



Thoughts for a Terrific Day

11-20





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Cabbage seeds

Have you ever planted a vegetable garden and seen how the plants grow from just tiny little seeds? A very small seed can grow into a big plant!

We grew some different types of cabbage and other vegetables that we'd never grown before. First we planted the tiny seeds into some small containers to begin growing. When the little plants were strong enough we replanted them into the garden soil that we prepared for them.


It was autumn time and they didn't grow very fast, and didn't grow food like we had expected.



The leaves stayed strong, but they didn't grow as they might have if it was warmer weather. By the time the winter passed, however, the cabbage and purple vienna plants had grown pretty tall, even taller than the children!

We didn't harvest them as they didn't grow and make food properly. Rather they just stayed alive and eventually got bigger and taller!


When it was spring we found some of the plant had produced a bit of food we could eat, and the rest of the garden patch was huge, tall, flowering plants going to seed. Things didn't happen just as we had hoped, but we were happy for the bit that we could enjoy.

A tall, thin tree with sparse foliage, possibly a pine or spruce, stands against a bright, hazy sky. The tree is positioned on the left side of the frame, and its branches are silhouetted against the light background. The sky has a gradient from light blue at the top to a pale yellow or orange near the horizon, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall image has a soft, ethereal quality.

The roots of the purple vienna had a bit of substance on them, so we cooked the nibbles they had. Some of the leaves of the cabbage plants were good and we used those. We had a special lunch and cooked what was edible and it was fun.

Looking at those tall plants that now needed to be pulled up and disposed of made us amazed that they had all come from tiny seeds.


If we hadn't planted those seeds, that area of ground would still be dirt or grass and wouldn't be a big job to now clear. It only took tiny seeds to do it.



We learned the importance of tiny little things! Little seeds can grow into big plants. Little words and thoughts can affect our lives in big ways too.

Letting a small seed of a thought into your mind can grow into something that seems like a big deal to you. Thoughts are like seeds and can grow and grow until we are thinking a lot about something.

If a thought isn't growing good things in your mind and life—like the cabbage that never did grow properly—it would be better to plant something else and not let that seed into your heart and mind.



If you let thought-seeds grow that aren't going to benefit you, you'll have a big and tough clean-out job to do, and your mind will look as wild and overgrown as our veggie and cabbage patch did, with odd plants that just grew wild.

It was a good experience learning to plant the seeds and to care for our garden, and we have more to learn so we can make a successful vegetable garden.

Not everything that we try works out real well the first or even the second time. But trying things and learning from the experience is good.

We know more about gardening now than we did before, and we know there is still so much more to learn!

We are going to try again—and this time plant the seeds in the spring, and do our best to make the soil as good as possible for the plants.

***Psalm
139:23,24b***

*Search me, O
God, and
know my
heart: try me,
and know my
thoughts.
Lead me in
the way
everlasting.*

More Birthday Presents

When each of my children had their birthdays this year, each one had the same peculiar and unexpected experience. We, as their parents, had planned many fun and special treats for each one.

We went on extra-special outings, served real delicious food and snacks. There were decorations and activities, and of course presents. And not just one, but it worked out to give several gifts—just the kinds that each child enjoyed.



We all had fun on the outings, and with the snacks, and the activities were enjoyable. Daddy didn't need to go to work on their birthdays, as they fell on days when he didn't go out, so lots of fun play and games with daddy made the days extra special.

It would seem like each birthday was the most perfect day, and that there would be so much joy in the children's hearts that at the end of the day they would be overflowing with many smiles.

What do you supposed happened at the end of the day? Well, on each of their birthdays, no matter how much fun we had, and no matter what great gifts were given, each boy seemed to



feel there wasn't enough fun or presents. It seemed there was something missing in their hearts. They felt sad, and asked at the end of the day if there were any MORE presents. Isn't that surprising, when it was the birthday they had enjoyed, and been given the most on?

See, they wanted a fun and overflowing feeling of joy, and had expected that the presents were going to do that for them.

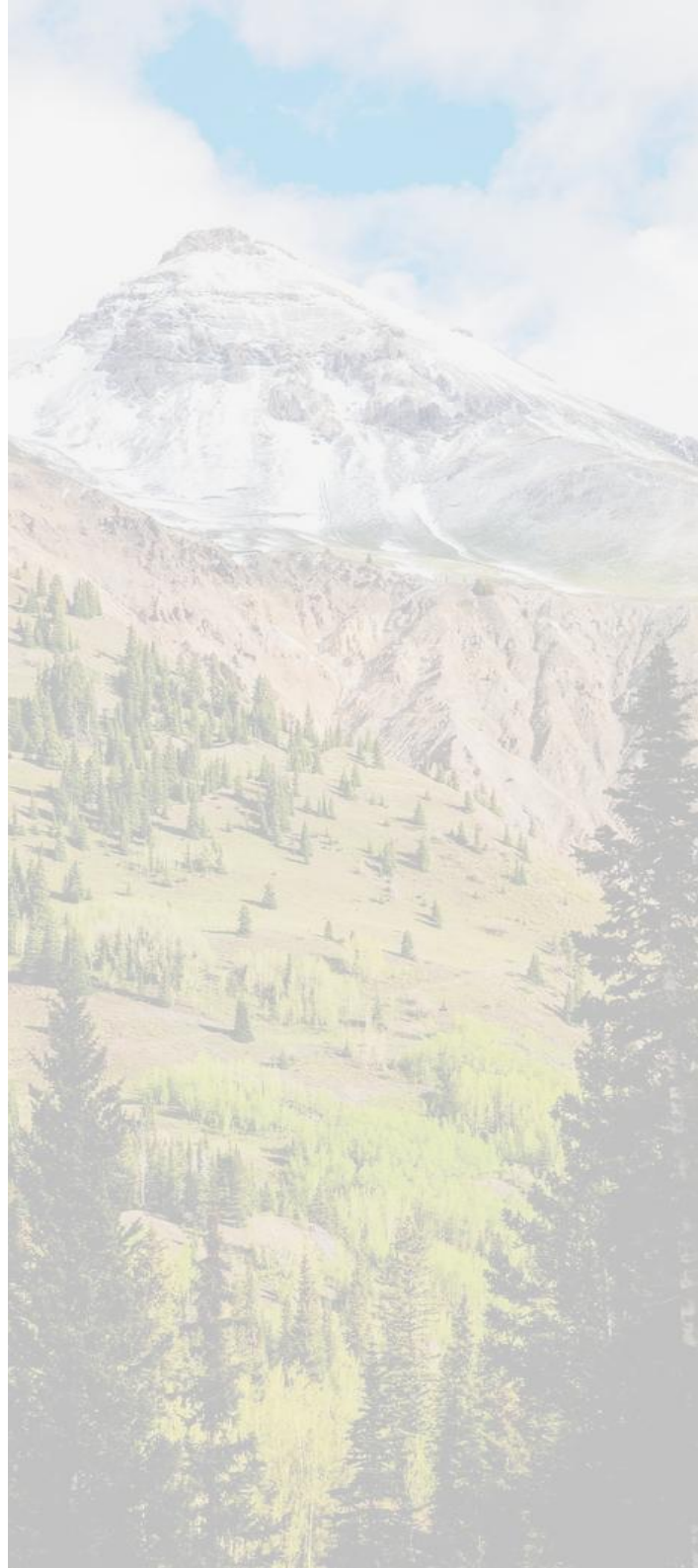
Even though the gifts were very fun and just what they liked, after awhile of playing with the new toy or whatever it was, the little feelings of happiness changed into just feeling normal again.



