

The  
**CORNERSTONE**  
of  
Independent  
Christian Science

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*“The stone which the builders rejected  
is become the head of the corner.”*

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Roundtable

10:00 A.M.

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8:15 P.M.

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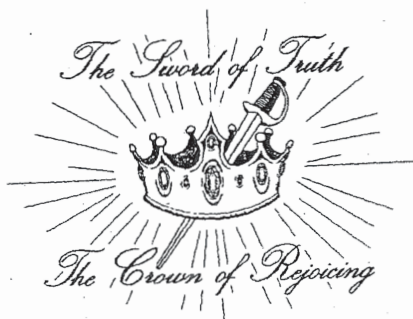
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# Independent Christian Science

*Unfettered by institutional religion*

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# Mary Baker Eddy — Her Revolutionary Works

*Following are excerpts from writings of Mary Baker Eddy.*

Truth comes when it is needed, and not because of a personal demand.”

Mary Baker Eddy  
*Science and Health, 1st Edition*



## Excerpt from Miscellaneous Writings

Mary Baker Eddy

When the Word is made flesh, — that is, rendered practical, — this eternal Truth will be understood; and sickness, sin, and death will yield to it, even as they did more than eighteen centuries ago. The lusts of the flesh and the pride of life will then be quenched in the divine Science of being; in the ever-present good, omnipotent Love, and eternal Life, that know no death. In the great forever, the verities of being exist, and must be acknowledged and demonstrated. Man must love his neighbor as himself, and the power of Truth must be seen and felt in health, happiness, and holiness: then it will be found that Mind is All-in-all, and there is no matter to cope with.

Man is free born: he is neither the slave of sense, nor a silly ambler to the so-called pleasures and pains of self-conscious matter. Man is God’s image and likeness; whatever is possible to God, is possible to man *as God’s reflection*. Through the transparency of Science we learn this, and receive it: learn that man can fulfill the Scriptures in every instance; and if he open his mouth it shall be filled — not by reason of the schools, or learning, but by the natur-

## CornerStone

al ability, that reflection already has bestowed on him, to give utterance to Truth.

“Who hath believed our report?” Who understands these sayings? He to whom the arm of the Lord is revealed; to whom divine Science unfolds omnipotence, that equips man with divine power while it shames human pride. Asserting a selfhood apart from God, is a denial of man’s spiritual sonship; for it claims another father. As many as do receive a knowledge of God through Science, will have power to reflect His power, in proof of man’s “dominion over all the earth.” He is bravely brave who dares at this date refute the evidence of material sense with the facts of Science, and will arrive at the true status of man because of it.



The true Science — divine Science — will be lost sight of again unless we arouse ourselves. This demonstrating to make matter build up is not Science. The building up of churches, the writing of articles and the speaking in public is the old way of building up a cause. The way I brought this Cause into sight was through HEALING; and now these other things would come in and hide it just as was done in the time of Jesus. Now this Cause must be saved and I pray God to be spared for this work. If there is not work done in the line of Spirit — not matter — or overcoming the material way (I have always stood for God alone), if I were not here to still stand, the Catholics and Spiritualists would wipe every Christian Scientist out. Now you see what we have to do for the world; be a transparency for SPIRIT. Things must turn and over turn, until He whose right it is shall reign.

*Mary Baker Eddy*  
*as recorded in Lida Fitzpatrick Notes*



# “Feed My Sheep”

Christian Science is the operation of the unchanging, victorious law of God that brings every good thing to pass — a law which no error can withstand.

*Gladys A. M. O'Connor*

Wherever we are, right there is the gate of heaven for us; right there is the place for us to lay aside our burdens and enter in.

*Elizabeth Earl Jones*



## Psalm 138

Jeremy Palmer

I recently felt compelled to read Psalm 138 in its entirety, since parts of it were in a recent Lesson — and I am glad I did. There are such powerful thoughts within each verse.

*1. I will praise Thee with my whole heart: before the gods will I sing praise unto Thee.*

I will be grateful to God and praise Him even while I am in the midst of family, friends, and when I am interacting with society at large. I will praise Him when I do something well, and I will praise Him when I mess up. I will know that knowledge and creativity and love come from Him, and I will be always grateful for it.

*2. I will worship toward Thy holy temple, and praise Thy name for Thy lovingkindness and for Thy truth: for Thou hast magnified Thy word above all Thy name.*

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I am grateful to God for bringing me to this church and directing me to Truth. To have shown me such love when I was coming from my lowest point, cemented a need in me to do all I can for Him. Being here doing this work has, in turn, shown me I actually can have value in His plan.

*3. In the day when I cried Thou answeredst me, and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul.*

I remember that day so vividly — I was at the end and I called to Him. He answered immediately! From death to Life in moments. It took a while to fully understand it, but the immediate infusion of hope — and even joy! — was wonderful, and just in time.

*4. All the kings of the earth shall praise Thee, O Lord, when they hear the words of Thy mouth.*

I am able to listen to the news now because I know we have the Truth in the Bible, as well as Science and Health. I know that we have the mission to broadcast that message to the world. I know that every politician, celebrity, artist and businessman will feel unfulfilled until they know God's love. Therefore we are working toward realizing this verse, by bringing the only Truth that will fulfill all of God's children.

*5. Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the Lord: for great is the glory of the Lord.*

How could anyone not be thrilled to know God's love? Of course they will praise and glorify Him, because it is preposterous not to, once you know Truth.

## “Feed My Sheep”

6. *Though the Lord be high, yet hath He respect unto the lowly: but the proud He knoweth afar off.*

My days of pride brought me far from Him; but once I was brought low, God was right there. I thank Him every day for that! I know He was not only waiting for me, but also guiding me in ways I could not understand until years later.

7. *Though I walk in the midst of trouble, Thou wilt revive me: Thou shalt stretch forth Thine hand against the wrath of mine enemies, and Thy right hand shall save me.*

Doing this work is not a peacetime activity. To do this work is to be in the midst of trouble, which is why we need God’s strength and love. That also means that there is no chance of losing the war, because what can stand against Him! If we — as individuals and as a church — stay on the right course, stay right with God, we can’t fail!

8. *The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me: Thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of Thine own hands.*

I love this line, because I can feel it in all that I have done in this church’s audio system. He has made it, so I need to change and grow so that I can do the work needed for His glory. If I am doing it for Him, then it is the work of His own hands, just as I am the work of His hands. That is so amazing.



## Teaching of Body

Bicknell Young

**B**ody is the infinite manifestation of Mind, the compound idea. All the things of body are eternal, complete, perfect, and perpetually active as ideas.

Body will always be body. It cannot fail, be sick or change. It is the manifestation of vigor, vitality, strength, power, force and perfect impulsion, and the divine law unto it is the law of strength and normal action. All that constitutes body exists now, always has existed, always in perfection, never could be absent.

One body; one infinite body. The individual is apt to wonder: What about me? But when you say, one infinity or one infinitude of body, why, that's me! *I've got it! It's mine!* The only body you have is the infinite activity of infinite

**You don't give up body, you overcome the material sense of body.**

ideas, the activity of God's being in everything — in what one does, in what one thinks about. And that divine or infinite body or idea is the only real one. *Not two!* There are not two existences, one material and imperfect and the other spiritual and perfect.

Just one alone — the perfect expression of perfect Mind. *Get rid of dualism.* That is what is sidetracking so many sincere Christian Scientists always.

Man, body, constitutes the evidence that there is God. Man is the manifestation of God, and man is body. You don't give up body, you overcome the material sense of body. Body is the compound idea including all right ideas, and is therefore wholly spiritual, normal, complete, and perfect in the kingdom of heaven.

