

# The Boys Bugle

Calling all young men to the service of Christ

Vol. 3 Number 3

Fall 2003



# Welcome to the Boys Bugle

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## Special Want List

Interviews for The Calling of Page.  
Letters of all kinds.  
Good suggestions.  
Your prayers  
The dead line for the next issue is:  
October 31  
Thank-you for contributing.

## On the Cover:

Daniel and Mendy's house raising. This photo was taken on Saturday, Sept. 6th. By the end of the day, we had the roofing and most of the sheathing on. It was a good time to visit with neighbors and a lot of fun.



# Editor's Desk



The other day my friends and I went swimming in our pond. We were having lots of fun swimming, diving, clicking rocks together, sinking the barrel boat, and making balls jump out of the water. I, because of a past ear problem, decided not to swim very long. So I sat on the bank and read my Bible. After awhile I decided to jump in the pond again. Just before I jumped, I remembered my watch. So, before I stepped off the rock at the edge of the pond, without thinking, I took my watch off.

Then a terrible thing happened. I dropped the watch off the edge of the rock into the 4 to 6 ft deep water. I jumped in the water to try to get it before it sank to the bottom. I was not fast enough. Then we tried to get it with our toes and by diving head first, which, of course did not work. We did accomplish stirring up the mud. Then someone said, "We need Elisha here."

Later that evening I went to the pond with a garden rake and fished around for the watch. After

I was just about ready to give up, there on the end of the rake was the watch. I had thrown a stick (rake) in the water and the watch floated. I had to think of the story of when Elisha threw the stick in the water and the iron ax head floated, 2 Kings 6:1-7. I had to praise God. I went home rejoicing.



If you ever come to the place where you do not know which way to turn, if your faith ever becomes weak, or if you ever become discouraged, then turn to God. Ask for direction, strength, and courage and God will give it to you. Mark 9:24, James 1:5, Proverbs 3:5, John 15:16, 16:23.

P.S. My Mom and Dad will not be printing *Heart and Home Harmony* this issue. Rather than print a small issue now they plan to include more in the next issue.

# Suffering and Pleasure

By Daniel Martin

I was listening to a singing tape and the words of the one song got my attention. The songwriter was saying how desirable it would be if he could suffer and die as did the people that were tortured and martyred for their faith. How do you feel about suffering and pleasure?

This is a very important subject to think about. It makes a big difference in what you will value, and how you will respond to life. Usually you will not think about the fact that what you believe about this affects your reactions on other subjects. It is important that you think about this beforehand and let this thinking affect your habits. This is a very basic question. I like to think of it as a piece of the framework that we build our lives around.

Among the thinkers of the human race, there is a wide range of thought on this. It ranges all the way from the feelings expressed in the song I was listening to, to hedonism, that is the idea that the pursuit of pleasure is the purpose of living.

I view suffering as something to bear up under and be happy if God sees fit to send it into my life. I absolutely do not wish for it, or long for it. Though, in some cases suffering is a necessary means to get to a joyful end.

As for pleasure, I have to admit that I enjoy it, and I think God wants me to enjoy it. It was not by accident that God put beauty all around, made food taste good, and

made it that it is so nice to be with loved ones.

We are to follow God and throw our whole selves into the duties and responsibilities that come our way. This will result in pleasure of the highest possible level.

Rev 4:11 This verse gives me the idea that even God must like pleasure and he even did something to get it.

Jesus was willing to suffer. This would indicate that avoidance of suffering was not a priority in his life. Heb 12:1-3 This verse says that Jesus suffered for the joy that was set before him. This joy that he was seeing, is of a lot higher level, than that of physical comfort.

In apostle Paul's writings, I see a lot of evidence that he was willing to endure discomfort in serving God; and yet it is also evident that he was not teaching that we should be going around with a long face. Philippians 4:4-13

John 15:9-13 Notice the connection between love, friendship, and our joy being full, in this passage.

Read Psalms 73. In this passage, the Psalmist says he almost slipped when he looked at the wicked. He brings out the irony of the wicked often having so little trouble, and the righteous having so much trouble. Then he sums it up by showing that in the end, the wicked end up in trouble, and that the righteous end up with life and pleasure. However, there is more to

this picture than that we all have a time of trouble, and a time of pleasure. The pleasure of the righteous is on a completely different level and nature, than that of the wicked.

Ecclesiastes 7:2-6 Why is it better to be in the house of mourning rather than the house of mirth? Because this is where the heart is made better, where you will gain wisdom. Wisdom will lead you to a higher more satisfying level of pleasure.

