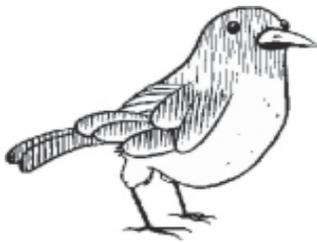


TEMKIT FOR CHILDREN

TEMKIT'S MISSION:

To provide Bible based, true reading material for children and youth.

Year 1 - 2nd Quarter - Issue #9



CREATION CORNER

SPARROWS PT. 1

I love English sparrows. Over long years of fighting dislike for these pesky pests, I have developed a deep regard for them. They show the plan of salvation better than any other birds.

It was not by accident that Jesus chose sparrows as symbols of the members of the human race, there is much similarity. They are careless and untidy and selfish and quarrelsome and ungrateful and noisy and rude and destructive and, sparrows! They are not fit to associate with.

Spare their nest under the eaves, and they will fill your house with bugs. Put out bird food, and they allow no others at the feeding station. They chase the modest bluebirds away from bird-houses they cannot use themselves. Even the jolly house wrens vanish before the nasty bad manners of sparrows. Dainty orioles and royal cardinals shun the company of filthy sparrows fighting over garbage in the road ruts. Few birds could sink lower.

It is hard to find anything good to say for sparrows. We dislike them so much we seldom stop to look carefully at one and see that it is not without beauty.

Poor sparrows! If they had human thoughts, a lot of their rudeness would be hurt feelings. "We

stay close to our big human brothers," they might say, "and do they love us for it? Not as you could notice. They lavish all their liking on the flashy-colored birds. It's no use trying to be good; nobody loves us anyway." (How many of the mean things done by humans come from longings to be loved!)

But Someone loves the sparrows. There is Someone who notes their needs and marks their deaths, Someone who quoted His care for the sparrows as the symbol of His care for me. I wonder if He can see anything more to love in me than I do in sparrows. But Jesus loved sparrows because they needed His love, and that is just why He loves me.

Also Jesus knew that sparrows had not always been so degraded; they were not so unlovely in Eden. And once in a while now a sparrow has a little flash of its former beautiful nature.

Once I heard lovely sweet bird tones coming very softly from one of my office windows that was hidden by a bookcase. Peeking, I saw on the sill two sparrows loving each other with stroking of wings and kisses of bills and the sweetest bird love-tones I ever heard. And once a friend and I, chatting on my house steps, were startled by a burst of

CONTENTS:

CREATION CORNER

HISTORY

TRUE-STORY-TIME

ADVENT HISTORY

BUILDING FOR JESUS

WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON

glorious melody, we'd never heard before. It came from an English sparrow on the eaves above us. We both saw and heard while he repeatedly sang.

Sparrows are members of the family of weaver finches, to which belong the interesting weaverbirds of Asia and Africa. Jesus loved them for what they were in Eden and what they will be when He recreates them in the new earth-just exactly why He loves us. = ^ .. ^ =

HISTORY

The Christian Church: part 12 The Dungeon

In 1414, a great council was held in Constance by order of the emperor to solve the problem of the three popes, which was causing terrible confusion in Europe. Pope John XXIII was the one who led out and one of the first things he did was to summon John Huss to appear before him charged as a heretic. The emperor Sigismund promised Huss that he would be safe and even the pope had promised protection.

Huss journeyed to Constance with two nobles assigned by King Wenceslaus of Bohemia to protect him. He was called to appear before the cardinals and at that time was seized and thrown into prison. His friends were unable to find him and hurried back to tell the king what had happened.

It was interesting that the pope who put him in prison was himself a very wicked man and a few days later was thrown in there himself as the council decided he had no right to be pope and another one was chosen.

Because Huss would not give up his faith in the Bible, he was moved to a dungeon. It was a little room in a tower above the water with a hole in the wall with a grate over it the only light. When the wind would blow and the waves dash against the tower, water would splash in on him and so everything was damp and smelly. His clothes got rotten and his teeth fell out as he was only given salty porridge to eat, dry bread, which without his teeth he could not eat, and hardly any water.

Every so often the cruel cardinals would bring him out and try and force him to deny the truth. He would not and so he spent many months in this horrible place. Finally he felt he couldn't stand any more, he was so sick, and asked to be put in a better place. He had decided to agree with them and so they took him out and bathed his poor thin

body and put clean clothes on him in place of his rotten rags. They gave him some good food.

For three days he stayed there but he felt so bad for having denied the truth of Jesus. He had no peace in his heart until he told them he would not deny what he had taught. At this the church leaders were so angry they cursed him and threw him back into the smelly dungeon. But never again did Huss yield to them. His faith in Jesus was strong and Jesus gave him strength to bear all the hardship. They could hold his body but his mind was free and he had peace of heart.

