

When I was young, families of ten or a dozen children were common!--At least seven or eight! You were considered a small family if you only had four or five children! They almost looked on you with pity that you had so few children.

Children were considered a <u>blessing</u> in those days, especially when it was an agricultural economy and you lived on the farm. The more <u>children</u> you had, the more <u>help</u> you had! The more boys you had, the more boys you had to work on the farm, and the more girls you had, the more girls you had to help keep house and take care of the cooking and the sewing and the clothes-making and the children and all the rest!

That's God's natural way of living and natural economy. And in that natural environment, the more children you have, the better!--And the sooner you have'm, the better! --Before the grandmother gets too old to help you take care of them.

- Children are what give life to this world!
- A baby is the biggest miracle since the creation of the World!—Another soul that is going to live forever!
- One thing the Lord loves is lots of babies. It's one way that He has of growing His Kingdom.
- It is the hand of God Who creates a human soul.
- God's gift is God's work.

When I was in school I didn't feel inferior. For one thing, I made better grades than anybody else, and I knew I was superior mentally. And I knew I was superior spiritually, because those people believed [foolish] things like evolution and they did [foolish] things.--I knew I was superior in the Lord and my faith and outlook! I wasn't embarrassed about my mental capacity. I was not embarrassed in school about my faith, I knew it was better than anything they had. But I knew I was in the minority. In fact, I was about the only one most of the time. I felt like a loner, but I wouldn't say I was embarrassed.

In school I was a fighter for my faith! I frequently stood up for my faith and spoke out against what was being taught, and spoke out against the teachers and spoke out against the text books. And believe it or not, usually the kids would be on my side! The kids would stick up for it with me because they liked it if you could say the text book was wrong. If anything, they ought to be able to get the kids on their side when they are bucking the System or the text book or the teacher.

- You're God's ambassador, you're representing the King of kings, the One Who runs the universe!
- Students stand up for your convictions and fight for your faith in the classroom.
- You have to be able to say "no" to what you know is not right.
- Something you believe, you talk about.
- After I finally got to trusting the Lord, I didn't care what people thought, I just did what I thought was best.

God's creation is fascinating! Ever since I was a little kid I've been fascinated with the marvels of His creation and all the things that creation can tell you and all you can learn from it! You can <u>see</u> the Hand of God, <u>hear</u> the Voice of God in it and <u>learn</u> so much about God from it. You can see and know the existence of He Who is invisible, by seeing His handiwork.

That's why the Devil has tried so hard to debunk creation and create a lie such as evolution! And I believe that's also why-although they claim to be such great scientists and astronomers and all the rest-they try to pervert astronomical knowledge into a batch of lies, instead of Truths that the Earth can tell you and the rocks can cry out and tell you! They pervert geology into palaeontology, which is nothing but a pack of lies!--Trying to tell you how many millions of years old the World is and how many millions of years old this fossil or that skeleton is, blah blah, a lot of baloney!--No, it's worse than that, it's the Devil's horrible lies!

They don't want you to know how marvellous the creation is! They don't want you to know how marvellously designed and planned and how perfectly it operates, better than a clock or any of their machinery! But true scientists, honest scientists, are beginning to marvel more and more at it!

When I was a kid in the '20s when evolution was first extremely popular, only about 25% of those listed in the American Handbook of Scientists confessed that they believed in God or a Supreme Being or Designer or Creator behind all of this. The last I heard a few years ago, some 70% now believe there was a Designer, Creator or some Supreme Power behind this marvellous Universe!--So <u>true</u> scientists are becoming believers!

The more they learned about His creation, the more they saw the hand of God and the design and the plan and the perfection!

When I was a kid, general science included how the toilet operates, how the electric lights and the fuses operate, how the things around the house operate and how to fix'm!

• To see God in everything makes life the greatest adventure there is.

