

Sabbath School Missionary

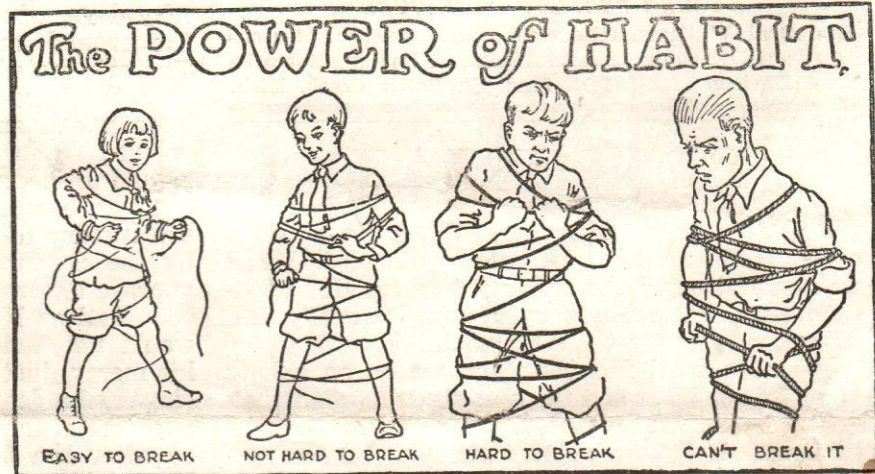
Vol. 55.

Stanberry, Mo., January 13, 1941.

No. 2.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S FRIEND Page 3

Are
You
Bound?



Who would like to be bound with a strong cord? "Not I;" you all answer.

But just wait a minute! I think I'm safe in saying that some of you are binding yourselves right now.

How? Well by habits. Habits are like chains or cords. When first formed, habits are easily broken, but as time goes on they are hard to break.

Notice the first boy in the picture. He can easily break the cord. All it would take is just a little effort. But what do you think about the rest of the picture?

Once a little boy picked up an orange which a lady had dropped from her basket on the way home from the store. He saw it drop but he ate it instead of returning it to her. Later a grocer gave him back thirty cents change when he should have given him only twenty. The boy kept it. By the time he was a man, he was stealing coal from neighbors' bins and chickens from their henhouses. The habit grew until he robbed stores. Sometimes he'd decide to turn over a new leaf and stop stealing. But the habit had gripped him tightly. Finally he was sent to the penitentiary where he could not take what did not belong to him.

One boy learned to drink beer. His parents kept it in the house as we keep flour or sugar. At first he drank only one glassful a day. As he grew older he drank more. When he was a young man he was not satisfied with beer but drank

whiskey. By the time he was an old man, he tried to stop, because he realized it was a bad habit, but he could not stop then. He was like a person bound with a cord too strong to be broken. So his life was ruined.

A little girl may use witty phrases and slang words. She could easily stop if she wanted to, but she thinks it is "smart". As she grows older she uses worse language than ever. Finally she find herself swearing. Then she may be sorry, but it is hard for her to keep from it. She says the words without realizing it. But she CAN quit if she is determined enough and does not wait until she is a woman.

Sometimes even babies bind themselves. Haven't you seen them kick and cry in order to get someone to humor them? Maybe by the time they are old enough for school they have a habit of throwing themselves on the floor and shrieking like a little savage, because something has gone wrong. You see the cords of habit are getting quite strong. If they do not break them, soon they will be completely bound.

Now, I'm sure not one single boy or girl who reads this is bound like the last boy in the picture. But are you sure you are not like the first one? Study just a minute and decide. If you are, I hope you'll break the cords right now. Do not wait one single day.

—"The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips." Prov. 16:23.

THE SABBATH SCHOOL MISSIONARY

Published weekly at the Church of God Publishing House
Stanberry Missouri

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Subscription Rates

Single copy one year 50 cents
Club or six or more to the same address 35 cents each
per year.

Foreign Subscription rate \$1.00 per year.
Entered in the Post Office at Stanberry, Missouri as
second class matter.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S FRIEND SECTION

(Of the *Sabbath School Missionary*)

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EDITORIAL

God is always with us. When we start to school in the morning He goes by our side. While we study at our desks or play at recess He watches over us. He hears every word we say and even knows every thought we think.

We may get homesick when we go on a long visit, or get lonesome for our parents when they are away, but we never have to wait for the Lord to come. If it seems sometimes like He has forsaken us, it is because we have not been obedient and have wandered from His care. Or it may be that He is testing us to see how faithful we really are.

