

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."—Eccl. 12:1



Youth's

Living Ideals

A Magazine of Christian Guidance



Vol. 3, No 2—November, 1962

IN THIS ISSUE

A GOOD NAME

DID SOMEONE
SAY "SUCCESS"?

"CONCERN" OF A
CHRISTIAN COLLEGE
PRESIDENT

EXPRESSING
APPRECIATION

HOW WE GOT
OUR HOUSE

Thanksgiving

For clouds that send their drops of rain,
And give the little seeds their birth;
For fields that yield their crops of grain,
And skies that shine above the earth;
For mountains, valleys, plains and hills
That make the landscape grand to see;
For oceans, rivers, streams and rills,
O God, in thanks we look to Thee.

For birds that sing their cheerful songs,
That greet us at the break of day;
For every heart of man that longs
To bless us all along life's way;
For food to eat, and clothes to wear,
For friends and loved ones, homes and beds,
For health and strength and daily care,
O God, in thanks we bow our heads.

For our great privilege to live
Where schools and churches dot the land;
Where men their best to others give
In time and service that is grand;
Where Christians love and pray and sing,
And add dear brothers to their rolls;
Where men to right and freedom cling,
O God, in thanks we lift our souls.

For Thy good Word and saving grace,
And for our glorious flag unfurled;
And for the right to fill our place
In this great nation of the world;
For Christ who came from Heaven's throne,
And died upon the cruel tree,
That He might crown us as His own,—
O God, we thank and worship Thee!

Walter Isenhour

Youth's Living Ideals

A Magazine of Christian Guidance

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Glen Berry, Editor

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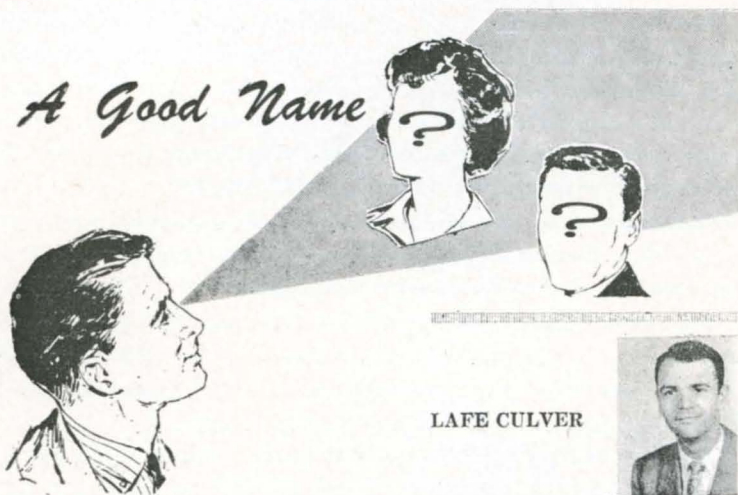
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Youth's

Living Ideals

Vol. 3. No. 2—November, 1962

A Good Name



(Reprinted from ANCHOR, Ottumwa, Iowa)

DO YOU remember," Gordy asked slowly, "that girl from the northern part of the state?" As if in agony, Karen sighed, "Yes, I remember her."

With just those few words being uttered, a mental picture of a girl immediately came into the minds of Karen and Gordy. It could have been a good picture, one that brought back pleasant memories. But they could only recall distasteful thoughts, making it a dark, unpleasant one.

Forming mental pictures of people is a process that goes on continually. Stop for just a moment and think of several friends or classmates. Notice that whenever you think of a name, a mental image of the person forms. You might see a smile or a scowling face. Remember this: When someone mentions your name, a mental picture of you is observed.

We may not recall why we think what we do about a certain

person. This is because many different thoughts and observations of individuals are collected unconsciously. Bit by bit these pieces of a puzzle fit together in our memories until pictures begin to form. Soon an occasion will arise to cause us to compare pictures (our impressions) with others. At that moment a name or reputation is born.

Everyone has some kind of a name.

The fact that some have a *good* name does not indicate that others have no reputation at all. Just the opposite—it suggests that some have names that are *not* so good. A person may be nationally known and still have a very poor reputation. Others might have an excellent reputation, even though their name has not reached outside the limits of their home town.

Obviously it is more important to think of *how* we are known rather than *how far* we are known. Some have made this grievous error of placing popularity above purity.

You cannot keep from having a reputation. The young person who shrinks back from others, avoiding contact with the public, will not escape having a reputation. He will be considered indifferent, strange, aloof, or the "hermit type."

Yes, others have a picture of you in their minds right now!

I suppose you are thinking, "I had better keep my hair combed and my shirt-tail tucked in," or "I will wash my hair more often and make sure my slip is not showing." A good appearance is necessary. Neatness and cleanliness are very important, but some young people forget that something else is showing too—their ATTITUDE.

As you go through everyday life and perform what seems to be insignificant tasks, others about you are taking mental notes. They watch:

- How you watch the teacher.
- What you do with an extra fifty cents.
- How you treat your parents.
- What you do with your spare time.
- How you treat the elderly.
- What you laugh at.
- How you treat your bicycle, books, and bed.
- What you like to read.
- How you care for other's possessions.
- What you do during a sermon.

How you act at the table.
What you do when you lose.
How you accept a gift.
What you act like away from home.

Similar to IBM machines, minds are fed these observations and results are bound to pop out. When the impressions of you are tabulated how will others have you classified? Rude or respectful? Tidy or tousled? Studious or stupid? Cheerful or complaining? Faithful or fickle?

Perhaps you are well aware that others are watching you. In fact, you can become so conscious of the stares of others that you develop some kind of a complex. Don't let this happen to you.

Don't try to cover up feelings of inferiority by being loud and boisterous. Don't pretend to be something you are not. Do not mimic the appearance and gestures of others to the extent that your true personality is disguised.

Be yourself. Be straight-forward and honest, realizing of course, that there is always room for personality and character improvement.

A Good name is not an accident.

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches. . . ." This Bible verse indicates that we have a choice in the matter of our reputation.

A good name does not just happen. Even if a person could choose between riches and a good name, to be well thought of would be more important. One may inherit riches, but a good reputation must be earned.

Just as it takes time for a person to establish credit with a bank, it will take time for you to earn a good name. Every day you live stone upon stone should be added to the foundation that supports your reputation. Eventually, if you continue in the path of godliness, wisdom, and humility, your name may appear as a tower of strength to encourage and challenge all who know of you.

It was said that "David behaved himself more wisely than all the servants of Saul; so that his name was much set by (precious)." Consistent good behavior will result in a good name—that is no accident.

However, one slip in morals can ruin in a moment what it took years to build. One failure of character will destroy the entire structure of your reputation. This means, at best, start-all over again. Often a fallen young person is never able to gain the complete confidence of others again. . . .

Remember this: If you slip into sin, it will not bring shame upon your name alone. Your parents will also be disgraced. Your family may blush and turn away when your name is mentioned. People in the community will look down upon the church you have been attending.