He had asked them for a Bible to read but they would not give it to him. Then he told them that was OK as he could write almost the whole Bible from memory! It would be wonderful to be able to say that, wouldn't it?! = ^ .. ^ =

TRUE-STORY-TIME

"NO DEVIL STRINGS" part 7 War in the Solomons

Kata Rangoso on the death of his father Tatangu, became one of the island chiefs. He also studied hard and worked hard to carry the light to his people. Many problems that the mission had, were able to be solved by Rangoso because of his position as a chief. He was really a prince for God!

Later he married a Christian island girl after bringing her to the mission to be trained. He travelled to civilization and told many people about the mission fields. Then in 1940 a change came that sent concern over the islands. World War II had struck and Japan was taking over the pacific islands to use as military bases.

In 1942 the enemy was bombing Rabaul and soon the word came that the missionaries would have to leave the islands. Kata Rangoso was placed in charge of the mission. All eyes were wet as these dear ones they had known for so long had to leave and the mission ship sailed away. Only the native workers were left.

Then, with the others, Rangoso turned and walked back to the village. Unable to sleep, he and Vizo his wife, continued to talk over the strange happenings until the break of day. In this moment of uncertainty he felt sure about only one thing: He must do all he could to help his people continue the work begun by the missionaries.

For the first time since the coming of G. F. Jones, twenty-four years before, the island workers now had to make major decisions for themselves. The

future of Adventist work rested on their shoulders, and at this time Kata Rangoso's talent for organizing was needed. He divided the workers into bands and gave each band a special task. He told some to clean up the mission station and others to operate the sawmill and stack a large supply of building lumber.

Classes went on in the school, and the press continued to print the Sabbath School lessons and to bind a quantity of hymnbooks. Although the Nurse had left with the missionaries' wives, the hospital remained open to care for the sick. A partly trained staff did their best with an increasing shortage of medical supplies.

During this time, as news that the armies were coming came to them. Rangoso sent messages to Adventist believers everywhere throughout the western Solomons asking all of them to have earnest prayer for God's protection over the mission station. Then he called his leading men together, and they formed plans for hiding all of the mission equipment and personal belongings the missionaries had left behind.

"My faith and hope," Rangoso told them, "is that someday our missionaries will return. I want to hide all their things and all the valuable property of the mission so that the missionaries can get them as soon as they come back and God's work will not be delayed while we spend time rebuilding."

Rangoso had buildings made deep in the jungle, well hidden by the thick bush and easily found only by these people native to the jungle. Into the buildings they carried all of the equipment and goods which they wished to save.

Then they sailed two of the mission ships upriver and anchored each one under a great, spreading tree. Rangoso and his men built covers over them, and the boys piled fresh branches and green leaves over the covers, camouflaging the ships from airplane spotters.

Meanwhile, Rangoso had personal troubles. When the other white men left the Solomons, a lone government officer remained behind to take charge of the security of Marovo Lagoon. Having spent some time in the lagoon during peacetime, he knew well the work of the Adventist mission and was aware of the strong influence Rangoso had with his people. When some natives, not from the mission, stole from some stores after the traders had been forced to leave, the officer ordered Rangoso to serve on a jury to try the offenders.

Kind-hearted Rangoso refused. "I am sorry, sir.

But I could not condone the whipping of my people," he explained. "I would not be good for your jury."

"Do you think you are too good?" the officer exploded. "These men must be punished. I tell you, Rangoso, each of us has his responsibility. And I expect everyone to discharge the responsibility I assign him. Those who fail to do their part will wait out this war in prison!"

Rangoso realized that the officer, unable and unwilling to understand, judged him to be a lazy, defiant native. Rangoso returned to Batuna hoping that if the officer called him again he would be able to prove his willingness to cooperate.

When the government launch pulled into Batuna station a few days later, Rangoso went to meet it. The officer regarded him coolly. "Rangoso, I am calling a meeting of native workers for next Saturday. I want you to interpret for me."

Rangoso's heart sank. Saturday! Why did the meeting have to be on the Sabbath? "You know, sir, that Saturday is my day of worship. I cannot possibly work for you on that day. Any other day I would be glad to."

"Rangoso," the officer interrupted, "you set yourself up as a good man, but I can see that you are not. You are purposely working opposite to my plans. Your Adventist people do not give me the cooperation I need. They will not work on Saturday, they will not arm themselves to defend the island. And you--you are of no use because you encourage them in their resistance!"

