

Hearth to Hearth

Woman to Woman



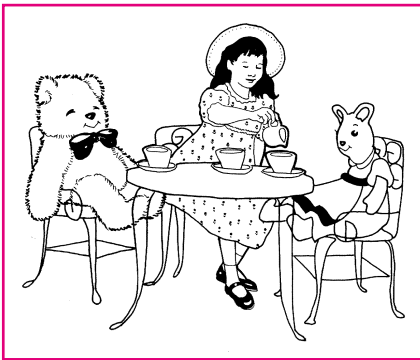
Vol. 5, No. 4

“And ye are complete in him.” Colossians 2:10

July/Aug. 2002

Entertaining Children Outdoors

By Victoria Purdie



I don't know about you, but as a child I couldn't stand being indoors on a sunny day or even a warm cloudy one. Even if I just lay under a tree and watched ants go past, I was happy to be outside.

Here are some ideas to help encourage your children to the outdoors if they are usually preferring to be inside, and ideas to help entertain the children who spend most of their time outside anyway.

Wash Everything in Sight

Give your children a bucket of soapy water and a sponge or old rag, and encourage them to clean things like their bikes or tricycles, muddy gumboots, plastic outdoor furniture, flower pots, the letterbox, side of the garage, steps and anything else that is suitable to be washed. Not only do things get clean, but also children love to play with sippy water and feel like they are achieving something at the same time.

Flower Arrangements

Teach your children how to pick flowers so that there is enough stem to put into a vase. If they are old enough, they can pick flowers for you to take indoors, or for young children, provide a saucer of water or a plastic cup for them to arrange flowers in. You can make other types of arrangements by putting some soil into a flat-bottomed plastic container (like you get at Chinese takeaways). Provide some plastic animals and watch your children create a miniature garden or farm setting.

Green Fingers

Allocate a small area of your garden or provide plastic plant pots, and fill with dirt. Give your children some seeds, and let them do the whole bit of sowing, watering, then harvesting the goodies, whether they be vegetables or flowers.

Your children are more likely to respect your main gardens, if they are allowed to have their own part of it, and can see and taste the results of their efforts. If you don't want to purchase any packaged seeds, try planting seeds that come out of pumpkins, tomatoes, capsicums and any other vegetables that you buy commercially.

Toss the Pegs

Provide a plastic bucket (or a plastic ice cream container) and your clothes peg [clothespin] collection or purchase some plastic pegs just for your child. Show them how to toss the pegs into the bucket, moving further away, the better they get.

Walking Amongst Nature

Take your children on a small walk with a bag each, to collect such natural items as empty cicada shells, tree gum, acorns, twigs, leaves, skeleton leaves, smooth stones, flowers, etc. Once back at home, you could sort them into groups,

(Continued on page 10)

Inside This Issue:

Editorial

Progressions to Life · · · · · Page 2

Happy Homemaking and Family Harmony

Our Castles · · · · · Page 4

Scripture Study

“A Tree to be Desired” · · · · · Page 6

Health is Wealth

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made · · · · · Page 8

Come Sit at the Feet of Jesus

The Fall and Restoration of Eve · · · · · Page 11

Spotlight on Orphans

Flooding at OBREC · · · · · Page 12

Bridge to Day Break · · · · · Page 13

Wee Wit & Wisdom

· · · · · Page 14

A Page from My Experience

The Happiest Day of My Life · · · · · Page 15

When I Read the Bible Through · · · · · Page 15

The Holy Bible · · · · · Page 16

MAIL CALL:

My compliments on the May/June issue of *Hearth to Hearth*. It was exceptional from start to finish. I shared it with my ninety-year-old neighbor, Fae. She seemed delighted with it. She liked it because it wasn't preaching a particular message. She enjoyed the articles and poems as much as I did.

"God the Matchmaker" was touching and inspiring. "Love Endures—One Step at a Time," is an insightful look at unselfish love. The poem written many years ago by Matilda C. Edwards, "The Church Walking With the World," was outstanding. I really liked the layout that was done for "Beauty Has No Color." I could continue on and on but I will just say thank-you to all who are involved with *Hearth to Hearth*. You are doing a great job.

As to the question whether to print the names of those who write to *Hearth to Hearth*. I would prefer that my name not be used on letters. The state and perhaps our initials would be enough. For articles and poems, though, it is nice to know who did the writing.

Would you rather that we write and ask whether you would like us to send a particular self-written article or poem, or is it all right to send it and see if you can use it or not? *Montana*

[Since our time for working with *Hearth to Hearth* is very limited, we very much appreciate it when our readers take the initiative to send us their letters of testimony, stories, articles, poems or artwork, items for Wee Wit & Wisdom, etc. This helps us a great deal. Naturally, we will not be able to print everything that is sent to us, but we will do our best to choose a variety of uplifting, encouraging and instructive material from what we receive. Editor]

Please don't send me any more issues of *Hearth to Hearth*. It's about as uplifting as the *Reader's Digest*.

Pennsylvania

Thank you very much for sending me the *Hearth to Hearth* publication. It made me so happy to read it. I think it is a nice paper and I would love to receive it in the future too. Would you please add me in your mailing list. Thank you!

I must have a good friend who has sent my address and name to you. I don't know who has done this good

Editorial

Progressions to Life

As spring progresses into summer, fall and winter, so we progress in our walk with God. He takes us from where we are, whether believers or unbelievers, and brings us into a saving knowledge of Himself. Christ came and died to open the way for us to fellowship and commune with Him as we fulfill our promise to follow Him always.

The upward climb of sanctification is a rocky, narrow road. Our characters are refined and purified through encountering the valleys as well as the hills; the thorns as well as the roses; the rocks as well as the gems.

Sometimes I look at those "perfect" people and wonder how they do it while I try so hard and keep falling on my face. Jesus picks me up, I try again and things seem to go smoothly for a while. Then another rock is there to trip me up. "God help me!" I cry. "Help me! I can't do this alone." And then I finally think and remember; I have slacked off on studying the Word! Indeed, I cannot do it alone! Without Jesus as my helper, I can do nothing! How did I ever forget? It is the promises of God that keep me on the straight and narrow path. I must not look away from Jesus. He is my Savior, my Friend and Companion. It is He who perfects me and keeps me walking the right way. All I need to do is to call His name, as He has promised, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." (Matthew 7:7)

As we walk our narrow path He is with us through all the dangers, death threats and calamities that are befalling us today. We have His Word to rely on! It is our Instruction Book in life. Our body is the temple of His Spirit—He is dwelling in us. He has promised, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." (Hebrews 13:5) We have His pledge that "he which hath begun a good work in [us] will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:6)

I am convinced that we must each determine to make the study of God's Word the first priority of every day. And in order to be in tune with the promptings of the Spirit of God, we need to pay close attention to the physical health of our body temples as well because the health and clarity of our minds is dependent upon the health of our bodies. In this issue of *Hearth to Hearth* you will find articles designed to encourage us in our quest for soundness of body, soul and spirit. I believe you will be blessed.

Alice Fredrick

deed. Perhaps God gave this person inspiration and for that I am thankful!

Finland

I regret that I've waited so long to write and express my appreciation for your new layout, design, and increased depth of your articles. I've noticed you've shifted your focus more on spiritual growth and awareness. I have enjoyed it so much more...

Thanks to your whole staff for doing such a great job in helping to strengthen others in the truth and of things pertaining to the worship of God and His Son, Jesus Christ. *Tennessee*

[Though we appreciate knowing how this work impacts your life, we wish to always acknowledge the Source of every good thing. Without Christ, we can do nothing. With Him, all things are possible. Editor]

I thought you put the whole paper together very nicely. I liked all the articles. And your editorial just went great! I had just written to the Ashlands... and it was very special to hear their story...

