

The Greater Light

The End Time Messenger

“... Let all have Faith. Turn to The Lord and obey His Commands. Heed Repentance and Baptism that The Way of The Lord shall be among men. His Kingdom shall fill the whole earth. The hands must be laid upon all that THE GREATER LIGHT might come to them.”
 Message 53:3

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“... I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life...”

- John 14:6

“Yea, even that ye would have so much faith as even to plant the word in your hearts, that ye may try the experiment of its goodness;”

-Alma 34:4



The Church of Christ With The Elijah Message
THE ASSURED WAY OF THE LORD, Inc.
 OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE AMERICAS, AFRICA, ASIA, AUSTRALIA, AND EUROPE

Articles of Faith and Practice

1. We believe in God the Eternal Father, who only is Supreme; Creator of the universe; Ruler and Judge of all; unchangeable and without respect of persons.

2. We believe in Jesus Christ the manifestation of God in flesh, who lived, suffered, and died for all mankind; whom we own as our only Leader, Witness, and Commander.

3. We believe in the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Truth, the Comforter, which searcheth the deep things of God, brings to our minds things which are past, reveals this to come, and is the medium by which we receive the revelation of Jesus Christ.

4. We believe that men will be punished for their own sins and not for Adam's transgression, and that as a consequence of the atonement of Christ "all little children are alive in Christ, and also all they that are without the Law. For the power of redemption cometh on all they that have no law; wherefore, he that is not condemned, or he that is under no condemnation, cannot repent, and unto such, baptism availeth nothing." (Moroni 8:22)

5. We believe that through the atonement of Christ all men may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the gospel; viz.: Faith in God and in the Lord Jesus Christ; Repentance and Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; Laying on of Hands for: (a) Ordination; (b) Blessing of Children: (c) Confirmation and the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 8:17); (d) Healing of the sick.

6. We believe in the literal second coming and millennial reign of Jesus Christ; in the resurrection of the Dead, and in Eternal Judgment; that men will be rewarded or punished according to the good or evil they may have done.

7. We believe in the powers and gifts of the everlasting Gospel; viz.: The word of wisdom; the word of knowledge; the gift of faith; the gift of healing; working of miracles; prophecy; discerning of spirits; divers kinds of tongues; interpretation of tongues.

8. We believe the fruits of the Spirit to be love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance.

9. We believe that in the Bible is contained the Word of God; that The Record of the Nephites is the added witness for Christ; and these contain the "fullness of the gospel."

10. We believe in the principle of continuous revelation; that the canon of scripture is not full, that God inspires men in every age and among all people, and that He speaks when, where, and through whom He may choose.

11. We believe that where there are six or more regularly baptized members, one of whom is an elder, there the Church exists with full power of Church extension when acting in harmony with the Law of God.

12. We believe that man must be called of God by revelation and ordained by those having authority, to enable him to preach the Gospel and administer the Ordinances thereof.

13. We believe in the same Church organization as existed in the time of Christ and His apostles. The highest office in the Church is that of an apostle, of whom there are twelve, who constitute special witnesses for Jesus Christ. They have the Missionary Supervision and the General Watchcare of all the Churches.

14. The primary function of the General Church, of which each Local Church is a component part, is missionary and the building up and extension of the Kingdom of God in all

the world.

15. We believe that Local Churches should govern their own affairs and that General Church officials should not dominate or interfere therewith. On invitation such general officers may, with propriety, give counsel and assistance. Local congregations are subject to the Articles of Faith and Practice and must be governed thereby.

16. We believe The Church of Christ comprehends the true brotherhood of man where each esteems his brother as himself and wherein the Divine command to "love your neighbor as yourself" is demonstrated by the prevalence of social equality.

17. We believe that all men are stewards under God and answerable to Him not only for the distribution of accumulated wealth, but for the manner in which such wealth is secured. The primary purpose of stewardship is not the increase of church revenue or the mere contribution of money by those who have to those who have not, but to bring men to a realization of the common fatherhood and the universal brotherhood of man in all the affairs and expressions of life, and to maintain such social adjustments that each may enjoy the bounty and gifts of God, and be free to exercise his talents and ability to enrich the life of all.

