

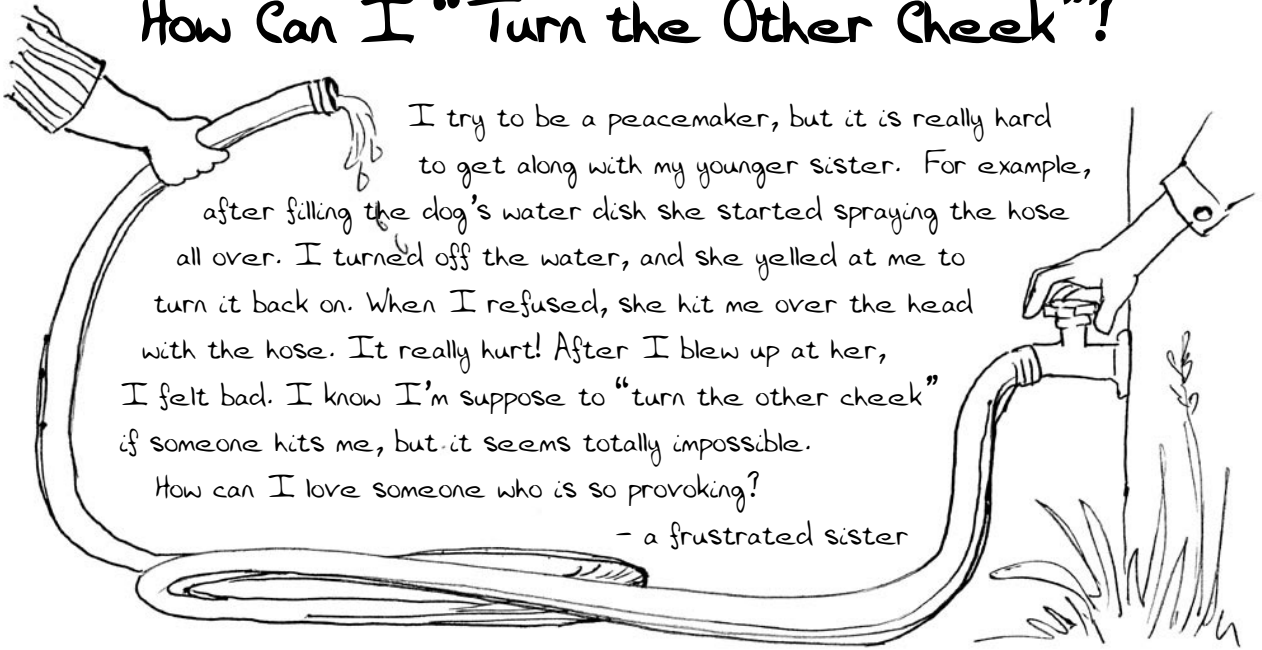
Treasures of the Kingdom

Casting Up a Highway for the Children of This Generation

MY SHEPHERD



How Can I “Turn the Other Cheek”?



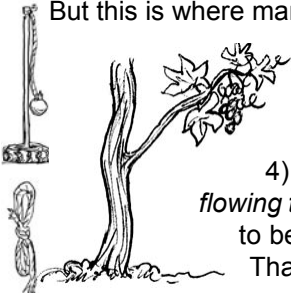
I try to be a peacemaker, but it is really hard to get along with my younger sister. For example, after filling the dog's water dish she started spraying the hose all over. I turned off the water, and she yelled at me to turn it back on. When I refused, she hit me over the head with the hose. It really hurt! After I blew up at her, I felt bad. I know I'm suppose to “turn the other cheek” if someone hits me, but it seems totally impossible. How can I love someone who is so provoking?

- a frustrated sister

Being hit over the head is not fun. It isn't easy to “resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also” (Matthew 5:39) like Jesus taught. We naturally want to defend ourselves and hit back. But the Bible tells us that we must not live by our natural feelings or “carnal mind.” Romans 8:6 says, “to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.” That makes sense. When you are reacting to your sister, all your peace and joy dies. Both of you are miserable. So how can you be “spiritually minded”? You know that “the fruit (evidence) of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering...” and it sounds good. But is it possible to live that way when someone is really annoying?

Yes! There are two “keys to success” that I would like to share with you.