Rangoso drew upon all his courage to attempt once more an explanation. "Sir, because we have been taught not to kill our fellowman, we cannot take up arms. But we will help you willingly in any other way, so long as the work you assign us does not fall on Saturday, our Sabbath."

Rangoso's black eyes searched the red face of the officer for a hint of sympathy or understanding. But the man's heart seemed hardened. This was before the arrival of regular army personnel on the war scene. The government officer was trying to stave off the invader with a handful of native police and a few new "soldiers" from the local tribes. The boldness of the attempt, at least, was to be commended.

Now the officer turned to Rangoso. "This is total war!" he bellowed. "Isn't that obvious? The sooner you natives realize that, the better." He leaped back into his launch and the craft sped away with an angry roar of its engine.

Rangoso shook his fuzzy head. "I think that the

officer is under too much strain. With such great responsibilities resting upon his shoulders, he does not trust anybody.”

“I hear that he has already imprisoned a number of people from other villages on suspicion of helping the Japanese;” Pana said.

“Yes, and I have heard something worse,” whispered another of the men. “Rangoso, you know that some people in the other villages have become jealous of your influence. I heard that they have told the officer that you have been aiding the invaders.”

Rangoso had been working day and night to fortify the island against the invaders. But he knew that some of the people did resent his influence. Again he shook his head. “I believe it is possible,” he said, “that people who regard themselves as my enemies may have made such a report to the officer. And it would appear that the officer believes them.”

But events began happening too fast for Rangoso to worry further about the officer. He had his people to care for. The Japanese began seeking bases in many parts of the Solomon Islands. Early in the year of 1943 they occupied Viru Harbor on New Georgia, and the Viru people fled across to Nono on the Marovo Lagoon side of the island. On May 16 Rangoso took a boy with him in a canoe to visit the Viru people. To be continued = ^ .. ^ =

ADVENT HISTORY

Ellen White's Visions & Dreams: 1

While at Battle Creek in August, 1868, Ellen had a dream. She was with a large group of people. Some of these started out on a journey.

They had heavily loaded wagons. As they went, the road went upward. On one side of this road was a steep cliff; on the other was a high, smooth, white wall, like plaster. As they went on, the road grew narrower and steeper. In some places it seemed so very narrow that they could no longer travel with the loaded wagons. They left them behind and took some luggage and put it on the horses, and journeyed on horseback.

But the path got more narrow. They had to press close to the wall, to save from falling off the narrow road down the steep cliff. Now the bundles on the horses pressed on the wall and pushed them towards the cliff, they feared to fall and be dashed in pieces on the rocks so they cut the luggage from the horses, and it fell over the cliff.

They now went on horseback, afraid as they came to the narrower places in the road, to lose their balance and fall. At such times a hand seemed to take the bridle and guide over the risky way. But the path grew narrower; they could no longer go with safety on horseback, and left the horses and went on foot, in single file, one following in the footsteps of another.

Now small cords were let down from the top of the pure white wall; these they gladly grasped, to help keep their balance on the path. The cords moved along with them.

Still the path got more narrow and they thought they could travel more safely without shoes, so they took them off. Soon it was decided that they could travel more safely without stockings; these were removed, and they went on with bare feet.

They then thought of those who were not used to hardships. Where were they now? They were not in the company. At every change some were left behind, and those only kept going who learned to endure hardships. The difficult way only made these more eager to press on to the end.

The danger of falling off increased. They pressed close to the white wall, yet there wasn't room to put their feet fully on the path, for it was too narrow. Now they began to put nearly their whole weight on the cords, saying: “We have hold from above! We have hold from above!” They all said this. They could hear noises from the bottom of the steep cliff, laughing and worldly music; bad words and dirty jokes; war songs and dance songs; and cursing, cries, wails and loud laughter. They were so anxious to stay on that narrow path!

Now they depended more on the cords, which grew as they went on. Ellen saw the beautiful white wall was stained with blood. She felt sad to see it but then felt it was all as it should be. Those who are following after will know that others have passed the narrow, difficult way before them, and that they can do the same. As the blood shall be pressed from their aching feet, they will not faint and give up; but, seeing the blood upon the wall, they will know that others have endured the same pain.

Finally the path ended at a drop-off. There was no path for their feet at all. But by now they were mostly hanging to the cords, which had grown to be almost as big as their bodies. For a while they were afraid. “What is holding the cords?” they

asked. They were having a hard struggle, if they failed now, all the hard journey would be for nothing!

On the other side of the chasm, was a beautiful field of green grass, about six inches high. Bright, soft beams of light, resembling fine gold and silver, were resting upon this field. Nothing upon earth was like it in beauty and glory. But could they reach it? What if the cord would break? In whispers the words were breathed: "What holds the cord?"

