

### A Drink of Cold Water

"Daniel, Mrs. Shutter has to go be with her sick mother today. I suggested that Brad and Larry could stay with us. How would you like that?" Mom asked. "They could help you with weed-ing and fixing the chicken yard fence this morning."

"I don't think they like to work," Daniel said slowly. He thought of the two redheaded neighbor boys and sighed. Larry was his age and Brad was two years younger. All they liked doing was arguing over toys or playing Nintendo.

Mom only smiled. "Most children don't like to work. If you ask Jesus to help you be cheerful and set a good example, I'm sure they will see it is not that bad."

"Besides, the more hands make the lighter work," added Irene, looking up from her desk.

That is just the sort of thing a big sister would say, Daniel thought. With Larry along I think it will be more work. He always likes to make trouble.

Daniel didn't have long to worry about extra work. Mom was still talking about the Shutters when their car pulled in the drive and the two boys got out. They didn't look too happy

when Mom opened the door to let them in.

"It is good to see you, boys," she said brightly. "Daniel will be working outside this morning and I thought you would like to help him."

Larry looked at Brad and wrinkled his nose. Daniel tried to smile. "Come on, you haven't seen our new batch of chicks," he said, leading the way out the back door.

The boys laughed at the chicks when one took off with a fat worm, but then Brad wanted to catch it.

"No, we better get the weeding done first," Daniel said. "Mom wants the weeds in the flower bed pulled out."

"Your mom makes you work? I thought it was summer vacation," Larry grumbled. He didn't move when Daniel got the garden gloves and trowel.

"These gloves are too big," said Brad. "And I can't get my clothes dirty. They're new." He walked over to the chicken yard fence and leaned on it. Daniel ignored them and began pulling weeds as quickly as he could.

### A VIEW FROM THE TOWER: Do You Believe in Jesus?

The Bible is true. You believe that, don't you? Probably you know many Bible stories and have learned some verses by heart. Maybe you have your own Bible that you read every day. The Bible is God's words to us. But if we believe the Bible we must also live how it tells us to.

In the story, Daniel was tempted to fight the boys because they were being mean. But he knew that Jesus told him not to fight. He had learned the Bible verse that says, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you...That you may be the children of your Father which is in heaven." He knew that Jesus said it. But did he believe Jesus was right?

Many times you have to make the choice of who to believe. Do you believe it is better to get out of trouble by lying? Or by telling the truth? Is it right to hide when Mom calls? Or should you obey your parents? The Bible tells the right way and Jesus can help us live it. But we have to believe Him and ask Him to help us. And that is what Daniel did.

In Daniel's heart he wanted to do right. He wanted to please Jesus and obey Him, because Jesus had changed his heart. But sometimes it seems very hard to do the right thing. That is when we need to quickly pray and ask for help. Jesus said, "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me" (John 14:1). Do you believe Jesus?

Loud chirping made him look up. Brad was holding a chick by one wing and grinning. "Hey, Larry, look at

this!" he said, and tossed the chick into the air. It flipped several times and flapped wildly before tumbling into the grass.

"Don't!" cried Daniel, jumping up. "Don't you know that you could hurt it or maybe kill it? You don't dare touch those chicks again!" He felt angry with Brad, but Larry's laughter made him madder. They looked like two mean, red foxes. *If they had tails I would tie them together and set them on fire like Samson did*, he thought. *That would teach them a lesson or two*.

Would it teach them to do right? Are you being a good example? Daniel gritted his teeth and looked at the ground. He still felt the anger rolling around inside and he knew he didn't like those boys one bit. How could he?

"Ha, Daniel, I dare to!" Larry said, climbing through the broken place in the fence. "You can't stop me. You're just a sissy!" He picked up a rock and sent it after the big rooster. Brad went after another chick and the flock scattered in panic.

Daniel's face turned red. *Why don't you give them a punch or two? They deserve it,* a little, angry thought said. It was a temptation that he never felt before and Daniel was a little bit afraid. Jesus had said that he shouldn't fight those that did wrong, but love his



enemies. Did he believe Jesus? *Oh, God, help me to do right!* Daniel prayed.

