
OUR THOUGHT FOR EACH DAY

By Mary Baker Eddy

“Every day, every hour, our work increases in effectiveness and power.”

THINK UPON THIS

The prayer that reforms the sinner and heals the sick is an absolute faith that all things are possible to God, — a spiritual understanding of Him, an unselfed love.

(S&H 1:1-4)

A QUOTE FROM THE PAST

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." aEsop

Submitted by
Chardelle, Pennsylvania

THE FOURTH

July fourth is now history. As usual, I did read the Constitution, and the number of times the term "education" is mentioned is Zero.

JIM'S CORNER

A Bulldozer was first mentioned by Isaiah 41:15:

"Behold, I will make thee a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth: thou shalt thresh the mountains, and beat them small, and shalt make the hills as chaff."

WHAT ARE WE FIGHTING FOR?

By Parthens

Joshua 5:13—And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, **Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?**

14—**He said, "No; rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the LORD."** And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and bowed down, and said to him, "What has my lord to say to his servant?"

15—And the captain of the LORD'S host said unto Joshua, **Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so.**

[End of Joshua chapter 5. Narrative resumes in chapter 6 as the "captain of the LORD'S host," then gives Joshua instructions on how to conquer Jericho.]

The meaning of this meeting is clear: what are you and I fighting for? America's War of Independence was to establish a country that was a greater expression of God's glory than any country ever before: only this. It was not to establish the comforts and felicities of

freedom, although they were in abundance as by-products of liberty after the colonists' victory over British tyranny.

Joshua 5 teaches that there are not two sides to any battle, there are three: the dualism of the *colonists'* battle for liberty versus the *adversary's* battle against liberty are, without God factored in, merely two points at either extreme of the base of a triangle — contending on the same level with one another. But if we factor God in this scenario and we make the glory of God our chief objective, then we transcend these two extremes, so that the glory of God is above all (the single, topmost point atop the triangle).

In the face of the Captain of the Lord's host and his intention to glorify God only, any other "side" or any other "us" other than the "Us" of Genesis chapter 1, any "for us" or "against us," any "success" or "failure" must be treated as an abject imposter.

REMOTE BROADCAST

By Jeremy Palmer

I am so grateful for the love and support that exists in this church. On a recent Wednesday, we broadcast our Wednesday meeting from a remote location for the first time, and it didn't go as smoothly as I had hoped. The remote broadcast took two laptops, a 12-channel mixer, an iPad, a 5-port ethernet hub, a phone line, microphone, speakers, and about 40 cables, that all had to be brought in from Plainfield.

I had practiced at the church a few times, and felt all was well. But that night turned into my hardest fight of the past two years! At first I berated myself because the broadcast didn't go smoothly, but then I realized that huge blessings came from the experience. The

amazing love that I was shown right after the broadcast ended, really is hard to put into words. Few times in my life have I felt such unconditional love. Then hearing how our Readers and those giving testimonies battled through the technical issues (some of which were due to problems our teleconference service was experiencing) to do their part is also very inspiring. The unity that is spoken of here is not just a buzzword, but something that is lived and demonstrated daily.

I learned a lot from this experience, but perhaps most of all, I learned that these things we do for God are not risks. If they are for God, no matter what seems to happen, there will be spiritual growth and the opportunity to show and receive love! What could I have done that night to better achieve that? Afterward, Mary asked if I would ever think of broadcasting remotely again, and I said, "Yes." I pray any future remote broadcasts are much more seamless, and if we truly grew from the last one, they will be. What a joy it is to strive for God!

I am so grateful to my practitioner, and to every member, for their support. I am also grateful to God for bringing me to Plainfield, and to Christian Science. It is so wonderful to be here.

INTERVIEW WITH ADEEL FROM PAKISTAN BY JOSEPH FROM THE U.K.

This is Joseph from the U.K. I record a weekly Bible Lesson for Plainfield, and I also oversee the Urdu translation. To assist with that is my very good friend Adeel. We are talking about his work doing the Urdu translations and about his life in Pakistan — not only his personal life, but the life of a Christian living in Pakistan.

Adeel feels doing this interview may be a threat to his security over there in Pakistan. There have been a number of cases of other religious groups and minorities recording and speaking about the Pakistani government, and ending up in serious trouble, having their IP addresses traced and their houses burned. So he has asked me, first of all, to ensure that this audio is treated respectfully and thoughtfully when it is being spread or placed on the Internet.

