

Anne
van
der
Bijl
b. 1928



Brother Andrew

God is Love and God is Light

God is Love, His mercy brightens
All the path in which we rove,
Bliss He forms, and woe He lightens,
God is Light and God is Love

Chance and change are busy ever,
Worlds decay and ages move,
But His mercy waneth never
God is Light and God is Love.
Thine eyes shall see the King

Thine eyes shall see!
Yes, thine, who, blind erewhile,
Now trembling towards
the new-found light dost flee,
Leave doubting, and look up
with trustful smile.
Thine eyes shall see!

Thine eyes shall see the King!
The very same
Whose love shone forth upon
the curseful tree,
Who bore thy guilt,
who calleth thee by name
Thine eyes shall see!

Thine eyes shall see the King,
the Mighty One,
The many crowned,
the light-enrobed, and He
Shall bid thee share the kingdom He
hath won
Thine eyes shall see!

-- Frances Ridley Havergal

DEUTERONOMY 28:2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God.

ECCLESIASTES 12:13

Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of Man.

JEREMIAH 7:23 But this thing commanded I them, saying, Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and ye shall be My people: and walk ye in all the ways that I have commanded you, that it may be well unto you.

LUKE 6:46 And why call ye Me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

JOHN 14:15 If ye love Me, keep My commandments.

JOHN 13:17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

For the Love of My Brothers

Brother Andrew with Verne Becker

If we want to change the world for God, we must start by listening to His Word as given in the Scriptures.

Many times in the Old Testament I read, “And the Word of the Lord came unto” a certain prophet. The job of the prophets was to listen to what God was saying and then to declare it, in both word and deed, wherever God told them to go.

Most of the prophets in the Bible were not specially trained or highly educated men who received a call during their last year of seminary. By and large they were ordinary people—like you and me—who were following God in their everyday lives. And yet when they spoke God’s message, they were able to raise up and bring down entire kingdoms. Their ministry came to have great impact.

God has given us in Scripture a full revelation of His nature and His character. And He has given us an unmistakably clear mandate to share Him and His Word with those who have not heard.

What more do we need? If we focus on obeying Him on a daily basis—wherever we are—He will lead us where He wants us to go, and to the people He wants us to reach.

Jesus said to the disciples, “Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest” (John 4:35). If a farmer doesn’t plan carefully, often years ahead of time, he’ll never harvest a crop. Farming is a science, where every step from plowing to harvesting must be considered and adequately planned for. Sharing Jesus is the same way.

Jesus also said to His disciples, “I sent you to reap” (John 4:38) Jesus came into the world with a plan: To destroy the works of the Devil. To reconcile the world with God. And how would He accomplish this? By dying and rising from the dead.

What a terrible thing that so many Christians live without a plan for their lives. I’m not talking about a rigid schedule of life’s events, but an active response to the prophetic Word from God as we heard in step one. Whether we believe God is sending us to the jungles of Africa or the jungles of corporate America, we need to respond by intentionally planning where we

want to go and how to reach those Jesus wants us to reach, knowing that whoever is reachable is winnable.

What is the purpose of *your* life? And what part does that purpose play in fulfilling the Great Commission? That’s where the planning comes in. At the spiritual level, planning means taking the initiative. It’s not about sitting around until you are absolutely certain God is calling you to a particular task, direction, country, or ministry. Nor is it waiting for the doors to open so you can go there easily.

Planning is an act of faith. Jesus never told His disciples to wait for an invitation. He told them to go. Where and when will often arise out of your time in the Scriptures. After all, as D. L. Moody said, it’s not how many times you have gone through the Word, but how many times it has gone through you.

This does not mean, however, that the only mission fields are far away. We should be conscious every morning, from the moment our feet hit the floor, that we can and will bring Christ’s presence into the relationships of our daily lives.

