from and to not become lifted up. Where did the children of Israel come from and why did the Lord choose them? We find that they are descendants of Abraham. And God chose Abraham because He found a man that would listen to Him and follow Him even if it didn't make sense. Just one man and his wife, not a great nation. It looked like his nephew would follow too. God told Abraham to get out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee. (Genesis 12:1.) Abraham didn't even know where he was going but he did what God commanded him to do.

The Lord says of Abraham in Genesis 18:19 "For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; ..." God saw a man here that not only lived the life himself but also taught it to his children and his whole household. No doubt that included servants and workmen. He didn't keep his candle under a bushel but he let it shine for all to see and not only for them to see but he taught them in the paths of the Lord so that those after him followed the Lord.

Here again, it wasn't the great and powerful. They were just one household. They started out with two households but Lot decided to go elsewhere, so it was reduced to one. And God chose that one household to set His love upon. My desire is that I will always be listening to the voice of the Lord and following His commands.

I don't only want to follow His commands myself but I also want to command my children, yea and my whole household to follow the Lord.

Another thing we must notice is that it was up to the Lord to make a great nation out of the descendants of Abraham. Abraham couldn't have made himself a great nation even if he wanted to. The promise from God was to Abraham and Sarah's children and they only had one. Isaac only had two. That doesn't sound like much of a nation. Abraham never saw the mighty nation develop in his lifetime but he kept his life in the hands of God. We cannot strive to be great in ourselves. Our duty is to **have a little strength** and let the Lord's strength and power do the work.

The church of Smyrna was the other church that the Lord gave complete approval. In Revelations 2:9-10 the Lord said, "I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and *I know* the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but *are* the synagogue of Satan. Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer:...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Once again, it is not to human standard that we see God putting His love and approval on. Humans will brag about how big their church is; how they built a big new church without going into debt; how they are doing this outreach entertainment and that outreach method and helping the church to grow by leaps and bounds. God however, set **His love** on a poor, needy church, but because they were depending on God, keeping His commandments, and were living right in the midst of hypocrisy, God said they were **rich**. To have God say we are rich is the epitome of success. No matter how much man may approve or the applause we may get, if God doesn't say we are rich then our life is a failure. I want God's success in my life, even though I may appear poor and insignificant to the world.



## SOAP POWDER AND GRACE

By Sis. Patricia Rhodes

When I was growing up in the 1950's and 60's, there was a limited selection of laundry detergents on the grocery shelves. Although there was *Tide*, *All*, *Trend*, *Oxydol*, and a few others, my mom was sold on *Cheer* and that was all there was to it. She felt that *Cheer* was the

best product and that it cleaned better than the others. It was the product that she felt met her needs for laundering. One day, when I was about 15 years old, my mother sent my two siblings and me to the grocery store to get her favorite detergent, "soap powder," as she called

it. I decided that she should try *Tide*, since I thought that I knew more than she did, being a teenager. When we returned home, we were soon on our way back to get Mom's beloved *Cheer* soap powder! What was I thinking? She was sold on *Cheer*.

Now-a-days, all types of *Cheer* products are available, for whatever is needed, to get clothes cleaned. There is a *Cheer* product for every laundry situation, it seems: *Cheer* powder, *Cheer* liquid, *Cheer* free and gentle, *Cheer* extra cleaning, *Cheer* clean scent, *Cheer* fresh linen, *Cheer* color guard, *Cheer* dark colors, *Cheer* true fit, *Cheer* complete, etc.

And so it is with grace. There is a grace specifically for every situation that we encounter. Grace is the free and unearned favor of God; an act of kindness or compassion beyond what is due; an enabling power sufficient for success and victory; an indispensable gift from God for development, improvement and courage. God is the only source whereby we receive grace. Without the grace of God, certain limitations, weaknesses, flaws, impurities and faults cannot be overcome. Therefore, it is necessary to grow in the grace of added perfection, completeness and flawlessness.

There are various kinds of God's grace given to us at different times, for different needs.

We would remain in darkness if it were not for God's **convicting grace**. The thief on the cross, the Philippian jailer and the prodigal son would have been lost had it not been for convicting grace. "And when he came to himself, he said, ...I will arise and go to my father...." Luke 15:17 and 18. "...God commendeth (presented to us without anything in return) his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8.

We are **saved through grace**. It is not of works. It is the gift of God. (Ephesians 2:8-9.) There is nothing we could have done to save ourselves. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men," Titus 2:11. Grace is God's plan of salvation by His forgiving mercy, not by our works. "The grace of God that brings salvation, And teaches righteousness, Appareth unto every nation, Their darkened souls to bless."

After a person is saved, he needs more **grace to grow** as a Christian. He needs to develop Christ-like habits and bring his life into harmony with the Word of God. We are exhorted to

"...grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ...." II Peter 3:18. When we grow in grace we are living more with the love of God, and experiencing a closer, intimate relationship with Him. "And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love..." I Thessalonians 3:12. It is essential to grow in the knowledge of God by possessing the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), "being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;" Colossians 1:10. "His wondrous grace is all sufficient, And hours of deepest need Are sanctified by God omniscient, If we His promise plead."

We need **protecting grace**, protection from self, sin, the world, evil spirits, false doctrine and satan himself. For this reason, God "...preserveth the way of his saints," Proverbs 2:8. The Lord is faithful to preserve us during the oppositions of satan, sending His forces of angels, to protect us, minister to us, encourage us and strengthen us. David was assured of God's protecting grace when he said, "I will both lay me down in peace, and sleep: for thou, Lord, only makest me dwell in safety." Psalms 4:8. Both spiritual and physical protection is from the Lord.

"Within the heart his grace abounding Will give us power to reign; Thro' Jesus, when the foe's surrounding, The vict'ry we shall gain."