- Everything is a miracle because God made it all.
- God made this beautiful world as a home for you to live in and enjoy.
- Just one tree is such a marvellous creation of God, that man can't even understand it.
- Everything in this natural world that God has made is an illustration of something in the spiritual world.
- The things in this world that God has made for us to enjoy show us that He is alive and loves us.

This generation is so deaf from all that loud noise you used to listen to! I refuse to call it music, all that loud horrible noise! Some doctors say there has been a 50 or 60 percent loss of hearing to your generation through listening to that loud music.

Whereas I didn't listen to that kind of music and I have extremely sensitive hearing, especially in my left ear. I blew up a blood vessel in my right ear, an aneurysm, from flying upside-down in a flight-trainer when I was young.

I used to play a little trick where I could blow smoke out my ear. At least I've got one very good left ear, it's very keen, doubly keen. My sense of hearing has been very keen, and I can identify even the faintest sounds, such as the nibbling of a little mouse or the scratching of a bird on the roof, or a distant sound.--Except that I was <u>partially</u> deafened in my <u>right</u> ear due to an accident which occurred when I was 14 at the Miami Airshow, to which we teenage boys went for all the excitement and thrill of the air races etc.

This was in the early days of airplanes when biplanes were the thing, the slow double-winged planes, the kind they still sometimes use for crop dusters. Monoplanes, the single-wingers, were something entirely new.

The old biplanes were so slow, they'd put on a stunt at the airshow of a girl standing between the two wings dancing the Charleston while holding on to the struts in flight! So aviation has come a long way since then. However, I made the mistake of deciding to pay the fare and fly upside-down in a flight trainer, at which time my right ear suddenly seemed like it burst, and I developed an aneurism (a permanent swelling of an artery or vein) in the blood vessel there, which is a swollen, balloon-like problem.

This seemed to damage my right ear in some way, I don't know whether it was the ear drum or what. But it did seem to hinder my hearing in my right ear so that I became partially hearing-impaired, partially deaf in that ear, and have been ever since. But as a result, my <u>left</u> ear became even more <u>keen</u>.

- The way to avoid accidents is to make it impossible for them to happen.
- Accidents are usually caused through carelessness, lack of watchfulness, lack of caution or lack of safety.
- Accidents don't just happen!—They are caused!—By our own neglect and carelessness, or that of others.
- The best way to avoid or prevent accidents is to pray without ceasing.
- I don't believe in risking your life for a thrill.

My mother and father undoubtedly had the greatest influence of anybody over my life and helped to make me what I am today. I was constantly conscious of their spiritual presence and love and feeling about things. Their faith and encouragement helped pull me through.

The governesses and all the Sunday school teachers read us the Bible and told us Bible stories, and I loved the Bible and Bible stories. I believed them and I'm sure they were a tremendous influence on my life. The Bible itself and the Bible stories, presented properly, were a tremendous influence, because I really knew it was God and the voice of God and the Book of God!

So God was a tremendous influence on our lives. The Lord was the greatest influence of all through our teachers and Mother and Dad teaching us. In those early years in Miami from 1924 to 1940, probably all those various preachers had a tremendous influence on my life, missionaries going through and teachers and children's workers, etc.

Old Uncle Charlie was a great one for teaching children with visual aids, and it was all very interesting and taught us a lot of things.

- The main thing is to know the Word.
 Faith is built on the Word.
- It's impossible to have faith unless you have the Word!
- The only thing we are interested in is the Word! Studying God's Word and preaching God's Word and giving God's Word to others.
- The answer for everything is in God's Word.
- The Word of God is the most powerful truth on Earth.

My parents had drilled the word into me. I had heard the Word from the beginning, and time again when something came up in school, some false doctrine of evolution or astronomy or whatever, I would question it and instantly I would get a <u>Scripture</u>! I would get the <u>Word</u>, and that is one of the most strengthening things, if they know the <u>Word</u>!

