

WEEKLY UNITY

"Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free"

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5 CENTS A COPY

The Next Step Is Plain



"THIS IS the happiest day of my life," said Christine Graynor as she closed the envelope. "But happier ones are coming soon," she mused.

She had just answered Brad's letter. It had come an hour ago. As she read it she had been breathless with astonishment at his ardor and his urge for haste. They had been lovers in a rather unsentimental way since school days. They had both said, "Some day we'll be married." Now from the army camp where he had been stationed for six months Brad had written to say, "Let us be married at once." Her first reaction had been to say, "Wait until the war is done." Then as she read she said yes to all he asked.

"I'm starting home Saturday for a two weeks' furlough," the letter said. "After that we shall soon go into the Pacific. Let us be married on Monday and spend the two weeks together. Since neither of us have any family ties there is no one else to consider. I shall feel better in those distant and strange places if I know that I have a wife and home to return to. It will give me a sort of hold on America. I hope it will make you happier to feel that we belong together."

A great tenderness for Brad flooded her heart. Of course he should have the comfort of belonging before he

By Zelia M. Walters

left. Of course he should have a wife and home to come back to. She would spend the time he was away making that new home all that he had been dreaming of.

As she walked down the street to the post office she was conscious again of that small discomfort, hardly enough to be called pain.

"I must go into town and see the doctor this afternoon," she said. "I must not have any disturbing feelings while Brad is here."

She was smiling when she went into the doctor's office that afternoon. "I hope you have a magic potion to make me healthy and beautiful all in the course of the next week," she said. But the doctor was not smiling when he completed the examination.

"You must go to the hospital for an immediate operation," he said. "I will try to get a room for you yet this week. Why didn't you come to me sooner? But then they never do."

With her rose-colored world shattered about her, Christine stared at him.

"Doctor, I can't. Not for the next three weeks. After that I'll go whenever you say."

"To wait three weeks puts your life in greater danger. You've waited too long now. There's nothing more important to you than this operation."

"Yes, there is—another person's peace of mind—a soldier's. He's going away to danger and perhaps death. I'll pay anything to give him that two weeks of happiness before he goes."

The doctor hesitated. Probably, he thought, it would make no difference whether the operation were tomorrow or in three weeks. She was not likely to get well either way.

"I've got to have time to think it over, Doctor. I'll call you in the morning." She was gathering her purse and parcels together, and she hurried from the office.

No more shopping for pretty things that might please Brad's eyes. She went to her car and drove straight home. She was alone in the old family mansion. The daywork helper was gone. There was no one she need even speak to as she walked to and through the rooms facing this terrifying crisis. After half an hour her mind was just a whirl of unanswered questions. She made a decision. "I'll talk with Doctor Houston. He is so kind and understanding. He'll know what I ought to do, and I'll do what he says."

In Doctor Houston's study she sat

back feeling relieved of the tension of the day. It was easy to tell him the whole story, Brad's letter, the doctor's terrifying pronouncement.

"What shall I do?" she asked simply.

"No one else can tell you that," said Doctor Houston gently. "What does your own heart say?"

"That I shall marry Brad next Monday."

"You seem to have no doubts."

"Oh, I do have plenty of them. But that seems to me the one thing I ought to do. We'll have our two weeks. He will go out to whatever terrible experience he may have to go through strengthened and sustained. He will feel that he belongs, as he said. Even if I should die from the operation (and I got the idea that the doctor thinks I will) still we shall have had this marriage. It would be hard for Brad to hear that I am gone, but it might happen anyway. No one is sure of even another hour of life. He will keep our marriage as a beautiful, unmarred dream, and he will get over the grief. We will not have been together long enough for my going to leave a great void in his accustomed way of life, and we also have to face the fact that Brad may not come back. But we can have two perfect weeks. It seems to me they are given by God out of all this grief and confusion. I feel like taking them and saying, 'Thank You, God,' no matter what comes afterward."

"I think you are quite right."

"Then I shall call the doctor and tell him I am putting the operation off for three weeks. Tomorrow I'll go to town and finish my shopping, and I'll not even think of this black shadow until the day comes to go to the hospital."

"Again I believe you are quite right in refusing to think of it."

"I remember once reading a poem of Browning's that expressed the hero's determination about a sad tomorrow. He said, 'Who knows but the world may end tonight?' I suppose that is possible too, so why worry?"

"Never worry about anything," advised the doctor with twinkling eyes. "You seem to have that philosophy firmly in mind."

But she did not rise to go. She felt the talk was not ended.

