

Sabbath School Missionary

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YOUNG PEOPLE'S FRIEND Page 3

“ A New Mary Ann ”

Mary Ann was a nice little girl, and almost every one liked her. But Mary Ann just couldn't remember to be thoughtful of others. True she really meant to be, but somehow she always forgot till it was too late.

"I will help you weed the garden after school this evening," Mary Ann told her mother one noon. That evening as she started home she saw several little girls playing, so she stopped to play. Soon she forgot all about hurrying home, and stayed until it was nearly dark. Then she remembered what she had promised her mother and she ran home as fast as she could go. But mother already had the garden weeded and supper nearly ready. Mary Ann thought she would get a scolding, but mother said nothing. Mary Ann set the table and tried to help, but it wasn't much fun because her guilty conscience told her that this was not the task she was supposed to do. So she began to hum a tune. It wasn't very long until she succeeded in almost forgetting.

The next evening Mary Ann hurried home from school, but there weren't any weeds to pull. Finally she made a play house and put all her dolls at the little table for a party. This was really fun, so much fun that when mother called her to go to the store for things for supper, she said "after a while" and then forgot to go.

The dolls had a grand party but when Mary Ann got tired it was time for them to go home. She put their coats and bonnets on, but as she came to the last doll, there was Mother's grocery list on top its coat. She left her dolls and ran in the house. "I'll go to the store right quick, Mother," she cried. And then she saw that the table was set and mother was coming in with a steaming bowl. Something good, she thought, and decided Mother had gone to the store. "I'm sorry I forgot to go to the store and you had to go," Mary Ann apologized to her Mother and came close for a kiss. But Mother went around to the other side of the table just then and didn't kiss her. Mary Ann felt hurt.

"I didn't go to the store," Mother answered as she went on working. Mary Ann didn't answer, because she was remembering the things that were on the list and wondering how Mother could cook supper if she needed salt and sugar

and butter and potatoes and bread. And too it seemed queer that Mother didn't scold her. She wasn't scolded last night either when she didn't come home and help weed the garden.

Mother said supper was ready and Mary Ann decided she was very hungry. "I hope we have something really good," she thought, as she sat down in her place. But there was only the big bowl mother had set in the middle of the table. Mary Ann was thinking how very hungry she was when mother filled the soup plates and passed them around. Nobody said anything to her, but they talked to each other after grandfather asked the blessing. Somehow she began to feel very lonely right in this room with Mother and Daddy and Grandmother and Grandfather. And she didn't feel so hungry, either. But Mary Ann smiled bravely and began to eat her soup. The very first spoonful told her something was wrong with it. "Please pass the salt," she ventured. "There isn't any salt," Mother answered. Mary Ann's conscience told her why there wasn't. But the soup tasted so flat without salt. There wasn't any nice yellow butter floating on top as there usually was on Mother's soups, either. Nobody else mentioned it, so Mary Ann tried to eat it. Finally she found a small piece of potato. This is supposed to be potato soup, she decided, but it certainly didn't taste like Mother's potato soup. Mother seemed to read her thoughts because she told father that she was sorry that there weren't more potatoes in the soup, but she hadn't had time to go to the store. Father looked at Mary Ann, but he didn't say anything about why she didn't go. A big lump came up in her throat, and she could hardly swallow the soup.

Mary Ann toyed with her spoon until the others were thru. She wanted to run away, but she just couldn't. And then Mother was taking away the soup plates and bringing in the dessert. Mary Ann brightened a little. Dessert was always the nicest kind of a treat, when mother made it. And this time it was one of her cakes, but it didn't have any icing. The bowl of cherries looked good, tho for cherries were her very favorite fruit. Mother gave her a nice big dish

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YOUNG PEOPLE'S FRIEND SECTION (Of the Sabbath School Missionary)

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EDITORIAL

CAN YOU WRITE YOUR NAME?

I never like to see children chalk their names on sidewalks or carve their initials on desks or walls. Do you? I've even seen them write on their nice wallpaper. I even knew a girl once who used the diamond in her ring to cut her initials on the window pane. All these things are what we call "using poor taste." People with good manners do not do such things.

There are many better places where we can write our names. If we live pure lives and do good deeds for our neighbors, our country and our government, we write our names in memory. People will remember that we were useful.

We may write our names in people's hearts by being so good and kind that they'll love us.

The best place of all to have our names written is in God's book of remembrance. Do you know how we can have that done? If we live just as nearly like Christ as we possibly can and never do anything which God has told us not to, our names will be written in God's book. That means we will some day have a home with Him. How wonderful that will be!