That is what THINGS do. They don't give you a lasting feeling of joy. After awhile it goes away again.

There's only one place to get that real fun feeling of happiness, and that's from the one who makes it—Jesus! He can give you those nice feelings when you pray, as well as when you do things that please Him.

Giving to others sometimes can make you even happier than getting something yourself. Why is that? That is because helping others, and showing love makes Jesus happy, and often times He gives back to you the gift of joy in return for your kindness to others.



Feeling loved by others can give a wonderful feeling of happiness, because love is from Jesus—the one who creates and gives love and joy. Love and joy come from His Spirit.

So if you are disappointed that you don't feel extra happiness that lasts for a long time after you get something you really wanted, don't be surprised.

Things and items, or even an activity will never give you long-lasting joy. Material possessions aren't alive and can't create anything! –They can't create feelings of happiness, and make it stay in your heart.

If you focus on the love and friendship of the person's who gave the gift to you, knowing of their love will make your heart feel happy.

And if you most of all love Jesus, praise Him, and do things that make Him happy, and you try to give His love to others you will feel more joy in your hearts than just sitting in a room that is stuffed with more and more presents!

Luke 12:15

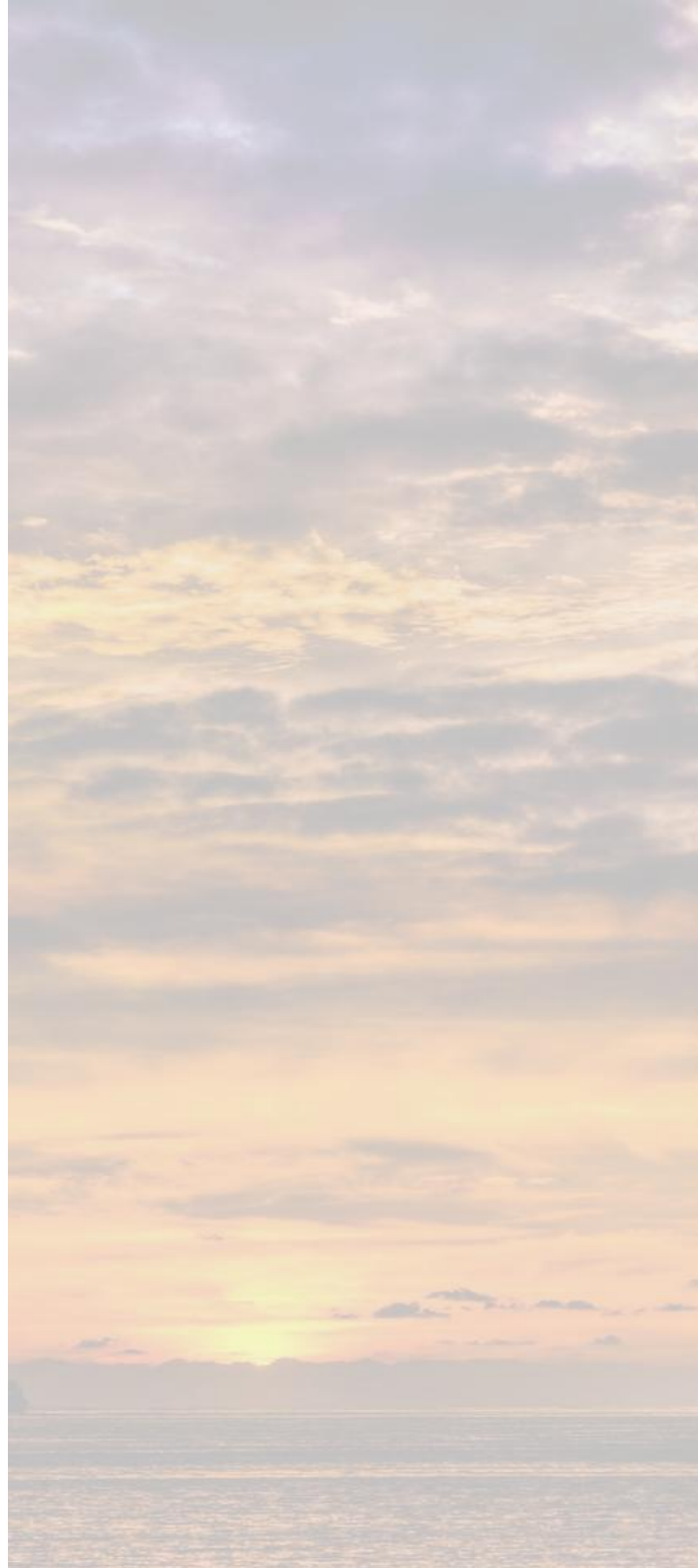
And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

The Selfish Bird and the Ducks

We were staying at a campground near a beach. It was a place with lots of birds and kangaroos around. They were all quite friendly.

The parrots would land on the porch ledge of the cabin we were in and eat the crumbs we placed there.

There were lots of colourful birds like rainbow lorikeets, crimson rosellas, king parrots and such. There were also ducks that waddled around on the grass, snacking on whatever they could find on the ground.




One morning I looked out the window and saw there were several ducks in one area eating together and walking around.