Doctor Houston spoke slowly, considering his words.



When I Trust Thee

By Nora S. Elliott

THY TRUTH inspires, Thy power
protects;
My life is free.
Thy light directs, Thy bounty provides;
Thy good I see.
Thy law controls, Thy blessings increase
When I trust Thee.

"Have you thought of not having the operation at all?"

"Oh, no. I must have it. I should die if I did not. Perhaps I shall anyway. But I must make the venture, if not for my own sake, for Brad's."

"I meant for you to get well."

"Oh, Doctor Houston, I knew you believed in faith healing! But you don't think I could get well of this just by faith, not to have any medical treatment at all?"

The Doctor could see that here was one to whom the idea of spiritual healing was as strange as a foreign tongue. He prayed for the right idea, and the right words to clothe it.

"I know you could get well. God does all the healing there is. If you call the surgeon to set things right in a disordered body, who is it that does the healing?"

"Why, it's God. I've read of a great doctor who said, 'I set things in order; God does the healing.' But could you cure me without the operation?"

"Certainly not. Once more, who does the healing? I can't cure anyone. But I can with confidence tell people where to get healing for all sickness and sorrow."

"I wouldn't have enough faith. I just can't believe it could be done."

"You must have faith, at least as much as a grain of mustard seed. Without it you could do nothing. When you read in your Bible the accounts of the healings in Jesus Christ's ministry you found that there were some people whom even He, sharing God's power, could not heal."

"Why, no, I thought He could do anything by just a word. He said, 'I and the Father are one.'"

"You've read carelessly as we so

often do. Matthew and Mark both tell the story in forthright words. Jesus went back to the old home town. The townsfolk had heard stories of His doings. But they scoffed. 'Why, look,' they said in effect. 'This is the son of the joiner Joseph. He grew up right here in town. Went to school with the boys. How does He claim to be such a great person?' And the story concludes with this: 'He did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.' This was the son and heir of Omnipotence, but if He was to take others with Him into the realm of spiritual riches, they must have faith. So you must have faith likewise if you want to go with Him. But you probably do have it. You do believe that God can heal you?"

"Oh, yes."

"You believe He loves you, and His will toward you is good and only good?"

"Yes."

"That's all. Believing His will is good, you know He cannot wish you to be sick. You must now take His hand and come through this dark valley into the bright place of good health."

"Do you think He really would?" Her eyes were fastened on him in desperate entreaty.

"Yes, and you too believe He really will. Do not be afraid to believe the best. That is what God has for His beloved children, the best. Accept it as simply as you accepted a gift when your earthly father offered it."

"Will you pray with me?"

"Yes. We will both pray in faith that God's good will may now be done in you."

There was silence in the room. The prayer that was being made was not a frantic cry for help. It was rather a quiet acceptance of the good that a loving Father had already offered. Christine had been brought up in a Christian household and had prayed daily ever since she could remember anything. But she had accepted the carelessly held idea that God sometimes gave good and sometimes evil. This one lesson was enough to turn the whole trend of her thinking. It was like having a blindfold removed. We sometimes progress rapidly in our education when a dire emergency confronts us.

Now it seemed to both that they could feel the divine presence in the

room. There was peace, and a power that could not fail. They had no desire to speak. After a while Christine rose to go.

"Thank you for showing me this truth. There are some things uncertain yet—"

"When you trust completely God will tell you what to do. Remember you need to see just one step ahead. Take that in confidence; the next will appear."

* * *

When it was all in the past Christine sometimes retraced the steps of that fateful period. First she called the surgeon, telling him she would come in three weeks from that day and do whatever he advised. Then she dismissed the matter from her mind. She never noticed the small discomfort in her body again.

She met Brad at the airport on Monday. They were married that afternoon. And since she saw what Brad wanted, their only wedding trip was the drive in her car back to the old family home at the edge of the nearby small town. "A home at last!" Brad had said walking through the flower-sweet rooms. Some friends had prepared the wedding dinner and then, like the good fairies they were, had disappeared, leaving the two alone.

Two perfect weeks! Finding out how wonderful Brad was, how much in harmony their minds were on so many things, how they both wanted to give real service with their gifts and opportunities. Then that farewell at the airport. It was hard to part, but both were thankful that they "belonged," that they would plan and do things together from now on.

On the appointed day Christine went to the doctor. She noted his puzzled frown when the examination was finished.

"It's strange," he said, "I expected to find the growth much larger, but instead it is very much smaller. Once in a thousand cases that may happen. Some change in the life, in the body processes, may cause a dangerous tumor to disappear without operation."

