

Virginia's Object Lesson

By HILDA RICHMOND

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"It isn't that Herbert is a bad boy," Mrs. Castle was saying, with a worried look on her motherly face, "or that Virginia is disobedient. They are simply too silly for anything. 'Mushy,' the boys call them, and the word fits very well. Instead of having a good time with the crowd as they always did, they prefer to sit around by themselves at parties, and Virginia is getting so dreamy that you have to speak two or three times before she realizes she is on earth."

"Oh, well," said her sister, consolingly, "all girls have those spells. I remember how Bob Lane and I used to think our folks cruel and unsympathetic because they ruthlessly spoiled our cherished plans by sending us away to school. Virginia will get over her foolishness in good time and be able to laugh at herself. Don't take it to heart so."

"It's all very well for you to take that view, for your girls are too small to give you any trouble yet; but just wait a few years. Virginia's health and lessons suffer while she is moping around, and I really have to force her to eat when she and Herbert have had a little tiff. I wish they would fall out and scratch each other's faces as they did years ago. Then maybe this nonsense would come to an end."

The memory of the childish fights these two young people used to indulge in caused Mrs. Randolph to laugh outright. "Imagine Virginia, with two long scratches down her nose, howling at the top of her voice," she said; but her sister refused to see the funny side.

"I'd rather have her howl than sit around with that woe-begone look on



"Virginia Is Getting So Dreamy That You Have to Speak Two or Three Times Before She Realizes She Is on Earth."

Her face that makes me long to spank her soundly," said Mrs. Castle. "I always think of Editha when I see her, for she mopes just like that when she was Virginia's age."

"Editha! The very person! Send for her to come and spend a month with you, and if that doesn't bring Virginia to her senses nothing will. It will mean a lot of hard work, but you will be repaid for that, I am sure."

In less than a week Mrs. Castle was able to announce carelessly at the dinner table that Cousin Editha and her family would visit them next week.

"Cousin Editha!" said Virginia, with a pleased look. "I haven't seen her since the day I was flower girl at her wedding. She was just 17 then—as old as I am now—and I was ten. Do you remember, mamma, how perfectly beautiful she looked?"

"Yes, she was a lovely bride," said Mrs. Castle. "Unless you eat more supper, Virginia, I cannot allow you to go to the lecture this evening."

"How many children has she?" asked Mr. Castle. "Three or four?"

"Three," answered his wife. "Two boys and a baby girl."

"We must try to have some picnics and drives for her while she is here," said Mrs. Castle pleasantly. "You were her flower girl, Virginia, and Rob the page, so you must both exert yourselves to make it a nice visit for her. It is the first time she has visited us, too, since she was married, and that is a long time now."

"Cousin Editha is coming to visit us next week, Herbert," said Virginia, as that young gentleman gently swayed the hammock back and forth under the big apple tree. "She was married at 17, and she was the sweetest bride you ever saw. She had a tall and a long train and bridesmaids and everything just perfect. I was the flower girl and carried a basket of bride roses up the aisle. I thought I attracted as much attention as the bride herself. How silly we are when we are children!"

"I don't believe the bride was half as pretty as you," said Herbert, adjusting a pillow under her curly head with a look that made Mrs. Randolph hasten to fan herself violently for fear they should see the smile on her face. She might have saved herself the trouble, for the young people a few

Jesus the Saviour of the World

Sunday School Lesson for Feb. 2, 1908

Specially Prepared for This Paper

LESSON TEXT.—John 3:1-16. Memory verse 14-16.

GOLDEN TEXT—"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."—John 3:16.

TIME—Sometime in April, A. D. 27, during Jesus' visit at Jerusalem for the Passover. John was still preaching in the wilderness. Early in the first year of Jesus' ministry, he having five or six followers at that time.

PLACE—Some room in Jerusalem at a house where Jesus was a guest. Reached by an outer stairway.

Comment and Suggestive Thought.

What Is the Kingdom of Heaven?—It is that condition or state where God reigns as king, where he is the supreme object of love and service, where his will is the law, and men obey it as naturally as they breathe, and where all his subjects are formed in his holy image and inspired with his spiritual life. It is that for which we pray in the first petitions of the Lord's Prayer. He belongs to God's kingdom.

Who recognizes God as his Father; Who hallow his name; Whose supreme desire and aim is that his kingdom shall come;

Who does God's will on earth as it is done in heaven.

And when all men have this supreme choice of God, then this world will have been transformed into the kingdom of heaven.

Paul expresses the essential meaning when he places the "fruits of the Spirit," whose source and inspiration are the Holy Spirit, in contrast with the "works of the flesh."

This kingdom naturally required some form or organization to best accomplish its work. But the two ideas, however closely allied, are distinct, as are body and soul. One may have the form without the spirit; and one may have the spirit without the organization.

