

*A Gift of Faith Book* 11

Part 2 (of 3)



**Object  
Observation**

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**11**

**Part 2 (of 3)**

# Object Observation

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Cover photo: Robin Yamaguchi

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3. Soap and Scrub Brush
4. Table Wiping Cloth
5. Tidy and Clean Clothes
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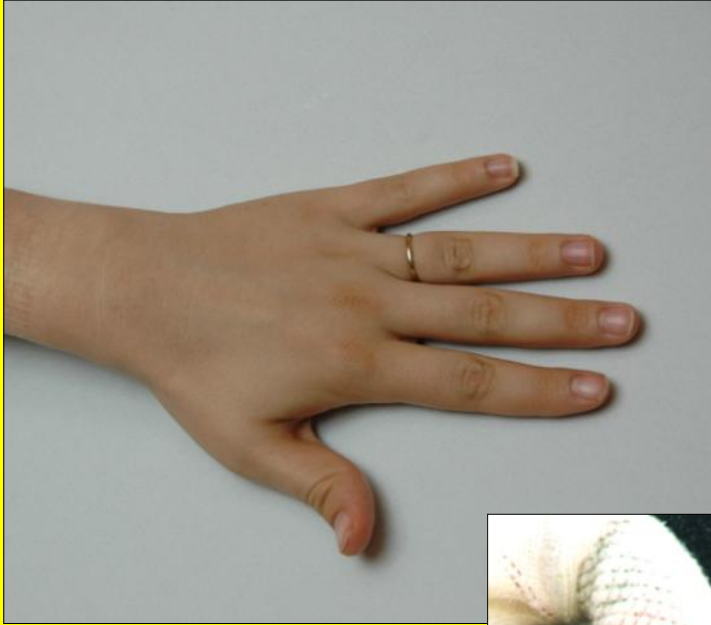


Photo by Jon Berg

## 20-Hands—Big and Small

When you put your hand on an adult's hand, your hand seems really small doesn't it? But a baby's hand is even smaller compared to yours. When you were a baby you had little tiny hands, but now, since you've already grown up so much, your hands are bigger. You didn't grow from a baby into a big child or a teenager right away, because it takes time to grow up. Sometimes it's easy to get impatient thinking it's taking so long for your birthday to come, or waiting for when you'll be grown up. But things take time. That's why it's good to have patience. Trust that God knows best and that He's helping you grow up in the best way. Just think if you were all grown up overnight! You wouldn't know all the things grown-ups know, like how to drive a car or what to do at work. It takes time to grow up, because we need time to learn all the things that grown-ups need to know. So let's just trust God that He knows best, and let's enjoy each day as it comes.



Photo by Naomi



## 21 - Grains

They're just little seeds, but each one has the potential to grow into something big and useful. They may look really small when they're just dried up and lying in a bowl, but give them some water and soil and they will start to grow.

Jesus sees each of us and knows all about us. Just like seeds, everyone is different and everyone has a different purpose. But if we are planted deeply in Him, and have the sunshine of His love, and the water of His Word, then we can each grow into something big and beautiful, and useful for God's glory.

Don't ever think you're just a little nobody and no one sees you. Just like the little seeds are part of God's creation and His plan, you are too! If you'll just trust Him and go where He wants to place you, and be what He wants you to be, you can be someone who does a great big job for God and lives a useful and happy life.



## 22 - Autumn Leaves

Every season is beautiful in their own ways. There's a time when the leaves fall from the trees, all curled up and brown. They fall to the ground and make a crackly sound when you step on them.

Then comes winter when the trees are bare, but that makes us all the more thankful for the beautiful evergreen trees that are such a big part of Christmas.

After the cold winter, the sun warms everything up, the trees grow new leaves, and some are all decorated with pretty spring blossoms. Birds are chirping and building nests. Flowers are peeping up out of the ground. We can see beauty in each season of the year. And if we wait long enough, each season will come around again and again.



Photo by Curtis Peter van Gorder

Autumn will turn into winter, spring will follow, and then comes summer. In each of our lives there are seasons too.

Nothing always stays the same, just as it is, for our entire life. Sometimes it's the season for learning patience through a sickness; other times it's a season for growth and experiencing new things.

Sometimes it's a season of excitement, while other times it's a quiet season, where things are moving along slowly and calmly.