James 1:2-4 Do you count it all joy when you fall into temptations? You ought to, for you are on your way to perfection. If you already have joy at the beginning of this process how much more will you have at the end?

Matthew 5:3-12 I think that we can learn a lot about God's view about suffering and pleasure from this passage. It mentions that we can have the kingdom of heaven, be comforted, inherit the earth, be filled, obtain mercy, see God, and be called the children of God. Then it caps this all by telling us about great reward in heaven. Jesus is telling us about how we can get to the state of complete bliss. We need to give up our ideas, and lusts, and follow him, to get these blessings. The level of pleasure that God has for us is of a completely different nature than the pleasure that results from the fulfilling of the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.

Oh, you should yield your stubborn will to God and follow Him. God is good, and he cares about you- if you let him, He will satisfy the longings of your soul and give you abundant, eternal life. Any-

thing else that you may pursue will only result in a fleeting shadow of what you are seeking.

I think a portion of the mental illness that is around is caused by an unrealistic view of this subject. If your worldview thinks that there should be no suffering, and you need to always be in a high state of pleasure, emotionally, you will have your hopes smashed - that is just not the way the world is - and God didn't intend it to be. On the opposite extreme, I see some people that are not able to really enjoy the pleasure that comes their way.

What is your worldview of this subject? Have you come to the place, that your life is in that state of healthy tension, where you can enjoy pleasure with all of your being and at the same time also face discomfort with a smile. To face suffering with a smile takes enough maturity that you can think about and see the big picture of your life, both here, and in the future, and not have your entire attention consumed by the immediate pain you are feeling. I think this is where God wishes us to be.



# The Old Time Farmer

Taken from, "The Farmers', Gardeners' and Stock-Raisers' Guide." (1850)

ately introduces, with an irresistible air of insinuation, the multitude of

No one evil habit can exist alone; vice is prolific; it is no solitary invader; admit one of its train, and it immedi-

## An Abundance of Litter for Cattle, Horses, and Hogs

If you cannot be otherwise better supplied, as soon as the leaves fall in autumn, go with your cart or wagon to the woods and gather them. With a good iron rake a load is quickly collected. When gathered faster than wanted for use, put them in a pen for the succeeding portions of the year. Do this in the morning when the dew is on, or immediately after rain. The practice may be continued through the winter when the ground is not covered with snow. Almost any one may thus collect what will be worth to him twenty dollars, without seemingly being aware when he did it.

## Conclusion of the Circling Year.

While *thus* revolving seasons roll,  
Obsequious to God's wise control,  
Obedient to his plan;  
With silent eloquence they preach,  
The most important lessons teach,  
To cold, unthinking man.

Behold *thyself* reflected here!  
The Spring proclaims thy infant year,  
Gay life the Summer's bloom;  
Mild Autumn speaks maturer age,  
Confirms thee *fool*, or hails thee *sage*;  
While Winter shows the tomb.

its comrades, who promise you liberty, but whose service is corruption, and whose wages is death.

'Tis a mark of great proficiency to bear easily the faults of other men.

# Young People of the Bible

A Series of Bible Character Stories that teach a lesson.

## Absalom

### *What Do We Need Besides Forgiveness?*

We often hear people say, “I don’t believe God would send anyone to hell, at least not forever”; or, “I believe that if people do wrong, they are punished in this life for it, and God forgives everybody after they die”; or, “Everybody will have a second chance after they die.” Now we know from Scripture that none of these statements is true, but the history of Absalom shows us why God cannot simply forgive everyone.

Absalom was a handsome young man and he had a beautiful sister, Tamar. Their half brother Amnon mistreated Tamar and Absalom hated him for it. When David heard of Amnon’s sin, he became very angry but did nothing about it; so Absalom had Amnon murdered. Absalom went into exile for three years. David wanted to bring back Absalom even though Absalom had sinned (2 Samuel 13).

Finally, David allowed Absalom to return to Jerusalem, but refused to see him. Absalom found this situation intolerable, and after two years in Jerusalem, he forced Joab to speak to David. David then called Absalom into his presence and kissed him. Absalom was thus restored to his position as a son of the king.

Chapters 15 through 20 of 2 Samuel record some of the saddest events in the Old Testament. Absalom stirred up a rebellion against David, David was forced to flee Jerusalem, and Absalom established himself there. Absalom was eventually killed, but there was more bloodshed before the rebellion was completely put down.

David forgave Absalom even though Absalom did not repent or express any sorrow for his sin. Absalom’s desire to see the king was not motivated by love for David but because he wanted to be in a position to gather support for his own cause. Absalom had usurped David’s authority when he murdered Amnon and later he wanted all of David’s power and authority for himself.