NOAH'S ARK

We presume that all the readers of the *Missionary* are quite familiar with the story of Noah's ark, which God told him to build for himself and family to be saved in while all the rest of the world were drowned by the flood of waters. Seven generations of people had lived upon the earth, and had become so very wicked that the Creator resolved to destroy them. How terrible had the results of one sin become, until such great and enormous sins had been committed that only one man, or one family were righteous before God! Adam and his children had not carried out the purpose God designed they should, and about 2,000 years after the creation God said of them that He "saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And it repented the Lord that He had made man on the earth." Then He resolved to destroy man by a flood of water, and He would save the righteous man and his family alive, that they might people the earth after the flood was over.

But God was merciful, He always was, and He sent Noah to preach to the people about the destruction that was coming, and if they would

repent and turn to God they might be saved too. But they would not believe him, although they saw him building the ark which was to float over the waters and save their lives. God told him how to build the ark which was like a great ship without sails or masts. When it was built Noah was told to take his family into it and specimens of all the animals of the world, and then God closed the door. We may suppose the reason why the door was not left so Noah could open it was because Noah might have been so sorry for the drowning people that he would have taken them into the ark.

The rain came and the waters rose for forty days and forty nights, until the water covered the highest land, and all living creatures were drowned except what were in the ark. Then the waters were upon the earth for one hundred and fifty days, when they receded and went off from the ground, and the dry land again appeared. The ark rested on a mountain called Aarat, and then the Lord told Noah that they could go out. From Noah and his family all the earth was peopled again, and God desired that the people should all be righteous and serve Him.

There are several things for us to learn from the history of Noah's ark. God will punish sin by the destruction of the sinners. He cannot approve of wrong, nor let the guilty go unpunished. And as He destroyed the wicked world who would not believe Noah's preaching and accept his mercy, just as certainly will He destroy every sinner who does not repent and accept His mercy. Remember the beautiful rainbow which appeared after the flood, and that God then promised He would not again destroy the earth with a flood. But He will punish sin. Noah and his family were saved from a calamity.

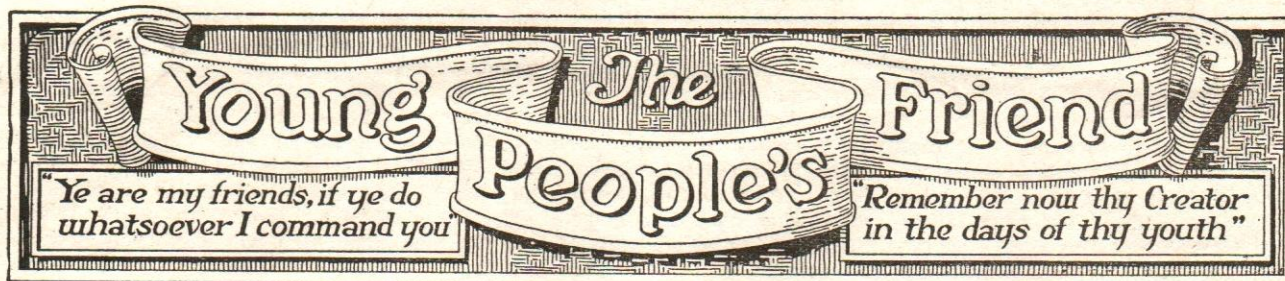
All the world is in danger of perishing eternally through the death that comes upon us on account of Adam's sin, and we need an ark of safety to keep us from eternal death. God has provided us that refuge just as truly as He provided an ark of wood to float Noah over the flood of waters. This is the other lesson for us to learn from Noah's ark.

Our Ark of safety is the Lord Jesus Christ. By faith in Him we can be saved from eternal death, into the everlasting Kingdom of God, where no calamities come. The world is to be destroyed again, not by water, but by fire, and in that destruction the Ark of Safety will be our Savior, in whom we trust, and who will save us in a place of safety, while the wicked people who do not love the Lord Jesus will be destroyed. Then Jesus will also call to life all the dear people who have loved Him, and He will establish His Kingdom of righteousness, and the people will live upon the new earth, just as Noah and his family lived upon the earth after the flood.

We should all see that we have a saving interest in Christ, by loving Him and believing Him so that when destruction comes upon the world again we may be hid from it in the Ark of Safety.

—J. E.

"Forsake the foolish, and live; and go in the way of understandnig." Prov. 9:6.



"And that knowing the time, that now Stanberry, Missouri, Jan. 13, 1941 it is high time to awake out of sleep."

Don't Be Envious

We are too prone to envy other people — their position, possessions, privileges, popularity, opportunities and what not. Really this is all wrong, and if we would but give it honest, sober thought, we would soon see and realize the utter foolishness of it all.

Take, for example, the case of "Naaman, captain of the host of the king of Syria. He was a great man with his master, and honorable, because by him the Lord had given deliverance unto Syria; he was also a mighty man in valor—" 2 Kings 5:1.