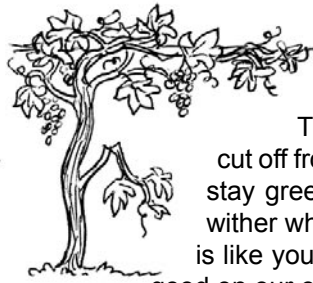
First, let's think about where spiritual life comes from. You see, most people are spiritually dead. Even when they try hard, they end up doing things they are ashamed of. The Bible describes it as “being dead in trespasses and sins” (Ephesians 2:1) and we all know what that is like. The only way to be made spiritually alive is through Jesus. It is called becoming “children of God” (John 1) and being “born again” (John 3). Instead of just doing as we feel like, we receive a new life of love and obedience to God. The Bible says we receive power to overcome sin and to bear good fruit. But this is where many people get confused.



Maybe you are trying to live right and “be a good Christian.” Jesus warned us about that. He said, “as the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in Me.” (John 15:

4) So our first key is “**the rule of life**”—*we can only have spiritual life if Jesus is flowing through us.* You see, being a Christian is not following a bunch of rules or trying to be good all the time. We are just branches. We must stay connected to Jesus. That's what “abide” means.

TIP: “Abiding” in Jesus means keeping filled up with His goodness. Start your day by reading a scripture or singing a praise song. Think about what God is like and what His promises are. Do you want them to be true in your life? Earnestly pray and tell Him about your problems and needs. If you realize that you can’t be a good sister without Jesus, ask Him to teach you and guide you. Choose to obey and listen as His Spirit speaks to your heart. Keep filling up with what Jesus has, and you will have good spiritual fruit to give to those around you!



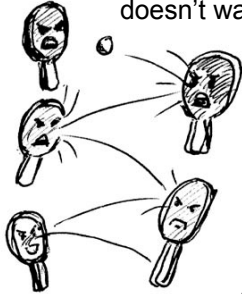
Jesus says, “without Me you can do nothing.”

Do you believe that?

Think about a branch that is cut off from a tree. It’s leaves might stay green for awhile, but they will wither when a dry wind blows. That is like you or me, when we try to do good on our own. At first it may seem to work, but as soon as a big trial comes all our good resolutions wither right up. We end up without love, joy, peace, or longsuffering showing in our lives. When we aren’t filled up with Jesus, we easily get frustrated and angry.



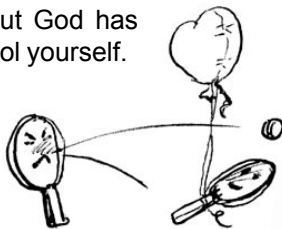
That brings up the second key: “**love does not react.**” You may think you can’t help feeling angry or frustrated with your sister, but you can. But it starts way back with your inner thoughts and attitude. You felt frustrated with your sister wasting water because you thought she wasn’t being responsible. Because of past behavior, you probably have quite a few things that “set you off” about her. So when she does one of them, you are sure to react and try to take control of the situation. Except, that makes her react with worse behavior, because she doesn’t want to be controlled by you.



So how can you respond to your sister in the right way? By not “hitting the ball.” Just like in a game of ping-pong, each person has to hit the ball back to continue the game. Except, in a game of reacting, it only gets worse as you go. Instead of trying to be the winner (with the worst headache), humble yourself and ask God to fill your mind with His spirit of love. That’s what “turning the other cheek” really means.

Love never hits back—it just rises above. You see, you will never be able to

control your sister. But God has given you power to control yourself. Through Jesus, you can have a “spiritual mind” and live in peace with others.



Note: So what other heart-felt questions do you have? We would be happy to include this section regularly if it would be a blessing to our readers. If you write, you will get to approve the discussion before it is printed.

TIP: To have a “spiritual mind,” like Jesus had, you must really trust God. Do you believe that He cares for you? Are you willing to adjust to what He says is important? When your next conflict comes up, ask God to show you how you can change. Imagine being in the other position—how would you want to be treated? Ask God to show you ways to encourage your sister, and trust Him that He is in control. He will show you the right way to be responsible, as you humble yourself to love her and not react.



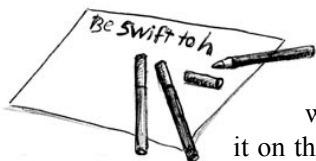
Do you sometimes wonder if what the Bible teaches is true? Every day we are making choices, and each choice proves something. What will your choices prove?

YOUR CHOICE

PROVING THE BIBLE IS TRUE

You are starting your day, and you read James 1:19-20, "...be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: for the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God." *That's good to remember*; you think. If you are -

- A. a person who likes to take action, go to #1.
- B. a person who likes to talk, go to #9.



1. You decide to write the verse and put it on the wall. "Swift to hear" is the most important part, so you start coloring it red. Then you hear your Mom calling.