"What's wrong, Daniel?" Rosie's clear voice came from the back door. Daniel felt like yelling back, but he took a deep breath instead. Rosie ran over to stand beside him. "Can't you stop them?" she asked, nervously.

Daniel thought quickly. He knew the boys wouldn't listen to him, but he had to do something. *Jesus said to give your enemy a drink*, he remembered.

"Do we have any lemonade or juice popsicles?" he asked Rosie above the ruckus. The Shutter boys looked up.

"I think so," Rosie said.

"Maybe Mom would let us have some after we get our work done," Daniel said. Larry glared at him, but Daniel smiled. He suddenly remembered that Larry wanted to be a carpenter.

"Hey, Larry, I have a real carpenter's apron you could use, but I don't suppose you could do a fix-up job with it. It's kind of hard."

"You think I'm a sissy?" Larry said, marching up to the fence.

"No," Daniel said cheerfully. "I just thought you might not like to."

"Let me see it." Larry pushed his way back through the fence and followed Daniel to

the shop. The apron was just his size and held nails, tacks, wire, a carpenter's pencil and a claw hammer. Daniel could see that Larry was impressed, though he tried to hide it.

"I've seen better ones, but I guess it could do the job. What needs to be fixed?"

"Oh, just tacking the wire back up on the chicken yard gate," Daniel said, turning back to the flowerbed. He noticed that Rosie was holding a little chick and showing Brad how to pet it. He smiled. Maybe things would turn out all right after all.

"Have any half-inch board strips?" Larry asked from behind him. He was studying the hanging fence and seemed almost friendly.

*Probably because I am*, Daniel realized. "Yeah. On the other side of the back porch you might find some," he said, picking up the trowel.

"Hey, Brad! Carry this board for me," Larry called a moment later.

Brad was ready to complain, but Rosie said eagerly, "Can I help, too?" In a moment they were having a race to see who could work faster. Larry looked pleased to be the boss and kept the other two busy pulling staples and holding wire.

Daniel couldn't help being a little impressed. "That looks really nice," he said. "I guess no chickens will get through now!" Or red-headed boys, he thought.

"Not with all the staples we put in," Brad said, proudly.

Rosie had disappeared, but in a moment she was back with Mother and a container of popsicles. "My, what hard workers you have been this morning!" Mom said as she looked over their work.

Larry grinned

as he took a popsicle. "It wasn't that bad."

"Not if you give your enemy a drink," Daniel whispered. Rosie smiled.

# Follow the Map

Have you ever traveled anywhere? You may have ridden in the car to visit someone or go shopping. Or you might like to go on biking trips. Maybe you've even gone on a hike in the woods. I have, and once we almost got lost. It was because we forgot our map. When we found out we were going in the wrong direction, we had to turn around and get back on the right path.

Maps are important. There are lots of paths and roads around, but not all of them will take you in the right direction. If you are traveling in a new place, a map can help you. A map shows which roads go to which places. It shows you how far you will have to go and which is the shortest way. If you don't have a map you will have to guess. And that can get you into a lot of trouble.

The King's garden is full of paths, so let's take a walk. Shall we visit the fountain or go by the lake? The map shows us that we can do both if we take the main path that starts by the front gate. It is beautiful here in the rose garden, but we better not turn on the side paths. Come along, I see the big sugar maple. The path turns left into the woods and right by the lily bed. Which way should we go?



If we are wise, we will take out our map. It shows us that the wooded path goes to the fountain. Here we are! The lake is over there, across that field. Shall we take a short-cut? I don't think so—look at the map! Do you see why we must be careful to not go by what we think is best? In the same way the Bible is our map to heaven. We will only get there if we are careful to follow it.

Can you find your way on the map?

# Gems For Your Treasure Chest

a collection of projects, poems, and verses

### The Armor of Light

Did you ever want to be a soldier? Jesus wants you to be one for Him every day. The Bible tells about armor we should wear. Can you think of some? But knowing about it is not enough. Real soldiers have to fight!