Q. I would like to ask you a little bit about the Bible Lessons that you translate into Urdu. Do you have a method for translating it?

A. My method is that I go to my Urdu Bible. It has a great effect on my life. Sometimes I feel very desperate and in my desperation, I find my answer in that verse.

Q. That's very beautiful. You told me that it's normal for Christians in Pakistan to memorize the Psalms.

A. Yes, Psalms are translated for us into a language called Punjabi. Most of the Christian community here speak Punjabi.

Q. Tell me something about your own walk with God.

A. We pray two times a day, and we rely everything on God.

Q. Can you tell me, do you come from a family which was always Christian?

A. My forefathers were Seikh, according to my grandfather, his father had converted to Christianity from Seikhism.

Q. How do you study the Bible? Do you have a method that you like to use?

A. We all get in to saying prayers at night and reading Psalms to get strength from them, and we find one for the right purpose. Sometimes we read Psalms, and sometimes we read the New Testament. Yes of course we read these daily, sometimes in groups. We used to have Bible study in that group, that's when I was living with my parents. But now I don't get time to read the Bible with my friends, so I do it with my wife.

Q. That's very nice. What is your favorite Bible story?

A. I like John. I like the way that Jesus teaches his disciples and reminds them "do not be afraid." When I feel afraid, I come to this verse.

Thank you very much for taking the time to talk to us about these things. I know there are many people who will be keeping you in their thoughts and will be thinking about you and praying and bringing them before God in a very special metaphysical way.

LETTER TO A PATIENT
F. J. FLUNO
From Sentinel 1887-1888

You seem to be going through the Red Sea of fear, and looking too much at the waters on each side. You are no doubt trying, though unconsciously, to overcome mortal conceptions; and in so doing, you are making something of them. Do not try to walk the waters, or go through Jordan; for when you are equal to it, there will be no Jordan to pass, and no waters to walk upon. Science, received through the understanding, will lead you calmly and peacefully all your journey through. Obstacles which now seem insurmountable will sink to nothingness. The golden gates of promise will swing open

to your coming. Let Love be your prompter in every action. Sweet rest will surely follow; for nothing but harmony can come from the hallowed influence of unselfish Love.

All the universe reflects God and nothing else, and with the armor of Love about us, we may never see the darts of the enemy, nor feel their poisonous sting. Striking the breastplate of Love, triple-plated with Wisdom, Intelligence, and Truth, these darts recoil upon themselves, and slay the aimer. Keep your armor on! Fear no evil! You are not alone, for there is One, the ever-present Intelligence, upon whom we must all, sooner or later, learn to depend for our support. This is the true presence of Mind — the consciousness of the ever-presence of the True Mind, forever saying to us, "None shall take you out of My hands;" for "His truth shall be thy shield and buckler."

FROM BICKNELL YOUNG'S 1936 PRIMARY CLASS

Fear is at the bottom of hatred and malice. That is all that makes nations fight each other. Fear is ignorance of good, God. Mortal mind is fear, and fears everything. The basic error is mortal mind, not a person. Fear is the substance of mortal mind, and "perfect love casteth out fear."

See that the claim of fear is without original cause, without natural or derived existence or expression, no part of Mind or being. It never existed in Mind, in Truth, or even as belief. Therefore it

does not exist at all. There is only one Mind, one God, good, and this Mind that is infinite consciousness, the consciousness of man, of all that is, is not a state of fear, but is a divine state of conscious, joyous, spiritual being.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CHURCH From Precepts 1

It is the privilege of the stranger and the young student to come to our services, to feel the divine presence and be healed; it is the duty and privilege of the more advanced students to do the mental work that opens the way for the healing atmosphere of divine Love to be felt. Some may believe that the healing in our services is an automatic result of merely holding them; but those who take the responsibility of membership in a branch church learn, before long, that our services heal because devout and devoted members work mentally during the services with this object in view. They work as conscientiously as practitioners work for sick patients. When such sacred work is neglected, our services become barren of their vital element.

"Whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." (James 1:25)

Editors Jim Dible
and Carol Conroy

This is an informational newsletter for members of the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, intended to be a means for communication with each other, and is supported and provided by the efforts of the membership at large. Each member shall do his part to ensure the continuing success of Independent Christian Science as a worldwide activity. Let us begin with our Newsletter.