Then came along a “this-is-my-part-of-grass” bird. He had long skinny legs, and felt like eating right there where the ducks were—and being alone.

The campground had plenty of grass, and most of the other grassy areas were completely empty without ducks or other animals there right then. But this selfish bird just wanted to be in that one section—the area where the ducks were.

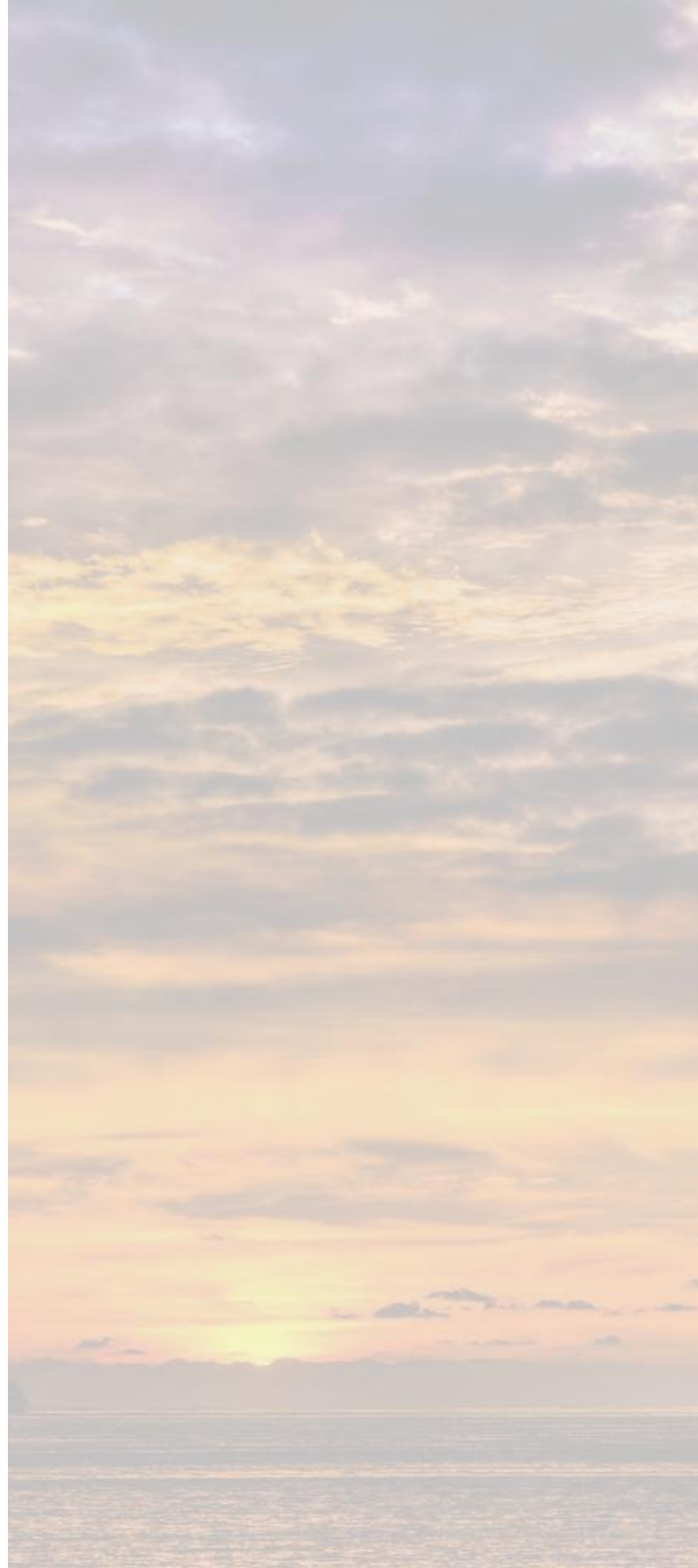
He ran and squawked and chased them away, leaving himself as the only bird in that area.



“Now I can have it all to myself!” it seemed he was thinking as he pecked and snacked on nibbles of grass or bugs. He appeared very unkind and selfish.

It looked rather silly too. He went to the only place the ducks were using and took it all for himself, when there were plenty of other areas he could have been using if he wanted to be alone and eat without other birds around.

Sometimes we feel like playing alone or having quiet time without others around, and it's good to have time alone sometimes.



But it's kind of silly to all be fussing over one certain place, or one certain toy, or one certain chair to sit on, when there are so many other choices and options.

If the bird had just looked around he would have found a great place to go to eat on his own—if that's what he wanted to do. He didn't need to chase the ducks away to do it.

So we might find it helpful to look around and get other ideas of things to play with, or places to enjoy, or a quiet alone-activity without shooing others away, or taking what they are enjoying.

And if you see someone else using something or being somewhere you'd like, rather than thinking, "I want that too!" maybe it would work better to look around first.

You might find something else to do, or somewhere else to be, that is just as good—or even better for you!

1 Corinthians

10:33


*I please all men
in all things, not
seeking mine own
profit, but the
profit of many,
that they may be
saved.*

Rain and More Rain

Just like that song says, “And the rain came down...” that’s what happened on the last day of our three-day vacation.

The first day we travelled and arrived at our cabin it was warm and sunny, and we got to even splash and swim in the shallow beach lake water. The sun was sparkling on the water beautifully. We played in the sand and walked out to see the waves of the beach front that was farther away. It was a nice time.


The next day it was supposed to rain, but the sun shone anyway, and it was a very pretty day.



We did so many things. The day seemed to be so long and filled with one nice thing after the next. Beach walks, sand play, waves splashing, cave exploring, nature walks, finding a large guana (iguana), and when the day was over there was a night walk down to the beach.

We had a great day, and we went to sleep tired and happy in our cosy cabin with fluffy blankets and soft pillows.