God has a perfect plan for every living and growing thing, and He has a perfect plan for you. He knows all the times and seasons of each life. So enjoy every day and every season of your life.



Photo by Naomi

## 23-Pet's Cage

If you have a little bird or a hamster, then you probably want to keep him in a nice roomy cage. The cage keeps your pet safe, so they can't fly away or run off and get lost. So a cage is a good thing for keeping pets safe. Jesus likes to keep us safe too, because we're special to Him just like a much-loved pet. He has an invisible shield around us to keep us safe from accidents or danger. The way to keep our shield strong is by guarding our thoughts. When we're thankful and thinking positive thoughts, it's much easier for Jesus to protect us. However, when we let ourselves feel down and discouraged, and we grumble, then our shield is not as strong as it could be. It's easier for us to have accidents at those times. That's why it's important to guard our thoughts and to keep close track of what we're thinking about. Thinking good positive thoughts will keep us close to Jesus. That's the way to stay protected by His protective shield.—Just like a little pet in its nice, safe cage.



Photo by Chariane Quille



## 24-Sun Umbrella

When you're enjoying a sunny day at the beach, it's nice to have a big sun umbrella to shelter under. That way, you can enjoy the beach and the sunshine without getting too hot. A big umbrella also protects you from getting sunburned, while you're playing in the sand or near the water.

Jesus' love and care is a lot like that sun umbrella. They protect us from harm and danger, and make it possible to enjoy ourselves. No matter where we are, the sun umbrella of Jesus' love is always right over us to protect us. All we have to do is ask, and His protection and care are right there for us. Jesus is always thinking about us, and how to keep us safe and secure. His love and care is just that wonderful!



Photo by Naomi

## 25-Bows and Ribbons

Girls like to wear pretty ribbons in their hair; boys like bright sports shirts and caps; and men like to wear colourful ties to complement their shirts. Everyone likes to dress up a bit, so they will look their best.

It doesn't matter what we wear or which colour we like best, we are each beautiful to Jesus. He made everyone different so that we would like different things. Altogether, we make up a rainbow of colours and diversity that He enjoys.

Jesus doesn't have a favourite colour or a favourite way of dressing. Nor does He have a favourite person. He loves each of us just the way we are. Jesus is happy that we're all different, and He loves us all the same. We're each beautiful in God's eyes.



Photo by Chariane Quille

## 26-Band-aids

If you've ever gotten a scrape or a scratch, you know how nice it is to have a band-aid. When you put it on, it makes a nice protective covering while the skin heals underneath.

Praying for healing can be like putting on a special band aid. When we pray and ask Jesus for healing, He is happy to give it to us. Just like when you need a band-aid, you can just ask your mummy for one and she's happy to give one to you.

Best of all, Jesus' prayer band aids are supernatural. They go to work right away to bring healing wherever it is needed. He made us, so He can certainly fix us!



Photo by Naomi

## 27-Tools

We are like a house that God likes to live in. His Spirit lives in our hearts. Every day, Jesus helps to build a bit more on us—like a carpenter adds more onto the house he is building. Maybe today Jesus will add a bit more patience or kindness onto His special house—us. Or perhaps we'll make a mistake and learn something helpful from it, and that is like having something new built into our heart and mind.

If we keep the house of our heart clean by filling it with God's Word and taking time in prayer, and we praise Jesus any time we can, then He will enjoy living with us and His Spirit will be in us. When people talk to us, play with us, and are around us, they will notice the wonderful way Jesus has made us. It doesn't happen overnight. It takes day-by-day listening and learning from Jesus to help build us strong in faith and love, and to be pretty too—just like a nice house!



Photo by Naomi



## 28-Cars

When was the last time you got a scratch or a bruise? It didn't feel good and you probably wish it didn't happen. One good thing that getting hurt teaches us is safety and carefulness.

Everything we do has consequences, and we can be kept safe by remembering not to do things that are dangerous. Little bonks can be like a warning light that keeps us from doing something that might cause us a bigger accident and hurt.

One day, we'll all get new bodies! In Heaven we will never have pain, or get sick, and we'll always look great!



Photo by Chariane

It's kind of like cars—they always need maintenance and need to get fixed up. Sometimes they get scratched or bonked and have accidents.

When we get our new Heavenly bodies it will be like someone on Earth getting a brand new car that doesn't have anything wrong with it.