A NEW MARY ANN

(Continued from front page)

of them and a big piece of cake. The cake didn't look good without any icing, because most little girls like the icing better than the cake and Mary Ann was no exception. She and father took a bit of the cherries at the same time and both made an awful face. "M-m-mm, where's the sugar?" Father asked and he seemed to look right straight at Mary Ann. She knew what Mother was going to say before she answered, and felt the lump coming back in her throat only this time it was bigger.

"I think you can get the little boy next door to run errands," Grandmother said to Mother, but somehow she didn't take her eyes off Mary Ann while she was talking. "It's pretty hard for you

to stop your work to do little things like that. They take up so much time. He has been very nice to get thread for my quilt piecing when Mary Ann forgot to go for me or was too busy." And Grandmother smiled at Mary Ann, but it was a funny little smile and not at all like Grandmother's smiles when she was happy. Two big tears slid down Mary Ann's cheeks, but she did not say anything. She couldn't talk for the big lump. She swallowed hard and said, "I can run errands," but her words didn't sound very convincing. And then she began to cry, because she thot of the errands that she had promised to do and had forgotten to do them until it was too late. And now her own family was discussing having someone else run errands that they couldn't depend on her for. She knew there wasn't any use to make any more promises, because she had broken them so many times that they wouldn't believe her any more. Suddenly Mary Ann knew that they were just showing her what it meant to always break your word. That was why she had not been scolded these last few times. Mother had even let all the family suffer to show her what her neglect meant. Mary Ann resolved that she would do better, but she didn't tell any one what she had decided. No, indeed, she just lived a life that proved it. Instead of promising to do things, she did them and it wasn't very long till her folks knew that they could depend on her. Mary Ann was happier than she had been in a long time. It was really more fun doing things for other people than it was to think only of yourself.

-By Opal Williams.

A Message From Aunt Lena

Dear Nieces and Nephews:

This is another of those beautiful fall days. The trees are losing all their pretty leaves. It's lots of fun playing in the leaves, isn't it? But the trees look just like big giants without any leaves, don't they? I never saw a person that was called a giant, did you? But years ago giants lived upon this earth of ours, and most people were rather afraid of them. I'm quite sure we might be too. What do you think about it?

Do you remember the story about a giant named Goliath who was over ten feet tall? If you can't imagine how tall that is, measure ten feet and see what a really big fellow he was. He liked to brag about all the things he could do. He was rather proud of his great strength, but remember "pride goeth before a fall" and he took an awful fall, didn't he? He defied the armies of Israel to fight with him, and they were afraid of him. They were looking at the bigness of the giant and had forgotten the power of God. David's father had sent him to take food to his brothers who were in the army, and he heard this giant's boasting. Now David was a shepherd boy who feared the Lord. He lived in the open. He kept his mind on things above. He ate healthful food and kept the temple of his



—Let us run with patience the

Stanberry, Missouri, Nov. 11, 1940

race that is set before us."

Why Should I Be A Christian?

Dear Young Friend:

Would you please spare just a few minutes of your time to read and consider the message this article contains? I trust you are not of those "that answereth a matter before he heareth it," but rather will read and give consideration to the subject presented.

Almost everyone has his own philosophy of life. Such philosophies vary according to home life and training, type of reading matter chosen, and all environments both general and specific, including associates, amusements, etc. We all justify our individual philosophy or view of and pursuits in life, differ as they may. Each one of us should be honest enough with ourself to be willing to revise our views where sufficient grounds in truth and reason make logical and right such revisions. And if we are honest with ourselves we are open-minded, willing to consider a matter in all fairness.

We shall now listen in on a conversation between two people.

James Anvers was packing his suitcase, soon to leave for a few days in Chicago, when the door bell rang.

As he opened the door—"Good evening, Mrs. Norton, won't you come in?"

"Thanks, James," she replied, "but I'm in a hurry now and just thought I'd stop by and ask a little request of you."

"I'd be glad to do anything I can for you. What is it?"

"Your mother told me you were going to Chicago soon and plan to call on Charles. I thought maybe you'd take him a little gift from me. It's a Bible."

"I'll gladly take it to him," he promised.

As she handed him the package and quickly turned away James saw tears gather in her eyes and knew she was deeply concerned about her son. She had told his mother that a great change had come over Charles since he had gone to Chicago to finish his law course, and that change had worried her.

Two days later found James Anvers visiting Charles Norton in his hotel room. They had been close friends nearly all their lives, and while they had not seen each other but once in the past year, their friendship was as warm as ever. An hour had passed when James quickly jumped to his feet and reached for his suitcase.