*From 1936 Primary Class*

## First Edition of Science and Health

*In referring to the First Edition of Science and Health, Mary Baker Eddy described herself as “a scribe under orders,” as thoughts came from God so quickly, she was barely able to write fast enough to set them all down. Of future editions of Science and Health she said, “I have hidden it, hidden it, hidden it.”*

The control mind holds over matter becomes no longer a question when with mathematical certainty we gain its proof, and can demonstrate the facts assumed. This proof we claim to have gained, and reduced to its statement in science that furnishes a key to the harmony of man, and reveals what destroys sickness, sin, and death.

Metaphysical science explains cause and effect; removing the veil of mystery and doubt, from Soul and body, and from man and God; it unwinds the interlaced ambiguities of Spirit and matter, and sets free the imprisoned Intelligence; explains the phenomenon man, on the basis of his Principle, and how to gain his harmony in science, which seems to us more important morally and physically than the discovery of the powers of steam, the electrical telegraph, or any other advanced idea that science has revealed.

We learn from science mind is universal, the first and only cause of all that really is; also, that the real and unreal constitute what is and what is not; that the real is Spirit, which is immortality, and the unreal matter, or mortality. The real is Truth, Life, Love and Intelligence, all of which are Spirit, and Spirit is God, and God, Soul, the Principle of the universe and man. Spirit is the only immortal basis.

# Lives Transformed

*Following are testimonies from people whose lives have been completely transformed by turning to God and independent Christian Science.*

When I was a young girl I suffered from asthma. During an attack, I would gasp for air with all my might. My grandmother wasn't a Christian Scientist, but she read Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures, and she would often visit with a neighbor who was a Christian Scientist. During the last attack I ever had, my grandmother shouted "Enough is enough! God is your air, little girl! God is your air!" — and after a few minutes the wheezing stopped and my breathing returned to normal. That healing made a big impression on me, and from that day on, I wanted to know God.

One morning, months later, I heard my grandmother singing hymns and praising God and talking to Him as if He was sitting across the table from her. Well, I wanted to see Him, too. So, I asked her, "Where is God?" Reminding me of what I had endured months earlier she replied, "When you want to know God just as much as, or even more than, you want air, then you will find Him!"

Years later, I was lost and confused because all of my material gods had forsaken — and thank God! Hungering and thirsting after righteousness, I stumbled across the Plainfield Church website — what a glorious day for me! I am so grateful for this church and for what I'm learning here. Since finding this church, my life has changed for the better, because I am changing for the better. Through the Bible Lessons, the weekly Bible Studies, the Roundtables, and the daily talks with a Plainfield practitioner, I am learning so much. I am growing in understanding and confi-

## *Lives Transformed*

dence. I am becoming more and more confident in Truth, because, in Truth, you *are* confident! And as a result, all areas of my life have improved. Daily, I am seeing more and more evidence of God's love.

I've always wanted to know God, but I sought Him with half of my heart. The other half sought success, human affection, human approval, and material things. Today, I want to know God for God, and not for the loaves and fishes. My grandmother was right — I want God more than I want air, and I am finding Him, because I am seeking Him with all my heart.

*L. F.  
Maryland*

I want to express my gratitude for Plainfield Church and membership in it, and for my practitioner.

When I found Christian Science about 18 years ago, I had been sick in bed for 10 years. So when I found Christian Science, I was so grateful. I did everything I was supposed to do — I joined a branch church, joined the Mother Church, had class instruction and threw myself into church work. After 15 years my church experience had so fallen apart that I had to leave, I couldn't stand it anymore. I sort of wandered around for three years, and I was angry, bitter, and apathetic because I thought that everything I had believed that Christian Science was, wasn't working for me. There was nothing left for me.

Then one day all at once I was hit with two life threatening diseases — I had a bronchial infection and a heart attack. They both started at the same moment, so it was pretty hard to deny that there was something big going on there. I called several Boston practitioners, and got no help whatsoever. I had known about Plainfield for quite a while,

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but I didn't think to call there until there just wasn't much life left in me. I called a practitioner there, and was met with so much kindness. And he saved me.

But I still wasn't able to let go of that anger. I just couldn't do it, until one day a few months ago we had a Lesson about Lot and Abraham and Lot's wife, and I realized I was just holding on to the past. It was not just counterproductive, it was crazy. I had been a member at Plainfield for a while, but I had never really committed to it. At that point I committed myself to being a member — and it changed everything. It is wonderful.

I am so grateful to have found real Christian Science and someone who could teach it to me. I always felt that my original class instruction was worth nothing. I learned nothing, and I was always looking for someone to teach me real Christian Science. I approached different teachers over the years, but there is a rule that you can only take class once. If you didn't get it, too bad. The teaching to be found here at Plainfield is the real thing. I'm so grateful to be a member, and I'm so grateful to have this opportunity to tell about it.

C. A.  
Texas



Know that you have the supremacy of thought, and that error cannot defy the Truth, and you will win.

*Mary Baker Eddy*  
*Divinity Course and General Collectanea*



# Watching Points

*The book 500 Watching Points was written by Gilbert C. Carpenter, C.S.B., and Gilbert C. Carpenter, Jr., C.S.B. These watching points were written for Mr. Carpenter's students, "to broaden their demonstration of Christian Science as Mrs. Eddy set the example in her home."*

## Watching Point No. 292      Gilbert C. Carpenter

**WATCH** that you send forth your scientific arrows of thought with power, and then protect them against reversal. The entire volume of electricity present in the atmosphere is back of each lightning bolt. In like manner we should realize that the entire power of God is back of every affirmation of Truth that we make. When you read the arguments Mrs. Eddy used or gave to students to use, you can feel that she sent them out with such power, that they reached the mark and destroyed the error, in spite of error's attempt to reverse and nullify them.

Once she declared, "Since malicious animal magnetism knows all the arguments of Christian Science, it is necessary to declare that no argument of mental malpractice can make null and void, antidote or reverse, any statement of Christian Science that you make."

Nature puts a hard shell of protection on the coconut. In like manner we should guard our declarations of Truth in order that they may accomplish that whereunto they are sent.



# “Comfort Ye My People”

Gratitude has a buoyancy which will lift any burden from the shoulder, so that we may, as the hymn reads, “bear a song away.”

*Herbert W. Beck*

Surrounded by divine Love, our fortress is secure, and we are protected from the ills that overwhelm the worldly minded. To reflect God in our life is our duty and great privilege, and all that makes life worth living accompanies this practice.

*Wilbert F. Blye*



## “Could Ye Not Watch?”

L. D. Crabtree

One especially beautiful Sunday morning, my heart was overflowing with gratitude as I entered the church. But soon into the service, my thoughts began to drift. It seemed impossible to keep my attention fixed upon the service.

Then the strong words of Jesus came to me: “Could ye not watch with me one hour?” Could I not watch during this short interval, when in fact it was my great duty to be ever alert to demonstrate the truth? Presently the great desire came over me to receive every word of Truth that was being read to the congregation.

**The sayings of Christ Jesus are relevant to our daily lives, if we will only apply them.**

The sayings of Christ Jesus are relevant to our daily lives, if we will only apply them. And with the teachings of Christian Science, the greatest obstacles fade into their native nothingness.

## “Comfort Ye My People”

We can learn wonderful spiritual lessons from the many happenings about us. A valuable lesson can be learned from the formation of a pearl. When a foreign particle becomes lodged inside the shell of the oyster, it creates a discordant condition, and the continuous efforts of the oyster to overcome the irritation, eventually form a beautiful pearl. In our daily lives, we can all be forming pearls by working to overcome the trials and difficulties that confront us.

