



The Advocate of Truth



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The Lord's Supper this year will be on Sunday evening, April first after sundown.

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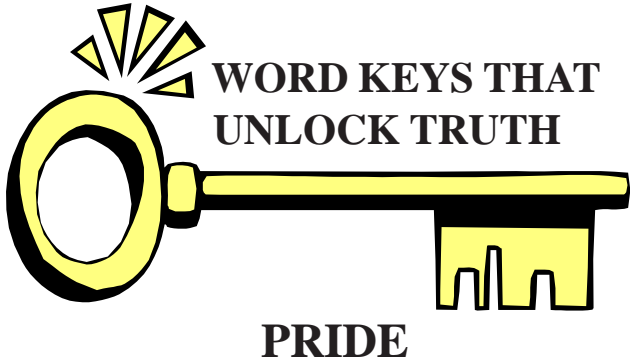
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Pride is having inordinate self-esteem; conceit of one's talents, ability, wealth, station, etc.; disdainful behavior; contempt for those beneath us in station.

Pride is regarded in Scripture as a vice, and we are told to shun it as an evil thing. It is vanity which only leads to destruction.

One sort of pride is a good thing. In this sense pride means an appreciation of one's position as a child of God and a member of the human family and an abhorrence of doing anything that is unworthy of such high stations; proper self-respect and self-esteem; otherwise a decent and respectable elevation of character.

Most of the references of pride found in the Scriptures are in the negative.

Some of the references to pride are as follows:

"Talk no more so exceeding proudly; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth: for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed" (I Samuel 2:3).

"Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished" (Proverbs 16:5).

"An high look, and a proud heart, and the plowing of the wicked, is sin" (Proverbs 21:4).

"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith" (Romans 12:3).

"Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men to of low estate. Be not wise in your own conceits" (Romans 12:16).

A reference to pride is found in Proverbs 8:13.

"The fear of the Lord is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate."

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THREE INDISPENSABLE THINGS

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We can get along better without some things. Even though some things are needful, we can dispense with them. However, there are three things which are absolutely indispensable to the child of God.

THE BLOOD OF JESUS IS INDISPENSABLE

"And almost all things are by the law purged with

blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission" (Hebrews 9:22).

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (I Peter 1:18-19).

"Much more then, being now justified by his blood,

we shall be saved from wrath through him" (Romans 5:9).

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace" (Ephesians 1:7).

Many professors and ministers reject the blood of Jesus, but it is indispensable. Without the shed blood of Jesus, our sins could not be covered.

FAITH IS INDISPENSABLE.

"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 11:6).

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ" (Romans 5:1).

"And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague" (Mark 5:34).

"Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24).

Let us have faith in the unlimited ability of God.

HOLINESS IS INDISPENSABLE.

"Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14).

"For I am the Lord your God; ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth" (Leviticus 11:44).

"But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy" (I Peter 1:15-16).

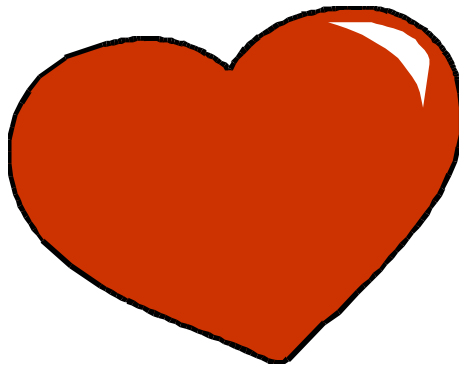
"Be ye holy; for I am holy," is found in both Old and New Testaments. God requires nothing higher and accepts nothing lower.

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world" (Titus 2:11-12).

The blood of Jesus, faith and holiness are indispensable in the child of God's salvation and his daily walk.

-Contributed

FACTS ABOUT THE HEART



The Bible uses the term "heart" frequently in a context that shows it refers to the center of thought and feeling and not the physical organ that pumps our blood.

1. The heart can depart from the Lord: "Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord" (Jeremiah 17:5).

2. The heart can love: "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might" (Deuteronomy 6:5).

3. The heart can reason: "I applied mine heart to know, and to search, and to seek out wisdom, and the reason of things, and to know the wickedness of folly, even of foolishness and madness" (Ecclesiastes 7:25).

4. The heart can be hardened: "Happy is the man that

feareth alway: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief" (Proverbs 28:14).

5. The heart can be hot: "My heart was hot within me, while I was musing the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue" (Psalm 39:3).

6. The heart can be broken: "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise" (Psalm 51:17).

7. The heart can be honest and good: "But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience" (Luke 8:15).

8. The heart and its secrets are known by God: "I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings" (Jeremiah 17:10). "Shall not God search this out? for he knoweth the secrets of the heart" (Psalm 44:21).

9. The heart can be overcharged with worldly things: "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares" (Luke 21:34).

10. The heart can be slow to believe: "Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken" (Luke 24:25).

11. The heart can burn within us: "And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?" (Luke 24:32)

12. The heart can be filled with sorrow: "That I have great heaviness and continual sorrow in my heart" (Romans 9:2).

13. One can be cut to the heart: "When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth" (Acts 7:54).

14. The foolish heart can be darkened: "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened" (Romans 1:21).

15. The heart can be proud: "Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord: though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished" (Proverbs 16:5).

16. One can obey from the heart: "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you" (Romans 6:17).

17. The heart can wish: "Their eyes stand out with fatness: they have more than heart could wish" (Psalm 73:7).

18. The heart can believe: "And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 8:37).

19. The heart has afflictions and anguish: "For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote unto you with many tears; and not that ye should be grieved, but that ye might know the love which I have more abundantly unto you" (II Corinthians 2:4).

20. The heart can be enlarged: "O ye Corinthians, our mouth is open unto you, our heart is enlarged" (II Corinthians 6:11).

21. The heart can commune: "Stand in awe, and sin not: commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still" (Psalm 4:4).

22. The heart can err: "Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do alway err in their heart; and they have not known my ways" (Hebrews 3:10).

23. The heart can be deceived: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" (Jeremiah 17:9)

24. The heart can condemn self: "For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God" (I John 3:20-21).

25. One's heart will be with one's treasure: "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Luke 12:34).

In The Complete Biblical Library, we read that the heart "summarizes the totality of man's inner being and nature." Jesus Himself gives us good reason to give attention to the condition of our spiritual heart, "...for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matthew 12:34).

- Selected



BE BLAMELESS AND HARMLESS

"Do all things without murmurings and disputings: That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain" (Philippians 2:14-16).

