

(Continued from page 13)

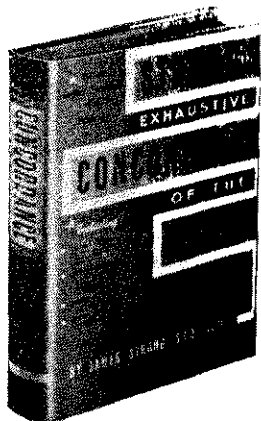
Although the numbers on this program were voluntary contributions, it seemed that a continuous trend of thought was brought out as the meeting progressed. The following thoughts were left with me as the meeting closed. If we "Meet God in the Morning" we will have "The Peace that Jesus Gives" to carry us through the day. Remembering that

"Tomorrow May Mean Goodbye" we want to make our calling and election sure today. "If" we follow the suggestions outlined in the poem we may victoriously overcome daily trials. By accepting the sacrifice offered by "Our Blessed Redeemer" we can say with assurance "My Sins Are Gone," they were washed away by "The Blood that Stained the Old Rugged Cross."

—Arlene Springer, Sec.-Treas.

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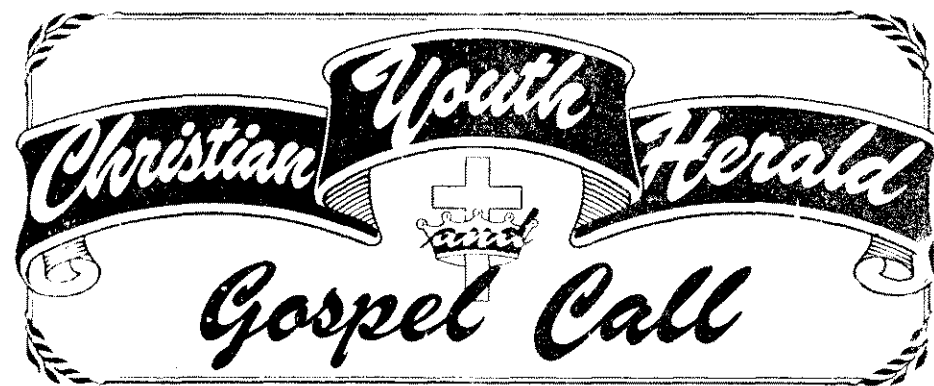
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**Church of God Publishing House
Stanberry, Missouri**



Vol. XX, No. 9. Stanberry, Missouri September 19, 1955

— Help A Fellow —

Help a fellow forward! Say
 Something cheering, something gay,
 Something that will stir his soul.
 Wake his will and self-control.
 Bravest hearts will sometimes fail,
 Strongest spirits sometimes quail;
 And a friendly word of cheer
 Oft transforms a whole career.
 Have you not yourself been stirred
 In the past by some good word
 To a stronger effort still
 As you climbed the weary hill?
 So, whene'er you see another
 Losing hope— well, he's a brother,
 And a word, a deed, is due
 To that brother man from you.
 Help him! It is Christ's own plan!
 Help a fellow all you can!

—Herald and Presbyterian.

Christian Youth Herald and Gospel Call

A weekly publication for the young people
of the Church of God (7th Day).

OFFICE EDITOR
Elaine D. Christenson

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From Our Readers

It has been suggested that we begin a letter department in the "Herald & Call." We feel this should help bring the Call a little closer to you readers and make it that much more interesting. So may we request that you young people far and near write your first letter soon and send it in. It needn't be long. Surely you have had more than one interesting experience this past summer of which you can write, some encouragement to pass on, or tell what you are doing. Don't wait for others to write—you be among them. Thanks.

FROM A WISCONSIN READER

Dear Readers,

As I look through the New Testament I see Galatians, Ephesians, Romans, and Philippians, all of which prove to be interesting reading for a hungry soul. You say, "They are just books of the Bible." That is quite true, but how did they become books of the Bible?

They were first letters written to

the different churches of Paul's time. Paul had written these letters to the people of these churches because it was not possible for him to see them personally. He also wrote to admonish, instruct, and encourage the leaders and the flock in the true way.

Many people today correspond by means of letters. Letters tell us what people are doing. It is a source of encouragement to friends and maybe somebody will become more zealous for lost souls.

We would be very much interested in hearing from you and what you are striving to accomplish. Maybe you have received a blessing which you would like to share with the readers of the *Herald and Call*." If so write a letter telling us your experience if you want to share it with others. If you just like to write letters, write two or three for this paper.