"I came near forgetting that your mother handed me a present for you shortly before I left," said James as he handed him the package.

Charles unwrapped it. Finding it was a Bible he grinned disappointedly and said, "Aw, I don't need this, but I guess mother meant well by it just the same. You know, Jim, it's hard for the older generation to keep up with the times."

James became serious as he spoke. "That's not the way you used to believe, is it? Seems to me you have changed your view point of life considerably the past year."

"I'm just keeping up with the times," replied Charles. "I haven't read a Bible for over a year. It's becoming more and more out of date. I don't need it."

"I suppose you don't attend church either any more then?"

"Haven't gone for — I don't know when," was the reply. "I'm not interested in such—haven't time."

"Well Chuck, if you don't need the Bible and it can't do you any good, then shall I assume other people don't need it either? At that, we don't need any churches, so would you say the world would be better off if all churches were destroyed and all Bibles dropped into the sea? If that's part of your philosophy, just take one look at Russia as my answer to that."

Charles caught the point easily. His reply came slowly. "No, I wouldn't exactly agree to that. I suppose the Bible does some people some good. Any good book does some good."

"Then you say that the Bible is a good book? Do you think it is merely a group of stories with a few good morals and nothing more?"

"Haven't been giving it any thot," came the indirect reply.

"Don't you believe there is an Almighty God?" questioned James.

"O, I don't really know that there is," was the doubting answer.

"Shall I conclude," asked James, "that you must believe creation and the laws of nature came about all by blind, unintelligent force, and that a God of Divine wisdom had nothing to do with it?"

(Continued on page 4)

—:— "LEANING UPON OUR HOUSE"

Turn to Job 8:13-15 with me and read. We find: "So are the paths of all that forget God; and the hypocrite's hope shall perish: whose hope shall be cut off, and whose trust shall be a spider's web. He shall lean upon his house but it shall not stand: he shall hold it fast, but it shall not endure."

Friends, did you ever see someone holding or leaning upon their forefathers' religion, trusting to be saved by it? We find many today saying, "O, my parents were good Christian people. They lived up to all the light they had." Yes, our parents who now sleep in the graves of the country side lived the life as they understood, but knowledge is to be increased in these latter days. Perhaps our parents would have gladly received more instruction had more been given in their day. We saw only their outward life—and so judge by that but perhaps they kept their hearts true to God.

I like to read in Psalm 87:4-6. V. 6, "The Lord shall count, when he writeth up the people, that this man was born there." Yes, God will consider our birthplace, our chance or opportunity for learning more of Him and our reactions to those things. Over in Deut. 27:16: "Cursed be he that setteth light by his father or his mother." Friends, are you saying, "I walk in the light as theirs was but if I go farther I am not honoring them." Think now, are you dishonoring them or is that merely an excuse — flimsy one too! How will it be in the judgment to hear father or mother receive the "Well done good and faithful servant,

enter into the joy of the Lord", while you are not permitted to enter! Prepare to meet thy God.

We must walk in the light as He is in the light. It is an individual salvation. See Ezek. 14:14, 16, 18. "Though these three men, Noah, Daniel and Job were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord God. Though these three men were in it, as I live saith the Lord God, they shall deliver neither sons nor daughters, they only shall be delivered, but the land shall be desolate."

The Word of God is "profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim. 3:16, 17.

In Matt. 10:37, "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." It is all right to love ones parents but when it comes to obeying God or our parents, let it be obedience to God that wins. Many are doing wonderful works in these days, but listen (Matt. 7: 22 & 23), "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you, depart from me, ye that work iniquity." The Emphatic Diaglott renders it this, "Many will say to me in that day, Master, Master, have we not taught in thy name? and in thy name expelled demons? and in thy name performed many wonders? And then I will plainly declare to them, I never approved of you, Depart from me, you who practice iniquity."

Let us not be in the class reserved for hypocrites, for of them it is said, "For what is the hope of the hypocrite, though he hath gained, when God taketh away his soul?" Will God hear his cry when trouble comes upon him? Joh 27:8-9.

We can lean but be careful on what. Hear the song, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."

—By Minnie Mims

WHY SHOULD I BE A CHRISTIAN?

(Continued from page 3)

"I'm not convinced either way."

"Why Chuck, the existence of life itself ought to be enough to prove there is a God. A study in Botany, learning the wonders of a simple flower reveals a power far beyond that of man. Add to this a few lessons in Astronomy disclosing some of the marvels of the heavenly bodies and the laws that govern their move-

ments so exactly. Considering these things alone, I don't see how or why anyone wants to make himself believe there is no God. I can't see the good of such doubting."