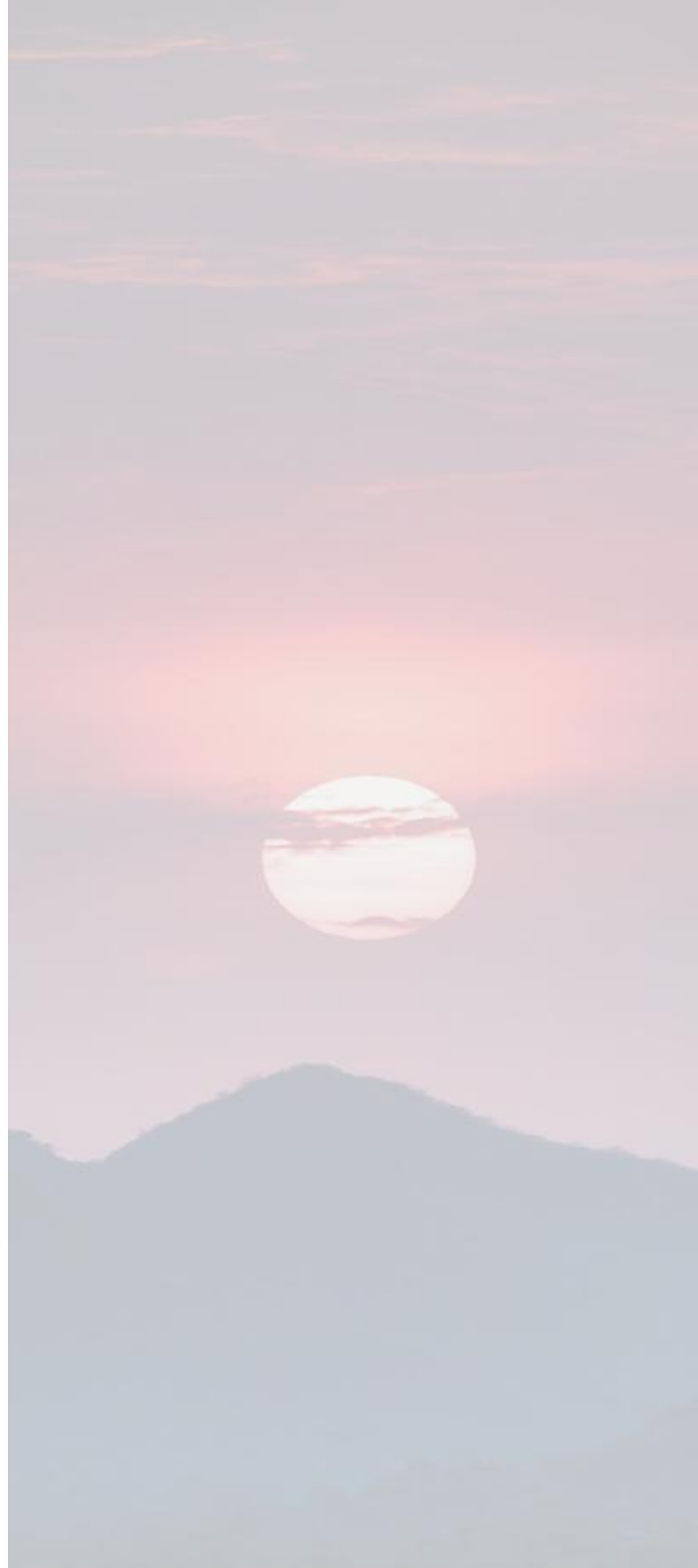
The sounds in the night, however, told that the rain had arrived. It was pouring outside and the wind was blowing. “Maybe it will rain lots in the night and then the sun will shine the next day,” I thought. But that’s not what happened.



It rained all night, and then it continued to pour rain all day too. Oh, dear! Things weren't going as we wanted. There was a nice nature hike we wanted to go on, but couldn't.

We wanted to get some fresh fish for dinner from another town, but due to the very strong rain it was unsafe to drive out as the road was a bit flooded.

So we just had as much fun as we could in the cabin. Here are some of the things we found to do: We played 10 pin bowling with the empty water bottles. We had jumping games on a blow up mattress. We did funny circus tricks and had contests.

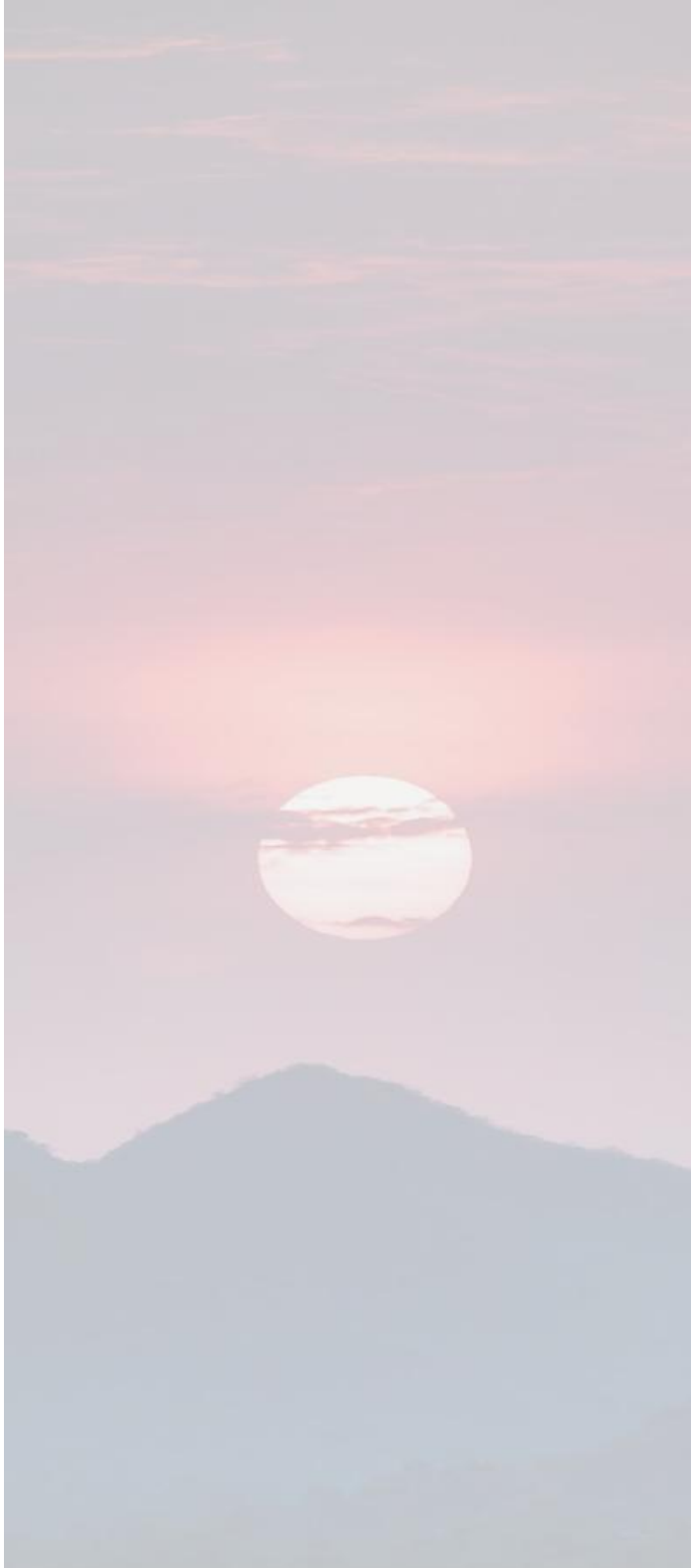


We played our musical instruments and sang songs, as well as played musical games like freeze dance.