Now here was a man who, without doubt, was envied by many of the men in his community. Some of them felt, perhaps, that nature and circumstances had played them a shabby trick, in keeping them from a chance like Naaman's. And why must he have all that, while they had little or nothing?

Yes, they envied him from every angle—his position at the court of the king; his possessions, for doubtless he had much; the privileges that were his, in his contact with the great of the land; the opportunities that his privileges afforded, and his popularity as a result of his military successes, and his standing as one of the leading men in the kingdom.

But, they did not know the truth about him, for if they had they would not have been so willing to have changed places with him, for all he had and more. And why? Because "he was a leper." And Naaman himself, would willingly have parted with all that he possessed, to have been able to have changed places with some one else, and so been rid of his terrible disease.

And so let us take this lesson to ourselves. If we but knew the truth about those we have been envying, we would not be willing to change places with them upon any consideration. No, the truth about them would change the picture completely—it would not seem so desirable, after all.

Why can we not learn to be contented with our lot? Oh, that we might learn Paul's lesson: "for I

have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Phil. 4:11. "And having food and raiment let us therewith be content." 1 Tim. 6:8. We lose many of life's richest blessings, because we are so dissatisfied with our lot. We grumble and fret, when we should be joyful and constantly rejoicing. Instead of seeing (?) the things we lack, we should learn to recognize what we really have, and be truly thankful for the many blessings that are ours.

If we could but realize that *what we have*, with the blessing of God, is worth far more than all else without His blessing, maybe we could stop our constant bemoaning of our lack, and feeling sorry for self. When the Lord sees fit to give us more, we shall have it and until then the responsibility that what we have brings, should be enough.

"For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required." Luke 12:48.

—By Elder C. F. Ladd.

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LITTLE WHITE LIES

This title is an excuse often given by those who are searching for some way to avoid what they know to be true. The Lord says in Exodus 20:16, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." I think we all agree that telling a white lie is just as much of a sin as a so-called black one. Therefore if a person is careless about this practice he is breaking one of the commandments. James 2:10 says, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." A person who bears false witness is the same as a liar.

Even David was bothered by these persons for he said in Psalm 27:12, "Deliver me not into the will of mine enemies: for false witnesses are risen up against me, and such as breathe out cruelty."

Prov. 12:22 says, "Lying lips are abomination to the Lord." This certainly gives the Master's opinion of those who defile the mind.

All of us hate to have a person around who cannot be trusted to tell the truth. It often causes hard feelings or makes a financial loss for

someone. David said, "He that worketh deceit shall not dwell within my house: he that telleth lies shall not tarry in my sight."

A lie is a very disagreeable thing for all who hear it, as well as those who tells lies. They are sorry for telling some of them when they are checked up on. A lie is just another device to get people to do wrong. The originator of the lie was satan. John 8:44, "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."

I believe the first lie we have recorded was in the Garden of Eden, when satan told Eve that if she ate the forbidden fruit she would not surely die. You know the consequences very well. Since that time he has kept right on with his deception of all people.

In the end the liar or false witness is sure to lose. In Rev. 21:8 it says that all liars shall have their part in the lake of fire, and in verse 27 that no one who maketh a lie shall enter the kingdom. The 22nd chapter, verse 15 says that without the city shall be whosoever loveth and maketh a lie. He classes them with dogs and murderers so we will realize how serious is the practice.

Lying is one of the greatest temptations in the world for some young Christians because, for the moment, it seems the easiest way out. We must, however, push this temptation aside should it come our way, and press on, seeking the truth so that we may all meet in God's soon coming Kingdom. Surely none of us would want to lose our place there by telling a few lies.

—Weston Carver.

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HONESTY

Does God expect us to live honest lives? Rom. 12:17 says "Recompense to no man evil for evil." Rather, "Provide things honest in the sight of all men."

Some might ask, Why should we be so honest before all men when

some are so evil they will steal your very belongings? 2 Tim. 2:2 & 3 speaking of leading "a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior."

We are told to love our enemies. We are to let our "light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your father which is in heaven."

Would we be letting our light shine if we cheat our neighbor or live dishonest lives?

"Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7. "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption, but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting. And let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap; if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

Matt. 5:14 says that we are the light of the world. We cannot let our light shine out brightly if we have dishonesty in our lives.

I sometimes wonder how some people can call themselves Christians when they do not live as Christ taught. They tell falsehoods on their friends, or they call them their friends. Is that not dishonesty and cheating? The devil is the father of lies so let us be very careful as to what we say. May we always speak honestly and always abound in the work of the Lord.