Yes, just like a child stacks building blocks, we build a good reputation but one slip will topple the whole tower.

The benefits of a good name.

A good name gives you personal satisfaction. One of the happiest things a person can say is, "I have very few regrets." I have heard elderly Christian people make such a statement with a deep sense of satisfaction. No one likes to look back and say, "I wish I had finished high school." Or, "I wish I had never met those fellows who got me off the right track."

A good name will naturally increase your circle of good friends. Wholesome teen-agers will either want to chum with you or avoid you, depending upon your reputation.

A good name helps during courtship. Should the time come for you to think about another as a prospective husband or wife, your name will either help or hinder. I know of numerous cases where parents have bitterly opposed a courtship because of a bad reputation.

A good name will aid you in seeking a vocation. When applying for a job on a farm, in a factory, or office, the employer will ask for references (people who can vouch for your character). Why are references wanted? They want to know what kind of a reputation you have! At that moment your entire future may be dependent upon the name you have earned for yourself. . . .

Other benefits could be listed, but these should be enough to make you realize the importance of gaining and maintaining a good name. You have a delicate, precious possession in your hands . . . your own name. It is very fragile—don't drop it.

The Story

Behind the Modern Dance

PART II

Youth is fascinated by the dance. Youth does not reflect very deeply, and there is where the danger lies. Youth is easily swept into the maelstrom of sensuality and immorality. Any form of amusement that caters only to sex has no excuse. If the women and girls were removed from this recreation and every man had to dance with a man, the dance hall would close in a night. If every man had to dance with his wife it would break up the dance also.

Woman is the embodiment of the finer moralities of society. It is woman's sense of fitness in morality and her loyalty to her sacred trust which nature has given her that safeguards all that makes life beautiful. When she violates that sacred trust she loses man's respect. No woman who devotes her time to the dance can wash her hands clean of the immoral tendency of the Modern Dance.

Women, I say to you that you are gambling with your womanhood and selling your virtue for a mess of pottage. As the man sees you swaying to the rhythm of the dance, he thinks that he might accomplish the compromise of your virtue if he got acquainted with you, so he goes about it to do so. So I know that the dance is the hot-bed of immorality because it is a game played upon passion. The devil is the center of the vicious circle and is there to accomplish his purpose. Do you notice that men seldom find their wives there? They do not want a girl that has been fondled by every Tom, Dick, and Harry. And also have you noticed that after marriage very few men want to go to dances or to have their wives go? They have heard, no doubt, the loose talk after the dance about girls that have danced with them—"She is made of putty!" or "She is a regular stick," or "She is a peach! She is wise! She is a dream!" The entire conversation finally turns to the woman who can be

handled on the dance floor so that her body ministers to the greatest sensuous pleasure. It has been said that the dance is the devil's way to a young woman and the young woman's way to the devil!

No Christian man or woman should have anything to do with the dance. The dancing element in the church presents a lot of spiritual corpses. Can you retain your love of prayer, your study of the Word, if you love dancing? Professing Christians do not compromise.

There is one thing I cannot condone. That is the church weakening on this question. Twenty years ago almost every God-fearing minister decried the dangers of the dance. His voice has been swept aside, because of the "modern preacher." Many of them are liberal and have no convictions whatever. The church has dropped to the low level of defending and sanctioning the dance. I cannot see how any church can be Christian that supports and sanctions an institution that breaks down the sanctities and endangers the moralities by which civilization protects its manhood and womanhood. A certain church in Detroit four years ago began a Saturday night dancing program.

The pulpit should be on the guard of virtue. The pulpits of the land should thunder against the evil that the full-blaze of publicity might be turned upon this menace to society. But the church is so saturated with worldliness that its voice is stifled. It has compromised with the world in order to win the praise of the Christless crowd. Too many unsound members in our churches have a controlling voice which in many cases has silenced the voice of God's servants. Some messengers of God must speak out against it and I propose to be one of them.

The Modern Dance is the greatest foe to social purity and is immoral in its nature, its tendencies and its results. I make a further charge against the dance. It is the road to the divorce court. Many a triangle has been formed through the entanglements of the dance floor. Hate and jealousy reign, and then the flame is fanned until it is ablaze. Love is the force that transfigures the common things of life and transforms them

into radiance and fills the life with sweetness and tenderness. The relationship between the loved and beloved is glorified by love. God made it so. Did He not make Eden? God has guarded love all through the centuries and forbids its desecration. But the dance ignores all this and sets the blaze of lust going. I repeat that it is a hot-bed of immorality and the spawn of lust.

Social workers will tell you that the dance is a sex stimulus that comes to the young before they are established in convictions, ideals, and character. The young have not mental and moral control over sex propensities that older people have. Instead of slowly awakening sex consciousness these young fifteen and sixteen-year-old children are forced into an intense sexual development. I want to say here that public schools should help the parent build moral restraints and establish moral ideals, and not allow this temptation into the public schools.

—From *Enemies of Youth* (by permission)

(Don't miss Part III next month.)

Words Fitly Spoken... | "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."—Proverbs 25:11

A duty dodged is like a debt unpaid; it is only deferred, and we must come back and settle the account at last.

—Joseph Fort Newton

•
The sweetest music isn't in oratorios, but in kind words.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

•
GOOD ADVICE TO DRIVERS—Children should be seen, and not HURT!

•
We do not prove our love by giving "things." A child can see through that. We prove our love by giving of ourselves.

•
Your personality is your character expressing itself. A stained character could no more give forth an attractive personality (that is really sincere) than an onion could smell like a rose. Louis Caldwell.

•
One can be miserable alone but it takes two to be happy.

—Ruth Smeltzer (Sunshine Magazine)

The Guide Book

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS FOR DAILY LIVING

BY THE EDITOR

Did Someone Say "Success"?

THE OTHER DAY my father gave me a clipping from a magazine. It is very thought-provoking and will make us stop and think. Quoting:

"Nearly 30 years ago, in my home town, there lived a wealthy man I shall call Mr. X, who always seemed to succeed in any endeavor. His first job consisted in driving horses for a construction gang. From this meager beginning he became the head of a steel corporation, owner of a newspaper, and president of a bank. One evening we were all shocked to hear the news that Mr. X had committed suicide. I knew this man well. Shortly before his death I visited him in his office, and was astonished to hear him say, "My boy, don't build your life as I have—upon worldly goods alone. It is not a substantial foundation. If you remain wealthy, you never have enough. If you lose your wealth, you have nothing left."—Orville M. Erickson

IT SEEMS man has it all worked out! I mean he thinks he has everything arranged so that he can live and become a success in life quite by his own little self. The way he acts and talks, God can just stay out of it because He is not needed. Blasphemy? Yes! I shudder even to type the words. But that is just the way man is acting!

Now everyone wants to be a success in life! Why of course! No one would choose failure in preference . . . at least not without a good reason. So, for the natural man to be a natural success, he needs a natural education. It is our duty to do our best. If in school, to go about our work happily and diligently so that we may learn all we can while we can. Yes, education is very necessary these days.