It was hard to stay positive some times, but most of the time everyone was brave and cheerful, and our little toddler even made up a fun song to cheer up the others. It said, “Cheer up in the cheer-up house—and you won’t be sad anymore!”

Then we made the best dinner we could with what was available.

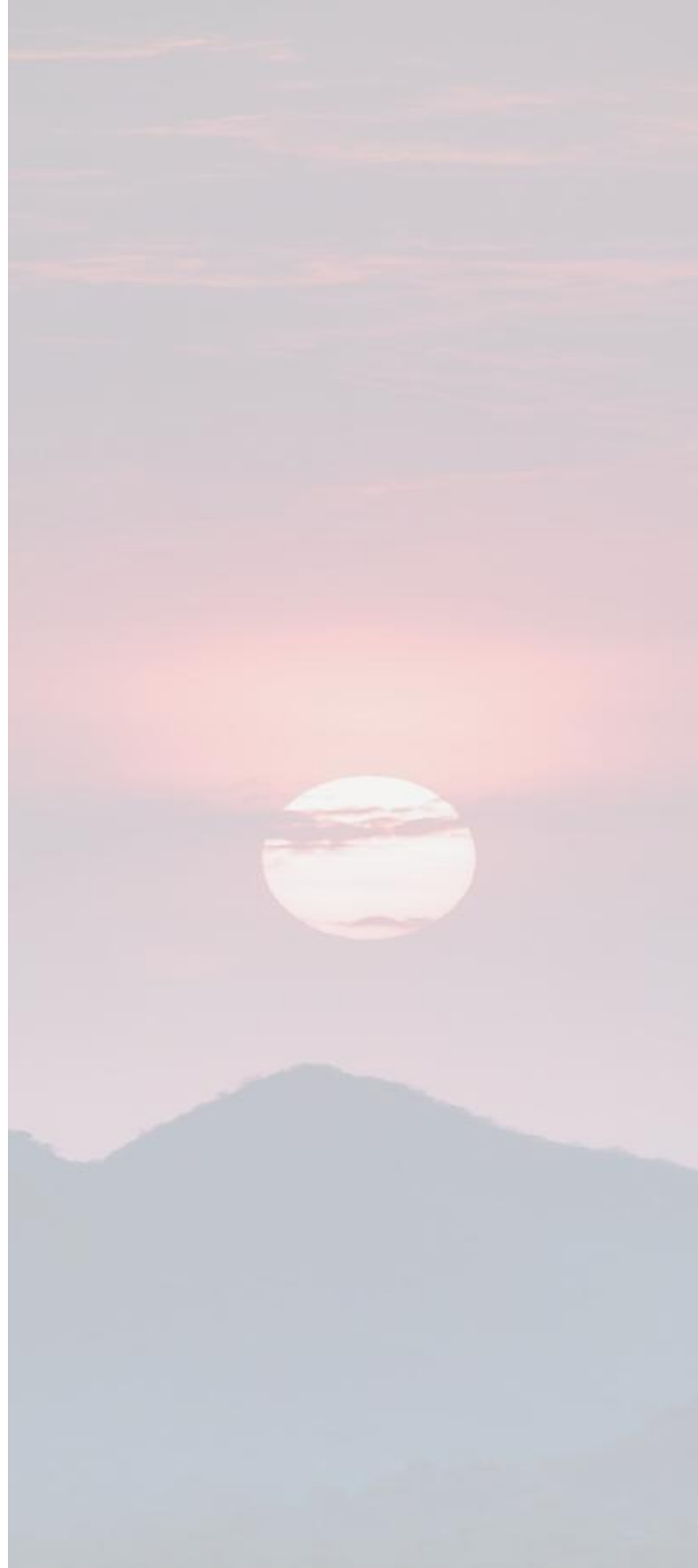
The next day when we were to leave it was still raining hard, but we would have to drive anyway, and if it didn’t stop we still wouldn’t be able to



get the hoped-for fresh fish on our way home either. So we prayed. We learned to be cheerful in the sun or the rain, and to have the best time we could have. And when we chose to stop grumbling and to be happy anyway, then the Lord did the miracles for us.

The rain slowed down a bit while we packed up the car. The water that was covering the road in one place was mostly off the road when we got there, even though right beside the road it was a deep rushing stream. That was a miracle!


The sun even started to shine and dry up the road for us as we drove.



Because the rain stopped, it was easy to go to the town that had fresh fish. We happened to find a man who knew where the fisherman sold his fish—right from his truck by his house.

We got fish from the fisherman who had gone out in the stormy night to get it, and Jesus had helped him to catch some anyway, even though he said it's usually hard to catch some when it's stormy and rainy.

While we had slept in that rainy night, sad that we didn't have the fresh fish to cook on that day, Jesus was leading the fisherman right then to catch some, and we got it the next day as we drove to where he sold it.



And because we were going home then we could buy extra fish too, to freeze for another day.

The fisherman said that rainstorms were actually real good for the fish as it stirs up the water, making it better for them. And all the kangaroos and animals around that campground were able to have plenty of fresh water then.

Also, that campground had a great way of saving water. They mostly used rain water! All that rain helped to fill up the big water tanks. If it had not rained on someone else's trip there, then there wouldn't have been water for us to use when we got there.

So it rained part of the time on our camping trip, and would make many others happy when they and their children came to stay, as there was plenty of water then.

We didn't get to do everything that we wanted to do on that vacation, but probably no one else does either—and that just leaves something more to look forward to next time. It was a fun time anyway, and when we praised the Lord no matter what was happening, He helped to keep us safe, no trouble came our way, and we got safely home by a miracle. Jesus took good care of us.