"You going to be a preacher?" Chuck questioned with a smile.

"Laugh if you like, but I'm in earnest," James replied seriously.

"Don't take me wrong," begged his friend. "There is some reason in your speech I admit and I admire your zeal for what you believe."

James thought he saw a ray of hope and went on. "Chuck, do you know anyone who can foretell the future accurately?"

Charles looked at him a little puzzled. "Why, nobody can do that. A lot of people guess and so do fortune tellers, but it can't be done."

"All right," continued James, "the Bible has foretold the future hundreds of years in advance with divine accuracy. The downfall of many nations has been predicted and come to pass. A study of the Jewish race alone and the many prophecies concerning them that have been fulfilled show the divine origin of the Bible. The Bible gives man a real hope to live for and a goal to strive for. Chuck, if you crowd this Book out of your life and think others should do the same, what have you to offer in its place? When you get married and have a family are you going to teach your children there is no God, the Bible is out of date, there is no future reward or day of judgment? If so, what will you offer them in exchange? Such leads to the thot that whatever we can get by with here we'll never have to give an account of—that there is no God that sees us."

"All right," Charles responded, "I know what you mean. You want me to change my philosophy of life and be what you call a Christian. But why should I be a Christian? I don't drink or swear, steal or lie. I'm a good citizen and believe in a high moral standard. Don't take me wrong, but I'm just as good as you are. And I think I enjoy life and get as much out of it as you do. But as I said before, the Bible is going out of date."

"Charles, I do admire your high moral standard as very commendable indeed. You may not realize it but that's a big part of Christianity itself and you certainly know that's not out of date. The Bible teaches us to live pure, holy, honest, unselfish, upright lives and to be sure you know it is good for all people to so live. One verse of the Bible's theme song, so to speak, says, "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise" (Luke 6: 31) and I know you don't mean to tell me this is out of date. Think what a better world this would be if

all people followed this rule. However, it seems that a vast amount of people don't want the Golden Rule. Rather, their theme is, Get all you can, give as little as you can. Maybe that's keeping up with the times for some but it's not my rule, or yours either, I'll venture to say."

"Of course I believe in the Golden Rule and living an upright life. At that, maybe I'm what some would call a Christian after all—at least as good as many who go to church. But anyway I think I get as much out of life as anyone. Besides I hardly have time to think about religion, especially since it doesn't interest me," Charles replied.

"To be as good as the other fellow isn't the point. To get as much out of life in a material way isn't the point either?" James began again. "Do you believe the saying, 'A man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth?'"

"Well, yes, I think that saying is quite right. Health means more than material wealth. Peace within means more than anything I can think of now," said Charles. "If I live upright I'll have all these things. Anyone who does wrong even in little dishonest things cannot really enjoy life because his conscience troubles him. But again I ask, Why should I be a Christian?"

"I'll answer that for you. Already you have incorporated some of the vital points of Christianity into your philosophy. You have said you didn't need the Bible, but without realizing it you are using some of its main teachings. When you say 'peace within' means much, you have struck a key note. I admit that some peace does come from living an honest and upright life. But a Christian has greater peace than that can bring.

"Man is made up of body and spirit. Both must be nourished. Man is more than an animal inasmuch as food, clothing and shelter are not sufficient to satisfy both body and spirit. One writer has said, 'Even the most hardened athiest recognizes that all the physical satisfactions of life are empty shells when not accompanied by a peaceful spirit.' Seeing then that such peace is of paramount importance, striving to obtain it deserves our every effort. Where shall we find it? Not in man's philosophies. We must look to something higher, for man's hopes aside from the Bible end at the grave and are therefore inadequate to bring the peace a Christian enjoys. He may make himself think that this world offers all that he needs, all that his soul longs for, but it *does not*, and he thus deceives himself.

"Charles, think with me a moment of the Christ of Galilee. What has His teaching done for the world? It has done more good in inspiring

higher ideals, bringing far greater hope and peace of soul than anything man himself could possibly offer. The Christ has given man an opportunity and real hope for eternal life. And since life is man's greatest possession, eternal life should be his greatest ambition. Down in the bottom of your heart you know you want eternal life and happiness, but you have tried to still this yearning of your soul.