Here is a little project you can do: Out of a folded card make a little soldier to look like yourself. You can add a breastplate, helmet, and shield. Make two slots in the card and slip in some paper strips. Use the soldier for a bookmark in your Bible. When you pray or have devotions, write down the verses you are learning. Then ask God to help you fight the wrong each day with the armor of light!

#### Face Life With a Smile

There's a lot of joy in living, If we face life with a smile: Take time to do some kindness. And go the second mile.

For the greatest joy is giving, And it all comes back to you When you add a little sunshine To all you say and do.

Before the day has ended Try to do some worthwhile thing. Help to ease another's burden And make a sad heart sing.

You will find each new tomorrow Will be happy from the start If you only will remember, Keep a smile within your heart!

- Poems for Memorization

### A verse to hide in your heart:

"But love ye your enemies, and do good...and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil." Luke 6:35

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II Kings 18-21

"Edward, you know you can't have a gun when you grow up!" Alice scolded. "Dad doesn't."

Edward shrugged and turned away, but Grandpa chuckled. "So Edward will just have to be like Dad?" he asked Alice. "Boys and girls don't always turn out like their parents. Let me tell you about one little boy who didn't."

### The Prince's Choice

Manasseh was a prince. He lived in Jerusalem where his father, Hezekiah, ruled as king. "The best king in Judah since King David," some said. When he was young he had cut down the idol groves and broken the idols in Judah. He told Manasseh, "There is only one living God. We will worship and obey Him, for His way is right and good."

As a little boy I am sure Manasseh would sit on his father's knee to hear about the great siege of the Assyrians. "And then when that terrible letter came, I just laid it out before the Lord," his father would say. "How mighty He was to save us!" Father told, too, how he had been healed of a terrible sickness, when the marks on the sun dial went backwards. "We trusted in the Lord, and He delivered us when we were in trouble," Father said. "And you, my dear son, must trust Him, too."

But as Manasseh grew older he had different ideas. "Trusting the Lord was all right for my father," he thought, "but I want to be a great, powerful king. I don't like to pray to some God I can't see." In his little heart Manasseh dreamed of having beautiful groves and idols like other countries had. He wanted to have magic powers, too. So he went to the house of God with his father, but he thought of how he would change everything when he was king.

Manaseh's chance came when he was only twelve. That was the year that good king Hezekiah, his father, died. And that was the beginning of a terrible reign that Judah will never forget. Young King Manasseh didn't waste time with his plans. Soon an idol sat in the house of God and altars stood in the porches. The people trusted no more in the God who had so often helped them, and His ways were forgotten. But an idol couldn't help, so the king tried using magic and witchcraft. Manasseh was not a kind, good king and soon everyone was afraid of him.

How sad a choice the young prince made! Manasseh turned from the right way that his father had lived and taught him. And great trouble came to his people because he didn't follow the Lord and trust in Him. The children were sober when Grandpa finished the story. "I wouldn't want to do that," Edward said. "I want to follow the Lord when I grow up."

"Well, my boy, it all starts now," Grandpa said. "It doesn't just happen by accident or wishing. You have to respond to God's dealings with you when you are young, or you could turn out just as bad as Manasseh."

"How could he be so bad when his father was so good?" Alice asked.

"What was in his heart when he was little?" Grandpa replied.

"He wanted to have idols and be powerful."

"Yes, and did he ever turn to God for help to do right?" said Grandpa.

"No," Alice said slowly.

"But he went to the temple with his father," Edward said. "Is a temple like a church?"

Grandpa nodded. "It is a place where they went to worship God and pray. But just going there and being around his father wasn't enough. Manasseh had a choice, and in his heart he chose the evil instead of the good."

He looked at his grandchildren and smiled kindly. "I pray for you that you will give your lives to God and love Him always. He will surely help you if you trust in Him."





Each of us face trials and temptations every day. Are you going to ask Jesus for help today, or try to do things with your own strength?