(Since then we have travelled to that place again and took the special nature hike that we wanted to—on a pleasant sunny day!)

***1 Thessalonians
5:18***

*In everything
give thanks: for
this is the will of
God in Christ
Jesus
concerning you.*

Prickles and the Positive

Our little boy taught us a great example of thinking positive thoughts. He was trying his brother's new scooter with bare feet on the grass, as it was summer and very hot that day.

But then he stepped on something very bristly—a big, dried-up, hairy, old caterpillar. His toes and top of his foot were stuck with hundreds of prickles.

He very patiently waited while I, his mother, quickly tried to find what would help me to get them out.



When I started to pull them out he cried a bit, but most of the time was very courageous, even though it hurt. It took a long time to try and pull out each little prickle out of his little foot and it wasn't comfortable for him.

His brothers came to cheer him up and brought him little special snack nibbles to encourage him.

I used tweezers and sometimes strong running water to clear away any that I could. At long last I had done all that I could. There were several still left, but they were too deep to be pulled. We prayed for Jesus to take them out and to make them not bother him.



When he heard that there were some still left that I couldn't take out right then, he started to get teary-eyed, but right away pushed away the sad feelings by doing his "I'm glad..." game that he plays all on his own.

"I'm glad that we got a new toy fire engine... I'm glad that I have brothers to make things fun for me..."

It was my turn to tear up then, seeing this three-year-old, all on his own, push upward, refusing to give in to the sad or upset feelings about the situation.



His positive words and attitude made him then feel well enough to eat dinner, even though he had to walk with his toes pointed up.

He was Mr. Cheerful at the dinner table and speaking words of appreciation. “Thank you for making this nice dinner for me... Thank you for taking the prickles out...”

When his brothers started to talk to him about the situation and the caterpillar in a negative way, he would say, “no” and just start to say something good.

At the end of dinner he said, “Do you know why I got those prickles in my foot? I think the

caterpillar just wanted to say hello to me, to make me happy!”

This little boy’s cheerful attitude and refusing to be too sad and discouraged about something that was very difficult was such a good example to us all.

(Then he slept well and his foot was completely fine by the morning.)

Philippians 4:8


Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

The Visor Helmet

The children were playing nicely with Lego until the younger boy was holding and using just the piece of Lego that another boy wanted.

That's when angry words started. "You took my visor helmet... It's just what I wanted to play with... I'm going to ..." And other words were said that aren't worth repeating.

Since the boy who was upset had had that visor helmet for the whole play time the day before, and was now losing control of his temper, he had to leave the room to have time



away to think about things and decided what would be the wisest way to react.

Then the beautiful moment happened.

The younger boy who was supposedly taking the older boy's visor helmet came into the room with a smile and handed the older boy a vehicle that he had just made—a boat—complete with a Lego man wearing the visor helmet.

“Here!” he said. “I made this for you!”

The rough words and anger melted away and turned into apologies.

“I’m sorry I talked so unkindly to you,” said the older boy to his younger brother, while holding the special little vehicle, made as best as the young boy could.

He regretted those roughly spoken words, and wished he had waited just a bit longer, and had a bit more patience. He wished he hadn’t assumed that his younger brother was being unkind. It appeared that the young boy was taking something, but he was rather trying to do something thoughtful.

Everyone gave hugs and went off to play again happily.

Proverbs


15:1

*A soft
answer
turneth away
wrath: but
grievous
words stir up
anger.*

A Fancy Meal

I read a very neat verse in the Bible that tells us that if we serve Jesus now, that when we get to Heaven, we'll be like the guest of honour at a fancy meal. Jesus, our Lord and King, will say it's our turn to rest, sit down and be refreshed.


And guess who will be like the servant to us then, serving us and bringing us all kinds of delicious foods, and letting us just relax? – Jesus! He'll wait on us, and serve us all kinds of wonderful things.



I'd sure like to be at that special meal. If Jesus is making sure it's a nice meal, and the best food is being served, and the guests are being treated well, it is going to be a very nice place to be, for sure!

I want to do my job now of serving Jesus and doing the things that He wishes He could do on Earth, but needs me to help do it for Him.

I'm happy to serve the best King of all, and to please Him in all the ways I can. I will be looking forward to the special meal and feast He's preparing for all of us who love and do our best for Him.




At breakfast time today when my family met for prayer, we each said the ways we wanted to help “serve Jesus” today.

Daddy said he would work hard to care for and support his family, as well as teach the children how to play the piano.

I said I would serve Jesus by cooking good nutritional meals for the children, and taking good care of them.

The boys thought about some of the things they were learning, and the ways they could show more kindness to each other.




One boy said, “I’ll serve Jesus by not laughing when it would make someone feel bad, and instead listen to those talking to me and respond nicely.”

Another boy said, “I’ll serve Jesus by helping my younger brother build things out of Lego, instead of getting bothered when he tries to take my Lego pieces.”

The youngest boy said, “I’ll serve Jesus by driving a big dump truck!” Well, maybe one day he will!

No matter where we are or what we are doing, we can all serve and help Jesus in some way. We talked about how John, the disciple of



Jesus, was sent to be on an Island, to try to stop him from telling others about Jesus.

However, it only gave him more time for quiet prayer and hearing from Jesus, and he was able to write a whole book of amazing things that Jesus told him.

Millions of people have read that book and learned more about Jesus and Heaven, because of John writing those words down. He could even serve Jesus on a lonely island!

And what about Jonah, after he disobeyed God's instructions to him to go and warn the people of Nineveh that God was very




displeased with their unkind and ungodly ways of living?

Well, when he was on the ship and it was getting too stormy, he wanted to change and make things right. But what could he do on a ship, out in the middle of a stormy sea?

As soon as he started to go God's way in his heart he started to serve the Lord, and he told everyone on the ship about God. As a result of his talking to them, the men on the ship chose to believe in God.

It doesn't matter where you are or what situation you are in, you can always do what



Jesus needs you to do. Each day you'll have new chances and new opportunities too.

And if you didn't make the right choices yesterday, and instead of serving Jesus you did your own selfish or proud ideas, well, it's not too late to start now.

Just tell Jesus you are sorry and He'll forgive you, and be ready to start again today allowing you the privilege of carrying out His important instructions.

When a king or ruler want something done, they don't give their instructions and important jobs to just anyone. They want to make sure the job will get done good and right and well.

