

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PAGE

"Let no man despise thy youth"—I. Timothy 4-12

SUGGESTIVE BIBLE STUDY

GOSPEL IMPERATIVES

Some things in the plan of Salvation are of such importance that God has put them in the imperative mood, and issued them as commands with no alternative. Here are a few of them:

1. Ye must be born again. **John 3:7.**
2. Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sin may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord. **Acts 4:19.**
3. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing. **II. Cor. 6:17.** Start to read at verse fourteen.
4. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. **James 4:8.**
5. Be ye holy; for I am holy. **I. Peter 1:16.** If you will turn to II. Thess. 5, and start to read at verse twelve, you will find another good lesson on the imperatives of the Gospel.

BEWARE OF THE LEAVEN

If the devil and his crowd were open and above aboard, we would be quite safe from their attacks, but it is their deceiving subtlety that becomes the ruination of many guileless souls. The devil never wears his horns and hoofs to church. He has his chains muffled, streamlined and decorated. He has succeeded in making sin look harmless. Modernism does not always wear its official robes. It comes to us unbranded or from wholly unsuspected sources, which makes it all the more dangerous. It does not always oppose our scriptural stand, but is very friendly and congenial as it offers some possible alternatives, even professing to teach us more perfectly in the ways of Jesus Christ, when all the while the venerable veneer covers a demon's dagger. Modernism will even extol Jesus Christ by telling them that the world is getting better, and give Him the credit for it, that our eyes may become blinded to conditions as they are. Other days were terrible because of lack of light, but ours is worse because of rejected light. The unconscious influence of the Gospel will never save anybody, let alone the world. Christ did not worry about whether or not he should find a super-civilization on the earth at his coming, but whether or not he should find faith. That is the standard of the success of the Gospel. Let us have an intelligent, open-eyed faith in the sin destroying, soul saving gospel of the Son of God. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God—above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked."

HARVEY J. S. BLANEY,
Y. P. Editor

JOE SEES FALL OPPORTUNITIES

Dear Tom:

I have spent all this week resting up after my vacation. I was actually all tired out when

I got home. Vacation is as hard work as working in the store, but the change is what does a fellow good. I take my hat off to you, for you sure know how to entertain company even if you did forget our lunch on the fishing trip, and upset the canoe a couple of times.

I can hardly believe that summer is almost gone, but the wind outside tonight has a real fall feeling. It seems like such a short time since I got out my straw hat, and now before we know it the snow will be flying. But then I am sort of glad. Everyone is getting back from vacation to start school next week, so from now on we will have better attendance at our young people's meetings. I am making great plans on this winter, for I want that we shall be able to make our services a real help to some who find it hard to be a Christian while going to High School. It is hard as you well know, with all that is going on, and with very few having any interest at all in the things of the Church. I believe a lot depends upon our Society in keeping the young folk of our Church true to the Lord.

I just reard that our fall Convention is being planned—to be held some time the first of October. Too bad you will have to miss it, for to me these Conventions come as real times of refreshing and inspiration. But you will be having plenty of similar times there at college. One thing I can't seem to fathom is why more people do not put themselves out to go to these Conventions. Some societies seldom even send a delegate, while others have sent one, never thinking that the point think they have done their duty when they at issue is not their duty to the Convention, but the help the Convention will be to them. I have started talking it to our Society already, and I will be fooled in earnest if we do not have several cars going packed to the limit. I believe that half the trouble is that people do not plan on going before hand, and then of course something is always in the way when the time comes around. But you will think I am trying to preach to somebody, so I will stop right now.

You will be leaving for college in a few days now. I almost envy you—but then I wish you every success, and will keep praying for you. Write me as soon as you arrive. I am expecting some very interesting letters from you this winter. Rememehr me to your folk, especially your sister Mary.

Yours as ever,

JOE

ENCOURAGEMENT TO PRAY

The weary ones had rest, the sad had joy that day;

I wondered "how!"

A plowman, singing at his work, had prayed, "Lord, help them now."

Away in foreign lands they wondered how

Their simple words had power;

At home the Christians, two or three, had met

To pray an hour.

Yes, we are always wondering "how,"

Because we do not see

Someone, unknown perhaps, and far away

On bended knee.

—Selected

STAND NOT IN THE WAY

Pansy Chapman

In Psalm 1:1 we read: "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the council of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners." Let us examine the second portion of this scripture, "nor standeth in the way of sinners." I shall take this as meaning "to offend," or "become a stumbling block to." There are two ways in which we can become a stumbling block to sinners. Both are revealed by the light of God's word, which sheds its rays, first, upon illegitimate things, those which are wrong and sinful, and second, upon things which as far as we are concerned are legitimate; but because of the effect they may have upon others, we must refrain from them.

Of illegitimate things. We believe in a Salvation which saves from sin, and we profess to have that kind. In the midst of this wicked and perverse generation, sinners are ever looking on us, either to us for example, or at us for error. Remember that a great many of the unsaved have as much head knowledge of God's requirements as we have. They read the same Bible, listen to the same sermons, and believe that to be saved from sin we must make a complete break with the world and sin, and to be sanctified holy we must "put off the old man with his deeds," and put on the "new man." If they see us hanging on to our old friends and associates, indulging in our old sins, and giving vent to our old passions, they come to one of two conclusions; either our profession is false, or there is nothing in the religion of Jesus Christ. If they decide on the first, they naturally place us in the hypocrites' class. How embarrassing! If their final decision is that after all there is nothing in salvation, we have just aided in plunging another soul a little farther down the dark abyss of unbelief, thus standing in the way of sinners, between them and God.

Of legitimate things. I am a lover of music. Fast or slow, buoyant or dreamy, sacred or song, I love it all. There is that about it which lifts me above the depressing elements of this life, up until I reach a height where care is forgotten, and my soul expands to breathe the exhilarating air which is akin to heaven. Or it carries me off into realms of joy and beauty where sadness and gloom fade away in the distance and finally become obliterated from my view. It quiets the turmoil, soothes the ache. I love it. It is lawful for me to enjoy, produce or receive, all kinds of music; indeed for me there is but one kind, and that is sweet and pure and holy. But I indulge in the sacred kind only. Why? I have two unsaved brothers in my home whom I love dearly. In my sinful days we played, sang and danced together. But now, bearing the name of Christian, I decline to even play or sing with them the songs we once enjoyed—not because of any sin in the music, but because of the unholy association of worldly things. I might stand in the way of, or be a stumbling block to them.

This is just an example of the many things we may have to put away. Paul says, "If meat maketh my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world stands." Let us be real Pauls in spirit, and stand not in the way of sinners, that we may be able to stake a claim around God's promise of "Blessed."