—Delvin Lavane O'Banion

Arland's Problem

UNCLE DAN'S SOLUTION WORKS TWO WAYS

(Continued from last week)

The gay melody of a happy robin awoke Arland early the next morning. For a moment he thought he was still visiting in northern Wisconsin, and was about to jump out of bed to view the lake near Uncle Dan's house when he rapidly changed his mind as it dawned on him he was back home in eastern Nebraska. Then his problem came bobbing up for another session. He hoped his plan would bring about a quick solution. If it took longer than he had anticipated, things might get too complicated and the whole plan back-fire in utter failure and make trouble.

By showing attentions to Lenora Benson because she was of a religious faith his parents opposed, Arland figured it would stir them up to their duty of Christian home training and awaken in them an interest in spiritual things in a definite way. They had gotten so lax in this very important matter the last few years that

Arland feared if a change by way of reconsecrating their lives to God did not soon come, what Christian ideals they did have would gradually evaporate, and his brother and sisters would leave the faith sooner or later. If Christianity did not take *first* place in the home, neither would it be placed above all else with the children when they left home.

He had solved one turn of his plan, he thought, just before falling asleep the night before in which he would use his brother Leland. Leland would confide in his mother and her eyes would be opened to view things differently than Mr. Downing seemed to see them. Then she would be in a position to help him.

When Arland went down stairs for breakfast he saw no one but his mother.

"Am I late for breakfast?" he joked.

"No, son, it's early yet," she replied. "Your father left a few minutes ago for Omaha. The rest of the family are still in bed. He told me to tell you to look after the store until he gets back, and get another clerk in your place if you need one."

"When will he be back?"

"Not for several days perhaps. He said he'd write when he got there."

After a good breakfast Arland was off to work. He enjoyed working in father's big furniture store and expected to go into partnership with him when he had saved enough money.

That day, and the next, and the next went by swiftly. He had not forgotten that he was to show Charles his new violin, so when the appointed evening came he said nothing to anyone, but to draw attention, prepared to leave quietly. As he was about to open the door his mother saw him from the kitchen. "Where are you going?" she asked kindly.

Before he answered, Grace almost interrupted, "Mother, can't you guess? Don't you remember when he came back from Uncle Dan's that I guessed Lenora had invited him over?"

Arland smiled, "Mother, if Grace happens to be right, do you mind?"

"Why — you know what your father said. But go along this time."

As he closed the door behind him he chuckled to himself, "If mother only knew that my friendly attentions to Lenora were just to arouse her and dad to their Christian duty—why, what would she say?"

A few minutes later he parked his car in front of the Benson home. As he stepped upon the porch he heard the piano being played softly. Lenora met him at the door.

"Hello, Arland, come in. Charles and I happen to be the only ones home this evening."

"Good evening," he responded as he stepped inside.

Her brother turned from the piano. Hello, Arlie, old bear chaser; glad

to see you and your violin—that is, we'll see your violin directly."

The proud owner took it from the case and handed it to him. "Look it over. Isn't that choice wood?"

"It's a beauty, I'll say."

"Let me try it," begged Lenora. "It certainly is a pretty instrument."

As she attempted to place it in position as though to play, Arland laughed, "Let me show you how to hold it. You have your chin on the wrong side."

"I can't play anyway," she smiled. "I was just making believe."

They spent a pleasant evening together and Arland learned a number of new pieces of music. Lenora sang two songs and he was surprised to know what a pleasing voice she had.

Before leaving he noticed a Catechism on the piano and picked it up.

"If you would like to borrow that, I'd be glad to loan it to you," suggested Miss Benson.

"Thanks, I would like to, look through it. I'll return it in a few days."

"By the way," asked Charles, "why don't you go to church with us this coming Thursday evening? We're having a special service and a special speaker."

Arland hesitated. "I don't know; maybe I can, I'll see."

"Sure you can," invited Lenora.

As he left the Benson home he said to himself, "If they want me to attend their church, why don't I ask them to attend mine?"

* * *

Thursday evening found young Mr. Downing preparing to attend the Lutheran church with Charles and Lenora Benson. That morning he had told Leland his plan to attend.

While combing his hair he heard light tapping on his door. It was his brother Leland.

"What's on your mind?" asked the older brother, as he thought, maybe now is my chance to use Leland in my plan.

"Please don't think I'm a meddler, but I feel I should tell you something I don't think you are aware of. Dad and Mother are quite concerned about your going with Lenora. A moment ago Mother asked me where you were going this evening and I told her. She also saw this catechism on your dresser, and since dad came back from Omaha I heard them talking quite dissatisfactorily about the whole affair. I thought you might like to know this or should know it."

Arland's seriousness was at first quite put on as he answered. "Well they have said very little to me. Dad started to say something one night, but that was all. I suppose they object to Lenora because of her religious beliefs, but after all, dad and mother don't take their religion so much to heart that I can see, except in my case right now it seems. I do

remember years ago when we used to have family worship every day, but they gave it up. I reckon they thought it wasn't important enough to spend time with. They seldom go to church any more and you never see them read a Bible. They don't seem to count their religion important in every day life, so why should I let it interfere with my friendship with Charles and Lenora Benson? If Dad and Mother can show me where I'm wrong I'll gladly change. I want to honor them and do what's right."