They only ask those they trust to help them. So if Jesus wants you to do something for Him today, it's because He thinks you are important and special, and He wants to give you a chance to be trustworthy.

Of course He knows that you will never do everything perfectly. And that's fine! He's powerful and amazing enough to help work things out for good in the end, if you are trying your best and love Him and want to be a faithful servant for Him.


Luke 12:37

Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them.

Block Designs

We have some fancy wooden blocks. They aren't just cube shaped, but all kinds of shapes! They fit together perfectly to make lots of different patterns and designs. Today when one of the children had made something new and special, his younger brother all of a sudden got the unkind idea to break it up.


Why? Because he thought it looked nice and wanted to make it too—and if he broke it then he could use the pieces himself to make it. Oh dear.



Mummy told this little guy not to break it, as it wasn't a kind thing to do. But he didn't listen and went ahead and kicked it.

It made his older brother very sad. It felt as if his little brother liked toys more than he liked him. The little brother didn't get to play with the blocks as he had hoped and had some good time talking, praying and learning about the kind way to act.


Later on he chose to build up his older brother's design again and make it all nice, and added extra to it, to make it as a gift for his older brother.



It can be a real sad and difficult thing when someone, who even when told not to do something, still goes ahead and does it. It makes others unhappy and breaks down more than just a block tower—it can break down friendships and happiness.

When it happens to us, when someone has done something wrong and broke something special of ours, it can remind us a bit of how Jesus feels too, each day.

The world is like His big project and what He made, and He loves each person in it. He wants it to stay nice and for everyone to be treated lovingly and cared for. He tells people



through His Word to act nicely, to take care of each other and the natural surroundings that He created.

So when people go the opposite way and mess things up and make others sad through their wrong and hurtful ideas, then this makes Jesus feel that same sad way that you feel when something you made gets broken, or someone made you cry.

We can choose to be wise children of Jesus, and read His Word and obey His instructions.

We can take good and proper care of the things and people that He made.

We can be thoughtful and considerate.

Doing good things to make others happy makes Jesus glad too!—Just like you feel when someone is gentle and careful with something that you worked hard to make.

***Matthew
25:40***


*As ye have
done it unto
one of the
least of
these my
brethren, ye
have done it
unto me.*

Pictures and Reality

Have you ever looked in a magazine, or advertisement paper, or at a poster advertising something to buy?

Have you noticed that there is often more to the pictures than just the item it's trying to display?


More than being able to get possessions, or more things, people most of all want to have good feelings. Being happy is a feeling most people wish for.

A misty landscape with a large evergreen tree reflected in a body of water. The scene is soft and atmospheric, with the tree's reflection clearly visible in the calm water below. The background is a hazy, light-colored sky and distant trees.

Some advertisement pictures show laughing and joyful people. For example, to advertise a plastic inflatable pool the picture might show a family all happily smiling and having a great time while enjoying the pool.

Looking at the picture might make you think that the pool is what's missing in your life, and if you just could have that exact item then you would be so happy and always laughing.


But then those that get the pool realise a few other things that weren't explained in the advertisement.



For example, the water is cold and you feel cold when you get in or out of it. The water gets real dirty, and cleaning it out is a big job. You have to wash and wipe off all the slime from the plastic. The grass on the ground that's under the pool gets brown, rotten, withers, and may smell very bad.

When you are playing in the pool, someone may splash you too much and it might make the time not so fun after all.

So was the pool the missing thing in your life, and what would give you endless joy? Or what really is the thing you need to have, if you want to enjoy the pool?

A misty landscape with a large evergreen tree reflected in a body of water. The scene is soft and atmospheric, with the tree's reflection clearly visible in the calm water.

Perhaps you'll need the willingness to work to keep it clean, as well as the patience to wait for it to be filled, or to wait for the right weather and time to swim in it.

You'll also need thoughtfulness and consideration to play nicely together, and generosity to share the water toys.

You'll need the bravery to not complain about the cold, and to think instead about the good time you had.

So the advertisement should have said, "Contains: Pool. Accessory of happiness not included. The buyers must supply it themselves


A misty landscape with a large evergreen tree reflected in a body of water. The scene is soft and atmospheric, with the tree's reflection clearly visible in the calm water below. The sky is a pale, hazy blue, and the overall mood is serene and quiet.

through stocking up on patience, love, kindness and helpfulness.”

Lego might be the same way. When the boys see a neat-looking Lego set advertised, it’s what they really want all of a sudden. But what the pictures don’t show is how very easily it breaks apart.

Something that might have taken days to work on bit by bit, can be ruined in a second if it falls, or something falls on it.

No matter how wonderful the shiny picture looks, and how fun it seems it will be to play with, the happiness won’t come from the Lego


A misty landscape with a large evergreen tree reflected in a body of water. The scene is soft and atmospheric, with the tree's reflection clearly visible in the calm water.

set—that’s something that the Lego players, the children themselves, need to supply.

If the children have perseverance and work to build things piece by piece, that helps make it possible to enjoy what is advertised. And when it breaks apart—which all Lego vehicles and things made out of Lego eventually will—they will need the buoyancy and cheerfulness to not get too bothered.

Buoyancy to bounce happily through the tough things doesn’t come included in the Lego set. You won’t see it on the list of contents.

But if you just try to play with the Lego, and don’t have perseverance, buoyancy and


A misty landscape with a large evergreen tree reflected in a body of water. The scene is soft and atmospheric, with the tree's reflection clearly visible in the calm water.

bravery, as well as a willingness to share and give with those who are also playing, then instead of smiles there will be tears.

Things, positions, and material items don't supply the happiness you want—no matter how joyful the models in the advertisements look.

And it's good to remember that many things advertised aren't made strongly and will easily break or fade or wear out; and not everything is even good for you, no matter how fancy an advertisement makes it look.

Sometimes not having something—if it's not good for your health, or heart and mind—is



really the best. Some things make you sadder in the end, if you get them. Things won't always be as great or exactly what a shiny picture shows off and tries to display.

If you want to be happy while using some item that you do happen to receive, you have to supply that yourself.

What shop can you buy joy at? The only place it comes from is the same place that you came from—from Jesus who made you.

He can give you the peace, the faith and patience, the love and the kindness to think more of others than yourself, when you pray and realise how much Jesus loves you and

others. Jesus can make you happy no matter what.