Oh, one other thing I did yesterday. I just had sooooo much fun. I wrote to Samwel, as I had gotten a letter from him last Friday. I sent him pictures of our family and put his picture with ours as our other son. I hope he likes that. Anyway, yesterday I went shopping for a few school supplies and pen, pencils and a few other things like nail clippers, tooth brush, paste, etc. I tried to keep it to 3 pounds but even then it was over \$20. But I don't even care because I hope it will bring him joy and I'm sure he must need that. I sent extra for him to share. I couldn't send clothes or shoes because I don't know his sizes, so I

asked him for that information, then I will have fun again. Ha! *California*

I'd like a few extra copies of this issue of *Hearth to Hearth*... mainly because of the "modern day parable." I really like that, and would like to share it with a few other people. Maybe five copies, when you have a chance; no rush. *Tennessee*

I would like some information about the little girl (Mackline) like her shoe size, dress length, because I would like to send some clothing for her in the summer. *New Jersey*

[See "Spotlight on Orphans," page 13. Editor]

Thank you for *Hearth to Hearth*! Here's \$__ to help with postage, etc., and a small gift for the orphanage project. It is not necessary to send me a thank you. Please save your postage and your time. The canceled check will show me you received it.

May our kind Heavenly Father and our Messiah bless you all and your efforts to care for His children. *Kentucky*

We were thrilled to receive Mercy's letter. She requested books because she wishes to become either a nurse or doctor. We asked her to tell us her needs and we are quite happy to send her books.

I found a used book store at a local town and when the clerk asked if I needed assistance I told her about Mercy and her request. To make a long story short, the clerk gave me books and when she did charge me for a book the price was extremely reasonable. The big expense will, of course, be the postage. I also purchased Mercy several dresses and the second-hand store clerk also gave me good deals--I bought four dresses and four pair of underwear (the underwear package was not even opened) for \$9.50. Praise the Lord!!!! We plan to send the package in the next couple of weeks...

May the Lord continue to bless you and your ministry. *Minnesota*

PRAYER CALL:

1) Asking special prayer for finances. The medical bills are pouring in.

2) We are starting adoption procedures and desperately need prayer about this.

3) Please pray for our dear sister Daphne who is very, very ill.

4) Onycha Holt is praising God for His goodness and is thankful for all of your prayers. Due to the size of the tumor that was on her brain stem, and the extent of its wrapping around various nerves, she has some nerve damage to her neck, shoulder and upper arm, for which she is getting therapy. However, she is very thankful to be sound in mind and spirit with the potential of overcoming these "minor" obstacles in her physical body. She is hoping to return to work in August. Please continue to keep Onycha in prayer.

5) Dee Stringfellow, another of our Contributing Editors, needs to sell her home so she can move west to help care for her elderly mother. Please pray with her that her home will sell soon.

EDITOR'S NOTES:

» **Reminder:** The return address shown on the back page is strictly for postal purposes and should not be used for correspondence. The correct address for correspondence is *Hearth to Hearth*, P.O. Box 247, Pineville, WV 24874. (Please see box at right.)

» A new feature: "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made" is a series of articles that are designed to help you gain a deeper appreciation for God's amazing handiwork of the human body and a better understanding of how it works and how it can be better maintained by simple methods. We trust you will be blessed by this series.

» **Correction:** Last issue we presented Lawrence's yearly budget for OBREC. There are two corrections to the figures presented. The salary given for the senior teacher's position was \$4500.KSHS monthly; it should have been \$4000 KSHS monthly. (This amounts to \$51 US dollars!) The budget for staff wages (22 people) and food for the entire Orphanage is \$1605 US dollars a month, or \$19,266 annually. If you would like to have a copy of the budget we would be happy to send you one.

» **Correction:** The poem on page 19 of the May/June issue was written by Anna Elizabeth Hamilton and the last line should read, "It can endure and suffer much." We regret the mistake.

Our Method:

Hearth to Hearth is published bi-monthly and sent free upon request. Voluntary donations are appreciated.

Our Mission:

Believing that we can find completeness in all areas of our lives only "in him, who is the head of all principality and power" (Colossians 2:10), it is the mission of *Hearth to Hearth* to provide a forum for Christian women to reach out to each other in friendship, joy and hope; and to encourage each other to find our completeness in Christ as we sojourn here on our way to the kingdom. By this completeness in Christ we become better wives, mothers, daughters, homemakers, neighbors and friends. As an outgrowth of this completeness, we will desire to share the love of God through our efforts to meet the needs of others and to relieve the suffering of those for whom Christ died.

Our Staff:

Editor:

Esther McDaniel

Associate Editors:

Alice Fredrick - Content

Kendra Beachy - Copy

George McDaniel - Copy

Contributing Editors:

Onycha Holt

Victoria Kritzell

Pat Kroeger

Dorothy Manning

Dee Stringfellow

Treasurer:

Kendra Beachy

Assistant Treasurer:

George McDaniel

Our Address:

All correspondence should be sent to *Hearth to Hearth*, P.O. Box 247, Pineville, WV 24874. (The return address printed on the newsletter is for mailing purposes only.)

Phone: 304-732-9204

Fax: 304-732-7322

E-Mail: esther@smyrna.org

Printed by: Smyrna Gospel Ministries, Welch, West Virginia

Our Castles

Dee Stringfellow



town closest to our new residence, we stopped at the hotel to get warm before going the last five miles.

What a sight met our eyes when we saw our “new” home. The people who had lived there before had taken all the windows with them when they left! As we looked upon this scene, in the dead of that Minnesota winter, we beheld a house that had never been painted, whose weathered boards and gaping holes where the windows should have been reminded us of an orphaned and unkempt child. Mother was so disappointed and discouraged that she felt like turning around and going back to Iowa. Though I do not personally remember that part of the story, I

“My home is my castle.” This axiom has been around for a long time and has been expressed in various ways.

When we think of a castle our minds generally visualize a large home fit for a queen, complete with turrets, balconies, ornate staircases, elaborate furnishings, well-manicured lawns and gardens, colorful flowers, stately trees, a tennis court, swimming pool and a five-car garage filled with limousines. There would also be servants to boot. But, may I suggest to you that you and I do have a castle. It may not be the one we see in our imagination, but it belongs to us.

When I was three years old my parents moved to northern Minnesota from northern Iowa in December—not exactly the best time of year to be moving to Minnesota. I remember that it was dark outside as we, (my parents, my two sisters and me), traveled in Dad’s old car. My Uncle Perry helped us move by driving a truck loaded with animals. When we stopped to rest at one point, he took me to see the pony, cow, chickens and some sheep that were riding in the back of the truck.

The car’s heater wasn’t working very well, so, early in the morning when we finally arrived in the small

do remember going into the house and even going upstairs. There were two rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs. As I went upstairs I found frozen tomatoes near the stairs. Isn’t it funny the things that stick in the memory of a small child!

Dad knew that the chicken coop needed window coverings and had brought along some sheets of cloth-like material coated with wax to cover them. Needless to say, this material was immediately put to use for the house instead. To ward off the cold, Dad had a heater made, from an oil barrel, which would sometimes get so hot that the side of the barrel would be red. This could have been frightening to me as a small child, but I was never afraid. I guess I trusted my parents so completely and felt so secure that things like that never bothered me.

