

*Pondering
His Promises*

JANUARY

Pondering His Promises

—By Patrick—

(Dictated when 8 years old)

Art and photos by Patrick



JOHN 3:16

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD,
THAT HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN
SON, THAT WHOSOEVER BELIEVETH
IN HIM SHOULD NOT PERISH, BUT
HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.

God sent His only begotten Son because He was trying to preserve the Earth, so it could stay Christian.

God loves everyone—even everyone that did sin or did something bad.

Whoever believes on God's Son Jesus, will never, never, never, ever die, because they have become like God's son, and He has control over whoever lives for a long time.

No one wants their son to die. So if you believe in Jesus, He wouldn't want you to die. So He will give you eternal life.

And it's extremely easy to believe on Him.

He didn't ask us to do something too difficult or impossible for us, because He would like us to be with Him. Anyone can believe on Him, and then they will have eternal life. He did not make it hard at all, so every single person in the whole universe can go to Heaven and live forever.





PSALM 23:2

HE MAKETH ME TO LIE DOWN IN
GREEN PASTURES: HE LEADETH ME
BESIDE THE STILL WATERS.

PSALM 25:4

SHOW ME THY WAYS, O LORD;
TEACH ME THY PATHS.

The Lord will give to you everything that you will ever need, if you follow Him, and you will always have what you need, and maybe even everything that you want to—if it's good for you.

He makes pastures green for me. He makes us be able to go to the right place, and He will never lead us into somewhere where we shouldn't go.

Everyone is following something—they might not know it, but they are. But you should choose to follow the Lord. He will bless you the most and other things don't even bless you.





1 SAMUEL 13:14

BUT NOW THY KINGDOM SHALL NOT
CONTINUE: THE LORD HATH SOUGHT HIM A
MAN AFTER HIS OWN HEART, AND THE LORD
HATH COMMANDED HIM TO BE CAPTAIN
OVER HIS PEOPLE, BECAUSE THOU HAST
NOT KEPT THAT WHICH THE LORD
COMMANDED THEE.

God is in complete control over the world, and any king, queen, president, prime minister, does not have any power over the world, because God owns the world and He chooses who can be higher in power or lower in power. But of course He is the highest in power of everyone.

Some people might be pretending that they have power, but they really don't, that's because they are not doing things God's way, and their so-called power will end someday sooner or later.

So if you want to be in charge of people, or you are, you should do things God's way and obey Him in anything you do and be a good example to whoever you are ruling over.

To seek after Jesus' heart means that we will want to enjoy the things that Jesus delights in; we wish to say the words that moves Him into action; we love the ones that He adores, and we cling to God's Words and ways more than what anything or anyone else says and does.

We make Jesus our inspiration, our commander, our leader, and our dearest friend and companion. We wish to know what Jesus thinks and likes, and we want to despise the things that He hates and shuns. Jesus needs people like this, because they make the world a bit more heavenly. Will you do this for Him?





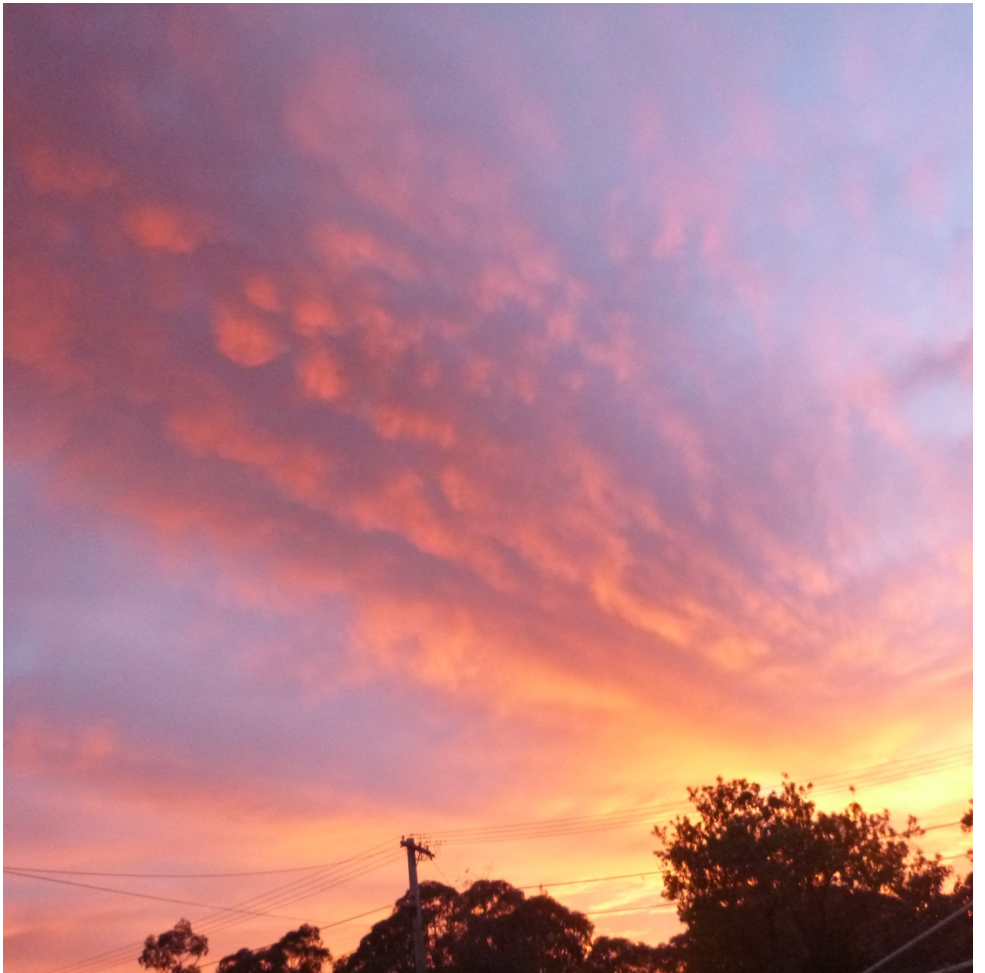
JOHN 3:14B-15

...SO MUST THE SON OF MAN BE
LIFTED UP: THAT WHOSOEVER
BELIEVETH IN HIM SHOULD NOT
PERISH, BUT HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

Jesus was lifted up when He rose alive from the grave, and also when He rose in the clouds!