In Philippians 2:12-13, the Apostle Paul urges the Philippians to work out their own salvation. He assures the brethren that God was cooperating--working in them to will and to do of His good pleasure. To Paul, who was blessed with such deep insight into all that is required in the Christian life, holding forth the Word of life for the blessing of others was part of the Divinely provided means of working out one's own salvation.

The apostle's sequence of thought is enlightening. First: "Work out your own salvation" (vs. 12); then: "Do all things without murmurings and disputings" (vs. 14); in order "That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke" (vs. 15); "Holding forth the word of life" (vs. 16). To be blameless, harmless, and without rebuke as we hold forth the Word of life, is of vital importance if our efforts are to contribute to the working out of our own salvation.

To be blameless is to be devoid of any disposition to do evil. We are not to be controlled by anger, hatred, or strife; and are not to seek vainglory. We should be harmless, not merely from God's standpoint, or so far as the brethren would see, but so far as possible, harmless in the

sight of the world before whom we are to reflect the Gospel light.

We should not compromise the truth in order to please the world, nor should there be anything in our conduct or character to which the world can point as being evil. Our position should be like that of Daniel, for whom it was said by his enemies, "...We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God" (Daniel 6:5).

To be blameless in the sight of God is to have our hearts' intentions always pure, just, loving, and kind. But this does not mean that the world will approve our course in life. Indeed, we should expect to have opposition from the world. If we have the friendship and approval of the world, then we should seriously question our standing before the Lord. Jesus did not please the world, but those of the world who were not prejudiced against Him on account of His teaching found no fault with Him. Pilate said, "...I have found no cause of death in him...." (Luke 23:22).

Our concern should be that no just cause for blame be given through our wrongdoing. In II Corinthians 6:3, Paul speaks of "Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed." Paul then outlines the manner in which this can be done, saying. "But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings; By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, By the word

of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true; As unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed; As sorrowful, yet always rejoicing ; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things" (II Corinthians 6:4-10).

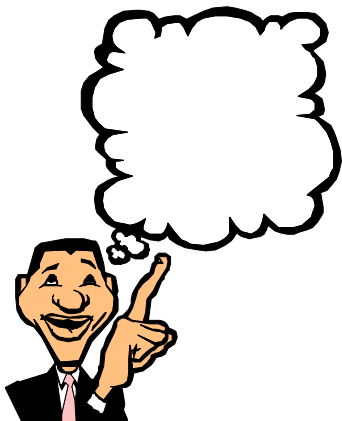
In our opening text, the Apostle Paul indicates that we are to hold forth the Word of life amidst a crooked and perverse nation. This means that we should not refrain from bearing witness to the truth simply because the majority of those with whom we come into contact are not true children of God. It will not injure us nor mar the purity of the truth to let it shine in a wicked world. It has been well-said that a ship is safe in the ocean as long as the ocean is not in the ship. So it is in our ministry of the truth. We should keep ourselves unspotted from the world, and guard well the purity of the message we proclaim. We must make sure that it is not mixed with worldly philosophy. Every child of God who does this will be as a

beacon in a dark world of sin and sorrow.

We are not to expect that the world will be converted. It was not converted in Paul's day, and it will not be until the kingdom is established. It was a perverse and crooked generation to which Paul preached, and every generation since time began has been the same. "Perverseness" implies unwillingness to be guided by the Lord. "Crookedness" is not always a way of open wickedness, but like a crooked line which goes in various directions, it implies a doing of both right and wrong. Amid these conditions, we are to let our light shine, showing "...forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light" (I Peter 2:9). Paul tells the Philippian brethren that if they would continue doing this, he would be able to look back upon his own ministry and feel that he had not labored in vain. This is a strong statement!

If the love of God fills our hearts, we cannot help telling others about the Gospel. Out in the darkness, there is one here and one there whom the Lord will reach with the message which we proclaim. So let us be blameless and harmless!

- Contributed



SOME THOUGHTS.....

BY GEORGE BUECHNER

When preparing for the Sabbath School lesson entitled "Prayer," a light bulb turned on above my head. I had been informed that we would be having guests in church, and it was my turn to teach the adult Sabbath School. While looking up the scriptural references for the first question, a voice spoke to me and said, "Take the word 'Prayer' and come up with something appropriate for the study. You can do it, just listen quietly for a moment and I will help." We came up with a thought for each letter of the word "prayer."

*P-Praise the name of God. Definition: To express approval or admiration of, to glorify. Hebrews 13:15: "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God

continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name."

*R-Rejoice in that we know of God and His goodness. Definition: To give joy to, gladden to feel joy or great delight. Deuteronomy 12:7: "And there ye shall eat before the Lord your God, and ye shall rejoice in all that ye put your hand unto, ye and your households, wherein the Lord thy God hath blessed thee."

*A-Acknowledge the fact that Jesus died for our sins. Definition: To recognize the rights, authority, or status of, to disclose knowledge of, to admit to be true. Proverbs 3:6: "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

*Y-Yield to the fact that we are not perfect, but continually strive to be. Definition: To give or refer as fitting, rightfully owed, or required. II Chronicles 30:8: "Now be ye not stiffnecked, as your fathers were, but yield yourselves unto the Lord, and enter into his sanctuary, which he hath sanctified for ever: and serve the Lord your God, that the fierceness of his wrath may turn away from you."

*E-Entreat and ask God for guidance and our needs. Definition: To make an earnest request. Psalm 119:58: "I entreated thy favor with my whole heart: be merciful unto me according to thy word."

*R-Read the Bible faithfully. Definition: To learn from what one has seen or found in writing or printing, to make a study of. I Timothy 4:13: "Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."

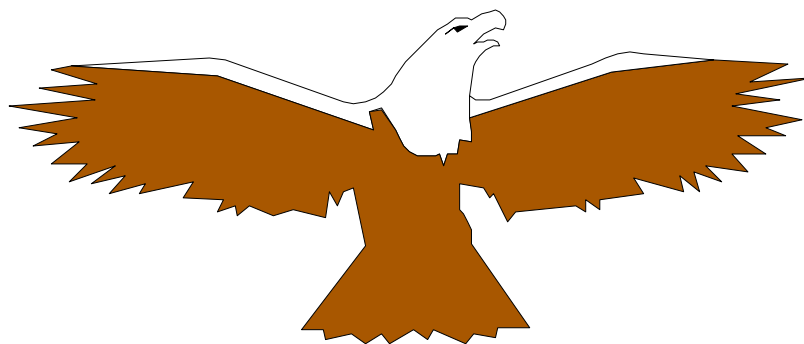
After jotting down what was revealed to me, I continued to study the lesson knowing that I had something

to share in Sabbath School.