Words can never express my gratitude for Mrs. Eddy, who has unlocked the Scriptures and has given us the key.



From 1936 Primary Class

Bicknell Young

Weariness and exhaustion are not the result of having too much to do; they are the products of a belief in materiality.

Spiritual understanding, awake to the spiritual facts of being, knows that no opposing elements exist to interfere with our doing the Father's will. It is the relative everyday routine, in which we have to make so many concessions to mortal mind, that brings about a sense of fatigue and produces sleepiness when we want to be alert and active. How often people are sleepy at Christian Science church services! They would not be assailed with that claim if they took a greater part in the service, for then it would be so heavy with intense interest for them as to render sleepiness utterly impossible.

Everything is gained when we awake to Christ. The spiritual identity of the real man never sleeps in unconsciousness, but rests in Mind, in consciousness.

## Comments from Readers

I want to state that I am very grateful for the Plainfield Church, and the wonderful work the people there do. Since I joined the church and participate in the unity watches, I feel I am losing those “earth-clouds drear and wild,” and really getting in touch with the Holy Spirit. There is power in unity with this church, because God is with this church.

*Costa Rica*

Thank you for posting “Discerning the Rights of Man” by Richard Oakes. It is an important addition to the Plainfield library. Its message is that “the word shall have free course” and it is the story of how the Carpenters and others made sure that the “unauthorized” writings of and about Mary Baker Eddy were saved for us. We have much to be thankful for.

*Texas*

I would like to share the support I have received towards healing. In mid-January I began to work with a Plainfield practitioner who told me the importance of forgetting self in working for God. I began to translate the watches from Gilbert Carpenter’s 500 Watching Point book into my mother tongue, German. This translation work has helped me to get a clearer understanding of Christian Science and the watches, which help me to look at truth with different eyes.

When I realize more and more who I am as God’s perfect child, I begin to let go of telling “white” lies, or lies that I once thought were needed. I believed in a false sense of harmony, and that is not Christian Science. The loving help of a practitioner has let me uncover the error and acknowledge truth more and more, despite seeming mental health issues.

## *Comments from Readers*

Thank you for giving me the chance to do this work and grow spiritually.

*Germany*

I am very grateful for the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent. There are so many opportunities to participate and to be of service; the Bible studies, Roundtable, proofing and compiling, watches, and the Wednesday and Sunday services are some examples. Not only do these opportunities help to send Christian Science out to the world, but promotes growth in and demonstration of Christian Science for its members as well.

Thank you so much. Enclosed is my monthly contribution.

*California*

Thanks for the inspired articles on the website. I especially liked "God with Us" by Edward A. Kimball. He states, "Try to be conscious that God is with you every moment; and in the seemingly dark hours when error screams to be heard and would tempt you to your destruction, faint not, and know that man is governed alone by God, and Truth is the only voice to be heard." This is walking with God and silencing personal sense. Awesome example of fighting back during the battle.

*Georgia*

I was particularly impacted and blessed by the Lesson and service on "Man" (March 9, 2014, available on our church website), both in terms of Scriptural verses, as well as the passages from Science and Health. Some things I struggle with were much clearer than before, and it has helped to strengthen my faith and not worry as much about adverse circumstances calling the shots. In fact, I realized that some of the nights I awaken from less

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sleep have led into the best days ever. I realized that God never fails to give me what I need to serve Him and do the work He has laid before me for the day.

The special music also highlighted that in a wonderful way. Getting limitations out of the way, leads me to find God, and also enables me to find the man He has made me to be. I also loved the music; it was utterly captivating.

*Vermont*

Thank you for recommending the article, "Definition of Intelligence" by Martha Wilcox at a recent Roundtable. It has really expanded my understanding of what God is!

*Wisconsin*

Thank you for the quote of the day: "My income is the incoming of right ideas, it comes instantly, constantly, continually, day and night." Mary Baker Eddy.

I'm realizing this truth more each day. As I'm learning the importance of staying with God and being open to the right ideas He gives, my needs are being met in the most amazing ways. The constant flow of right ideas is proof of God's ever-present love.

*Maryland*

The duets are amazing. The comforting voices of the First and Second Readers helped draw me to Plainfield in the beginning. I listened to the Roundtable Sunday for the first time. There was a lot to take in, but it made me think how Plainfield is really teaching true Christian Science. Mrs. Eddy would be very pleased with Plainfield and its great staff of believers.

*Canada*

Many heartfelt thanks go to you all for the loving welcome I have received as a new member of the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent. Please convey

## Comments from Readers

my gratitude for the beautiful welcoming letter signed by the Chairman.

*England*

I am grateful to be learning in this church to always put God first, and ask Him before I do anything.

I am entirely indebted to God for all the good that I have found in the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, where Mary Baker Eddy's pure Christian Science is taught, lived, and made practical. I am grateful for and hold dear all the dedicated members of this church.

*Virginia*

I had a "surprise" check sent to me, which was totally unexpected. I am so grateful for it, and felt I wanted to pass some on to the church!

I am so grateful to know God is always taking care of me, to have learned it in this church, and am blessed to be a member.

*Arizona*

Thank you for all the effort going into keeping the Plainfield church services fresh and new. The music just keeps getting more beautiful and lively. Having more people participating during the service in addition to the Readers is a wonderful idea.

*California*

When my Cornerstone magazine came, I devoured it like never before. I was feeling discouraged over a current, frustrating "family situation." Once I began reading the articles, I couldn't stop! It was a real page turner. I found every page filled with uplifting messages, and clear, simple truths. What a blessing we have in this wonderful publication. I benefited so much from it. I just had to say thank you for lifting me out of the doldrums. I am reading it over again and again. I love it!

*Maryland*

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

### Its “Clear, Correct Teaching” and Complete Writings by Herbert W. Eustace C.S.B.

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This book is available through the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent. It is an invaluable study aid for advancing students of Christian Science, containing many of the articles written by Mr. Eustace during his practice and teaching of Christian Science.

Mr. Eustace graduated from the Massachusetts Metaphysical College in 1902 with the degree of C.S.B., signed by Mrs. Eddy and Mr. Edward Kimball. After that, Mr. Eustace served the Christian Science movement faithfully for many years, as Trustee of the Christian Science Publishing Society, practitioner, and teacher of Christian Science well into the 1930s.

The following paragraphs, handwritten by Mr. Eustace, were left on his desk as his last written word (December 9, 1957):

*“Mrs. Eddy gave two very important directions to every Christian Scientist before saying good-bye; in fact they were more than directions, they were commands and demanded imperative obedience. The one was to call disease animal magnetism as the specific term for error or mortal mind, and then handle animal magnetism. And the other was that Christian Scientists are not healing because they do not know how to handle animal magnetism.*

*“Here is a challenge to you. Do you not know how to handle animal magnetism? If not, why not; and from this moment let your every intent be to know how to handle animal magnetism and then do it; and heal the sick intelligently and instantaneously, which is the only way Christian Science does.”*

The book is bound in flexible red leatherette and contains 1040 pages. The price is \$27.00.



# Announcements

## **Discerning the Rights of Man**

We have just published a newly typeset paperback version of *Discerning the Rights of Man*, by Richard Oakes. Mr. Oakes was a friend of the Carpenters, and gives a compelling first-hand history of their efforts to preserve some of Mary Baker Eddy's treasured writings, free and available for all to read. The price is \$6.00 per copy.