- A. You call "yes?" and keep coloring. (#10)
- B. You leave your coloring and go see what she wants. (#2)

2. Mom reminds you about your chores. "When you are done, it will be time to eat," she tells you. "Okay," you say

- A. and start working on them. (#3)
- B. and hurry back to finish your coloring. (#7)

3. As you are carrying a load of laundry, you bump into little brother. He starts crying, so you stop to comfort him.

A. You go find a toy for him to play with. (#8)

B. "You can help be my big helper," you say. (#4)



4. Little brother makes things go slower, but he likes to be included. When he starts to fool around with your sister, you

- A. bear up with them. (#14)
- B. tell them, "Be good or you'll get in trouble!" (#18)

5. Mom tells you to change your attitude or sit on the bed.

- A. You mutter, "I'm sorry" and go outside. (#6)
- B. You humble yourself and go to pray. (#26)

6. "I don't want to listen and no one can make me," you mutter to yourself, as you sit down to pet the cat. In a few minutes your sister finds you and says that you have to come inside.

- A. You throw a rock at her. (#31)
- B. You ignore her. (#16)

7. Soon your sister complains because she can't find her shoes. You feel frustrated, because she never puts things away. But



you remember to keep quiet. When you take out the trash a few minutes later, you see her shoes in the grass. "Here they are!" you say, tossing them inside.

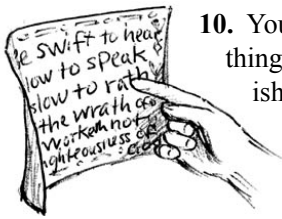
- A. You hurry to finish your chores. (#26)
- B. You remind her to put them away next time. (#20)

8. Now he is happy and you stop to play, forgetting about your chores. When your sister asks if you are supposed to be playing, you

- A. glare at her because she is being bossy (#6)
- B. hop up and get working (#26)

9. "Slow to speak is going to be hard for me," you realize.

- A. You ask God for help, then start humming a song while you do your chores. (#14)
- B. You decide to try really hard to be quiet. (#17)



10. You hear Mom say something about chores, so you finish coloring really fast.

- A. Then you hurry to do your work. (#7)
- B. Then you show Mom what you did. (#11)

11. “That’s nice, but you are suppose to be working,” Mom says. Just then big brother makes a comment about a word you misspelled. You feel frustrated and

- A. Give him a shove as you go by. (#12)
- B. Crumple up your paper. (#19)

12. “Are you being quick or slow to anger?” Mom asks.

- A. You feel ashamed and say you are sorry. (#13)
- B. You make an excuse - “but he was being mean!” (#5)

13. Your brother says, “I’m sorry I said that. I like your paper.” You both smile. Just then you see the baby with one of your breakable toys.

- A. You snatch it away and say “No, no!” (#18)
- B. You find another toy to trade. (#8)

14. You are almost finished cleaning up when little brother tips out a whole Lego



bin. You feel like yelling at him, but

God helps you to speak gently instead. As you start picking them up, you notice that someone else is not doing their chores.

- A. “You’d better get your work done,” you say. (#18)
- B. You realize that you’d better not say anything. (#7)

15. You are a team with your brother, but he starts to fool around. Mom says that the

sprinkler will have to be turned off now. You say -

- A. “Let’s see if we can finish quickly, then maybe we can go to the creek!” (#33)
- B. “No fair! He ruins everything.” (#22)

16. Mom comes to get you and gives you a choice -

- A. Go weed in the garden with everyone else (#22)
- B. Sit in your room by yourself (#32)



17. While you are cleaning up your room, you sing a song about being slow to speak. Then you find a picture you painted under the bed. “I’m giving this to Grandma!” you say. “But it doesn’t look very good,” your big brother says.

- A. “You’re mean!” you burst out angrily. (#12)
- B. You glare at him, then remember the verse - “slow to wrath.” (#19)

18. Of course, they get upset and Mom says not to be so controlling.

- A. You feel frustrated because everyone blames you. (#19)
- B. You realize she is right and ask God to help you. (#26)

19. “I can’t do anything right!” you say. Mom encourages you to ask God for help.

- A. You think it is no use, and go off in a bad mood. (#5)
- B. You go to your room to pray. (#7)

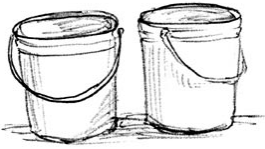
20. “Well, you leave your stuff out, too!” she says.