Since we are saved by grace, we are **kept by grace**. We are kept by the power of God, Who is able to keep us from falling, and to present us faultless. (Jude verse 24.) We have to be able to trust the Lord for keeping grace. If we do not trust Him, He is unable to keep us. When we doubt, we are discrediting God's keeping power. We "are kept by the power of God through faith..." I Peter 1:5. When we totally rely on and commit to the Lord, the shield of faith will ward off the fiery darts of satan. When the enemy comes in like a flood and we need love, patience, meekness, etc., we find that spontaneous grace welling up from within. Grace will rise up to meet the need. God's keeping grace operates and will do exceeding abundantly beyond the realm of what we can ask or think, according to the power that works in us. (Ephesians 3:20.) "Our Father grace and glory giveth In blessings manifold; From him who pure before him liveth, No good will he withhold."

God's **sustaining grace** gives us that special power when we are weak. "...My grace is (Continued on page 13.)

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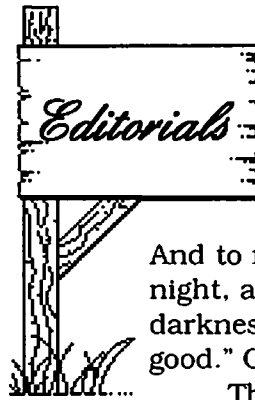
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"And God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night: he made the stars also. And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth

And to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness: and God saw that it was good." Genesis 1:16-18.

The creation of light for mankind has been a blessing that has given many benefits. Day after day the sun shines upon the earth and brings light and warmth to an otherwise dark, cold region of space. The cycle of life that we have become so familiar with could not exist in its present form without its life-giving rays. The energy that we use to heat and light our homes can be traced back to its powerful radiance. Due to the different angles that the earth presents to the sun our weather patterns change giving us the various seasons throughout the year. Vegetation requires the light of the sun to grow and animal life is very dependent on vegetation for food. Truly the wonderful influence we receive from the sun is so intricately intertwined with our existence that this short paragraph could not begin to describe the benefits we derive from this majestic creation of God.

The Scripture says these two great lights were set in place to "...give light upon the earth...." Unless the particles of light energy that continually burst upon us delivering their warmth were sent forth we would not be able to enjoy the rich blessings of life. God saw that His creation including this process of giving light was good and we certainly would agree.

In Matthew 5:15 Jesus presented an illustration of one lighting a candle and then placing it on a candlestick or a lamp stand to give light to all that are in the house. He also presented the very harmful possibility of one placing the candle under a bushel and restricting its illumination effectively leaving the whole house in darkness. We know that the enemy of our souls would desire to place this "bushel" over every person that has received the gospel light. Sadly it seems that the "bushel" has been placed over many today and as a result many others are left in darkness and some are no doubt languishing in eternal night. The Lord would have His people

to be a shining light, warming and giving forth the glorious rays of God's love to the whole world.

There may be a variety of reasons why one would allow the light of understanding to be hidden from others. It could be that one is not fully persuaded in their mind about the truth God has revealed to them. They may know what is right because they have been taught the truth from their childhood but the enemy has brought questions to cloud their minds. The resulting cloud of confusion obscures the light of truth. When one is in this condition there soon comes rationalizations that cause them to feel justified in not fully measuring their life to the gospel of Jesus Christ and their unwillingness to obey plunges them into a deep state of darkness.

All of us must be careful to not allow the devil to cloud our testimony with questions and rationalizations. It is one of his popular tricks to damage our spirituality and isolate the truth from the world. When questions arise we should seek to know the mind of Christ. During this process we should be fully resigned to do His will whatever it may be. When He reveals His will to us then the matter should be settled. The enemy does not want the matter settled so absolutely and he wants to continue the debate. Therefore we must "gird up the loins of our mind" and rebuke the enemy and end the controversy. The truth has been revealed to us and we must stand on it. The Light then clearly shines forth to the world.

Another reason the light of knowledge is hidden is because people are ashamed of the humble path that Jesus trod. They may sincerely desire the blessings of salvation but are not willing to bear the scorn of their associates. They may be like Nicodemus and want to come to the Master by night to keep their faith concealed from those who would not approve. Most of the reasons for being ashamed are indicative of a measure of pride in the heart. The glory of Christ will never be able to radiate in its beauty from a vessel that is stained with pride. Not only will the light be hidden but the message will become twisted and presented from an earthly viewpoint which is displeasing to the Lord. John identifies the pride of life with the other lustful things of this world that will pass away. "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world

passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever." 1 John 2:16-17.

There is another class of people who perhaps keep their profession of faith in Christ somewhat of a secret from the public officials for fear of persecution. We have not had to face very much serious persecution in this country but in some countries it is a matter of life or death to publicly pronounce your belief in Christ. We should be challenged by those who are willing to risk their lives for the sake of the gospel. Those who are facing these kinds of circumstances should be reassured that Christ will be with them even in the midst of their persecution. They will never be abandoned by the One Who loves their soul. When a faithful child of God suffers for what is right the witness of Christ will undoubtedly shine brightly before many others. We have many examples in the Scriptures of those who "... loved not their lives unto the death." Revelation 12:11. In periods of history when persecution was severely inflicted upon God's people the testimony of Christ burned brightly. The great efforts to extinguish the Light were counterproductive and caused many others to come to Christ.

It is time for all saints of God to arise and trim their lamps so the light of the gospel can shine forth in its purity and in holiness. The excesses of the flesh that we may have indulged in should be trimmed off so the flame of Christ can be revealed to all of the house. The hurts, disappointments and failures of the past should be likewise disposed of because the glory of God would like to fill those areas in your heart and life with greater victory. Doubts, fears and questions should be replaced with faith, hope and "thus saith the Lord."

Some folks are suffering under a heavy blanket of despair. What a hindrance to the gospel this tool of the devil is. Pray the Lord to give deliverance and in faith rebuke the enemy that you face in the name of the Lord. Don't allow him to continually keep you in a dark valley. Focus your mind on encouraging things that are from above and engage yourself in the work of the Lord. Through active faith the Lord will bring you out.