So you want to be a success. There are books, books, and more books on the subject. They have been written by men who are considered successful because they have reached their materialistic goals. These books contain much good natural advice for the natural man, but, as I say, most of them are geared to reach these goals without God. The natural man really hates God in his heart,¹ anyway, so this works out very well for him—for now.

Well, so much for the natural man in this world. Now what about the spiritual man? You know, inside a Christian are **two** men—the natural and the spiritual, the old and the new creation. These two men are fighting each other.² One wants the things of the flesh, the other the things of the Spirit. And since there is but **one** physical body, they war against each other to see which one will win the victories and which one can determine which way the body is to walk.³

Now the new man needs knowledge too. Not natural knowledge, but spiritual knowledge and food for the soul. Here is where we must beware. The old man is just a plain selfish pig! He wants **all** the food! But when our mind, heart, and affections are feeding the natural man, the new man, the born again Christian, the **soul**, is just starving to death. He cannot grow for lack of spiritual food. To him this natural food is necessary to keep the old body going, but does that old fellow have to **gorge** himself with natural appetites and let the new being starve?

Let's be fair and not so piggish. Let's feed that new man. We really don't have to worry about the old natural man. His selfish **SELF** will automatically see to it that he does not starve. But the meek, humble new man is the one we well have to feed. But what kind of food does he want? Generally speaking, just anything godly. Godly conversation floods the soul with rich grace growing food. When we engage in godly conversation, when we talk about our Lord Jesus and the God that sent Him, the new man is fed and he begins to grow—just like a growing baby. Godly reading or literature also feeds the new man. And the best food on earth is the very Word of God. It says that it is a **thorough** furnisher for the **man of God**, that he may be perfect and thoroughly furnished. (2 Tim. 3:16, 17) The written Word of God has **ALL** the vitamins, so to speak. The natural man considers the Bible as just a natural, hard-to-understand book. But the new spiritual man knows that the fear of God is the beginning of true wisdom (Prov. 9: 10); and that understanding of the Bible comes by study and revelation. He does not expect God to reveal anything to him if he does not show a real hunger to eat the Word. No one can grow without eating—and eating a lot!

Now it is expected that Mr. Natural Man is going to try to be a

success without God.⁴ But we expect better things from Mr. New Man. We expect to see the Christian doing and accomplishing things through Christ. His Lord and Master is at the center of his life. Instead of relying upon SELF-confidence,⁵ he realizes the "flesh profiteth nothing" (John 6:63) and this SELF-confidence is turned into GOD-confidence. In the natural man self-confidence is necessary for success. In the new spiritual man this is replaced by something greater—GOD-confidence.⁶ The Christian is even **more** positive and confident than before. His fleshly pride is humbled but he is bold in his belief that "I can do ALL things through Christ which strengthens me." (Phil'p. 4:13)

The new man has a desire for success—but not to be successful in obtaining material goals for the benefit of the old man, which pass away. He realizes that nothing will last forever except that which is done in and through Christ. His success, then, is in a life that is pleasing and honoring to His Lord.⁷ To walk closer and closer to the Lord is his driving desire. (Psa. 42:1, 2) This desire will, if strong enough, cause the physical body to walk in a different direction.

How far are **you** walking from your Lord, young Christian? This may be determined by how much you enjoy and engage in godly conversation; by how much you hunger and thirst after spiritual things of God; and by how the **world** looks at you. If the world always smiles and shakes your hand, something is **wrong**. Because the Master said that if we follow Him closely as we should, we would even be hated and persecuted. Don't be deceived! The world has not changed. It does not love Christ any more today than it did 1900 years ago. If we are not "suffering as a Christian," it is proof that we are not really Christian. "Whosoever . . . will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God." (James 4:4) The reproach of Christ has not been taken away.⁸ Do you want to prove it? Then the next time you are among a group of friends, instead of talking about racing, sports, and politics, or the weather, just try to keep a conversation going for fifteen minutes that is ALL about the Lord Jesus.⁹ They will probably think you have skipped a stitch, but it will be an indication and proof to you just how far from the Lord we have been traveling. When we are following "afar off" with closed mouth, we will feel no persecution—nor will we feel the sweet presence of the Spirit.

References:

1. "The carnal mind is enmity against God." (Rom. 8:7)
2. "I delight in the law of God after the inward man; but I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind." (Rom. 7:22,23)
"That ye put off . . . the old man, which is corrupt . . . And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness." (Eph. 4:22, 24)
"I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul." (1 Peter 2:11)
3. "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey the lusts thereof. Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin; but yield yourselves unto God." (Rom. 6:12, 13)
". . . we also should walk in newness of life. . . " ". . . walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Rom. 6:4; 8:1)
". . . ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more." (1 Thess. 4:1)
4. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." (Prov. 14:12) "Every way of a man is right in his own eyes; but the Lord pondereth the hearts." (Prov. 21:2)
"Without Christ . . . and without God in the world." (Eph. 2:12)
5. "We . . . have no confidence in the flesh." (Phil'p. 3:3)
6. "For the Lord shall be thy confidence, and shall keep thy foot from being taken." (Prov. 3:26)
7. "Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." (1 Cor. 10:31)
8. "And ye shall be hated of all men for My name's sake; but he that endureth to the end shall be saved. . . . The disciple is not above his master, nor the servant above his lord. . . . If they have called the Master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of His household." (Matt. 10:22, 24, 25)
"Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." (2 Tim. 3:12)
"Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt." "Let us go forth therefore unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach." (Heb. 11:26; 13:13)
"But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye. . . ." (1 Peter 4:13, 14)
9. "Whosoever therefore shall confess Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in heaven. . . . If a man love Me, he will keep My words." (Matt. 10:32; John 14:23)



"Jesus said . . . Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind." (Matt. 22:37) God is a jealous God. He will not be mocked by us having other idols before Him.

READ IN THE NEXT ISSUE—

- The Poor Nagging Woman, by Mrs. W. J. Berry

A BUMPY ROAD

A little boy was leading his sister up a steep mountain path. "Why, it's not a path at all," she complained, "It's all rocky and bumpy." "Sure," he said, "the bumps are what you climb on."

November, 1962

How Large Is Your Circle?

You and I are constantly drawing circles in life. Circles that include some folks. Circles that shut others out. We cannot help but draw circles around us—life demands that we do. The question is, how large is the circle that we draw with the crayon of the heart upon the page of life?

The Master drew a great circle about His life that included everyone—the sinner, the downcast, and the hopeless, along with the upright and faithful. How great is the circle of our love? Does it include people of different economic status, . . . different race? Or does it exclude some? Have you ever caught yourself saying, "Here is where I draw the line"? In saying that, you actually are saying that you are drawing a circle that necessarily shuts someone out.

We all struggle with the business of drawing circles. The small, egotistical person draws the small circle—with himself at the very center. His own interests, desires, and attainments are at the center of his thinking. Someone has said that "the egotist is an I-specialist"—a pun, but a veritable truth.