18. We believe that men should labor for their own support and that of their dependents. Ministers of the Gospel are not absolved from this responsibility, but when chosen or appointed by the Church to devote their entire time to missionary work, their families are to be provided for out of the General Church fund. The admonition of Christ that ministry should not provide purse or scrip for their journey, but good trusting in God and the people, is applicable.

19. We believe that the temporal affairs of the General Church are to be administered by the general bishopric under the supervision and direction of general conferences of the Church. The temporal affairs of the Local Churches shall be administered by local bishops under the supervision and direction of the local congregations.

20. We believe that marriage is ordained of God, and that the Law of God provides for but one companion in wedlock for either man or woman. In case of a breach of this covenant the innocent one may remarry.

21. We believe oppose to war. Men are not justified in taking up of arms against their fellows except as a last resort in defense of their lives and to preserve their liberty.

22. We believe in the literal gathering of Israel, and in the restoration of the ten lost tribes.

23. We believe a Temple will be built in this generation, in Independence, Missouri, wherein Christ will reveal Himself and endow His servants whom He chooses with power to preach the Gospel in all the world to every kindred, tongue, and people, that the promise of God to Israel may be fulfilled.

24. We believe that New Jerusalem shall be built upon this land "unto the remnant of the seed of Joseph, (Ether 13:4-8; III Nephi 10:17), which city shall be built, beginning at the Temple Lot."

25. We believe that ministry and membership should abstain from the use of tobacco, intoxicating liquors and narcotics, and should not affiliate with any society which administer oaths or covenants in conflict with the Law of God, or which interfere with their duties as freemen and citizens.

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Message 53.3, "Give ear, Oh ye people of the earth. Hear The Warning today. I speak The Words and Will of The Lord. Let all have Faith. Turn to The Lord and obey His Commands. Heed repentance and baptism that The Way of The Lord shall be among men. His Kingdom shall fill the whole earth. **The hands must be laid upon all that THE GREATER LIGHT might come to them."**

Message 53.10, "Yea, I have brought a Warning and few prepare for THE GREATER LIGHT, but be thou Faithful even all who hear, for The Lord's Will shall be fulfilled in all things. All have their work to do and the day comes when The Lord shall breathe upon The Chosen and they shall do His Work in Mighty Power for their love toward the brethren. All that offend and that do not keep His Commandments shall not be His in the Last Day. Moreover, it is Christ's Words that shall judge all men."

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It is the agreement of *The Quorum of Twelve of this Church*, that no Minister is to Ordain any man into *The Ministry* until said candidate has with all his heart and soul confessed he agrees with everything written in *The Articles of Faith and Practice*.

It is each Elder's duty to Seek Guidance from and to keep The Territorial Apostle informed of his works in the region he is laboring.

Secretary For The Twelve

FOREWORD

THE GREATER LIGHT, the official publication of *The Church of Christ With The Elijah Message, The Assured Way of The Lord, Inc.*, comes to YOU as an expression of a united people, whose only aim is to promote *The Cause of Christ* by spreading abroad to every nation, tongue and people, *The True Gospel of Christ* that through Obedience to His Laws we might be found worthy of *Eternal Life*.

In this publication, *The Record of The Nephites* is quoted many times. This Book was Revealed and Translated by *The Gift and Power of God*: the year 1829 marked the beginning of *The Restoration of all things*. It is history of the people who once lived in the region around *The Great Lakes*, some of whom are Ancestors of The Native Americans. Though it contains a Record of two other groups of people who once lived here, it is for the most part a Record of The People of Nephi.

The Messages so often mentioned in this publication are Messages from The Lord, brought to earth by His Chosen Servant, John The Baptist, who comes to earth in a Glorified Body to finish The Work given to him of God; that of Restoring all things (Matthew 17: 11-13). The Angel first came in 1829, and Restored *The Authority of the Son of*

God, that *The Church of Christ* might be Established as in The Days of The Apostles.