Unregenerate sinners are rebels against God (Romans 8:7,8). Their primary motivation is to please themselves, not God. If they are religious sinners, they may talk about serving and worshiping God; but they are determined to do these things their own way, not God’s. How can God just forgive unrepentant sinners? Absalom felt no love or gratitude toward David in response to David’s forgiveness. The unsaved would likewise feel no love or gratitude toward God if He forgave them in their unrepentant state. Their rebellion would break out in heaven itself if God were to allow them there, just as Absalom rebelled against his father after his return to Jerusalem.

No, sinners must repent and be regenerated (born again). And they must repent in this life; there will be no repentance in hell, because the Holy Spirit, who brings about repentance in the heart, will not be working there. **“God ... now commandeth all men everywhere to repent”** (Acts 17:30). We need more than to be forgiven (spared the penalty of our sin); we

*(Continued on page 11)*

# Potsdam, New York

## The Martin Family

By Melvin Martin



From left to right,  
Back to front:  
Luke (Dad), Melvin, Luray, Tim,  
Rachel (Mom), Joy, Larisa, Dawn, Nathaniel,  
and Johnny.

My family consists of my parents Luke and Rachel Martin and 11 children: Daniel, 31 (married to Mendy; lives 3 miles away, and has a 7 week old baby); Ellen 29 (married to Mike Atnip with one adopted son; lives in Bolivia); Timothy, 27; Emily, 26, (married to Robby Hall with 3 daughters and one son; lives 2 miles away); Dawn, 24; Joy, 22; Melvin, (me), 21; Luray, 19; Nathaniel, 16; Larisa, 13; and Jonathan, 12.

We live on a 250—275 acre farm about 9 miles east of Potsdam, (we also

have a 50 acre woodlot). The Quebec border is 20 miles north and the Adirondack Mountains are just south of us. We have approximately 50 acres of tillable land. The rest is woods. We have 14 head of cattle, (3 milking), 7 horses, 15 sheep, 16 beehives, 13 dogs, and a few cats and chickens.

Dad logs with the horses. Daniel, who has a portable band saw mill, saws the logs into lumber. We sell the lumber retail here at our farm.

Tim does some blacksmithing. He has a 85-acre homestead to be.

I am a mechanic/fabricator and do odd jobs around the farm. I am working to buy a 45-acre homestead about 4 miles from here.

Luray has five greenhouses and raises early tomatoes and cucumbers. He sells them at the roadside market over at Daniel's place. He also helps do mechanics and fabricating. He's also buying about 16



Rob, Emily and family



acres.

My sisters raise dogs and sheep and do most of the housework. They also help Daniel with his produce business, and other stuff.

We also have 7 acres of orchard and  $\frac{3}{4}$  acre of blueberries that should be producing in a few years. Of course, we work as a family and help each other do their work.

We are part of a local Christian fellowship here at Parishville, called The Parishville Christian Church. We meet every Sunday morning in someone's house. Six families come regularly. Usually our meetings start with singing and prayer. Then someone leads in Bible study, which is followed with more teaching. We close with a few songs and prayer. As a church, we also have singings, Bible studies, house raisings, hikes, magazine printing parties, etc.

We print a quarterly, Christian, boy's magazine, called The Boys Bugle. Even though it is for boys, the whole family enjoys it. My Mom and Dad also print a newsletter, Heart and Home Harmony. Over half of our readership is local; the rest is long distance. It is a readers write magazine; in other words, you do the writing. The magazine is supported by the church and donations. It is a blessing to us. My cousins, Jason and Merle, and my brother, Luray and I are the main staff. However, the whole church is involved. To get on our mailing list, write to:

The Boys Bugle  
207 County Rd. 56  
Potsdam, N.Y. 13676

We get a lot of rain around here. We get approximately 43 inches of rain a year. It very rarely gets dry.

We have short, intense summers. The third week of May is our last average frost date. The end of September or the beginning of October is our first frost date. It rarely gets above 95<sup>0</sup>F in the summer. And usually there is a wind blowing and the humidity is not high when it is that hot. My favorite season is summer.

We have long, cold winters. We get approximately 95 inches of snow a year. Usual-



The Boys Bugle staff standing in the doorway of Martin's Roadside Market.



Daniel, Mendy and Phillip

ly the snow does not melt until spring. The average temperature for January is 17 °F. After it's been cold for a few days, the moisture drops out of the air. Then because of the very low humidity, it's a lot easier to stay warm than southerners would expect.