Anything that may come into a person's life and hinder their relationship with God will ultimately diminish the intensity of their light. Therefore, we should be careful and temperate in all things. We want Christ to shine in us each

day and His life changing rays can only shine forth from us when our flesh is crucified and our will is in submission to the will of the Father.

There should be no need for us to be in the sad condition of those mentioned in (Isaiah 59:10) who grope for the wall like the blind and stumble at noon day as in the night. Come to the Lord and let Him fill you with glorious light. Be a part of the blood washed band that have left the sinful ways of the world and are walking and rejoicing in the freedom of Jesus Christ. Proverbs 4:18 gives this beautiful description of the saints of God. "But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." May this be the glorious experience and testimony of each reader.

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The Lord has enabled us to replenish our supply of the book entitled, *A Saloonkeeper's Daughter Saved*. This 15-page booklet by Bertha Mackey relates how God healed her body and led her to a true experience of salvation. Bertha's sister died when she was 16 years old and the Catholic priest convinced her parents that she died because they had not given her to the church to become a nun. As a result, a year later, Bertha was sent to the nunnery with the mistaken idea that she would provide salvation for her family. While at the convent she witnessed many horrible things and determined to escape. Her decision brought much persecution and hardship but one night God met her at an altar of prayer. Later she had the joy of seeing her mother enter into rest with Jesus. Her mother left this testimony in the presence of the priest, that for fifty years she had prayed on her prayer-beads, going to confession, but never finding any relief until now, and that only through the blood of Jesus she was made clean.

This book is now bound in heavy paper cover and is available from this office for 50 cents.

Several years ago we printed a book entitled, *A Hive of Busy Bees*, by Effie M. Williams. In June of 1995 a large flood washed through the Print Shop building and destroyed the negatives to this book as well as a number of other books. Since that time the Lord has blessed us with a new printing facility and as time permits we have been working on some of these books that were lost in the flood. We are thankful that this book, especially written for children, is now in print again. It is a 127-page book bound in a heavy paper cover. It contains many silhouette

style pictures that have been modified for this edition. These character-building stories relate the interesting activities of two children named Don and Joyce who spend the summer at their grandparents farm and should find a welcome place in the homes of all Christian parents. Some of the chapter titles are *How It Happened*, *The Sting of the Bee*, *Bee Obedient*, *Bee Honest*, *Bee Truthful*, *Bee Kind*, *Bee Polite*, *Bee Gentle*, *Bee Helpful*, *Bee Grateful*, *Bee Loving*, *Bee Content*, *Bee Prayerful* and *Home Again*.

This book is available from this office for \$3.00. Shipping charges at the rate of \$1.00 for the first dollar of merchandise and ten cents per dollar thereafter apply for mailed copies. You may call us at 1-800-767-1479 to place your order or write us at Faith Publishing House, P.O. Box 518, Guthrie, OK 73044. We can also be contacted through our email address: wemurphey@yahoo.com.

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We appreciate those who have taken the time to write a testimony of how God has been good to them. If the Lord inspires you to write about His blessings or reveals a precious thought from Heaven, please send it in. It can be a great help to others. This paper is devoted to bringing glory to the name of the Lord, encouragement to His Saints and enlightenment to all.

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In the September issue we mentioned the dramatic increase in the price of paper. The paper we purchased at that time will be finished with the publication of this issue. We are thankful that the Lord helped us to obtain a couple more skids of 60 pound offset and three skids of 50 pound offset from an outside source at less than half the current price our regular supplier is charging. Our regular paper supplier was in the shop recently and offered us two more skids of 50 pound paper that they were closing out of at a slightly discounted price. We agreed to purchase them also. This work is in the hands of the Lord and He has been faithful through the years to supply our needs and we are truly thankful. Often the Lord chooses to work through His people to meet these needs and we are likewise grateful for those who respond to His voice. May each of us be in the place where we can hear the faintest whisper of the Holy Spirit. Then our lives will be wonderfully blessed and His Church will go forth with victory.

—Bro. Willie E. Murphey  
wemurphey@yahoo.com



LA—Please remember me in your prayers. My love, —Sis. Marie Mitchell

WV—Keep me on your prayer list. My legs and feet are very painful to me. I can hardly stand the covers on them at night. God bless you all, —Sis. Melba Powell

SC—Please remember my daughter, Sis. Cheryl Smith, in prayer. She has some serious physical needs. —Sis. Helen Underdown

CA—Dear Bro. Murphey: We thank God for His blessings everyday. I would like to thank the Saints for all their prayers. I had requested prayer for Otis Revels, due to his heart condition. (*Printed in September.*) He had successful heart surgery this month and is recovering at home.

Ellen Bennett who has had a long time illness has begun working again for the past four weeks, which she has not done in almost ten years. Praise God!

My Brother, Paul, is also doing well and seems like his old self. He got some much needed rest and time to heal.

Please keep Emma McElroy in your prayers and thank you all, God Bless, —Bro. Don Viser

## Standing Prayer Requests

Bro. Carlos Arriaga  
 Sis. Dorothy Burditt  
 Sis. Mamie Butcher  
 Sis. Gladys Cashio  
 Sis. Helen Carson  
 Joseph Chandler  
 Sis. Waneta Creel  
 Sis. Evelyn Fredrickson  
 Bro. Troy Gentry  
 Sis. Juliette Lounds  
 Sis. Marie Mitchell  
 Sis. Melba Powell  
 Sis. Anna Severs  
 Sis. Cheryl Smith  
 Bro. Michael Smith  
 The Mitch Taylor family

## MEETING DATES

Loranger, LA (Assembly)—November 22-26  
 California State (Pacoima)—December 22-31  
 Oklahoma State (Guthrie)—December 22-31

## MEETING NOTICES

### LORANGER, LA, ASSEMBLY MEETING

Lord willing this meeting will begin Wednesday evening, November 22, with services twice daily through Sunday, November 26. Come for a blessing and please support this meeting in your prayers.