## **The Greatest Thing in the World**

We have published a newly typeset paperback version of the much-loved book, *THE GREATEST THING IN THE WORLD*, by Henry Drummond, the Scottish evangelist. This is a lecture given at a mission station in Central Africa, to missionaries preparing to bring the word of God to Africa in 1883. Based on the Bible's "love chapter," I Cor. 13, the lecture illustrates the spiritual timelessness of the message of love. This version is in a larger, more readable format. The price is \$5.00 per copy.

## **The Overwhelming Evidence**

We have printed a new version of this inspiring booklet, in a larger, more readable format. It was written by Ralph Spencer, and is a collection of events in the life of Mary Baker Eddy, as related by people who were close to her. It also includes some wonderful healings that she accomplished. The cost is \$6.00 per copy.

## **Bible Study**

We hold a Bible Study each Saturday at 10:00 a.m. via teleconference. Details are on the website. Contact the church if you do not have access to the website.

## **Audio Recordings of Science and Health**

We are happy to announce that we have produced audio recordings of *Science and Health* on CD. On them, *Science and Health* is beautifully and understandingly read by Andrew Kidd, who served as Reader in Plainfield Church for ten years. His experience and great love for

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Mary Baker Eddy and her revelation makes for a powerful listening experience, even for those familiar with the text-book. The cost is \$7.00 per CD, or \$85 for the set of 21 CDs.

### **Full-Text Version of Plainfield Lessons**

The Plainfield Church produces our independent Lesson Sermons in full-text booklet form. Each 8 1/2 x 11 inch booklet contains the full-text Lessons for one month. It fits easily within a briefcase or large purse. This offers a convenient, attractive alternative to carrying your marked lesson books when traveling. Each one-month issue is \$7.00, a 3-month subscription is \$19.00, a 6-month subscription is \$36.00, and a 12-month subscription is \$65.00, within the U.S.A.; international is \$9.00 per issue, \$77.00 for a 12-month subscription.

### **Church Services Available by Phone**

Our Sunday and Wednesday church services can be heard by telephone. If you don't have a computer and would like to listen to our services live, contact Plainfield Church for dial-in information. You will be provided with a phone number, and a pass code. This will connect you to a teleconference service, which broadcasts our services at the time they are being held. Sunday services begin at 11:00 a.m., and Wednesday services 8:15 p.m.

Our Roundtable is also available via this teleconference service. The Roundtable begins at 10:00 a.m.

We invite everyone to join in, sing the hymns with us, and participate in the Roundtable.

### **Testimonies Given by Phone**

Anyone from out of town is now able, through our teleconference feature, to give a testimony live during our Wednesday services from their telephone. If you are interested, please contact the church for the phone number, code, and instructions. We look forward to hearing from you!

# Breaking Down Misconceptions of Christian Science

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Love No False Oath

Parthens

Concerning the nature of false oaths, and God's hatred of such things: among the biggest false oaths in history is the "oath of allegiance" which certain influential people must swear to the Boston Christian Science Church Board of Directors.

Can anyone in his/her right mind even begin to imagine Mrs. Eddy walking around her home — or visiting any local Christian Science branch or organization of her day — anxiously brandishing a formal paper demanding of anyone, great or small, that he/she sign it, swearing an oath of allegiance to her? Where on earth did Boston get such an idea in the first place? On one level, it's a notion worthy of a scene in a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta. On another level, it is not a trivial matter at all. From the Plainfield Church history:

"The harassment of the Plainfield Church began in 1975 when the Christian Science Board of Directors, following a pattern of the Board of Directors' interference in branch affairs, demanded that the Plainfield Church replace its highly respected Board of Trustees with a new Board willing to swear an oath of allegiance to the Boston Directors. In a vigorously worded response to this unwarranted interference in our church's internal affairs, the members rejected Boston's demand, pointing out to the Directors that they themselves were in violation of our Leader's Manual, specifically Article XXIII, Sections 1 and 10, and Article XI, Section 13 . . . ."

And yet, the other half of this problem (and arguably the bigger half, the larger problem) lies not with the oath-extractors, but with the compliant enablers who agree to

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take the oath. For the Scripture enjoins all would-be enablers: “Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil” (Ex. 23:2).

Thus, may the God of impossible things raise up courageous men and women throughout the nominal Christian Science world to summon the fortitude, the mettle, the stoutheartedness, the grace, the independence — to cease following the “multitude to do evil,” to cease speaking for and defending a cause, following many, to divert judgment.

And in every area of my life, may God grant me the grace to uphold Christ’s eternal integrity if ever I am faced with the temptation to “follow a multitude to do evil.” Amen.



### Ever-Active Peace

Herbert W. Eustace

To be unselfed means never to harbor a thought which starts from effect.

It is our work to vigorously prove that God is Love. Darkness would take the place of light and the world would sink back into blackness if we become indolent and imagine that all we have to do is to listen for God’s voice. We need to be that voice. We cannot rest.

Malicious argument is always trying to lull us to sleep. Cast out the siren of indolent peace, and demand that your peace be a conscious, ever-active peace. To be deceived with a ghastly pretense of peace is but the effect of the poisonous soporific fumes of malicious suggestion.

As genuine Christian Scientists, let us not be deceived by subtle platitudes clothed in words of gentleness and peace, which are so alluring as to endanger the unsuspecting.

# The Plainfield Bible Study

*Following are some points discussed at a recent Plainfield Church Bible Study. At these sessions, Bible citations from that week's Independent Lesson Sermon are discussed. They are held by teleconference on Saturday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Eastern Time. If you'd like to join this study group, log on to the church website, [plainfieldcs.com](http://plainfieldcs.com), for dial-in information. Everyone is welcome to join in.*

## **Hezekiah, Sennacherib, and Rabshakeh**

Sennacherib, king of Assyria, wanted King Hezekiah and his people's obedience. Sennacherib sent Rabshakeh to Jerusalem to threaten Hezekiah and his people into obeying him. Sennacherib had defeated other nations, and he threatened to do the same to them, taunting them that the other nations' gods were not able to save them, and so Hezekiah's God would not be able to save him and his people.

This is much like what the Boston board of directors did to the Plainfield Church. They required that we pledge our allegiance to them, and be dependent upon them rather than on God; but Plainfield Church refused. Sennacherib wanted their dependence on him, not on God. But Hezekiah also did not buy it. The board of directors waged psychological warfare against Plainfield Church to try to intimidate us. There were demanding letters sent, and they even had uniformed sheriffs come to Mrs. Evans' house and the homes of the members of the Board of Trustees, to serve court papers on them. That's when the watches were started, because it was such a hot time. Mrs. Evans was unable to sleep at night, so members got up to pray for an hour all night long. At that time we didn't know it, but we later found out that Mrs. Eddy had watches done in her home.

## **The Battle Now Is Materialism Versus Spiritualism**

This is now the same battle that goes on when an aggressive disease comes at someone. It's psychological warfare; it's a bully. But we have all the power of God. We have to be fighters. It will push you around until you push back — scream back at it with the truth. Bicknell Young, in "Death Overcome," tells how, when he was at the bottom of a lake, apparently drowned, that — even though he had lived a very good life — a voice kept telling him he was a rotten person. Being a good person isn't enough — he had to be tough and stand strong, and he argued back. The louder the voice accused him, the louder he argued back. Then he shot up out of the lake and was saved.