The great person draws a large circle, with God at the center, that includes people of every walk of life. How large is the circle that we are drawing.—H. M. Rosenberger in *Sunshine Magazine*



THE MOON AND THE SUN

Olva Browning

Seal Beach, California

Yet light, the pale face of the moon,
Peeked from behind the purple hills,
And caught the golden fringes of night
With her blended, lovely hues.

No favor is played; for on she goes
To penetrate the night abroad;
And light for them another day:
So on and on the retraced path,
The moon and sun, as God did plan.

Some day this heavenly host shall fade;
The path will need not be retraced,
When God's own glory and righteousness
Is all sufficient for our need;
And we shall live in glory's light.

Thanksgiving Story

"I well remember the first Thanksgiving which was kept in my native village," said a Western Congressman, long ago.

"I was then a little shaver of nine years old, trying to earn a few pennies by selling newspapers. Someone marched all the newsboys to the union meetings, where all the churches of the town joined in thanking God for His mercies. There was a great deal said about the prosperity of the nation, the general peace, the abundant crops, and what not. I confessed it puzzled and bored me. I knew nothing about the nation outside of our little city. I had no idea of war, and so I could not rejoice in peace, while as for crops, I supposed that meant Squire Potts' corn and oats, which did not concern me.

"I came out of the church indifferent and sleepy. Just then the squire himself met me. He was a portly, kindly man. 'Hello, youngster' he said. 'Here's something for yourself—something to keep Thanksgiving on.' He gave me a quarter. That seems a trifle to you; but I had never before had a penny that I felt was my very own. The money I made with the papers all went to my mother. We were very poor.

I remember that I sat down on a doorstep with the quarter. I felt that I should shout aloud if I spoke. What should I buy with it? I thought of twenty things that would be a grand surprise to Mother and riches to myself. I was fairly dizzy with happiness. The sun shone bright and warm, and a tree overhead rustled gaily. Suddenly it occurred to me that God had sent me this money through the squire.

"I said nothing; but there was no such thankful heart in the city that day as mine. I was a living Thanksgiving."

The little story has its meaning. It is possible for us to give someone a personal reason for Thanksgiving. We may never be able to praise God with our voices or with any investment, but we can call forth thanksgiving for the poor and needy, and cause the heart of him that is ready to perish to sing for joy.

—Selected

Notes from Mom



Dear Young Friends,

In these days of plenty, it is so easy for us to become selfish! It is strange, but sadly true, that the more we have, the more we want. It would seem that when we have an abundance, we would be glad to share it with those who are less fortunate. But we see so often that it does not work that way. We hold our possessions close to us, and snatch for more, and more, and more.

The child who has *everything* is more selfish than the one who must play with home-made toys. He is never happy—the selfish person is *never* happy.

The child who is really happy is the one whose daddy has made a “tractor” for him of spools, or a home-made wagon. If such a child should be given a real, “store-bought” toy, his happiness warms the heart of the giver.

One time a kind lady gave a little boy a ten-cent toy automobile. He was so happy that he infected everyone—even strangers on the street—with his joy. This lady said she did not know before that it was possible to buy so much happiness with so little. Then sadly she told of the many, many nice things their own and only child possessed; and yet, she said, “She is not happy!”

We know what was wrong, don’t we? She had *too much*! She was a poor little rich girl!

Which would you rather be? The poor little rich girl, or the rich little poor boy or girl?

Let us always remember that there is not much happiness or excitement in store for the person who has *everything*.

* * * *

Do you know the secret of real happiness? It is the ability to enjoy the happiness of other people. If we see someone who has something that makes him or her very happy, and feel envy—that is, *we* want it—we are very miserable. If we have

the ability to share in the happiness of someone else, we really own, in one way, what belongs to them. This may be what was meant in the Bible when it is said "All things are yours."

At one time and another, I have felt a warm glow of happiness as I worked all through the day. I was hardly conscious of the cause, but as I tried to find the reason, I would remember some nice thing that had come to this or that friend. Their happiness was not theirs alone,—I possessed a good part of it—and I had not taken the least bit of happiness from them! In fact, if the other person was an unselfish one, it doubled *his* happiness. Isn't that a wonderful secret? It is one secret, too, which you may tell to as many people as you wish!

* * * *

Let me tell you about "our" beautiful lake! Just back of "Berry Patch" there is a man-made lake. That is, the little hills lie so that by the use of a bull-dozer one end could be closed, and so the stream above flows into it. It also catches all the bountiful rain that has fallen this summer and fall.

So we have a beautiful lake. It is bounded on one side by a beautiful sloping meadow, and on the other by the forest. It is a beautiful sight.

All summer the trees have cast their lengthening shadow over the lake in the long, hot afternoons, and it was such a peaceful sight. One had only to look back there to smooth away the cares of a busy day. But now the trees are casting their colorful autumn leaves like little "ships" sailing on the water.

I hardly realized the lake belonged to us until a visitor called it to my attention one day: "How pretty the lake looks back there! Does it belong to you?"

"Oh yes" I said, "It is ours! only we don't have to pay the taxes on it." We have only to enjoy it. The man in town who pays the taxes on it does not really own it, because he is seldom where he can enjoy it. So it ours, really! just as the sun and the moon and the bright blue sky above are ours.

One is truly rich who can enjoy things which belong to someone else!

See you next month, God willing.

Lovingly, MOM

Round Table Discussion

• YOUTH PROBLEMS ANSWERED BY OUR READERS •

This department is mainly for the views of you the readers. Please send in any questions you would like to see discussed in this department. Please submit your answers to any question by the 10th of the month following date of issue.

QUESTION:

"Should a teen-ager own his own car?"

ANSWERS:

From Cheri Baldwin, age 13, Fort Worth, Texas: "It depends. Reasons why some teen-agers shouldn't own their own car—they endanger lives if they show off; they may be tempted to go places they shouldn't go and do things they shouldn't do. Reason why some can have cars—some teenagers are very considerate and they should have the privilege of owning a car."

From Brenda Penn, age 13, Cleveland, Ohio: "A teen-ager could own his own car but should be old enough and not careless."

From James Semadeni, age 14, Dove Creek, Colo.: "If the person is old enough to take responsibility and take it seriously, he should have a car, if he can afford it and needs it. I am too young to drive yet, which hinders my participation in some sports which require night practice."

From a friend in Michigan, age 17: "I think a girl should wait to get a car until she's out of high school. But if you really think of it, sometimes a boy should get a car. I think the parents should put a limit to the use of it. During school a car should be left at home except for weekends. If a boy doesn't have a car, sometimes it's hard, especially if he has a girl. If you are a responsible driver and your parents have control of your use of the car, a car is all right to own."

From Mary Ellen Hildreth, age 19, Opelika, Ala.: "If the car is for a useful purpose such as attending school, working, or attending church, I think he should own his own car. If the car is used for football games, shows, drawing attention, or used in bribery, I do not approve of such."