Later on, I was talking with an acquaintance of mine, A Christian man who is a retired medical doctor, and I shared with him what had been revealed to me in regard to the word "prayer." He then said to me, "That needs to be put in written form to be shared with everyone, not just those attending your Sabbath School. I'm sure there are many in the world that your revelation from God would be inspirational to, especially those who worship alone or do not have a church to attend. Doesn't your church put out a publication? I'm sure I have read it. Please consider sharing your conversation with God. I will look forward to seeing it in print."

After mentioning my conversation with the doctor to my wife, Carol, she also encouraged me to do the same. So, this is it. I will make sure my doctor friend gets a copy of the "Advocate" when it appears, and I hope my thoughts will enrich you, the reader.

ON EAGLES' WINGS



BY CAROL BUECHNER

"In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai. For they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and there Israel camped before the mount. And Moses went up unto God, and the Lord called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel; YE HAVE SEEN WHAT I DID UNTO THE EGYPTIANS, AND HOW I BARE YOU ON EAGLES' WINGS, AND BROUGHT YOU UNTO MYSELF." (Exodus 19:1-4). In this passage of Scrip-

ture, the Israelites have escaped captivity in Egypt and have arrived and set up camp at Sinai. Moses proceeded to commune with God. The first thing God tells Moses is a reminder to the Israelites. He wants them to look back at what He did for them. All the miracles He performed in protecting them from the destructions brought upon the Egyptians and take comfort in His presence. There is so much that the Israelites can reflect upon. While still in Egypt, they were the plagues--water turned to blood, frogs, lice, swarms of flies, all the cattle of Egypt died, hail and fire, locusts in the houses, fields, and everywhere, first born of Egyptians killed. All of this the Israelites observe, but it

did not come upon them. "And I will sever in that day the land of Goshen, in which my people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there; to the end thou mayest know that I am the Lord in the midst of the earth" (Exodus 8:22). "And the Lord shall sever between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt: and there shall nothing die of all that is the children's of Israel" (Exodus 9:4). In Egypt, they escaped all that befell the Egyptians. After leaving Egypt, God continued to protect them. The Egyptians pursued them, but God was there. "And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them: And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night" (Exodus 14:19-20). As the Israelites proceeded on their journey, the sea parted and they were able to walk across to the other side on dry land. But when the Egyptian army followed them, God caused the sea to close over all of the soldiers and killed them. If only the Israelites would look back at all of this and consider the greatness of God and see what He has actually done for them!

God lovingly describes the care He has had for His special people, the Israelites, and how He had lifted them up on eagles' wings, and took them to Himself and into His loving, protective care where nothing could touch them. He did not allow them to go through all the horrific plagues that ravaged the Egyptians. He did not bring them out of Egypt to be overtaken and slaughtered by Pharaoh's army. It was almost as if God lifted them out of the devastation. He brought them His own special protection. This special protection is mentioned again in Deuteronomy as Moses gave the glory to God. "For the Lord's portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance. He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye. AS AN EAGLE STIRRETH UP HER NEST, FLUTTERETH OVER HER YOUNG, SPREADETH ABROAD HER WINGS, TAKETH THEM, BEARETH THEM ON HER WINGS: So the Lord alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him" (32:9-12). All throughout the journeys of the Israelites, you can see the loving protection of God as He lifts them up and cares for them as does the eagle caring for her young.

As God cared for the Israelites, He will care for you too. "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding. He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; THEY SHALL MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES; THEY SHALL RUN, AND NOT BE WEARY; AND THEY SHALL WALK, AND NOT FAINT" (Isaiah 40:28-31). This passage of Scripture definitely states that the advantage of waiting on God is worth it. His strength will be there, and you will be able to regain and not fall.

Perhaps the following technique can help you remember God's special care for you. Take each letter of the word "eagles" and make it into a word, making a sentence. Thus we have: **EAGERLY ANTICIPATE GOD LEADING EVERY STEP. To get the full impact of this statement, take time to think about what each word means.**

EAGERLY-feeling or showing keen desire, zeal, fervent, ardent. Keen implies deep interest, thoroughly felt and spirited readiness to tackle something. Having zeal is to be excited, having intense enthusiasm and to be determined with earnestness. Being ardent is to have warm or intense feelings, to be passionate and devoted. The **OPPOSITE** of having eagerness would be idleness, slack, indolence, weariness, procrastinating, laziness, sluggish, inattentive, indifferent, preoccupied, unconcerned, pathetic, uninterested and indifferent.

ANTICIPATE-to look forward to, expect, to foresee or enjoy in advance, to be ahead in doing or achieving, before due, to count on, to plan on, to give advance thought, to have a feeling for what is coming, to look for as likely to occur or appear, to have confidence that a particular event will happen, looking forward to something with a foretaste of the pleasure it promises, to hope for (implying a desire for something accompanied by some confidence in the belief that it can be realized). The **OPPOSITE** would be neglectful, inattentive, indifferent, lack of expectation or interest, doubtful and showing worry.

GOD-ALL POWERFUL, ALL KNOWING, ALL-MIGHTY ONE, CREATOR, SUPREME BEING, I AM THAT I AM, KING OF KINGS, LORD OF LORDS,

DIVINE ONE, OMNIPOTENT AND OMNIPRESENT ONE.

LEADING-showing the way to, directing the course of by going before or along with, conducting, guiding, to mark the way, to proceed at the front, to be first or foremost, to prepare the way, escorting, accompanying one to give protection, lay straight (direct route) and keep straight. The **OPPOSITE** would be to zigzag, wander, roundabout, crooked, deviate, indirect, meandering, erratic, twisting, fluctuating, rambling.

EVERY-each, individually, all, without exception, the whole extent or quantity of, totality, entirely, completely and without exception. The **OPPOSITE** would be a few, some, occasionally, now and then and sometimes.

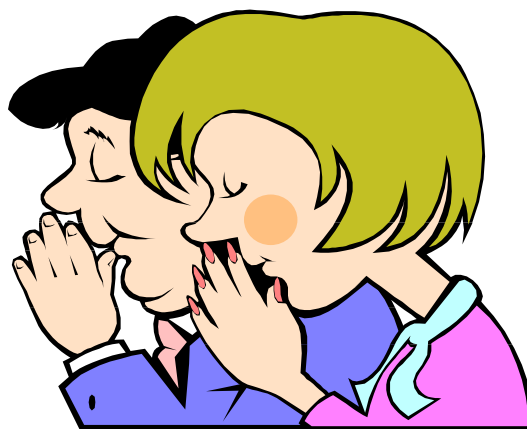
STEP-the act of moving and placing the foot forward, backward, up, down, sideways, pacing, striding. All this is done with the purpose of making headway or origin

from place to place. It can be slow, regular or sporadic. The type of movement can be affected by the degree of focus.