I enjoyed the Denver camp meeting very much. My first time to be at Denver so it was extra exciting for me. The blessings which I received were many and the motto was very thought provoking to me. "Prepare to Meet Thy God. Something we should do each day. Am I, not you, but am I prepared to meet God? is a challenging question and with a fearful consequence if we are caught unprepared.

May God bless you and we will be expecting to hear from you and you and YOU.

"Pray without ceasing."

Sincerely,

Reta Ling

— H & C —

Man could direct his ways by plain reason, and support his life by tasteless food, but God has given us wit, and flavor, and brightness, and laughter to enliven the days of man's pilgrimage, and to charm his pained steps o'er the burning marble.

—Sydney Smith.

Is Not My Life My Own?

By Elder L. I. Rodgers

Is it not mine to live as I see fit?

A few weeks ago while listening to a program on the radio in which questions on heart affairs are answered, I heard a letter read from a girl who said she was seventeen years old, in love with a man "with a past," and wanted to marry him, but that her father, mother, and older brother all say they will not let her. She says, "Is not my life my own? And am I not entitled to live it as I see fit?" Many times we hear this same statement from young people, and sometimes from older ones as well.

Let us meditate upon the thought for a little while. First let us see what the Apostle Paul wrote to the Romans along this line. "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself" (Rom. 14:7.) How true his statement is. If we were marooned alone on an island somewhere for the remainder of our life we still could not say that our life was our own to live as we see fit, for the fact would still remain that God had bought us with the blood of His own Son.

But since we are here in the world among other people there is a double responsibility resting upon us as we live our life. For even though we may not realize it, some one is looking to us as an example. God has created us with a power to choose the life as we see fit. Turn with me to the language of Solomon as recorded in Ecclesiastes 11:9-10: "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth, and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thy heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring

thee into judgment. Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity."

Did you ever, as a child, blow bubbles and chase them, and when you caught them, have them burst in your hand? The pleasures of this life are like those bubbles. They look nice when we are chasing them, but when caught they only burst. The pleasures of this world do not give us lasting satisfaction. Only the things of God will last. We have the privilege of seeking the things of this world, whatsoever our heart desires or our eyes see, but nevertheless we are told we will be brought into judgment for them. The pleasures of the world do not satisfy but, on the contrary, only make us want more of their amusement.

John warns us also along this line in 1 John 2:15-17: "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."

It is but natural for children and youth to think only of the present and want to enjoy it. Yet we are warned that the things of youth are vanity. Solomon says in Ecclesiastes 11:7, 8 that "Truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun: but if a man live many years, and rejoice in them all; yet let him remember the days of darkness; for

! Around The Round Table !

they shall be many. All that cometh is vanity." Therefore we should think of the future, for there will come an end to life some time. Death is no respecter of persons but comes to all, both young and old. We should think of these things while young and prepare for the coming judgment day. If we are prepared to live with God we are prepared to die as well.

Solomon says further in Ecclesiastes 9:7-10, "Go thy way, eat thy bread with joy, and drink thy wine with a merry heart; for God now accepteth thy works. Let thy garments be always white; and let thy head lack no ointment. Live joyfully with the wife whom thou lovest all the days of the life of thy vanity, which he hath given thee under the sun, all the days of thy vanity: for that is thy portion in this life, and in thy labour which thou takest under the sun. Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest."

In the world there is some good, and some bad. "But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. 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. Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Tim. 2:20-22). Which are you, a vessel unto honor, or to dishonor? If you are a vessel unto dishonor, remember "that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment."

Many who read this are old enough to begin to think about a life partnership with one of the opposite sex. In other words you are

thinking about getting married. Many of you are headed in that direction even though you may not realize it. You may think that those "dates" you are having are only for "passime," but many have thought the same thing only to wake up and find themselves married for life to someone who will not be a helpmeet to them.

Parents, yes, and preachers too, have neglected the children and youth along this line in not giving them instruction. A few years ago I was holding a revival meeting in a certain locality and had opportunity to be in a home where there were several daughters, not quite old enough to marry, yet old enough to be attracted to young men, which is a natural thing given of God. Well, I mentioned to the father one day something about talking to the girls as to whom they should choose for husbands. He replied that he did not want any one to talk to them about marriage, that they would think of that soon enough without any one putting it into their heads. Well, today, out of four sisters, three are married to worldly men and being drawn away from the Lord. How much better it would have been to have sat down with the girls and turned to Paul's writings and explained to them their duties along this line. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and

(Continued on page 11)

YES sir, it was a real round table. It was a big round table built by a retired cabinetmaker especially for a certain rather small group of young people whom he loved and gave a start in the undertaking in which they were enthusiastically engaged all summer long, and longer.