There is a dormitory for the sisters and one for the brothers. Power and water hook ups are available for those with campers. Meals will be served and expenses met by freewill offerings.

From Loranger, go two miles south and about three and one-half miles east on Hwy. 40.

For those travelling I-55, the grounds are about 10 miles east of the Tickfaw exit (take Hwy. 442 east which runs into Hwy. 40).

For more information, contact Carlos Doolittle at (985) 878-8122. The chapel phone is (985) 878-2788.

### CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The California State Assembly Meeting will be held this year from December 22, 2006 to December 31, 2006 at the campgrounds located at 12312 Osborne Place, Pacoima, CA 91331. The first service will begin 7:30 p.m. Friday, December 22nd, with three services daily thereafter. For more information, please contact either the Sunset Guest Home at (818) 899-2022, Bro. Paul Phillips at (661) 251-6956, or Bro. Herbert Clay at (818) 897-1396.

### OKLAHOMA STATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Oklahoma State Assembly Meeting of the Church of God will be held at Guthrie, OK, from December 22 to December 31. A hearty welcome is extended to all to attend this annual gathering of God's people in the central area of the U.S. The first service will be held Friday evening, December 22, at 7:30 p.m. Daily worship services throughout the remainder of the meeting will start at 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 7:30 p.m. There will also be morning prayer services and youth services, the time of which will be announced at the meeting.

The campgrounds are located east off of Sooner Road on Lake View Road, which is a little over four-tenths of a mile south of the intersection of South Division and Sooner Road. All who come will be cared for. The expenses of the meeting will be met by freewill offerings.

We especially urge the saints in Oklahoma and the surrounding states to attend this meeting. Come praying with a burden for the unsaved and for all those who need help in soul and body. Please send all contributions for the coming State Assembly Meeting directly to the State Treasurer, Sister Brenda Wilkins, 1023 E. Prairie Grove Rd., Guthrie, OK 73044.

To obtain further information about the meeting, contact the pastor, Bro. Stanley Dickson (405) 260-8822.

## MEETING REPORTS

### WICHITA MEETING REPORT

Truly God is good, so good, and we thank and praise Him. Sis. Mary Lawson was here for the entire meeting. Bro. Bryan and Sis. Sheri Rich came the second day and stayed the rest of the meeting. We heard about the Spirit a number of times during the meeting. We were told in great detail what the Holy Spirit does and how necessary it is for us to have Him in us. We were told how to rule our own spirit and how great it is to do so. We were told about Daniel's excellent spirit and how we can have one. We were told "we can be so full of the Holy Spirit that it flows out on others." "The Holy Spirit is our warning system." We were warned about the voice of the spirit of the devil and advised to learn the difference between that voice and the voice of the Holy Spirit. We were also warned about the real danger of becoming lukewarm, a more dangerous state than being cold. Several sought for help at the altar and all were blessed in one way or the other during the meeting. Praise God for Victory!

—Sis. Shirley Knight

## SPECIAL NOTICES

### BRO. OSTIS B. WILSON'S SERMONS NOW ONLINE

Dear Saints: I am in the process of converting to digital format over 500 cassette-recorded messages preached by Bro. Ostis Wilson during his 17 years as pastor of the Jefferson, OR congregation. These messages are now being

posted in a special section on the Church of God Evening Light website for listening and/or downloading. New messages will be added regularly as they are converted to MP3 format.

### Special series on "Courtship and Marriage"

Among the first messages to be posted is a 26-sermon series on "Courtship and Marriage." This series covers a wide range of subjects, including: how to find a companion, marriage and divorce, marrying in and outside the church, adultery, standard of dress, relations between husband and wife, husbands' and wives' responsibilities in marriage, and thoughts for a successful marriage. Some controversial issues are squarely addressed by Bro. Wilson. This wonderful, thought provoking and challenging series should be listened to by every young and old person alike.

The website where these messages may be found is: [www.churchofgodeveninglight.com](http://www.churchofgodeveninglight.com)

We pray that they will prove a blessing to all who listen to them. —Bro. Clifford Smith



## LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

OK—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Greeting of Christian love. I hope all is going well with all of you there at the Lord's print shop. I am glad for all the good gospel truth that goes forth from there. When people open their hearts to the truth it will give them life and hope. Paul said, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." Romans 1:16. The gospel, backed up by the power and love of God, has so many benefits in it. We have the "...promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come." I Timothy 4:8. Paul calls it, "...the unsearchable riches of Christ;" Ephesians 3:8.

When we leave this world, if we have been faithful to love and serve the Lord, we will have all eternity to search out these riches that He hath prepared for them that love Him. (I Corinthians 2:9, James 2:5.)



Paul said again, "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." II Corinthians 4:7. Since we have such a wonderful treasure offered us, it is no wonder that men like Moses were willing to forsake the pleasures of sin which were but for a season that he might gain that eternal reward. Paul, in I Corinthians 9:24-27, compares it to running a race and teaches us to be temperate in all things that we might gain the prize. Then he says, "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."

Your brother in Christ, —T. V. McMillian

— — — — —

MO—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: I send greetings of love and thanksgiving to you and trust that you are experiencing every day the blessings of our dear Savior. As the song says, "Not a friend seems half so precious. When my Savior talks with me." As I think on this I realize how not only a friend is half so precious in comparison to Jesus speaking to my soul, but also, how empty my opinions, how shallow my feelings, how lacking I am in understanding, and how unimportant my reputation, if any of the above would keep my Savior from communing with my soul.

The Scripture in John 10:18 has been much on my mind recently. Jesus, speaking of His life, says, "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again...." I am made to realize that we have the power, also, in our hands to lay down our life, or retain it selfishly. Jesus said in another place that He could have called twelve legions of angels to deliver Him from laying down His life. But He chose to lay it down! Am I choosing to keep my life or am I choosing to lay it down? Are my ideas, attitudes, disposition and ways worthy of keeping if Jesus asks me to lay it down? John says that Jesus laid down His life for the brethren. How much laying down of our life are we seeing today for the brethren? May God help us all to learn how to lay down our lives for Jesus and for the cause of Christ and His body in the world today.