This statement, "**EAGERLY ANTICIPATE GOD LEADING EVERY STEP,**" should now come alive.

Perhaps it is time for you to do what God told Moses to have the Israelites do. Yes, as you commune with God, reflect back and recall the times that God has done for you what He did for the Israelites-carried You on Eagles' Wings! Stop living in the wilderness and trying to do everything on your own. God is there to pick you up, carry you and bring you through all kinds of situations. With enthusiasm, look forward to God taking care of all areas of your life from the smallest things to those things that seem hugely impossible to you. Nothing is beyond God's ability. Remember you can "**MOUNT UP WITH WINGS AS EAGLES.**"

WHY AND HOW MUST WE PRAY?



Jesus commands us to pray: "After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name..." (Matthew 6:9). He assumes we will pray when He states, "...when (not if) thou prayest, enter into thy closet..." (vs. 6). Jesus was also our example in prayer: "And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed" (Mark 1:35).

Prayer changes one's life. "...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16). "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness" (Acts 4:31).

Prayer gives eye to our faith. In prayer we see beyond ourselves and focus our spiritual eyes on God's infinite power. Prayer is our ultimate indication of trust in the heavenly Father. Only in prayer do we surrender our problems completely to God and ask for divine intervention. How must we pray? Following are five necessities:

Pray Patiently.

Patience in prayer does not mean apathy, but waiting with confidence and boldness. Jesus said, "For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Matthew 7:8). The Psalmist stated that if we delight ourselves in the Lord -

leading a life which glorifies His name - He will give us the "desires" of our hearts, or the "asking of our hearts." Jesus said, "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it" (John 14:14).

After we have prayed, we must wait on God's timing. We must have faith and patience in order to "inherit the promises" (Hebrews 6:12). A good translation of this word patience is "endurance."

Prayer not only demands patience. It also helps us to be patient and forgiving toward others. Jesus taught that if we have the "God kind" of faith, we can move mountains and receive those things we desire. He then emphasized that when we pray, we should forgive. "And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses" (Mark 11:25-26). Yes, we are inspired to forgive others when we realize how God has forgiven us. Jesus illustrated this truth by telling of a man who had been forgiven of a huge debt, but he was unable to forgive a man who owed him a small debt. (Read Matthew 18:22-35).

Pray Submissively.

Submission is a part of prayer. Prayer must not be based on flesh or emotion, that is, praying only when we have extra time available or when our emotions draw us to pray. We pray because Jesus so commands us, and because we believe God answers prayer. We display our submissiveness as we pray even when we do not "feel like it."

Honest, sincere prayer always involves recommitment of oneself to God. E. Stanley Jones stated, "In prayer you align yourself to the purpose and power of God, and He is able to do things through you that He could not do otherwise. This is an open universe where some things are left open, contingent on our doing them. If we do not do them, they will never be done. God has left certain things open to prayer, things which will never be done except as we pray."

Pray Alertly.

Jesus instructed the disciples to pray so they would not enter into temptation. He also told them to pray be-

cause the flesh is weak. Notice as Jesus prayed in Gethsemane, the disciples slept because of sorrow. "And when he rose up from prayer, and was come to his disciples, he found them sleeping for sorrow" (Luke 22:45). Because the disciples slept, they did not support Christ as He agonized; nor did they see the angel strengthen and anoint Him.

We also have the choice to be vigilant in prayer or to "sleep" and miss God's best. If we will commit ourselves to daily prayer, we can overcome the flesh and change the world. We can walk in the Spirit and not fulfil the lust of the flesh. "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would" (Galatians 5:16-17).

Pray Thankfully.

Prayer is a time of praise. We are able to recognize God's nature because we are in His presence. The prayer watch gives us a "holy alertness." "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving" (Colossians 4:2). Waiting in prayer is like the "silent soul surrender." "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth" (Psalm 46:10).

Prayer helps us to have an attitude and to openly confess the blessings of God. "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (I Thessalonians 5:18). Prayer helps us to be in harmony and agreement with God, which is God's plan for man.

Pray Expectantly.

We must expect that God will respond to our prayers by opening doors according to His superior thought and ways: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord" (Isaiah 55:8).

As we pray, we must expect to gain victory over Satan. We must come against Satan in the powerful name of Jesus and with the "sword of the Spirit," which is the Word of God. "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

In conclusion, prayer changes us. When the barren Hannah arrived at Shiloh, "...she was in bitterness of soul,

and prayed unto the Lord, and wept sore" (I Samuel 1:10). God answered by giving her a son, Samuel. This was not the lone result of Hannah's prayer. Hannah herself was also changed because of prayer.

We often look for the results of our prayers without considering how prayer has changed us. To change us is

probably the most significant reason that God sometimes lets us seek desperately and earnestly for a period of time those things which we desire.

Let us live with an attitude of prayer and see ourselves change.

- Contributed



DON'T SELL OUT!

It is easy to sell out if one has no clear-cut conviction about sin. Price and value have no necessary relations. Some things are sold at a loss, no matter what the price. Judas is an example of this. Let us look at some men mentioned in the Scriptures who sold out and some who would not sell out. First, let us consider those who sold out.

Esau sold his birthright for bread and pottage of lentiles. "And Jacob sod (boiled) pottage: and Esau came from the field, and he was faint: And Esau said to Jacob, Feed me, I pray thee, with that same red pottage; for I am faint: therefore was his name called Edom. And Jacob said, Sell me this day thy birthright. And Esau said, Behold, I am at the point to die: and what profit shall this birthright do to me? And Jacob said, Swear to me this day; and he swore unto him: and he sold his birthright unto Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of lentiles; and he did eat and drink, and rose up, and went his way: thus Esau despised his birthright" (Genesis 25:29-34). For almost nothing, he sold out to appetite. "Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright"

(Hebrews 12:15-16). The awful finality is found in verse 17, "For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears."

Samson sold out to the wooing of a woman. "...she pressed him daily with her words, and urged him, so that his soul was vexed unto death; That he told her all his heart, and said unto her, There hath not come a razor upon mine head; for I have been a Nazarite unto God from my mother's womb: if I be shaven, then my strength will go from me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man" (Judges 16:16-17). Delilah used the age-old weapon of a woman. She raised the question of his love for her, "And she said unto him, How canst thou say, I love thee, when thine heart is not with me? thou hast mocked me these three times, and hast not told me wherein thy great strength lieth" (verse 15).