It was about 7:30 when this group of young people met together and took their places around the highly polished round table.

"Where's our chairman?" asked Harriet.

"I haven't seen Dale for several days," spoke up Betty.

"Neither have I," added Ruth, "but I have do doubt that he'll be here soon—with a good record too."

"He's never been late before," commented Leon. "There must be a good reason for it."

"We should give him ten minutes of grace," suggested Olive.

Plenty of the ten minutes was left when they heard footsteps outside. Then they heard low voices. Ray was slightly disturbed as silence prevailed with all ears alert.

Leon finally appointed himself a momentary sergeant of arms and went to the door, opened it and looked out. It was getting dark and he could not see very well. "Who's there?" he called. Then he saw two young fellows ready to enter.

"It's me, Dale. I have a friend with me. Sorry I'm late."

As they entered, Dale introduced him to the group. "Friends of the Round Table, this is John Avery." Dale had each one give his name, and John greeted them. "I met John two days ago. He became interested in our work and we had a long visit. I invited him to our meeting because he has some questions to ask. He has read some of our tracts and feels that we are wrong on a few

points. I told him we'd be glad to discuss them with him here tonight."

Dale then called the meeting to order. He read several verses of Scripture and called on Ray to offer prayer as they all stood with bowed heads. After the prayer Dale began, "The 'Leaves of Truth Tract League' is now in session. First let us hear the reports from you fellow members. Then we'll hear some of John's questions and open the discussion."

The reports were given, one by one. A total of over 500 tracts had been distributed in the past two weeks by the seven members. Three letters had been received by the League from interested readers of their tracts. They were read, discussed, and it was decided that Harriet and Ruth would go together and call on the first party, Ray and Dale on the second, and Olive and Betty on the last one who had written to them.

Then turning to John, Dale said, "We are all glad to have you with us. You have read several of our tracts and I understand some of them have posed a few questions in your mind. We are anxious to hear from you hoping we shall be of some help."

"I hardly know what to say. This is certainly an unusual opportunity. Never in all my life have I seen such a group of young people so interested in such a worthy cause. I can't help but commend you. As a whole your tracts are very good, but the first point I don't quite understand, or shall I say I rather differ with, is not so much a doctrinal point. One of your 'Leaves of Truth Tracts' points out that there are hundreds of different religious groups, and warns strongly against deception in such a way that I get the idea all of them are wrong but your group. Now is that your

A False Witness

stand? Aren't there thousands of honest and sincere people in every church?"

"You have introduced a very good question," began Dale, chairman of the tract league. "Who will be first to begin discussion of this question?"

Betty was the first one to her feet. "We recall that when Jesus was foretelling the future, as recorded in Matthew 24, the very first warning He gave was, 'Take heed that no man deceive you.' The world is full of all kinds of deception, not only in the religious world, but everywhere. We must be on guard and in earnest seeking the truth as found in the Bible. Many people take too much for granted. The Bible is the sole source of divine truth. Our work is not to condemn others but rather to point out the plain truths of the Bible. It is not for us to question the sincerity of others but knowing there are scores and scores of opposing and conflicting ideas and doctrines in the religious world, to appeal to them to study the Word of God as a personal matter, develop a desire to learn new truths, prove all things and realize that we must give an account to God for the opportunities He has so graciously given to us."

Leon was the next one on his feet. "I agree with Betty. I would like to ask John a question or two. Do you think that every church teaches all truth, regardless of how much one contradicts another, or doesn't it make any difference?"

John pondered a moment, then replied slowly, "Well, strictly speaking, I don't suppose every doctrine taught is truth, but a lot of things are not very important."

"Pardon me," requested Olive. "I would like an explanation of that last statement."

"Yes," agreed Leon, "just what do you mean, John?"

"For example," replied their visitor, "some people think it is wrong

to eat meat on Friday and some don't. Some folk think it is wrong to have or use any musical instrument in a church. Some believe in baptism one way and some another. What's the difference one way or another?"

"One question prompts another," said Dale, "but as Leon has the floor, likely he has a question."

"Yes I have," Leon began. "What does the Bible say about eating meat on Friday?"

"I don't remember that I ever read what it says," replied John.

A smile showed upon the faces of several as Harriet put in a word: "Neither have any of the rest of us."