When Sennacherib's messenger, Rabshakeh, came after Hezekiah, he taunted him, reminding him how all the gods of the other nations were destroyed — but Hezekiah knew they were material gods, made by men's hands of wood and stone, not the true God! Hezekiah talked directly to God, and said he wanted the world to know how great God is, that He is the only true God, — not how great Hezekiah is. He was not looking for something for himself. Hezekiah didn't argue with Rabshakeh, he just turned to God. Don't argue with a person. Get rid of a sense of personality. The devil wants us to get into a personal battle. When the voice is coming at you in your head, fight back; but when talking to a person, don't argue. Personal sense does not comprehend God; the material mind just cannot understand.

## **God's Law of Righteousness Overcomes Fear**

Hezekiah had a remarkable mother who instilled a love for God in him. He knew the gods of Assyria had no power, and he was not afraid of them. He was ready when the test came. He knew his God was real. Material sense

## *Bible Study*

would say Hezekiah's people had had it — the army closing in on them was huge — they would be wiped out. But Hezekiah was standing up for the one God; the other nations who were defeated had their own personal agenda. Hezekiah had all the power of God behind him — that's God's law of righteousness. Hezekiah's attitude became one of defiance — he was all for God, with no fear.

The Bible says, "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God." (Ps.) The "name" of the Lord is the "nature" of God. God is Love, which casts out fear; God is the only Mind. Go through the seven synonyms. Also, keep lists of healings where God's law has been proved in your life. Mrs. Eddy talks about the scale — is the scale balanced on God's side or not? People often focus on things that have gone wrong in their lives, and then things continue to go wrong! It takes a mighty effort to switch that scale and see all the good that's going on. What are you thinking about? Where is your scale? The Bible says, "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us, and hitherto He will." We don't have chariots and horses, but people sometimes worship and submit to wrong things like the "wisdom" of the medical profession and government, fearful predictions of weather — and then fear when it happens. That has to be overcome through total reliance on God. Do not give up, but patiently wait while working and knowing the truth, knowing our God is good, even though it may not look that way. If you keep at it, you'll see the false picture replaced with the right picture.

### **Prayer Made Practical**

If there is stuff going around in your head and you can't seem to shake it — or in your neighborhood — it's not enough to just sit and pray about it. You have to do something; you have to speak up. Prayer is often accompanied

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by action. Usually when you pray, you get directions from God. Our prayers should always include that listening. If you don't follow His directions, that's when anxiety starts. It's a matter of *doing* it. Just like if you called a practitioner and didn't do your part — it requires action, and change always.

“Wait on the Lord” is not waiting in a waiting room — it's listening to Him and obeying, and not being afraid to speak up. It's more like waiting on tables in a restaurant when you are serving God. If a mesmerism is going on, you need to stamp your foot if necessary. There is something required. When Jesus did healing work, he often required they do something: take up thy bed, stand up — some requirement to take action. When we don't take action, it's because we're paralyzed by animal magnetism. So get up and do something!

### Let God's Light Shine Through You

The Bible says, the Lord is my light and my salvation. If we are letting our light shine, that's the Lord shining through us. It is getting a personal sense of self out of the way and letting God's light shine. For every bit of light we get, some darkness is dispelled.

The devil is not happy that Christian Science has a flicker of light. Error is nothing; God is all. That's what Hezekiah proved — be of good courage. Hezekiah was thinking of God in the big picture. Christian Science explains the essence of being for all mankind. What we are doing is vitally important for all mankind. The devil's biggest desire is to hide Mary Baker Eddy and her discovery. We have only the one God with us, and that is our majority. Keep on keeping on; be persistent. What we give out is vitally important and needs to be protected.



# “The World Has Need of You”

*This section of our magazine features statements and articles of Truth to help us in our prayer for the world.*

Take courage of every experience, and power will be yours. Go on, dear friends, and prove that you are the children of Him who cares for His own. Be faithful to Principle in all you say and do, and success will be yours.

*Edward A. Kimball*

Man stands forever in the spiritual illumination which enfolds all of God’s creation and no belief in evil, sickness, or age can penetrate his reflected glory.

*Francis Lyster Jandron*



## What Are We Watching For?

Andrew Kidd

Jesus asked his disciples to watch with him in Gethsemane. Mary Baker Eddy had students in her home take watches at different times throughout the day and night. Many of us independent Christian Scientists from across the U.S. and abroad participate in “Unity Watches” several evenings a week. What is the big deal about watching?

First, let us differentiate between two types of watching. At a major sporting event, the stands are filled with those watching the game. They are there to enjoy the fun. Then there are those at the event who are watching against anything that might disturb the event or cause harm.

The first kind of watcher is akin to the one who enjoys the fact that God is good and loves His creation, etc. The second recognizes that we are in a mental warfare. The

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Bible refers to it as “the flesh warring against the spirit.” This watcher listens and feels for the “serpent,” mental arguments that would discourage, demoralize, distract, that would claim that evil is more real than good, etc.

Is the second kind of watcher really necessary? Are the security guards really necessary at the sporting event?

Mary Baker Eddy warned that if the watching was not done, the world will fall into another 1900 years of darkness. Sounds important!



### The Wisdom of the Wise      William D. McCrackan

The wisdom of the wise consists in obeying God; the foolishness of the world consists in following its own inventions and calling this following wisdom.

It is unwise to be influenced by human will or to try to influence others by that will. Whenever this is tried, it leads to ultimate disaster — until the needed lesson has been humbly learned and God’s will becomes supreme in the affections and thoughts. The wise man is he who minds his own business by making that business his Father’s business.

Everyone has an opportunity to be like the wise men who came from afar seeking Truth. When they found it, they not only made it their own quickly, but also offered their gifts in return by laying down their modes of thinking at the feet of Christ.

The writer of Proverbs gave this admonition: “My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother.” Divine Science applies the words “father”

## “The World Has Need of You”

and “mother” to God. The instruction of this Father and the law of this Mother constitute complete wisdom. This wisdom may seem frail to the one who believes in physical or

**The truly wise man does not seek to avoid obedience.**

intellectual power, but it is the representative on earth of the power which is in heaven. It reflects the irresistible, omnipotent, divine will which nullifies human influence and sets men free, exhibiting the kind of wisdom Solomon asked for.

The truly wise man does not seek to avoid obedience. His wisdom is practical and instantly available. It is illustrated by babes rather than by the prudent of this world, by that implicit trust born of understanding, which receives the answer to prayer, turns business failure into success, invalidism into buoyant health, and blesses the whole earth with love. Mary Baker Eddy writes, “Who shall inherit the earth? The meek, who sit at the feet of Truth, bathing the human understanding with tears of repentance and washing it clean from the taints of self-righteousness, hypocrisy, envy, — they shall inherit the earth, for ‘wisdom is justified of her children.’” (My.)



### Serving God

Jeremy Palmer

I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of so many church activities that are for God’s glory. Peter and Faith are going to record new versions of their songs for eventual release on iTunes. As a member of the recording committee, I am delighted to help them. Peter came in on Saturday and we started working, and quickly figured out what

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needed to be done. Unfortunately, it wasn't something we were set up for, or even something I knew how to do. I let Peter know I needed to go home to figure this out.

In the past, I would have gone into full-on research mode, reading and watching every relevant source available. But Christian Science has a different method, one that is far simpler and infinitely more effective: I went home and quietly asked God for help. I understood I couldn't do this on my own. I wasn't looking for the easy way. If there was a lot of hard work and spiritual growth required, I was ready.

Along with that, I prayed that He would help me to be ready to record the service, and then go right into recording Peter and Faith afterward. I felt guided to look to YouTube, and the very first video I found was two minutes long and told me everything I needed to know. I was overjoyed! I thanked God and went back to the church to be sure I had the cables necessary.