From Wanda Fenter, age 20, Portales, New Mexico: "The individual should be considered. However, in general I would say no. If he has purchased it with his own hard-earned money and can 'foot the bill' for its upkeep, and realizes the full responsibility he is undertaking, it might be O. K. I say for those whose parents give them a car and

pay for all expenses, it shows poor judgment. The boy or girl will not learn the value of doing without and earning the right to own things of value."

From Bill Clinton, age 31, Exeter, Calif.: "I think not. In many instances he is not ready to assume full responsibility that goes with owning a car. His means for car expenses, such as upkeep, gasoline, oil, insurance, etc., is fairly limited. Until he can prove he is willing and able to accept this responsibility, and can also prove that he will strictly adhere to safe driving rules, he should be told to forgo owning his own car for awhile. Also, his driving habits should determine how often he is privileged to drive the family car."

From Mrs. E. Baldwin, age 31, Fort Worth, Tex.: "I think this would depend on the individual teen-ager and the circumstances. A car should be looked upon as a means of transportation only—not as a toy or something for entertainment. A teen-ager using God as a Guide, will use a car safely. It could help teach responsibility if the owner has to use his own earned money for the upkeep. The owner must have the character to resist 'following the crowd' in driving manners."

NEXT MONTH'S DISCUSSION—

In December we will discuss: "Must Mom and Dad always know where I am going and with whom I am going?"

NOTICE: Next month we hope to print the picture of each panel member. This will add interest and you will fill a closer, more personal relationship with each one. Please send us your picture. A school picture or a good snapshot will do.

YOUR ANSWERS TO THESE WILL HELP SOMEONE ELSE

- "In school so many try to get the easiest teachers. Where choice is possible, shouldn't we pick the hardest or strictest ones?"
- "Should a teen-age girl go steady with a boy 110 miles from her home?"
- "Is it wrong for students to attend dances, such as the Jr. and Sr. Prom? I mean students in high school who are members of the Church?" [For consideration in answering this question, you might read and study the series now running, "The Story Behind the Modern Dance," written by Dr. John Carrara. It may affect your answer.—Ed.]
- "Should the minimum age limit for obtaining a driver's license be raised from 16 to 18?"
- "Should women cut or even trim their hair?"
- "Is smoking right?"
- "Is it wrong to bowl?"
- "Should a Protestant girl date a Catholic boy even if he promises to go to church with her?"

(Can you parents or teachers help on some of these?)

Fruitful Plant Or Parasite?

BILL KENDRICK

ARE WE lively plants in the vineyard of our Lord, blossoming out with peaceable fruits of righteousness? Or are we but parasites consuming God's blessings upon our own lusts, and still yet yielding thorns and briars?

We all know what it is to be a lively plant. We love to look upon a vine or a tree and see it drinking in the God-sent rain and sunshine, and from it receiving energy. Then we see it begin to bud and blossom out, its blossoms yielding a sweet fragrance; and then the fruit appears.

On the other hand, we have the parasite. It, too, receives the rain and sunshine; it has the same source of energy, yet it remains unfruitful. It just keeps drinking in the blessings of God, yet remaining barren. Both are ever dependent on the Source of life, yet the one is a pleasure to the Lord, and the other is sickening to Him. (Isa. 1:1-18; Rev. 3:14-22)

We may liken our parasite to the weed out in the cornfield. It may stand much taller than the corn itself, and it may appear much greener, but it is worthless to the husbandman. I fear many professing Christians are like this. All leafed out in green, tall and mighty, head and shoulders above the common herd, yet worthless, barren, just cumbering the ground. (Luke 13:6-9)

"He (Jesus) spake also this parable. A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none." (Notice that it was *his* tree.)

"Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, 'Behold, these three years I come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and find none; *cut it down*; why cumbereth it the ground?'

"And he answering said unto him, 'Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it and dung it. And if it bear fruit, well; and if not, then after that thou shall cut it down.'"

We have here the picture of Christ, our great High Priest ever interceding on our behalf, ever pleading for us. He as the

husbandman begs, "Give them a little more time. Forgive them, they are but little children; they know not what they do." But He will not forbear forever. The Spirit of God will not strive with us always. God will soon have enough of our vain foolish ways, and will give place to wrath. Our continual barrenness is provoking the Lord. As He cursed the fig tree, which was a type of the Jewish nation, He, too, has promised us Gentiles that we can be cut off if we go on in unbelief and unfruitfulness. Not cut off from the family of God, but if the Jew, because of his unbelief, failed to enter into the land of promise and enjoy a season of rest, we, too, can fail.

We should all be so careful to take heed unto ourselves and pattern our lives after the example set by Jesus, lest we lead one of God's little ones astray, and we ourselves be a castaway. (1 Cor. 9:27)

When God blesses us with wisdom, we should not continue on in foolishness, but walk wisely in the fear of God. When God blesses us with strength, we should use it to labor in His service, and when He grants us courage, we should stand and fight. (Prov. 9:10; 8:13; 3:1-8; James 1:5-8; Col. 4:5; Eph. 5:14-20; 1 Cor. 13:58; Eph. 4:17-32; 1 Tim. 6:12; 2 Tim. 2:1-5)

And when God blesses us with light, we should break the earthen vessels and let it shine. (Luke 8:16; 12:35-40; Matt. 5:13-16)

Let us remember the words of Peter as he states, "God has given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness."

Let us make use of these things He has kindly and graciously given us. Let us give heed to and beg Him to direct our course in this life. Let us remember that He is the Potter, and we are but clay. Let us pray to Him to mold us according to His will. (Isa. 64:6-9)

May we possess that lively hope that Jesus may return to earth at any time. May we take God at His word and step out on His promises in faith. Instead of being weak-kneed, puny,

double-minded, unstable, sin-sick babes in Christ, we should be strong, courageous and lively Christians.

I would that we all had the faith to trust Him for our every need, to be mindful that He will ever provide. He is the unchanging God, the same yesterday, today and forever. His power has not diminished with the passing of time, neither has His strength failed. He that did great miracles and wrought great wonders in days of old, can still perform even in this modern push-button age.

Oh that we believed that He really is and that He is a rewarder of them that seek Him. Oh that we were mindful that He is the God of judgment, a consuming fire, and that He does not condone or overlook evil, even in His own children. Would not this bring us to our knees in humble petition, begging Him for mercy?