"That's right," harmonized Leon, "the Bible does not teach that we shouldn't eat meat on Friday. That doctrine is therefore not a Bible doctrine, and we class it according to Matthew 15:9 as a mere commandment of men, and simply vain worship."

"If that's the case," said John, "I feel that after all it would make a difference to me, for I prefer to take the Bible as against any church's teachings not firmly established on the Word of God."

"That's good," commented Dale, as Olive stood up and Leon took his chair.

"I would ask, does the Bible teach us not to use musical instruments in our worship services? I realize it does not command us to, neither does it advise us to use songbooks, quarterlies, record charts, electric lights and a dozen other things that do not violate any Bible teaching. These things are not a part of our faith or doctrine. God accepted the worship of His people in olden times when they used musical instruments. Instruments of music are not in themselves evil. In fact David used a musical instrument to soothe king Saul and drive away an evil spirit that troubled him at times."

(To be continued)

Alice put the last colored chalk away and regarded her "Unnecessary Accidents" poster critically. She should have a good chance to win first prize. The picture she had made of a little girl falling over an object on the stairs was really well done. If she won first, her popularity with the other girls at the new school would be established.

"Oh, Alice, how wonderful," a girl's voice exclaimed over her shoulder.

Alice smoothed her golden curls self-consciously, and shrugged her shoulders modestly. "Oh, I just threw it together this morning. Probably could have done better if I'd spent more time on it." No one knew how many ideas she had tried the last week and how many of them had landed in the wastebasket.

Alice felt her confidence slipping a little when the posters were put side by side on the bulletin board. There were a number of good posters, but one, a picture of a boy running on ice and then a smaller view, which showed him falling down, seemed especially well done. She hadn't thought anyone else would have one anywhere nearly as good as hers. Jealously Alice noticed the name, Merna, printed lightly in the corner of the poster.

She had noticed how popular Merna Cameron appeared to be. In her own school Alice had enjoyed having everyone look up to her and ask her opinion the way they did Merna here.

"Isn't Merna's poster good?" another girl said as she stopped beside Alice.

"Oh, I don't know. I saw her with some old posters in her hands last night. One looked almost like this."

"You mean she copied?"

"Shouldn't wonder."

Guiltily Alice watched the other girl move away to join a group by the door, who listened intently when she spoke. She hadn't intended to say all that at all, but it should put Merna's poster out of the running.

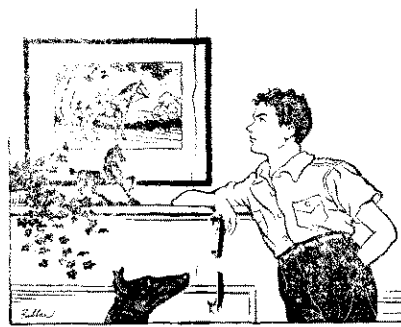
She had just closed the school-house door that night when someone caught up with her. Alice felt herself blush in confusion. "Hi, Merna." "Hi, Alice. Say, do you suppose you could spend the night with me? I've been wanting to invite you ever since you came."

The very thing she'd been wanting—a chance to get "thick" with Merna, the most popular girl in her class. There was no chance of Merna's finding out what she had said about her poster, so why not accept?

"I guess Mother won't care."

Later, Alice decided that if she just hadn't told that misleading story about Merna, she could really be having a good time. Merna had three brothers younger than she, besides an older sister. It seemed the jolliest home she had ever been in, she thought with envy. At her home, Mother never had time to have fun with her. In fact, she never seemed to care much if Alice were around or not, so long as she was out of the way and quiet. She never thought of her baby sister as someone to be proud of and to play with, the way Merna and her brothers and sister did with little Ronnie. In fact, she thought Mother gave all of her attention to the baby at their house. She sometimes felt like doing most anything to get her mother to notice her.

(Continued on page 10)



A Letter From Grandmother Lois

My dear granddaughter:

I had an interesting object lesson about the stain of sin in human life. Someone was eating a plum at lunch one day. The plum proved to be very juicy, but very sour inside, so sour it could not be relished, but was laid aside and not eaten. The juice escaped in spots on the tablecloth and napkin, which were also laid aside, and then forgotten for over a week in very hot summer weather.

Then came a clean-up day. The housewife was shocked to find the table cloth and napkin badly stained with plum juice and mildew, and she rushed around to atone for the neglect. First she tried water, then added soap, then left them soaking in water while she faced the fact the plum juice washed out, but the mildew stayed, dark and obstinate. Then she read directions about removing stains, and found that mildew would eat the fabric if neglected; and when anyone used strong chemicals to remove stains there would be holes in the cloth which would cause a sad loss.