Here we have 5 seasons (instead of 4) of the year. There is spring, summer, fall, winter, and then mud season. Mud season is



Our best work horse, named Clyde.

when the snow is melting and the ground is thawing. That means that there is a lot of water mixed with freshly thawed ground. Sometime in March or April, it warms up and the snow begins to melt. Everyone is rejoicing because spring is coming. After a few days, the ground begins to appear. Then as the ground thaws, the mud gets deeper and deeper, until after a week or two the mud is halfway to your knees at places and you begin to wonder if it will ever dry up. Then suddenly you will notice that the ground is dry at spots. Then soon the ground is warm enough to plant your garden.

St Lawrence County is the biggest county in New York State. It was named after the St Lawrence River in 1802. It covers 2,842 square miles. The population is 115,254. Almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  of it is covered with forest.

Most of the land was farmed a long time ago, but when the St Lawrence Seaway was being built, the farmers went to work on the Seaway and the land grew up in brush. Therefore, you will see stone fences going through the center of a big woods.

In 1985, there were 5,000 working farms in St. Lawrence Co. In 1995 there were only 500 working farms. That means that there are a lot of empty farms that need someone to farm.

To the south and east of us are the Adirondack Mountains. The north side of the Adirondack Mountains is more like hills stacked on top of each other than like peaks and valleys. They are rolling with very few peaks. However, there are



Mike, Ellen and Daniel

enough peaks that you can have an enjoyable time hiking.

The St. Lawrence River carries more water than the Mississippi River. The St Lawrence Seaway (on the St. Lawrence River) is used for shipping. They built locks so the ships can go the whole way up the river. They have a very big power plant too.

Please write and/or come visit us sometime.



A camp in the woods for visitors.



The white suspension wagon that we fabricated out of a car. We bolt shafts on the tongue and hook it to a horse and use it for hauling maple sap.



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*(Continued from page 7)*

need to be freed from the power of sin, to be loosed from our sins and to be given a new nature which desires to love and obey God. Only then can we be fit for God's presence and to dwell with Him forever.

By M.K. Canner  
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P.O. Box 322

Bedford, PA. 15522

# The Olivet Discourse

## Matthew 24

### SECTION A (events associated with AD 70)?

#### Matthew 24:1-34

- ① vss. 17,18 – “let him who is on the housetop not go down...”
- ② vss. 26,27 – “For just as the lightning comes from the east...”
- ③ vs. 28 – “Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.”

### SECTION B (events still future to us)?

#### Matthew 24:35ff

- ④ vss. 37-39 – “For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah”
- ⑤ vss. 40,41 – “Then there shall be two men in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left.”


**EXPLANATION:** Some hold the idea shown on the left above. They think Matthew 24 is divided into two sections: (SECTION A) Events Associated With AD 70, and (SECTION B) Events Still Future To Us. They apply the events in verses 1-34 (SECTION A) to the AD 70 period (AD 70), and the events in verses 35ff (SECTION B) to our future. Luke 17 may be correct. Luke 17 discusses the same events as Matthew 24, however there is no clear division. Luke clearly deals with events that would happen in the same time period (“the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night”) and divides them into the same two groups of events. Notice on the chart above how Luke records the events in Luke 17: 5, but Luke’s order is scrambled 2-4-1-5-3! Luke has an event from SECTION A in Luke 17: 5, an event from SECTION B in Luke 17: 26-27, and finally one from SECTION A in Luke 17: 34. This presents a problem: if Luke is correct, then Luke’s account is incorrect, because he mixes the five events of Matthew 24 (and therefore uninspired), or it is wrong to divide Matthew 24 into two sections. It is wrong to divide Matthew 24 into two sections because the same events which would all happen in the same time period. And, Matthew 24: 14 says that the generation which was alive when He spoke those words (the generation from AD 30-70)!

# They Cannot Be Divided

## Luke 17

ALL ONE SECTION (one time period) AD 70!

Luke 17:20-37

- 
- ② vs. 23,24 – “For just as the lightning, when it flashes...”
  - ④ vs. 26,27 – “And just as it happened in the days of Noah, so it shall be also in the days of the Son of Man”
  - ① vs. 31 – “On that day, let not the one who is on the housetop...”
  - ⑤ vs. 35,36 – “There will be two women grinding at the same place; one will be taken, and the other will be left.”
  - ③ vs. 37 – “...Where the body is, there also will the vultures be gathered.”