# The Choice is

**1.** You just woke up, and it is time for devotions. After prayer Dad opens his Bible to I Thessalonians.

- A. What a long word, you think. I can't wait until we go to Grandpa's today. (Go to #11)
- B. You listen as he reads from chapter 5. (Go to #18)

**2.** You're feeling so grumpy that, when your sister offers to help you with your work, you say, "Leave me alone." When you try to vacuum, it spits dirt. Go to #10.

**3.** You say, "Yes, Mom," and get back to work. At last the job is done and you are pleased with yourself. It is time to set the table for lunch. Go to #14.

**4.** When you are practicing your recital piece, your big brother says, "You're playing it all wrong! Listen to how I do it."

- A. "I can never do it right!" you wail. (#23)
- B. You manage to smile and say, "Thank you for helping. I'll try to do it right." (#32)

**5.** You ask the Lord to help you. Then you remember your memory verse: "Overcome evil with good." You decide to try your best to make others happy today. Go to #17.

**6.** The cat is hungry, but when you are bringing the food she gets in the way and you trip, spilling all of it.

A. If you are thinking about the Bible verse, go to #22.

B. If not, go to #15.



**7.** The rest of the day is full of problems and frowns from you. What a sad record and a sad ending! THE END.

**8.** "Oh, these are from my mother's family!" Mom says, excitedly. She tucks them away and everyone finishes cleaning up. Suddenly Mom surprises you by saying, "Grandpa called and said everyone is invited over for ice-cream this evening. We're going to look at the pictures and letters, too. I'm so thankful you found them." Aren't you? THE END.

**9.** Your mind is on the new pony at Grandpa's place when Mom says, "The lawn needs to be mowed and weeded." You get the weeding job. You think:

- A. Wish we had a pony to eat the grass. (#28)
- B. *I always get the hardest jobs!* (#13)



**10.** When you go to complain to Mom, she looks tired. "I'm sorry, but we need you to help anyway. There are so many things still to do," she says.

- A. You feel ashamed for being so cross. (#33)
- B. You try to slip away before she gives you some more work. (#7)

**11.** Finally devotions are over and it is time for breakfast. Your sister reaches for the cereal and tips your cup of juice into your lap.

- A. "Try to be more careful, please!" you say. (#9)
- B. "Watch out, you Slopper Topper!" you yell. (#25)

**12.** "Can't never wins," Mom says. "Don't quit before you have begun!" She helps you get started and then goes to kitchen.

- A. You work as fast as you can. (#14)
- B. You think about the pony cart you want to make. (#28)

**13.** You know you aren't having a good attitude, but you just don't *feel* cheerful. What can you do?

- A. Blame Mom for not caring about how you feel. (#24)
- B. Pray for help. (#5)

14. After lunch, Mom says that plans have changed and you can't go to Grandpa's that afternoon. You ask

- A. "Can I work on a project outside?" (#21)
- B. "Why can't we?" (#2)

**15.** "Ow!" you yell, and kick at the cat. Your hand is skinned and you go inside to bandage it. The day doesn't seem like a good one. Go to #29.

**16.** "Mom, can I go down to the building site?" you ask. "I want to see if they have wood I could use for a project." Mom says you have to finish your work first.

- A. If you have prayed for help, go to #3.
- B. If you have been trying on your own, go to #27.

**17.** After you get the outside work done, you make Mom a bouquet of flowers. "How sweet!" she says. "If you can get your math done, you can help set the table." It is multiplication and you don't like it.

A. You determine to do your best. (#32)

B. "I can't do it. It is too hard," you say. (#12)



18. "In every thing give thanks," Dad reads. He talks about being thankful all the time. You pray to be cheerful and obey. Go to #6.

**19.** By evening the garage is cleaned up and Dad can park the car in it again. You get to run in the sprinkler to cool off and Mom serves out smoothies. Everyone is thankful for a good day. THE END.

**20.** You forgot all about wearing a helmet. When a police car pulls up you are so surprised you ride off the curb and crash. The policeman takes you home with a twisted ankle and scraped up legs. Go to #26.