For a moment they hesitated then said, "Our only hope is to trust wholly to the cord. It has been our help all the difficult way. It will not fail us now." Still we hesitated then the words were said: "God holds the cord. We need not fear." These words were then repeated by those behind: "He will not fail us now. He has brought us thus far in safety." They then swung over safely one by one to the lovely field. They heard voices Praising God. Ellen was happy, perfectly happy.

She said she would never forget this wonderful dream. = ^ .. ^ =



BUILDING FOR JESUS

The Dream:

I want to say a few words about the meaning of the wonderful dream told above. The people were traveling to heaven as we all hope to do. But as they went the way got harder, they had to leave behind the things of the world that they liked.

The people who would not leave things behind, turned back and would not keep going with the little group. Then things became harder for those who wanted to follow Jesus and more people went back because they wanted an easy life.

At the end, only the people who decided to trust God no matter what happened, and kept going, made it to heaven. The cord was FAITH and as they used it more: it got bigger and stronger.

We have to ask ourselves: am I willing to give up my worldly things when I need to and follow Jesus? Am I willing to have hard times and still follow Him? Will I have faith to trust him all the way?

Well, you see, we can know the answer as we

look at our choices today. When things get a bit hard, do we grumble and complain? If we have to give something up, are we angry? If someone is mean to us, are we mean back? When something is scary, can we trust in Jesus?

If we watch each day and ask Jesus to teach us and show us what needs to be changed in us, He will do it. He will show us our habits that would cause us not to follow Him all the way, and then if we tell Him we are sorry about them and don't want them anymore, He will give us victory over those habits.

As we learn to pray, read our Bible, and trust Jesus more each day, Our cord of FAITH will grow bigger and when the time comes that we have only Jesus to trust in and everything seems dark and scary, that cord will hold us up to the very end!
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A Special Promise



Year 1: 2nd Quarter:
“MESSIAH OUR PRINCE”
WEEKLY BIBLE LESSON 9:
“JESUS’ STORIES OF LOVE”

For our Bible lessons we are going to use the King James Version of the Bible. Just like the boys and girls used to use to learn to read from in the pioneer days.

There will be some texts to look up for each day and you should practice your memory verse until you can say it without looking. Don't forget to learn the text too.

MEMORY VERSE: “I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee.”

Luke 15:18

Sunday

Text: Luke 15:11, 12 “And he said, A certain man had two sons: And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living.” Read the whole story in Luke 15:11-32

Jesus wanted to help the people to see that the Heavenly Father loved sinners and dearly longed for them to return to Him. He told the story of a young man who asked his father to give him his inheritance right away. He had no right to this, while his father was still alive, but he demanded it anyway.

The Father knew that this wasn't a good idea, but the boy wouldn't listen and just wanted to get away from the family and do his own thing. He was tired of having to obey his father, and thought he could be happy, if he got out of there. He had no thankfulness to his Father, to whom he owed everything he had.

So the father gave him his share in money, and the boy wasted no time in leaving. It seemed like a lot of money he had, and he headed for the city where he bought whatever he wanted. Soon he had lots of friends who flattered him and made him feel important. But they also helped him spend his money on foolishness and parties.

The boy in this story represents someone who has known Jesus, but decides that religion stops him from having fun. He decides to turn his back on everything he used to believe in, and just do as he pleases.

The money is life, health, strength, abilities and other blessings that God bestows on everybody. Each person gets to choose if he will use what God gives him to serve God, or to serve himself. Every life used to serve ourselves is a wasted life.

Thought - We must remember always that everything we have, has really come to us from our heavenly Father.

Monday

Text: Luke 15:14 “And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want.”

The day came when the boy woke up, perhaps he was sick with a hangover from a party the night before. He looks in his purse and finds all the money is gone! He goes to his so-called friends but none of them will help him; they just sneer at him and walk away.

He tries to get work, but times are bad there, and no one wants to hire him. Also he probably looks like a drunk, and not like a workingman. Finally someone says; “Alright, I'll give you a job good enough for you! Go feed the pigs.”

So here was the boy who thought he was so smart that he didn't need to obey his Father, out in the fields knocking down pods and seeds from the trees, so the pigs could eat. The man who hired him, didn't even offer him some food to eat. He was so hungry he wanted to eat the pig's food.

Now when he got hungry he began to think; he remembered his Father's home; he remembered his Father's love and kindness and how he had wept when the boy left. It was hard to admit he had been wrong about his Father, but finally he said, “At least there is food to eat there, and my Father doesn't keep pigs. I can tell him how sorry I am, and just maybe he might give me a job”.