Ananias and Sapphira sold out for the greed of money. They kept back part of the money, "But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, And kept back part of the price, his wife also being privy to it, and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet" (Acts 5:1-2). They lied to God and to the

Holy Ghost: "But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land? Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God" (verses 3-4). They did this because of the love of money. They wanted to appear generous, though they were greedy, liars, and hypocrites.

Demas sold out for this present world. The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, "For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world..." (II Timothy 4:10). The glitter and glamor of the present world system obscured the beauty and glory of the heavenly vision. Whatever God's favor is sold for, it will be at a great loss. "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:26)

Let us now consider some Bible characters who would not sell out. Joseph would not sell out to a seductive and lustful woman. Unbelievers and opposers always point a finger of scorn toward the ones who fail, but they never mention the faithful ones. However the Bible records, "Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace" (Psalm 37:37). One falling star gets a lot of attention, while no one seems to notice thousands of stars still functioning in their proper places. Even though this woman tried him day after day, he repeatedly refused her. "And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie by her, or to be with her" (Genesis 39:10). Joseph had a principle. He would not sell it for a few moments of sinful pleasure. "And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me. But he refused, and said unto this master's wife, Behold, my master wotteth not what is with me in the house, and he hath committed all that he hath to my hand: There is none greater in this house than I; neither hath he kept back any thing from me but thee, because thou art his wife: how than can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God? And it came to pass, as she spake to Joseph day by day, that he hearkened not unto her, to lie by her, or to be with her. And it came to pass about this time, that Joseph went into the house to do his business; and there was none of the men of the house there within. And she caught him by his garment saying, Lie

with me: and he left his garment in her hand, and fled, and got him out" (verses 7-12). "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

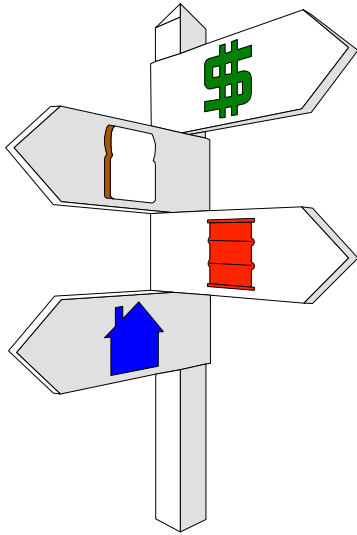
Daniel would not sell his principles concerning defilement and prayer. "But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself" (Daniel 1:8). "Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime. Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God" (Daniel 6:10-11). He would not defile himself upon orders, but he would pray against orders. We need people of this kind today.

The three Hebrew children refused to sell their loyalty to the one true God. They believed their God was able to deliver them. "If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up" (Daniel 3:17-18). They chose the fiery furnace rather than to displease God by bowing down to a man-made image.

Peter and John would not compromise and sell their right to preach the gospel. "And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:18-20). They chose prison rather than compromise.

As children of God, we, too, must have a "No Sale" sign up for all to see. It is not worth it to sell out at any price. The devil will bargain with us, but we must be determined. Let us stand our ground and be faithful. Let us not permit anything to hinder us from attaining eternal life. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" (I Corinthians 15:58). Don't sell out!

- Contributed



THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

If you have any items of interest that you would like to submit to this segment, please send them to The Church of God Publishing House, PO Box 328, Salem, WV 26426-0328.

One of the signs of the last days mentioned in II Timothy 3:1-5 is being disobedient to parents. This month, we want to consider the honoring of parents.

"I don't care what either of you say. I am going out tonight. I have plans!" These are the words of a 16-year-old girl. Let's call her Kelly. Kelly is a senior in high school, and she has no plans to graduate. She has reached the place where she will not let her parents have any say in her life! She will do exactly what she wants to do. This young girl is in rebellion against her parents and has no intention of honoring them with her obedience, but she will dishonor them by her disrespect.

Such rebellion violates the fifth of the Ten Commandments: "Honor thy father and thy mother: That thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee" (Exodus 20:12). The violation of this commandment by a child, living in that age, was punishable by death. This commandment is still binding, even though the commandment is often not taught in Christian homes today. One must realize that children do not suffer the penalty of death for breaking this commandment today, but they do live a life of misery and dishonor. Let us consider the words of Jesus in Matthew 15:1-9: "Then came to Jesus scribes and pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? For God commanded, saying, Honor thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother,

It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; And honor not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition. Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men."

This is a scathing rebuke from our Lord to all children who would dishonor their parents. Jesus makes His point clear to the Jewish teachers in Matthew 15, as He asserts that they had violated God's law, making it void by replacing it with their own ideas. The Jewish teachers had said that it was more important for a person to dedicate his property to God than to provide for the needs of his parents. If one had once devoted his property or given a gift to God, it could not be reclaimed, even to support parents. The point here is that by doing this, the religious leaders had effectively set aside God's requirements that children care for their parents.

What does it mean to honor our parents? Random House Dictionary says honor means "to hold in high respect as to worth" or "to show courteous regard for." If a child respects his parents, the parents are considered to be of worth to the child. Many times parents sacrifice much for the benefit of their children. Such parents deserve deep respect.

The word honor also suggests that children are to give courteous regard to their honored parents. Children are not to be disrespectful or hateful to them. This honor is due because parents are the ones who brought their

children into this world through their love for each other, and parents are the ones who teach their children how to make it in the world - how to trust and love God and treat others with respect. This honor is due parents of all ages, whether they are healthy or not. The meaning of the word honor in the original language sheds more light on our understanding of what it means today. It means "to obey, reverence, or speak kindly to." It also means to "speak and think well of." In contrast, the word for curse means "to disobey, to treat with irreverence, to swear at, to speak ill of, to think ill of in the heart, to meditate doing or to do anything evil to a parent."

Let's look at each of these meanings of honor as they relate to how children are to treat their parents. The first word used to define honor is "obey." Do you obey your parents? Do you honor them only on special days or every day? The Bible declares that in the last days many will not obey their parents. Read Romans 1:30 and II Timothy 3:2. Obedience is a test of one's love for God and parents. Jesus told His disciples, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15). If you truly love your parents, you will honor them by your obedience.

Another word used to define honor is "reverence." This means simply to respect your parents. Do you show admiration and courtesy to your parents? Do you hold them in high esteem? Often children lose respect for their parents when they get old. This is the time when parents need them most! When you were unable to care for yourself as a child, your parents cared for you. Honor your parents in the same way when they are old by seeing that they are well cared for.

The next phrase used to define honor is "to speak kindly to." How do you speak to your parents? Do you speak to them with words of honor and respect? A closely related meaning of honor is to "speak kindly and think well of" parents. How do you talk to your friends about your parents? How do you speak of them when they are not around? Do your friends see them as bad, mean people because of what you have said of them? Remember, what you say about your parents also says a lot about you, so speak of them with respect.