Love and prayers, —Sis. LaVerna Probst

— — — — —

MO—Dear Bro. Willie, Sis. Neta: This morning I felt the Lord wanted me to write and tell what He has done for me lately.

When we lived at Senath, MO, one day I was working in the flowerbed and a rose bush limb hit the side of my face and a thorn stuck in my face. I pulled it out, not giving it much thought. However, through the years that place would flare up and get real sore. It would clear up but always when I touched the place it felt like there was something in it that pricked. This continued for over thirty-four years. Recently it flared up and was pretty painful, so I was quite concerned. I requested prayer and I was praying earnestly. In just two or three days I got up one morning and felt something barely fastened to one side of that sore. I pulled it off. It was a flesh-colored hard flat piece about the size of the end of my little finger and had a black speck in the middle of it, which I think was a tip of that brier. Thanks to my heavenly Father and loving Lord that place has healed up and no pricking is felt in it anymore.

Not long after that, one morning I got up and my right eye really was causing me pain. I asked for prayer again. It was normal in a few hours and has had no pain since. All praise to my dear Lord!

Dear ones, *time is running out*. We are swiftly being ushered to a *real eternity* and a *real judgement*. Prophecies are being fulfilled. Jesus said in Matthew 24:33 "So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, *even at the doors*." In Mark 13:33 Jesus said, "Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is." And in verses 35-37 He warns us to "watch." It behooves us to be watchful and prayerful. Read the Word of God and let the Holy Spirit fill our heart and life with good fruits, for we want to hear our Lord say, "...Well done, *thou good and faithful servant*:...enter thou into the joy of thy lord." And not the words, "I never knew you." "For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Revelation 6:17. May God help us to all take heed and be ready. I am striving, and by the grace of God and His love and mercy, I'll make it.

God has made Himself real to me. One night I was awake praying and after prayer I had the thought, "I wonder what Heaven will really be like?" There was something so glorious and beyond words that swept over me for only a few seconds. It was so celestial that this old terrestrial body couldn't take it. It was so wonderful. Then another night I was awake praying and a face appeared upon the ceiling. It had whiskers,

but the kindest eyes and most pleasant smile looking down on me. Not too long after that I was awake and praying and there appeared three little angels dressed in white. They looked like they were about two years old. I could see their little bare feet, their silky looking chestnut-colored hair and their wings. They were flying together toward the west. These things have encouraged my heart and were so precious to see.

Dear ones look up, Jesus said, "And when these things begin to come to pass, (prophecies) then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:28.

God bless. In love, —Sis. Natalie Allen



CA—Bro. Willie and saints: Greetings in the Lord Jesus. The Lord has been so good to me. I felt inspired of the Lord to share some of His goodness and exceeding mercy and of the greatness of His faithfulness to me. The Lord tells us and encourages us to tell of His goodness and wonderful works unto us.

First of all I am so thankful to be saved and sanctified and very much encouraged through the mercy and grace of God. I do so much appreciate the greatness of the Lord's patience and long suffering with me.

This past August 18, 2006 was a year since my wife, Wilma, has been gone to be with the Lord. There have been times since she has been gone that I have had deep sorrow and heaviness of heart. But the Lord has been faithful to just come right in and comfort my heart in those times. I do appreciate that. The Lord is so good!

Thursday, October 19, 2006, at midday I became very sick. My body became full of pain and suffering and in great distress. I was under a heavy attack by the enemy of my soul. The suffering and distress of my body was so intense I could feel and hear my blood pumping in my head. It caused my blood pressure to go very high. I became very weak and had difficulty caring for myself. I was alone and had no one to help me.

The devil was pressing me hard! He was working hard to bring me to a sense of despair and hopelessness. I was continually, earnestly calling on God. However I didn't seem to get any relief and the devil was working to bring me to a sense of despair and hopelessness. He was injecting thoughts such as "Oh! What am I going to do?" But my thoughts were "I'm going to trust

God. That is what I'm going to do, devil! I am going to continue to wait for the Lord." The devil continued to press me in my mind and in my body. The pain and suffering was extremely great. I continued to resist the devil and held my ground in trusting and looking to the Lord for deliverance. I was earnestly calling on the Lord. I finally got some relief and called for prayer. The Lord gave more relief after I called for prayer. This relief came even before I hung up the phone. It was given before there was time for prayer to be offered. After I had called for prayer the Lord blessed me to drop off to sleep. When I awoke some hours later the Lord had blessed my body. The condition that I was in could easily have brought death for me had not the Lord had mercy. The Lord pities those that fear him. Also His eyes are upon the righteous and His ears are open to their cry. The Lord is surely good to them that fear Him and hope in His mercy. I truly appreciate the Lord's goodness to me and the wealth of His mercy to my soul, mind and body. I do appreciate the privilege of trusting the Lord. It is then that I delight in Him.

I'm not saying when we purpose to trust the Lord that the battles don't get hot and hard, some are of long duration. The Scriptures teach us that satan is at our right hand to stand against and resist us. (Zechariah 3:1.) So you and I should expect a fight if we are going to trust the Lord, this is where we get the honey out of the rock. This is the way we are strengthened and increased in God. The Bible speaks of getting honey out of the rock. God allows hard and difficult things to come upon us that He may give us that enduring honey. The only place this enduring honey is found is in the rock of pain and suffering; in things that are hard and difficult to deal with. This suffering can be in any form God sees fit for us.

May the Lord bless each of you,

—Bro. Charles Parrish



OK—Dear Bro. Willie and Sis. Neta: Jesus has been good to me! The Lord totally removed a place that changed color and bled. Another place came and it reacted the same way. I was anointed and prayed for and after some time part of it came off. Though it is not completely gone there is a very definite change—it is improved. There is no more bleeding and it is much smaller. There is a real difference!