In case you have not read the interesting reference in the Bible to home-cleaning, read Jeremiah's words in chapter 2:22, and later in his book, chapter 18:5-10, when he tried to teach the people of Israel how to mend their careless ways.

It is a good idea to give attention to the effect of the stains of sin on life, for many inventions are using

God's waves of light and sound to spread corruption over the earth in the lives of little children. Old people too, lame and shut-in, listen and are disappointed because of lack of comfort when our Creator's storehouse is abounding in harmony and beauty human beings might enjoy.

The disregard some people have for Jeremiah makes them forget all about Jesus' words recorded in John 15:1-11, about keeping clean and happy lives, by loving the Words of life, and caring for them.

I have seen old people die in unhappiness, who had said, "I don't like Jeremiah. He was always grumbling about something."

Yes, he did grieve because home cleaners would not remove stains of wrongdoing. Wide awake young people like you will surely refuse to spoil the fabric of your life. This is my happy hope.

Grandmother Lois

— H & C —

WRITE TO OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICE

Bob Burge QM.2
C.G.C. Travis
Port Everglades, Florida

Ralph Rogers,
S.A. 4516470
Opera-Crash Crew
N.A.S. Hutchinson, Kansas

— H & C —

The tiniest dewdrop, hanging from a grass blade in the morning, is big enough to reflect the sunshine and the blue of the sky.—*Plaque.*

Who Said—?

(Cover the answer below while working this test.)

1. "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save—"
2. "Deliver me, I pray thee, from the hand of my brother..."
3. I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth."
4. "Lord, what is man, that thou takest knowledge of him!"
5. "Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king..."
6. Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it."
7. "Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ?"
8. "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves."
9. "Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel."
10. "Blessed be the Lord, which hath not left thee this day without a kinsman."

Answers to WHO SAID—?

Isaiah, Jacob, God, David, Daniel, Mary, Paul, James, Saul and the witch of Endor, Ruth.

— H & C —

INVESTING OURSELVES

When engineers have served on the railroad for a long time, or men have been faithful to a big corpora-

tion for years, or teachers have taught a certain length of time, they are given pensions as a reward for their services. Those who are not employees of the organization which give pensions do not ask for this benefit. They do not go around complaining because they are not included. They haven't given the necessary service or measured up to the requirements, so they know that they have no right to expect the reward.

Yet, when it comes to Christianity, so many people do not serve Christ, have a mistaken idea that when He divides His kingdom and this age ends and eternity begins in that radiant kingdom, He will include them in His reward. They never stop to think that they haven't any claim on it. They haven't the qualifications. They haven't worked for Christ.

We have to be stockholders in Christ's company if we are going to cash in when He declares His dividends. If our names aren't registered in His book with the amount of our investments, we will be turned away.

Investments have nothing to do with money in this case. They refer to the amount of ourselves that we have given—our time, our sympathy, our talents, our understanding, our interest. If we have money, of course, that is included. If we haven't it doesn't matter at all.

Being a Christian is much easier than most of us think. It means

(Continued on page 15)

A FALSE WITNESS

(Continued from page 7)

She and Merna had just finished playing a game of carrom with the two older boys when Merna's father said: "Time for worship, everybody."

"Wor—" Alice caught her exclamation before anybody noticed. She didn't know what "worship" was, but she could follow the rest.

"Get the Bibles, Ted," Mrs. Cameron called.

Merna linked her arm in Alice's. "You can share mine, Alice," she said smilingly.

Alice's wonder grew. Everyone had a Bible. First, with Margaret, Merna's sister, at the piano, the family sang songs, or choruses as they called them, with such zeal they fairly made the house ring. And such choruses! Alice didn't pay much attention to the words, but one phrase caught her attention. It said something about being "born again." It really sounded silly. Who could be born again?

Then they opened up the Bibles and took turns reading. When Alice's turn came, Merna pointed her verse out. Alice read in a hesitating voice which she tried to make sound calm and assured as though this was not something entirely new to her. "A false witness that speaketh lies, and that soweth discord among brethren."

"Now there's a verse I want you to notice," Mr. Cameron said. "Ted, suppose you tell us what you think it means."

"Well, I'd say it means that God hates for someone to say something untrue about another. Tell a lie about a person."

"I think you are right. Since we are reading about the seven things the Lord says are an abomination to Him, you notice how He emphasizes a lying tongue. How careful

we should always be to speak *all* the truth, and not half of it."