The honor (or lack of honor) you show your parents says how important they are to you. Think about this: What if you woke up tomorrow, and your parents were gone or dead? Could you get along without them? Would you miss them? How would you feel about the way you

had treated them? If you consider your parents valuable, show them honor and respect every day you have them with you.

We have found out a lot about honoring parents by looking at the meaning of the word honor. But there is more! The Apostle Paul says in Ephesians 6:2-3, "Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth" God says if we honor our parents, it will go well with us. We won't toss and turn in sleeplessness because of the way we have talked to or treated our parents. This verse suggests that we may be healthy, physically and mentally, if we honor our parents.

Parents are very special people. They are a gift from God, especially God-fearing parents. If we choose not to honor our parents, God will not accept our worship. Our worship will be worthless and hypocritical to God.

Perhaps God knows that if we do not honor earthly parents whom we have seen, we certainly will not honor our heavenly parent whom we have not seen. Let us demonstrate our love for our parents as an act of sincere worship and obedience to our Heavenly Father. Let us love, honor, and obey our parents today and every day as obedient servants of God.

ATTITUDE

There once was a woman who woke up one morning, looked in the mirror, and noticed she had only three hairs on her head. "Well," she said, "I think I'll braid my hair today?" So she did, and she had a wonderful day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and saw that she had only two hairs on her head. "H-M-M," she said, "I think I'll part my hair down the middle today." So she did, and she had a great day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and noticed that she had only one hair on her head. "Well," she said, "today I'm going to wear my hair in a pony tail." So she did, and she had a fun, fun day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and noticed that there wasn't a single hair of her head "YEA!" she exclaimed, "I don't have to fix my hair today!"

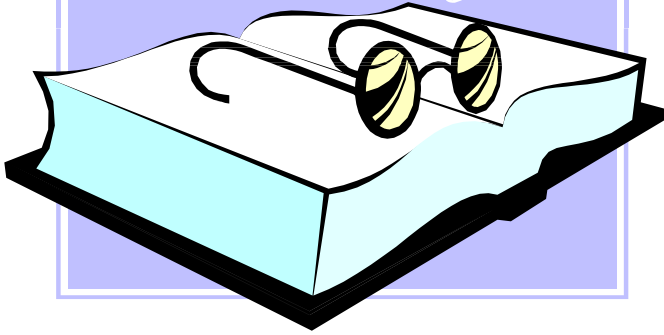
Attitude is everything. Be kinder than necessary, for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.

Live simply. Love generously. Care deeply.

Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

BIBLE

Study



Questions and Answers

Question: When does a person become sanctified by God? I have heard so many thoughts about this, such as, a man must speak in tongues to prove he is sanctified. A man must use the title of God's name in Hebrew in order to get sanctified. A man must be born of the Spirit to be sanctified. These are some of the bolder statements told me for the reason of sanctification.

Answer: None of these statements are right or even valid to be used with sanctification. The answer is told by Jesus in numerous places. The most profound one is found in John 3:3-8; "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit." A man must become born again of the water and become a new creature in Christ. He must get rid of anything that is sin. Read Matthew 18:8-9. Then he can receive the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands so that he can be begotten of the

Spirit now. At the resurrection, he can be born of the Spirit. Please read John 3:8 again.

The word "hallowed" in Matthew 6:9 is also the same as sanctified. It is also the word "Holy". The Lord Jesus used the expression in His own case: "Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of God?" (John 10:36) This thought is underlying all the different passages where the person after accepting and following the Lord Jesus is sanctified by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. "If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work" (II Timothy 2:21).

In general, every true believer in Christ Jesus is set apart to be a witness for Christ and is thus called apart for a Holy Purpose. The person can then realize that he or she is a saint. Please read I Corinthians 5:11; I Peter 2:9 and Acts 9:13,32.

Question: What is the supreme value of the church?

Answer: If the scriptures are true, and they most certainly are, then the Church must be something far beyond what the natural eye can see. Look around in every place that the eye can penetrate, and it is impossible to see anything that seems of any real value, to say nothing of such worth that anyone would die for it.

But the Lord Jesus saw something that He loved more than His own life. So He laid down His life for it-"gave Himself for it," left His heavenly glory, came down to this sin-ruined scene, suffered every indignity that cruel man could invent; even going to the cross to suffer and die the most awful death, enduring the wrath due to the worst of sinners, and then breaking the bands of death and coming forth in resurrection glory, bringing with Him that which He calls the Church-those crucified and risen with Him. Read Romans 6.

Furthermore, the Father was so pleased with the Church for which His only begotten Son died, that He set everything else aside and appointed Him (Christ) "head over all things" to it. In other words, all His dealings with men and things would be solely in the interests of the Church. He is not interested in anything else. Nations, who might seek God's favor for themselves, have their answers- "all things to the Church".

There was in olden times a nation in which all of God's interests were centered. That was Israel. And no other nation interested Him at all, except as He might use it on behalf of His own nation Israel. All other nations might cry to God to favor them, but the answer would be - "all things for Israel." And was there any living thing that He did not do for Israel, except that one greatest of all things which He has done for the Church? He took them from the bondage of Egypt, destroyed their enemies, came down and dwelt in their midst, gave the visible evidences of His presence- the pillar of cloud by day, and the pillar of fire by night; provided them with a meeting place-the Tabernacle; fed them from heaven, and led them into the promised land to give them the most wonderful home on earth. And every human eye would see them as the one object of all God's interests then. And there was not a nation that did not know exactly what it was; so that they all were in fear and trembling because of it, and highly esteemed it.

It is not so with the Church. No worldling sees it nor esteems it. And God's dealings with it are not seen with the natural eye. But those who belong to His Church say, "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew Him not" (I John 3:1).

Very true, there is what calls itself the church, which is known by all the world. And this very fact demonstrates

that it is Satan's counterfeit which God has promised to destroy with all its worldly grandeur. Read Revelation 17 and 18. And to all those who might ignorantly belong to this counterfeit, God says, "...Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her plagues" (Revelation 18:4).

This leads us to inquire: What is the true church for which Christ died, and on behalf of which He has been appointed Head over all things? The answer is found in Ephesians 1:22-23: "And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all." No wonder the Apostle Paul says, "This is a great mystery; but I speak concerning Christ and the church" (Ephesians 5:32).

Again speaking of this mystery, Paul calls it "...the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: to the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in Heavenly places (not the earth) might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Ephesians 3:9-11).