In 1927, The Angel Messenger again appeared, and on numerous subsequent visits, has brought to us *The Word of The Lord* that *The Church of Christ* might be set in Order, that a people might be Prepared to be *The Bride of Christ*. This is *The Elijah Message* so many have looked for, *The Midnight Cry* has been Proclaimed, *A Warning of Destruction*, but to *The People of The Lord*, a Message that Christ's soon Coming is near at hand. Fear God and give *Glory to His Name*, for *The Hour of His Judgement* has come. Awake those that sleepest and Arise from the dead, and Christ will give you *Light*.

We hope that whosoever reads these pages might make it a matter of Prayer and Fasting in Humility before God, that they may know for themselves, that God has again Spoken and Revealed *His Will* from Heaven. To this end, we Dedicate *The Greater Light*.

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Thank you.



THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TODAY

To All People

Sixty-Fourth Message

The Messenger of the Lord appeared in my room at my home, 122 West Sea Avenue, Independence, Missouri, about 5:30 a.m., on June 1, 1944, and left the following Message. He was clothed in light and with the Power of the Lord.

-W.A. Draves

1. "Awake, arise, and take the Message I will give you. Behold, I am the servant of the Lord, His Messenger whom ye delight in my coming. I am sent of God to bring other servants that His Vineyard may be nourished, yea, this last time that it may bring forth, and a people be prepared for the coming of the Lord. I have been chosen, and my name is John. This is my calling, to prepare the ways before the Christ to come to His Bride.

2. Will the people heed the warning and obey the instructions I bring from the Lord, your God? That there may be a Bride prepared and the Way of Deliverance established, that mankind may learn the Way of the Lord, His Words, in these last days.

3. The Lord has sent me with a Message when the hearts of His people were bleeding. I have come to minister that comfort may come to all who will walk righteously in this Way. All that I have brought and will bring comes from the Lord, your God.

4. The Lord has looked upon His Church to bless the faithful. Some have denied the Lord and His goodness. Some are full of doubt and are deprived of the Joys of the Lord. Some will repent, others will go to destruction.

5. There are those that seek to prophesy

in the Lord's name, and in vain they do speak their own words. For they know not His Spirit nor His Power, for God speaketh not to blaspheme. Fear them not.

6. You have seen the trials of man, and your burdens have been hard to bear, but take courage for the end is not yet. Trials will come to all and those that will not be humble will not stand in the last day.

7. Lift up your strength in the Lord, in times past you have been delivered from the pitfalls of satan, the plan of the evil one to destroy shall be frustrated. Heed wisdom. Those the Lord has sent you for encouragement to stand by this Work shall be blessed, for in peace they shall find rest. Many blessings shall come to the humble.

8. The Lord has heard the prayers of His servants and His people and will answer as their faith is.

9. I am he that is sent of God to bring His Light to mankind. This is His Church and shall be His Bride when She is prepared and made ready. I speak not my words but the Words and Will of the Christ who has sent me. My message is one of love. It will bring Life to those that will obey.

10. Teach men everywhere to repent and be baptized. Let the hands be laid on all who come to the Church that they may be found and that the Lord may fill them with His Spirit.

11. Fret not, nor grieve not, over things you have no control, but be calm.

12. The day will come when you shall be apart from the turmoil of the world for the Work the Lord has designed must come to mankind. For this Work were you born. Be ye penitent and humble that your Light may shine. Speak the truth and not the traditions of men not the thoughts of man. As I say to you so say I to all. The Lord knows your heart and your righteous desires shall be granted. Those who have set to harm you and this Work will suffer and their end

will be sad. There are those you cannot trust. They betray and deceive.

13. Keep Holy the Sacred Rites of the Lord. Defile them not. Let not the Plan be changed. Heed not man's self-righteousness not those who set themselves to be great, for victory comes through humility and obedience to the Christ, the Lord.

14. Let no man change The Articles of Faith and Practice, neither let man say the Lord is not wise. The Lord cannot use those who will not keep Holy and sacred His Plan, therefore, let them have no part in the ministry of this Work for already they deny its sacredness.

15. Let the people meet in the Assembly in solemnness and humility and the Lord will bless them in their meekness. Seek not to please man but do the Lord's bidding. Let not the time be spent in contention.