May God bless you and the workers and may the Faith and Victory paper be available for reading until Jesus comes! God bless you all!

—Sis. Mary Lawson



**Alice Marie Hall** was born October 19, 1946 to Douglas and Nyda Hall of Mobile, AL. Before Alice was a year old, the family moved to Louisiana where she grew up on dairy farms in the pinewoods near Loranger.

Alice is preceded in death by her parents Douglas and Nyda Hall, her sister, Jo Beth Hall, and brother, James Hall, Sr. With Alice's passing, the family is reunited in Heaven.

Alice graduated from Southeastern Louisiana College with a degree in education. She was a long-time resident of Lexington, KY where she taught elementary education for many years.

Alice returned to her home place in November of 2002. She resided there until her death on October 27, 2006, after recently celebrating her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Alice is survived by her sister-in-law, Brenda Hall, of Pineville, LA; nephew, Jim Hall, of Texas; niece, Jodie Hall Mallette, of Pineville, LA; and by great nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her aunts, Clarice Pruitt and JoAnne DePhillips, both of Loranger, LA; cousins, Genece Doolittle and Lynne DePhillips, both of Loranger; and by Belva Hall Maxwell, Benny Best, Clara Owens, Clarence Hall and Carver Hall all of North Carolina.

The funeral service was conducted by Bro. Steve Elston and Bro. Michael Williamson, with burial at Oak Grove Church of God cemetery in Loranger, LA.

## Earn Respect

**Sis. Charlotte Huskey**

Proverbs 31:28, "Her children arise up, and call her blessed;..." Believe that your children want to bless you and let your conduct excite that kind of love. Proverbs promises the virtuous woman that her children will rise up and call her blessed. We can have the same promise, although the idea that children will bless their parents is foreign to most people—even some who believe in God. When faced with an angry rebellious teen-ager, sometimes the best most godly parents doubt the child will ever bless them. Sometimes a lack of training in younger years is responsible for this. If we have failed let us repent and start today to cultivate in our sons and daughters a desire to bless us.

Respect is a foundation stone on which this desire is built. There are three reasons why respect is important:

1. The child's relationship with their parents provides the basis for their attitude toward every other form of authority that they will encounter.

2. If your daughter is to accept your values when she reaches her teen years, then you must be worthy of her respect during younger days. When children can successfully defy your authority during formative years, they develop a natural contempt for everything you stand for.

3. Unless a parent gains respect, standards cannot be transmitted to the child. Young children typically identify their parents (especially the father) with God. If Mom and Dad are not worthy of respect, neither are their morals or convictions. If the child can manipulate the father or mother they will feel he or she knows more than the parent does. Can we see how respect is critical?

Our society is bombarded on every side by subtle messages that parents and children are at odds with each other. Usually parents are the "meanies" and the poor innocent children are being taken advantage of or abused. I know there is much, much child abuse but I also believe that fear of abusing has caused some

good parents to be far too flexible with their children. One of the devil's master plans is to destroy families; to get them out from under authority which is God's umbrella of protection. Every child is born with a spirit. His or her spirit wants God's approval. To have God's approval your sons and daughters must obey the fifth commandment: "Honour thy father and thy mother:..." Exodus 20:12. There is a war inside every child. You must help your child's spirit win over his selfish flesh by training him to respect you and by conducting your life in a way that deserves his respect.

Realize they will not honor you naturally. The very nature of a child makes him or her unable to control himself. They will naturally yell when angry or fight when afraid. You must curb this consistently by a soft rebuke. "A soft answer turneth away wrath:..." Proverbs 15:1. You must insist upon allegiance, for you represent God to them. Never allow mockery. "The eye *that* mocketh at *his* father, and despiseth to obey *his* mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it." Proverbs 30:17.

At birth every child is without respect and totally selfish. Who enjoys a selfish child? His friends? No. His teachers? No. His siblings? No. A good parent will not allow a child to nurture selfishness. Parents know things are not fair in adult life. Love will train a child to enjoy life when they end up with the smallest cookie, or do not get their fair share of pie. Love will teach them to change what they can change and be content with what they cannot change. "But godliness with contentment is great gain." I Timothy 6:6.

Children disrespect parents who do not take the time or have the strength to make them behave properly. A properly trained child will sit quietly during worship, be quiet while Dad (or others) are resting or adults are conversing. Then he will hear people comment, "What a nice child." Or "Your son is exceptionally good." When he hears these comments he will feel the whole world loves him. He will respect you because you made him be that "good child." "Withhold not correction from the child:...Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell." Proverbs 23:13-14.

Respect is earned by respecting your spouse. A child will mentally and sometimes physically fight against a parent who does not respect the other parent. Fathers, are you willingly laying down your life for your wife as Christ did for the

church? Mothers, are you willingly laying down your desires and opinions and quietly submitting to their father's opinions? (Ephesians 5:22, 33) Be strong to stand by home rules and Christian principles when you are tested. Some children test the rules because they are insecure. Sometimes children will use other adults (peer pressure) to get your permission to do what they want. If you will kindly stand by the rules you and your spouse have established they may become angry but will later respect you for your strength. Show them you love God with all your heart, with all thy soul, with all thy strength, and with all thy mind (Luke 10:27.) by praying and reading God's Word every day. Let them see you spending your time wisely and cheerfully sacrificing for others. "...Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." Matthew 22:39.

Show genuine interest in their interests, looking carefully at what they show you or into their eyes when they are speaking. It seems that strength, love, and encouragement is transmitted through eye contact. Sacrifice your desires for theirs. Put aside your goals for a few minutes and listen to them talk or play a simple game with them, or let them help you clean when it would be easier to do it alone. If we would bundle all the minutes we spend in individual attention they would only be a few, but the good they do cannot be measured. By your everyday actions your children will know if you are selfish or unselfish and will respect you accordingly.