It is time we turn to practical godliness, to live in the fear of the Lord each day. It is a shame to put on our false faces and our artificial fruit to adorn ourselves with on Sunday morning, then lay it upon the shelf for the rest of the week. It is time to quit playing "Dr. Jekyll" and "Mr. Hyde," and be as God would have us be every day. God's definite promise is that if we repent, He will heal our land. So many today cannot see the desolation that is in the land, but if we would only open our eyes, we could see our need to be healed. Christianity is sick; governmentally we are sick; our home life is sick. It is sickness that brings death, and there is only one cure. We need a good purging to rid us of our worldliness and we need to find Christ, as our daily Companion, and to know Him as the living water and the bread of life. A strict diet of this would be a sure cure. (2 Tim. 4:3,4; 3:1-5; John 6:22-58; 4:10-15; Luke 21:25,26)

I offer no apology for this message. I have only cried as God bids me. I could be an untruthful watchmen and say, "All is well; there is no danger; no evil will ever befall you." But as a true watchmen I tell you plainly. There is danger ahead! Desolation is coming upon this sinful world, and it will touch us if we are not in the straight and narrow way! (Ezek. 33:1-11; Luke 13:1-5; Rom. 2:3-11; Matt. 7:13,14; Heb. 10:26-31)

Character Lessons

Companionship—Part I

A YOUNG MAN who had left home to enter business, and who had only a single acquaintance in the town where he was newly employed, was arrested upon the charge of stealing a pocketbook containing \$1,000 from the desk of a man whom he had called upon in a business way the previous day. He was in a desperate plight, for circumstances were strongly against him. The man stated that he had the pocketbook just a few minutes before the young man came in, and upon looking for it immediately afterward, it was gone, and nobody else had been in the room. The young man's only hope was in the establishment of a previous good character, and he had no one to whom he could at the moment apply. His employer was a suspicious man, and the boy did not like to face him until he had been exonerated; but how to untangle himself from the web which had been wound about him he did not know. Not knowing what to do, he sent for his single acquaintance, and told him of his predicament and the circumstances of the whole affair, and said, "Of course, you have only my word that I did not take the pocketbook, but it is the truth." His acquaintance looked at him critically for a few minutes, and then said, "No, I don't believe you did take it, and I am going to stand by you in this, and see that you are cleared." The new acquaintance immediately gave bail, and told him to go to work and say nothing. Then he sent to the home of the boy, and arranged to have some influential men of the place come on at his own expense to testify to the character of his friend, and upon the day of trial, secured his honorable discharge. When asked why he did all this he replied, "Why, I am your friend." This was his idea of the meaning of a friend.

This is companionship.

● *Companionship is the relation of intimacy with companions to whom we give friendliness and loyal support.*

While we should be courteous to all, we cannot have the same feeling and liking for all; and intimacies are formed with those who are especially congenial and companionable to us. This is called *friendship*.

True friendship is not necessarily the outgrowth of family ties or relationship; it is based upon liking, in which similarity of tastes and interests makes pleasant company; but there must be respect and admiration added to this liking. We want for our friend one who is honest and brave, one in whose honor and kindness we can trust.

Friendship involves certain duties. See to it that you deserve the liking and respect of your friend. "Who wrongs another clouds his own sun." We must be loyal and stand up for him against evil report. We should look out for his interests, and look out for him in every proper way. A true friend will rejoice in our success, and will sorrow over our defeats, as though they were his own.

Friendship also demands a forgiving spirit. When one considers for a moment his own weaknesses and shortcomings, he cannot long withhold forgiveness to others. Roscommon says: "The string of a violin may jar in the best master's hand, and the most skilful archer may sometimes miss his aim. I would not quarrel with slight mistakes."

Forgiveness is a noble quality, but difficult of attainment, but it is one of the brightest jewels in the crown of character. Forgiveness is pardon, or the overlooking of injuries. Forbearance is the power of restraining our passions when provoked. Forgiveness is a matter of thought; forbearance is a matter of deed. Forgiveness considers what is done to us, and forbearance what we do to others.

True friendship aims to be of service, and assists in every honorable way; but one must not say or do for him what will dishonor oneself. It was once said of a prominent business man, as the highest form of praise, that he would not do a dishonorable thing even to oblige a friend.

Trumbull says: "It is good to have a friend, but it is better to be one." Thomas Hughes says: "Blessed is the man who has

Youth's Living Ideals

the gift of making friends, for it is one of God's best gifts."

Dr. Starr Jordan once related that when an undergraduate at Cornell, there was formed a circle for about forty boys who met at stated times to tell one another what they had seen and what they had tried to see, not for the purpose of getting their lessons or helping their standing at college, but for mutually assisting one another to increase their knowledge.

The policy of the Republic is to be friendly with the entire world, and it asks that ties of friendship be woven between the individuals of every nation.

Practice. Let all think that to *have* a friend, one must *be* a friend, and see to it that he *does* friendly acts.—James T. White

"Concern" of a Christian College President

Clyde J. Kennedy, President of Shelton College, New Jersey, writes:

I am greatly concerned with the way the youth of our land are being subtly conditioned by the forces which are sweeping our nation. Even long-established Christian colleges are failing their solemn responsibility. A splendid young man, recently graduated from one of America's oldest Christian colleges, said, "What is wrong with socialism? Cannot a Christian be a socialist?" This student was totally unaware that the Bible teaches the right of private property and the free enterprise system. "Thou shalt not steal" undergirds our capitalist system. Each of us has property and we are forbidden by God to steal from each other. And the State must be moral and must not steal from any one of us. Our young people must be made aware of these things!

Further, I am deeply concerned over the relentless march of Communism and the inability of the free world to resist the Red tyranny. I believe the reason for weakness is found in these words of Edmund Burke, the great English statesman: "Despots govern by terror. They know that he who fears God fears nothing else, and they eradicate from the mind . . . that only sort of fear which guarantees true courage."

"He who fears God fears nothing else." "But how many fear God today? Our great nation has become secularized through our schools and colleges. Thousands of young people are having their faith in God and the Bible undermined. In its place is substituted Humanism, a misplaced faith in man himself.

This "one way street" whereby God and the Bible can be undermined in our schools but cannot be defended is accomplishing just what Burke stated. An instance of this came to my attention recently in a book, **The Philosophy of Humanism**, by Dr. Corliss Lamont. The book (published 1949, revised 1957) was an expansion of lectures given in 1946 at Columbia University. Dr. Lamont ably states the philosophy of Humanism. Humanism, he states, ". . . considers all forms of the supernatural as myth. . . ; believes that man is an evolutionary product . . . and that as an inseparable unit of body and personality he can have no conscious survival after death . . . ; believes in a far-reaching social program . . . both national and international . . . ; is interested in a future life, not in the sense of some fabulous paradise in the skies . . . ; is the viewpoint that in any case the supernatural, usually conceived of in the form of heavenly gods or immortal heavens, does not exist." pp. 10, 11.

In the same book he has a good word to say about the Communists. The Marxists, he says, ". . . are unquestionably humanistic in their major tenets of rejecting the supernatural and all religious authority, of setting up the welfare of mankind in this life as the supreme goal, and of relying on science and its techniques." p. 21.

It must be recalled that the Senate International Security Subcommittee, Document No. 117, April 1956, on "The Communist Party of the United States of America: What It Is; How It Works," lists the name of Corliss Lamont among those who are most typical sponsors of Communist front organizations, along with "Linus Pauling, Jerome Davis, Langston Hughes, Jack R. McMichael, Paul Robeson, Harry F. Ward, etc.," p. 94.