When we hear God’s prophetic Word and then we plan specific ways to act on that Word, inevitably we are driven to our knees in prayer. Why? Because in the process of planning, we quickly see that reaching the world for Jesus is a much greater task than anyone can tackle alone. It can happen only with God’s help. So, we need to ask for it.

The fact is, God calls *all* of us to full-time Christian service—that is, we are all called to be Christians full time. We may not pastor a church or go to Outer Mongolia, but in God’s eyes we are just as much a part of the Great Commission as pastors and missionaries.

The real calling of God is not to a certain place or career, but to everyday obedience. And that call is extended to every Christian, not a select few. Then, as we follow His everyday call, He opens doors to where He wants us to go, and closes doors to where He does not want us to go. That way, faithfulness to God’s calling is within our reach every day, and life becomes an adventure as we obey His Word and walk through the doors He has opened for us.

It is not easy to serve Jesus Christ full time. In fact, it is a *hard* life, but a very satisfying one. It means always being available for other people while completely giving up all rights to ourselves. It means allowing God to gradually make us into the persons He wants us to be so that everything we do arises out of who we are as Christians.

Are we ready to take on the biggest challenge in the world? Only if we prepare ourselves as individuals and as churches. The preparation must first take place within as we draw closer to the Lord and His teachings and grow in spiritual maturity. Then we will have the greatest impact when we reach out to our needy brothers and sisters around the world.

A few years ago, I visited Beirut with my youngest son. As we were browsing in the Bible society bookshop, the general secretary of the Baptist Union of Lebanon walked in. I already knew him from my many previous visits. He greeted us warmly and then said something to my son that I will never forget.

“When everybody else runs away, your father comes to us,” he said. “His being here is our greatest encouragement.”

Our presence in a certain place has great value in the sight of God. This is true not only for me, but for every Christian—famous or not, great preacher or not. Why? Because through us, the presence of Jesus *will* bring about change in whatever situation we find ourselves.

If we aren’t having an effect on others, then we must honestly ask ourselves, *Does Jesus really live in me?* I am talking now about the very essence of the Gospel: “Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Colossians 1:27).

Many times I have read of remote places in the world and of primitive people never before visited by modern people. I wonder, Why do the journalists get there first? Why not representatives of Christ? We should have the same determination, the same fearlessness, and the same refusal to accept no as an answer that reporters and explorers and adventurers have.

They manage to get in, so why do we say it is impossible or too dangerous for Christians?

One day my assistant Johan Compajon and I were having dinner at a restaurant in Manila. Above the clatter of dishes, we could hear the noise of several air conditioners running, but the

place was still very hot. Finally Johan called the waiter.

“Doesn’t your air conditioner work here? Johan asked him.

“Yes sir,” he replied with an embarrassed smile. “It is working, but it is not functioning.”

Many Christians are like that. We believe in Jesus, go to church regularly, and remain faithful, but we aren’t having much impact on the world around us. We work, but we don’t function. And yet God has called us to make a difference, to be the salt of the earth.

The problem is that unless we move forward in our evangelistic efforts, we will begin to stagnate.

Another friend, a Russian Baptist by the name of Klassen, was standing trial for refusing to stop preaching. Throughout the proceedings he boldly testified of his relationship with Jesus, answering every question from his accusers with another question about their souls and eternity. At the court sessions so many people accepted Jesus Christ that the chief judge threw everyone out of the courthouse. My friend Klassen was greatly encouraged and he continued preaching.

So the message we proclaim is one of victory through Jesus. We win! Because we know what is going to happen, the rest and assurance we radiate will attract many people to hear our proclamation. But that means we must walk closely with God and stay grounded in His Word.

God is not hiding from us what He is going to do with this world. It is all written in Scripture, and it is our job to proclaim it to every person and every nation.