Alice couldn't remember what was said during the rest of worship. Then silently she went with Merna to her room. She couldn't figure it out. It seemed now that she had done an awful thing in the sight of God.

"I—I never heard anyone have worship before," she told Merna, trying to use the self-assured tone her mother would have used.

"I guess not many people do. But since we've all been born again Daddy says we should all read the Bible every day, to know how to serve Him better."

There was that queer phrase again. "Whatever do you mean by 'born again,' Merna? I've never heard of it."

"Why, Alice, it's simple," Merna said quickly. "It means that before you can belong to God as *His* child, you have to accept His Son, Jesus Christ, into your heart, repent of your wrong and trust Him to give you a new heart. All we can do is to accept God's gift. We can never do anything to earn it."

"A new heart?"

"Sure, through Christ. Our natural, human hearts, are full of sin and wrong desires. So if we want to be saved, we must repent and believe that 'God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.'"

Alice was silently watching the moonbeams shining softly through the window. Somehow, she felt as if God were watching her and He knew.

"Does the Bible say God can love everybody, even awful bad people?"

"It says, when we were without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly, and He 'came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.' You see, Alice, it's only bad people who can be saved. For

until people really see how bad they are, they don't want to be saved."

Alice felt a tear slide down her cheek. Even when she had done that — that awful thing at school, God had known and loved her, anyway. Alice's lonely heart cried out in response to Jesus, who was offering her something she had never had much of—love.

"Merna, I'd like to have Jesus save me. Can—can He do it now?"

"Oh, Alice," Merna joyfully sat up in bed. "It's easy. Just tell Jesus you're sorry for your sins, and ask Him to forgive you."

Alice found it easy to pray after Merna had first prayed for her. Soon the moonbeams shone softly on not one, but two "new creatures in Christ Jesus."

Next morning, though her heart was joyful over having Jesus Christ in her heart, and Merna for a friend, still Alice was troubled. Somehow, who won first place in the contest mattered very little. She was combing her hair and frowning at her reflection in the mirror in the Girl's Room when someone asked, "Why so serious, Alice?"

Suddenly she did something she hadn't even thought about. She wouldn't have had the courage to do it if she had! She turned and faced the group, comb in hand and cheeks blazing. "You know, girls, yesterday I implied that Merna had copied her picture, but that isn't true. She showed me some pictures she had, but they were only for ideas. I wanted you to know before school starts and we all vote." She turned back to the mirror. Not a girl made a sound for a moment, and then with an embarrassed giggle from someone, they turned and left the room. Alice was left alone. Now Merna would know how awful she was. But it was over. She had done right, for once in her life, and she still had her Friend.

Suddenly a whirlwind of brown hair and blue dress rushed in and

Merna threw her arms around Alice.

"Oh, Alice, I just heard about what you did. How wonderful and how courageous!"

"You—you know already about what I did?"

"I knew last night. But come, it's time for class. Most of the girls are your friends for life now. If there's anything they respect, it's courage."

With faces radiant, the girls entered the class room. When Merna's poster won first prize, Alice scarcely noticed. She had won something far greater, friends and a *Friend* who would never leave her!

—Twila McNeff in HiCall.

— H & C —

IS NOT MY LIFE MY OWN?

(Continued from page 4)

touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty" (2 Cor. 6:14-18). God knew the dangers of marrying those of the world, so when He brought the children of Israel out of Egypt and gave them the land of Canaan He warned them against marriages with the Canaanites. "Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughters thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son. For they will turn away thy son from following me, that they may serve other Gods . . ." (Deut. 7:3, 4).

But some one may read this who has already made this mistake and you say, "What shall I do now?" This is a deplorable condition, and yet hundreds have made the same mistake, many because they were not warned beforehand by those who were their keepers." In that case you have a double duty, for you must not only be true to God, but so live that you may win your mate to the Lord. At least, you must live with him or her, if pos-

ible, all the days of your life. Many husbands and many wives have been won to the Lord by a Christian companion. Read also 1 Corinthians 7: 10-16, "And unto the married I command, yet not I, but the Lord. Let not the wife depart from her husband: but and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband: and let not the husband put away his wife. But to the rest speak I, not the Lord. If any brother hath a wife that believeth not, and she be pleased to dwell with him, let him not put her away.

And the woman which hath an husband that believeth not, and if he be pleased to dwell with her, let her not leave him. For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband: else were your children unclean; but now are they holy. But if the unbelieving depart, let him depart. A brother or a sister is not under bondage in such cases: but God hath called us to peace. For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save thy husband?" or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save thy wife?"