We will look shiny and wonderful, and our bodies then will work so well! We won't have to drive around either, or only walk, but we can fly if we want to. Won't that be great?



Photo by Naomi

## 29 - Watering Can

When you need perking up, a word of encouragement or thanks from someone can do it. -Just like a plant or wilting flower can be revived and look fuller after it has been watered. Words are interesting and amazing things. You can't see them or touch them, smell or taste them, but they are just as real as anything else around you. In fact words can have more of an effect on you than anything else around you. The words you say to others, what you read or hear, and what people say to you can make a huge difference on the way you feel and on what you choose to do. Words like saying, "Thank you so much!", "That's very nice of you!" and, "You are good at that!" can change someone's sad feelings into joy in a matter of seconds. It's amazing! Water others with words of admiration and appreciation, and you'll see them perk up, act kinder, and feel happier. When they do, so will you! It's like watering a bush and then seeing it grow flowers that make your yard look cheery.



Photo by Naomi

## 30-Glass of Water

Have you ever felt real thirsty, after playing a running game outside on a sunny day? It's important to keep ourselves refreshed and to drink plenty of water. Just like our bodies need water, our spirits need the refreshing inspiration and faith from Heaven. When we take time with Jesus and we read His word, our hearts get filled up with the "living water".

We will feel energized and empowered by God's Spirit. When we take time to read God's Word, it's like getting washed, and refreshed, and filled up inside with water from Heaven—just like you enjoy drinking a nice glass of water, or having a shower. People who don't drink enough water often act cranky and they get sick more often. If we want to have cheerfulness throughout the day, we need daily drinks of God's Word—through reading it, and by listening to what Jesus wants to say.



Photo by Chariane Quille



## 31 - Camper

Where do you live? Some people travel around, camp in tents and move on to a new place after a while; some people live in big fancy mansions with lots of room; while others live in tiny apartments. Some people make their homes on stilts, as there is so much water around and some people have nowhere to call home at all. Sometimes people stay in one place their entire life, while other people may travel all over the world and live in a variety of places.

We who love Jesus can be excited and look forward to a wonderful and beautiful home in Heaven. This world isn't our home forever, but it's more like a trip we are on. We are visiting Earth, learning all that we can, and trying to help people along the way. So if we don't have the perfect house, or things aren't so great in the country we live in, or we are too cold or too hot, we can be encouraged to know that our real Heavenly home will be just marvellous.  
—And we'll get to live there forever!



Photo by Naomi

## 32-Jewellery and Gems

Pretty earrings or a nice-looking necklace can make a lady look extra-pretty, all dressed up and a bit sparkly. Or perhaps a man might have a tie-clip that is made of gold or silver. Men used to have clips for the cuffs of their sleeves, and these were sometimes made with precious stones.

A hair clip might look extra fancy and have pearls or ribbons on it. Sometimes buttons are made to look like pearls, which look gentle and pretty.

When people get dressed up, they like to add a special touch by using nice-looking things. Gems, pearls, gold, silver, and brass, are considered real special and fancy-looking. When something decorative is added or placed somewhere to enhance the appearance, it can be called an "ornament."



Photo by Naomi

Did you know that the Bible tells us that when we have a meek and quiet spirit, it's like putting on something nice-looking? That means that when you are acting polite, letting others speak, listening to people, letting them get the first and best, appreciating and complimenting others, and acting humble, it's like putting on the fanciest and shiniest decorative ornament of all!

It really stands out, and looks great on you! Sometimes being quiet and not saying anything at all can make you seem more handsome and pretty to others—if you don't have anything good to say. Or letting someone else win a game, or get the appreciation of others first, can make you seem like an even nicer person than if you had acted very rough and pushy, and loudly announced to others some great thing that you did.

So if you want to dress-up real nice for others, put on humility, meekness, and gentle quietness.



Photo by Naomi

## 33-A Present

There are some very special gifts that Jesus gives His children—those that love and trust in Him. One gift is called, 'faith'. This gift helps us not to worry or to be afraid, and to know that in the end Jesus will work out the best things for us. Faith gives us the confidence to ask Him in prayer for what we need. We know He loves us and cares for us, and that He wants to answer us and give us only what is best for us. Another gift we can receive from the Lord is knowledge—to know certain things that others might not have noticed or learned, to know the truth, and to have special insight, know-how and understanding about things. Healing and miracles are wonderful and encouraging gifts that God's Spirit can also give us. Hearing Jesus speaking to us in prophecy is a special gift of the spirit too. We may not see these things as wrapped up presents that we can hold, but they are good and helpful gifts that make our life easier and help us to do our jobs for Jesus better.