Leland did not know what to answer his brother. Arland did not mean what it sounded to Leland like he meant, but he wanted his word carried to his mother. Maybe it would set her to thinking.

* * *

It was some time after Arland had gone before Leland found an opportunity to talk with his mother. He told her just what Arland had told him, and added not a suggestion of his own as to any possible solution to the situation that seemed to puzzle his mother. Mrs. Downing was moved, not to anger but rather to regret on her part as she saw for the first time in months where she had been failing her duty. She pondered the words of her oldest son some time and finally told her husband in a tone of much concern all she had learned. "What shall we do?" she asked.

Mr. Downing was quite taken back by Arland's view of things. "I can't answer your question right off," he replied. "We must have time to think and act wisely. I guess our son is right in at least some of what he says. That's hard to admit, but it may not be too late yet to make some changes in our modes and manners in the home, but just how to begin—well, you suggest that."

"I wished I could," she sighed. Then suddenly Mrs. Downing brightened up. "I have at least a suggestion that we might consider."

"And what's that?" he asked with emphasis.

"Well, why don't we write for an Evangelist to come and hold a series of meetings in our church. We'll see that he has some good talks with Arland, and that way straighten out our problem."

Mr. Downing paused in his answer, sparring for time and thought. After a moment he replied, "I have no better suggestion. If you think we should undertake your suggestion it might be a good idea. You can see the Elders of the church tomorrow, and either have them write for an Evangelist or offer to yourself."

* * *

Not being in a hurry Arland drove to a filling station for some gas. As he was having his tires checked he saw Charles coming down the street at a stepped-up pace.

"What's your hurry?" inquired Arland, "aren't you going to church with us?"

"I'm on an urgent errand," he replied slowing up but not stopping, "and may be a little late, but Lenora will be waiting for you. Maybe I'll see you after services."

Arland was a little disappointed at this. When he stopped for Lenora she was ready and waiting for him, and was coming down the walk before he had more than gotten out of his car. As they drove off together Arland dropped into a short silence and caught himself admiring her with more than the attitude of just a friend. Hold on, he told himself, I can't let my heart begin any dictation to my better judgment. I must put God first in all things. No, no one should compromise with a doctrine not all founded on the Bible. I've got to let her know where I stand so she'll not get any advanced thoughts in her mind, or am I jumping at conclusions? I know what I'll do. Somehow I'll bring about the discussion of some Bible subject. Maybe the sermon this evening will make an opening. I wonder how mother will take what I told Leland. Surely he will tell her soon after I left.

All this had run through his mind in a hurry, but nevertheless the silence had been noticed.

"Maybe silence is golden, but a penny for your thoughts just the same," aroused Lenora, half puzzled.

—Written for the Y. P. F.

(To be continued)

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QUESTION DEPARTMENT

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ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY SENT IN

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ANSWERS to questions in this department are supposed to be brief, but this may be an article before I finish as this subject is one of my hobbies.

Our prayers are our convictions to God. Christ did not leave us in darkness concerning prayer, but gave us timely and helpful suggestions and instructions. Matt. 6 contains an idea of the form of prayer, the things we may pray for, etc. But there are many other things to pray for. Some believe that if we pray this model prayer, and it only, that all our other needs will be taken care of.

However, Jesus says (John 14:13), "Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son." John 15:16, "Ye have not chosen me but I have chosen you and ordained you—whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, He may give it you." If we take these Scriptures to

the exclusion of all others we could assume that the only necessary thing is to ask and we receive without lifting a finger. But let us build slowly and surely. Take from these verses the fact that (1st) it is necessary to ask in Christ's Name.

Now go on to 1 John 5:14, "And this is the confidence that we have in Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He heareth us."

John 3:22, "And whatsoever we ask we receive of him, because we keep his commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.

Now add these obvious facts to fact No. 1. Fact No. 2. We must have confidence or faith. No. 3. Ask according to His will. No. 4. We receive because we keep His commandments and do things pleasing in His sight..

Now let us examine the parable of the good Samaritan. He found the half dead man and saw his need. He could have prayed, "Lord, help this poor man" and gone on with his journey, but did he? No, he went to him, bound up his wounds, pouring on oil to soothe them and carried him on his beast to the inn, and paid for his keep until he was able to be up. Perhaps you have never applied this parable to the question, but think a moment. If asking, merely asking, in the name of Jesus were sufficient to gain all things, it would have saved much trouble, inconvenience and expense to the Samaritan to have left this man in the hands of the Lord and gone on. Then why not apply this to our everyday life. If we are ill or in trouble, and need the Lord to deliver us, we must pray. But won't the "Samaritan's oil" be just as helpful for our wounds as it was for the half dead man?