What Was Jesus' Teaching About Belonging to the Kingdom of God?—V. 3. "Verily, verily." Repeated for the sake of emphasis. "I," the teacher sent from God, "say unto thee," This is my message. "Except a man be born again," Greek, another, "again" or "anew," as in R. V. and A. R. from above. "Whosoever is born again is born anew and born from above. Except a man have a new spiritual life imparted by the Holy Spirit, in addition to his natural life received through his parents, "he cannot see," understand, know the meaning of, feel the motives, realize the presence of, the kingdom of God."

What Is It to Be Born Anew, from Above?—We have a natural physical life. We live in a world of sense. Our supreme choice may be to enjoy this life, to make its pleasures and desires supreme, to possess the things that minister to it, at any cost, at the expense of other people, at the expense of conscience and duty and love. This is the life of the flesh, of this world. A thousand good, lovely, and charming things may come into this life. But the test of the life is "what is our supreme choice."

This life is imparted by the spirit of God, enabling one to choose God, and gain the victory over the lower nature. It is by this power, through this inspiration, under this influence that we are enabled to bear the fruits of the spirit which are the virtues of the kingdom of heaven.

V. 5. "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit."—(There is no article in the Greek before "Spirit.") To understand this, note several things in the circumstances: (1) John was baptizing with water as a symbol of repentance. (2) Baptism symbolized the cleansing of the soul from sin. (3) Baptism symbolized the outward profession, the entering into the visible kingdom. (4) Nicodemus was familiar with the rite with this significance.

Water may denote either or both of two allied meanings. (1) The Lord here declares that there are two elements or factors in the new birth; putting away the old life and receiving the new. Water was the natural and familiar symbol of cleansing from sin, of putting away the sinful past, of confession of sin. This act the Pharisees were not inclined to believe as applied to themselves. They refused to be baptized by John, and thus confess their need of forgiveness.

What Was Jesus' Authority for This Teaching?—It was, first, the authority of the Scriptures. To Nicodemus' exclamation (9) "How can these things be?" Jesus refers him to the Scriptures.

V. 10. "Art thou a Master," a teacher, "of Israel," your business being to study and explain the Scriptures. "And knowest not these things?" You will find this truth in the Scriptures you teach, as, for instance, in Ezek. 11:19; 18:31; 36:26; Jer. 24:7; 31:33.

It was, secondly, the authority of personal knowledge and experience.

V. 16. "God So Loved the World."—Not merely heavenly beings, angels and seraphim, and saints, but this poor, sinful, unworthy world, so far from him in character.

"Let us quietly ponder the great deep utterance. First there is

"The Lake—God so loved the world; next

"The River—that he gave his only begotten Son; thirdly,

"The Pitcher—that whosoever believeth on him;" and lastly,

"The Draught—should not perish, but have everlasting life."—W. Robertson Nicoll, D. D.

WORN OUT WOMEN

Will Find Encouragement in Mrs. Merritt's Advice.

Mrs. W. L. Merritt, 207 S. First Ave., Anoka, Minn., says: "Last winter I began to suffer with my kidneys. I had pains in my back and hips and felt all worn out. Dizzy spells bothered me and the kidney secretions were irregular. The first box of Doan's Kidney Pills brought decided relief. I am sure they would do the same for any other woman suffering as I did."

Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

Object Lesson.

"Johnny," said Mrs. Bloobs, severely, "I am going to punish you. Please open the windows."

"What for?" asked Johnny, beginning to cry.

"I heard our next door neighbor say I had no authority over my children, and I want her to hear you getting a spanking. Now, come here, sir!"

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Cataract that cannot be cured by Hall's Cataract Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, F. J. Cheney & Co., have for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly reliable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by him.

W. A. KINNAN & MARTIN, Whole Sale Druggists, O. Hall's Cataract Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the eye, and is a safe, simple, reliable, painless, and inexpensive remedy. Price 25 cents per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

What Hubby Missed.

"I was telephoning the other night," said the girl, "and a voice crossed mine, a whispering voice. I couldn't help wondering what the game was."

"What are you whispering for?" I asked.

"Hush," she said, still in the whisper. "I'm trying to talk under my breath. I don't want my husband to hear. Please get off the wire. Won't you?"

"I got off the wire, but I couldn't sleep very well that night for wondering what it was she didn't want her husband to hear."

Collecting in New Hampshire.

A New Hampshire man tells of a tight-fisted man of affairs in a town of that state, who until recently had never been observed to take an interest in church matters. Suddenly, however, he became a regular attendant at divine service, greatly to the astonishment of his fellow townsmen.

"What do you think of the case of old Ketchum?" said one of the business men of the place to a friend. "Is it true that he has got religion?"