- A. You realize you’d better be quiet, and go back to your work. (#26)
- B. “At least I can find it!” you say back. (#18)

21. Mom ignores your suggestion, and soon you have two buckets to fill with weeds.



A. You humbly say, "Yes Mom," and go look for some tools. (#23)



B. You find an easy spot and sit down. (#22)

22. You feel hot and grouchy, and complain about all the hard work. Since you don't fill up your weed buckets very fast, you are left to finish weeding alone. THE END



23. Your brother beats you to the tool shed and already has the best weeding trowel.

A. You ask if you can take turns. (#25)

B. You try to grab it from him. (#32)

24. Mom asks why your sister is crying, and you

A. shrug and walk off with your popsicle. (#31)

B. admit that you hadn't been very kind, and go back to help her. (#33)

25. He agrees, and Mom says you can put the sprinkler on while you work.

A. You choose to have a good attitude and work quickly. (#15)

B. You try to get out of work and goof off. (#32)

26. After you have finished your chores, Mom tells everyone the plans for the day. "This afternoon we are going to work in the garden." Someone starts complaining because it is hot outside.

A. You keep quiet and listen to the part Mom wants you to do. (#27)

B. You add to the complaints. (#30)

27. When she gives you a choice between weeding with the sprinkler on or hauling compost mulch in the new dump cart, you choose

A. weeding (#15)

B. hauling compost (#28)

28. You work hard and get really hot. As you are hauling the last load, your little sister calls, "Wait for me!" Just then you

hear Mom saying,

"Who wants a popsicle?"

A. You hurry off without her. (#24)

B. You help her into the cart and give her a ride. (#33)



29. You make a card for your sister with the verse in it. "I'm sorry I didn't listen to you," you say. She forgives you and you know you've done the right thing. THE END

30. "Everyone who is complaining gets to do extra work," Mom says with a smile.

A. You shut your mouth and listen. (#27)

B. "Why can't we do it another day?" you grumble. (#21)

31. You want to go cool off in the sprinkler, but Mom has found out what you did. "I think

you need to do something nice for your sister first."

A. "That's not fair!" you say, and stomp off. (#32)

B. You remember your verse and feel sorry. (#29)

32. You end up sitting in your room, blaming others for your bad day. THE END



33. Mom's popsicle treat is a perfect ending to the work party. To top it off, you all get to cool off in the nearby creek. You are glad you made the choices to listen and be kind to others today. THE END



Love
Courage
Gentleness
Trust
Kindness
Faith



Don't *Stress Out* When You're Late

We usually go to Bible study on Friday. So us girls were getting ready to leave, had dinner on the table on time and everything ready.

But then someone came over and was in a deep conversation with Momma. We got everyone dressed, fed and ready to go. I was hinting to Momma that we were all ready to go, but they kept on talking. Finally around 6:15 (Bible study starts at 6:30 and we still had a half an hour drive), I was starting to get stressed out and was trying to get the little ones in the car. Once I got a few in then another one would have to go do "something." Finally we were ready to go and it was around 6:40 we left but then Poppa said that we had to go and return some things at a store before we went to Bible study. Finally I burst into tears. Momma asked me why and I told her that I didn't like being late. She gave me some advice. By the time we got to Bible study we were late! I then asked God to change me around, so that when we are late or running behind I would be peaceful and stay calm. So awhile later something happened and we were going to be late but I had a peace about me that I didn't have before. Now I'm free of having to rush out of the house and get "there" on time. Now that doesn't mean that I have to take my time and not be considerate of others, it just means not to rule your life according to the clock. So don't stress out, and trust Jesus with your time.

Read about how other children have learned to trust God and receive His help in their problems! . know He is ready to help you—just ask and see what the Lord will do for you!

Buried Treasures

I HOPE WE CAN PRINT YOUR STORY NEXT!

—Isabella, age 13



Do you have an experience to tell? I will send an email notice* before the next issue. I hope to hear from you!

*email us if you aren't included



Patience
Meekness
Truth
Goodness
Peace
Joy



THE DAY I FELL OUT OF THE TREE

One afternoon, around 4:30, I was playing with Paulina and Elijah in a tree, and we were being howler monkeys. We were swinging out on different branches and I swung out on a branch and it cracked! My hands were nine feet up when I fell, and my feet were four-and-a-half feet off the ground. When I landed, my head was nineteen inches away from a brick retaining wall. I landed on my right side, on a root. Elijah's dad came and helped me and everyone was glad that I was alright. I couldn't walk very easily for the rest of the day, so my mom had to help me walk around. I didn't have any broken bones and I was glad I was okay. Three days later I still had pain in my right leg, but I could walk with no one helping me and I was feeling better. God helped my head not to hit the brick retaining wall.