Matthew 24 speaks of two different time periods: (SECTION A) Events apply the events mentioned in verses 1-34 (SECTION A) to the first time Luke's statements in chapter 17 (on the right above) show that this idea cannot be not a hint that two different time periods are under consideration. Luke says that the Son of Man is revealed," vs. 30). Luke's account cannot be divided into two sections. It is the same events as Matthew, but in a different order. Matthew's order is 1-2-3-4-5 followed by one from SECTION B, then another from SECTION A followed by one from SECTION B. If Matthew 24 really has two sections (or two different time periods) under consideration, it sets up as if they are all to happen in one time period. Either Luke is mistaken or Matthew is. Of course, the solution to this is that both Matthew and Luke speak of the same time period. Matthew 24:34 tells us when that time period was to occur: the "generation" alive

# Questions and Answers

**Question #1 from Summer 2003:** In Matthew 24:34 Jesus says, “**Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.**” The people standing there would have understood that what he was saying was to their generation. **Why would anyone think that Jesus was speaking of a future generation?**

## Answer #1:

Dear Jason,

Here is an answer for the question on Matthew 24:34.

I did some research on the word “generation.” In this verse the original Greek word is “genea.” The Young’s Analytical Concordance of the Bible shows that in other verses “genea” was translated to age, nation, and time.

The word used in the German Bible would be the same as is used for tribe.

Also, we must not forget that many English words have changed meanings over the years. The King James Version of the Bible was published almost 400 years ago. Example: “**Suffer the little children to come unto me.**” Mark 10:14 “**Quit you like men.**” 1 Cor. 16:13

The 1828 edition of Noah Webster’s American Dictionary of the English Language gives seven definitions for the word generation. The last two are: 6. A family, a race. 7. Progeny, offspring.

So taking all this in consideration we cannot be so sure that the people would have thought of just their own lifetime. They could have thought of their own Jewish race which still exists today.

Halley’s Bible Handbook has some interesting comments on Matthew 24, “Some of His words are so mixed up that it is difficult to know to which event they refer. Perhaps it was intentional.”

Sincerely,  
Aunt Eva

Thank you for your time and effort. —ED.

## Answer #2:

In answer to the question, “Why would anyone think that Jesus was speaking of a future generation?” I don’t think he was speaking to a future generation.

If we were to say that he was speaking to a future generation, what are we going to do with these scriptures?

Matthew 16:28 **“Verily I say unto you, There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.”**

Matthew 23:36 **“Verily I say unto you, All these things shall come upon this generation.”**

Mark 9:1 **“And he said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power.”**

Mark 13:30 **“Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done.”**

Luke 9:27 **“But I tell you of a truth, there be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the kingdom of God.”**

Luke 21:32, **“Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled.”**

If Jesus is talking to people in the future, then Jesus was talking about two different times in his sermon in Matthew 24, Mark 13, and Luke 21, and you will have to divide those passages. However, there is a major problem with that. Look at the chart on pages 12 and 13 to understand what I mean.

Some want to say that the word “generation” means “race.” What would it sound like if we were to use the word “race” instead of “generation” in Matt. 1:17, **“So all the generations (races??) from Abraham to David are fourteen generations (races??); and from David until the carrying away into Babylon are fourteen generations (races??); and from the carrying away into Babylon unto Christ are fourteen generations (races??)”**? The word “generation” in Matt 1:17 is the same Greek word as is used in Matt. 24:23.



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## Question #2 from Summer 2003:

Here is a question that I’ve been thinking about for the last while. It has become clear to me that God can change someone’s heart and thoughts, (Exodus 7:3, Deuteronomy 2:30, Romans 1:28, Hebrews 8:10). It’s also

*(Continued on page 16)*

(Continued from page 15)

clear that we have control over our hearts and thoughts, (2 Chronicles 19:3, 20:33, 36:12-13, Proverbs 28:14, Romans 12:3, James 4:7-10). Also, other people can change our hearts, (1 Kings 11:3-4). The question that remains is: **Does God change someone's heart, mind, or thoughts against the persons will?**

---

**Answer:**

God was not able to gather the Jews together. "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [thou] that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under [her] wings, and ye would not! Behold, your house is left unto you desolate. For I say unto you, Ye shall not see me henceforth, till ye shall say, Blessed [is] he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Matthew 23:37-39

Jonah never changed. He complained even after Nineveh repented. God made Jonah do what he wanted him to do but Jonah didn't like it. Read the whole book of Jonah.

I did not get a very clear answer; however, it would appear that God couldn't change someone's heart against his will. Although as in the story of Jonah, God will make us do what he wants.