I remember there was much scrubbing and painting done to make this place into a home for us. In the spring, windows were purchased and curtains were made. Mother and Dad took whatever simple materials they could find and used them to make our home as attractive as possible. This was our home for over ten years and I never thought of it as being anything other than home. I was never ashamed to be living there. My par-

ents took what they had and made it into a home that made us feel cared for, loved and secure. What a valuable lesson! It was the love of caring parents that made that house a home.

Men would come for one reason or another to talk with Dad and when they came into the house with their muddy boots on, they would stop, look around at the care Mother had taken in fixing it up and they would take their boots off at the door. I'm thankful to my mother for being the kind of person who took what she had to deal with and cheerfully made the best of it.

It makes no difference what kind of a place our "castle" is; it's how we care for it that counts. Unfortunately, our lives are way too busy with so many seemingly important things and our money never stretches to cover what we consider to be necessities. Therefore, we can't seem to find the time or money we need to care for our homes and our families. God has given each of us

would brighten up with some dusting and cleaning. Possibly a little paint might help as well, or slipcovers could be made. Those windows that are so dirty they can hardly be seen through, especially when the sun shines in, would surely make the rest of the house look brighter if they were cleaned. Maybe there are things that need to be done to make our home more pleasant and attractive that we think only a man can do. Perhaps, with a little thought and planning, we might discover that we could do them ourselves. Wouldn't it be worth a try? It might also help to stop and consider that this home of ours belongs to the Lord and we are only caretakers. This would, conceivably, help us to realize how much we owe Him and would inspire us to care for it in a way that would be pleasing to Him.

Remember the saying, "Cleanliness is next to godliness"? Do you know where that came from? Many think it is in the Bible, but that's not so. It comes from a

sermon on dress written by John Wesley and goes like this: "Let it be observed, that slovenliness is no part of religion; that neither this nor any text of Scripture, condemns neatness of apparel. Certainly this is a duty, not a sin. Cleanliness is, indeed, next to godliness."

This past week I have determined to do something extra every day to make my home and property look better. Yesterday I cleaned my birdfeeders, washed the birdbath, took down some old birdhouses that were ruined, and painted one of the feeders. I even spray-painted some old flowerpots so they would blend



together as they grace my porch. Today I've cleaned my kitchen windows. Boy, did they need it! Washing those windows has sure brightened my kitchen!

My home is my castle. With a little bit of effort, your home, too, can become your castle.

Perhaps that stack of newspapers or magazines could be cleared out of that corner and replaced with a little table, or even a box covered with a cloth, and adorned with some wild flowers in a jar or glass to make it look attractive. Maybe that kitchen floor that seems to get dirty as soon as it's cleaned, (so why clean it?), would look so good cleaned, if for only an hour, that it would be worth it. Maybe the furniture, even if old,

together as they grace my porch. Today I've cleaned my kitchen windows. Boy, did they need it! Washing those windows has sure brightened my kitchen!

My home is my castle. With a little bit of effort, your home, too, can become your castle.



[Dee Stringfellow writes from her "castle" in the mountains of east Tennessee. She is in the process of trying to sell her lovely home with the beautiful view out her kitchen window. She would like to create another "castle" out west where she can be nearby to help her sister care for their aged mother. (See prayer request #5)]

Scripture Study

“A TREE TO BE DESIRED”

Part II

A Temcat Study

In part one of this study, we began to see a pattern emerging: Obey God = LIFE! Turn away from obeying God = DEATH.

Okay. Now let's get back to the TREES. I told you that the whole good-versus-evil story is spelled out for us there.

Why were there two trees? Why did a God of love have a restriction that could lead to evil? Here we see the reason: “For the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.” (Deuteronomy 13:3)

There can be no true love unless the being is free to not love. There can be no true obedience unless the being is free to disobey. So the God of love made a simple rule to test His children. He said, in effect, “Here is everything good; I want you to have it all and enjoy it to the full. But here is evil; I don't want you to have that. Stay away from it. Don't touch it.”

Adam and Eve were carefully informed as to the rebellion of Lucifer and the reason why God had to test them. We know this because the Bible says, “Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.” (Amos 3:7) They were walking and talking with the greatest Prophet of all time—God Himself!

They also were given mountains of evidence that God had love for them and their highest good in mind. They had a whole planet of evidence! They were not, as some people maliciously believe today, sentenced by God to live a dull, uninteresting slave-type life, unable to develop their minds and abilities. (Neither, by the way, were they denied having sexual marriage relations as some think the issue was about. God's intent was for the earth to be populated.)

God told them that if they were willing and obedient, everything that was good would be theirs to enjoy, forever. All that they needed back then, for eternal happiness, was simply to recognize

that God's way was the only right way and to obey Him. His laws were not grievous then, nor are they now. He was not just arbitrarily sitting there on His throne, wanting to create beings so He could have someone to boss around. No indeed, He is not the least inclined to be arbitrary or bossy. He just knows where the line between good and evil lies; and He shows it to us and says, “Keep on my side because it's bad over there; it's death over there.”

Why were there two trees? Why did a God of love have a restriction that could lead to evil?

Stop and think: it would be insanity, as so many in the worldly philosophies under the tutelage of Satan say, to create beings with abilities and then deny them any opportunity to use those abilities. Or give them a mind capable of endless development and forbid them to develop it. God is not insane, but we can sure see who is!

So here we see Eve with the whole world available to her, but where is she? Staring at the mysterious tree and perhaps thinking, “What is there about that tree that God should forbid us to eat of it? It sure must be something wonderful if God is keeping it to Himself.” Now here we see the greatest tragedy of the ages begin to happen—the tragedy out of which every sad tragedy in this whole wretched world, throughout its whole wretched history, arose.

Satan, through the serpent, says, “Yea, hath God said...?” and His whole tone shows contempt for the authority of the One who had given the command. Now here we see insanity communicated from the serpent to Eve. “God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods knowing good and evil.” (Genesis 3:5)

Now think for a minute and see what Eve failed to see under the serpent's bewitching gaze: If God really wanted to prevent them from having the tree, for His own selfish purposes because He had something that He wanted to keep away from them, could He not have placed it where they could not get to it? Of course He could. But God is not of that kind of mind at all. Anything that He has, which is good for His creatures, He not only is willing for them to have it, but He eagerly offers it to them, as it were. Notice here in Revelation 3:21: “To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.”

Now does that sound like a selfish dictator? “Here I am on my throne and you better do what I say or else!!” This is the kind of “god” that Satan tries to convince man that our heavenly Father is. But here is Jesus, the Son of God, saying, “You can sit here with Me in My throne. Any good thing I have, you can have too.”

So Eve began to absorb the insanity of Satan and to think in crooked and untrue ways. The serpent could present only circumstantial evidence of his theory that God was being mean and selfish. What was his evidence? That he was a serpent and he was in the tree and eating from it and now he could talk. So if he, who was only an animal, could gain so much from eating the fruit, what could she, made in the image of God, become! He appealed to pride.

Everything in nature, and in Eve's experience with her Creator, had presented proof that God was not selfish; but here a bit of circumstantial evidence, of which she had not the whole story, was allowed to shake her faith in the truthfulness of God. How many millions will be lost for allowing some bit of seeming contradiction to shake their faith in God's Word as truthful?

So mankind had all the good—and they wanted what God jealously did not

want them to have. What was that? The EVIL! The harm, the pain, the death. They wanted that because they thought of it as KNOWLEDGE! The “Tree of Knowledge.” They wanted the good AND the evil. AND included in the deal, and at the bottom of it all, was the desire to decide for themselves what WAS good and what WAS evil.