He told her to come back in a month. On her next visit he said she should come back again in three months. She made the succeeding calls at his office as he asked, but at the end of the year he dismissed her, saying there was no sign of the growth that had threatened her life.

That afternoon she called on Doctor Houston again.

"I'm cured," she said casually. "Of course I was a year ago. But dear old Doctor Anderson just couldn't believe it. He's kept me coming back at intervals all this year. Now Brad is on his way home. The letter that came yesterday said I was not to write again, because he would be on his way before the letter could get there."

"I am so truly happy and thankful; and we aren't going to be thankful just in words, Brad and I. We want to make our thanksgiving live in what we do. We have our plans. When he gets here we want to come and talk with you about them. We shall not take our gift from God and hold it selfishly."

"Ah, my child, that is when God's gifts are truly blessed. When we understand where they come from we give our thanks, and then say: 'Look, Father! I'm keeping your gift alive by passing it on to others.'"

EDITOR'S NOTE: The foregoing recounts a true experience. Many persons are healed of cancer and other malignant physical disorders through spiritual means because their faith is great enough to accept and realize God's healing.

In our Unity work people who are seeking to overcome physical disorders often ask us what step they shall take—shall they go to a doctor, or shall they rely wholly on prayer? In response we simply pray that they may be wise and may be led by the Spirit to do what is best for them, according to their faith.

If your faith in God's healing power is strong enough for you to know that you can and will be healed perfectly through prayer alone, then you can safely rely on it. Until your faith has become strong, ask God to show you through what agency you should seek help so that His healing may be manifest in you as perfect life and health. God's will for you is life, health, and wholeness, and if your healing through medical agencies appears to be delayed or withheld, let your faith in God as the divine healer become strong so that His perfect work may be made manifest in you.

The character represented by Doctor Houston in this record of a true experience is that of a teacher who must remain anonymous. In relating Doctor Houston's experiences Zelia M. Walters has selected cases that are typical of the life experiences of multitudes of people, and in each case has given the teaching that was given to the person who applied to Doctor Houston for help. Since each case is genuine the teacher represented by Doctor Houston feels that those who take the advice offered will receive the same help as that received by the characters who figure in the story.

Give God a Chance

By Grace Ellison

ARE YOU downhearted? Are you restless and gloomy, feeling that life is not worth living? Do you feel that everything you do seems to go wrong?

If so, give God a chance. He offers you much! If you earnestly seek Him you can stop drifting around, driven to despair by every circumstance. When you learn that God has a plan for you, how different your life will seem! Your gloom and restlessness will disappear. Nothing can spur you to greater endeavor than to feel that God has put you on earth for a purpose. Try putting yourself in His hands and see how wonderful the results will be.

You will soon realize that the ugliness and fear in the world do not come from God. His ways are ways of happiness and peace. Why not keep close to Him by following His teachings?

When you earnestly seek God's advice He will give you the light of understanding. Happiness will take the place of discouragement, for now you realize that in God's sight you are worth while. You are needed to help Him carry out His plan. You will thank Him for this understanding, for it will change your life from a meaningless one to a life of peace and poise.

Besides giving you wisdom, God will comfort you when you are in need. You are troubled. Perhaps a wayward child keeps you upset, or your difficulties may be financial. No matter what the problem is, look to God for help, and He will not fail you. When gloomy thoughts come, go to Him in prayer, asking for guidance. Let the light of His love shine upon the troublesome perplexities and they will vanish.

When you are "down and out," as the saying goes, start thanking Him for blessings already received. It is amazing what being thankful can do. Try it and see.

Besides giving you understanding and comfort, a third blessing God gives you is inspiration. The fact that He has a plan for your life will lift you above earthly matters, and each day you will be inspired to do more for Him. When difficulties beset you, ask Him what to do. Doubts may come, but earnestly seek His guidance, and

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Things to Be Remembered

By Lowell Fillmore

+ Let Heaven Come First

REMEMBER that you do not need to go into a far country in search of the kingdom of heaven, for it is already very close to you.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: neither shall they say, Lo, here! or There! for lo, the kingdom of God is within you."

Those who search outside of themselves for spiritual truth take a round-about road to the kingdom. God and His kingdom are here with us now waiting to be recognized by us. It does not require a railroad ticket but only faith, love, and patience to find the kingdom.

The kingdom of heaven is revealed to us in the peace and quietness of our inner chamber, not by the loud acclaim or the showmanship of the world. God speaks to us with His still small voice in the silence when we are ready to listen harmoniously, quietly, and obediently.

When the Children of Israel were caught between Pharaoh's army and the Red Sea, Moses called upon Jehovah for help and the answer came back, "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of Jehovah, which he will work for you to-day."

And the waters of the sea parted and let the Children of Israel pass through them to safety. Pharaoh's army was faced and overcome by Israel's quiet, firm faith in God.

The following words found in Psalms 46:10 point the way to those who would seek the kingdom: "Be still, and know that I am God."

After a fire and an earthquake and also a great wind had rent the mountain on which Elijah was hiding from Jezebel, the still small voice of God came to direct and encourage him.

The kingdom of heaven has nothing to do with noise, display of physical

power or ballyhoo but is discovered in the silence.

In the silence all creation grows. Noisy explosions and storms tear and destroy, but constructive forces work silently. Seeds sprout and bear fruit in silence. Ideas grow noiselessly. The healing power of God works silently. Cuts heal quietly.

Jesus points the way to the attainment of peace, joy, and prosperity in these words, "But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

The human viewpoint causes a person to feel that he should seek success in the world first and when this is attained, he will then have time to seek the kingdom of God. But those who have tried this method will testify, I am sure, that it will not work; for when you have many material things to care for, you will have no time left for seeking the kingdom. Jesus said that it is hard for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of heaven. I think he did not mean that riches are evil but He realized that a rich man is sorely tempted to trust in his riches rather than in God.

The kingdom can be entered through the doorway of the will that is consecrated to the will of God. If a man serves two masters, he will most likely be partial to one of them.

If a man loves riches so much that he seeks them in preference to God, he will serve them well and give God only lip service. If he serves God with all his heart good things will be added, because the One he serves is able to take care of his every need. "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights."

The kingdom should come first in a man's life because it is the source of all good. God spoke the universe into being from the silence of His kingdom. Material things are subservient to His word. "By faith we understand that the worlds have been framed by the word of God, so that what is seen hath not been made out of things which appear."

The kingdom of God is much more

important to man than the things in the world because it is the source of these things. When one puts his love for the kingdom first, above mere things and circumstances, then his life is brought under the law of divine order and all his affairs are adjusted in an orderly, peaceful, and prosperous way. But if a person seeks material things first he shows by his actions that he is more interested in the things that God has created than he is in God Himself.

What would you think of a child who loved the presents he receives from his father better than he loves his father? Surely you would consider such a child lacking in loyalty and appreciation, perhaps even mercenary. But the father loves this child and will give him new presents when the old ones are worn out. Now if the child were wise he would love the father best of all because in him is the spirit of love out of which come all of these pretty presents.

The unchanging Spirit of divine love is capable of supplying all your needs when you seek it sincerely in the silence. When you devote your love and interest exclusively to the changing things in the manifest world, you will be disappointed.

Man can plant a seed and cultivate it, but God alone can make it grow and give an increase.

Let us be still when worldly things are confusing and listen to our loving Father, God within us, who will show us how to set our affairs in order.

Suggestions for Daily Meditation

(Beginning Sunday, September 1)

Sunday. *I rejoice in the knowledge that the kingdom of heaven is now available to those now living.*

Monday. *Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

Tuesday. *The kingdom of heaven is at hand.*

Wednesday. *The still small voice is ever saying, "Be still, and know that I am God."*

Thursday. *In sincerity and truth I seek the kingdom of heaven in the silence of my inner closet.*

Friday. *God is lovingly caring for all of my needs in silent order and peace.*

Saturday. *In the secret of His holy presence I am refreshed and healed.*

Someone Prayed

Through Divine Power

Dear Unity: I want you to know what a wonderful blessing came into my home last week. My daughter called me and asked me to take care of C——, her year-old daughter. She said, "I can't do anything with her, because she is so cross. She has had the flu, which has hung on for quite a while, so she coughs quite badly." I told her to bring the little girl, and I would take care of her.

Just at that time I received my copy of WEEKLY UNITY, and in it was the story of the little child who was so sick that he was not expected to get well. His mother went to Doctor Houston, and he prayed and told her when she got home to say, "In the name of Jesus Christ and by His power you are getting well."

I did as the story suggested, and I also read what Doctor Houston had prayed: "God, we come to You with our requests by the authority and teaching of Jesus Christ. He tells us that we live never apart from You but always in Your presence. He taught us that You are our Father and Your other name is love. We ask that our minds may now be in accord with Your mind. We ask that this child may come into a realization of the perfect health that is from You. Keep our faith strong so that we may never lose the consciousness of abiding with You."

I kept on saying that and praying, and in two days the child was well. Her cold and cough was gone, and she was sleeping fine.

How grateful I am! I thank God for it all, and for WEEKLY UNITY coming just at the time when I needed it the most.—Mrs. A. W. S.

Healed "All at Once"

Dear Silent Unity: In 1942 I wrote to you, asking your prayers for my only son who was entering the armed services. He became a waist gunner on a Flying Fortress and at the end of a year was sent to England from where he flew on combat missions over France and Germany. On November 29, 1943, his plane was shot down over Bremen, Germany.

After landing safely and being taken to an interrogation center my son was placed in solitary confinement, and after futile efforts on the part of the interrogating officer to secure information from him, he was told that because he had no "dog tag," which in dressing hastily he had forgotten, there was no alternative but to turn him over to the Gestapo as a spy. This would have meant facing a firing squad. That night when the guard in charge unlocked the cells of all the other prisoners and returned their personal belongings, they passed by his cell, and he supposed he was doomed.

On the wall of this particular cell some former prisoner had scratched, "In God is my trust." Those words became for him

that night a living faith, for next morning when a guard came to release the other boys for transportation to another camp, he opened my son's door and sent him along with the others. His personal belongings were sent to him at the next stop.

During the eighteen months of my son's internment God strengthened him spiritually and physically to meet the extreme cold of the Alpine winters and the near starvation that only the hand of God reaching out through the Red Cross prevented; and God kept him cheerful and hopeful.

In April, 1945, the Germans, fearing the advance of the Russians, broke camp and marched the twenty-one thousand internees two hundred miles, to a place where they were herded into a forest and for seven days were without food except such as they could salvage from the surrounding country.

It rained all of those seven days, and my son became ill of a deep chest cold. For three days he lay wrapped in his water-soaked clothes and one blanket, too ill even to sit up. I was warned in a dream at this juncture that all was not well with him, and I prayed earnestly The Prayer of Faith. In relating the incident recently he said: "Mom, all at once I started getting well." I knew the "all at once" was when God answered our prayers and demonstrated once again His great healing power and His unceasing loving care for His children. Lack of space forbids me to tell of the many expressions of God's love and His willingness to help in every time of need, but I praise Him daily and thank you, my friends in Silent Unity, for your faith and prayers in my son's behalf. May God prosper your every effort.—Mrs. E. L. W.

Look to God's Guidance

Dear Silent Unity: About a month ago I wired you asking for your help in making a decision. I had been offered a new position, one that presented new opportunities and interests; I felt that I needed a change of environment and that this was the time for it. My employers on the other hand were reluctant to let me go and tried to discourage me from leaving. Altogether the picture was tense and disquieting. I did not want to appear ungrateful to the company that had offered me my first real break; still the opportunity to do better and more creative work was one that I should accept.

You helped me. Things seemed to adjust themselves automatically. I was given the job I desired and received the congratulations of my old boss, who, I may add, obtained a most competent person to be his assistant.

This is not the first time I have thanked you for guidance, dear Unity. It has happened to me before; and each time I see another demonstration taking place I am given even more confidence in the unlimited power of God, and in the simple Unity teaching that so earnestly brings God to me.—R. S.

Notes and News

Lessons in Truth Week Brings New Blessings

• Lessons in Truth Week (September 9-15 this year) is an annual event with Unity students and eagerly anticipated by those who have experienced new blessings year after year.

The following comments are from friends who have observed Lessons in Truth Week in former years:

"I studied *Lessons in Truth* with you and received many wonderful blessings. I have never felt more peace and calmness in my entire being than I knew during the week's study. I had studied *Lessons in Truth* many times before, but this time it brought me amazing results."

"Lessons in Truth Week went off very well for me. I feel that I have gained much since my first reading of this book, but I know I still have a long way to go."

"I will never be able to put in words how much it has meant having *Lessons in Truth* this last week. It was just what I needed. I know now that I have found just what I have been seeking: the Truth in plain words."

Canadian Columnist Likes "Unity Viewpoint"

A Canadian newspaper columnist in commenting on the merits of various religious radio programs in Canada writes in his column: "I must confess I had to wait for a little radio station in Toronto to give me what I really wanted. Station CHUM introduced Donald O'Connor, in 'The Unity Viewpoint.' Here I found good clear thinking. Here I found no unctious, no condescension. Here was Christianity without dogma. Here was simplicity I could understand. Here was clarity of expression. Here was sincerity. Here was an early broadcast that will start my day off right. Here was my radio program."

In addition to station CHUM in Toronto, Canada, "The Unity Viewpoint," Unity's radio program, is broadcast over a score of stations in the United States. If you have not heard "The Unity Viewpoint" or any other Unity radio message, write for a free radio schedule listing all the stations presenting Unity programs.

Former Wee Wisdom Reader Comments

A former *Wee Wisdom* reader, now eighteen years old, comments as follows: "When I was eight years old I was given a subscription for *Wee Wisdom*. I derived so much pleasure from it that I want my little sister, now eight years old, to have its good stories and the other features that gave me so much joy."

THE SOCIETY OF SILENT UNITY

THE HEALING DEPARTMENT OF UNITY SCHOOL

+ A Message to You: God-Planned Prosperity

Dear Friend:

In the very beginning God planned prosperity for man. He planned prosperity for every person who should ever live upon the earth. Every person has a rich inheritance from the Father, not everyone is aware of it. Those who are not aware of it go on living and thinking in terms of lack until like lost heirs one day they learn of the great fortune that is seeking them. the great fortune that is seeking him.

In the beginning when the earth was brought forth and filled with the life and seed that would ever be self-perpetuating, blessed with the balanced measure of light and darkness that would make for rest and growth, God created man in His own image, and gave man the heavens and the earth and all that is therein for his inheritance. And God gave man dominion over everything that He had made.

"The blessing of Jehovah, it maketh rich;

And he addeth no sorrow therewith."

You do not have to go to any legal expense in order to find your inheritance from God, your Father. You do not have to struggle and strain, argue and fight to get your portion of good. You do not have to pace the floor and lie awake nights planning, figuring, worrying. Such needless effort merely shows that you need to know your Father better, you need to lay hold of your divine inheritance from Him, you need to learn the truth about your supply.

"Lest thou say in thy heart, My power and the might of my hand hath gotten me this wealth," or as we might say today, "my power will get me the thing I want." When a person looks to his own ingenuity, his personal power and ability, ignoring or forgetting that not only his source but his resource as well is in God, he loosens his spiritual hold upon his divine inheritance.

"But thou shalt remember Jehovah thy God, for it is he that giveth thee

power to get wealth; that he may establish his covenant which he swore unto thy fathers, as at this day."

God is the source, the life, the heart, the planner of all prosperity. God is the ever-renewing, ever-living substance, the only assurance of eternal prosperity or well-being.

"Acquaint now thyself with him, and be at peace:

Daily at 11 a. m. join us in this thought for spiritual illumination:

The Spirit of Jehovah is with me, and I see clearly.

At high noon each day concentrate your attention on this thought for prosperity:

The prosperity that God planned for me in the beginning is now manifest, and I am bountifully supplied.

At nine each night let us acknowledge the healing power of Spirit with this prayer:

The restorative power of God within me is quickened, and I am healed.

Thereby good shall come unto thee."

"Receive, I pray thee, the law from his mouth, and lay up his words in thine heart.

"If thou return to the Almighty, thou shalt be built up, thou shalt put away iniquity far from thy tabernacles.

"Then shalt thou lay up gold as dust, and the gold of Ophir as the stones of the brooks.

"Yea, the Almighty shall be thy defence, and thou shalt have plenty of silver.

"For then shalt thou have thy delight in the Almighty, and shalt lift up thy face unto God.

"Thou shalt make thy prayer unto him, and he shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows.

"Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways."

When you return to the Almighty, you return to the source of all intelligence, all ability, all success. When you turn your mind toward God you tap the source of all knowledge and wisdom. When you turn your heart to Him you share His understanding love and harmony. When you lift your hands to Him they are quickened with His ability to do greater and better works. When you devote your service to Him, no matter what its outer form may be, or its seeming insignificance in your estimation, your service becomes a channel for the outworking of supply. When you give your life to Him, your life becomes the avenue of the fulfillment of His prosperity plan.

There is no longer any place or room for the inequities, the shortcomings, the resentments, discouragements, fears of lack, or any other thing that interferes with the clear-cut, smooth running performance of the divine law of prosperity in your affairs. You know God as your defense. You are freed from injustice or inharmony, freed from them in thought, speech, and action. Nothing obstructs your vision, your expectation, or your manifestation of good.

There is keen delight in working with God, keen delight in co-operating with His prosperity plan. You make your prayer unto Him, and you work joyously with Him in bringing about the answer until every debt is paid, every doubt dissolved, every ability quickened.

You decree the outworking of abundance for one and all because you know that all are prospered and happy in God's prosperity plan. And that which you decree is established and light shines upon your way.

The prosperity that God planned for you in the beginning is now manifest and you are bountifully supplied.

With joy in our hearts we declare this prosperity blessing for you, because we know the riches of your divine inheritance. We know that in it is included the vital faith that is the very substance of the good desired, the love that never fails, the light of divine understanding that grows brighter and brighter in you and all your affairs.

"It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

Your rejoicing friends in
Silent Unity.

The High Watch

The Power from Beyond

Everyone is familiar with the story of the rescue of Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker and his crew after twenty-three days of floating in a rubber raft in the South Pacific during World War II. Everyone has heard the part that prayer and faith played in this rescue. The history of the long growth and crystallization of that faith in Captain Rickenbacker's case is less well known. The American Weekly published the Captain's own account of his outstanding experiences under the title "Why I Believe in Prayer." From it we quote the following:

While I was on a mission over enemy country in a Nieuport biplane one day during World War I, I was attacked by three German Albatross machines. At this critical moment my engine went dead and my plane shot like an arrow earthward.

The fast dive collapsed my right-hand upper wing. By all the rules of mechanics and chance, I was a doomed man. No matter what I tried, I couldn't come out of that whirl of death. While I frantically fought the controls in order to get the engine going, I began to pray.

"Oh, God," I said fervently, "help me get out of this."

Suddenly, without will on my part, I acted as though an invisible hand had forced me to do so.

I threw my weight to the left side of the cockpit and jammed the controls. Then I opened the engine wide. Unexpectedly, it started sputtering and vibrating violently.

Holding on, I sailed away on the plane's one good wing for France and safety.

As I headed home I realized that it wasn't my superability or super-knowledge that had saved me from certain death. Had I depended solely on my ability, I would have never come out alive from that spin.

I knew there was Something Else that helped me to escape. There was a Power from beyond, and I had faith enough to believe in it and call upon it for help.

In times of danger and suffering every one of us will cross a little way over the line of ordinary thought, seeking aid beyond his own capabilities. With faith, this aid will come, as I have experienced many times. This fact in itself ought to be a good reason why I believe in prayer.

On a Sunday afternoon several years ago, I was flying to Chicago. It was the middle of December and the weather was miserable. There was plenty of fog and a lot of ice. To make things worse, we suddenly lost the radio beam that should have guided us to our destination. No matter how much we cruised back and forth, we couldn't pick it up again.

Our two-way radio too went out, and we had no means of communicating with the world. We were lost.

We flew for seven hours without knowing in what direction. Darkness was falling when we saw a break in the murk, then lights on a highway.

We followed the highway until we saw the lights of a town we recognized as Toledo, Ohio.

We landed at the airport a few moments later—with just enough gas left for eleven minutes of flight!

We had flown without a beam and physically blind, but we were on the beam just the same. It was the "Big Radio" that kept us going, the thing that keeps us all flying safely.

At all times, however, we must remember that the "Big Radio" is a two-way job. You've got to keep tuned with it and talk with it.

If you think disaster, you'll get it. Brood about death, and you hasten your demise. Thinking positively, with confidence and faith, makes life more secure and richer.

Many years ago, as I roared down the last stretch in an automobile race, I felt that I could control the engine with my mind even if it fell apart. It was a feeling of supreme confidence. It was real to me.

Success comes to those who know how to lay hold of the power of the Infinite and use it faithfully:

Perhaps this control of mind over matter is part of something big, so big that we can't grasp it. It is part of us and part of Something that is looking after us. That is

what makes me believe in protection from the beyond and in life after death. That's why I pray.

On a rainy night in February, 1941, I had my worst accident.

In the four months I lay in the hospital I did more thinking about life and death than ever before.

It dawned upon me that the easiest thing in the world was to die; the hardest to live. When I was on the brink of death, I fought to live. When I finally came around, I understood the significance of life and death.

Not many months later, I found myself with seven other men in a rubber raft in the South Pacific after our plane had crashed. I never lost faith that we would be saved. I prayed.

During the twenty-three days of blistering sun and nights of ghastly chill, I was able to bring to the others, floundering between starvation and despair, the essence of religion. Most of my companions were so young they needed strength and understanding. I could give it to them as a man who had been down in the valley of the shadow.

My experience and the suffering through which I passed taught me faith in God is the answer to life. As often before, my faith and prayer were rewarded and we were saved.

Recently, in a rehabilitation hospital, I told a group of airmen who had been badly wounded and whose future looked dark to them:

"If you have not had an experience with God in your life, my advice is to get busy and get yourself one."

That is the sure way of winning over that inner struggle that tends toward defeat. It is the only way to meet life or death. It's the only way you can hook up to the two-way system of that "Big Radio" and get an answer.

That's why I believe in prayer.

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BE PROSPEROUS

Fulfill the Laws of Prosperity

The basis for establishing permanent prosperity in your life and affairs is the essential truth of the Ten Commandments, declares Georgiana Tree West in her book PROSPERITY'S TEN COMMANDMENTS, in which she adapts each of the commandments to the subject of prosperity. Each commandment is the basis of a lesson that you can begin using as you read; and Mrs. West's vigorous, convincing instructions urge you to do something about your affairs. PROSPERITY'S TEN COMMANDMENTS is easily followed by beginners in Truth.

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Proceed to Act

There come times when the best form of prayer is some form of action. When we have laid our case before God, put our hearts and purposes into accord with His mind, and agreed to do the will of Christ as quickly as that will can be known to us, we have gone about as far as prayer can carry us. It then appears that the time to act has come. There is, doubtless, at least one step which you can take which is perfectly clear. You do not need additional guidance. You have it, now. Therefore, act! Take that step which is entirely plain and concerning which there is no reasonable doubt. Move out into the known and the unknown will become plain.—*Christian Advocate.*

Responsive Service

Sunday, September 1, 1946

Unity Subject—*The Principle of Honesty*

INTERNATIONAL SUBJECT—*Right Uses of Property*.—Exod. 20:15; Prov. 30:7-9; Matt. 6:25-33

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15. Thou shalt not steal.
7. Two things have I asked of thee; Deny me *them* not before I die:
8. Remove far from me falsehood and lies;
Give me neither poverty nor riches;
Feed me with the food that is needful for me:
9. Lest I be full, and deny *thee*, and say, Who is Jehovah?
Or lest I be poor, and steal,
And use profanely the name of my God.

25. Therefore I say unto you, Be not anxious for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than the food, and the body than the raiment?

26. Behold the birds of the heaven, that they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; and your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are not ye of much more value than they?

27. And which of you by being anxious can add one cubit unto the measure of his life?

28. And why are ye anxious concerning raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

29. Yet I say unto you, that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30. But if God doth so clothe the grass of the field, which to-day is, and to-morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little faith?

31. Be not therefore anxious, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

32. For after all these things do the Gentiles seek; for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33. But seek ye first his kingdom, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Lesson Interpretation

What two conditions are essential to the living of the full, abundant life?

Integrity of character, based on inner truth that has been developed in

the life, is the first. "Remove far from me falsehood and lies." The second is poise and balance.

"Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the food that is needful for me."

Truth and poise open the consciousness to the abundant life.

Is great material wealth a temptation to worldliness?

Yes, because the thoughts and feelings may be allowed to become centered in it instead of in Truth.

Is extreme poverty also a temptation to dishonesty?

Poverty opens the door to temptation only for those whose honesty is not well established as a matter of principle. "Lest I be poor, and steal."

Since food is a necessity to physical life, what is the life that is "more than the food"?

The inner life of thought, faith, love, and spiritual power.

What is the right attitude to take toward food, drink, and clothing?

One of quiet trustfulness and expectation, which does away with worry and anxiety and allows the Christ consciousness to open the mind to the abundant supply provided in the universal storehouse. Food, drink, and clothing are necessities, but it is not necessary to strive and strain for them in the personal consciousness.

What do the lilies of the field represent?

They represent our unquestioning acceptance as our birthright of the good that surrounds us on all sides.

What search is all-important?

The search for the kingdom of heaven and its righteousness. When this quest is successful and the Christ consciousness is gained, our other wants and hungers are met and satisfied, because the kingdom of heaven includes them all.

Does worrying (being anxious) have constructive power?

No. It invariably tears down or destroys. "Which of you by being anxious can add one cubit unto the measure of his life?"

To Be Held in the Silence

I have regard for the rights of others, and until those rights are established I deny the right of the self in me to any claim on my attention.

(The lesson for next Sunday is from Exod. 20:16; Prov. 26:23-28; Matt. 26:69-75.)

Give God a Chance

(Continued from page 3)

He will answer your need.

Life is only worth while when you become a follower of Him who gives you the inspiration that changes the gloom of despair to the brightness of happiness and peace. Give God a chance, and see what glorious things are in store for you!

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