The reason that I brought this question out is because I wondered whether we can pray in faith that God will change/convert a specific rebellious sinner and completely turn his life around? –Ed

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**Please send us your questions and answers:**

The Boys Bugle  
207 County RD 56  
Potsdam, N.Y. 13676

Deadline for the next issue is October 31st.



# Maturity

Maturity is the ability to do a job whether you are supervised or not; finish a job once it is started; carry money without spending it; and be able to bear an injustice without wanting to get even.

Maturity is the ability to control anger and settle differences without violence.

Maturity is patience. It is the willingness to postpone immediate gratification in favor of the long-term gain.

Maturity is the capacity to face unpleasantness and frustration, discomfort and defeat without complaint or collapse. Maturity is humility. It is being big enough to say, "I was wrong." And when right, the mature person need not experience the satisfaction of saying, "I told you so."

Maturity is the ability to make a decision and stand by it. The immature spend their lives exploring endless possibilities; then they do nothing.

Maturity means dependability, keeping ones word, coming though in a crisis. The immature are masters of the alibi. They are confused and disorganized. Their lives are a maze of broken promises, former friends, unfinished business, and good intentions that somehow never materialized.

Maturity is the art of living in peace with that which we cannot change, the courage to change that which we can change, and the wisdom to know the difference.



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## **DRUNKARD'S Version of the 23rd Psalm**

King Alcohol is my shepherd, I shall always want. He maketh me to lie down in the gutter, he leadeth me besides the troubled waters. He destroyeth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of wickedness for its effects sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of poverty, and have the delirium tremens, I will cling to all evil; for thou art with me, thy sting and thy bite, they torment me. Thou preparest an empty table before me in the presence of my family, thou anointest my head with wickedness, my cup of wrath runneth over. Surely, destruction and misery shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the devil forever, unless I repent!



# The Children's Challenge

## Courage

The Bible is a wonderful book inspired by God. It talks about many interesting and valuable subjects. One of these subjects is courage. Courage is meeting danger without fear.

The story about Daniel is one of the best examples of courage. He was commanded not to do something that God said he should do. If he did it, he would be thrown in the lion's den. He did it because God said to. He was thrown into the lion's den, but God saved him. God will save a man that will endure to the end.

In contrast, Jonah was not very courageous. He was told by God to go preach to the people of Nineveh. He did not want to do that, so he decided to try to run away from God by getting on a ship that was going to Joppa. God didn't like that, so he made a storm and the people on the ship threw Jonah overboard. A whale then swallowed Jonah. God wants us to endure to the end.

The Bible says in Matthew 10:22 **"But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."** If you don't give up and stop believing, you shall be saved.

Courage is meeting danger without fear. Daniel did it and got rewarded. Jonah didn't and got punished. The Bible says to endure, so don't give up - keep serving God.

Luray Martin  
Written in his school days.

Dear Children,

You can read more about Daniel and Jonah in Daniel 6 and in the

book of Jonah.

Did anyone ever dare you to do something dangerous? Did you ever see someone do something dangerous just for attention or for excitement? This is not courage. It is trying to get something for just your self. It does not please God; it does not help others; it does not give you what you want. Real courage brings JOY.

**Jesus first:** Do what God wants.

**Others:** Do what helps others.

**Yourself:** God will take care of you and give you what you need.

Maybe you think you don't have a chance to be courageous because you don't have to face anything big and dangerous like a lion. However, sometime you are likely to be scorned and made fun of. That can be so scary that you are tempted to do wrong to avoid it. But sin is what is more dangerous than a lion.

Never do something wrong or keep from doing right because you are afraid of getting laughed at. Be courageous! Do what is right no matter what!

### Story Contest!

Have you been courageous or do you know of someone who has been courageous? Please write and tell us about it. We will send a prize to the one who sends us the best story. The story must be true and written by you. Include your name, address, and age.

## The Tools Quarrel

**“For we are laborers together with God...”** 1 Corinthians 3:9

The Carpenter’s tools had a conference. Bro. Hammer was in the chair. The meeting had informed him that he must leave, because he was too noisy. But he said, “If I am to leave this carpenter shop, Bro. Gimlet must go too. He is so insignificant, that he makes a very little impression.”

Little Bro. Gimlet rose and said, “All right, but Bro. Screw must go also. You have to turn him around and around again and again to get him anywhere.”

Bro. Screw then said, “If you wish I will go but Bro. Plane must leave also. All his work is on the surface; there is no depth to it.

To this, Bro. Plane replied, “Well, Bro. Rule will also have to withdraw if I do for he is always measuring folks as though he were the only one who is right.”