Photo by Naomi



## 34-Nail Clippers and File

What would happen if you never clipped your toenails or finger nails, or file your nails as some ladies do? Would they always be the right length and look nice? Some things, like nails and hair, and grass in a garden, need care to keep looking their best.

We also need to watch over our thoughts, feelings, and reactions, and not just let ourselves do whatever comes to mind. We need to be able to say "no" or "that's enough" to ourselves.

Moderation or self-control, are words that mean that we can control ourselves and make sure we don't overdo on things. We are then able to stay healthier and safer, and those with us will find us enjoyable to be around.



Photo by Naomi

## 35-Computer Keyboard

Some things might seem difficult to learn, and seem to take a long time until we can do them well. Typing is something that takes time and practice, and lots of patience and determination to learn. However, when you know how to do it, you are then able to use that skill to help others. It will make you feel so glad that you persevered and learned how. Learning how to speak a new language can be a challenge, but that is another good skill that may really come in handy some day, when you are then able to understand what someone is saying and help explain things to them. Even learning to read, write, do math, or learn about the world and its countries, can be very beneficial and you'll be glad you learned them. When you are able to help others as a result of your learning something new, it can make you feel great.



Photos by Chariane Quille (t) & Jon Berg (b)

## 36-Hats

Hats are made in all sizes, shapes and colours, and made from many types of materials. Some are good for sunny days; others keep you warm in the winter. A crown is worn to show that someone is responsible for ruling and caring for many people. Helmets are used by firemen to protect them as they help rescue those in trouble. Other hats and head gear can show what job you do, or what country or culture you come from.

In our lives we need to find out what jobs and behaviour suits us best, and is the way God made us to be. We can't all be like kings and rulers, wearing an invisible crown, and try to tell others what to do. However, maybe sometime you will be given the job of helping to teach and care for younger children. You can act with grace and use polite words, as royalty try to do.



Photos by Chariane Quille

On another day perhaps you will be asked to help cook a meal. That can be like putting on a chef's hat, and doing your best to be safe and careful as you make good food for others.

Or maybe one day you'll discover something that could cause an accident, and then you choose to stop and fix things up. This is like putting on the head gear of a rescue worker.

We can ask the Lord to give us whatever skills and abilities are needed to do a variety of tasks. We can be useful and help out in many situations, and learn to act in the best ways while in those situations.



Photo by Chariane Quille

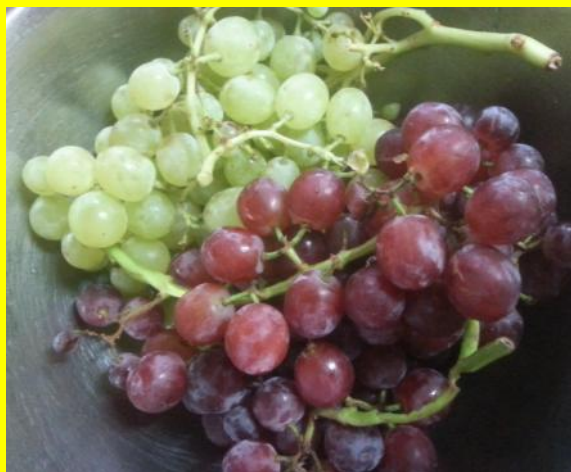


## 37-Fresh Fruit and Veggies

Fresh vegetables and fruits are one of the best things to eat. They are good for you. A raw piece of fruit or a veggie doesn't take much time to prepare, or energy to cook. It's quick and easy to wash and eat, and gives you energy.

But with so many choices of snacks being sold, things that aren't good for you but are fast to pop into your mouth, it can be hard to make the right choices.

Whatever you eat will affect the way you feel, and affect then what you are able or not able to do.



There are choices we need to make every day in all sorts of things—what to wear, what to say, who to be a friend with, what do to with our time, what to watch or listen to.

Everything will affect the way we feel, and then make it possible—or not possible—to do things later on. Some choices will make us be able to succeed in our goals, while other wrong choices will hinder or stop us.

We need to not just do whatever is fast and easy, but what will empower us to do what really is best and will make us, and others, and the Lord the happiest.