Make him respect others. Usually children have friends because they respect others. "A man *that* hath friends must shew himself friendly:..." Proverbs 18:24. When you train your child to respect others he or she will have friends and appreciate you for it, although he may not tell you until he starts training his own children.

Be a friend to your child and train him to be a friend of Jesus. Christ proved His love for His disciples by preparing them to continue in the real world after He was gone. He did this by imparting His wisdom to them. The greatest love we can give to them is to connect them to God's wisdom. By passing our wisdom on to our children as Isaiah 28:13 says, "...line upon line; here a little, and there a little;" they will grow up being responsible teens. Teens will believe our advice is good if during their younger years they have seen that what Mom and Dad forced them to do worked out best.

In most cases defending your child when others try to correct him will cause him to disrespect you. At such times we must remember that every child is born with a nature to lie in self-defense. Defending him if he is lying (which you do not know) will add more guilt and thus increase his misery. He will unconsciously blame you for his misery. It is best to take time to explain your doubt, give needed discipline and relieve his guilt. This may anger the child but it will teach him that your love is deeper than the moment. And it will gain respect if he is lying. Our goal is not a quick fix for current problems but to prepare our children for adult life.

Our children will respect us when we train them to do their best. When parents criticize the demands of teachers or caregivers or allow their child to do a job half way, the child will be happy because he escaped temporary trouble. However these actions will later cause disrespect for that parent. (Two of my adult children said to me, "You should have made me study harder.") Appreciate the crude drawings, messy jobs, and barely readable letters when small. But don't praise him when you know he could have done better. "Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right." Proverbs 20:11. His third grade teacher will not accept a first grade work. His employers will not accept many half-done jobs. Prepare your child for the real world and he will respect you and thank you. He or she will bless you as in Proverbs 31:28, "Her children arise up, and call her blessed;..."

### *Babies Don't Keep*

*Mother, oh Mother, come shake out your cloth  
empty the dustpan, poison the moth,  
hang out the washing and butter the bread,  
sew on a button and make up a bed.*

*Where is the mother whose house is so shocking?  
She's up in the nursery, blissfully rocking.*

*Oh, I've grown shiftless as Little Boy Blue  
(lullaby, rockabye, lullaby loo.)*

*Dishes are waiting and bills are past due  
(Pat-a-cake, darling, and peek, peekaboo).*

*The shopping's not done and there's nothing for stew  
and out in the yard there's a hullabaloo  
but I'm playing Kanga and this is my Roo.  
Look! Aren't her eyes the most wonderful hue?  
(lullaby, rockabye, lullaby loo).*

*The cleaning and scrubbing will wait till tomorrow,  
for children grow up, as I've learned to my sorrow.  
So quiet down, cobwebs. Dust go to sleep.  
I'm rocking my baby and babies don't keep.*

—Author Unknown

## SOAP POWDER AND GRACE

(Continued from page 3.)

sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness...." II Corinthians 12:9. Sustaining grace enables us to avoid being cast down. "Now...our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Comfort your hearts,..." II Thessalonians 2:16-17. Sustaining grace is available to us at just the right time. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Hebrews 4:16.

Sustaining grace keeps us from bitterness. "Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness...trouble you,..." Hebrews 12:15. Sustaining grace matures us through suffering. "But the God of all grace,...after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you." I Peter 5:10. "Wondrous grace, pure gift from heaven! Grace to set the captives free! Grace of God, so kindly given By the Savior unto me."

The grace that quickens, that convicts of sin, that consoles, that instructs, that sustains, that protects, that keeps, that perfects, is available to us through the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

"He giveth more grace as the burdens grow greater, God sendeth more strength as the labors increase. And to added affliction, God adds His mercy, and to multiplied trials, His multiplied peace. His grace has no limit, His love has no measure, His power has no boundaries known unto men, For out of His infinite riches in Jesus, He giveth and giveth and giveth again."

# “Um-Um Good”

By Sis. Connie Sorrell

After three hours in the kitchen cooking, baking and cleaning, I finally had reached the moment when I put the last clean dish in the cabinet and wiped off the cabinet tops. The floor had already been swept, and the leftovers tucked away in the refrigerator. I glanced around the kitchen and sighed. I enjoy cooking and feeding my family and guests when we have them, but it is nice to feel the work is done and everyone is satisfied.

Compliments about the meal warmed my heart as I turned off the kitchen lights and went into another room to work. I was sewing on our little girl's dress when I heard someone opening the refrigerator in my clean kitchen. Who was already hungry after stuffing their stomach an hour ago?

I went into the kitchen to catch the culprit.

Our little girl smiled up at my stern face. “Um-um, good, Mama!” she exclaimed. She was already helping herself to the leftover plate that was to be her brother's lunch for the next day. “Um-um, good,” she repeated, watching my facial expressions.

Her worried look softened my face. “Honey, ask Mama before you come and get into things,” I scolded mildly. “You really shouldn't be hungry so soon after the meal.”

“Uh-huh, Mama, I am,” she informed me. “Good! Good! Good!”

My daughter's sweet compliments dissolved my frustration over her messing in my spick and span kitchen. I made an agreement with her that she could eat part of the food on the plate now and save some for later.

“Thank you, Mom,” she said as we hugged.

So, what Mother would deny her child good food? Jesus said that a loving parent wouldn't give their child a stone instead of bread, or a serpent instead of fish, but that we want to give good food to our children when they ask. Even so our heavenly Father is a loving parent who loves to give good food to His children. (Matthew 7:9-11.)

Our Father wants us to **ask**. Jesus told about a widow who continually came before an earthly judge for help. At first the judge was upset with her and did not want to help her. She wasn't discouraged by his frowns, but she kept her courage and faithfully pled for mercy. I

would say she was polite and respectful. Perhaps she complimented the judge about his fairness. Whatever discourse took place we do not know but the judge finally answered her plea. Jesus commended the widow and told us that God would avenge His own elect, which cry day and night unto Him. (Luke 18:2-5)

Not only should we cry unto the Lord for help in time of need, but also He wants us to be hungry for His righteousness. He tells us to taste of the Lord's way and find that it is good. Then desire His Word as a newborn babe desires milk. As we grow spiritually, we need to eat deeply of the meat of the Word that will make us strong. (Psalm 34:8, I Peter 2:2-3, Hebrews 5:13-14.)