Bro. Rule then complained against Bro. Sandpaper, and said, “I just don’t care. He is rougher than he ought to be and he is always rubbing people up the wrong way.”

In the midst of those discussions, the Carpenter of Nazareth walked in. He had come to perform His day’s work. He put on His apron, and went to the bench to make a pulpit, from which to preach the Gospel to the poor. He employed the screw, the gimlet, the sandpaper, the saw, the hammer, the plane, and all the other tools.

After the day’s work was over, and the pulpit was finished, Bro. Saw arose and said, “Brethren, I perceive that all of us are laborers together with God.”

Oh, how many of us Christians are just like those tools, fussing at each other, because they don’t do things just the way we think they should.

There was not an accusation against one of those tools but what was absolutely true; yet, The Carpenter, who was Jesus Christ, used every one of them, and there was not a place where He used any one where any of the others would have done at all. How careful we should be in finding fault with one of GOD’S TOOLS.

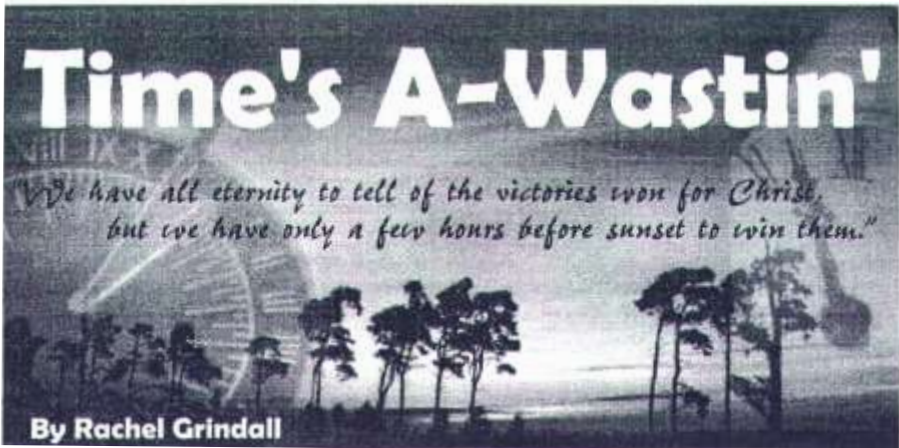
God set some in the Church, Apostles, Prophets, Teachers, Pastors, Evangelists, Miracles, Gifts of Healing, Helps, Governments, etc. 1 Cor. Chapters 12, 13, 14.

-R. T. Moore

FOR QUITE SOME TIME, God has been teaching me a lesson in the area of using my time wisely. God has given me time as a precious gift and it should not be wasted. “Remember how short my time is...” (Psalm 89:47).

*“Lord, make me to know my end, and what is the measure of my days, that I may know how frail I am. Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths, and my age is as nothing before You; certainly every man at his best state is but a vapor”* (Psalm 39:4-5).

*“The days of our lives are seventy years; and if by reason of strength, they are 80 years, yet their boast is only labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away... So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom”* (Psalm 90:10,12).



When I LOOK AT MY LIFE of potentially 80-90 years, placed up against “forever, ever, and ever,” it seems so insignificant. I want to use this small amount of time to serve God and further His kingdom while I can.

*“...I do not count myself to have apprehended, but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus”* (Phil. 3:13-14).

But there are many little things that can get me sidetracked from that purpose and cause me to not be a faithful steward of His time. The biggest ones are laziness and selfishness

I want to use my time the way I want to. To combat laziness, I need to learn how to practice diligence.

*“Go to the ant, you sluggard! Consider her ways and be wise...a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep — so shall your poverty come on you like a prowler, and your need like an armed man”* (Prov. 6:6, 10-11).

*“Laziness casts one into a deep sleep, and an idle person will suffer hunger”* (Prov. 19:15). *“The soul of the lazy man desireth, and has nothing; but the soul of the diligent shall be made rich”* (Prov. 13:4).

To fight against selfishness and remind myself that I am just a “hireling” using His time (Job 14:5-6: “Seeing his days are deter-

mined...Thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass... turn from him that he may rest, till he shall accomplish as a hireling his day.”), I have to give my time back to the Lord daily, saying, “Thank You for Your gift of time; now I’m giving it back to You. I ask You to help me use it wisely for You.” I also put God first by having my devotions first thing in the morning.

ANOTHER THING THAT GETS ME OFF COURSE in the issue of using my time wisely is lack of planning and not having a clear idea of how to use my time. I have found that a daily schedule helps me to stay on track and to get more accomplished. I need to plan ahead and prioritize, or else my day just falls apart.