This is what was at the root of the whole thing. God says, “I know what is best and I give you all the good. Trust Me, and leave the evil alone. I am God.”

Man said, “Sure I want the good, but I am going to decide for myself what is good and what is evil. I don’t need anybody to tell me what is good and what is evil. I’ll figure that out for myself; that way I can be sure that I don’t miss out on anything good. I am my own god.”

Really, it is not possible for a man to be his own creator. Neither is it possible for any of us to be our own god. Adam and Eve thought they were declaring their own independence, but all they did was to exchange a loving Father for a cruel dictator. Satan began at once to dish out the evil, all the while continuing to tell them it was good.

Has man acquired a broad knowledge of evil? Oh yes, indeed he has! Guided by the enemy of all right doing, he has made evil into a thousand sciences. They range from almost pure evil

So mankind had all the good—and they wanted what God jealously did not want them to have.

to almost good with a few drops of evil, like rat poison, mixed in. And when the difference between good, the truth, the expressed will of God and evil, is clearly laid out before most of mankind, what happens?

Oh, I wish I could say that we quickly drop the evil and eagerly grasp the good and cling to it, but it just is not so. We just cling to the idea of Eve: “I’ll decide for myself what is good, thank you! I am my own god, and I don’t need anyone to show me what is good for me.”

Do you see now the question that the two trees brought before our race? It is the question of “Who is God around here, anyway?” Is the great Creator, who in every way is worthy to be the ultimate authority, going to be acknowledged? Or are we going to cling to our own ideas and “independence” until we perish with the author of rebellion himself?

In the beginning there were two trees; it was a simple test. One was the will of God, and it was LIFE to partake of it; the other was against the will of God, and it was DEATH to partake of it. It wasn’t “poisonous,” there was nothing in the tree itself; it was merely a principle: “Who is God around here?” Pharaoh asked the same question, remember? “Who is God that I should obey Him?”

There is another interesting side to this great controversy. God is NOT a tyrant and, because He is not, He will not use force or coercion to get His children to obey Him. He only uses one thing; TRUTH! The truth that He loves us and DOES know what is best for us, and wants only what is best for us, is something that the heart has to acknowledge for itself. It cannot be forced to believe it, or threatened into it. The heart has to see the facts God has laid out to prove His right to be God; and respond by loving Him in return, by its own free choice.

The service given gladly and freely from love is the ONLY service acceptable to God. Think about that the next time you are tempted to try to force or manipulate someone into “obeying” God. Only Satan’s side uses force, and they have to use it, as they have no truth to use.

Everywhere in our world today you see the sides drawn between truth and lies; with force always being used on the side of lies to make them accepted.

You see it in evolution: the facts just pile up declaring evolution is impossible, so laws are passed to enforce the teaching of evolution and forbid the teaching of truth.

In medicine: God’s laws of health are true, and stand like mighty monuments to the wisdom of a loving Creator, but drug companies are big money and drugs and vaccines, etc., make billions for their pushers, so laws are passed

forcing people to use drugs and receive harmful treatments and vaccines.

In religion: God’s Word is clear and easily understood, so new versions are produced to blur it and bring it closer to the spiritualized error the world loves.

God’s Word tells us to go everywhere and teach the TRUTH, but the lovers of fables and evil pass laws to stop people from hearing the truth.

God’s Word shows us certain habits and lifestyles are wrong and wicked, so laws are passed to stop us from warning people who do these things of their ultimate fate.

And the funny thing is that people call tolerance of evil, and leaving people in darkness, “love.” God is the clearest example of perfect love and what do we

Everywhere you look you see TRUTH quietly standing there, waiting to be acknowledged, and error using force and manipulation of every sort...

see in Him? He will not tolerate evil. No, not to make people feel good, or for any other reason. Why? Because evil destroys and kills and God will have no part of it.

Everywhere you look you see TRUTH quietly standing there, waiting to be acknowledged, and error using force and manipulation of every sort, to try and keep the people enslaved.

“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32)

Yes, the TRUTH of God and freedom are synonymous. God created us free and He wants us free; if we obey Him we will be free!

Next time: A test for us.



[This article was written by the editor of the Beside Still Waters website: <http://www.temcat.com>. She states: “No one will be helped by knowing who I am but they can be blessed by browsing the website. The old Irish missionaries used to tell people who asked them who they were that, ‘It matters not who we are but it matters who we serve.’”]

Health is Wealth

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made (Part 1)

George McDaniel

“I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.” (Psalm 139:14)

When David wrote these words, he had comparatively little knowledge of how the body is made and how it works. Nevertheless, he could praise God for the wonders of his being. People living a few hundred years ago didn't know much more than David knew of the wonders of the human body. The knowledge was not available. Even today, most people know little of these things. There is plenty of knowledge now about the workings of the body. It just takes a little effort to find it, and requires some basic knowledge to sort out error from fact.

In this article, and in ones to follow, I hope to present a basic understanding of how the body functions and how to keep it functioning well. I would like to deal individually, and in greater detail, with the eight natural remedies for health as presented by the editor a few issues back, and show how they keep the body in health. I hope to be able to keep things as non-technical and as simple as possible, and yet be thorough and accurate.

The basic structure of all living things, human, animal, plant, bacteria, or whatever, is the cell. Evolutionists tell us that the first living organism on earth was a simple, one-celled organism that somehow evolved from non-living chemicals. We cannot accept this theory. As we look at the structure and workings of a cell, however, we see that it is far from simple. What we see is very complex and well-organized.

We will first examine the way a cell is put together (anatomy). Then we will see a little of how it works (physiology). It is actually so complex that a whole book of several hundred pages

could be written on the subject. We are going to look at a “typical” human cell, but much of what is true about this is true of any cell, plant or animal.

The cell is very small. It would take about 1000 of them side by side to measure an inch. It is completely surrounded by a membrane containing three layers: a layer of protein covered on both sides by a layer of fat. Inside the cell membrane is a fluid called cytoplasm. This just means cell fluid. Within the cytoplasm are small structures called organelles (small organs). Some of these are nucleus, nucleolus, endoplasmic reticulum, ribosomes, mitochondria, golgi complex, liposomes and vacuoles. The functions of each of these are as follows:

Nucleus – contains deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). DNA controls the life of the cell, and the lives of organisms made up of cells, in two ways. First, it passes on all hereditary information from one generation of cells to the next. Second, DNA determines the form and function of the cell by regulating the kinds of proteins it produces.

The foundation for every part of the human body is protein. Even the bones, which we think of as being mainly calcium, have an underlying structure of protein to which is added various minerals to provide rigidity, such as calcium, magnesium, boron and many others. Even the blood fluid contains protein, which is what keeps the water inside the blood vessels. DNA molecules lie tightly coiled in the chromosomes of a cell. Each chromosome probably consists of one very long DNA molecule.

The average length of a human chromosome is about 16 inches, but it is a thread so thin that details can't be seen even under an electron microscope. It's shape is called a double helix—a double thread held together by crosspieces and coiled like a spring. It looks something like a twisted rope ladder. All DNA looks the same, whether from a tree, an elephant, or a human. Genes are specific

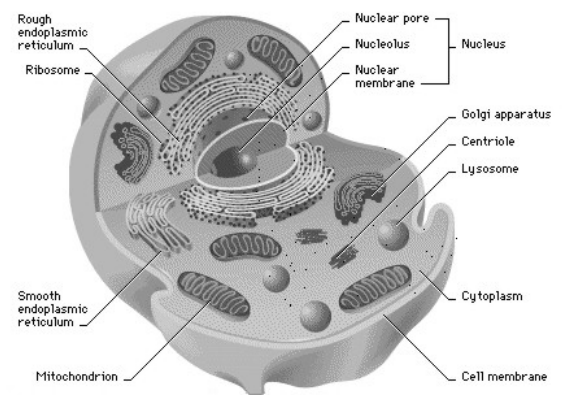


Diagram of a cell

units on the chromosomes for making a certain protein.