**21.** Mom says you can, but when you ask your brother to help, he says you should get a pattern first. You ride down to the library together to find a book. Go to #31.

**22.** "I'm glad I didn't step on you, poor kitty," you say, and pet her. You clean up quickly and begin your music practice. Go to #4.

23. "You need to buckle down and apply yourself," Big Brother says. You ignore him and find your chance to slip away to your bike. You think:

A. I'll go to the post office and get the mail. (#20)B. I wish we could go to Grandpa's now. (#2)

**24.** You decide to go for a bike ride down to the library. *I won't be gone long, and no one will miss me,* you think, and hop on your brother's bike. Go to #20.

**25.** Your sister cries and Mom frowns. "That wasn't kind. Now go clean up," she says.

- A. "Sorry," you say, and head out to do chores. (#6)
- B. You glare at your sister and stomp off. (#13)

**26.** "No trip to Grandpa's for you," Mom says grimly. You're laid up on the sofa for the rest of the day. THE END.

**27.** "I'll never get finished in time!" you pout. Mom doesn't look pleased, and you don't feel happy. Go to #7.

**28.** As you slowly work, you think of a way you might get a pony. *Maybe if I had a cart I could give rides or do work with it. Then I could pay for its food,* you think.

- A. You decide to talk to Mom about it. (#16)
- B. You finish working and keep planning. (#14)
- C. You decide to ride down to building site at the corner to see if they have any wood you could use. (#20)

**29.** "Are your chores done and have you finished your music practice?" Mom asks. You have forgotten all about it, feeling sorry for yourself. You say:

- A. "No, but I'll do it now." (#4)
- B. "I don't want to practice today." (#23)

**30.** Mom puts you to work clearing off shelves and scrubbing them with your sister. Under a pile of rags



eps Higv Are you ready for another sewing project? It will be best to use a sewing machine, so you might need someone to help you. If you don't need a carpenter apron (or know someone who does), you can change the design to make a cleaning or sewing apron. So lets begin on

Something You Can Do

--- A Handy Apron---

Besides a sewing machine, you will need:

scissors

a measuring tape

- thread
- pins

denim fabric (or an old pair of Daddy's jeans!)

- First cut your fabric. The big piece should measure 12 inches square (15 inches for a bigger person), and the long strip should be 36 inches by 4 inches. The little pieces are for holding loops—use the loops on the jeans or cut pieces 4 inches by 2 1/2 inches.
- Now it is time to sew. Ask someone to help you set up the machine for straight stitching with medium-size stitches. Fold the edge of the square over 1 inch and pin it. Sew along the turned-over edge. Fold the strips in half lengthwise (right sides in) and pin together the edges. Sew 3/8 inch from the edge. Sew across one end of the strip.
- Have you ever turned your socks right-side out? Turning tie strips are harder. 3. Use a dowel or measuring stick for the long strip and a pencil for the little ones. First poke the pencil into the sewed-up end of the strip. Use your fingers to push the fabric down over the pencil until you see the end poke out. Now pull it inside out!
- Fold the hemmed square as picture B shows. Sew along each 4. edge. Turn it right-side out. Now you can sew the pockets.
- Next lay your long tie strip (it should be turned right-side 5. out!) across the top of the apron. Each side should have the same length tie. Stitch it to the apron along each side of the strip as the picture shows.
- Finally you can add your hang-loops and trim off the loose threads. If you like to hand stitch, 6. you can even put words on the pockets. Fill it up with tools and you are ready for the job!











you find a locked box. Your sister finds the key. Inside are old pictures and letters.



A. You lock the box and finish cleaning. (#19)
B. You take it to Mom. (#8)

**31.** Big Brother treats you out to an ice cream cone

and you have a good time together. THE END

**32.** When you try your best, it works out better. As you put away your books, you hear Mom say, "I think that will be fine. We should work on cleaning out the garage this afternoon anyway." You think:

- A. We're not going to Grandpa's! (#2)
- B. Cleaning out the garage? Maybe we can go in the sprinkler afterwards to cool off! (#30)
- C. Cleaning out the garage! Oh, no! (#10)

**33.** "I'm sorry," you say. "Let's pray for help to do our best," Mom says with a smile. You do and feel much better. Go to #19.