16. Conditions have come as the Lord has said. The plague of death in war has taken many. The evil must be destroyed. Let there be left neither root nor branch that the evil may not rise again.

17. If the people of the Lord will be humble and pray mightily unto the Lord He will show His Hand and the time will come when many will be touched by this Marvelous Work. Let the please of rest for the Lord and His people be prepared. Press on in the peace of the Lord with all men.

18. Let those the Lord has called take their places. Seek the Lord often that the Mysteries of the Kingdome will not be hid, but heed not the prophesies of men.

19. I leave peace of the Lord with and the Church. Hold high the Banner of Christ.

20. I will come again as the Lord will direct. I am His servant. I am John the Baptist, the Messenger of the Lord. I am sent to speak His Will. I will be with the Christ when He comes. I am sent to prepare the people for His coming and a place to come to. I am your fellow servant, the Elias

which was for to come.

21. I am to direct in all things of the Work of the Lord. I am to bring the Instructions that the Spirit of God may lead men to righteousness and Life eternal. His sheep shall know His voice.

22. Be at peace. Give this Message to the brethren and the Church. Publish it with the rest. Amen."

Articles

A Vision

*August 19, 1938
Elder William A. Draves
Colorado*

I had a very fine Spiritual Vision in the morning hours of August 19th 1938. I had been praying over the New Messages being turned down by some as I had heard, when The Lord came to my rescue. Thank Heaven.

The Messenger stood at the foot of my bed, and said: 'Come with me and I will show you A Vision of what's taking place that will Strengthen your Faith'. He held his hand out toward me. I took hold of his hand and it seemed we floated in space, through realms of quietness and Heavenly Power, where the air seemed to be perfumed with Holiness. Divine was The Influence.

We seemed to go north ward and west, then every direction stopping at Locals all over the land. I heard testimonies offered by various ones. I saw and heard what was said, many relating some incident to the proving of The Truth of The New Messages. I saw them with tears in their eyes, as they stood in their midst of various groups.

I saw Brother and Sister Bronson and others that I knew, many of them. I heard

the names spoken of many of The Saints and if I ever see them in this life, I shall know them.

We stood in the midst of groups of several Church gatherings. The different ones would say they felt The Power of The Divine with them to Prove to them that they were not deceived. I saw at times and certain of the groups the tears of joy caused by The Spirit of God begin to stream down the faces of the people as we would come in their midst and presence. Yet all the while I knew they did not see us. Some spoke of seeing Brother Draves in a vision and the Lord showed them that I was a clean virtuous man.

One dear Brother felt assured and said, *'I saw a man in whom there was no guile.'* Others spoke things that I shall never be able to say with my unlearned tongue. I can almost say like Paul, *'I saw and heard unspeakable things.'* I weep as I write this down, because of The Presence of The Spirit of God felt.

Once the Messenger said, as we were floating though space, *'How sweet are the paths of them that know The Voice of the Lord.'* I know I was weeping and felt the Greater Power of the Lord. All this taking place while I seem to be speechless.

We saw many groups of Saints testifying of the Truth of The Angel Message, of glad hearts and grounded hope. Where salvation is sure; being chosen of God to it True Sanctification of The Spirit and Belief of The Truth. Called by The Gospel and Glorifying our Savior Jesus Christ.

Many were coming to The Light, The Bride putting on a more becoming garment, clean and bright with Her Becoming Crown on Her Head. The Members of the Body of Christ manifested more charity and love for each other and The Work of the Lord. Kindness, Gentleness and Holiness radiated from them and could be seen in their faces. In all this I was in the most

perfect peace-full, happy atmosphere surrounded by it, The Hallowedness that was in the air seemed to permeate my soul and body. I shall never forget those moments filled with Divine Pleasure.

Then I saw a Great Host Coming to The Temple of The Lord, mostly from the east and The Angel said, *'The Host of Israel are gathering, for The Lord soon comes.'* This Great Host seemed to have music instruments and shiny belongings in their hands. Large and small men, women, and children all moved along alike in perfect peace.