"Do you realize that the very desire in your heart is a desire for God? Jeremiah the prophet said, 'The Lord is my portion, saith my soul.' (Lam. 3:24-27). You can't have peace away from God. Man has tried it many times and history is full of the records of failures. Paul in his great sermon to the Greeks Philosophers at Athens gave them a lesson that you should well ponder. Those Philosophers were great educated leaders of the day, but were ignorant of God and of His ways because they were ignorant of Bible teaching. The result was that the city was wholly given to idolatry. They had that God-given longing for peace and the realization that they were responsible to a Higher Power led to their modes of worship. They had the desire for something higher and better. God gave that desire and He also gives the means of gratifying it. This Blessed Book your Mother sent reveals the way, the *only* Way of peace and hope.

"My friend," he went on, "surely you don't mean to tell me that when this life is about over you want to die like an animal without hope. Death is certain. Why cast aside all that gives hope beyond? Where is there any good in that? Because I am a Christian I have found that peace and have a hope that nothing in this world can approach.

"No matter how good we are of ourselves, we have all sinned. Man cannot lift himself out of sin and its results, therefore he must look to something higher. Christ died for our sins that if we obey Him we can live forever when He comes. Only His Spirit and teaching can transform man into the kind of a being that can live out His lofty principles and give that restful satisfying peace and hope within that makes life worthwhile.

"Charles, you know your mother is a Christian and you know what it means to her and what it has done for her. Why don't you arouse yourself, shake yourself and become a Christian too? There is every good reason why you should." With these words James made a hasty departure. He saw clearly in his friend's expression that he had gotten him to thinking seriously.

Charles sat there several minutes thinking—thinking as he had never

thought before, without hardly making a move. He admitted to himself that Christianity certainly had given James a Christ-like spirit and a certain, definite hope. Finally he reached for his Bible with a much different attitude than he had given it before. A picture of himself loomed up before him. A need of something beyond what mortals can give came thirsting from within. Some of his former Bible teachings came to his mind. He opened his Bible and his eyes fell on these words of the pleading Savior: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest—learn of me—and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Matt. 11:28-29. These words seemed to be speaking directly to him. Then he found the verse, "Every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day." John 6:40. Yes, he wanted life—eternal life!

The young man read for some time, and resolved to learn more of the Savior who could forgive sins and inspire a hope that was just beginning to awaken within him. He wanted the hope and peace his friend had, and as he finished reading John 17 he knelt in prayer and poured out his heart to God in repentance, asking for a new heart.

—By L. L. C.

From Texarkana

Dear Young People Friends:

Here it is November and I haven't written to this paper for ever so long. I've even forgotten when I did write last. I have, I feel, been very negligent in not writing sooner.

We are now engaged in a meeting in Texarkana, Texas where we have the best and highest hopes as to our success in the labor for the Lord. We have also made arrangements to speak over radio station KCMC (1420 K. C.), Brother Hawkins doing the speaking and Donna and I furnishing the music.

Brother and Sister Carl Williams are here too, and we are having a very good time in the Lord's work. We are very thankful we can be in His work, trying to win others to Him. As we look at the sky we see it already streaked with the coming of eternity's dawn.

We realize that there are many, many souls who are struggling in gross darkness and we hope that we may see some of them fall out with sin before it is too late. As I think of them I feel that I am not ready if the Lord should delay His coming no longer, because my work is not finished. Too many are going the downward path. We feel that we want to see them set aright. Our hearts go out to them. However, when our Savior does come in His

glory I do not want to be pointed out as one who could have carried the message to them and refused. I ask an interest in all your prayers that I may do my part.

And let us pray that there will be a rallying of the children of God. May they get behind His cause and strive more and more to cause it to progress. Let us pray that there will be more ministers admitted to the field, and more personal workers too, to speak to their friends and neighbors concerning God. Then let us look around and see if we are doing what we have prayed that God would send others to do. We can not expect God to send someone in answer to our request to do something which we are unwilling to do if we are able.

So let us continue to hold up the standard and let our light shine before men that they shall see our good works, and knowing they are of God, give Him the glory. Perhaps the passing of a tract or paper to some acquaintance or friend may mean that soul's conversion. Perhaps a good word spoken or a good deed done may help some weary pilgrim to find the right path and continue his journey to a land much fairer than the one to which his path now leads.

May we as young people do our part because we know that real Christians are not, neither can be, shirkers. We can not expect to let someone else speak the good word or do the kind deed. When they get there it may be too late. One more precious soul may be lost eternally.

Pray for us here at Texarkana and for the work everywhere that it may progress rapidly.

Yours in Christ's service,

Clayton L. Faubion

* * *

From Idaho

Dear Y. P. Fs.:

I too am glad that our paper is coming every week. I hope it can continue so and go to many new readers.