Suppose if I cut my finger, I wash it clean, apply an antiseptic and bandage it to keep out the dirt. Is it presumptuous then to suppose God will have an interest in keeping infection or blood poison from setting in because I have used my own common sense? Now let's be a little bit ridiculous and list a few things that we might ask God to do instead of doing for ourselves.

Don't have a broken leg set. Just walk on it and pray it will be all right.

Instead of working for wages to feed the family, just ask God for food.

If you want to go 50 miles to Sabbath meeting, just pray, don't drive your car. If you want your brother converted, don't tell him the gospel, just pray. Don't make any preparations to go to C. M. next fall, just pray!

No friends, that kind of prayer won't work. Perhaps you say that's not what I mean. But prayer is prayer, and if it is all right to help our prayers by doing for ourselves

in these cases, why isn't it all right to look for the solution God has for all things we pray about.

I do not think we should habitually take medicine, but I do believe it is all right to use the knowledge God gives our doctors and surgeons to help fight disease and sickness. Maybe the doctor isn't a Christian, but that is not proof that God did not give him the knowledge and ability he has. Many examples are given in the Scriptures where God used non-Christians for a good work. Most all doctors will give God (some of them say Nature, but Nature is of God) the credit for their success in helping people get well. They do not claim to heal by themselves.

Now all these and many others are things we pray about—and rightly so, but we can help ourselves—and others in complete harmony with God's way of doing things. I know people who will rub medicine on their bodies, but not take it internally. We might just as well swallow it as to breathe it into our bodies.

So we must pray in faith, believing and we must show our faith by our works. James 2:17-18.

Now let us draw a definite conclusion:

1. Ask in Christ's name.
2. Have confidence or faith.
3. Ask according to His will.
4. Keep His Commandments and do things pleasing in His sight
5. Show our faith by our works.
6. Help others. We may be instrumental in the answer to their prayers. Matt. 25:40.

—Opal Williams.

* * *

ANSWER to question, Are monuments and statues considered idols?

I do not believe that a monument or statue is an idol unless it is used as an object of worship. Webster's Dictionary defines an idol as "an image made or used as an object of worship." Hasting's Dictionary of the Bible speaks of idolatry as the worshiping of images or false beings. The Encyclopedia Americana states that the word can be "applied to anything which is an object of adoration or of supreme affection or regard." Using such a definition a monument or statue could be considered an idol even if it was not worshiped but was held as something extremely close or dear to one. In speaking of idols in the Bible the word is used in connection with the worshiping of false gods or images.

In Lev. 19:4 we are instructed to turn not to idols. In Deut. 29:17 idols of wood, stone, silver, and gold are spoken of. In Ps. 96:5 the gods of the nations are called idols. I believe these and other Bible verses concerning idols are in connection with worshiping them. Therefore I believe that if a statue or monument is held in extremely high esteem or

adoration, or as a god, or as an object of worship it should be termed an idol, but such an image can be admired for its beauty or artistic perfection without being classed as such.

* * *

QUESTION: When we pray, do we know why we close by saying, "These favors we ask in Jesus' name" and "Amen"?

ANSWER: The answer to the first part of this question is found in St. John 15:16 where it says, "Whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you." In Matt. 1:25 it speaks of where His name was called Jesus. Some people claim that the word "Jesus" is only the translation of His original Jewish name and therefore may not be authentic. However it is in the Bible and we accept it, hence the phrase, "we ask it in Jesus' name."

"Amen" is used as a conclusion or expression of faith which may mean "so I believe" (Rev. 1:7). It may also be used as a word binding one to an oath or statement. (See Num. 5:22; Deut. 27:15-26).

—By Kenneth Pedersen

* * *

QUESTION: What is the difference in judging after the flesh, and as God judges?

ANSWER: Man judges according to appearance and after the flesh, therefore is often mistaken. God sees and understands the hearts and motives of man.

A verse to answer this question is found in 1 Sam. 16:7. "But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance or the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."

John 7:24, "Judge not according to appearance, but judge righteous judgment."

* * *

QUESTION: When thinking of those who will be saved, is it wrong to consider ourselves among them?

ANSWER: No, I think not, as our eternal hope is the Kingdom of God. "Hope is an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil." Heb. 6:19 If we do not believe that we will be there, what is our Christian life worth? Hoping that we will be there is the goal we as Christians are striving for. Without that hope "we are of all men most miserable." 1st Cor. 15:19.

* * *

ANSWER to question about praying Jesus' name, and using Amen.

Jesus says, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name he will give it you."