Can we wonder why our nation is weakening in its resistance to the Communist menace?

American leaders—like Corliss Lamont—are helping America destroy itself. . . Our leading schools are honeycombed with atheism and communism.

—*Christian Victory*

Expressing Appreciation

Did it ever occur to you that an expression of appreciation is sometimes of great importance?

For instance, the husband should tell his wife now and then that he appreciates her, not only because of her love for him, and her kindness and faithfulness, but because she attends well to the work and interests of the household, cares for the children as a loving mother should, if there are children in the home, and gives her best to the family and to God.

A word of sincere appreciation from time to time on the part of the husband means more, perhaps, than words can express. It encourages the wife, helps her to bear her burdens, brings smiles to her face, gladdens the heart, and with a sweetness in her soul, she goes forth to her daily tasks and toils of life, feeling that she is not a castaway, but a queen in the home.

As a consequence, she feels that she is not living, laboring, toiling, and spending her life and time vainly, but blessedly and maybe gloriously.

Husband, when have you told your wife from the depth of your heart and soul that you appreciate her? When have you planted a kiss on her cheek and said, "Wife, to me you are the best and sweetest woman in the world, the ideal of my heart, and I love you as no other?"

Or, do you go on and on and never express any appreciation of your wife, not letting her know that you love her, regardless of all she does for you and the family, maybe wearing her life away. This is possible.

Don't wait until your wife dies to tell how you loved her, how you appreciated her, how good, noble and valuable she was. All the eulogies you express of her when she is gone won't do her any good. Give her your flowers while she lives.

Wife, do you ever express to your husband any appreciation for his life of love, service, labor and toil, and for what he means to you and the family? Does the importance of this ever occur to you?

Maybe he has some faults, and doubtless does, but do you pray

for him daily, provide for his need, and encourage him in his work? Perhaps he has lots of hard things to endure, maybe criticisms and faultfindings on the part of others that are quite unpleasant.

Maybe he carries a heavy heart sometimes, and a burdened soul, and longs for help from somebody that cares. Do you ever lay your arm about his neck and tell him that you love him, that you appreciate him, and to you he is the dearest man in the world? If not, why not?

Oh, it is hard to give one's life, time, labor and toil to one's family and to others with little or no expression of appreciation for it! "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." (Prov. 25:11) Try making this beautiful picture through words and deeds that express appreciation.

Reader, do you ever express to your neighbors that you appreciate them? Try it. It may help to make them better neighbors, and they may feel more encouraged to help you, bless you, and stand by you in times of need, test and trial.

Did you ever tell your doctor and nurses that you appreciate them? Maybe they have helped to save your life. Maybe they lost sleep, labored and almost suffered for your good. Why not express to them your appreciation with kind words, a smile and hearty handclasp?

Did you ever express to your pastor your appreciation of his service and godly life, along with the same for his wife and family?

Maybe he has served you for years, and has given many anxious hours for your welfare for time and eternity, his companion likewise giving herself to help you in life to live for God. Sometimes we preachers of the Gospel, giving our lives to others are made to wonder how much we are appreciated.

Perhaps many preachers get plenty of "cold shoulder" and not too much lovingkindness from those whom they serve. Criticism comes, but why not expressions of Christian love and appreciation more abundantly? Such is so helpful and uplifting as we carry our burdens and bear our cross for the blessed Master.

Does it ever occur to you to express your appreciation to the principal of your school, or the president of your college, and the teachers who educate your children?

Do you ever express your appreciation to those you work with who befriended you, and those for whom you work, and from whom you get your wages?

Do you ever express your appreciation to those who serve you in the stores, at the filling stations, in the garages, on the farm, or in any other capacity—maybe even the maid who serves you, or the man who brings your milk to the door, or your groceries, or delivers your newspaper? Out of kindness and tenderness, why not give such an expression of appreciation to anyone who helps you, befriends you, or serves you in any way?

Did you ever express your appreciation to some godly writer who seeks to give you God's wonderful and eternal truth through his articles, books, poems, songs, etc? Did you ever write a letter of appreciation to the editor of your paper, who gives his time and talent to give you soul food? Try it, and in the meantime send in a good list of subscribers to the paper. This may prove a real blessing now and on into future years, and on into eternity. May God richly bless the thankful and appreciative.

—Walter E. Isenhour

One of My Favorite Recipes

SOMETHING NEW! Do you want something to do? Here is a way you can spend many happy and profitable hours. By the suggestion of Miss Cheri Baldwin, and with your continued help, we will keep this department going for your exchange of recipes. Have a happy and good time cooking!

CONGO BARS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 2¾ cups whole wheat flour | 1 cup chopped nuts |
| ⅔ cup oil | 1 cup dates, chopped |
| 2¼ cups brown sugar (1 lb.) | ½ cup powdered milk |
| 3 eggs | 2½ tsp. baking power |

Add water if needed (batter is thick).

Mix and put in 14x18 pan floured and greased. Cook 25 minutes at 350°.

—From Cheri Baldwin, age 13, 2205 Hughes Ave., Fort Worth 5, Tex.

Portraits . . .

Mrs. W. J. Berry

TABITHA

There is a beautiful sea-port town called today, Jaffa. The name means beautiful in the Hebrew language. At the time of the story of the object of this portrait, it was called Joppa. It is an ancient city of Old Testament times. It is famous for several reasons, but one is that it is the city from which Jonah set sail to Tarshish, when God told him to go to Nineveh.

It was built on a hill, and one might stand, surrounded by its beauty and see Jerusalem off in the distance, about forty miles to the southeast.

There lived Tabitha. The Hebrew name was Tabitha, and in Greek she was called Dorcas. Her name means roe, a small, agile, graceful deer.

Tabitha was a devout Christian. In fact, she is the only woman called in the Bible, a disciple. She was very active in the church at Joppa. But she did not limit her service to worship in the church. She went about putting into daily practice, the principle of the love of Jesus, of whom she was a devout disciple. She gave much to those in need. Not only did she give money and clothing. She was an expert seamstress, and she actually made the garments she gave to those in need.

What a labor of love this was! One might have plenty, and so purchase clothing for the poor. This is wonderful indeed. But Tabitha had a love which could find expression only in sewing with her own deft fingers for the poor widows.

At the time of our sketch, we see these weeping widows now standing sorrowfully about. For Tabitha had fallen ill, and now she is dead! They loved her for her care, but now as they weep together, one says, "See this coat of mine? She made it for me with her own dear hands which now are folded, cold and lifeless on her dear bosom." Another says: "Yes, she also made this dress you see, and many, many other things. In fact I really had nothing until she came to me, and lovingly provided for

my needs. Oh, how I loved her, and now she is dead!" First one and then another shows the work of her hands, and as each spoke they would break forth in a new burst of grief.