Life is a long time. Therefore, dear young people, think of these things before it is too late. For every one of you who marry outside the faith and win your husband or wife, as the case may be, there are several who allow themselves to be taken away from the truth and from serving the Lord.

"But know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee unto judgment" (Eccl 11:9). "There is coming a day of reckoning when we must all answer to God for the way we have lived our life. "Who will render to every man according to his deeds: to them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: but unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness,

indignation and wrath, tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil, of the Jew first, and also of the Gentile; but glory, honour, and peace, to every man that worketh good, to the Jew first, and also to the Gentile: for there is no respect of persons with God" (Rom. 2:6-11).

Back in the days when God brought out Israel from bondage He told them through Moses, saying, "Speak unto the children of Israel, and bid them that they make them fringes in the borders of their garments throughout their generations, and that they put upon the fringe of the borders a ribband of blue: and it shall be unto you for a fringe, that ye may look upon it, and remember all the commandments of the Lord, and do them; and that ye seek not after your own eyes, after which ye used to go a whoring; that ye may remember, and do all my commandments, and be holy unto your God" (Num. 15:38-40). He doesn't want us to forget His commandments either. He has a different way of helping us to remember them. He will make the New Covenant with us if we will only open our lives to Him and invite Him in. Under this New Covenant God will "put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people" (Heb. 8:10).

I wonder how many of those who read this have the commandments of God in their mind to the extent that they can repeat them from memory? If you cannot repeat them will you not, right now, start learning them? How many of you have them written in your hearts (lives)? Are you living your life for God? If not, why not start now?

God wants you to turn to Him in youth, not wait until the evening of life. It is not an unusual thing to find an old person reading the Bible, but how many times do we step in on young people and find them read-

ing their Bible? There is a reason. The old person is nearing the end of life, he is in the evening of life and is thinking of the future. But we should not wait until the evening of life to think of the future. We should not only think of God when danger is near, but at all times. Solomon says in Ecclesiastes 12:1, "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them."

In these days in which we are living we find so many girls and boys smoking and drinking. I hope that none of those who read this are in that class, but if you are, let me plead with you in the name of Christ, and for your own good now and in the future, to give it up. God will help you if you will only ask Him. Think what a great blessing God has promised if we will refuse to touch the unclean thing (any unclean thing—2 Cor. 6:17). Will you turn to the Lord and forsake these things? You will never regret it if you do it now. "Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (2 Cor. 7:1).

If there was a large blackboard somewhere along the road where many pass, would you be willing to write there upon the board everything you have done, say in the last two weeks? I fear many of you would be unwilling because you would be ashamed of the record. Do you realize that such a record is being written and that some day you will have to face it and have it read to the world? Well, it is being written. But if you are ashamed of it you can get it blotted out with the blood of Jesus.

In closing let us turn to Ecclesiastes 12:13-14, "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear

God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."

"For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself" (Rom. 14:7).

I hope to meet some of you in the kingdom of God as a result of this writing. Live for God that you may be able to help some one else to reach the goal.

—Reprint from Gospel Call to Youth.

— H & C —

California F.Y.C. Report

LODI

With Mary Haeger at the piano and Emmanuel Reimche as song leader, we enjoyed a rousing song service to open our September 3rd meeting. Prayer was offered by Harry Krause. Kenneth Schock read the Scripture reading. Alvin Brenneise, who was in charge of the program, introduced the following numbers listed in the order in which they were presented:

A duet "Meet God in the Morning" by Bonnie Kauzlarich and Sylvia Schueler; a duet "The Peace That Jesus Gives" by Leah Kauzlarich and Mary Sue Perry; a solo "Tomorrow May Mean Goodbye" by Harry Krause; a reading "If" by Gilbert Kauer; a duet "Blessed Redeemer" by Alice and Arlene Springer; a duet "My Sins Are Gone" by Betty Jarwin and David Kauer; and a quartet "The Blood that Stained the Old Rugged Cross" by Clesson Harlan, Dwain Bechthold, Alvin Brenneise and Harry Krause.

Elder Israel Haeger gave a short talk. After a testimony meeting the offering was received. Kenneth Schock offered prayer to close the meeting.

(Continued on page 16)

Poetic Gems

YOUR MISSION

If you cannot on the ocean,
Sail among the swiftest fleet,
Rocking on the highest billows,
Laughing at the storms you meet,
You can stand among the sailors
Anchored yet within the bay;
You can lend a hand to help them
As they launch their boats away.