Something else that I’ve found keeping me from being able to utilize my time wisely is what I call “Time Stealers.” Although little, they can chomp huge sections out of my day when I add them all up. For me, some time stealers are opening books or other reading material and reading them when I shouldn’t, daydreaming, sleeping in, staring at myself in the mirror (this is kind of humbling to tell you some of these!), looking at product magazines, surfing the internet, playing with my hair, etc. Each person’s “time stealers” will be different because we’re all tempted by different things.

Pray and ask God to show you what He sees as a waste of time in your life and ask Him how you can better use that time. Plan ahead to have a list of little productive things to do during the little spaces of time that can be so easily wasted. Some ideas are to have a memory verse

card on hand, do a five minute clean-up, run outside with the dog for some fresh air (or with your siblings, for that matter), organize a drawer or cupboard, have a project to work on, play a song on your instrument, write a bit in a letter to a friend, etc. I call these “time redeemers.”

ONE OF THE THINGS I have found I have to be careful about is that I don’t get so “productive” that I fail to give room for others. I often catch myself standing with my hands on my hips as I say impatiently to one of my younger siblings, “Hurry up! I don’t have time to stand here while you laze around and get side tracked!” Or, most often, “You’re wasting my time!” God has been reminding me that a good use of His time (not my time) is to stop and show love to my brothers and sisters — to stop all my “important” lists of “things to do” and take some time to cuddle with one of them, appreciate a project they’ve been working on, or just show them love through my patience with their youthfulness (Psalm 25:6-7, LBV).

ANOTHER AREA I tend to stumble in is to run around and (in my eyes) get a lot of stuff accomplished, when I’m not really doing the things God wants me to do. I was reading in *Gold By Moonlight* (by Amy Carmichael) for my morning devotions just recently, and what she said about this really sums it up:

“We cannot think by acting like machinery. We cannot consider the lilies without giving time to the lilies. Often our flash of haste means little. To read a book in an hour (if the book has taken half a lifetime to write) means nothing at all. To pray

*(Continued on page 22)*

(Continued from page 21)

in a hurry of spirit means nothing. To live in a hurry means to do much but affect little. We build more quickly in wood, hay, and stubble than in gold, silver, and precious stones; but the one abides, the other does not.”

We may think we are accomplishing a lot, but in reality, we are accomplishing nothing — because it won’t last.

*“I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives, and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor — it is the gift of God. I know that whatever God does, it shall be forever. Nothing can be added to it, and nothing taken from it. God does it, that men should fear before Him”* (from Ecc. 3:9-14).

*“I must work the works of Him who sent me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work”* (John 9:4-5).

*“See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is”* (Eph 5:15-17).

I need to be “understanding what the will of the Lord is,” “working the works of Him who sent me,” and doing “the God-given task” rather than doing just what I think needs to be done. God wants me to use His time wisely, and I need to be a wise steward of that time. I must ask Him to show me what is important to Him for me to accomplish and then go by His priorities, rather than just going by the “tyranny of the urgent” and trying to accomplish in my own strength what I consider to be important.

ONE DAY ALL MY WORKS will be burned with fire (1 Cor. 3:11-15). If I have wasted my time doing in my own strength what I thought was important (building wood, hay, stubble) rather than using God’s time to accomplish through His strength what He considers to be important (building gold, silver, precious stones), then I will have nothing left to show for the time God entrusted to me. All my works will have been burned up! I need to spend my time on the things that last — God’s things.

May God bless you in your stewardship of His time.

RACHEL GRINDALL, 17, writes from her home in Mukilteo, WA.

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# Parishville Christian Church

Services at 9:30 am Sunday

All are welcome

Enjoy fellowship, encouragement, and stimulation to follow Christ and his teachings.

Tapes available. Just Ask.

We also have singings.

Please contact us to find out the time and location.

315-265-0026; or 265-1246

## Proverbs

4:1-13

Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law. For I was my father's son, tender and only beloved in the sight of my mother.

He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live. Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the words of my mouth. Forsake her not, and she shall pre-

serve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting

get understanding. Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her. She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee. Hear,

O my son, and receive my sayings; and the years of thy life shall be many. I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths.

When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou

shalt not stumble. Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life.

Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting understanding.

The Boys Bugle  
207 County Rd 56  
Potsdam, N.Y. 13676

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Say not thou, I will  
recompense evil;  
but wait on the  
LORD, and he shall  
save thee. Proverbs 20:22