This shows how the Church weighs up in God's thoughts, by the very fact that it was a mystery from the beginning of the world hid in God. Until the time of the apostles, no one had ever thought of such a thing as the Church. Not even Gabriel or Michael, the archangel, held an inkling of it; however, many of the wonderful plans of God were made known to Daniel by these angels. Daniel knew about all the great nations, their rise and fall, their kingdoms and the great kingdom that should destroy them all. He had read in Isaiah 40:15, "Behold the nations are as a drop of a bucket, and are counted as the small dust of the balance." Yes, a mere drop of water, a speck of dust-that is all the mighty nations amount to-then and even now. How significant is God's thoughts!

But the church is so precious that it is called the Body of Christ; also other names such as "...the pillar and ground of the truth" (I Timothy 3:15). Believers are called the Church. (See I Corinthians 14:23). The Church of the living God is made out of called out people of God. This will be the chief display of God's glory when the Church is assembled in the New Jerusalem. The city of God will contain those of God who display God's glory throughout eternity! And only those who are in the Lamb's Book of Life will enter into it. It is the Church in glory.



India

(Continued from last month)

*The first photograph shows some youth singing at Peddagopathi.
The last two photos show the group in Garikapadu.*





LESSON I

BEING AFRAID

Scripture Reading: Psalm 91:1-16.

Golden Text: Psalm 56:3.

"What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee."

NOTE: Sometimes we are afraid and fear different things that come upon us in our daily lives. Let us now study how we can overcome these fears and put our trust in God.

1. Should we trust God and not be afraid? Isaiah 12:2.
2. Instead of being afraid, what should we do? Mark 5:36.
3. Why are we told to fear not in Luke 12:7?
4. Instead of fear, what does Jesus give to us? John 14:27.
5. Should we fear God if we are doing wrong? Proverbs 3:7.
6. If we tell even the smallest lies, should we fear God? Revelation 21:8.
7. What did the angel say to the two women who came to visit Jesus' tomb? Matthew 28:5.
8. If we fear, are we made perfect in God's love? I John 4:18.

LESSON II

BIBLE ANIMALS

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:24-25; 7:1-5.

Golden Text: Genesis 1:24 (first part).

"And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind."

1. Did God make all the animals? Genesis 1:25.
2. Why did He create the animals and living creatures? Revelation 4:11.
3. Did God make a difference between unclean and clean animals? Genesis 7:2-3.
4. Who gave names to all the animals? Genesis 2:20.
5. Will there ever be a time when children need not fear wild animals? Isaiah 11:6-9.
6. Every kind of beasts and birds have been tamed. What does the Bible speak of that which no man can tame? James 3:7,8.
7. Should we care for and feed any animals placed in our care?

LESSON III

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Scripture Reading: Exodus 20:1-17.

Golden Text: Psalm 19:8.

"The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes."

1. What should the Commandments of God be to us? Proverbs 6:23.
2. Did Jesus come to destroy the Law that had existed since creation? Matthew 5:17-18.
3. Did the Apostle Paul exalt the Law of God? Romans 7:12.
4. If we keep this same Law, what will it do for us? Psalm 19:7.
5. Are parents to teach their children the Law?

Deuteronomy 6:7-8.

6. Did Jesus keep the Father's Commandments while here on earth? John 15:10.

7. What do we show when we keep the Commandments of God? John 14:21.

8. Who will have the right to the tree of life? Revelation 22:14.

LESSON IV

EZEKIEL

Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 2:1-10.

Golden Text: Ezekiel 2:1.

"And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee."

NOTE: In this lesson, we are going to briefly learn about one of the major prophets, Ezekiel. His name means "strength of God", and he prophesied while in Babylonian exile. The book of Ezekiel covers many predictions, and it includes a full vision of the final restoration of Israel.

1. What is the first thing we learn about Ezekiel? Ezekiel 1:1.

2. Even though Ezekiel was in captivity, was the Lord with him? Ezekiel 1:3.

3. When God spoke to Ezekiel, what did he call him? Ezekiel 2:1.

4. What did the Lord want Ezekiel to do? Ezekiel 3:17-21.

5. What was one of the grievous sins of the children of Israel, and what did God do to them for their sins? Ezekiel 6:4-7.

6. Does God promise to restore Israel even though they were scattered among the countries? Ezekiel 11:16-20.

A SPECIAL DAY

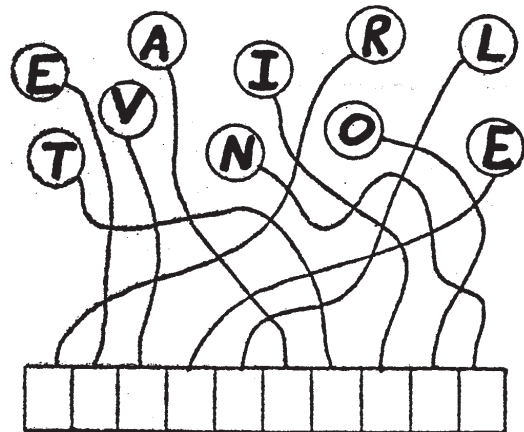
by Doris Sanders

I am so glad when Sabbath comes;
I put my toys away
And clean up everything so nice,
Because it's Jesus' day.

It's fun to go to Sabbath School;
I like the teachers there.
We sing, then close our eyes real tight
When we kneel for prayer.

We like to take a Sabbath walk,
My daddy, mom, and me.
I'm glad God made the birds and trees,
And flowers for us to see.

And when the Sabbath day is through,
We all kneel down to pray.
I am so glad that Jesus made
A special Sabbath day.



You can find this book of the Bible by following the path of each letter to an empty square where you then write that letter. When all squares are filled, you will have the answer.



HOW LINCOLN HELPED A LITTLE GIRL SAVE MONEY

Once upon a time there lived a little girl in a little town in New York state.

She lived with her father and her mother and her brothers in an old-fashioned, homey home, where guests liked to come. One of the guests who liked to come was the great Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States. The little girl was always very happy when he came, and she used to like to sit in his lap and talk to him. She called him "Uncle Abe," and he often called her "Sissy," though her real name was Julia.

One time when the President was visiting at Julia's house, Julia was counting the money in her missionary box. Mr. Lincoln watched her for a moment and then asked: "What are you doing over there?"

"I'm counting my missionary money, Uncle Abe," replied Julia.

Mr. Lincoln put his hand in his pocket and pulled out something and held it toward Julia. Julia drew back her box.

"Oh no, I can't take that, Uncle Abe," she said, earnestly; "I have to earn all the money I put in this box."

The next day, when he was ready to start for the train,

he said, to Julia:

"I wonder if you couldn't walk down to the depot with me, Julia?"