I'm sure glad I had years of experience of living by faith with my Mother and Father. You learn so many lessons as a child! What a wonderful, wonderful foundation they gave me in the life of faith!

When I was bad they used to make me stand in the corner with my nose against the wall and recite all the Scriptures that I knew! I had to begin with the first Psalm and recite every Psalm I knew all the way through the 91st, and that's a lot of Psalms! I knew a lot of them, because every time I was bad I had to learn a Psalm!--Ha! And then when I was bad again they made me stand in a corner and recite them all!

- Teach others to teach others to teach others.
- The Word of God will make you smarter than all the ungodly education in the world and the ungodly wisdom of man, which is nothing.
- Each one teach one to do your job.
- Start teaching people how to live by telling them how to give.
- The best education your parents can give you is the Word.

When I was little, it seemed like every day was another crisis and every day was another dramatic, dangerous experience or something, and by all my stories and all my scars, I'm sure you have heard it all by this time. And if it wasn't me, it was my Mother. It seemed like my Dad was about the only one that kept out of trouble most of the time, God bless him.

I'm not like the guy who wrote, "Turn backward, turn backward, O time, in your flight and let me be a child once again for tonight!"

Well, I can think of very happy memories from when I was a child. I have lots of good memories. You have a natural inclination to remember the good things and to forget the bad things, to "choose the good and eschew the evil." I can think of a lot of happy things, and as I read my Diaries I run across a lot of things that I really enjoyed and very happy moments of life and accomplishments.

But most of it was pretty hard work and a lot of it was devoted just to plain survival and the everyday, humdrum, sometimes boring, sometimes exciting, sometimes plain drudgery of everyday existence in life.

We have to go through life doing a lot of the same things over and over and over again--sleep, wake up, wash your face, brush your teeth, get dressed, eat your breakfast-day after day, day-in-and-day-out you do so many of the same things. So I used to ask people, "What did you do today that you won't have to do again tomorrow?" What actual progress have you made in life today? Can you think of anything you've accomplished today of real progress that you will not have to repeat tomorrow or the next I keep a progress chart in the back of my diary and I know exactly where I'm at on every item I'm working on and exactly what condition it's in and what state it's in and exactly what date it arrived and in what condition. I know what I'm doing! I keep a record of it every day!

I spend at least an hour a day just keeping notes as I go along! Every item that passes through my hands I put down a date.

If I go one day without keeping my diary, I forget most things that happened, and if it's two days it's a hopeless case! I don't write a lot, you know how brief I am, the soul of brevity!

I like graphs because I'm very simpleminded and very thickheaded and it's hard for me to understand a maze of stats on a whole big typing page.

- God doesn't judge you by how successful you are, but by how faithful you are.
- The more the Lord finds He can trust you with, the more He gives you.
- Continue to be faithful—full of faith and love for Jesus!
- To be "found faithful" means loyal, believing and obedient.
- Help us, Lord to remember that the most important thing to You is our faithfulness.

I always loved tree houses when I was a kid, I used to build platforms up in the top of trees and I'd go up there and read books! I even spent the night there sometimes! I liked the feeling of being able to hide up there where nobody knew where I was. I had almost a feeling of superiority, like I was above the rest of the World and unseen, hiding out, and they never even knew I was there!

I never liked to make mud pies when I was a kid. Other kids loved to sit and play in the mud and make mud pies, but I couldn't stand it! My mother said she could remember me coming in and saying, "Icky! Icky! Icky!"—my hands all covered with mud—when all the other kids were having so much fun! At first I thought it would be fun, but I didn't like it.

- I'm just having so much fun living for the Lord it's hard for me to be too sad and long-faced.
- The Lord made life for us to enjoy!
- God wants you to live for Him as long as possible and as happily as possible, a good happy sample of the joy of the Lord.
- Every new day is the happiest day of my life! Every day with Jesus is better than the day before.
- If we please the Lord, the Lord lets us do as we please.