I go to high school in Meridian. I would like to have others write about what they do at school for the Lord and how they go about it. Four of us girls were talking about religion one day and one girl said she didn't think it mattered what church you belonged to, just so you believed in that church. I don't always know what to say in return to such statements.

One of our teachers in Meridian is an old man who has been in the old world. One day he said we should all go outside at the end of that period, take a deep breath of air, and thank our God that we live in America. I want to read letters from other school students telling of some of their school experiences.

I also like to read the Campmeeting reports, and I hope that some day I

can attend a large Campmeeting.

A friend, Opal Estep

* * *

From Idaho

Dear Editor:

I am sending \$3.07 to help out for the "Young People's Friend." This amount was taken last Sabbath (Oct. 19) at the young people's meeting. As I was leader, they asked me to send the collection to you.

I will give a report of our meeting:

We opened by singing "If Your Heart Keeps Right," followed by a reading, "It Is Better To Smile" by Eva Sheffield. We continued our meeting with a poem read by Helen Carlock entitled "Meditation." We were then favored with a piano solo by Edna Palmer, followed by a reading given by Luella Meikle entitled "God Will Sprinkle Sunshine." We then had a contest consisting of two groups of questions. I gave them their choice of either guessing a described character of the Bible or finishing a Bible verse. It was very interesting. After the contest I read a poem entitled "God Give Me Strength." The closing song was "My Wonderful Friend." This collection was taken while the last song was sung. We were then dismissed by Bro. Meikle.

I will send ten each from the two different groups of questions.

I certainly enjoy the "Young People's Friend" coming weekly and I sincerely hope it can be continued.

A friend, Lenora Estep

—:—

QUESTION DEPARTMENT

Please harmonize Ezekiel 3:20-21; 33:18; 18:24, 26; Heb. 6:4-6; 10:10-26; 2 Peter 2:20-22 with Psalm 34:10; 37:24; Ch. 51; Lam. 3:31; Prov. 24:16; Micah 7:8.

* * *

Is it all right to use a little rouge and lipstick so that one will not look pale?

* * *

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY SENT IN

QUESTION: If at the time of baptism one has never been converted and is converted later, should he be baptized again after conversion?

ANSWER: There are some who believe that the mere form or ceremony of baptism has a saving merit or quality in the act itself regardless of the state the one baptized is in. Such is infant baptism—which has no Bible foundation, command or example.

Without a doubt there have been cases where one was baptized (maybe when quite young) and at the time was touched by the Spirit of God and repented, and then some time later in life received a deeper experience in the Lord. Rebaptism is

out of place then. (Backsliding is not considered under this question. That is a different question).

Now in 1 Peter 3:21 we learn that baptism must be accompanied by "the answer of a good conscience toward God." To have this good conscience one must have his sins washed—be converted. If one is not converted—does not have this answer of a good conscience—the mere act of baptism has no meaning and profits none whatever.

By reading Rom. 6, we learn that a person must die to sin (that is, put away a life of sin—be inactive to sin) having that determination before baptism. Our old man (of sin) is to be crucified with Christ "that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." If one has not died to sin, why bury him in baptism? It would mean nothing and gain him nothing.

Sometimes ministers are too quick to baptize people before they are ready. The candidate for baptism should be taught and understand to some extent the meaning of this important step, having a firm determination to forsake sin and serve God. Young people who are raised in a Christian home usually understand what baptism means, but they should never be forced into being baptized. This desire must come from within their heart. They must themselves desire to be a Christian, wanting their past life and carnal nature buried in the watery grave, otherwise baptism avails nothing.

—Editor.

(Note: If you have more questions about baptism we will be glad to receive them.)

—:—

The Evil

"And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Matt. 6:13.

Just reading this verse through we might be led to believe that God wants to lead us into temptation and that we have to beg Him not to. But we know that this cannot be the meaning of the verse. God does not want to put temptation in our way because He is planning nicer and better things than we could ever conceive. Since God and Jesus think as one we feel certain that Jesus would not say things contrary to His Father's plans or wishes. He has taught us instead to love and obey God.

But all about us we find evil in wait for us. Not only in corrupt places such as dance halls, pool rooms etc., but in our schools, at our work and even in our homes. Maybe it is just the temptation to spend too much time at worldly things. It is easy to clutter up our lives with common things such as magazines, books and radio programs. These things crowd into our lives and we have no

time left for our Bible study and prayer. We also may become too engrossed in our daily work and with too much attention toward our livelihood that we forget that God has promised to supply us with the necessities of life if we first seek Him and keep His commandments.