Nucleolus – a smaller body within the nucleus. It contains ribonucleic acid (RNA), which is involved in the manufacture of protein. It carries out DNA's instructions. Two of these are: messenger RNA and transfer RNA.

Endoplasmic reticulum – a network of channels throughout the cytoplasm through which protein in various stages of production is transported.

Ribosome – granules of RNA where the linking of amino acids into proteins takes place. They are on the outside of the endoplasmic reticulum.

Mitochondria – membrane-lined structures saturated with complex enzyme systems whose activities result in the production of energy for cell operations; called also the powerhouse

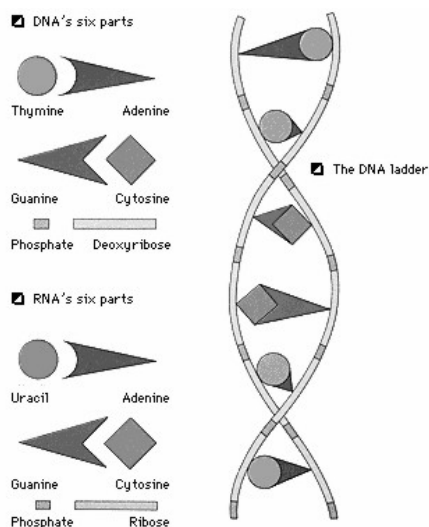
of the cell. Glucose is changed into energy here.

Golgi complex – believed to be a storage place for protein.

Vacuoles – membrane-lined containers of various compounds in transit through the cell. They can remove waste matter from the cell.

Lysosome – membrane-lined container of enzymes. Can merge with vacuoles containing debris and disintegrate the contents. This is then ejected through the cell membrane.

We can see from this that the cell is an amazing little factory. The activity of cells in the human body is under the control of the brain. They do not act independently. If an injury occurs, or an enzyme or hormone is needed, or growth is occurring, a message is sent to the brain or to a secondary control center in the central nervous system. A program containing all the needed instructions as to what proteins are needed and how they are to be used is sent back. The DNA in the nucleus opens up at the right place, exposing the blueprint for the needed protein.



DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid)

Messenger RNA from the nucleolus copies the blueprint and carries it out of the nucleus to a ribosome. The ribosome begins moving along the strand of messenger RNA.

Another kind of RNA, transfer RNA, collects amino acids and brings

them, one at a time, to the ribosome, finds its correct place on the messenger RNA mold, and then builds the protein needed. The last piece of information on the messenger RNA strand tells the ribosome that the program is complete and it can let the protein chain go. The protein chain then goes through the endoplasmic reticulum to a warehouse, the golgi complex, where it awaits transfer to its final destination. It will be used as a building block in the finished product, perhaps a muscle fiber, a cell membrane, or an enzyme.

When a cell divides, everything in the cell is duplicated—all the DNA, RNA, organelles, membranes; everything—so that the new cell is an exact duplicate of the original. An exception to this is in the formation of reproductive cells, sperms and eggs. In the final division of cells for these, the number of chromosomes is cut in half. The human cell contains 46 chromosomes arranged in 23 pairs. When the sperm or egg is formed, it contains only one of each of these pairs. When the sperm and egg join to form a new being, the resulting person contains 46 chromosomes in each cell.

Another exception is in the early stages of the developing embryo. The program these cells receive causes differentiation, so that various systems develop; for instance, bones, muscles, nerves, heart, lungs, arms, legs, head and everything else that makes a body a human, or an elephant, or whatever. All this information is built into the DNA. Every cell in the body contains all the information, but it is controlled so that an earlobe doesn't start to grow legs or the heart doesn't produce insulin.

Every moment of our lives, damaged cells are being repaired or replaced, hormones and enzymes are being produced, foreign invaders are being removed. Literally millions of events are taking place all the time and it is all automatic; we don't have to think about it. The only time we notice

it is if something goes wrong and we start to feel sick.

We have an amazing number of cells in our bodies. I have seen estimates ranging from three trillion all the way to 50 trillion cells. These cells are arranged into tissues, which is a group of similar cells; tissues are arranged into organs, organs into systems, systems into the organism.

All this activity requires energy to take place. The energy is provided by the oxidation of glucose in the mitochondria to form adenosine triphosphate (ATP), CO₂, and water. Wherever energy is needed, ATP goes. One of the phosphate bands is broken, releasing energy and forming adenosine diphosphate (ADP). ADP can be broken down even more into adenosine monophosphate and energy. This energy is essentially electric energy. The body runs on electricity. It is not just a chemical factory, which if given the right chemicals will function well. The importance of this observation will become clearer as we progress with this series.

From this we can see that even a "simple one-celled organism" is very complex. In order to have a living cell, every factor making up that cell and causing it to be a functional organism has to be in place at the same time. If it has gaps in its cell membrane, it will die. If it can't process food into energy or rid itself of wastes, it will die. If it can't duplicate itself and form a new generation, it will die out. A dead cell contains all the qualities and characteristics of a living cell except for one thing—there is no electrical activity present. Hitting it with a lightning bolt won't start it up. In fact, it will probably destroy its structure. Evolution is impossible. We are indeed, "fearfully and wonderfully made."



[George is a retired registered nurse who enjoys doing research into how the body functions and how to keep it in optimum health. He and his wife, Esther, make their home in West Virginia.]

(Continued from page 1)

colors or sizes, or use them in a collage picture, or to start a collection.

Can Golfing

Use empty tin cans, with their tops removed, as “holes” in a miniature golf course. Set it up in your back yard or at a nearby park. Use either a set of plastic golf clubs or a sturdy stick as your putter.

Playing With Balls

Don't forget ball play as a stimulating and educational exercise when outdoors. You could introduce your child to such games as: Hit and Roll, Piggy in the Middle, Hot Potato, or Donkey, or just kick or throw the ball back and forth.

Outdoor Cubbies

Great little houses or outdoor cubbies can be made by throwing an old sheet or blanket over your outdoor furniture, using large boxes, or a low branch of a sturdy tree. Alternatively use your family camping tent if you have one for playing in, especially on a hot day. If it is large enough, you could even place a paddling pool inside, for instant shade. Be sure to supervise around water activities.

Take it Outside

Just for a change, go outside and find a nice spot to sit in. Sometimes in the winter, it can feel warmer to be sitting outside in the sun than being stuck indoors. You might like to read to your children, play with building blocks or cars, play dolls, or pretend tea parties, do artwork, play with play dough, or have a snack together.

Off Exploring

Pack yourselves a small backpack with some snacks and a drink, and set off together to explore your neighborhood or a nearby park or reserve. Point out any unusual things; funny cloud formations, friendly animals, birds or odd shaped trees. When you need a rest, find a nice spot to sit and have yourselves a little picnic.

Colorful Chalk Drawings

Buy some standard or jumbo-sized chalk that is suitable for pavement drawing, and let your children go loose

creating pictures. They could draw a little “city” complete with roads and buildings, and then drive toy cars all over it. And there's no cleaning up, as the rain will take care of it for you.