If you are too weak to journey
Up the mountain steep and high,
You can stand within the valley,
While the multitudes go by;
You can chant in happy measure
As they slowly pass along;
Though they may forget the singer,
They will not forget the song.

If you cannot in the conflict
Prove yourself a soldier true,
If where smoke and fire are thickest,
There's no work for you to do,
When the battlefield is silent,
You can go with careful tread,
You can bear away the wounded,
You can cover up the dead.

If you cannot in the harvest
Garner up the richest sheaves,
Many a grain both ripe and golden
May the careless reapers leave.
Go and glean among the briers,
Growing rank against the wall,
For it may be that their shadow
Hides the heaviest wheat of all.

Do not then stand idly waiting
For some greater work to do,
Fortune is a fickle goddess,
She will never come to you.
Go and toil in any vineyard;
Do not fear to do and dare.
If you want a field of labor,
You can find it anywhere.

—Gospel Herald (Scottsdale, Pa.).

"IF I HAD PRAYED"

Perhaps the day would not have seemed
so long,
The skies would have not seemed so
gray,
If on my knees in humble prayer
I had begun the day.

Perhaps the fight would not have seemed
so hard—
Prepared, I might have faced the fray,
If I had been alone with Him
Upon my knees, to pray.

Perhaps I might have cheered a broken
heart
Or helped a wand'rer on the way.
If I had asked to be a light
To some dark soul today.

I would remember just the pleasant
things,
The harsh words that I meant to say
I would forget, if I had prayed
When I began the day.

I think I would have met life's harder
trials
With hopeful heart and cheerful smile,
If I had spoken with my Lord
Just for a little while.

And, if I pray, I find that all is well;
All cares at His dear feet are laid.
My heart is glad, the load is light,
Because I first have prayed.

—M. Joyce Roder in Baptist Examiner.

WEAK THOUGH ANOINTED KING

David once wrote, saying, "I am this day weak, though anointed king." Some have taken great pleasure in pointing out the weaknesses in the life of David, and exposing them to the public for harsh criticism. Of course, no one will justify David in his failures, for he condemned himself.

And yet, how strange that the one sin of his life is always the viewpoint from which many consider his character! He was called a "man after God's own heart," and his life was full of noble deeds. He was a man of righteousness in his day and abounded in good works. The world and the church can never appreciate the worth of David's contribution by way of the Psalms. The twenty-third Psalm alone has comforted tens of thousands.

Why does not the critic of David speak of his thorough and sincere repentance? David differed from many others in that when he had done wrong, he repented and God forgave him. Although weak, he was nevertheless in the sight of God deemed worthy of being anointed king of Israel.

Like David, there are many who in their own estimation are weak, and yet because of their repentance of sins are, in the sight of God, worthy of a seat in the Kingdom as kings and princes. Thus God forgave the thief on the cross who had repented, and the same merciful God graciously accepted the woman who, though a wicked sinner at one time, repented. God forgave her, and regarded her as worthy a place with Him, though weak; anointed as one of His own adopted children.

The fact of the matter is, there are none great who have not in some way or other, at some time or other, "come short of the glory of God" in their failures. Through failures we climb up to heights of glory.

The mechanic spoils much material before he is successful. The author consigns to the wastebasket much before he gains the victory. The musician strikes often the wrong key before he becomes skilled in his art. "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone."

There is, therefore, hope here for those who are weak, but who, like David, are truly repentant for their failures. The Lord calls to him, the sinner, saying, "Come now, and let us reason together . . . Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as wool." The truly penitent one beholds, as in a mirror, the glory of God, and is changed into God's image, from glory to glory.—L. M. Zimmerman in *The Lutheran Observer*.

—H & C—

INVESTING OURSELVES

(Continued from page 9)

trusting Christ, believing in the power of God, braving life because we do.

And being a Christian is the biggest job which can come to any of us. William Carey once said: "My business is to preach the gospel; I cobble shoes to pay expenses."

In the story of the woman at the well in Samaria, you will remember that the woman was so joyful when she learned who Christ was that she hurried away to tell others. She knew that freedom from her sins, everlasting happiness and comfort had come. One line in the story stands out with all the loveliness of the chiming temple bells: "And she had left her water jar." She was so swept away in Christ she forgot the thing that had brought her to the well.

So we, too, must forget our own personal preferences. We must leave our water jars. And when we do, Christ will fill them with dreams infinitely more precious than those we came to find.

—Helen Welshimer, Selected.