Amen means, so be it, or be it so.

In other words, we desire that He will grant our petition as we have asked it. When Christ told the disciples how to pray (Matt. 6) He closed the prayer by saying Amen.

—By Genevieve Moore.

* * *

QUESTION: Explain Mark 9:1.

ANSWER: We can get a fair idea of the meaning of this verse by reading the next 9 verses of the chapter. Also read Matt. 17:1-9 & Luke 9:28-36. Jesus appeared before Peter, James and John in a vision (Matt. 17:9) in His glory as He will appear in the Kingdom.

We might also consider the vision of John in Revelation as seeing the Kingdom of God before John died.

Christ did not misrepresent, neither was the Kingdom that we are looking for literally set up during that time.

—By Opal W.

—:—

From Iowa

Dear friends in Christ:

I was reading the S. S. Missionary & Y. P. Friend and decided to write a few words. I enjoy the little paper very much. It brings back such nice memories, memories of old friends and new friends of Campmeeting. I was glad to see it come again to our place. It was quite a little spell that we did not receive it, but now we are receiving it again and everybody is happy. I am also glad it comes every week instead of twice a month.

It seems good to read letters from people we have met. I was glad to read Evelyn McCance's letter in the paper for Dec. 30, 1940. I enjoy reading the stories and questions and other things in the little paper.

We have not had very good weather here in Algona. Last week the sun was shining and everything was nice, the snow was melting and things were drying. Then this week turned foggy and it rained and now it is quite cold. Today we came close to having a blizzard.

Your Bro. in Christ,
Richard Pedersen

—:—

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SUNBEAMS

FROM WASHINGTON

Dear Missionary Readers:

This is the first time I have written to the little Missionary. I am seven years old and in the second grade. For pets we have two dogs and two cats and a little calf. I have two brothers and one sister. My brothers' names are Blaine and Kenneth. My sister's name is Sherry Lee.

A little Missionary friend,
Forest Whitehall

(We were glad to receive your first letter. You have some nice pets. Write again Forest.—Editor).

Dear Missionary Readers:

This is the third time I have written to the little Missionary. I am nine years old and in the fourth grade. I like the Editorial story very much.

We have a little red calf. He was born the 13th of December. We haven't had much snow but we have had lots of rain. It is snowing to-night. I wish Mrs. Roy Davison would write to the Missionary.

A friend in Christ,
Sherry Whitehall

(Yes, you are good to write to the little paper, Sherry. Maybe Sr. Davison will soon write.—Editor).

FROM ARKANSAS

Dear Missionary Readers:

I am a little boy six years old. I just started to school this fall and like to go very well.

I go to Sabbath school nearly every Sabbath. My S. S. teacher's name is Mrs. Vera Lee Rodgers and I like her fine.

We are having some bad weather now.
Your little friend,
Ray Summerhill

(I wish I could visit your S. S. Ray. Write again.—Editor).

DAVID AND GOLIATH

The Philistines in hordes on the mountain stood
Defying the people of God.
They said, "We've a champion greater by far
Than any this earth had trod."

"Send us a man from among your men
To fight our champion bold."
But Israel shrank at the sight of him.
And the blood in their veins ran cold.

Young David, Jesse's youngest son
Had killed both a lion and bear
With his sling and a stone which he hurled
so straight—
He had trained with utmost care.

To his brethren, one morning, was David sent,
To the camp of the Israelite,
With corn, and cheeses, and loaves of bread
To strengthen them for the fight.

Then out from among the Philistines stepped
The mighty Goliath of Gath.
A helmet of brass was upon his head;
To the Israelites spake he in wrath.

The Israelites trembled and fled in fear,
But young David was brought before Saul:
"The Almighty God can deliver us,
And cause their Philistine to fall."

The Philistine was armed from his head to his
foot,
But young David had not a fear.
He offered to fight 'gainst Goliath of Gath,
And the time for the conflict drew near.

With his armour so heavy the king clad the
youth,
But off it all came very soon.
All this was not needed the vict'ry to win,
So on the hard ground it was thrown.

With a sling in his hand and a stone from his
bag,
The brave shepherd took deadly aim,
And the proud giant fell on his face to the
earth,—
The Philistines fled swiftly in shame.

Thus a stone, and a sling, and a shepherd lad
In the hand of God's infinite power
Brought Goliath to naught, spite his greatness
and strength,
And brought vict'ry in Israel's dark hour.
—Sel.

HOW TOM AND FRANK WERE TRIED IN COURT

"Shall I tell you how a judge held court and tried two criminals right in this house?" asked Grandma Brown when Dorothy and Mabel reminded her that it was time for their evening story.

"Oh, do, please," they begged, for they never tired of hearing about the early days in the queer little old town where their grandmother lived.