Obstacle Course

Make up an obstacle course in your backyard using whatever you can find to climb over, under and around. Your garage or backyard itself is a good place to start looking for suitable safe objects, i.e. wooden crates, saw horses, cable drums, a small ladder, old tires, planks of wood, an old dinghy, wheelbarrow, broom handles etc.

Low Window Designs

If you have a low window such as a bay window, French doors or a ranch



slider, give your children some washable paint and some paintbrushes. They should be able to create some interesting designs that are viewed from either inside or outside. When they have finished, provide a hose or bucket of soapy water to clean up with, and hopefully your windows will be cleaner than when they started. An easy way of making a washable paint is to mix some water with a couple of drops of food coloring, and then add cornflour until a runny “paint” consistency is reached.

Cuddle 'n Catch Chasey

Chase your children around the backyard, with a tickle, a hug or a kiss when they are caught. You could also play a little game of “hide 'n seek,” or “I spy” outdoors.

Hunt for the Treasure

Most children love a game of Treasure Hunt or by playing “Hot, Cold” (Saying hot when they are close to the hidden object, warm if they are near it, or cold if they are way off course). For older children, to encourage their reading skills, write them notes that they have to read themselves, which lead to the hidden treasure. The “treasure” could be a unique way of serving afternoon tea or a special treat or present.

Pet Rocks

Find some smooth clean rocks, and paint in bright colors. Add little faces to create a whole pet rock family. A shoebox filled with grass, tissues or cotton wool can be used as a home for them.

Plan a Trip

Look through the local paper, or street map to find an interesting place to take your children on a day or half day trip. It could be to a Marina to look at the boats, a construction site to watch heavy machinery at work, or a ride on a bus or train.

Get Them Working

Since for children, play is their work, get your children helping you with the outdoor chores like stacking firewood, raking leaves, weeding the garden, sweeping the driveway, washing the car or windows, or hanging out the washing.

If after trying all these ideas your toddler or child complains they are still bored, suggest they go inside and take another nap. It's amazing how quickly they find something else to do with themselves...



[Victoria writes from Auckland, New Zealand. Used with permission of *Above Rubies*, PO Box 681687, Franklin, TN 37068-1687.]

The Fall and Restoration of Eve

Part IV

Esther McDaniel

“And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, *and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*” (Genesis 3:6)

Somehow Eve had found herself standing by the one tree in the Garden of Eden that God had expressly told her to stay away from. When she saw a serpent in the tree and he began talking to her, her curiosity was aroused and she stayed by to dialogue, apparently never suspecting that it was Satan speaking to her through the serpent. Using deceit and cunning, Satan induced Eve to eat of the fruit which, he inferred, would impart supernatural knowledge and abilities. Once Eve had tasted the fruit she became Satan’s most powerful ally in seducing Adam to sin as well: Here is his beautiful and loving companion standing before him, holding out the forbidden fruit and excitedly sharing her experience with the serpent in the tree, while inviting him to eat also.

“Look, Adam,” I can hear her saying, “It isn’t at all like God said. I’ve eaten some of it and I’m not dead am I? In fact, I feel exhilarated; like I’ve opened the door to many exciting, new adventures.”

“But Eve,” Adam must have pleaded, “God said to stay away from that tree! He created us. Surely He knows what is best for us.”

“I know, Adam, but the serpent said God just didn’t want us to become like Him. The fruit of this tree has the power to make us as gods, knowing good and evil! It certainly gave the serpent supernatural abilities and wisdom.”

Whatever their conversation might have been and whatever Adam may have been thinking at that moment, one thing we know for sure—he decided to share her fate, whatever it might be.

The record states simply: “She took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.”

God had provided Eve to be a companion for Adam and a blessing. He had learned to love her dearly. If she was to die, he would die with her! And thereby, the whole human race was sold into sin, reaping its deadly results down through the centuries that have followed.

Such is the nature of sin. My sin doesn’t only affect me; it also affects



those who are associated with me; most especially my family. Even if it does not directly affect anyone else, its effect upon me and the way I relate to it does, most assuredly, affect others. For instance, because of my guilt I may become withdrawn or even hostile. I may find it difficult to communicate openly and honestly with those close to me. I may live in fear, constantly worried that my sin may be discovered.

In the case of Adam and Eve, Eve’s influence caused Adam to sin. This is a large part of the sin problem as well; my influence causes others to follow my example. The Bible states that “I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my command-

ments.” (Exodus 20:5, 6) Praise God for His great mercy!

While Satan convinced Eve that God was unjust in withholding from her the knowledge of “good and evil” The truth is that God, who *is good*, (Psalm 73:1), *did* want Adam and Eve to be like Himself. What a lie Satan told! God wanted mankind to know *only* good. It had been His plan to withhold the knowledge of “good and evil,” with its terrible consequences, while at the same time, allowing the power to choose. Since “misery loves company,” Satan wanted the holy pair to become like *him*, sharing with him the results of the evil he had unleashed on God’s universe.

When our first parents chose to disobey God, they opened up the lesson book of “the knowledge of good and evil” that Satan had exposed, for the whole universe to behold. What sorrow, misery and death they bequeathed to us! Sin has a terrible ripple effect! Note that while “good” can stand alone, “evil” must have “good” to twine itself around. Evil cannot stand alone. We are enticed by the “good” we see mixed in with the “evil,” or we would never consent to it, and before we know it we are entrapped within its fetters.

Praise God, He has provided a way of escape! Through accepting the sacrifice of Christ, who is the personification of the Word, Wisdom and Power of God," (John 1:1; 1 Corinthians 1:24) we can be set free not only from the guilt of sin, but from its power in our lives.

LESSON #4: If we are to stop the ripples caused by sin and regain what Eve lost, we must seek earnestly for the knowledge that God has revealed in His Word—the knowledge of good—*and don’t covet anything that God has withheld!*



Spotlight on Orphans – Kenya

Flooding at OBREC

Vicki Kritzell

This has been a trying period for OBREC Orphanage. At the printing of our last issue, things were looking up for the children and staff. We are overwhelmed with the continuing generosity of your support of these children who would surely starve without your donations. In May, we felt confident enough in the future of our work together to dream of going forward with improvements at the center, including a new dormitory. We have been hoping to obtain a shipping container filled with essentials and the donated printshop materials to be enroute before the end of 2002.

We had word from Lawrence they had rented a plot of land and planted corn, beans, and other vegetables on it. The children were working hard, were happy and well fed. Letters were posted from the children to their sponsors. The second week in May we got terrible news from Lawrence. The rainy season had been anticipated as a time to renew water supplies and foster the growth of vegetation.

Photos clockwise from top: 1) Pile of corrugated "iron" being piled up in order for use on the walls of the new structure. 2) All the old sheets are being put back on the walls of the new structure. 3) Once finished it will be spacious and will accommodate classes I-VI plus a staff room. 4) The floor of the temporary classroom which was torn up by the flood. These men are busy salvaging the maurram (cement) to be used in the new building by the help of the Lord! 5) The children learning on muddy ground outside the compound.

This was not the case for Kenyans living in the Lake Victoria region, where the Orphanage sits.

There has been massive flooding with estimates from some news sources that as many as 150,000

standing water breeding mosquitoes.

At Lawrence's request, we sent what money had been collected by May 19 so that he could buy the necessary hardware to rebuild a classroom for the children. We have since had word from him that the hardware man accepted our money as a down payment and the walls and roof are up. The floors, doors and ventilation still need to be installed. This will cost approximately \$1140 US dollars more. The balance of the sponsorship money was sent on June 5 as is



Kenyans have had their homes washed away. At OBREC, the classrooms for grades 1 through 5 were destroyed. The carefully planted gardens were certainly ruined. Lawrence reported the children were sitting in the mud under the scorching hot sun trying to do their studies.