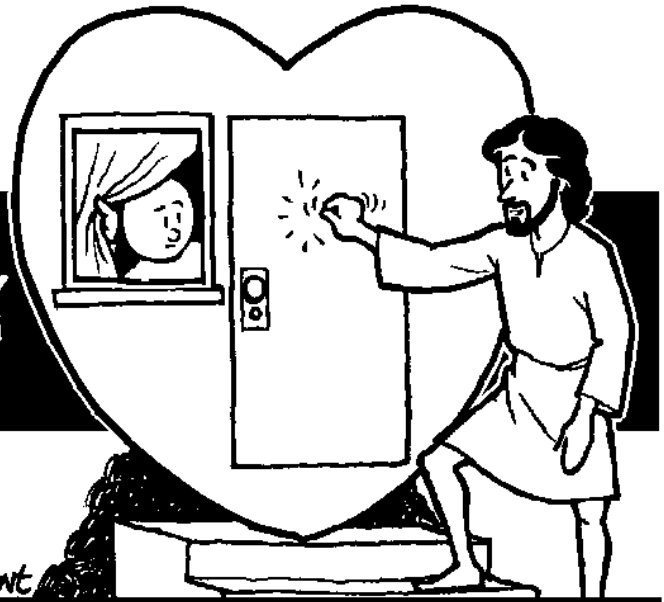
In spite of the intense spiritual warfare—or perhaps *because* of it—I believe God will give us opportunities to proclaim the good news of Jesus to people we never thought would be interested.

Many countries and peoples of the world still do not have the freedom to proclaim the Gospel. They desperately need people like us to help them proclaim the will of God, the revelation of God, the power of God, the Kingdom of God, the principles of God, the love of God, the righteousness of God, and the peace of God. One day they will all proclaim His name, and the Bible says that will be soon! So take courage, and joyfully proclaim the victory He has already won.

between
Heaven & Cell

YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUT
ANY PRESENTS UNDER
THE TREE FOR ME.

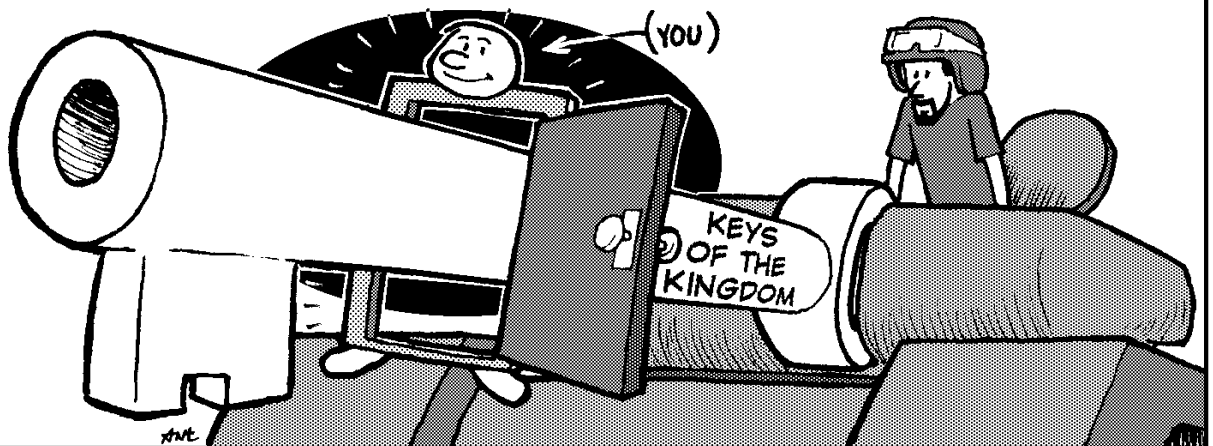
YOU CAN DO THAT FOR YOUR
LOVED ONES AND CHILDREN
--I LIKE TO SEE PEOPLE HAPPY!
BUT WHAT I WANT MOST FROM
YOU, AND FROM YOUR WHOLE
FAMILY FOR THAT MATTER,
IS TO BE INVITED IN
TO LIVE WITH YOU!



between
Heaven & Cell

YOU NEED TO BE LED MORE BY MY SPIRIT!