But if you also get to have a fun pool or new Lego set, that will be an extra bonus and you'll have a great time with it, because you've got the joy in your heart, and when you have that, just about anything can be fun.

Psalm 16:11

*Thou wilt show
me the path of
life: in thy
presence is
fullness of joy;
at thy right
hand there are
pleasures for
evermore.*

Pieces and Skills

The Lego creations that the older boys make look so fun and nice to our youngest son, who doesn't yet know how to make too many things from Lego.

He might look at the new truck that one of his brothers is making and see that they are using a certain blue windscreen.

All of a sudden, getting a blue windscreen is the most important thing to him! He feels he has to have one right then, and exactly the same as his older brother's. Why? Well, that must be the secret to making a great looking




truck. He thinks that if he only had that one thing, then he would be able to have a great Lego truck too.

He doesn't realize that it's not just the pieces of Lego that make the truck, but it's having the skill, ideas, and knowledge that will enable him to make something just the same or better.

Even if he grabs every single piece of Lego that his brother has, he will still not be able to make and have a vehicle that is just exactly the same, on his own.

It takes time and experience to learn to make things, and eventually he'll be able to




make many great things too, as he gets older and continues to learn how.

Sometimes we older ones can do the same, in a way. We see someone enjoying something fun, and we think that if we just had what they have, then everything would be perfect for us.

But that's not the way it is. Just getting a certain thing, or trying to have what someone else has, won't make us suddenly able to do what they are doing.

We each are learning and growing, and it takes time to learn some things. One day maybe we'll get to do what someone else is doing, or have what someone else has.

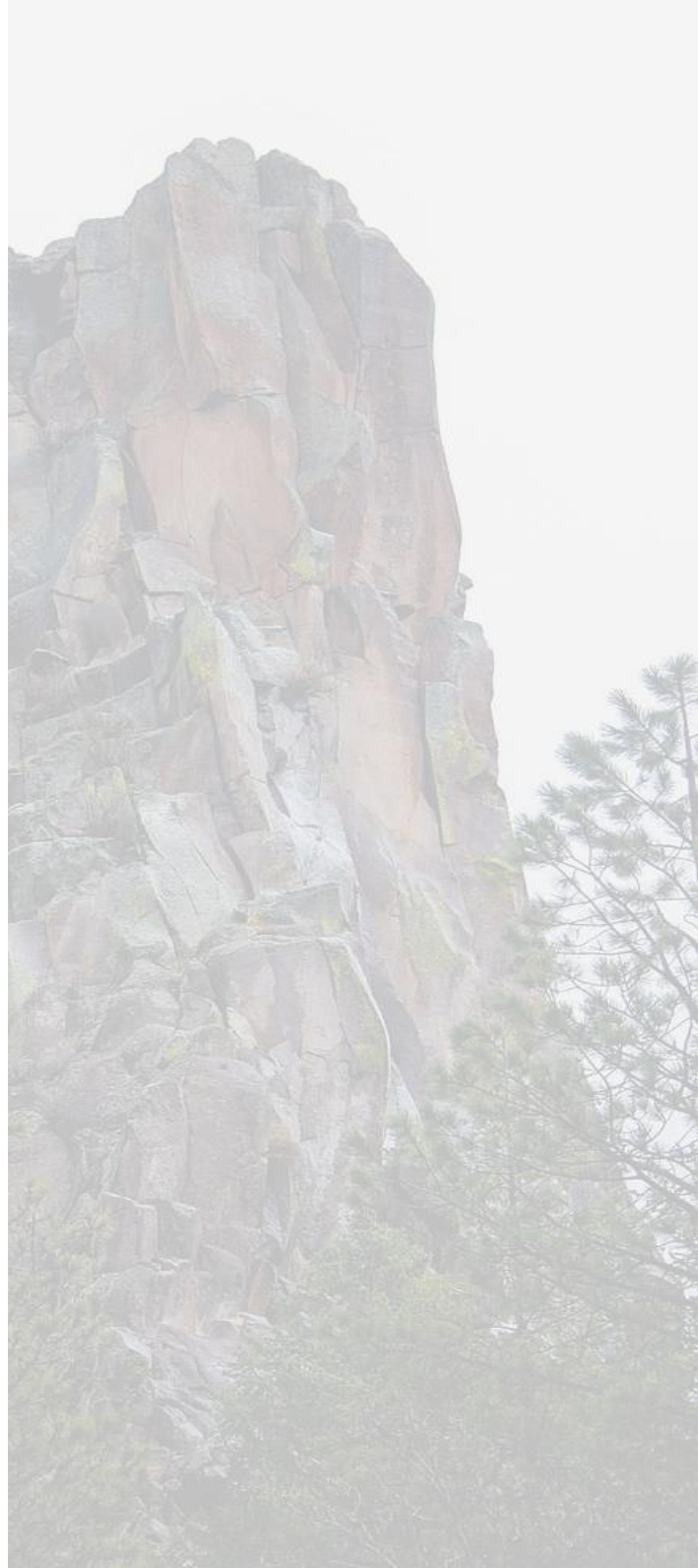


However, it's good to realise that taking things or getting just what someone else has, at the very second we want it, won't bring us all that we wish for.

Maybe, like our little boy, we might just need to ask for help for now, and be patient until the time is right and we have learned what we need to.

Later might be the right time to have what we are wishing for—when we've given ourselves time to learn and grow a bit more.

Some things take time. We may not realise how long it took for someone else to wait and learn all that they did. We just see them with



something that looks fun, and we want it right now too, but we don't realise that it may have taken many years of learning, growing, and waiting until they got it.

His older brother may be holding a fun new truck that he just built out of Lego. But it wasn't just because his brother had a certain set of wheels or certain windscreen that made it possible. He also has been practicing making vehicles for a few years, and finding out what works and what doesn't work, and learning perseverance while looking for just the pieces that he needed.

So when you see someone who seems to have something cool, or is getting to do something that you wish you could do, or knew how to, remember, it didn't all happen in one day for them. There is a lot of hard work, patience, prayer, time, learning, and perseverance that went into it.

It's good to remember that, and then to be happy for them too, that at last, for all their work and waiting, they are able to enjoy it. It didn't happen all in one minute or in one day for them. So if you don't get what you see they have, right in one minute, well, neither did they. Be patient. In time, maybe it will work out for you too.

Galatians

6:9

*And let us
not be
weary in
well doing:
for in due
season we
shall reap,
if we faint
not.*