He was lifted up so we could have eternal life.

If Jesus is shown to others, and attention is drawn to Him, this is how we can lift Him up as being higher and better than everything and everyone else. This will make people want to believe in Him and they will get eternal life.





PSALM 32:8

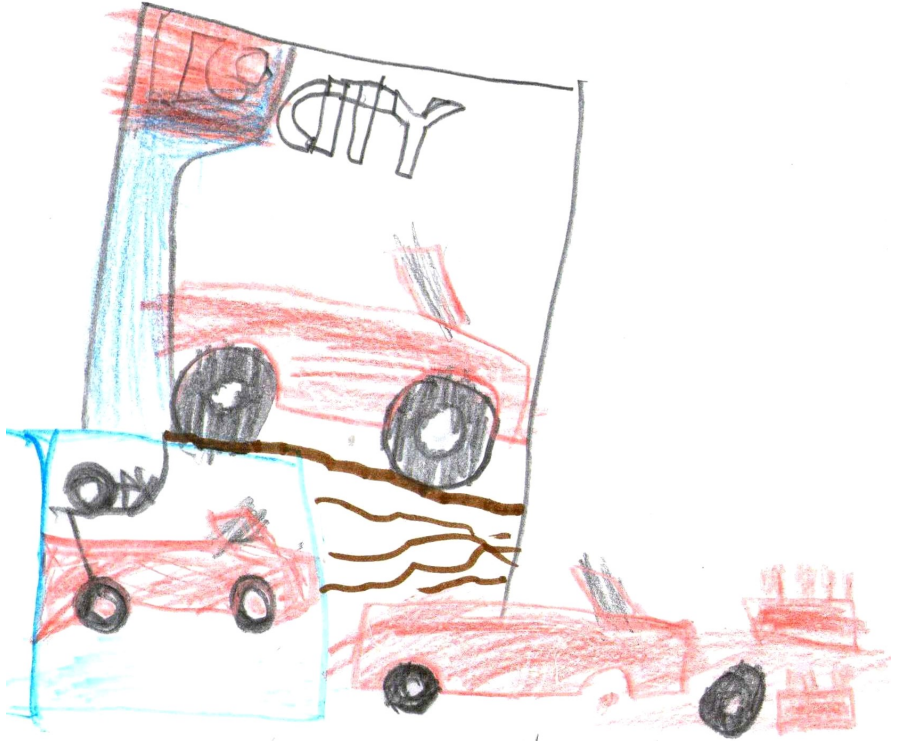
I WILL INSTRUCT THEE AND TEACH
THEE IN THE WAY WHICH THOU
SHALT GO: I WILL GUIDE THEE
WITH MINE EYE.

PROVERBS 1:8

MY SON, HEAR THE INSTRUCTION OF
THY FATHER, AND FORSAKE NOT THE
LAW OF THY MOTHER.

A Lego set is like life. The instructions are like the Bible. And the Lego is like life. If you don't read the Bible, then you won't know how to build your life the right way.

Because in Lego, the instructions tell you how to build the Lego into a certain thing, and if you don't use the instructions you'll end up not building it, or it will turn out different, and there be extra loose pieces, or not enough.





PSALM 3:5

I LAID ME DOWN AND SLEPT;
I AWAKED; FOR THE LORD
SUSTAINED ME.

When you go to sleep, you can know that the Lord will protect you at night, and the day after the night.

Every day has its night, but you know that light will come.

The Lord can sustain you for however long you need to be sustained for.





JOHN 4:16

JESUS SAITH UNTO HER,
GO, CALL THY HUSBAND,
AND COME HITHER.

Jesus wants both husbands and wives to know the truth of salvation.

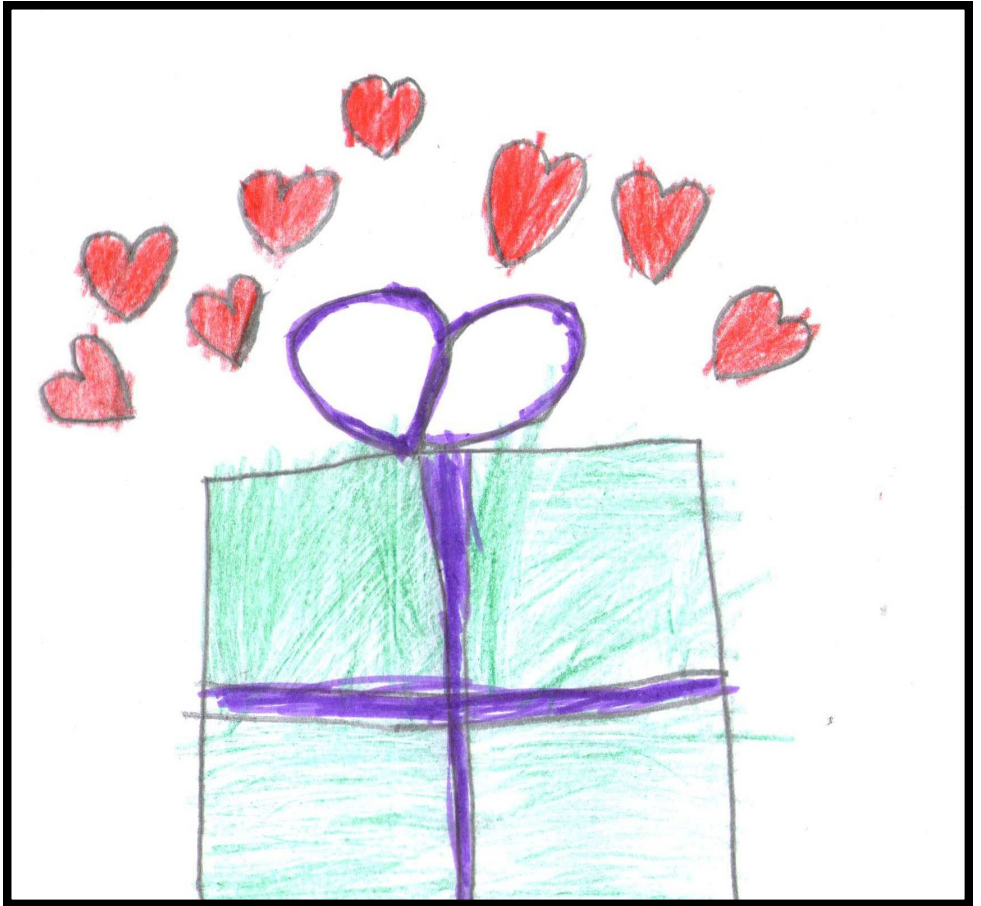
When both partners are believers, they can have a happier marriage. Then it won't so easily end up in a divorce.