As they are weeping together, someone says: "Here's Peter! He has just healed poor old Aeneas of palsy in Lydda." Lydda is about six or eight miles distant. "Someone must have told him about Tabitha!" another said. "But Aeneas was not dead! Tabitha is dead!" cries another.

Nevertheless, they have heard that Jesus and His apostles *have* raised those who had died. So, there is hope and great excitement as Peter speaks kindly to them.

They have lain her in the best room of the house after lovingly anointing her beloved body with precious ointments and perfumes. Now Peter asks them to leave. He wants to be alone before God and asks them to leave so that their weeping will not disturb him. He must be quiet before God. After they have left him alone with the body of their beloved friend, Peter kneels there in her room and prays to God. Then turning to her, just as though she could hear, he says, "Tabitha, arise!" Indeed she could hear! For it was as if the Lord had spoken, when His disciples spoke in His name. By speaking in His name, Peter had His power. So Tabitha hears, and opens her eyes, so recently lovingly closed apparently forever by loving, weeping friends. She looks at Peter and arises. Now he takes her hand and calls her sorrowing friends, saying, "Here is your beloved Tabitha who was dead but who now lives to continue her labors of love and benevolence."

Can we not imagine what joy there was in that home that day, and all over the beautiful city of Joppa? Thus was the blessing of God upon this woman. There were yet others needing her loving service, and we know they must now, not only love Tabitha, but they must love and believe on her Lord. This was the primary purpose of her loving service—that they should love her Savior as she did.

Our dear Tabitha has now been sleeping for centuries, but her good works live on to inspire us to give of ourselves to others.

Especially for young college students who are facing men who will try to shake their faith by undermining the Bible.

No. 26 of Fifty-Seven Reasons

WHY WE KNOW THAT THE BIBLE IS THE WORD OF GOD

Though the Bible is an ancient Oriental book, yet it is without mistake, contradiction, and demonstrable error, and it is historically accurate.

We speak, not of the various translations of the Bible (for men may err in translating), but of the Bible as originally given; though both the Authorized and the Revised translations are conceded to be remarkably accurate translations, on the whole.

"Nor has the widest learning and acutest ingenuity of skepticism," said Archdeacon Farrar, "ever pointed to one complete and demonstrable error of fact or doctrine in the Old or New Testament." Thomas Newberry, a devout English student, spent fifty years studying the Bible. He said, "I accept the . . . plenary inspiration of the scriptures. I have studied every 'jot and tittle' of the Word of God, and after these fifty years I see no reason for changing my position." Hundreds of Bible scholars, of the highest rank intellectually, can testify to the same conclusion.

We are well aware of the fact that infidels claim that "the Bible is full of contradictions." *But these so-called "contradictions" exist solely in the mind of the infidel!* Every supposed discrepancy has been fully and satisfactorily explained by reverent scholarship. We would expect the perfect God to produce a perfect book, and SO IT IS. *We challenge the world to point to a single, demonstrable error or bona fide contradiction in the Bible in the original languages.*

The Bible mentions thousands of historical incidents, persons and places; consider how staggering is the fact that there is NOT ONE demonstrable historical inaccuracy in it. *Surely, God wrote the Book!*

—Fred John Meldau

NEWS ITEMS . . .

PUBLIC PRAYER IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS—While schools were recessed for summer vacation, the Supreme Court made a decision that affects every student in public schools today. The decision was concerning prayer in public schools. The verdict raised a great controversy among educators, students, and the general American public. Many Americans felt that the Supreme Court had gone too far, and had stepped into territory where it had no right to tread.

In the midst of the commotion many facets of the decision may have been overlooked. Let us look for a moment at the exact ruling of our highest court.

The Constitution states: Congress shall make no law respecting or prohibiting the free exercise thereof. In light of this, the court ruled that the New York Board of Regents had no right to require a student to repeat a specific prayer. Upon careful examination, many people believe that this is not an indictment against all prayer in public schools. Therefore, the school day of the majority of American students continues to begin with a prayer or scripture reading. In morning devotions, the devotion in assembly, or Bible courses offered as electives in some public schools, students take time out from the hectic pace of modern living to recognize the Almighty Leader to whom we all owe our highest allegiance.

The controversy goes on, and as it does, Americans are forced to clarify their own views on this important issue. After all arguments, pro and con, have been considered, it can seem only logical that prayer should be found in the schools as a nation whose basic foundation is a belief in God and where such phrases as "In God We Trust," and "One Nation Under God Indivisible" are part of the national anthem and pledge of allegiance.

—From So-Hi News

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS—The London Sunday Times told of a 50-percent increase in reported cases of cruelty to animals by children over the past two years. Convictions in juvenile courts leaped from 114 in 1959 to 134 in 1960. Commenting on this increase, John Hall, chief secretary to animals society said: "Many of the convictions have been for acts of pure sadism. Often it is a reaction against boredom and frustration, and lack of parental control."

CANCER AND CIGARETTES—Dr. George E. Moore, director of the second largest cancer research center in the United States, said that today one out of ever 3.5 persons dies of cancer "and the frequency is growing." He said that during the past ten years in New York state, lung cancer has increased by 680 percent, "primarily, we believe, because of cigarette smoking." Women at one time had a relatively low incidence of lung cancer, but Dr. Moore declared that they are now rapidly catching up, his reason being that women took up smoking in earnest some eight or ten years later than men.

—From Awake

DID YOU KNOW—Cherrapunji, India is one of the rainiest places on earth, having sometimes averaged 428 inches a year? The driest place is in the deserts of central Africa, where several years may pass without rain?

How We Got Our House

A "melody" is a song, but this little story is about Melody, a little girl, and her house.



One day little Melody asked,
"Daddy, where did we get our house?"

"Men made the house," answered Father,
"and it is made with wood, brick and stone."

Mother chimed in, "And the wood came from trees, Melody. Do you know who made the trees? Every tree is made by God."

"Where did the brick and stone come from," asked Melody.

"The brick," answered Father, "makes the house strong. Man made it, too. Brick is made of clay which comes from the ground. And God made the clay for men to make the brick. But Melody, do you see that little bit of stone in front of the house? Man did not make it. It came to us exactly like God made it. Isn't that wonderful! The brick has been partly made with man's hands, but the stone looks just like God made it—just like you would pick up a rock on the ground. That is the way it looked when God made it."

"The wood, too, Melody," said Mother, "is just like God made it. The pretty grain is just as it was in the tree that God made."

"God gives us a lot of things!" exclaimed Melody. "It was really good of Him to give us our house. We should thank Him!"

Next month read another story about our little friend, Melody.

—Editor

Suggested Reading

Your time for reading is limited. Select your reading with much care. The Bible comes first, and is never even to be compared with any other book or paper. The news stands and book stores are flooded with trash, and should be avoided. You can depend on the books listed here as being worth your valuable time and money.

NOTE: Our advertising the books listed below does not necessarily mean that we endorse every statement therein. We have carefully selected these books and recommend them to you as containing good wholesome, easy to read material that is enjoyable as well as helpful.

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