### -:-:-Good Reading-:-:-

The Sugar Creek Gang Series, by Paul Hutchens. To be consistant with a standard of truth and righteousness, we both recommend and have some warnings for these books. The Sugar Creek Gang is a band of young adolescent boys, living in the rural Midwest fifty years ago, always involved in some adventure or mystery. The author portrays each story through the mind of Bill Collins, a boy with a soft heart as well as a quick temper. The first book begins:

"It was the laziest day I ever saw, and so hot it would have made any boy want to go fishing or swimming, or maybe both. I don't think I was ever so glad in my life that school was out, 'cause just as soon as I saw those big, fat fishing worms being turned up by Pop's plow when he was breaking the garden, I knew what I wanted to do, what I had to do, in fact, or the whole day would be ruined." Good family life, high values, and a basis of Christianity are set forth in each book, as well as all the twists of events that draw in both boys and girls. Nevertheless, the author doesn't give a clear picture of salvation (though several people get saved by "asking Jesus into their hearts") or holiness (fighting to right the problem is accepted), and the focus on adventure may be objectionable to some parents. We would recommend the series, particularly the first books, to those that want a wholesome mystery/adventure story with a realistic portrayal of boys that uphold good values.

Although we prefer the writing style of the originals, you can find the recent editions through Moody Publishers:

820 N. LaSalle Blvd. Chicago, IL 60610 www.moodypublishers.org Terry was spoiled. Since he was a baby his parents let him to be entertained by a big box which showed moving pictures all the time. He had never learned the joy of working hard. It actually made him feel cold! It was silly of Terry's parents to spoil him, for life is not mostly play with a little work mixed in. It is mostly hard work with a little play. So Terry had it backwards.

> When he began school, Terry got a *very* unpleasant surprise. He, Terry Johnson, was actually expected to *work*! Terry went to a school where the teachers really lived for Jesus. And they believed in hard work. Every morning one of them would pray for all the lazy students, and would ask God to help them to have courage to work hard and learn their lessons. That always made Terry squirm.

Brain work wasn't the only work expected of Terry. The teachers felt that some hard physical work was healthy for growing boys and girls. And so Terry was taken to the garage and shown a red and black grass-cutting machine with four wheels and had a big handle to push with. Before he realized it, the teacher had started the motor with a roar, and Terry was sweating—really sweating—in the heat of the sun, as he strained to shove the stubborn thing around on the lawn.

After five of minutes of this, Terry felt that he was about to die. He went into the school to get a drink of water, but a big teacher stood

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in his way. "Water *after* work!" the teacher said. Terry began his horrible experience again. Two minutes later, he was back inside.

"Sir," he began, making a very sad and pitiful face. "I just remembered that I have a problem with working in the sun. I get real sick and throw up." The teacher smiled slightly and replied, "That will be interesting to see. So get to it."

After another five minutes, Terry noticed a brush pile next to the lawn. There were probably snakes living in it, Terry thought. They were probably poisonous. He looked around. The big teacher had gone inside. A little lady teacher was watching him. "Miss Richardson," said Terry, "there are snakes in that pile of brush!"

"Terry," Miss Richardson replied, "the only snake around here is the one in your ear!" Terry clapped his hands on his ears. There were no snakes there.

"You can't feel this snake," the teacher said. "This snake is the one who talked to Eve in the Garden of Eden," she explained. "He is the devil, and he wants you to be lazy."

Big tears ran down Terry's face as he thought of the horrible work he had to do. "I just can't do this, Miss Richardson," he said. "I JUST CAN'T!"

"That's what the lazy man in the Bible said, too," Miss Richardson replied. "He didn't want to work, either, so he didn't even get up in the morning. 'The slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets.' Is an imaginary lion getting the best of you, Terry?"