THAT BRINGS DOWN MY POWER IN GREAT MEASURE
AND GIVES ME THE OPEN DOOR THAT I CAN WORK THROUGH!



Inspiring True Stories from History: Beautiful Birds

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. (Isaiah 40:30-31)

And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away, and be at rest. (Psalm 55:6)

(From "Under His Wings", Autobiography by Harold. A. Baker; Missionary to Tibet, China, and Formosa)

I had to have exercise. I never could carry on indoor work without daily outdoor exercise. I found that the best exercise was not athletics, but walking. Hiram college is located in a beautiful, rolling country covered with maple forests. I bought a Reed's pocket coloured bird guide; and then, whenever possible, I spent an hour or two every day tramping through the scented forests, seeking birds. There probably was not a spot within an hour's walk off the college that I did not visit many times. I wonder whether there was any kind of bird that did not come within range of my five dollar bird binoculars.

Here was a study in which I was at the top. I was the only ornithologist in the college. I wonder whether any one in the college knew the difference between a robin and a screech owl. How refreshing it [was to] leisurely ramble through God's forest scented by mossy undergrowth...and watch the happy squirrels scampering among the tree branches, and to listen to the carolling birds.

My childhood had been among forests, where on a summer day I could lie on my back and look into the tops of the trees that God had made. In the springtime my sister and I could gather bouquets of Jonny jump-ups and daisies which grew by the little rippling brook of crystal water. We knew the common birds. We knew within a day or two the exact time the woodpeckers would return from the south and begin pecking again on the dead limb of the old white oak.

The swallow had the swallow-clock. No matter how far south it had to go that winter to find it warm enough, no matter how the wind blew en route, no matter how many mountains had to be crossed and rainy days encountered, our two home-loving house-swallows each year would return at almost the same day and hour and being to build their nest right over our house door.

No wonder that having spent my childhood where God was, and having had that same God who guided the swallow home, He also put that homing sense into my heart as I sat alone in the buggy in the barn. I got something that professor could not take away. As I now make the last stage of my homeward flight I rejoice that the God who guided the swallow home has been guiding me. Only the fool has said in his heart there is no God.

I hope you like this little meditation under the trees out there in the woods. My love for birds and nature began at childhood. I used to gather the beautiful birds' eggs, one of a kind. Now in college days my love for God's creation had this opportunity for further development. I was naturally of a solitary disposition and wished I might have been a naturalist. I was more interesting in making friends with birds than with men, for I loved God's animate and inanimate creation. But God's will for me was to move among and work for His creation — men.

I must do what I can to guide men home, guide men back to the paradise where eyes will be opened again to see the beauty of the lily, where they can enjoy the fragrance of the rose, rest by crystal streams, listen to the singing birds, and walk and talk with Jesus.

[While learning China, as a missionary there:] To study from daylight till dark and from dark till bedtime and then see those chicken-track-like words dancing around in my dreams made some break in such continuity imperative. I found relieving friends — the birds I could now make new bird-friends, not exactly like my American bird-friends but just as nice.

The first summer that I was at the resort a real ornithologist gave a scientific lecture on birds, that was published in a little booklet. This gave a scientific description of the bird-in-hand — its exact length by measuring from tip to tail, and waist to chest measure, so to speak. This bird-in-the-hand-information was not much help to the uninitiated person who wanted to get acquainted with the “bird-in-the-bush”.

However, it helped get a start. The second summer, so far as I know, I was the only one of the several hundred persons there who was making friends with the birds. My bird study was interesting, and at times really thrilling.

At the end of the season I was asked by the Royal Asiatic Scientific Society to give a lecture on birds. That pleased me, for I wanted to introduce people to my bird friends. All I could do was to tell about “the bird-in-the-bush” and how to identify it without a picture of it: When did you see it? Where did you see it? On the ground, on a rock, on a tree, in a bush? If on the ground did it hop or run? Did it fly level or undulating?