I saw The Apostles beckoning for the people to come to The House of God. Peace seemed to be coming from The Place where The Lord Promised to Meet with the people in the hour in their Great need. It seemed we traveled for hours, and I was so filled with Joy burning in my bosom that my pillow was wet from shedding tears, when I arose in the morning.

When The Angel brought me back to my home I hesitated to let loose of his hand. It felt so real, so warm with influence, so strong and yet so tender too, yet with The Deepest Sweetness that can only come from The Divine Source. I looked at him, wishing that I might stay with him. Not able to say what I wished, however he knew as He said: *'the wish of The Three Nephites was Greatest and their Joy is Great, beyond measure: for eye hath not seen nor ear heard what is in store for them that love the Lord'*. He smiled pleasantly and said: *'with this you will know The Way of the Lord is Life and Light. Joy to the hearts that are honest. Blessed are the prayerful; for their prayers are heard when from the heart. Let your faith be great in the Lord,'* I was sitting up in bed. He left me.

I was so happy and rejoicing for This Great Thing, that I seemed to be in space above the earth. My mind is light with gladness in my heart. Yet I feel almost

speechless.

When he spoke it seemed it was not meant for me alone, but for others that know the Lord and that will yet learn of Him. I wonder why I become the recipient of so much joy in such Beautiful Things of God while it seems we are in an age when men seem to think that such things were for people of years ago, and we are only to read of it in history. Of course, this is the vogue of the world and not of *The Church of Christ*.

It gladdens my heart to be able to tell you of this. I hope it is or will be an encouragement to you as it has been to me. I can say press on and press on, for The Reward are after we have fought the fight. Keep the Faith and finish our course.

Testimony

I drive to Kansas for work. I've been doing this for over 10 years.

I have to drive over one of the Grandview triangle bridges. This bridge crosses over TWO highways. So it's an extra high bridge. It's not a safe bridge to be walking on, or have your car break down on, because there is no walkway on it.

This day, traffic was backed up real slow. Traffic was driving probably 2 miles per hour. That's about walking speed. I noticed up ahead a car was pulled to the side and a man got out. I thought "when I get up there, I'll see if he needs to use my phone," I also thought about offering him a ride to a gas station, but I had a bad gut feeling about that, so I decided I'd just offer my phone so he could call for help.

Two or three minutes went by and I was about one car length from the guys car, he was now standing up in front of his car. I started to roll my window down so I could holler at him, and right as I got by him (he

was about 15ft straight out from my car window) he looked over the edge of the bridge and jumped. He went down head first onto the highway below.

I immediately started crying hysterically. I called the police and I could hardly talk because I was crying so much.

I ended up pulling over at a gas station just so I could catch my breath and try to calm down, but I couldn't. I could not stop freaking out. I wanted to help that man and there was absolutely nothing I could do. Why couldn't I be 5 seconds faster at helping him? Would he have jumped? Why didn't God speed the traffic up, so I could get to the man faster?

I went to work and cried most of the day. I thought about him nonstop. Who was he? I wanted to know his name. I wanted to know why he did that. Why did he feel so lonely and bad that he wanted to kill himself? I wish I could have helped him.

Later that evening I checked the news and there was nothing about him. I wanted to know his name. I wanted to go to his funeral. I wanted him to know, someone cares. I care!

As the days continued to go by, I could not stop thinking about this man. Some of my friends found a couple people on Facebook who had witnessed it from below the bridge and they got us in contact. It did help a little talking to another girl that was feeling what I was feeling. She also couldn't find his name or anything on the news. I called the police station and asked about the man and his name. They said they can't share the info and it's not on the news, because they don't allow suicides on the news. I wanted to send his family a card, I wanted to help in some way, but I couldn't even find his name.

Every single day driving to work, I would cry horribly when I drove over that bridge. I would pray while on the long bridge, but I'd still cry. I'd pray that I'd get

over this, and I'd pray for his mom and his family. I was upset that God let me witness that. Why didn't he protect me from seeing that? Why didn't God let me help the man?