At school and at work we have to be careful in our associations with other people. We can't expect to do as the "crowd" does or take part or even listen to the filthy stories and gossip that goes on around us. There are so many pitfalls and paths that lead us down—away from God—the strait and narrow path that leads to eternal life and happiness. The prayer is then that whatever we are doing or wherever we are, may we not be drawn to the various temptations exposed to us.

But we cannot pray for this unless we are really and sincerely trying not to put ourselves or our brother in the path of those evils. To keep from these temptations we must get close to our Father in love and in faith. Then let us keep that faith so that we may be among the few chosen that will be included in that wonderful plan.

—By Helen Carlock.

—:—

Little Sins

Did you ever stop to think what kind of an insect the fly is? It is quite small but in this case size does not count. They carry germs that quite often prove dangerous and sometimes fatal. No matter how careful you may be to keep your doors shut or your screens fastened they somehow seem to get in. If they are not destroyed at once they soon become so thick that even the least observer of flies is tormented.

These flies that gather on every doorstep are like little sins that all of us meet every day. Somehow they creep in when we don't know it and find a lodging place. Little sins gradually increase in size and soon they are very prominent.

The littlest sins should be disposed of before they become lodged or form a habit. Habits are hard to check. They must be thoroughly weeded out. The more there are the faster they increase.

Let us strive harder to kill all the little flies in our lives.

—By Melba Ling.

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body clean. Now, God can always use clean spiritually-minded boys and girls to His glory. And He used David in many wonderful ways. This time in the name of the Lord David took some pebbles from the brook and with his sling-shot went to meet this giant. A stone hit the giant in the forehead and he fell. Then David cut off his head with the giant's own sword. Then the Israelites conquered the enemy. They only needed some one to lead the way.

Sometimes if we are strong and resist temptation, others will follow and be helped by our example. David didn't have strength to slay the giant himself. Neither can we live a righteous life by ourselves. We must realize, like David, that "My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth." Ps. 121:2.

There are many things we come in contact with that are just like big giants in our lives. An evil story or a lie, for instance, can become a very big giant like a mountain, even. Once a boy told something to his friends that would have been much better if not told. He had a very wise father who wished to teach him a lesson not easily forgotten, so he told him to leave a feather at each doorstep in the village. He did as he was told. Then his father told him to gather them all away and it was impossible to find them. That is the way with evil stories or lies. They just travel from one to another till they become a very great giant. To keep from saying evil things we must have help from the Lord.

I think a cigarette is a very big evil giant too, don't you? He conquers many people and they become slaves to him. He ruins their health and even makes their breath smell bad. The money he uses could do so much good in spreading the gospel. Who knows it might be the means of saving our dearest friends? Let us help slay this giant every time we can. I hope none of my readers will ever taste one. If any of you already use tobacco, remember your help cometh from the Lord. He wants our bodies to be clean, a fit place for His Holy Spirit to dwell.

I have only named two giants but there are many more, such as disobeying our parents, selfishness, hatred, envying, swearing, stealing, etc. Can you name one that is a big giant to you? I'll tell you a couple of mine that I am trying to overcome with the Lord's help. One is, having more patience; the other is being impulsive—doing and saying things in too big a hurry.

Let us look into the mirror of our lives to see what isn't Christ-like in our daily living and with His help rid ourselves of these giants that want us to become slaves to them.

Ask the Savior to help you,
Strengthen, comfort and keep you;
He is willing to aid you,
He will carry you through.

Lovingly, Aunt Lena

—:—

"A wise son heareth his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke." Prov. 13, verse 1.

SUNBEAMS

FROM MISSOURI

Dear Missionary Readers:

This is my first time to write to the Missionary. I am thirteen years old and enjoy reading this paper.

We are building a church in which we can hold Sabbath school every Sabbath. I attend church regularly.

I have six White King Pigeons and some Banty chickens for pets.

I enjoyed campmeeting very much and met some very nice people. I am a new commandment keeper and would like to receive some letters from those interested to write. I will put my address below.

Your friend,
Bobby Wirth

529 W. Sycamore St., Nevada, Mo.

(We are pleased to receive your first letter, Bobby. It is nice that you can build a church. Write again. —Editor).

FROM MISSOURI

Dear Missionary Readers:

This is the first time I have written to the little paper. I am glad that I learned the truth a year ago. I attend Sabbath School regularly except when I am sick.

I went to the Missouri State Conference this year. It was only ten blocks from where I live and met a lot of Brothers and sisters and children whom I had heard about.

We had a tent meeting at Nevada too, and we were all glad to see eleven souls saved.

We are building a church at Nevada. Pray for us that we may soon get the church established.