Should we be satisfied with one big spiritual meal a day? Apostle Paul wrote in I Thessalonians 5:17 to “Pray without ceasing” or the first Psalm says that God's children delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night. We are exhorted in I Corinthians 10:31 to “...do all to the glory of God.” It sounds like we need to nibble and snack on spiritual food all day long. Our hourly strength is communication with the Lord, and we should be hungry to read the Bible.

The Lord wants His children to be fat on spiritual food. “...hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye *that which is good*, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.” Isaiah 55:2. Read, meditate, digest and eat some more. It is our meat and drink to do His will, so indulge yourself and don't think about a waist line.

The Lord will never turn us away from His table nor stop us from eating. Assemble with God's people and feast upon His Word. The Lord has said, “And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.” Jeremiah 3:15.

A sanctified pastor will feed his congregation freshly prepared meals that he received from the Lord. Go as often as you can, every time you can to His banqueting house, and share in the love and fellowship of a family reunion. (Song of Solomon 2:4.)

Praise the “Chef” Who gave His body and blood that we can enjoy the salvation of the Lord. “For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the

world." John 6:33. Oh, this bread of life will satisfy the longing in the heart for peace and happiness. Jesus will fill the soul with all the good fruits of the Holy Spirit. Let us all drink from the same Rock Who was faithful to those before us. "And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ." I Corinthians 10:4.

Praise the Lord Jesus Christ who broke His body and spilled His blood that we might come unto the presence of the Father and dine!

Well, my kitchen will always be open for more meals at our house, and I know other mothers who want their children to eat and enjoy the good food they have prepared. Just remember that no matter how big of a meal you eat at one time, you will be hungry again later. So when the leftovers are put away, the kitchen is clean, and the cook is tired, meditate upon the Father's meat and get as fat as you want.

## The Purity of God's Handiwork

"Unto the pure all things are pure, but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving, is nothing pure; even their mind and conscience is defiled." The above Scripture shows how purity of mind imparts purity to external things; it gives an insight into those who think God's thoughts after Him. The impure in thought can not even look on the pure and think them pure, but from their own evil and impure thoughts they put evil construction even on the beautiful handiwork of God, and think many things were created for lustful and evil purposes.

No wonder that from such a source there are so many evil minded, impure children brought into this world who, in turn, are clothed with the same impure thoughts and minds that possessed their parents. We, as parents, should be clothed with pure minds, then teach our children the purity of the Lord's handiwork in all His created beings. How mankind is becoming degenerated! One generation after another, handing down unclean and evil thoughts, are not able to look on the beautiful design and plan of God in His work of reproduction, without vulgar and impure thoughts.


What can we expect of the offspring? If the parents' minds are defiled, will they not be likely to impart the same to the children? How can they teach them to look at God's plan in purity, if they, themselves put a vile and evil construction on it? Usually children look at things from

the same standpoint as the parents, hence, let the children be taught purity in word and action. Give them a foundation for clean and pure thoughts, and clean and pure actions will result. Be yourself all you want your child to be. Do not correct and punish him for things or even words and actions that he sees in you.

Sometimes parents think they can do things without their children seeing or hearing of it. Parents, the reflection will be there and sooner or later the tale will be told. Let your children think their parents are the purest in the world, and try by every word and action to prove it so to them. It will have its impress on their hearts and lives. Do not allow anything in yourself you would not want developed in your child.

The noble and pure man or woman you want to see in your child, let it be a reflection of what he sees in you. Weeds grow very easily, but good, fruitful plants need great care and tender, patient tending. It requires an effort to live pure and holy, just as it requires great care and labor to keep your garden clean and free from noxious plants.

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*"Beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord,  
we are CHANGED . . ." II Cor. 3:18*

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The world is full of unholy and evil instructors, who are at every turn ready to find your children, but with the foundation of purity, have them fore-armed and fore-warned, and they can, to a great extent, judge and choose for themselves. Many parents say they want to keep their children's minds pure and innocent, hence neglecting to tell them things they should know, because they think they will find them out for themselves. Yes, dear parents, they will find them out sooner or later, and from what source? You may find out sooner or later that they have had more information than you had any idea they had, and of what nature is it? Be warned, and you, yourself, see to the information your child needs.

There is a vast difference between ignorance and innocence, and remember that your child cannot always stay in innocent ignorance—knowledge will come through some medium. Be your own child's instructor; then you will know what his needs are, and supply the information as he has need. —Jennie M. Byers

# THE SOLID ROCK

*On the solid rock I'm resting,  
'Neath the shadow of His wing,  
Where no harm can e'er molest me,  
Evermore His praise to sing.*

*Yes, I'll sound the proclamation  
Of salvation full and free;  
Of His wondrous love and power,  
How He died to ransom me.*

*On the cruel cross He suffered,  
Pure and spotless Lamb of God;  
All for you and me, dear sinner,  
He was laid beneath the sod.*

*But the grave, it could not hold Him,  
Death and hell triumphant o'er;  
King and victor now He reigneth,  
Reigns supreme forevermore.*

*To my soul a rock and refuge;  
In thy cleft will I abide,  
Safe from every storm and tempest,  
Fearless of the raging tide.*

*Drifting on the angry billows;  
Doubts and fears how oft assail;  
Yet with thee, O Rock of Ages,  
Gates of hell shall not prevail.*

*Blessed rock! A sure foundation,  
Where the tempests beat in vain;  
I am building, firmly building,  
For eternal life to gain.*

*Oh, this blessed place of refuge!  
Here my soul would gladly stay  
Till He calls me, "Come up higher  
To the realms of endless day."  
—Emma G. Pratt*

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