-Judah, age 7 1/2



Good Purposes in Poison Oak

One Wednesday in May, we had our friends, the Rudolphs, over. All the older children took a hike in the woods. When we came back the little ones wanted to go, but we weren't feeling up to it. Momma told us to take the two boys and so off we went. During our hike we had a lot of fun, and pretended that we were on a "lion hunt."

On Friday we were at our uncle's house, helping at his garage sale all day. During the day I started getting itchy. I wasn't really paying attention, and kept on itching. Soon I noticed the red spots and an ugly rash was appearing. Soon I realized I was having an allergic reaction to poison oak. My face was swollen and I had rash all over.

My sister asked me, "If you had a choice to go on that hike or not, now would you have gone?" I said, "No!" Later on I talked to Momma about this, and she said, "God has some reasons for you to get poison oak. Remember how God blessed you in taking the little ones on the hike?"

For several nights I hardly slept. The first night, after everyone was sleeping, I started feeling sad because I wasn't asleep. I cried out to God and read the Bible. And after that I was peaceful. The next night God gave me peace, and as I laid there and heard the time tick by, it didn't affect me. The following night I had some cold rags to cool off my face, because it was hot. After doing this for awhile, I suddenly got this impression that I should take off the rags and give my pain to God. My face wasn't hot anymore! The next couple days my body was really improving, and by the next week the poison oak was healing and I wasn't itching anymore.

God used this testimony to talk to me in a special way. Our family had been listening to a lot of news around the world, and a lot of it was about Muslims. The devil was starting to tempt me that God wasn't real, and maybe Allah was the true God. Well, when I got this rash I knew that God was real and I was ready to leave this world.

- Isabella, age 13



Love
Courage
Gentleness
Trust
Kindness
Faith

Patience
Meekness
Truth
Goodness
Peace
Joy

Do you know that God cares?

Whether our needs are big or small, God wants us to talk to Him and ask for His help. When good things happen, it pleases God that we are thankful. Let's remember to pray for each other!

A Place for Prayer

REQUESTS AND THANKSGIVING



I am thankful for...kind parents, lots of brothers and sisters, a horse, and lots of fellowship. I would like prayer that I would be more sober-minded. - Niklanna, age 15

I am very thankful for fellowship. - Paulina, age 11

I am thankful for the rain and cooler weather. Pray that I will be more patient and loving. - AutumnGrace, almost 13



I am thankful for our new baby kittens! Please pray for our friends that just moved to Papua New Guinea. - Ellianna, age 7

I've been wanting a kitten, and I'm excited that I can pick out a baby kitten that my cousins have, when they are old enough. - Judith, age 4



God helped my family one night to have supper early, even when we made pie and pie crusts! Pray that my family will get on time for supper so we can have more storytime, and time to pick blackberries - Lillian, age 6

In August, Judah's family moved to Papua New Guinea as missionaries. Here is a praise and prayer update from them:



A few weeks ago, baby Keen was sick for nine days with a fever and heat rash, but God answered prayer, and now he is doing much better.

Then Judah (7 1/2) and Josiah (5) begin to get fevers, too. When Josiah was very sick, his daddy called the pastor of the village to come and pray for him. After they prayed, they knew God was going to help them. And He did! Immediately after praying, Josiah started to get better.

The Schones family says: "We are still battling sickness in the village. We hope to make a trip to the Bulus soon (the tribe that God has called us to minister to). We need strength physically and spiritually as we move forward in this ministry."

To keep updated about the Schones' prayer needs, visit: <http://outofeverytribe.org>

Rescued from the River

It was an intensely hot summer day in early July when our family decided to go for a swim in the nearby Illinois River. We had been camping there on its shore for a day and were all anxious to get in and get cooled off.

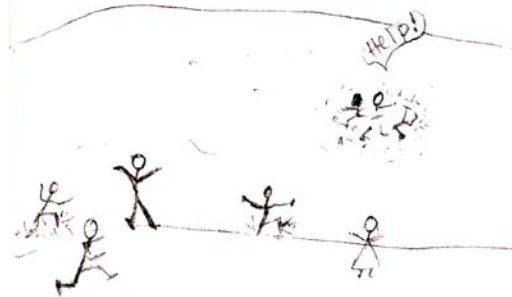
After a while of swimming and playing in the water, three of my brothers—Joel, Nathanael, and Timothy (age 12)—along with Joel's wife, Kayla, decided to try to cross the river. They found a spot down the river where it was shallow, but as they were making their way across they began to drift downstream a ways (except Nathanael, who by this time had already swum to the opposite shore). Suddenly they were in very deep water where not even Joel (the tallest of the three) could touch the bottom! Panic-stricken, Kayla and Timothy began to thrash around in the water, struggling to keep their heads above the surface. Joel had to think fast... what should he do?!