When one person is a believer, Jesus wants them to lead their partner to Him.

Jesus wants to call husbands and wives to come to Him together, so He can give them living water, and refresh them.

Many are thirsty and dry in their spirits, and they can't get along with others, but if they received Jesus and His living water, they would be more joyful and happy.





1 JOHN 4:16

AND WE HAVE KNOWN AND
BELIEVED THE LOVE THAT GOD
HATH TO US. GOD IS LOVE; AND HE
THAT DWELLETH IN LOVE DWELLETH
IN GOD, AND GOD IN HIM.

I know God is love because...

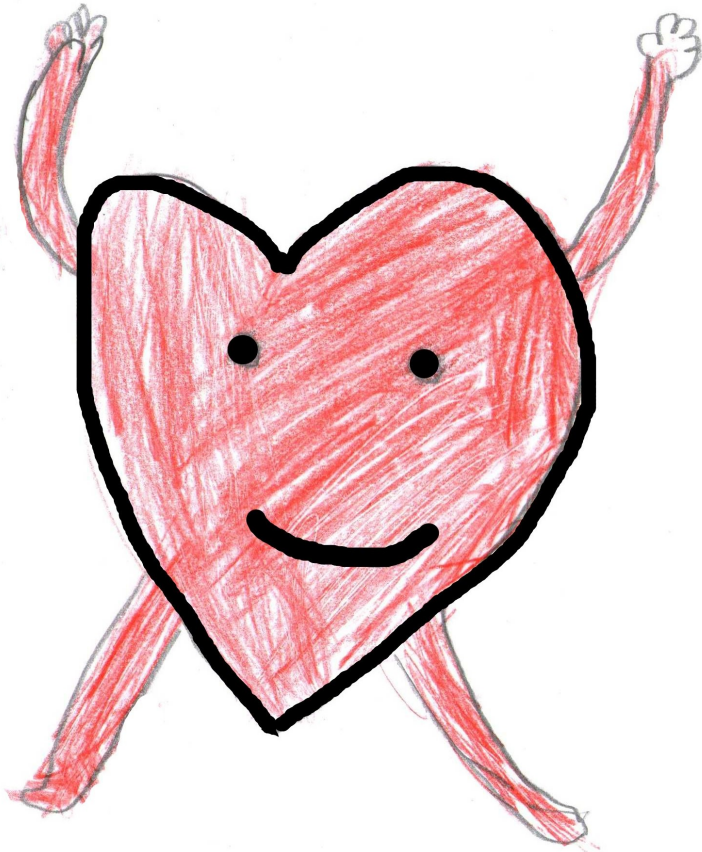
Everyone is happier when they are giving and receiving love. So that means our Creator is loving and made us in his image.

When male and female animals take care of their babies and love them, this also shows God's love is in creation.

The largest gift that God gave us was His very own Son, Jesus Christ. That shows:

God has a lot of love!





PSALM 46: 2

THEREFORE WILL NOT WE FEAR,
THOUGH THE EARTH BE REMOVED,
AND THOUGH THE MOUNTAINS
BE CARRIED INTO THE
MIDST OF THE SEA.

Don't be sad if all your Earthly possessions break or get carried away.

Be praiseful, and not discouraged or angry.

And if everything goes wrong, turn to the Lord and you won't get sad, discouraged, or angry so much.

Those who love and trust the Lord will have much more than they could ever have on Earth.





PSALM 42: 2

MY SOUL THIRSTETH FOR GOD,
FOR THE LIVING GOD:
WHEN SHALL I COME
AND APPEAR BEFORE GOD?

If you love the Lord the most of all, if troubles come or if other things go, it won't matter so much to you because you love God the most.

One day we are all going to see God, and if you want to see God, great! But if you don't want to see God, still make sure you are prepared to meet Him.