"Well, hardly," replied the other. "The fact is, it's entirely a matter of business with him. I am in a position to know that about a year ago he loaned the pastor \$50, which the latter was unable to pay. So there remained nothing for Ketchum but to take it out in pew rent."—Sunday Magazine.

EXPLAINED.



"I have called," said the captions critic, "to find out what reason you can give for representing the New Year as a nude small boy."

"That is done," responded the art editor, "because the year does not get its close until the 31st of December."

CUBS' FOOD.

They Thrive on Grape-Nuts.

Healthy babies don't cry and the well-nourished baby that is fed on Grape-Nuts is never a crying baby. Many babies who cannot take any other food relish the perfect food, Grape-Nuts, and get well.

"My little baby was given up by three doctors who said that the condensed milk on which I fed her had ruined the child's stomach. One of the doctors told me that the only thing to do would be to try Grape-Nuts, so I soaked 1 1/2 tablespoonsfuls in one pint of cold water for half an hour, then I strained off the liquid and mixed 12 teaspoonsfuls of this strained Grape-Nuts juice with six teaspoonsfuls of rich milk, put in a pinch of salt and a little sugar, warmed it and gave it to baby every two hours."

"In this simple, easy way I saved baby's life and have built her up to a strong healthy child, rosy and laughing. The food must certainly be perfect to have such a wonderful effect as this. I can truthfully say I think it is the best food in the world to raise delicate babies on, and is also a delicious healthful food for grown-ups as we have discovered in our family."

Grape-Nuts is equally valuable to the strong, healthy man or woman. It stands for the true theory of health.

"There's a Reason. Read 'The Road to Wellville,' in pgs.

AN ADVERTISING TRICK FOR WESTERN FARMERS.

Real Estate "Agents" Go After Men with Land for Sale and Reap Rich Harvest.

A smooth scheme for separating farmers from their money has been worked with much success in South Dakota. An oily grifter calls on a farmer and makes a bid for his land. The figures are absurdly low at first, but by degrees are raised as high as \$60 an acre, and the farmer consents. Then the visitor explains that he is only an agent, but that he can sell the land at the price named if the owner will agree to pay for advertising at the rate of fifty cents an acre. The "agent" promises orally that the advertising money will not be payable until the land is sold, but this stipulation is not contained in a contract that the farmer signs.

In a few days he receives a copy of an ad and not over-courteous demand for money. It is said that twenty-two agriculturists were caught with this bait in Brown County and that one of them gave up \$20. Others declare hotly that they will not pay but they will make a fight in the courts.

HAD LISTENED TO DADDY.

Force of Example Exemplified in Precocious Youngster.

There is a certain man living not far from New York whose temper is not of the longest, and when he feels that his rage is justifiable he is very apt to indulge in fluent, versatile and varied profanity.

And it is when using the telephone that this talent of his is seen and heard at its maximum of speed and endurance.

Central has but to say "Wire busy now," or "Doesn't answer," to evoke a flood of language.

One day he had been having an unusually stormy session, and did not notice that his two-year-old son was sitting in a corner of the room, his face rapt and absorbed. A few hours later the child's mother came in and was horrified beyond words to hear her baby giving voice to a stream of expletives, some of which began with a very large capital D—the rest with a variety of letters quite unmentionable in this connection. She descended upon him in righteous wrath.

"Don't you ever let me hear you use such words again," she said in no uncertain tones.

"Why, mother," expostulated the baby in an injured voice, "I'm telephoning!"

COMPLAINTS MANY AND VARIED.

Complete Harmon: Had to Obtain in Organizations.

"All clubs," said the secretary, "keep complaint books, and some of the complaints set down in them are funny. In our book yesterday a member complained that the hot water was always cold, and moreover, there never was any."

"A novelist last week had the nerve to complain that his last new novel hadn't been added to the club library.

"Young swells sometimes complain about the club wines and cigarettes and cigars in order to introduce brands that they are touting on the sly.

"Sometimes anonymous scandal soils the complaint book's pages. Thus, last year, appeared this entry about a very popular member:

"Maj. Hawkins is flirting with too many of our wives. By the way, he still owes that tanner—he knows to whom."

It is to these faithful women that

LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

comes as a boon and a blessing, as it did to Mrs. F. Ellsworth, of Mayville, N. Y., and to Mrs. W. P. Boyd, of Beaver Falls, Pa., who say:

"I was not able to do my own work, owing to the female trouble from which I suffered. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound helped me wonderfully, and I am so well that I can do as big a day's work as I ever did. I wish every sick woman would try it."

FACTS FOR SICK WOMEN.

For thirty years Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, made from roots and herbs, has been the standard remedy for female ills, and has positively cured thousands of women who have been troubled with displacements, inflammation, ulceration, fibroid tumors, irregularities, periodic pains, backache, that bearing-down feeling, flatulence, indigestion, dizziness, or nervous prostration. Why don't you try it?

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.