Describe every color and feather marking. How long did it appear to be? Imitate its song if it had any. What calls did it make? Was it alone or with other birds, etc. The people were interested in my lecture. At the conclusion of my talk it was moved that the Society have it published with additions to the list of birds I had described.

The talk was published in booklet form under the title, “Two Hundred Birds of the Lower Yangtze Valley”. I understood that the books were soon sold out. I had left that part of China for Tibet and lost all contact with the readers. I should have had that booklet republished, for as far as my investigations had gone, there was no other book like it, at any rate not in that part of China.

Just recently here in Formosa I met a missionary from China who had gone to that summer resort in Kuling. I was surprised when he said that he had been interested in birds there at Kuling and that there were several bird-study groups. He said these groups had been able to identify over three hundred kinds of birds. I suppose that included those seen in mission stations. Whether or not my study and booklet had much or little to do with the beginning of all this I do not know. At any rate, I was a pioneer. Had I remained there I would no longer have been that lone pilgrim seeking bird friends.

I hope all this I have just written may have a practicable result in interesting some of you good readers in starting out to make acquaintance with God’s caroling feathered friends, whom the Lord feeds and whom He teaches to praise Him for our enjoyment and encouragement. Why not buy a pair of cheap binoculars magnifying from three to five diameters and a “Reed’s Pocket Bird Guide” which has pictures of every bird in natural colors? Then with your children and friends you can learn more about God’s wonderful creation. Everything you learn to enjoy of God’s Eden here will help you better to enjoy God’s paradise above, where the roses never fade and the plumed choristers will sing forever their enchanting carols.

From Jesus With Love

Behold, I am the Good Shepherd. I gave My life to save the lost. I laid down My body to heal the broken. I suffered all this, not in vain, but so that I could draw you, My children, to My bosom, and comfort you and love you and give you forgiveness, redemption and healing.

I have My arms outstretched, and in My hands are precious gifts to give to you, My children, you, My broken ones, you who are suffering, you who are crying, you who are aching. I have precious gifts for you—gifts of love, of forgiveness, of mercy, and of healing. All of these things are in My hands and I will freely give them to you if you will only reach out and receive them by faith. These gifts are not earned by your goodness. You could never be good enough to receive these precious gifts from My hands. But I give them to you freely if you can only reach out by faith and receive My love, My mercy, My forgiveness, and My healing.

Master's Arts

Keys of the Kingdom—Desiring God's Will— Giving No Place to the Enemy

The Master says:

“You like mysteries, you like secrets—you like secret treasure chests filled with riches, that have a key to open it. I don't make it too boringly easy to get what you need on Earth, but I make you have to “seek to find” to “knock for it to be opened” and “ask to receive”. When a solution is found and I unlock a mystery or give a special answer to your prayer, it's fun! Instead of giving everything to you, before you even ask—even though I have the answer ready before you ask, instead I usually choose to wait for you to use the key of desire and request what is needed. Sometimes the key opens a treasure chest, and all you need then is there for you. Sometimes you use a key to My Kingdom and it opens a locked book, and in there is a clue for you to follow, and keep going until the full answer and solution is found out. But no matter what, when you use the Keys of the Kingdom—the keys I give you—these help you to get the solutions, and reveal secrets.”

LAMBIBITS

(Lessons, anecdotes, messages, Bible-based beliefs, inspirational talks, and sayings.)

This has been so manifest and so evident, because God did so many things I never dreamed of, I never expected! In fact, I was looking for the exact opposite or the contrary, when many times God turned right around and did the unexpected and the absolutely unpredictable, the thing which was completely so far out, so way out, the only way out, that we hadn't even seen it! So the Lord seems seldom to operate according to "natural" expectation.