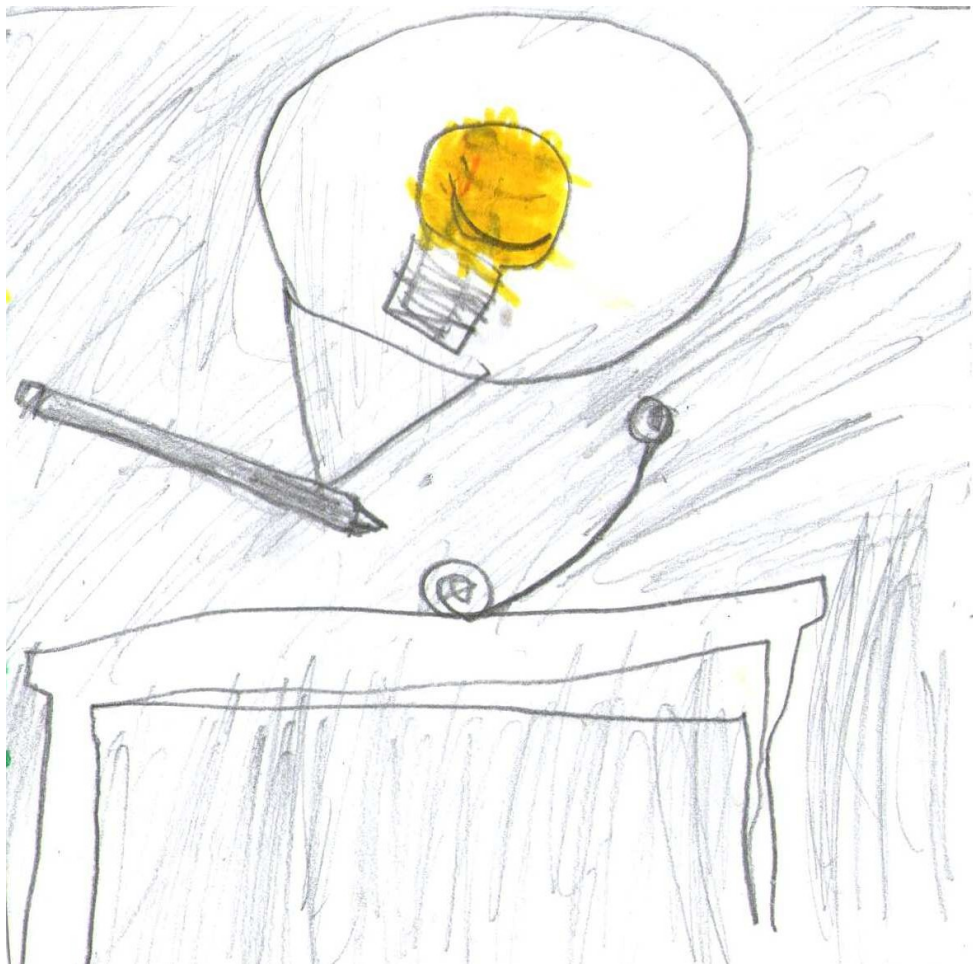
PSALM 136: 1

O GIVE THANKS UNTO THE LORD;
FOR HE IS GOOD: FOR HIS MERCY
ENDURETH FOR EVER.

God can get everything He wants—but one thing: Thanks from His people. It has to be given willingly. This is the best thing you can give God.

Only give thanks to the Lord for what is good, because He only gives you what is good. And anything He owns is good.





PSALM 45: 1

MY HEART IS INDITING A GOOD
MATTER: I SPEAK OF THE THINGS
WHICH I HAVE MADE TOUCHING
THE KING: MY TONGUE IS
THE PEN OF A READY WRITER.

If your heart is bubbling with good things, it's probably from something you are doing for the Lord. And you are probably going to be very excited that you are doing it, and want to tell people.

You will not get any more progress done if you are not ready to get progress done.





JOHN 16:5

ALL THINGS THAT THE FATHER HATH
ARE MINE: THEREFORE SAID I THAT
HE SHALL TAKE OF MINE, AND SHALL
SHOW IT UNTO YOU.

When we pray it isn't just that Jesus needs to get permission from God to do things, He can do them without needing permission, because His Father gave Him everything. So He doesn't only just have His Father, but he has much, much, much more.

Jesus has access to everything we need. So He is able to answer every single prayer that we pray, because remember, He hears all the prayers—even when a lot of people are praying at the same time. He hears every single prayer, and He'll answer every single prayer if it is right.





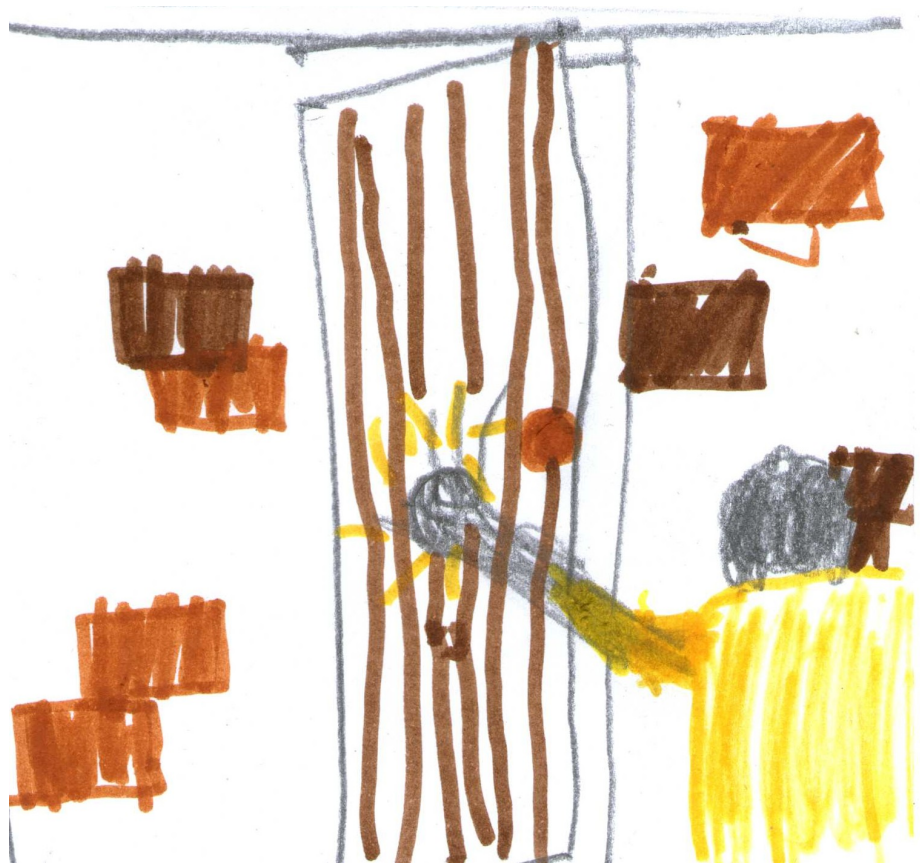
MATTHEW 6:7

WHEN YE PRAY, USE NOT VAIN
REPETITIONS, AS THE HEATHEN DO:
FOR THEY THINK THAT THEY SHALL BE
HEARD FOR THEIR MUCH SPEAKING.

Jesus will probably answer your prayer if it is good for you and is actually from your heart, not just repeating something—just thinking that if you repeat it again and again Jesus will answer. You need to be praying from your heart and know exactly what you are praying for, or know why you are praying for it, or why you are praying to be able to do something.

If you pray a prayer, you don't need to pray it again because you think He might not have heard you, because you know that Jesus already heard it. It's fine to pray again; in fact He likes to hear you praying. He knows that you really need what you are asking for, or need Him to do it. But you can know that He hears each prayer.





MATTHEW 7:7

ASK, AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN YOU;
SEEK, AND YE SHALL FIND; KNOCK,
AND IT SHALL BE OPENED UNTO YOU.

When you are praying:

Keep in mind that thing that you are praying for,
and make sure it's the right thing.