The rest of us were sitting on the river's bank drying off when my sister-in-law, Martha, looked downstream and saw a lot of splashing. "I hope they're okay down there, I don't know if they're just having some pretty serious fun or what," she commented with concern. As we sat watching them, a nervous feeling began to creep over us... was something wrong?

"I would think we'd hear a cry for help if they're really in trouble," I said, trying to comfort myself and those around me. But soon the nervous feeling grew so intense that I had to go see! My brother, Josiah, and I simultaneously jumped up and began running downstream. They were quite a long ways down the river from us and the water dragged at

our feet. "Were they alright? Why weren't they crying for help? Where's Timothy? Were they really drowning?" These and many other questions wildly spun around in my mind as we crashed, stumbled, and splashed down the river, praying as we went.

Then it came... amongst Kayla's screams I recognized a faint cry of distress from Timothy, followed by a "Heeelp!" from Joel. The sound of their cries hit my stomach like a lead weight, my heart pounded wildly in my chest... all uncertainty fled away... they were drowning! They



needed help and none of us were good enough swimmers to save them. "Lord, save them! Have mercy!" we cried out. Moments later things got quieter, the thrashing stopped and... behold... all three heads were keeping steady above water! I could hardly believe my eyes! A miracle! "Praise the Lord!" We were all breathing sighs of relief.

"What happened?" we called out to them, "What's keeping you above the water?"

"A rock!" came their reply, "but please hurry and get us! The current is pretty strong and makes us lose our balance easily. This rock is barely big enough for us. We don't want to slip off because we might not be able to get back on."

None of us were strong enough swimmers to go out and get them, neither did we have any life jackets, ropes, or anything we could throw out to them! My oldest brother, Jamin, soon found a part of a log but we really needed some rope to



tie onto it. "Get the twine from the victory tent!" I yelled to no one in particular. When Daddy came back with the twine, we tied one end of it around the log. Thomas held the other end but it was too short to reach them, even when he stood in deep water. "Now what should we do?" we wondered.



Just then a man showed up with a rope. Just the thing we needed! Quickly he tore open the package and began unwinding the rope. Hope was beginning to rise, but I still felt a little dubious.

"Are you a good swimmer?" I asked the man.

"Yeah," he answered briefly.

"Good. Praise the Lord!" Relief swept over me.

He plunged into the water and with smooth, powerful, strokes he swam for the rescue. The rest of his family arrived a little bit later with life jackets and other floating devices.

While the rest of us watched anxiously as they were all brought back to shore...alive, we were thanking the Lord for his faithfulness to help us in every way we needed. Joel, who was still strong enough to swim on his own, swam back to shore beside his wife, as Kayla was towed carefully across the water on her back. Timothy, nearly limp and somewhat delirious, hung onto the log for his ride back to the shore. Once back on the shore we hugged them and thanked God for sparing their lives. "Ah, it feels so good to be standing on solid ground!" Joel commented.

Soon we were all telling our stories. Most of all, we were curious to know why they didn't

drown. "What happened was," Joel began, "I had to bob under water until I could touch the bottom. Then I would push Kayla and Timothy up towards the surface so they could get a breath. Once I did that I'd go up for some air and repeat the process. I probably did that three or four times but I couldn't have done that much longer—I was getting very exhausted. But then we ran into that rock on our way downstream. The Lord had that rock there just for us! And it was barely big enough for us, too!"

"And who got that family to help us?" was the next question.

"Susanna did," Mama answered for my older sister.

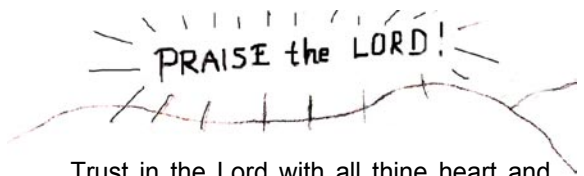
"They were the only other campers in this entire campground," Susanna put in, "and they had everything we needed: the ability to swim really well, life jackets, ropes, etc."

The Lord provided them just for us! They were there at just the right time with just the right things!

Joel added one more blessing: "I'm thankful for every inch of my height that the Lord has given me."

"Yes," we all agreed, "the Lord is so good to us, we have lots to be thankful for."

—Clarissa Scofield



Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thy own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct your paths. —Proverbs 3:5-6



Think About It: Asking for Help

Have you ever had a scary experience? Did you notice what happened when Clarissa and her family asked God to help? They weren't just "lucky" to find that rock to stand on—God did that. He answered their cry for help and saved them from drowning.