"Well, Judge Martin and his family had come to spend Sunday at our place," she began. It was a cold wintry day, and occasionally flurries of snow filled the air. So Tom and Frank, the judge's boys, took the horses with their tinkling sleigh bells to the barn to blanket them.

"Hurry back," called the judge after them, for well he knew that, like many other boys, these two could think of very mischievous pranks when they got together.

But we forgot all about the boys when the judge began to tell stories of the Indians and the early days at Sutter's Fort. Some time had

passed when we heard a terrible noise from the kitchen where the children were playing. We jumped to our feet and rushed to the kitchen, not knowing what to expect, because the noise sounded like mingled crying and laughing and the barking of the dog.

When we pushed open the door, what a sight met our eyes! There in the center of the room was Pal, our big collie, and Oscar was down on his knees with his arms around the dog's neck crying and sobbing, "Poor Pal! Poor Pal!" Susan and Jan were crying too; but Tom and Frank were enjoying the scene immensely, and rocking back and forth in fits of laughter.

Poor Pal! He looked just like a great big lion as he stood there switching his tail back and forth and barking at the noise. He had no fur left on him at all except on his head and a little near the end of the tail. Frank and Tom had sheared sheep during the summer, and they knew only too well how to use the sheep shears.

The judge and grandfather ordered the boys to sit on stools on opposite sides of the living room until after dinner, when they would be given a hearing.

After dinner the two men talked quietly for a while in the kitchen.

"We shall hold court, and try the boys for being cruel to an animal," announced the judge as he and father walked slowly into the room where the boys sat.

The judge told the other children they could be the jury, and explained to them that a jury was a group of people who were chosen to listen to the whole story and decide whether or not the prisoners were guilty. Mrs. Martin sat by Frank, and I by Tom, as the judges said we could act as lawyers for the boys. Then the boys were given a chance to tell the judge their story. They said they would make the dog a coat so he would not suffer from the cold.

But the jury went to the kitchen, and all voted that Tom and Frank had been cruel to Pal, and should be punished.

"Frank," said Judge Martin, "you have been punished several times before for being unkind to animals, have you not?"

Frank slowly nodded his head.

"And, Tom, your father says you too have been punished for this same offense of being unkind to your pets. Now, this is going to be a very hard punishment, and we dislike to do it, but you will have to learn to be thoughtful of dumb animals."

Tom and Frank looked wonderingly at each other. No sign of laughter was on their faces now. There was not a sound in the room as grandfather walked slowly over and stood back of Tom and Judge Martin stood back of Frank.

"Now we want you boys to realize," said the judge, "that fur was given to dogs to keep them warm in winter just as hair was given to people to keep their heads warm."

"Bring the scissors, mother," ordered grandfather.

"Oh, don't, please; don't!" pleaded the boys, bursting into tears. "Please don't cut off our hair. The boys and girls at school will laugh at us."

But all their pleading was in vain, and soon

all that was left on their heads was a little fringe across the back of their necks. This was to remind them of the lion tail they had left on old Pal.

And every child in the little schoolroom on Monday morning howled with laughter as Judge Martin and grandfather led in two shamefaced boys with shaved heads, followed by a dog wearing a coat and wagging his lionlike tail.

—By Mildred Lewis (Sel.).

—:—

PRIMARY LESSON No. 4, Jan. 25, 1941

FINDING THE LOST SHEEP. Luke 15:1-7

Memory Verse: Luke 15:6b.

Read the story on the card. Read it again. Now complete the story here:

One day said, "I am the" Jesus did not mean He really went out into the and for He meant that cared for as as a cares for his

A shepherd, Jesus said, is willing even to for his If he has one, and gets he will until he it.

The sheep may have away and dawn a steep, rocky The will down it, even tho he may get himself.

Perhaps the little or sheep is The picks it up and it in his

When he gets he calls in his He says to them, "..... with me, for I have my which was"

—:—

INTERMEDIATE LESSON No. 30, Jan. 25.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS. Luke 2:2-20.

Memory Verse: Luke 2:11.

After reading the lesson fill in the blanks to complete the story below.

Caesar Augustus decreed that all the should be And all the people went to pay their taxes—each to his own city. Joseph lived in in the city of He and his wife went to There was not room for them in the, so they spent the night in a stable and Jesus was born there and laid in a He was wrapped in

In the same country there were keeping over their The of the appeared to them and the of the Lord shone about them and the angel said, (Give all the angel said). And this shall be a sign unto you. Ye shall find the (9 words). And then there appeared with the angel a of the, praising God and saying, "....."

The shepherds decided to go to, and see this thing the had made known to them. And when they came they found and sesh and the lying in a

Then they made known the sayings concerning The people all wondered at these sayings but Mary (10 words). The shepherds returned and God for having witnessed these things.