Don't let your mind be wondering, thinking lots
of thoughts at the same time.

Have faith the Lord will answer your prayer,
and the Lord will answer your prayer much
easier.

If you don't have all these things, you just
probably won't get your prayer answered as easily
as if you did all these things.





JEREMIAH 9:5

AND THEY WILL DECEIVE EVERY ONE
HIS NEIGHBOUR, AND WILL NOT
SPEAK THE TRUTH: THEY HAVE
TAUGHT THEIR TONGUE TO SPEAK
LIES, AND WEARY THEMSELVES TO
COMMIT INIQUITY.

We feel bad when our neighbour children have been telling us lies. Usually you don't know it's a lie, and you go with it, until you find out it was a lie all along. And you don't like that, because you've been deceived.

It would be nice if no one told lies. If you don't want people to deceive you, then don't be lying to them. So if you lie a lot, and there is something really important that you need to tell someone, they might think it isn't true.

Lying is the opposite of love—and Jesus said “Love thy neighbour as thyself”. Telling the truth will make the people love you more, and be able to trust you.





EXODUS 20:10

BUT THE SEVENTH DAY IS THE SABBATH
OF THE LORD THY GOD: IN IT THOU
SHALT NOT DO ANY WORK, THOU, NOR
THY SON, NOR THY DAUGHTER, THY
MANSERVANT, NOR THY MAIDSERVANT,
NOR THY CATTLE, NOR THY STRANGER
THAT IS WITHIN THY GATES:

(CONTINUED LATER)

The Lord made a day for us for rest—the seventh day, to rest on, so you won’t have to work all week without a break. In Creation, God made the universe in 6 days and rested on the seventh. That’s an example for us to obey.

We also shouldn’t make other people work on it. Later in the Bible, Jesus asks a question, “Was the Sabbath day made for man, or man for the Sabbath?”

God made the Sabbath day, for mankind to rest. He didn’t make mankind for the Sabbath.





EXODUS 20:11

FOR IN SIX DAYS THE LORD MADE
HEAVEN AND EARTH, THE SEA, AND ALL
THAT IN THEM IS, AND RESTED THE
SEVENTH DAY: WHEREFORE THE LORD
BLESSED THE SABBATH DAY, AND
HALLOWED IT.

God, our Father, doesn't want to make us be working all the time, and would like to give us a break.

Jesus taught us we can do good any day of the week, but it's good to have a break sometimes. Doing good isn't always such hard work. –Like when Jesus healed someone, it was easy for Him to do.





JOHN 4:50

JESUS SAITH UNTO HIM, GO THY WAY; THY SON LIVETH. AND THE MAN BELIEVED THE WORD THAT JESUS HAD SPOKEN UNTO HIM, AND HE WENT HIS WAY.

When someone in your family is sick, ask Jesus to help you, and He will heal them. In this story, Jesus told the father that his son was alive, and the father believed it. He didn't just put it to the side, thinking that Jesus had gone crazy.

Jesus didn't have to be visibly seen by the sick person to be healed, though some people might have thought that. The father didn't just believe, he did what Jesus told him.

Jesus is the only one that can actually heal. Without Him, no one would live. Some people may have things that can help a sick person, but that doesn't exactly heal them. Jesus is the only one that can heal.





JOHN 5:1

AFTER THIS THERE WAS A FEAST
OF THE JEWS; AND JESUS WENT UP
TO JERUSALEM.

Jesus isn't only serious, while He has lots of important things to do, He can easily do them quickly. In this verse, it says He goes up to a feast! Jesus loves to celebrate with you and me, though you don't always see Him. On your birthday you probably don't usually see Him, but He is still there celebrating your birthday with you and making sure you are happy.

On Christmas you usually don't see Him, but He is there. It's His birthday, so make sure you give Him His present. What He likes best is when you do kind things to others that are in need—and the kindest thing you can do is to tell people about Jesus and tell them how to go to Heaven, so they can see Him and celebrate with Him!





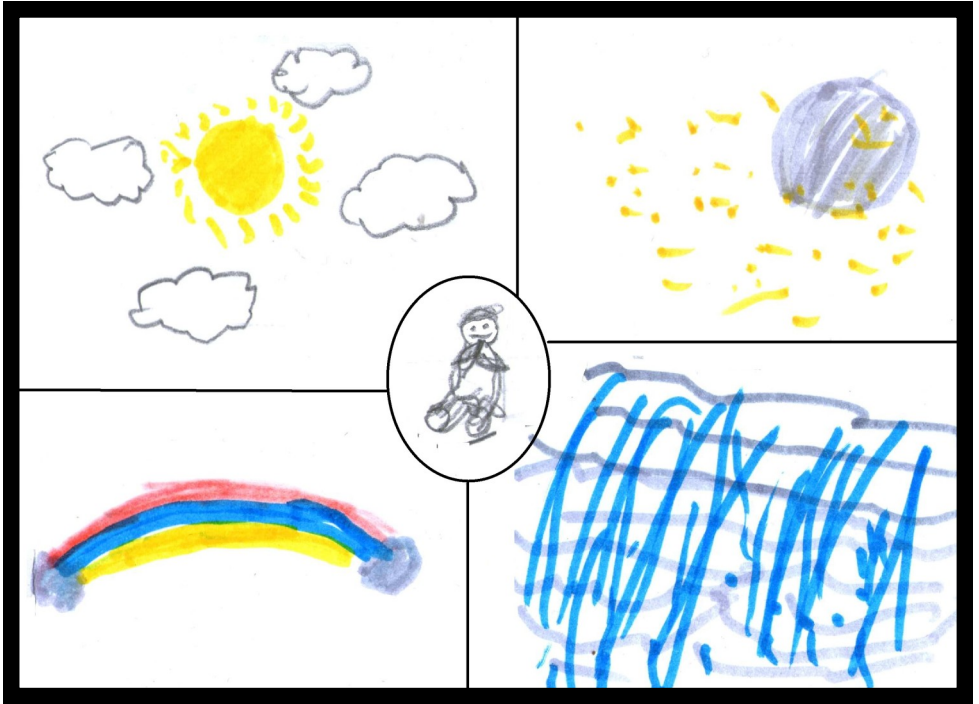
1 PETER 2:17
HONOUR ALL MEN.
LOVE THE BROTHERHOOD.
FEAR GOD.
HONOUR THE KING.