Just as I found the pieces needed, I got a call inviting me to dinner with members of this church. I accepted, and thanked God yet again for all He continues to bring to me. The next morning, I soldered up the wires and had just enough time to get ready for the service. After the service, Peter and Faith were able to get a good start on this project. Their music is a wonderful ministry!

I am incredibly grateful for how much of my week is "testimony worthy." I am constantly given challenges that only God can guide me through. Sometimes I falter, but even failure can be used to learn and do better, especially with such excellent practitioner support. Isn't it amazing how we have proof of God's wonderful plan, full of Love and activity for all of us!

# “Sing Praises to the Lord”

*This section features the words to musical presentations recently sung in Plainfield Church.*

## **Winds of God Peter Kidd**

Blow, blow, winds of God,  
Fan the flames to burn the chaff,  
Consume the dross and purify.  
Corruption receives the destruction deserved,  
And God’s likeness is preserved.

What are you afraid of?  
Our God is a law of utter destruction  
Unto everything unlike Himself.  
And a law of life unto His likeness.  
You are His likeness.

You can trust His promise.  
The God of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob is your God.  
And he will uphold you with His right hand.  
His hand almighty.

How can you fear what is to come,  
When you know what is to come  
Is from your Father?  
So walk into the holy fire,  
Surrender all that you desire,  
And find eternal life.

So, blow, blow winds of God,  
Fan the flames to burn the chaff,  
Consume the dross and purify my heart.  
Corruption receives the destruction deserved,  
And His likeness is preserved.  
See God’s likeness preserved.

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# The Independent Lesson Forum

*If you haven't discovered the Lesson Forum on our church website yet, log on to [plainfieldcs.com](http://plainfieldcs.com) and click on Lesson Forum. You will find lively and inspiring discussions centered around our weekly Lesson. The individuality of the contributors is wonderfully evident. Those who participate find that it brings greater depth to the study of the Lesson. It provides an opportunity to ask questions, and to share with others ideas that have been revealed to you in your study. Everyone is welcome to join in. We would love to hear from you!*

The following is a sample of submissions from the Lesson, "Doctrine of Atonement."

## **Constant self-immolation required.**

The Christian Science "culture" loves to equate the doctrine of atonement with the "doctrine" of at-one-ment — like Christians who believe that the purification of baptism is achieved with a ceremony that sprinkles water on an infant.

But this Lesson makes no bones about it! "The atonement requires constant self-immolation on the sinner's part." (S&H) (Of course, as we learned last week, if you are righteous, none of this applies because you are already a perfect child of God, at one with Him — and hopelessly deluded!)

So our Doctrine of Atonement in Christian Science is not an annual repentance (as the Jewish tradition), or a vague theological platform (as the Christian tradition), but a "down and dirty," "rubber meets the road," moment-by-moment striving to relinquish material, self-centered thinking, and to identify more and more with the image, the reflection, of God, immortal man.

## Lesson Forum

### Response:

*“... get out of man into God, to reach the science of Life and be rid of sickness, sin and death. . . . (S&H, First Edition)*

This clearly shows that self-immolation (sacrifice), self-abnegation (denial) are imperative. I am seeing more than ever that the correct understanding of this, through the moment-by-moment practice of this requirement, is what distinguishes a true follower, Christian or Christian Scientist, from who may profess to be one. This is what brings me to the correct identification with “true being,” without which I cannot see my union with Christ, Spirit.

### Response:

Malachi saw this very clearly in his prophecy of Jesus' coming: “who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap.” Who is going to stand to have their pride burned out? And have their most cherished selfish human desires torn out from beneath them and purified? Self-immolation is not a pleasant experience. It hurts when it happens, but the benefits of going through it are priceless!

Mrs. Evans used to refer to the “ring of fire.” This was the phenomenon whereby people would find Plainfield and Christian Science, and love it. Then, after a while, they would be required (by God) to burn out whatever needed to be burned out. Some would be willing to take the heat, but some were not, and they would leave. I don't think this “ring of fire” ever really leaves us. It is God requiring us to be what He made.

### Response:

Who can be at one, in union, or claim to be the child of God, without the necessary purification, since only our

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“true-being” is at-one or the reflection of God? Christ Jesus lived the Christ that we may also follow: “through the revelation and demonstration of life in God, hath elevated them to possible at-one-ment with the spiritual idea of man and his divine Principle, Love.” (S&H)

### Response:

But the self-immolation isn't so that we save “self” — right? It's to put it off. Not to purify self, but to deprive it of life so it is destroyed and only God's self and its expression is left.

I think that's key — if we approach self-immolation as denying ourselves this pleasure or that pleasure, in order to be pure, we're still holding onto self.

Constant self-immolation means watching that I'm awake, and not in the dream of self. And recognizing the little ways self tries to hang around and justify.

### Response:

The purification in the process is to have a pure consciousness that can reflect God. “Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.” There can be nothing material in that reflection since the substance of Christ is utterly Spirit!

**“Thou couldst have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above.”**

Jesus went through the crucifixion to show us what is possible, or should we better say, what is true!! The worst hatred directed towards his Christliness resulted in what? A magnificent resurrection, proving for all time, evil is not person, place, or thing; and once overcome as such, we gain reality — and it is very good! — Straight from Genesis 1, when creation was completed.



# Articles

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## A Visit to Plainfield

Fairlie Maginnes

A couple of weekends ago, my husband and I had a wonderful visit to Plainfield in the flesh! It is with the deepest gratitude that I describe the lovely atmosphere of our church, with all the caring members who made us feel so welcome. It was truly satisfying to get to know my practitioner and all those there at Plainfield whom we met. They were so helpful and generous, and made our stay very meaningful and delightful.

My husband is an Episcopalian, and he attended our Saturday morning Bible Class with me, sitting around the rectangular “round table,” and he was deeply influenced by what he recognized to be the insight and understanding of everyone who participated. He is still very quick to take heed of what I tell him my practitioner says. That morning I was also very grateful that fellow diaspora member, Tom, came down from New York for the Bible Study, and we were very grateful for his very good help and good company on the trip we took back to New York City.

We had the opportunity of seeing all the different parts of the church and the equipment used for all the printing production, and the main church, newly painted a beautiful pastel green, with beautiful new windows open to the light. I express my hope and strongly urge my fellow members to make the trip when possible. It was a deeply rewarding experience and confirmed all the good that is going on there.



## Protection from Tornadoes

Elsie Boros

Last Friday, Alabama was put on notice that there was potential for severe weather by Monday afternoon or evening. I mentioned it when I was talking to my Plainfield practitioner on Monday. I had started to work in Christian Science, and when I was talking to this practitioner, she said she would help me. She gave me a few things to work with, which I did during the day.

Monday afternoon around 5:00, the first tornado entered our state from Mississippi, and it seemed to go downhill from there. There was one after another, for a total of 25 severe tornadoes between 5:00 p.m. Monday night and 2:00 a.m. Tuesday morning. At around 11:20 that evening, we were notified in our area that a tornado was headed straight for our city, and they gave us 15 minutes to get to what they call our safe place.

I was working and praying, knowing that God was ever-present, that He controlled the elements, that He was right there with me and I was not alone. A few more minutes went by, then 10 more minutes went by, and again they warned us to get to our safe place. They said it was one of the strongest tornadoes they had seen in years. Another five minutes went by, and they said this is a terrible storm. Then the weather reporter stopped, and he said, "It seems to be weakening. In fact, I can't find it!" All of a sudden, we were notified that the tornado had disappeared. It was not there — it was completely gone! There are not words to describe how I felt when it was announced that it had disappeared.