It takes an impossible situation for God to do a miracle, and time after time we have gotten in such impossible situations that it had to take a miracle to get us out of it!--Or where we had to get in some place, God had to do a miracle to get us in!

So quit trying to figure it out yourself and to reason it out and to do it in your own understanding. Get down on your prayer bones and get desperate in prayer before God! Get together and fast and pray and cry out to God as Moses and his disciples did, and as I'm sure Noah and his family did, and as David and his family did. You can read their prayers and outcries in the Bible as the prophets of God and their little groups of disciples cried out to God.

Give god all the credit all the time at every turn for every little thing, and He will never fail to continue to prosper you and empower you, and protect you, and keep you, and multiply you, and do all things just like He did for the Early Church! What did the Early Church do?

What did Jesus and his twelve disciples do when they were in a pinch?--They cried out to the Lord and asked for Him to help. Just as they did, all down through history it's always been the same: The Early Church, when they didn't know what to do, they didn't know what to do. How could they know what to do? Only God knows what to do!

PLAY TO WIN



AS HEAD COACH I HAVE A PERFECT TRACK RECORD. ALL THOSE WHO STICK WITH ME ARE GUARANTEED TO END UP WINNERS! ACCEPT ME AS YOUR COACH, AND YOU'LL BE PREPARED FOR WHAT IS TO COME. I WILL GUIDE YOU OVER, AROUND, OR STRAIGHT THROUGH ANY OBSTACLE THIS LIFE CAN THROW AT YOU.

BEHIND EVERY GREAT ATHLETE IS A GREAT COACH, AND I'LL BE THAT COACH FOR YOU IN THE GAME OF LIFE, IF YOU'LL SAY THIS SIMPLE PRAYER:

"JESUS, I WANT TO JOIN YOUR TEAM. PLEASE COME INTO MY HEART AND BE MY LIFE COACH. TEACH ME THE RULES OF THE GAME, AND SHOW ME HOW TO LOVE YOU AND OTHERS. HELP ME THROUGH THE PRELIMINARIES, OVER THE HURDLES, AND AROUND LIFE'S OBSTACLES. HELP ME TO LEARN YOUR STRATEGIES AND FOLLOW YOUR SIGNALS, SO I CAN BE A WINNING PLAYER IN THIS LIFE AND IN THE NEXT."

IF YOU'VE SAID THIS PRAYER WITH A SINCERE HEART, YOU ARE NOW ON MY WINNING TEAM! YOUR TRAINING HAS BEGUN AND I'VE GOT A PLAN FOR YOU. I'LL NEVER LET YOU DOWN. I'M HERE FOR YOU!

—COACH JESUS

THIS LIFE IS THE REAL WORLD CUP! —AND YOU ARE THE ATHLETE!



JUST BY BEING BORN ON THIS EARTH, YOU AUTOMATICALLY BECOME A PLAYER IN THE GAME OF LIFE!



I'VE EQUIPPED YOU WITH WHAT YOU NEED TO WIN THE GAME. I'VE GIVEN YOU ATTRIBUTES THAT ARE UNIQUE TO YOU, AND IT'S UP TO YOU TO CHOOSE WHAT YOU'LL DO WITH THEM.



I'M THE BEST TALENT SCOUT IN THE BUSINESS AND I KNOW WHAT I NEED AND WANT FOR MY TEAM!

I'VE HAD MY EYE ON YOU FOR A LONG TIME AND YOU'RE JUST WHAT I WANT!

I AM EXTENDING YOU A PERSONAL INVITATION TO JOIN MY TEAM —THE WINNING TEAM. IF YOU ACCEPT, I WILL BECOME YOUR PERSONAL TRAINER AND COACH YOU THROUGH THE GAME OF LIFE.

I'LL TEACH YOU ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW—INCLUDING THE RULES OF THE GAME AND HOW TO BEST DEVELOP YOUR TALENTS.