Respect people, if they are Christian or not; respect them to show that God cares about everyone. But of course, love all Christians. Everyone that loves Jesus, you should love them. Of course, fear God—worship God, love God, obey His commandments.

Before you do things, make sure they are loving and they are pleasing to God. Before you say things, make sure they are truthful, make sure they are loving, and make sure they are good.

Also, of course “honour the King” which means respect and love God most of all, and follow the good rules of leaders.





PSALM 89:5

AND THE HEAVENS SHALL PRAISE
THY WONDERS, O LORD:
THY FAITHFULNESS ALSO IN THE
CONGREGATION OF THE SAINTS.

The sky will praise the Lord! The universe will praise Him! He is a wondrous God. He is faithful. He never fails. That is the only thing God cannot do! He can do all other things. But His faithfulness is known in the congregation of Christians that notice His wondrous works, and keep His commandments, and most of all love God.



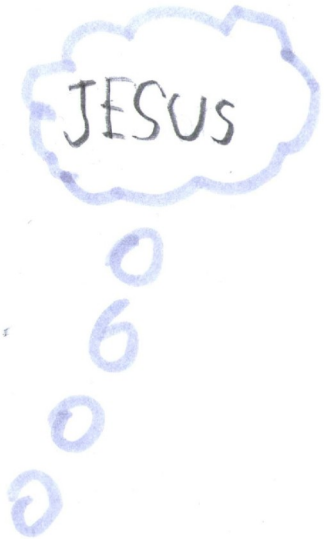
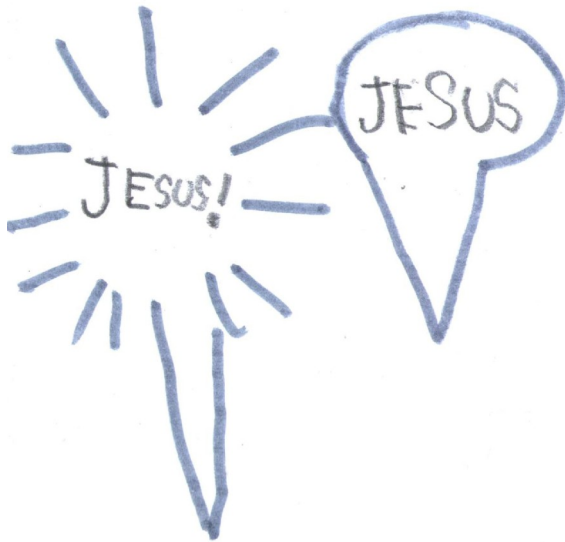


PSALM 9:2

I WILL BE GLAD AND REJOICE IN
THEE: I WILL SING PRAISE TO THY
NAME, O THOU MOST HIGH.

You should always rejoice in the Lord, and not just take the Lord for granted. And not just that, make sure to praise the Lord. He is the Highest of high! He is the best! Everyone should praise Him, all the time, and keep in His will.



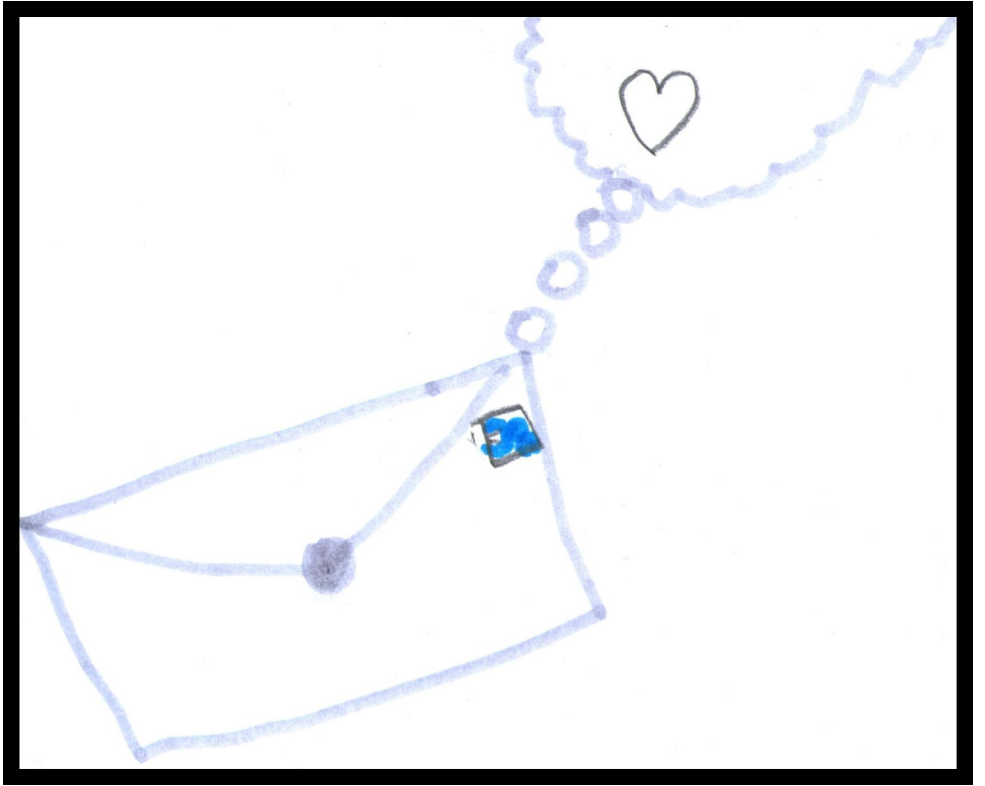


PSALM 88:1-2

O LORD GOD OF MY SALVATION,
I HAVE CRIED DAY AND NIGHT
BEFORE THEE: LET MY PRAYER
COME BEFORE THEE: INCLINE
THINE EAR UNTO MY CRY.

The Lord is the only way to get to Heaven. There is no other way than Him. If you want to get healed, pray to the Lord. The Lord can hear all your prayers, everyone's prayers. He can hear them all at the same time. But not only that, He can give the answer to you, right when you need it. It doesn't matter whether you are thinking a prayer silently in your mind or yelling it out loud, He can hear all of them just the same.