Maybe you have lost something. Or a person keeps bothering you. Or you are afraid that something bad will happen. What should you do? When we have trouble of any kind, it is time to ask for help. God says, "Call upon Me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify Me." (Psalm 50:15)

God often does good things for us without us asking, but He really wants us to ask. Do you know why? Because it helps us know that He cares for us. And it helps us to be thankful.

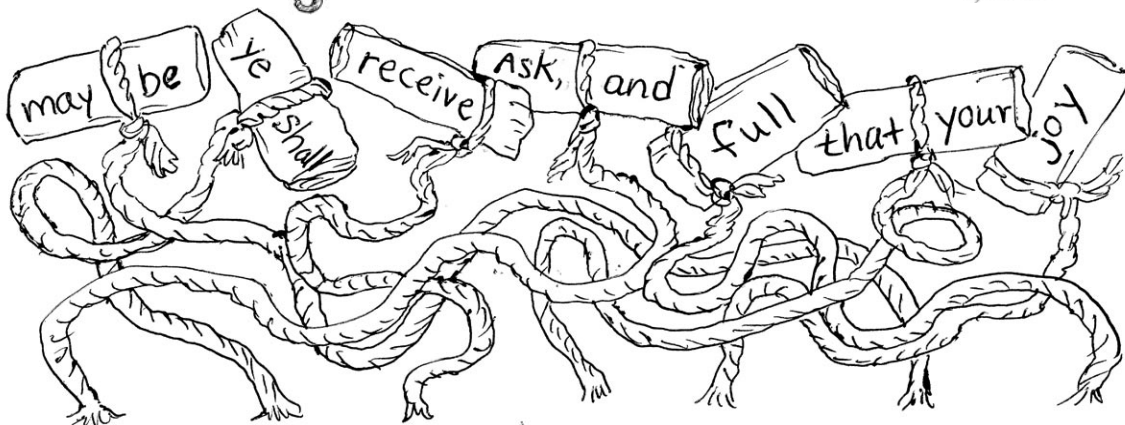
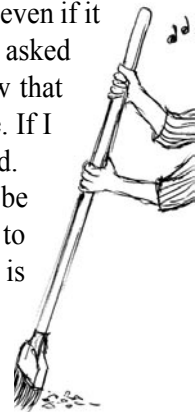
When we are worried and think that things will turn out badly, we should ask. God cares about every thing that bothers us. When we ask God for help we must choose to trust



Him. Then we know that He will take care of the problem, even if it doesn't turn out the way we were hoping. Not long ago I asked God to take care of my sick sheep. When it died, I knew that God had decided that was best. I knew He cared about me. If I

had worried about the sheep instead, then I would have felt discouraged when it died.

When we think things will turn out fine, we should still ask. God wants to be involved in all that we do. Maybe you don't think you need help to be cheerful, or to be safe, or to do your work well. Since God is the One who gives all good things, it is silly to think we can do things without Him. We need to humble ourselves to talk to God. Instead of being self-confident, thank God for the strength and safety and ability He gives you!



Starting at the first rescue rope tail on the left, follow it to find what word/words are attached to it. Now write them on the line below. Follow the next rope tail to see what words should come next, and unscramble the verse!



GOAT HERDING

“Maaa!” my goat, Malindi, cries. I have hooked a leash to her collar, but she doesn’t want to follow me out of the barn. “Maaa!” she cries again, bracing her legs.

“Where are you taking her?”

you ask, curiously.

“Up to the brush patch, so she can eat the black-berry vines,” I say. “I know she’ll love them, but

right now she is scared.” I tug on the leash again, but she doesn’t move.

“Maybe I can help,” you offer, coming up behind her. Malindi takes a few steps and I start walking up the hill. Step by step we go up the path, as Malindi looks cautiously about. Her kid follows, calm and unafraid.

“Good girl,” I say. “See? It’s not so bad.” At last we reach the brush patch next to the garden. The only problem is, I need to block off the entrance. “Can you hold her while I get some fencing?” I ask.

“Sure,” you say, and take the leash. But by the time I come back from the barn, the goat has started dragging you back down the path. “Whoa!” you say, holding on with all your might. “This goat is strong!”

Together we pull her back to the patch and set up a fence to keep her in. Malindi watches us, and then starts eating brush. But as soon as we leave she starts to cry. “Maaa! Maaa!”