Your friend,
Kleetis Wirth

(We are thankful you have the Truth at Nevada and that you are building a church. May God bless you and help you to be a light to others. —Editor).

FROM WASHINGTON

Dear Missionary Readers:

This is the second time I have written to the Missionary paper. I like to go to Sabbath School. There are six in our class.

My two sisters and I have one dog and two cats. I have one brother and one more sister. They are both married. My sister that is married has a little girl two years old.

My younger sister is 7, going on 8, and my older sister is 11, and my older than her is 23 years old and my brother is 24 years old.

I am nine and in the fifth grade. I like school. A Missionary reader,

Willettea Rea Thomas

(We are glad to receive another letter from you. Are you having gold weather yet? Editor).

Seeing Through the Window

Look out of the window;
See what God has made,
A big white pillow
Of winter's snowy glade.

Look out of the window;
And see the stars at night,
Up in the heavens
Shining so bright.

Look out of the window;
Into the air,
See the pretty butterflies
Flying everywhere.

Look out of the window;
Into the trees,
And see their new coat
Of new green leaves.

Look out of the window;
See in the flowers,
See the gay colors
Of the noon day hours.

Look out of the window;
See what God has made,
Winter's and Summer's
Pretty glade.

—By Kleetis Wirth

IT PAYS TO BE HELPFUL

A man born in Russia came to this country in 1912, and became an American citizen in 1928. He worked as a junkman and in order to save his money, lived in a coal bin.

He did not have many friends in this country, and he always appreciated a kind word. One day the man got into a fight and was wounded. A woman invited him to her back porch, washed and bound up his wounds and gave him a cup of tea. He never forgot it.

At another time a judge did the man a good turn, which he appreciated.

The other day the man died. Though living in a coal bin, it was found he was worth \$13,000. He left \$2,000 to the friendly judge, and all the rest was left to the woman who had been kind.

It pays to be helpful. Not always does it repay one in dollars and cents. In fact such pay is rare. But it always pays in happiness and joy.

If you will look around, you will discover that the happiest people in the world are not the richest, or the most famous, or the most powerful. The happiest people are the people who enjoy, really enjoy, doing favors for others. If you doubt this, try it yourself. Do a good turn to another person, and see if your own life isn't brighter as a result.

—Sel.

“My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother: bind them continually upon thine heart, and tie them about thy neck.” Prov. 6:20, 21.

PRIMARY LESSON No. 21, Nov. 23, 1940

Scripture Reading: 2 Kings 11.

Memory Verse: 2 Kings 11:12.

JOASH, THE BOY KING

When Joash's father died, his grandmother decided she would like to rule, she put to death all those who would have a right to be king after him, but she overlooked Joash, who, with his nurse, was stolen away and hidden in the wall of the temple by his father's sister, Jehosheba. She and her husband, Jehoiada, cared for the child and kept him hidden for six years. Then Jehoiada, who was also the high priest decided the boy should be crowned. He appointed guards inside the temple and out and brought the boy secretly and he was anointed and made king by a certain pillar as was customary.

The people were very glad and clapped and shouted until Athaliah, hearing the noise came to see what it was about. When she saw the boy and that he was crowned she was frightened and tore her clothes and cried, “Treason”, which was her way of saying that they were not doing the right thing. She thought someone would help her but no one did, and the priest told some to get her out, and slay her with the sword, but not in the temple.

Then the priest made a promise between the Lord and the king and the people that they should be the Lord's people; and they went out and destroyed the house and images that had been made for Baal. Then the people took the king from the temple to his house and he sat on his throne. During his early life Joash was a good king. He reigned forty years and was finally killed by his servants.

INTERMEDIATE LESSON No. 21, Nov. 23

Scripture Reading: 2 Kings 11.

Memory Verse: 2 Kings 11:12.

JOASH, THE BOY KING

- 1—What is meant by “All the seed royal”?
- 2—Why did Athaliah put to death the heirs to the throne?
- 3—What one escaped? How?
- 4—What relation were Joash and Jehoash?
- 5—What relation were Jehosheba and Jehoiada?
- 6—How old was Joash when he became king?
- 7—Describe the preparations and crowning?
- 8—What did the clapping and shouting signify?
- 9—Who was attracted thither by the noise?
- 10—What did rending her garments signify?
- 11—What did she cry?
- 12—What did she think to gain by the cry of treason?
- 13—Why was she allowed to depart?
- 14—How did Jehoiada command her to be slain?
- 15—What covenants were made?
- 16—What was done to the house of Baal?
- 17—How was the boy escorted to his throne?