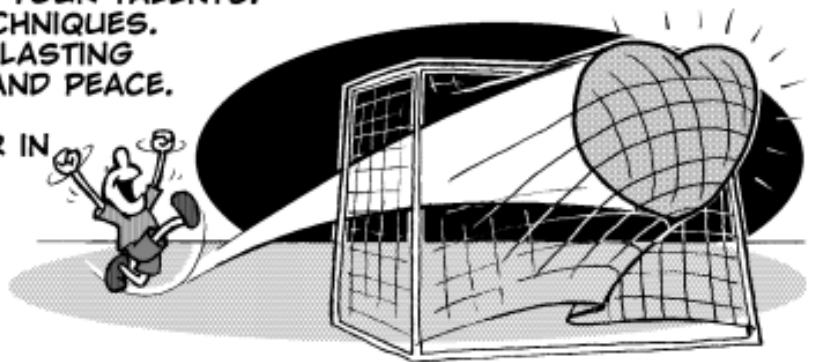
I'LL SHOW YOU THE RIGHT TECHNIQUES.

I'LL TEACH YOU HOW TO FIND LASTING HAPPINESS, SATISFACTION, AND PEACE.

I'LL TEACH YOU HOW TO BE A TEAM PLAYER AND A WINNER IN YOUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS.

I'LL HELP YOU LIVE THE WAY YOU WERE MEANT TO LIVE.

I'LL MAKE A CHAMPION OUT OF YOU!



Thoughts and True Stories

An evangelist, when someone approached him with a story about a sister, said to the gossip, "Before you say anything about that person, I should like to ask you three questions:

"First, will it do me any good if you tell me your story?

"Second, will it do you any good to tell it?

"Third, will it do the sister about whom you have come to tell me any good?"

Needless to say, the slander was never uttered.

(2Thess.3:11; 1Tim.5:13; 1Pet.4:15)

When Dwight L. Moody was dedicating the first building of what later became the Moody Bible Institute, he gave the cornerstone a whack with the trowel, then made an invocation to this effect: "Lord, You know that what this old World needs more than anything else is Thy Word. We pray that if the day ever comes when anything contrary to the Bible is taught here, You will wipe this school from the face of the Earth!"

J. Hudson Taylor, founder of the great China Inland Mission, was Converted through reading a little tract in his father's library when he was fifteen years old. Carelessly, he picked it up to while away the time, but, eighty miles away, his mother was praying for his salvation. Before he laid it down, he was rejoicing in the knowledge of sins forgiven! When we think of the stupendous work of the mission he founded, we marvel that God should have used such a little thing to bring it all about!

Stories from: Remarkable Answers to Prayer (Compiled by S.B. Shaw)

At one of our children's meetings last summer, I invited the conductor of the train running to Cincinnati (who was a Christian man) to talk to the children. After speaking of his work among the prisoners of the Cincinnati jail, he proceeded to relate an instance from his own life, proving God's willingness to supply temporal needs in answer to the prayer of faith. When he was a very young boy, his mother was left a widow, with six children dependent upon her for the supply of their temporal wants.

It was a cold winter's day when all their provisions were exhausted; and as there was no human source to which to look, they took their needs to the dear heavenly Father, who promises to hear the cry of the widow and fatherless. They had perfect confidence that He would hear and answer prayer.

After eating their last morsel, they all went to bed and slept as sweetly as though they had an abundance at hand. In the morning the mother, with great cheerfulness, went about her work, setting the table, and making arrangements for breakfast, when there came a rap. She went to the door, and found a perfect stranger, who said the Lord had sent him to supply their present wants, and he came in, bringing provisions enough to last them a long time.

The stranger said he was awakened at midnight, and something told him of the situation of this poor family. Notwithstanding he lived several miles distant, he and his good wife arose, prepared their charities, and the husband set out, finding the place in time for their breakfast. How blessed to have parents teach by precept and example such beautiful lessons of trust!--Lily Blake Blakeney Howe.