COLOSSIANS 1:7-9

AS YE ALSO LEARNED OF
EPAPHRAS OUR DEAR
FELLOWSERVANT, WHO IS FOR YOU A
FAITHFUL MINISTER OF CHRIST;
WHO ALSO DECLARED UNTO US
YOUR LOVE IN THE SPIRIT.

FOR THIS CAUSE WE ALSO, SINCE
THE DAY WE HEARD IT, DO NOT
CEASE TO PRAY FOR YOU, AND TO
DESIRE THAT YE MIGHT BE FILLED
WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIS WILL
IN ALL WISDOM AND SPIRITUAL
UNDERSTANDING...

As soon as Paul the Apostle heard the message that some people sent their love to him, he began praying for them every day.

Here, in Colossians 1, it lists some of the things he was praying for, for these friends and believers. Paul and Timothy prayed that they would be filled with the Holy Spirit, who would help them to know God's will, and also to have wisdom, and spiritual understanding.

If you read more in that Bible passage, in the verses after these, there is the longer list of what Paul prayed for, for them. We can pray these things for others who love us and we think about.





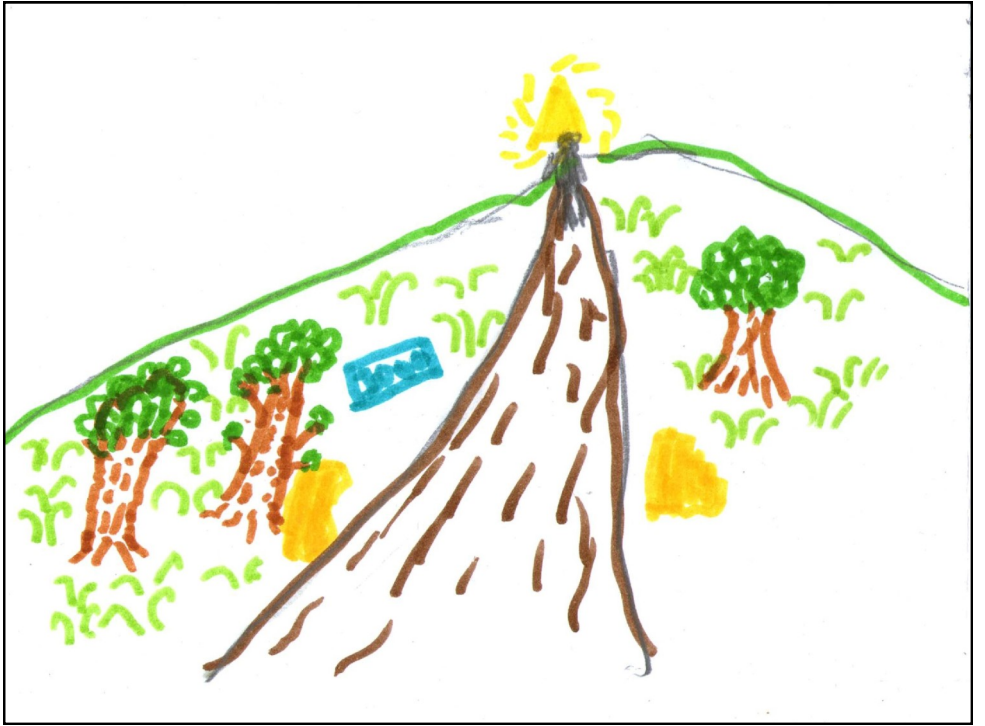
JEREMIAH 5:10B

TAKE AWAY HER BATTLEMENTS;
FOR THEY ARE NOT THE LORD'S.

This world is full of “battlements” that are not the Lord’s. They should be taken away, and not used. In Matthew 5:9 Jesus says, “Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.” You should make peace, not war, in the world’s way of fighting.

The Lord does have “battlements” but they are in the Spirit. To eventually bring peace to this world, we need to use His power, not the world’s. We need to use praise, prayer, and hear from Him in prophecy. We need to read and obey His Word, and what He is saying in the Bible for us to do now. We need to have faith, and believe that Jesus is our Saviour. These are some things that will help us win over the enemy in the Spirit.





3 JOHN 1:7

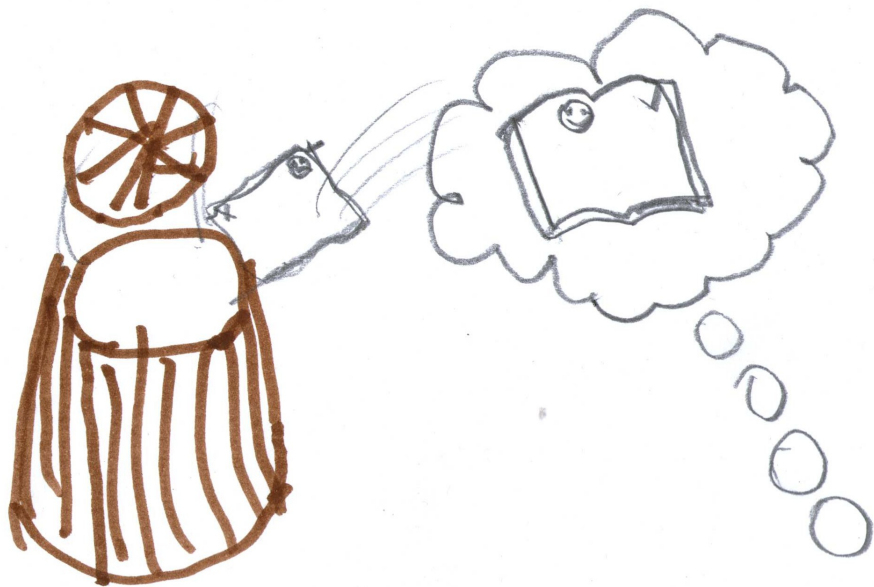
BECAUSE THAT FOR HIS NAME'S
SAKE THEY WENT FORTH, TAKING
NOTHING OF THE GENTILES.

Jesus told us to tell others about Him, but He didn't tell us to take things from people. God can provide our needs. We don't need to take from others what they need. God will provide for us if we follow Him.