“What’s the problem with her?” you ask. “She doesn’t want to be left alone,” I say, with a smile. “Even though she has her kid, she doesn’t feel safe. It will probably take her awhile to get used to this place.” “It’s okay,” you tell her. But the goat doesn’t believe us. “Maaa! Maaa!” she cries as we disappear down the trail.

“Maybe if I work in the garden she’ll calm down,” I say. “She sure is noisy!” When Malindi sees me through the fence, she stops crying. “Mmmm,” she murmurs softly, as if to say, “I’m glad you are here.” She settles down to eat again. Poor thing, she needs company. You take a turn feeding her plums through the fence. But we can’t stay nearby all day long, so soon she is crying again.

At last I have an idea. I put my coat and hat over a folding chair next to the garden. It sort of looks like someone is sitting there, but will Malindi be convinced? When she isn’t looking, I duck behind the shed. She looks around. “Maaa!” she cries, but then she sees my coat and hat. She calms down again, because she feels safe. It worked!

That goat has a lesson to teach us, don’t you think? Malindi couldn’t enjoy the brush pile, because she was so worried why she had to be in a new place. Sometimes we have problems worrying and complaining about things, too. When something is new to us, it can look difficult and scary. You might think that your parents or teachers are just trying to give you a hard time. But maybe they really have a lot of good things in mind, and you are



missing out because you are thinking about the problems. Do you believe that your parents want to make life hard for you, or that they care about you? Do you trust that God is good, and that He is always nearby (not just pretending to be)? Look at His promise in Hebrews 13:5:

“...be _____ with _____ things as ye
 _____ : for _____ hath said, I will _____
 _____ thee _____ thee.”

Find the hidden words on the right, to fill in the blanks.

So stop worrying and complaining. Enjoy the good things that are being planned for you!



SOCHANGRYIHGR
 IFAPNEVEREOBN
 ENCOMPLAINING
 ALOPWINDKEEPM
 VINEICONTENLM
 HATEFOSAKEPEN
 AHEAOFIUNDEAP
 INNORPLACEYVE
 OETBSOWETHEEP
 SVAHAVUGIAGRE
 CESEKLASTVEZY
 MOSTEWNOPETSF

Little Branches

I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me...the same bringeth forth much fruit. Jn. 15:5



1. Lit - tle branch - es of the Vine, Je - sus, we are tru - ly Thine;
 2. Lit - tle branch - es, but we cling To the Vine, our Lord and King;
 3. Lit - tle branch - es grow in strength, Bear - ing pre - cious fruit at length;



May we ev - er fruit - ful be, Giv - ing glo - ry un - to Thee.
 In His love may we a - bide, Liv - ing meek - ly at His side.
 Hap - py all the day are we, Grow - ing, Sav - ior dear, for Thee.



Refrain



Lit - tle branch - es of the Vine, Bless - ed Je - sus, we are Thine.



Words and Music: Charles H. Gabriel, 1893. Public Domain.





Dear Reader,

I am so glad for the Good Shepherd's care. Like the sheep on the front, my life isn't problem-free. But it is filled with Jesus and learning more to trust His goodness. May you put your trust in the Lord so you can experience the loving care He has for you!

Do you have something to share or questions to ask?

We are glad to receive your letters and emails. You can also call 503-769-7567 and ask to talk to "Aunt Laura."

For older ones who want to be challenged and encouraged in Christian living, *Foundation Truth* is published for youths and adults. Online issues and other literature are available at **timelesstruths.org**.

We are a God-fearing family that includes Rick and Krista Erickson, and their daughters: Laura, Kara, and Amanda. The publishing of *Treasures of the Kingdom* is mainly done by Laura and Amanda, as we look to the Lord to provide content and direction.

The paper is freely sent to those that request it. You will be kept on our mailing list unless you request otherwise. If the Lord leads you to send anything, please note that since we are not a business we cannot cash checks made out to *Treasures of the Kingdom*.

In the King's service,
The Editors

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Number 65

Summer 2014

<i>Comic</i>	1
- My Shepherd	
<i>Question</i>	2
- How Can I "Turn the Other Cheek"?	
<i>Your Choice</i>	4
- Proving the Bible is True	

Buried Treasures	- Don't Stress Out	<i>middle section</i>
	- I Fell Out of the Tree	
	- Poison Oak	
	<i>A Place for Prayer</i>	

<i>True Story</i>	7
- Rescued from the River	
<i>Think About It</i>	9
- Asking for Help	
<i>Lesson from Life</i>	10
- Goat Herding	
<i>Sing Unto the Lord</i>	11
- Little Branches	

Treasures of the Kingdom

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*How many ropes/twine can you find?
There should be 97, including this one:*



SEND TO: