

# WEEKLY UNITY

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

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5 CENTS A COPY

## Bless Your Tomorrows

BY HELEN KENT

HAVE YOU ever been unhappy? What a silly question, you say, empty and unimaginative. Picture the man or even the child who has never been unhappy!

But perhaps we can rephrase it. Have you ever learned anything by being unhappy?

If not, isn't it time you did!

The oft-quoted saying is true. It is not events but what we dredge up from them that makes or breaks us.

Maeterlinck says, "Speak not of destiny when the event that has brought you joy or sadness has still altered nothing in your manner of regarding the universe"; and again: "The soul that is misunderstood is most often the one that has made the least effort to gain some knowledge of self." "I have known more than one life that love broke asunder; but if it had not been love, these lives would no doubt have been broken no less by friendship or apathy, by doubt, hesitation, indifference, inaction. For that only which in itself is fragile can be rent in the heart by love; and where all is broken that the heart contains, then must all have been far too frail."

Step out of the personal! You will never learn unless you stop

brooding on what this means to *you*, what it cost *you*.

Take two people who have suffered tragedy. One has emerged with understanding and a certain serenity; the other is a whining grouch. The great soul grasped the mass performance of life—not one man's grief but all men's—and emerged greatly endowed. The meager soul saw self in every experience and emerged stripped of beauty.

Let us try it. Let us accept happiness as a possibility and go after it slowly, carefully, if events have whipped out most of our verve, but after it!

What is it that we are afraid of? Fear is at the bottom of most unhappiness. Most of us can endure the present moment. The dreadful thing that may grow out of it is what we brood upon, and from this our troubles are hatched.

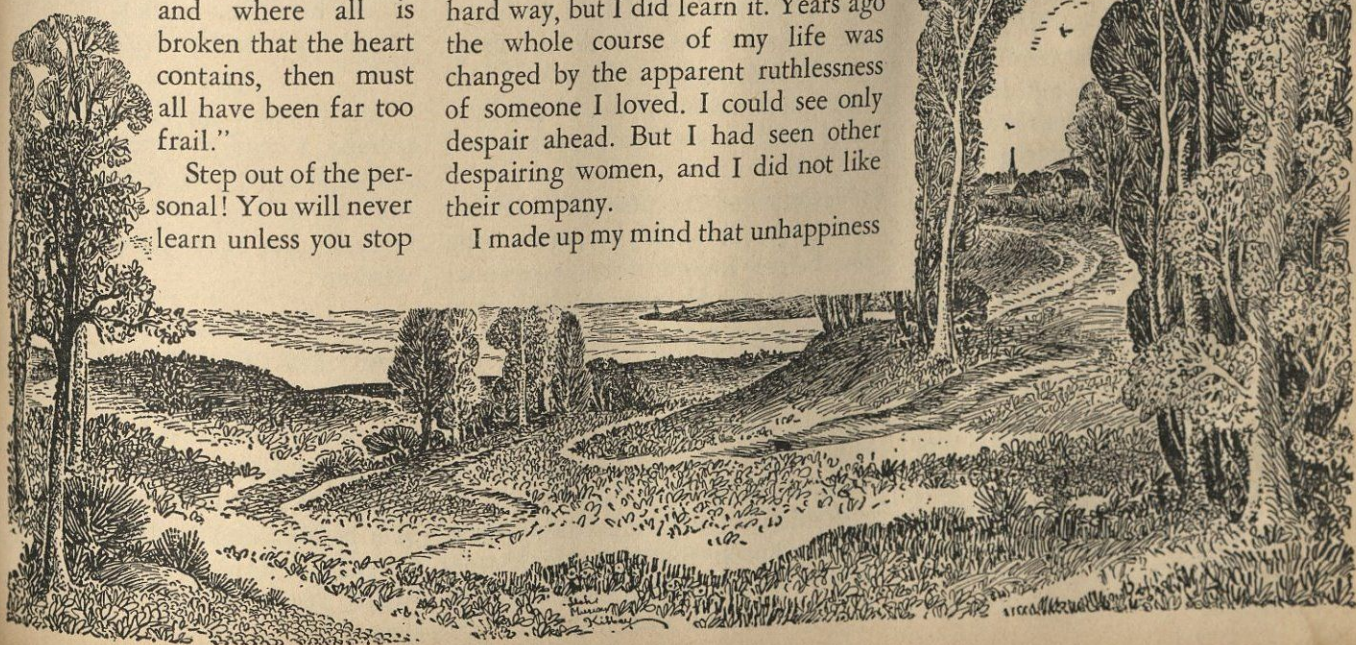
The thing we have to lick is our tomorrows.

So let us bless them. Nothing can deflect a blessing. I learned this the hard way, but I did learn it. Years ago the whole course of my life was changed by the apparent ruthlessness of someone I loved. I could see only despair ahead. But I had seen other despairing women, and I did not like their company.

I made up my mind that unhappiness

might be my portion, but bitterness should not be. Something told me that the only way to escape bitterness was to bless the one who had injured me. I was so unhappy that even in public, on streetcars, or while shopping in the midst of strangers, I was constantly humiliated by sudden tears streaming down my face.

I was the horrible example of the person who saw self and only self in everything. But I had considerable stubbornness. I had promised myself to bless the person each time I remembered, and I remembered on an





average a dozen times an hour.

The blessing I chose was the old priestly benediction in Numbers: "The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: the Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace."

As I thought of this person twelve times during each hourly hell, accordingly a dozen times an hour I repeated this blessing—desperately, sometimes angrily, and so blasphemously. But I repeated it. With time it came always to be sincere. It is hard to say those beautiful words mockingly or grudgingly, almost impossible to say them bitterly. With time I learned to think of my loss less often. Incredibly (to me) the day came when it was perhaps only once an hour; then once a day. Finally the intervals were measured by weeks, and I was free, and by that time it did not matter whether I thought of my loss at all. By that time I had learned that I had needed the lesson.

It was a wonderful lesson; not ruthless, as I had thought, or even cruel. Without the realization that I needed the lesson the whole experience would have been barren.

Many times since then I have used the ancient priestly benediction. I have seen it work strangely to solve the seemingly unsolvable. I have even seen it solve the mystery of a theft.

During the days of gasoline rationing a friend who was dependent on a bicycle had it stolen. The police offered no hope. There was an epidemic of such thefts in town, for bicycles were precious. Thieves, mostly boys, were stealing them, repainting them, and offering them for sale again.

It occurred to me that here was another opportunity for my blessing. Who needed it more than those reckless boys? Persistently, before I went to sleep, I thought of the boy who presumably had taken this wheel. I thought of his need as well as my friend's, and I knew that each would find an answer to his problem. As I thought of the thief my irritation at



## The Talisman of Prayer

By Frances McKinnon Morton

**P**RAYER is a living source of light to me,  
A window where my heart looks out to see  
The fadeless hills of God's eternity.

It has the priceless power to bless and bind  
In one my hands, my heart, my vagrant mind,  
And gives me kinship with all human-kind;

And then a contact with bright heavenly things  
That thrills me with the strength and poise it brings  
And gives my prisoned spirit lifting wings.

Prayer is the talisman of all my days,  
My song, my sacred instrument of praise,  
My guiding star upon life's tangled ways.

It is the secret source of that bright spring  
Where faith and hope together dwell and sing  
Because God's love is over everything.

How rich a gift this privilege to pray,  
To keep God's presence with us every day  
And have His power and love to light the way!

the petty theft vanished. I blessed him, and I blessed my friend with the same words, seeing them with the Lord's face so "shining" upon them that there were no dark corners for dishonesty or anger to hide.

The next morning the bicycle was found hidden in some bushes undamaged.

Nevertheless the power of blessing dawned on me slowly. It was a long time before I used it on impersonal tomorrows. I had to go through years of nerves, insomnia, and worry before that occurred to me.

I was afraid, always afraid. The tangible, the definite incident, I had made progress in learning to handle. But the uncertainty, the worry of what the next day might bring forth was the hurdle that threw me. Sometimes it was money, sometimes it was friends. Always it was lack.

There was no lack, I knew, in God, nor in a blessing. Finally the realization dawned. The two thoughts had made connection.

I suppose I could have adapted the words of the benediction. I am sure they would have been adequate, as always. But instead I reasoned out a new benediction. All time was God's. The past, the present, the future. The past I had endured, the present I was enduring. But I did not want merely to endure the future. That was not good enough. I wanted to look forward to it, expectantly, joyously. So I made my blessing to fit that desire, adapting a statement that Unity had sent me long before.

Every night as I lay sleepless I said it over and over.

"Tomorrow is God's day, richly filled with all good gifts. I trust, accept, and praise its blessings."

I could not quite say that, you see, of today. It had to be a little ahead!

But after many such nights I woke up refreshed after my first sound sleep, spontaneously I said it over again—for today! Just as while I slept tomorrow had become today, so, painlessly—if I claimed it—my blessing would illumine and perfect the present too.

It transformed my life, as that incident long ago which chained me once to grief had never done. Because this blessing changed *me*, not just events.

It will transform you. Try it each night, and when you begin to feel it working try it for each morning too. Remember the power of a blessing cannot be deflected. It is the deflector of unhappiness, loneliness, poverty, all lack.

Many years ago in a newspaper column I read a little verse. If the author's name was given I failed to note it, but I have never forgotten the verse. It was simple and packed with wisdom.

"Day hides the stars from us  
Does life, the luminous, efface  
The greater part, the wider glory too,  
Till it be done?"

The mortal day may blind us to our good, but the luminosity of a blessing is a gentle thing. It illumines our way serenely, unfolds it perfectly in God's plan. Try it and see the good that comes.



## God Is Right Here

By Dorothy Banker

WE WERE newcomers in a strange town the day my husband's secretary telephoned that he had been hurt in an accident at the plant—"We hope not too seriously—he's in the company hospital. Mr. Sellers will come for you."

"It will save time if I drive over. I'll leave at once."

Our apartment house manager, hearing my questions, said, "Is he hurt bad?"

"I hope not," I told her and refused to think what "not too seriously" might mean. She offered to care for our Roger, five, and David, three. "It's a fifteen-mile drive, and the boys would just be in your way."

"Their father will want to see them."

As I drove slowly, because of heavy rainfall, the children were unusually quiet. I had not told them that Daddy was hurt, but they knew something was wrong.

"Why are we going to see Daddy? Why isn't he just coming home?" said Roger.

David echoed the question until I explained carefully, "Daddy's hurt a little, but he will be all right."

I wished I could think he would be all right. Fear tore at me until I could scarcely see the road. For a second I closed my eyes, trying to think of Stephen as unhurt and full of vitality, but I could only visualize him as broken in an unknown way.

Watching the road with determination, I tried not to think. Silence grew more and more tense inside the misted windows of the car.

Then David's voice rose shrilly, "Mamma, where's God?"

I fumbled to reply.

Roger spoke in a voice so like his father's that for an instant I thought he was Stephen.

"God is everywhere, David."

"Where's everywhere?"

"Everywhere. Don't you remember Daddy told you so? And Daddy knows 'cause he read it in the Bible."

Clearly, as if he were at home instead of in the hospital, I could hear Stephen read, "Lord, thou hast been our dwelling-place in all generations," and proceed to answer quick questions with "That's just another way of telling us God is everywhere, and we al-

ready know that, don't we?"

Now David asked: "Yes, but where's everywhere, Roger? Where?" His words were not too clearly enunciated, but they were insistent.

"Everywhere is—everywhere is—" Roger stumbled. Then he said emphatically, "Why, everywhere is here. Move over, David, and give God room."

His little hand pulled David away from me and over to the far edge of the car seat. "There, God's got room now."

"Yes, He's got room." David lapsed into satisfied silence, patted the seat, and kept on patting it quietly.

The rest of the way to the hospital I kept hearing Stephen's voice as clearly as when he sat in our living room with a son on each arm of his chair reading from the Bible.

"*'He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. . . . There shall no evil befall me.'*"

When we reached the hospital a doctor met us. He said, "Your husband is not hurt as seriously as we thought. He's responding to treatment, and he'd like to see you and the children."

He had been badly hurt, I could see, but already he was better. The boys stood away from the bed, looking at him shyly, silently. He said, "Hi, Roger, Hi, David," just as he always did when he came home.

With this encouragement David said, "Daddy, guess what! God was in the car coming over."

Stephen looked at me questioningly, smiled, and said, "Sure Son, God was in the car, for God is everywhere."

"And David and I moved over to give Him room," said Roger.

"That's right." Stephen reached out and brought them close against the bed, against his shoulder. "We must always give Him room, always."

Over the boys' heads his eyes came to me and said he was all right.

## Prayer for Permanent Peace

By S. Dan Gunderson

Dear Father, help us efface our self-centered desires and make mutual surrenders for the comfort and good of all.

May Thy revelation of Fatherhood fashion the peoples of the world into one family in which righteousness and joy may dwell.

## God Multiplies Our Gifts

By Hazel Abbott

ONE OF the first signs of spiritual growth and progress that becomes evident in new Truth students is the gradual deepening of desire to help others and the new joy they find in sharing their own abundance. Quite frequently however they find their well-intended efforts bringing rather discouraging results. Gifts and kindnesses go unappreciated by seemingly ungrateful people. Can it be that we do not always know how to give rightly?

For many years I had a friend whom I shall call Ruth. When I first knew her she was successful, happy, and in good health. She drew friends to her as a magnet draws steel, with her warmhearted and generous disposition. Her whole philosophy was summed up in "Enjoy today and let the future take care of itself." As Truth students we too face the future with confidence, but there is a basis for our faith. We know the source of our supply. Ruth did not; she merely disregarded the whole matter.

Then the picture changed. Her health began to fail, with the result that she had to take part-time or poorer-paying jobs. Her small savings dwindled, and her friends, while sympathetic, were in no position to help. Her courage in the face of repeated adversity won my admiration, and as she turned to me more and more often for help I never failed to respond. Willingly I assumed the burden I could not really afford of helping her financially, worrying over her, and as I realized later, taking over the responsibility of directing her every move!

As time went on however her situation became worse, and I was not able to help enough. Frantically I asked myself (not God): "What will happen to her now? What can I do?"

It was at this time that I started to study Truth. For the first time I was able to sleep at night, relaxing in the knowledge that in some wonderful way God had taken over the burden of caring for Ruth. Her situation improved when a friend whom she had not heard from for two years located her and used her influence to have her placed in a fine nursing home. My heart sang with gratitude! I doubt very much if we ever really forget our



first big demonstration!

While she was making slow but steady progress I did a little soul searching on my own part. "Why," I asked myself, "has Ruth come into this unhappy situation in her life? Where has she made her mistake in wrong thinking?" She had never been stingy or "poor minded," I was sure. She had been loving and generous almost to a fault, and yet—

Then I came across a passage in a book I was reading, which said: "You must remain personally detached from the other fellow's problems but united with him through the bond of understanding and love. When you try to mind the other fellow's business you assume the responsibility of solving his problems." Elsewhere I read more on the subject of giving to another's prosperity, not to his poverty. How often I had given amiss! I had given in love to be sure but love so mixed with pity that I had always told myself it was not nearly enough to really help. No wonder then that even God had had difficulty getting through to help her when I and all of her other friends were continually thinking of her as being poor and sick and without hope for the future.

Since then I have changed my method of helping her, for I still help. I am sure God does not want us to turn our back on others in their need because we have gained a new conception of Him. Instead we help with our continual prayers for their welfare and by optimistic thoughts of them, holding fast to the idea that the future is brighter for them than the present seems to be.

Although my gifts to Ruth are now limited to those I would give to any good friend, plus the little extras that mean so much to a sick person, she is better off in every way. Other friends, who probably depended on me to do their share, have remembered her in many loving ways. Best of all, she is beginning to help herself, and that is what I wanted more than anything else for her. She leaves the hospital soon, her health restored, ready to put her new ideas to work. When God takes charge He makes our efforts seem weak indeed. Then we truly see that when we give in His name our gifts are multiplied and blessed.

He who would eat the kernal, must crack the shell.—*Plautus*.

# Things to Be Remembered

By Lowell Fillmore

## + How to Make Your Work Easy

**R**EMEMBER that any difficulty encountered in doing your work, whether that work is spiritual, mental, or physical, is usually due in a greater degree to your adverse attitude toward the work than to the character of the work itself.

There is an easy way and a hard way to do every job.

Approach a distasteful job in a friendly way, with interest, confidence, and enthusiasm, and it will become easy and pleasant. If on the other hand you dread the chore and fear it, or are uninterested in it, you will find it not so easy.

No one ever did a job very well or got much pleasure out of it who took the attitude that it cannot be done. If you tackle a job without feeling any interest in it, or if you think it is not worth while, or if you are afraid of it, you will find it to be a hard job.

You can make a job more pleasant and easy if you will cultivate confidence in your ability to do it or at least to have faith that you can find a way to do it. Know that by the help of God you can discover a way and you will not fail. When you think of a way in which it might be done before you start to work you will open your consciousness to a trend of new ideas that will help you to do the job in a manner that will reflect credit upon you.

New ideas will flow into your mind when you clear the channel by exercising your faith in God's omnipresent wisdom. If you will spend a little time in silent prayer before you actually start working you will be ready to begin the work with joy and enthusiasm.

Before you do something that seems to be difficult say silently: "God goes before me, revealing clearly to me an easy and efficient way to proceed." And if this work requires some time to finish, become quiet a moment now and then while doing it so as to let God show you the next step to take, and so as to receive His blessing while you are at work.

All that you need to know about doing a job is already known to God, and He is ready and waiting to reveal

this information to you as soon as you open the way with your faith. God is omniscient, and He will reveal a way to you when you have silenced the voice of your personal ego and are ready to listen to His still small voice.

The demands, opinions, ambitions, and whims of the personal ego shut out the voice of spiritual wisdom. When you have subdued your turbulent thoughts with the command "Peace, be still," you will be ready to receive wisdom from on high, and you will be amazed at the good ideas that God will reveal to you to aid you in making your work effective and interesting.

Every duty and every project that you undertake can be made easy and joyous if you will do it fearlessly to the glory of God. There is nothing too great or too small for God to help you do, so you do not need to hesitate to enlist His aid in everything you undertake.

### Suggestions for Daily Meditation

(Beginning Sunday, September 22)

Sunday. *All work that I do in God's service is pleasant and exhilarating.*

Monday. *I love my work, and my work loves me.*

Tuesday. *I am not afraid of work. God and I are a majority, and nothing is impossible to us.*

Wednesday. *God goes before me, revealing clearly to me an easy and efficient way to proceed.*

Thursday. *Infinite wisdom knows how to do all things, and reveals to me an efficient way to do my work.*

Friday. *Peace, be still, my personal will, and listen to the quiet voice of divine wisdom.*

Saturday. *Because I do all my work to the glory of God I am prospered in all my ways.*

Peace is a spirit. Brotherhood is a spirit. Neighborliness is a spirit. Internationality is a spirit. It is only in the increase of these spiritual resources that there lies the hope of a warless world.—*The Rev. Dr. Samuel H. Prince.*



# THE SOCIETY OF SILENT UNITY

THE HEALING DEPARTMENT OF UNITY SCHOOL

## \* A Message to You: Radiance

Dear Friend:

Sometimes you may feel that we write too frequently about light, but light was the first step in the creation of our world, and it is evermore the first step of the revelation of God and Truth within each soul. Without light there would have been no world of ours. Without light there would be no "you."

"The earth was waste and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep: and the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good."

Even so does the Spirit of God move upon all that is waste and void, all that is negative and dark within the soul. And God speaks to the soul, not in condemnation but with understanding. He does not say, "Why all this darkness in the man of light that I created? Why all this waste and void in that which I made in my image and likeness?" God says, as He always says in the beginning of every good-creating work, "Let there be light."

Now the quickening of your soul, the setting aflame of your understanding with the light of His Spirit, is a good-creating work, a mighty and eternal work. God remedies the darkness that may be in you, the darkness of ignorance, sin, disease, lack, and in-harmony. God remedies them with the light of Spirit. He sees the light that it is good. You see the light too, dear friend, and you find it good. You see wholeness in the light of God where before you had seen only suffering and disease. You see abundant substance where lack had held your attention. You see order appearing out of darkest chaos. You see the light and you see, just as God sees, that the light is good.

"Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: they all gather themselves together, they come to thee . . . Then thou shalt see and be radiant, and thy heart shall thrill and be enlarged." Yes, beloved, lift up your eyes

round about, and see the love of God made manifest. See the beauty of His glory. See the works of His faith. See the effulgence of His joyous presence. Then will you be radiant within and without. His brightness shining through you will draw many out of the darkness, lift the sufferer from his sickbed, free the spirit of the oppressed

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

**My understanding is aflame with the light of Spirit.**

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

**I rest in the consciousness of God's superabundance, and my prosperity is assured.**

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

**I realize the perfection of the Spirit within me, and health is made manifest in my body.**

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and imprisoned, enlighten the soul that sits in darkness. Then will your heart thrill and its capacity for divine love be enlarged. Then will all pettiness, fear, ill will, sorrow, and unrest be cleansed from your heart by the inflow of God's radiant love. Then will you exclaim, "My understanding is aflame with the light of Spirit," and it will be so.

*Your understanding is aflame with the light of Spirit.*

In Spirit and in truth that is so. The image and likeness of God within you is a living flame of divine light and perfection.

Remember the earth was waste and void and there was darkness upon the face of the waters until God said, "Let there be light." God made you His co-creator when He made you in His likeness and breathed into you His breath, His Spirit.

God gave you His power. He implanted His word in your soul. When things seem waste and void to you, when confusion reigns and darkness rests upon the face of the waters, is there nothing you can do about it? Before you answer stop and think. God made you in His likeness. He gave you dominion to act. What would God do if He stood in your place and faced the void of lost ideals, disturbed conditions, wasted opportunities, unfulfilled visions? He would do just what He has given you the power to do, He would say, "Let there be light," and immediately there would be light for every need.

Knowing now that your soul is aflame with the light of Spirit, the ever-luminous Spirit that is God, you too can say with light-creating power, "Let there be light." Out of the void the lost ideals will come alive again, disturbed conditions will be righted, new opportunities will appear, and all things will work together for divine order and splendor.

"They looked unto him, and were radiant;

And their faces shall never be confounded."

The words that David spoke of his people are true of you. Your understanding is aflame with the light of Spirit. The flame burns high and steady when you look unto the radiance of God within. It burns up the dross. The good, the true, the love-bearing, the life-lifting truth of God irradiates you. You look unto Him and you are radiant, radiant with the light that reveals to you His power, His presence, His way. Your face shall never be confounded, your countenance shall never be clouded by error so long as you look unto Him, for God Himself is your everlasting light. In Him is no darkness at all.

"Christ shall shine upon thee."

"His countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength."

"Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He that hath ears, let him hear."

*Your understanding is aflame with the light of Spirit.*

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee."

Praise God!

*Silent Unity.*



## Someone Prayed

### No Delay in Spirit

*Dear Friends:* This is a tardy report to you on the two problems for help with which I asked your prayers.

I was called to Kansas City from D— last July because my mother was ill. She was mentally ill and believed that neighbors were persecuting her. Reasoning with her was difficult. The doctor had done all he was capable of doing and upon my arrival was thinking of putting her in a hospital. I called Silent Unity for guidance and help in prayer in speaking the Truth for Mother. I know you will rejoice with me to know that within a week's time she was again her happy, normal self. Thank you for your steadfastness in praying for Mother's perfect health.

My own problem was a chest condition about which I called you. Though I tried to hold fast to Truth I was losing ground and needed your help. I shall not go into an unpleasant account of the symptoms, but I do want you to know that my recovery was swift. So you see I have much to thank God for. I am truly grateful in the knowledge He is ever ready to help.—L. G. H.

### Awakening of Faith

Editor's Note: The letter that appears below was written by a prisoner to his sister. We publish it with the full permission of the writer.

*My dear Ruby:* This week, while I do not owe you a letter, I want to take the opportunity to tell you about a weekly paper that I have been reading frequently for a year or so, but almost every week now for the last few months. It is called WEEKLY UNITY and is published by the Unity School of Christianity, in Kansas City, Mo. I am inclosing a copy.

For some time I have been thinking of writing to you about this, for I so often think about your health. But I have been afraid that you or A— would think that I had just gotten hold of something new and was carried away with it for the time being. So I have waited until I was convinced myself. First I want to tell you that Unity is not another church. It is for all church people, for all Christians. It does not interfere with anyone's church affiliations, in fact it is particularly co-operative with the church. Especially do I find it compatible with our Baptist and Methodist faiths. Second, it is no "miracle healing" as we think of it; neither is it "holiness healing," as we think of that. But it is thought healing, heart healing, soul healing; as a result our body is healed. Most of our body ailments begin with a sick mind; and end with a healthy mind.

I did not think much of it at first myself, and perhaps you may not. But I ask

that you read this one copy quietly and thoughtfully and prayerfully. I believe you will become mildly interested, for you can see from the beginning the common sense in it. Also you will find these true stories very interesting—and from people just like ourselves. Be sure and read the first story, "Inventory of Faith," and I hope that you will read every word in the whole paper, and I want you to let me know if you find it interesting. If you will do this I will send you the next copy, by the time you read three copies you will be able to tell the difference in your feelings.

You know that I am not a religious fanatic, and you know that I would not take a whole letter to tell you something like a myth. But I do write you because I have found from my own experience that it is Truth, and because it has done so much for me already. I believe it will do as much for you. When it has, then you will pass it on to somebody else. Just try it, won't you? Love.—R.

### Pray in Faith

*Dear Friends in Unity:* My heart overflows this June morning because of God's wonderful answer to prayer, and not in any halfway sense—no, but "pressed down" and "running over."

About a year ago in desperation I wrote to you asking you to pray for my husband, who had been suffering with arthritis for three years. He could hardly walk, and his hands were almost useless. Doctors one after another gave up.

Through a friend we went to a doctor who was a friend of the Unity leader here and who attended the local center. That was the start of my interest in Unity. I began going regularly to the services and sent for WEEKLY UNITY and *Daily Word*. A wonderful feeling of peace seemed to enter our home and each one of us.

My husband began to improve at once. His business, which was lagging because of his ill-health, began to improve, and each month has shown a gain. Just a few days ago he went to a diagnostician for a complete examination, and this man proved to be the doctor who gave us no hope but

recommended prayer. After this examination he pronounced my husband perfect, yes, perfect in every way. No wonder I feel like shouting from the housetops what prayer can do. Thank you again and again, dear friends. God bless each of you in your great work.

I have sent WEEKLY UNITY to eight other folk who need comfort, and I know they will find it if they pray, "believing and not "wondering."—I. S.

### His Blessings Are Many

*Dear Weekly Unity:* Very likely my experience is one that is familiar to you, but because it is new to me I would like to relate it to you.

Eighteen months ago three doctors gave me the choice of two years to live or of having an operation from which I had one chance in a hundred of recovering. I decided upon the operation.

I went to see a friend of mine. She had worked with me in an office, but our friendship had gone beyond our daily work. I noticed she was calm as I spoke, and when I finished she said: "Have you ever heard of Unity? I'm going to write them to pray for you when you have your operation."

More for friendship's sake than belief I told her the date and time and then promptly forgot it; that is, until two weeks later, when I was in the hospital and the morning of the operation arrived. I had slept fitfully the night before and had just fallen asleep at 4:30 a. m. With a start, I awoke with my friend's name on my lips, and a feeling of quiet enveloped me. It lasted for only an instant, as the nurse appeared and the operation was at hand.

I firmly believed that it was my luck—or "nine" lives—that had pulled me through my thirteen years of illness and that last operation, so I was, I must admit, somewhat annoyed when shortly afterward your notice arrived that my friend had sent me a subscription for WEEKLY UNITY. For the first few weeks I did not even look at them; I put them aside. Then somehow I started reading one. Then I read it every week. Now I read each one the day it arrives and I have gone back and read all the others.

The doctors have pronounced me well, in fact, their reports have been increasingly better in the last few months, since I found myself believing in God and myself again.

This is a roundabout way of saying, thank you for your wonderful thoughts and help. I have never written a fan letter, and I do not always believe testimonials, but I have written this from my heart. You see, I not only have my health back but I have a wonderful new job in advertising, that I have wanted for a long time.—M. J. S.

### Someone Prayed

How do I know that someone prayed? My troubled mind became calm and still. Filling my heart with peace and good will—That's how I know that someone prayed. Let's pray.

—Carolyn Knickman

### A Message to Parents

• Remember those long winter days when as a child, you scoured every available magazine to find some entertaining story or poem? Now with children of your own, you know from experience the importance of a magazine designed for children. Unity also recognizes this need and meets it with **Wee Wisdom** magazine, especially published for those between the ages of five and thirteen. **Wee Wisdom**, packed with character-building stories, poems, and suggestions for things to do, is a wonderful help in providing entertainment for your children on cold days of winter—or any other season of the year. Price, \$1 for a year's subscription.

UNITY SCHOOL OF CHRISTIANITY  
917 TRACY, KANSAS CITY 6, MO.



## Responsive Service

Sunday, September 22, 1946

Unity Subject—*The Golden Rule*

INTERNATIONAL SUBJECT—*The Practice of Neighborliness*.—Exod. 22:21-23; Deut. 24: 14, 15; Matt. 25:34-41

Unless otherwise specified, the Bible text used in this lesson is taken from the American Standard Version of the Bible, copyright, 1929, by the International Council of Religious Education, and is used by permission.

21. And a sojourner shalt thou not wrong, neither shalt thou oppress him: for ye were sojourners in the land of Egypt.

22. Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child.

23. If thou afflict them at all, and they cry at all unto me, I will surely hear their cry.

14. Thou shalt not oppress a hired servant that is poor and needy, whether he be of thy brethren, or of thy sojourners that are in thy land within thy gates:

15. In his day thou shalt give him his hire, neither shall the sun go down upon it (for he is poor, and setteth his heart upon it); lest he cry against thee unto Jehovah, and it be sin unto thee.

34. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world;

35. For I was hungry, and ye gave me to eat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in;

36. Naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick, and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

37. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee hungry, and fed thee? or athirst, and gave thee drink?

38. And when saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

39. And when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

40. And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of these my brethren, even these least, ye did it unto me.

41. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into the eternal fire which is prepared for the devil and his angels.

### Lesson Interpretation

How were the commandments against wronging or afflicting the sojourner, the widow, the fatherless child, and the poor restated by Jesus in comprehensive and constructive form?

In the Golden Rule: "All things therefore whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do ye also unto them: for this is the law."

When we willingly discharge our

responsibilities as citizens, what reward accrues to us?

The stability and maturity of outlook that helps qualify us for citizenship in the kingdom of God.

How do we insure an inheritance for ourselves in the heavenly kingdom?

By unselfish acts of mercy, generosity, hospitality, justice, and compassion; in other words, by social service in its most devoted form.

What form of well-doing blesses the doer?

That which is done without thought of reward, from principle rather than from a desire for personal glory. Where the good is loved and served through love, with the unconsciousness of self that love makes possible, the doer is blessed in the doing and asks no other reward.

Can the habit of taking thought for others equally with ourselves be developed?

We can develop it by thinking of ourselves only as part of the whole body of society and of others as equally important parts of it. What affects one affects all, therefore our thought may embrace all alike.

What is the dividing line between poor judgment and good judgment?

It is the line that divides the consciousness of self from the consciousness of the universal life. When we live in the consciousness of universal life we recognize the right of others to our attention and service.

What is the kingdom that is prepared for us "from the foundation of the world"?

The kingdom within us, over which each of us is to exercise dominion and power.

As given in this lesson what is the test of value?

Service or the unselfish thought is the one thing that is accounted good.

What is the test of the good that anyone does?

The spirit or motive that underlies the act. If it is done in the Christ spirit of love, it is a good act. If it is done from an inferior or ulterior motive, it is a bad act as far as the doer is concerned, and he reaps the reward of his motive rather than that of the act itself.

### To Be Held in the Silence

My will is to enter into the life of others and see myself in them.

(The lesson for next Sunday is from Psalms 119:33-38; Matt. 5:43-48.)

### The Purpose of Unity

The purpose of Unity School is not to found another sect, but to show all men their common aim and their common brotherhood; not to separate them or to emphasize their differences, but to bind them together more closely. Through helping churchgoers to apply to their daily living the principles taught by Jesus Christ, Unity makes any church affiliation even more practical.

Unity School spreads its teachings largely by means of its literature, which interprets the Scripture metaphysically and explains the action of the mind—the connecting link between God and man. How the mind affects the body, producing discord or harmony, sickness or health, here and now, is made clear in the Unity publications.

Unity centers and study classes are places of religious research for all people, regardless of creed; and places where helpful instruction in Christian living may be received.

## Have a More Successful Life

When you find yourself discontented and unhappy, do you ever ask yourself, "How can I make my life more successful?" If you are ever in this situation, you can gain joy and inspiration by reading "Life Pays," a chapter from Imelda Octavia Shanklin's book *What Are You?* In it the author lays down practical rules which give you a positive outlook on life by helping you recognize life's blessings.

You'll find eight other interesting chapters in *What Are You?* This is an excellent book to help you appraise yourself in the light of Truth. It priced at \$1.

Unity School of Christianity, 917 Tracy Avenue, Kansas City 6, Missouri



## The High Watch

### How Shall They Hear

Time was when the "taking up" of school on the stroke of eight o'clock in the morning in the rural schools throughout the land was followed by the reading of a chapter from the Bible by the teacher, the reciting of the Lord's Prayer by the school in unison, and the singing of a hymn or two. That time has passed, and today's youth need to be made acquainted with the sources of our faith in Christ and to be furnished that sure foundation themselves. Mary Kimbrough, staff writer for the St. Louis Star-Times, describes a modern plan by which the young people of rural communities may be supplied with the fundamentals of faith in God such as those of two generations ago had from their cradles as a matter of course. We quote the Star-Times:

In a rural school of Missouri the teacher opened the book on her desk and began to read:

"Thou shalt have no other gods before me . . . Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters under the earth . . . Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."

As she dismissed the class, a pupil approached her desk.

"What was that book?" he asked.

"The Bible."

The pupil, a 13-year-old Missouri farm boy, looked puzzled.

"What," he asked, "is the Bible?"

Alarmed, the teacher visited the youth's home. His mother, she learned, had "heard" of the Bible, but had never seen it. His father, like the son, did not know such a book was in existence.

This is no fanciful account. It is a true story. Officials at the Bible College of Missouri will vouch for it.

Disclosures such as this—found to be typical of many Missouri farm families—have caused the Bible College, a non-sectarian institution on the campus of the University of Missouri, to focus attention on the state's rural population and its need for ministers and churches.

In co-operation with the College of Agriculture of the University of Missouri, the Bible College has developed a four-year course of study leading to the degree of bachelor of science in agriculture, with an additional year's work leading to the degree of master of rural religious life.

Receipients of these degrees would become rural ministers, living on farms or in tiny rural communities while preaching the gospel and plowing the soil. They would work side by side with their parishioners, become key personalities in their communities, make the church the center of community life.

The first degree, to be awarded by the university, would include such subjects as animal husbandry, field crops, inorganic chemistry, dairy husbandry and preventive medicine, in addition to moral and religious values, life and literature of the New Testament, comparative religion and ethics.

The second degree, with its total emphasis on advanced training in religion, would be awarded by the Bible College.

The Bible College is believed to be the first institution in the country to offer the degree of bachelor of science in agriculture with twenty-six hours in religion, and the first to offer the degree of master of rural religious life.

"Rural Missouri is as important a mission field as is darkest Africa," declared Dean Carl Agee. "The training of rural religious leaders is one of the most neglected areas in American education."

In the school's bulletin announcing its new emphasis on the rural ministry—still in a pioneer, formative stage—is written:

"If rural life in America disintegrates, democracy as we have known it will disappear. Young people on the farm should be inspired to improve the soil so that better and more abundant crops can be produced. They should know farm machinery and how to use it economically. They should know how to build and equip pleasant and attractive homes. They should know how to develop schools and churches that create intelligent and sympathetic community life which will encourage the finest of them to stay on the farms.

"Is it not reasonable that rural ministers should know all about this in order to lead the people toward the more abundant life?"

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## To Those Who Believe in Progress

Do you believe in progress? If you do, you are seeking a better living, a prosperous, successful, and complete life. These blessings can be yours if you will take God into partnership, for He has provided an overflowing abundance of good things to fill your life.

The Prosperity Bank drill can help you establish the habit of prayer so that you can co-operate with God in

bringing true prosperity into your life. Each day as you pray, remember to bless a portion of your substance and place it in the Bank. With the amount you have saved, send WEEKLY UNITY gift subscriptions to your friends so that they may share your blessings. Each day of the Bank drill Silent Unity will pray with you for your prosperity and success.

UNITY SCHOOL OF CHRISTIANITY, 917 TRACY, KANSAS CITY 6, MO.

Please send me a Prosperity Bank and ask Silent Unity to pray with me for my success. I will use the drill seven weeks and save \$3 for the three *Weekly Unity* subscriptions (one year each) here listed, the subscriptions to begin at once.



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## God is Love

Some people have the idea that God punishes. How could God punish? "God is love." The universe is governed by laws however. If we act in harmony with them, they bring us only good; but when because of ignorance or willfulness we do not obey these laws, we reap accordingly. God never punishes man; man punishes himself. God is love, always love, longing to give to us all that He has.—Selected.