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I don't know how to express my gratitude for God's protection that I experienced, and for the help I received from my practitioner. Words are not adequate to express my gratitude to the entire Plainfield Church membership, for their love, encouragement, and support. I am still thanking God for His protection, as He really gave His angels charge over us!



### “I Need Thee Every Hour”

Susanne Abetti

I have never forgotten something I learned in a class in Plainfield Church several years ago. At the time, I lived overseas and would receive the class recordings by mail. I couldn't wait to listen to them!

In one of the classes, the teacher mentioned the phrase “I need Thee every hour,” and said how much this meant to her. I recognized those words from a well-known hymn, but had never truly contemplated what they meant. And here was the teacher saying she needed God every hour. If *she* did, I most certainly did! I had never before thought of God as something I would need every hour! This was humbling.

As I look back, I now see how this one realization created a real shift in my thinking. No longer would God be something to take off a shelf in times of dire need, like a box of Band Aids, but a constant presence that I truly need-

ed every hour (and every minute) of my life! In addition to this, I was taught to put God at the center of everything I do. That was also a new concept for me, too!

Although I grew up in Christian Science, it had never been made practical in the way that the strong teachings here in Plainfield have done. I now feel that God is a constant presence, and my reason for being. My heart goes out in thanks for the wonderful teaching continually going on in this church, to dedicated practitioners, and to everyone else involved making our church's outreach possible. God bless this church!



## God's Law of Progress

Tony Moore

Mary Baker Eddy says, "Progress is the law of God." (S&H) I used to quote this over and over — but I was fooling myself. I was sinning, feeling guilty, and trying to use my willpower to stop the behavior. I had no real power to stop, because my spiritual sense was dormant. And when human will failed, the sin returned.

When tragedy struck my family and I desperately needed help, I found Plainfield. Soon I was lifted up and dusted off, and a ring was put on my finger, so to speak, just like the prodigal son. I was being taught how to live a Christly life — not just quote the Bible or Science and Health.

"O Lord, Thou hast searched me, and known me." (Ps.) This is the great point in progress — it's not a course that

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we plot out for ourselves. I didn't know what was best for me, but God unfolded exactly what I needed. I learned to drop the baggage of false teaching and Christian Science jargon.

My love for God became active, and I slowly began yielding to God. With the help of the Plainfield practitioner, every problem I had was answered. Progress started. Everywhere I looked I saw God at work. My relationship improved with my daughter as I learned poise and quietness. As I became compassionate, my marriage strengthened. My business straightened out. "I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings." (Jer.)

Now I feel I know a little something about God's law of progress, and it is thrilling! Every day is new, and so is the need. God brings the daily inspiration we need to meet the challenge of the day. Now that is real progress!



## **"Entire Obedience, Affection, and Strength"** Carol Conroy

Like many other people, I have a pretty demanding job that occasionally requires me to work late. Interestingly, it seemed that most often I needed to work late on Wednesday nights, and I'd miss the Wednesday evening meeting.

A Plainfield practitioner told me, "When you have it firm in your thought that you are not going to let anything

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take you away from where God wants you to be, it will stop happening.” *But* (remember it’s been said that no one ever “but-ted” their way into the kingdom of heaven!), I really do have this responsibility, and it is my job!

I thought earnestly about what the practitioner had said, and thought about how God has blessed me and my family over and over again. I remembered how God brought this job to me, and how it has blessed me. So, how truly grateful am I? How much do I really love God? How do I know I love Him? And how am I showing my love and gratitude to Him? Mary Baker Eddy writes, “Divine Mind rightly demands man’s entire obedience, affection, and strength. No reservation is made for any lesser loyalty.” (S&H) That was my answer!

Shortly after this, some work needed to be done late on a Wednesday evening. But something happened, and we were not provided with everything we needed. I just knew that the hand of God was on this, so I said, “I don’t know about the rest of you, but I’m going to church now,” and I did. The others left soon after.

I have not been asked to work on a Wednesday night for many months now. On one occasion I was asked if I could finish something before I left, but I said I have church tonight, and I was told, “That’s most important — you go to church; we’ll finish it tomorrow.”

The practitioner was so right. Once I was really convinced in my own heart, it stopped happening. I have had to work late other nights, but everyone knows Wednesday is church night. I’m so grateful for the practitioner’s help, and to see that when we take a firm stand with God, error backs right down!

## Watching Thought

Candace Graulich

During the past week, I was having trouble putting what is happening in the world in perspective. Headlines, newscasts, and even just ordinary conversations seemed to have a depressing effect on me. I kept asking myself, “Doesn’t anyone understand something about the First Commandment?”

Then I realized that I was seeing everything wrong myself! I began to give thanks to God for all the good I have had, and have now. Every time a disturbing thought presented itself, it was replaced with one of gratitude. This was just the right antidote, and the depression lifted.

I have learned from Plainfield Church that gratitude is essential to healing, and that it is my responsibility to watch my own thinking. I am not responsible for what others think, but it’s my duty to see them as children of God. I have also learned that, rather than “stand aghast at nothingness,” as Mary Baker Eddy says, I need to handle things in the world that are troubling me and replace them with Truth. Then I’m doing my duty to “God, to my Leader, and to all mankind.” That’s working in Science!



## Beware of Telltale Signs

Mary Beth Singleterry

Recently in one of our Lessons we had this verse from Romans: “Because that, when they knew God, they glorified

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Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.” This is a rather chilling statement, and I was thinking about how one gets so far off track.

First, you start off feeling you know God and then perhaps begin to think He exists for you; He is there to supply all your wants and wishes and needs while you do whatever you darn well please. You don't glorify Him as God, as Life, Truth, and Love, and you don't realize you exist for Him and not the other way around!

And then on the heels of that one, you become ungrateful, whiny, always looking at the hole in the doughnut. All the wonderful blessings God has bestowed on you — well, they were your “just desserts,” nothing much really, and there is so much more to be had. Gratitude for His goodness goes right out the window.

Next in line comes blaming God for all the troubles, yours and everyone else's — vain imaginations! God no longer is All-powerful to you anyway; there must be some other powers to fear, and in so doing to worship . . . many gods. Life becomes scary and also miserable. And then you have the arrogance to believe this is all true and you are wise in knowing it — when really you have become the fool! It is no wonder one's heart becomes darkened!

Is not this all a description of the Adam dream? And a dream it is (or more likely, a nightmare!), and one from which anyone can surely awaken!

Thank God for Mrs. Eddy's unselfish sacrifice in giving us Christian Science. Here we have a sure release from the bondage of mortal mind. Mrs. Eddy has called the Bible “the chart of Life,” and I have found it helpful to be watchful for these telltale signs that would lead any un-alert trav-



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eler off the straight and narrow path which leads to the true understanding of God and of His creation!

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No reproof is so potent as the silent lesson of a good example. Works, more than words, should characterize Christian Scientists.

*Mary Baker Eddy*  
*Miscellaneous Writings*



### Thy Way

"Shew me now Thy way," dear God,  
For I have lost my own.  
It was not very good at best,  
And I want Yours alone.

My own too often led me far  
From what I know was right  
And left me in the darkness, when  
My heart cried out for light.

"Shew me now Thy way," dear God,  
And let me start anew.  
I need unfailing guidance, Lord;  
So let me walk with You.

*Max Dunaway*

# Testimonies of Healing

*The following testimonies are offered with great love to those seeking encouragement and inspiration.*

This is my first time attending a Plainfield testimony service.