Of course, the concern now is the development of cholera and typhoid from unsanitary drinking water. This is followed by the threat of increased cases of malaria with the

customary. There will most certainly be a shortage of food and supplies. We know that given the current situation, his staff is certainly working without pay. Some of them have families to support and rent to pay. We must pray for guidance and direction as we move forward in this mission. These children and the staff who guide them are depending on us for their very lives.

In closing, we would like to present you with two more of the children who are hoping for sponsors. The two children we intro-

duced you to last issue are still available, too.

This is Kerry Laura Omondi and her brother, Alvin. Kerry is 10 years old and Alvin is 13. When their parents died, they lived in the streets and survived by begging and picking pockets. A Good Samaritan took these children to OBREC,



K
E
R
R
Y



A
N
D

A
L
V
I
N

where they are now receiving education and live in a loving environment. It would be a life-changing experience for them to know someone in America cared about them. The donation per child is \$30 per month to cover all expenses, but \$20 is also accepted.

Spotlight on Orphans – Romania

Bridge to Day Break

Cordella Brummett

In November of 2001 I went to Romania for the first time. I was there for 16 days and was able to visit children's work all over Romania.

The needs are so great! For example, in the Victor's Babes Hospital in Bucharest, a hospital for children with AIDS, they need simple things such as nurse's uniforms. They are happy to get our secondhand ones. They need Band-Aids, Neosporin ointment, Tylenol, Benadryl, cough syrup, anti-itch cream, etc. Their medication shipments come to the hospital very erratically, and when they do come there is not enough to go around. While talking to the head doctor, I was told that the hardest part of her job is deciding which child gets medicine and which child does not—in other words, deciding which child lives and which child dies.

The needs are so great to them, yet in many cases we could provide them at a small cost, or even with things that we are trashing. A container of Benadryl, for example, costs under \$3 here in America, yet it could save a child's life.

While in Romania, I also visited the orphanage at Apold where my sister, Stella, is working. Her friend and co-worker, Ioana, took an old, rundown building in her small village and fixed it up. Now there are 17 orphaned and abandoned children being cared for there.

Ioana is a remarkable 26-year old young woman who has a burden for the children. As a very young wife and mother of two small children, she was abandoned

by her husband several years ago. Though very poor, she was willing to endure hardship to put herself through high school, then nursing school, while working at a job to support herself and her children. She then started an orphanage for the orphaned and abandoned children in and around her village.



Ioana

She became acquainted with Henk Miller of Day Break for Romania (an organization based in Holland, founded for the purpose of assisting the needy children in Romania). Mr. Miller has done a lot to help with Ioana's work as well as other projects in Romania; but one organization does not have the resources to do it all and much more help is needed.

That is why I am now working to help "build a bridge" from America to the children of Romania, a "bridge to Day Break"! I am hoping that you too will want to help build this bridge. There is much that you can do, that we can do together. Perhaps, before becoming involved, you would like to know something about me.

I was born in October of 1974 to David and Irene Brummett; the oldest of six children. Leland, Stella, Etha, Sylvaleta and Vashti. I was home schooled for nine of my first twelve years of school. I learned about the legislative branch of government by following my mother around the Capitol as she lobbied for the first home school law to be passed in the state of Virginia. One spring I went with a youth group to help build a church in Dominica.

Dad and I were very close. He started his own small business, and I worked with him in all aspects of it. I learned so much! I can repair a pager as well as the computer that sets off the pager. I learned to weld on my dad's communication tower. I can install key telephone systems. At one time I did all the billing and collecting for Dad's business.

I wanted to graduate from the same high school as my father but it was too expensive, so I took the CNA certification so I could work in a nursing home and pay for the private boarding school myself. The school had some internal problems and closed before I could graduate. I then started attending Fletcher Academy in North Carolina, and graduated in 1993. Afterward I went back home and worked part time for my dad and part time in a doctor's office.

I enjoy reading the classifieds. That is how I found an ad asking for teachers in Russia. I answered the ad, and in December of 1993 I was in Moscow. I had never mastered spelling or grammar, but I could talk, so they took me. I taught spoken English and Bible for six-and-one-half months.

While I was in Russia my father had a myocardial infarction [heart attack]. At the hospital an angioplasty was done. One risk of such a procedure is a cerebro-vascular accident (CVA, or stroke). Dad had a CVA and lost the use of his left side. While he was in the hospital, the major equipment in his business was hit by lightning. The short of it is that when I came back from Russia in July of 1994, Dad was disabled and no longer had a business.

I wanted to be near Dad so I stayed at home and attended a local community college. At this time I was seeing a young man whom I planned to marry. Somehow everything went wrong. As has been said, "the best laid plans of mice and men often go astray." I am now the single parent of a fine little five-year-old girl, Grete.

My mom and I took the EMT-A, then Stock Trauma, and on to EMT-CT. We are both volunteers on the Tappahannock [VA] Rescue Squad. Last year Mom was elected to Chaplain and I was elected Treasurer of

the squad. Mother and I also teach swimming and water aerobics.

I finished the LPN program, then the RN program. I now work in a hospital on weekends as charge nurse on the neurology floor. If I am careful, I can live off only that work, freeing up the rest of the week for all my other interests. I am now in the process of starting a non-profit organization—building a "bridge"—for the purpose of receiving and transporting medicines and other essential items that are so

desperately needed by the children and the workers in the hospitals and orphanages in Romania.

I have just learned that Henk Miller is closing his business in Holland and moving to Romania to oversee the work there himself. He is a firm believer in helping people to help themselves, and that will be his goal in his work for the children throughout Romania.

These people, people like Henk and Ioana and others, are true heroes in the fields! How much more they will be able to do if we, you and I, come up to their aid! With your help, we can build that bridge quickly; truly a bridge over which the little children, whose lives have been dark and hopeless, can cross to their new "day break" of hope and promise.



[Please see "Villy's Story" in the Nov./Dec. 2001 issue of *Hearth to Hearth*, in which the needs of the orphaned and abandoned children in Romania were first brought to our attention; also the follow-up report in the Mar./Apr. 2002 issue. If you would like to know more about the operation and/or funding, or how you may help build the bridge to Day Break, please contact: Cordella Brummett: PO Box 14, Tappahannock, VA 22560. Phone: 804-443-3232. E-mail: cordellab@hotmail.com]

Wee Wit & Wisdom

My seven-year-old daughter was sadly "licking her wounds" from yet another escapade with her brother in which she had again been defeated in the battle of wits. Thinking to ease some of her frustration, I sympathized, "I know just how you feel, Dear. I had a brother who was six years older than I also." A bit too eagerly she shot back, "Did you ever get older than *him*?"

Esther McDaniel



Cordella's sister, Etha, with Villy, Minodora and Cassandra. Photo taken in April of 2001.

The Happiest Day of My Life

Daisy Albertson

Oh, to learn the truths of the Bible! To learn that the Bible is actually true; to know when I read the words of Scripture I can absolutely believe that what I read about God, and death, and angels is completely and forever the Truth! But I am getting ahead of myself.

As a small child, someone close to me died. I don't remember, previous to the time that Grandpa died, whether other, older, family members had died, and I don't recall when I learned to fear death, but fear death I did! Almost to the point of obsession.