When Jesus was on Earth, He didn't have any earthly treasures that He was storing up. He had His treasures in Heaven, not on Earth. We should not store up treasures on Earth, trying to get all our rewards on Earth. You'll be living in Heaven for longer than on Earth.

Jesus gave everything, including His life, so we could have eternal life and live with Him. He didn't keep things all for Himself. We should give all we can, so others can be saved.





MALACHI 2:7

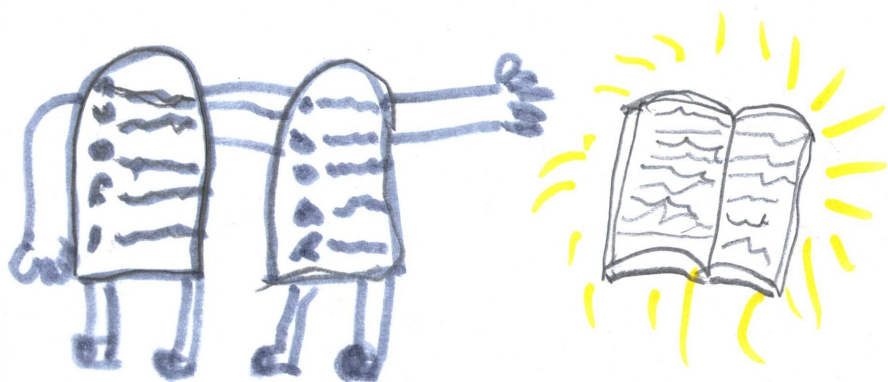
FOR THE PRIEST'S LIPS SHOULD
KEEP KNOWLEDGE, AND THEY
SHOULD SEEK THE LAW AT HIS
MOUTH: FOR HE IS THE MESSENGER
OF THE LORD OF HOSTS.

Whoever we are depending on to let us know the truth should be telling the truth. If they aren't, you shouldn't obey them. If they aren't speaking the truth, they must not be hearing from the Lord. If they aren't hearing from the Lord, they will not be able to know the right and true thing.

Jesus said, "The truth shall set you free."

If we don't seek the Lord's laws, we have to make more rules to keep this world a safe place to live in. There wouldn't need to be so many manmade laws that restrict freedom, if everyone obeyed God's laws.





2 CORINTHIANS 3:2

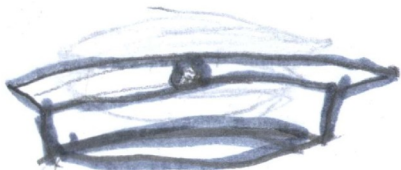
YE ARE OUR EPISTLE WRITTEN
IN OUR HEARTS, KNOWN AND
READ OF ALL MEN.

Some people don't have a Bible to read and obey. So if they want to obey what the Lord wants them to do, they look at what Christians do and copy what they do. So we should be good examples to everyone. We should obey God's law, so they know what it is.

Sometimes people might not understand what the Bible is saying, but if they see you doing it, that could help them understand. Obey the Bible, because people could be watching you and seeing what you do, without you noticing. Be a living example of God's Word.



SALVATION ARMY HAT



1 THESSALONIANS 3:4

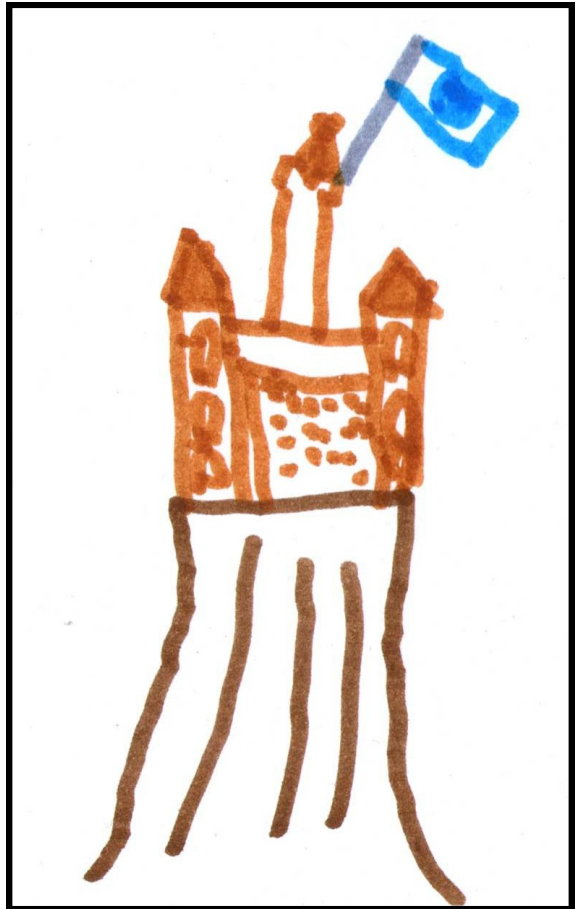
FOR VERILY, WHEN WE WERE WITH YOU, WE TOLD YOU BEFORE THAT WE SHOULD SUFFER TRIBULATION; EVEN AS IT CAME TO PASS, AND YE KNOW.

Just because you might get troubled for doing what is right doesn't mean you should stop.

If everything is going well but you are doing something that isn't in the Lord's will, you shouldn't continue doing the wrong things. You can't just go by if it feels good or not, it needs to BE good.

Some people made a large good difference in this world, but suffered a lot of trouble for it. But they did what they knew was right. They weren't afraid. They were courageous and strong in their faith. They didn't go with what the world wanted, but what God said to do. And because of it many people have been helped by them, and helped by those who followed their good example.





PSALM 118:9

IT IS BETTER TO TRUST IN THE
LORD THAN TO PUT
CONFIDENCE IN PRINCES.

The Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ the Lord, is the One we should trust in. But we should not trust in the “Prince of the power of the air”, who is the opposite of God and wants to bring confusion.

The Lord is the only Prince that can keep His promises always, because He is in complete control of everything in the world. Worldly princes might be able to make promises, but won't be able to keep all of them. Just because someone is powerful and rich, it doesn't mean we can trust them. But of course God is rich, not in little earthly riches, but is powerful over all. He doesn't just seem powerful like earthly princes may seem. You should always trust in the Lord and never put all your trust in earthly princes.