For the last couple of days I've been really struggling with a very bad cold. Even while listening to the service and the readings tonight, I was still feeling very, very sick — until the second hymn. I had been thinking about how beautiful the website is, and the wonderful love that's behind it. But as I was listening to that hymn, I could just feel the love of everyone at the church and at the service. Mrs. Eddy intended that Christian Science services be healing services. As I was listening to that hymn, all the symptoms of the cold just disappeared. I immediately sat up, and I feel wonderful.

I am so grateful that I was led to this church, and grateful for the help of a practitioner here. You're just wonderful, wonderful people, and I am so privileged to be a part of this worldwide service.

*E.*

*Utah*

A few weeks ago, when at lunch with friends in a local restaurant, I badly cut my finger on the chair I was sitting on. It was cut to the bone and bleeding badly. The manager was called, and she bound it up with gauze and tape. We continued our lunch and bridge game, but my friends were worried about it, thinking I needed stitches and a tetanus shot, etc.

There was no pain, and I knew that God was right there with me, and I had no fear about it at all. I didn't go to a doctor, but went home and called the practitioner at

## Testimonies

Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent. He asked me to read from Science and Health, on page 390, line 32: "Rise in the conscious strength of the spirit of Truth to overthrow the plea of mortal mind, *alias* matter, arrayed against the supremacy of Spirit. Blot out the images of mortal thought and its beliefs in sickness and sin." I did just that for the next several days. By then, it had closed up tightly and today there is no sign of any cut.

I am so very grateful for Mrs. Eddy's wonderful discovery of the spiritual truths of the Bible that Jesus taught. I am also grateful for the Bible Study/Roundtable each week that is giving me a greater understanding of my spiritual being.

J. N.  
Michigan

One day recently I had picked up a few pieces of trash from the curb at church and put them in the trash can. On my way back to my car, I suddenly tripped and fell on the sidewalk. I immediately declared "God Good!" and that I never fell out of God's love. I got right up.

My hand was scraped and my right ribs were sore. I kept my thought on God, that He loves and cares for me. I found coughing and sneezing hurt, but I kept knowing that I was God's perfect child. After a short time, the pain subsided. Then the thought came very strongly that I couldn't be punished for doing good. I held to that, and everything felt much better. In a day or so, all was well.

I'm so grateful for learning to be persistent in knowing the truth that I'm God's perfect idea. I'm also grateful for the lesson to always be alert. Today's calendar statement applies perfectly to this: "Everything must come out right when we trust in God," Mary Baker Eddy.

L. L.  
New Jersey

## CornerStone

I want to express my gratitude for a recent healing in my family. My mother passed away, and the family began to settle her estate. I have four siblings, one of which decided to move into the house and stay there. She was pretty much out of control and thought she was entitled to everything in the house, and acted in such a way that she terrorized my sister, who was the executor of the estate.

This went on for six weeks, and there was no sign that this was ever going to come to an end. Finally I decided to take a stand. I contacted my practitioner here in Plainfield Church, and he went to work right away. On the fourth day, she announced she was leaving, and two days later she went home. What had appeared to be an impossible situation, just suddenly dissolved into absolutely nothing. It was awesome!

I am so grateful for Christian Science, and I thank God for Mrs. Eddy, Christ Jesus, the Plainfield Church, and my practitioner. Mrs. Eddy said she could never repay her debt to God, and I wondered how that could possibly be, because she worked so hard for God. But I am beginning to understand that, and I certainly feel that way.

C. A.  
Texas

I am grateful for the opportunity to participate in doing work for our church. Time and time again it proves to be a lifesaver and a blessing. Whenever I seem to be getting deeper and deeper into thinking about self, problems, or issues, the only thing that helps me turn away from this type of contemplation is starting to work on an assignment for Plainfield Church — for example, proofing audio or a full-text Lesson. This type of work helps tremendously to keep my thoughts away from self and focused on something higher, and certainly a lot more

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meaningful. This opportunity has been a tremendous joy and a blessing, and I am very grateful for it.

*L. C.*

*New Jersey*

While hurrying back from lunch for a 1 o'clock meeting, I encountered one red light after another. When I was slowed down by a traffic jam, I became anxious because I did not want to be late for this meeting. So, there I was, two minutes away from work, I had to stop for yet another traffic light, and this light seemed to take forever to turn green.

Just when the light did turn green and I was about to take my foot off the brake, I heard what sounded like a voice whisper, "Wait." It surprised me, and I looked around, but did not take my foot off the brake. Just when I was about to go, a car full of teenagers ran the light and crossed the road in front of me.

I thanked God for our safety — the teenagers, my safety, and the other motorists on the road. My heart started beating fast, not because I was scared, but because I knew that it was God that stopped me from crossing the street and, for joy, I wept. When I got to work, I found that the meeting had been cancelled. I was grateful because I would not have been able to sit still. And the feeling of God's love remained with me for the rest of the day.

This protection is a result of what I am learning at this church, learning about God, and my relationship to Him; and from the daily practitioner support. I am so grateful for God, Jesus Christ, Mrs. Eddy, and for Christian Science. And I am grateful for all of you!

*L. F.*

*Maryland*

I had a wonderful thing happen to me this week. On Sun-

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day after the service, I was going to lunch with a friend. I walked out to the parking lot carrying my notebook. The lady in the next car said she had left her baby's bottle in the church, and asked if I would get it for her. I put my notebook on the roof of the car, and got the bottle.

I got into my friend's car and we drove off to lunch. When we came back to the parking lot to pick up my vehicle, I didn't see my notebook in the car. I searched the church in case I had left it there, but didn't find it. I was very concerned because, not only does it contain notes for my business, but my checkbook was also in the notebook. First thing in the morning, I called my practitioner and asked for help. She said there is nothing lost in divine Mind, and told me I could not be punished for doing good. Immediately the fear left, and I realized I should have left it under God's control. I had been taking it personally and was frantic.

I felt everything was going to work out, but I had no idea how. That same morning a friend who lives in another apartment in the same house called to say my notebook was on the front porch! Someone must have found it and found my address in my checkbook, and left it on my porch. Everything was safe in the notebook, including the checks — nothing had been disturbed. I thanked God immediately, knowing His hand was on it, and called the practitioner and thanked her for her powerful work. This helped me to understand that God never leaves us alone. I am very grateful to God for Christian Science, and for His protection!

W. C.  
*New Jersey*

I spent a number of years annoyed by a sacroiliac joint that would become displaced. After an annoying experience with this condition, I went to a doctor and he X-

## Testimonies

rayed my back and discovered that one leg was half an inch shorter than the other. The doctor suggested that I add a quarter-inch “lift” to that shoe. This did help a bit, but the sacroiliac would still pop out of joint. My friend, who later became my wife, noted this occurrence happen and she suggested that I visit a practitioner of Christian Science, which I did. He spent an hour and a half with me, primarily upon the Lesson for that week. One statement stood out to me; namely, “In divine revelation, material and corporeal selfhood disappear, and the spiritual idea is understood.” (S&H)

Leaving the practitioner’s home, I was floating on air. On the way home I stopped at a shoe store and purchased a new pair of shoes. All shoes and slippers with lifts were eliminated and, more importantly, the sacroiliac joint problem disappeared. This was the beginning of my earnest study of Christian Science.

I have always stated my height as 6 feet. Now years later, I was measured several weeks ago and I discovered my height is 6 feet and half an inch! For this rapid healing, I am most grateful.

J. D.  
Arizona

I am finding out for the first time in my life that *I matter*. I belong here, I have a value, I have a worth, and I do have a purpose. That purpose is important. I spent my entire life wishing I was dead. Now all I want to do is *live!* Praise God for that!

L. T.  
New York





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*“Publish the Word”  
Broadcast the Truth  
“Freely ye have received, freely give”*