As they started down the street together, Abraham Lincoln shifted his valise to the other hand. It was an old-fashioned valise with two handles.

"Do you suppose," he said, "that you could help me carry my valise? It's pretty heavy."

Julia took hold of one of the handles, and they carried it between them all the way to the depot, talking gayly as they went. At the depot, the President took the valise and pulled a shining coin out of his pocket, holding it out to the little girl.

"There, Julia," he said, "now you've earned your missionary money."

"O, thank you, Uncle Abe!"

And then he went away on the train, and Julia ran home with the shiny coin held in her hand. She thought it was the very brightest penny she had ever seen, and she hurried to put it into the missionary box, where it would be safe and sound.

The next Sabbath the missionary boxes were opened.

"How much money do you have in your missionary box, Julia?" asked the superintendent.

"Eighty-two cents," answered the little girl without any hesitation.

"Are you sure that was all you have? Where did this come from?" she was asked, and she saw the bright penny that the President had given her.

"Oh, that's the money Uncle Abe gave me!" she answered largely. "I earned it by helping carry his valise."

The shiny coin was a five dollar gold piece, and this is a true story of how Abraham Lincoln helped a little girl to earn her missionary money. I know this is true because the little girl, who is a little girl no longer, told me the story herself.

WASHINGTON'S SAYINGS

Speak not evil of the absent for it is unjust. It is much easier at all time(s) to prevent an evil than to rectify mistakes.

Listed below are words from the Bible story of David and Goliath. Review this exciting story as you fit the words into the puzzle below.

Use DAVID and GOD to help you get started.

Two-letter, three-letter words: Go, God.

Four-letter words: Army, Lord, lamb, Saul, fell, sunk, Gath.

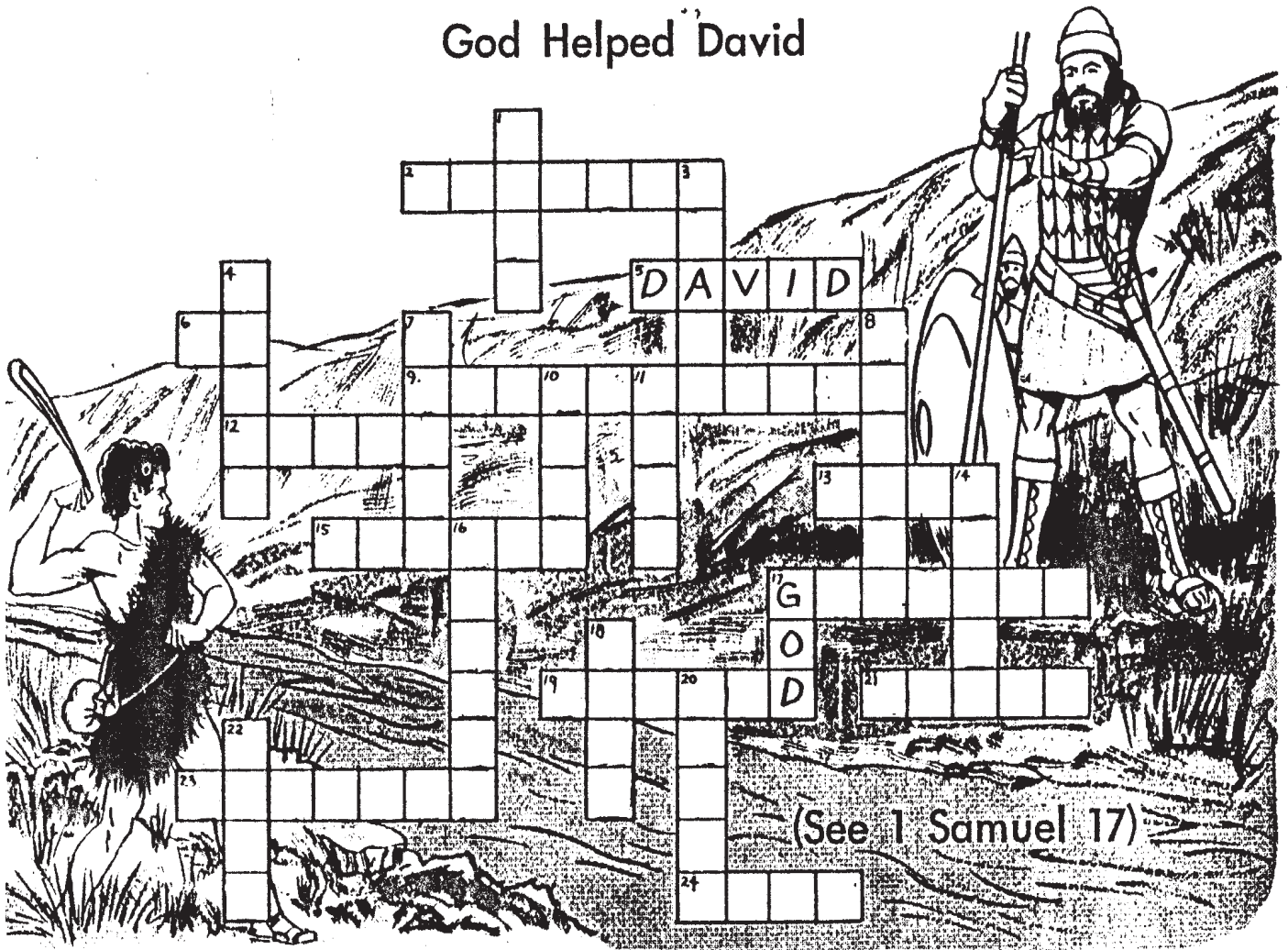
Five-letter words: Giant, David, youth, spear, three, brass, Jesse, sling.

Six-letter words: Israel, afraid, cursed, armour.

Seven-letter words: Morning, deliver, Goliath.

Eleven-letter word: Philistines.

God Helped David





DEVOTIONAL

By David DeLong

Ancient of Days, our God of old,
Our Hope from ages past.
Lead forth Your flock from its safe fold,
Let us for Your cause be bold,
Purge from us what is not gold,
And give us what will last

Our eyes are dimmed, but not by age,
Our ears are dulled by sin;
O Lord, we need to hear the page,
Written by Your holy Sage,
To make us rise in holy rage,
And serve for You, akin.

What does Your way of us require?
Only that we will obey;
But by obeying, set on fire,
May our lives with love not tire,
Praising You on pipe and lyre,
We march forth to the fray.

May each and every heart be set,
To hold God's Standard firm;
May each resolve have no regret,
Let love-deeds be our only debt,
While Your Wisdom leads us yet,
Through our appointed term.

I