



ANDY'S PROMISE

"Goin' to play ball?" asked one of the boys as they walked home from school. Andy hesitated. He wanted to play ball, but he remembered his promise to his mother to come home right after school.

"I told Mother I would hurry right home," said Andy.

"Your mother isn't home," replied one of the boys. "I was just up there a few minutes ago, and no one came to the door."

Andy wondered where she could be. She had not said anything about going anywhere; but, of course, if she were not at home, there was no use of his going home.

"Come on," called the boys. "You don't need to go home now."

Andy wanted to play ball, all right, but he hesitated, and finally said:

"No, I will go home first, and then if Mother does not need me I will come back."

"All right, baby," laughed one of the boys, "go on home."

Arriving at his home, Andy went in and called to his mother. Her voice came faintly from her room. Hurrying in, he found her very sick. She asked him to call right away for his father, and the doctor. He rushed to the telephone and called them immediately.

Andy knew then why no one had come to the door a few minutes before when the boys had called.

"Suppose," he thought with horror, "that I had yielded to the temptation to break my promise, just because I thought I would not get caught! The next time I will not even let them tempt me."

Mother always knew afterward that she could depend on Andy to hurry right home from school, no matter how tempting the invitation from the boys to go somewhere else. —"Our Little Ones."

FORGIVENESS

Nellie, who had just recovered from a dangerous illness, said: "Mamma, I prayed last night."

"Did you, dear? But don't you always pray?"

"Oh, yes, but I never prayed a real prayer before. I lay awake a long time, thinking what a naughty girl I so often have been. I tried to remember every bad thing I ever did, and there were many. Then I tried to remember the bad things I did in one week, but there were still so many I could not remember them all. I thought of Jesus dying for bad people, and how He longs to forgive them. So I got out of bed, knelt down and told Jesus how bad I'd been, and asked Him to think of the sins I couldn't remember. I waited till I thought He had remembered them all, and then I asked Him to forgive them. I'm sure He did, for I was so happy, and got into bed, and wasn't a bit afraid any more."

When Joseph forgave his brothers he told them not to be angry with themselves for their sin but to believe he forgave them, and

DIVINE LEADING

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real and by no means rare. We have known many true children of God who have placed themselves in most difficult circumstances, simply because they refused to recognize that "the stops as well as the steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord."

Here, however, we must learn to distinguish between Divine restraint and Satanic resistance. "Wherefore we would have come unto you, even I Paul, once and again; but Satan hindered us" (I Thess. 2:18).

Do you ever feel held back from a course of action, and yet in your own mind there is uncertainty as to the origin of the restraint? Wait. Be still. Take time to pray. God will forgive your slowness and will take care of things meanwhile, if your motive is only for His glory. Fuller light and clearer leading will come as you wait on Him. It is not safe to break through when God hedges in. "Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord! and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord! trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass" (Psa. 37:3-7).

God never leads contrary to enlightened reason. To outrage the common sense of God's best people is scarcely likely to be the leading of the Holy Ghost. The nearer we live to God, the more will our minds be permeated with the Divine Wisdom which discerns and detects. The mind is to be renewed. "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God" (Rom. 12:2). The senses, by reason of use, are to be exercised to discern both good and evil. "But strange meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (Heb. 5:14). The Spirit of the Lord, resting upon us, can make us "quick of scent" in the things of God (Isa. 11:2 Marg.) It is therefore no sin to use the few brains we have and the little common sense with which we are endowed, in humble dependence on the Lord.

It will help us in our desires if we remember the character of Him who leads. He is the Holy Spirit (John 14:26); the Spirit of Truth (John 14:17); the glorifier of Jesus (John 16:14). He will never lead us into actions inconsistent with these characteristics.

(1) The Holy Spirit never leads into actions mean or shady. Test question: Is this in accordance with the life and teaching of Jesus?

Remember, Jesus was ever the highest type of gentleman.

(2) The Holy Spirit never leads to say unkind things about others.

Test question: Is this true? Is it kind? Is it absolutely necessary that it should be said?

(3) The Holy Spirit never leads us to pass a critical opinion upon a course of action until we know the full facts of the case.

(4) The Holy Spirit never leads to question another's sincerity until we know something of the person's inner life.

—Heart and Life.

be happy. When Jesus forgives our sins and has taken them away, He wants us to stop talking about our sins, and act as if we believed He has forgiven us.—Selected.

OBITUARY

The funeral service of the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawson Stone was conducted by Rev. D. C. Webb at the home of the parents, Hilltown, N. S.

May God help and sustain the sorrowing ones.

The funeral service of Henry Frank Britian, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Perley Britian, was conducted by Rev. D. C. Webb, at the home of the parents, Hilltown, N. S.

To the sorrowing ones we extend our sympathy.

Mrs. Ella M. Saunders, 69, one of Sandford's most honored and respected citizens, passed away at the Yarmouth Hospital April 12th, after a very brief illness. She leaves to mourn their loss, two daughters, Mrs. Stanley Smith, of Sandford, and Mrs. Albert MacDonald, of Walpole, Mass. Mrs. Saunders was a faithful member of the Reformed Baptist Church at Sandford, also a faithful member of the choir. She is, and will be greatly missed.

Funeral services were conducted from Sweeney's Funeral Home on April 15th by the writer, assisted by Rev. F. M. Currie, U. B. Interment was at Lake Darling cemetery. May God comfort and sustain those who mourn.

—H. S. Wilson.

DEFLECTED COMPASS

An old pilot, trusted and wise, one night many years ago, was taking his vessel up between the coasts of Wales and Ireland. He had been over the course innumerable times without disaster. This night, nearing port and home, he was running full steam ahead. With his keen eye he watched compass and chart. Suddenly, with sickening, crashing sound, on the hidden rocks went the vessel. Loss of life, loss of ship, marked the wreck. Later, in investigating the wreckage, upon entering the pilot house itself, which still survived, of the vessel, close and interested examination revealed the fact that someone in seeking to clean or tamper with the compass had slipped a thin knife blade into the compass box, near the needle and the blade had broken off. That little piece of foreign steel was sufficient to deflect, though only slightly, the needle, by which the old clear-eyed pilot was steering the boat. When he thought he was on the true course, he was really rushing toward the rocks. Such a little thing, such a mighty wreck!

Ask the next question softly in your own heart: What has slipped into my life that is deflecting the needle of conscience and that is leading me off the true course?—Samuel McPheeters, Glasgow, in "My Tomorrow's Self."

NEWS ITEM

The Truro and Halifax Churches are to be in special evangelistic services with The Ritchie Evangelistic Party, the dates are given on page seven. Brother Hobson states that the party consists of Rev. T. H. Ritchie, evangelist, Mrs. Ritchie, musician, and Miss M. A. Allister, pianist. Mrs. Ritchie plays musical sleigh bells, musical hand-bells, musical glasses, large set of silver cord bells, and Hammond solovox.

Prayer is requested for God's blessing upon these workers and the special efforts.

The King's Highway