Che King's

Soldier

Terry and

the Snake

Letters to a Sittle Princess from an older princess

Dear Princess,

I want to tell you about the day Princess Precious learned a lovely secret. It all started when a bunch of girls visited the palace. They didn't look like princesses and they talked all the time.

"Don't you get tired of your old gowns?" one asked, showing off her bright cape. "These are in style—they make you look grand," she told Precious. "Especially when you go to the mall."

"I don't go to the mall," Precious said. The girls stared at her.

"Where do you get your hair done up? And everyone goes to Ice Queen's!" they said. "You really need a sparkle sack from the Glitter Shop, too."

"I didn't know what to think," Princess Precious told King Jesus when she could get away. "They all know so much and act so fine. I feel really little and stupid."

"My Precious, those street girls know nothing of being a princess," the King said quietly. "I have much better things for you than Ice Queens and sparkle sacks. Keep your crown of love bright for Me and I will be pleased."

Precious felt a bit ashamed. She knew the King was right and she wanted to make Him



happy most of all. "I will try my best," she said, smiling. "What do you want me to do?"

"If you do it unto the least of these, you do it unto Me," He reminded her.

Precious walked out of the courtroom slowly. It would be fun to do some sewing or maybe help Princess Praise in the kitchen, she thought to herself. Then maybe those girls would see I can do something—but Precious brushed that thought from her mind. No, I will do it for my King. She was just passing the sitting room when Joy called to her.

"Oh, Precious," Joy said, brushing away a tear. "Mother Matron told all of the little girls to help pick up, but the others went off and left me."

Precious looked at the mess and suddenly she thought of King Jesus' words. "No problem, dear. I'll help," she said. Soon the sunbeams danced over a tidy room once more.

Cut on the dark lines and cover Precious with Love and Humility. "Thank you, sister dear!" Joy said brightly. "I have to sweep the steps now. What about you?" Precious thought of the sunny sewing room, but a cobweb on the stairs caught her eye.

"I'll help—it looks like someone forgot the dusting," she said. So Precious brushed out the corners, picked up trash, and wiped the mirrors. "For King Jesus," the busy little princess whispered. At last the evening bell was rung and she slipped away to His throne.

"My Lord, have I kept my crown bright?" Precious asked humbly. "I didn't do much, but Joy needed help and we cleaned the halls together."

"I am well pleased," King Jesus said, lifting her up by the hand. "She that is greatest shall be servant of all, my child. Your lovely smile and gracious serving are beautiful to Me, My own dear princess." As Precious

lifted her shining eyes to His face, He added very solemnly, "Much more

beautiful than all the other girls' show and glitter."

And as Precious stood before Him, you could see the King's own glory reflect on her crown and the bright veil of humility glow all around her. She was indeed the fairest and sweetest of all princesses. Do you know her secret?

> With Love, Aunt Faith 🥪

How thankful Joy was to have Precious willingly help her! Do you think she was beautiful as she lovingly served?

## Little Soldiers



Dear Reader,

"Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you" (Matt. 20:4). We are thankful that no matter how old or young we are, we may each have a part in the work of the Lord, and receive the blessings He gives.

Both spiritual and temporal matters have kept us busy since our last issue. This past month has been made especially memorable by the marriage of Skye to Matthew Wensing, on August 10.

We would be glad to hear from any of you. We welcome questions, and would be very happy to learn how the Lord has been helping you.

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

We are a God-fearing family that includes Rick and Krista Erickson, Laura (22), Joel (21), Kara (18), and Amanda (10). The publishing of *Treasures of the Kingdom* is mainly done by Laura and Joel, with help (guidance, proofreading, and contributions) from others.

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*.

Notice: we will be working on *Songs and Stories* (*Book 2*) as the Lord gives time. If you would like a copy when it is done, please write us—the music will be available on your choice of cassette or CD.

In the King's service, The Editors

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How many staples can you find? There should be 89, including this one:



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