So off he starts; no pride now; no fancy horse to ride; no designer clothes; just barefoot and ragged he trudges back to his Father's farm.

Thought - When we leave God's ways, we always come to a time when our 'substance' is gone and we have nothing left, and find 'pigs' all around us.

Tuesday

Text: Luke 15:20 "And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him."

The Father had been watching for the boy in the story, waiting and longing for him to come back. He didn't care about the money. He loved his boy. He had a spot where he would go and watch, and pray for his boy to come back. Then one day there was a figure limping along the road, way in the distance. He could hardly see him, but he knew who it was.

The old Father ran down the road with eager joy and when he reached the ragged boy, he flung his arms around him. The boy repented to his Father, saying he had sinned against him and against heaven and wasn't worthy to be his son anymore. But before he could add, "Could I perhaps be accepted as a servant?" the Father put his own robe around the boy, and called out for clean clothes and shoes to be brought and a feast of delicious food to be prepared. He even put the family ring on his hand, which meant that whatever the Father had he would share with the son.

It was a joyful time. There is joy in heaven over one sinner that repents.

Thought - When you do something bad, and are sorry and repent asking Jesus to forgive you, even the angels sing in joy.

Wednesday

Text: Luke 15:28, 29 "And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends:"

There is a sour note in this lovely story; when the older brother came in from his work, he was

not happy his brother had come back, he was angry! He doesn't even call the other boy his brother, but says "Thy son". He would never have welcomed the boy back home.

You see, even though he hadn't gone away like the brother, he had the same attitude of resentment towards his Father. He felt that his Father was a hard man, and he worked so hard for his Father, and never had any fun. And yet he stayed and pretended to serve his Father, so he could one day get his inheritance. His attitude was that of a servant and not a son. The boy that was willing to be a servant was welcomed as a son, and the boy who, though he was a son, had made himself to be only a servant.

Jesus was trying to get the church leaders to see that they were like this brother. They considered God to be harsh and demanding and that they deserved His blessings because of all they did for Him. They felt no love or thankfulness to God for the privilege of belonging to Him. They had no love for the lost sinners, only scorn, so they showed they were not one with the Father.

But the sinners that were coming to Jesus and repenting of their sins, were full of love for their Heavenly Father. Heaven was rejoicing for these dear ones returning to the Father.

Thought - If we are really our Father's children, we will love others as He loves us.

Thursday

Text: Luke 10:27 "And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself."

See the whole story: Luke 10:25-42

The Scribes and Pharisees knew what the Law of God said about loving their neighbours, but they had a way of trying to wiggle out of it. They would argue about who was to be thought of as a neighbour. They were sure it wasn't the poor people; or sinners; or Romans; certainly it was not Samaritans!

So to answer their question, Jesus told a true story. We are told that some of the very people who were in the story, were listening to it. Jesus told about a man who was traveling to Jericho along a dangerous road, where robbers lurked.

Suddenly a band of robbers attacked him, and

beat him, and took everything away. They took his donkey, his money, and even his clothes and left him all bare and wounded, almost dead.

Then Jesus told of two men who came by, one at a time, past the poor, hurt man. One was a Priest and one was a Levite. In our day it would be a Pastor and a deacon. But they would not help the poor man, as they felt they were too important to do such a job, and anyway, maybe the robbers would grab them too. So they hurried away.

Thought - Satan is the cruel robber who takes everything away from those who fall for his lies.

Friday

Text: Luke 10:33,34 “But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him.”

There wasn't much hope for that poor wounded man lying there by the road but here comes someone else; a Samaritan. He sees the poor man

and the Bible says he had compassion on him. This means he felt loving pity for him. He knew that the hurt man was a Jew, and that he wouldn't help a Samaritan.

He didn't let that stop him; here was a fellow man that needed help, so he helped him. He tore up some of his own clothes, and made bandages for him and used oil and wine to cleanse and sooth his wounds. Then he lifted him onto his own donkey and carried him gently to an inn.

There he had to rent a room, buy food and care for the man all night long. The next day he paid the innkeeper, and gave him extra money, so the man could stay there until he was well. Then if that wasn't more than enough, he told him that if the man needed more, to give it to him, and the Samaritan would pay for it all when he returned.

In this story Jesus showed us all clearly who our neighbour is that we are to love; it is anyone who needs our help. We are to do for others, what we would wish someone to do for us, if we were in the same place.

Thought - It is good to remember that all people really belong to Jesus, so if we love Jesus, we will love them too. = ^ . ^ =



“He had Compassion on him”