I remember crying myself to sleep almost nightly, for months on end, or so it seemed. These were silent tears. My parents and my siblings mustn't know I am crying like this. If one of my sisters whispered to me before going to sleep, the tears automatically stopped, only to continue when nobody would know. Perhaps the Lord in His great mercy wept with me, even as He allowed it to happen. God knew that when I learned the truth about death and about Him it would be "The Happiest Day of My Life." There would no longer be this fear and sorrow associated with my thoughts of death.

What was there about death that terrified me so? Was it the thought that when you were dead you were dead? Someone could tell me that I would go to heaven when I died, but where was the proof? The same could be said of God. Where was the proof that there is a God? I had a vague idea about God. I prayed to Him many times, day and night; in school and at home. But I didn't know, without a doubt, whether there was actually a God. If there were, in reality, a God, then death would not be so frightening. I would not find out the truth until some years later.

Growing up took a lot of time and energy; enough in fact, to put those fearsome wonderings on the back burner of my mind.

Then, married, with twin baby boys, my husband and I were invited to a series of evangelistic meetings to be held in Billings, Montana, by Evangelist Stanley Harris. Oh, what I learned at those meetings! Can you imagine my disappointment when those closest to me, the ones I could hardly wait to tell this wonderful news to, chose not to hear it at all? My best friend from childhood days, Bernadette, clearly did not want to hear about the "Mark of the Beast," and my own dear mother, bless her heart, absolutely did not want me telling her the wonderful things I had learned about heaven. Boy, was that a disappointment! Don't we all, though, want to convince every single one of our loved ones of the wonderful saving truths we have learned?

And, wonder of wonders, I learned about the state of the dead! I learned that you go to sleep when you die (Daniel 12:2), that Jesus will raise us from the dead (Ephesians 5:14) and those who are obedient and believe on Him will be taken to heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17).

These truths I accepted by faith. But how would I know, without faith, if what I was hearing was the truth? How could someone such as I, someone who needed to be shown the proof, be convinced that what she was reading and hearing was, in actuality, true?

We know by faith. It is the Holy Spirit that convicts and convinces us of Truth. But is not prophecy the convincing proof? When we can compare Bible prophecies and world history, what other proof is needed? Praise the Lord for the Bible and for His chosen prophets; and thank God for written history. He has brought happiness beyond compare to my life.

When I Read the Bible Through

I supposed I knew my Bible,
Reading piecemeal, hit or miss,
Now a bit of John or Matthew,
Now a snatch of Genesis,
Certain chapters of Isaiah,
Certain psalms (the twenty-third),
Twelfth of Romans, first of Proverbs,
Yes, I thought I knew the Word!
But I found that thorough reading
Was a different thing to do,
And the way was unfamiliar
When I read the Bible through.

You who like to play at Bible,
Dip and dabble, here and there,
Just before you kneel, away,
And yawn out a hurried prayer;
You who treat the Crown of Writings
As you treat no other book—
Just a paragraph disjointed,
Just a crude, impatient look—
Try a worthier procedure,
Try a broad and steady view;
You will kneel in very rapture
When you read the Bible through.

Amos R. Wells



[Daisy writes from her home in Joliet, Montana, where she enjoys studying God's Word with anyone who is interested in examining it and sharing their thoughts with her.]

THE HOLY BIBLE

This book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers.

Its doctrines are holy, its precepts (commandments) are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable.

Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy.

It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter.

Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is the grand object; our good its design, and the glory of God its end.

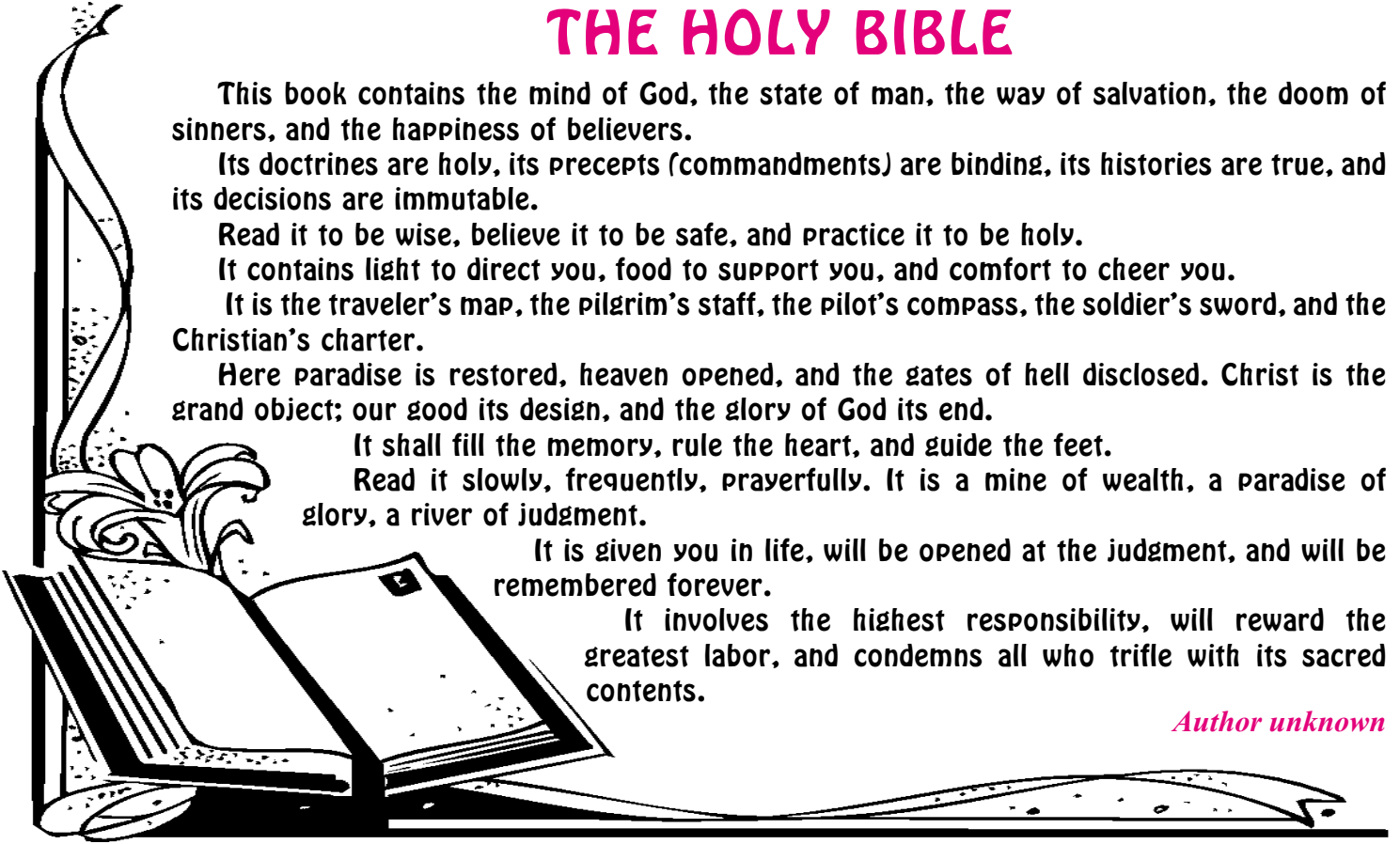
It shall fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet.

Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, a river of judgment.

It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgment, and will be remembered forever.

It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and condemns all who trifle with its sacred contents.

Author unknown



Hearth to Hearth Ministries

HC 64 Box 128-B

Welch, West Virginia 24801

U.S.A.

Address Service Requested

PRESRT STD
US Postage
PAID
Welch, WV
Permit # 35