It happened on the one-year anniversary of my daughter's death, so I was already upset due to that. Why would God let me witness a death when I was already at my weakest? I continued to pray every day and I'd cry crossing that bridge every day. I had dreams at night of it happening over, and over and over again. I could not heal from this. I would be sitting at the dinner table with a fun family dinner and that man would pop in my mind and I'd start crying. I'd be grooming a dog and start crying, I would be perfectly happy with my kids and I'd think of the man and start crying. I just could not get over this.

I don't know how long this went on, at least a couple months. I was driving to work again and I knew I was going to break into tears when I got to the bridge, but this time I was praying like always and I told God, "I am done with this, I'm not strong enough for this, I'm giving it all to you, take it. I'm handing this whole thing to you Jesus. It's in your control, please take this from me, take all of it, I NEED you to take this." I cried through this prayer and the whole drive to work talking to God.

I listen to a Christian radio station on the way to work sometimes and that morning they were talking about giving your burdens to God. I think God may have picked that subject for me.

The next day I drove to work and I thought about the man, but I didn't cry!

The next day after that I did the same. I thanked God every time, too. He took my heartache and troubles. He really took it! This continued for weeks. I'd drive over the bridge, I'd think of the guy, but not cry, or if I did cry it was just a few tears. Then one day I got to work and a coworker asked how I was doing with the man on the

bridge situation. That second, I realized I drove all the way to work that morning and didn't even think of the man! I went over the bridge and didn't think of him!!! I was amazed. God took my troubles! He healed my pain!

It has been 6 years since this happened and I do still think of this man, quite often. Any time I see an extra high bridge, or if I see a man that looks similar to him. I still think of him almost every single time I drive over the bridge, but I don't cry. I say a little prayer for his family, just assuming he has one, and I continue my drive and I'm ok.

So, the morale of this story. God is mighty!!!

You have probably heard people say "God will not give you anything you can't handle." Well, I'm here to say, that IS NOT TRUE. He will give you things you cannot handle!!!.....He will!!! **BUT he will never give you anything that HE can't handle.**

You have to give your troubles to God. Don't try and handle things without him. He never gives you anything that is too big for HIM to help you through.

Love in Christ,
Sister Jessie Evans

Young Adults

Branden Dreher

The Fruits of the Spirit: Love

"...the greatest of these is charity"-
1 Corinthians 13:13.

Charity is a strange word. Webster Dictionary defines charity in multiple ways: generosity and helpfulness especially to-

ward the needy or suffering, a public provision for relief of the needy, the lenient judgment of others, and benevolent good will toward or love of humanity.

Since there are so many possible definitions of charity, the question we must ask is which definition of charity is qualified as a fruit of the spirit? Let's look at context to narrow down the definition.

“And though I bestow all my good to feed the poor and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.”- 1 Corinthian, 13:3

The scripture suggests that acts of generosity toward the needy or suffering can be done without charity. The act of giving and relieving suffering must include a mindset and a way of being.

Charity, as defined by the scripture is a mindset. The mindset requires the person practicing charity to be lenient in judgment of others and act with a benevolent good will and love of humanity.

“Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up”- 1 Corinthians 13:4.

To paraphrase the scripture, a charitable act must be done by sacrifice, in a kindly manner, without resentment, without calling attention to the act, and not in a conceited manner. The charitable act must be done in a manner that does not judge the person receiving charity and does not call attention to the person performing the charitable act.

The same mindset includes a benevolent will toward others. “Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, and thinketh no evil”- 1 Corinthians 13:5.

The good will is not limited to one's self or our favorite people and it does not think evil towards another. Although the scripture states “not easily provoked,” the scripture also states that “Charity never faileth”- 1 Corinthians 13:8.

Therefore, if we wish to practice Charity, we must practice an unshakeable, non-judgmental, benevolent good will toward others in all the things we do or it will profit us naught.

Junior

Thresa Ray

The Truth Shall Set You Free

Have You ever told a lie – maybe one of those little ‘white lies’ that aren't supposed to matter anyway? Just what is a lie? *A lie is something that is said that is not true and is meant to deceive someone.*

Do you really think there is a ‘good’ lie or a lie that is okay to say no matter how little it seems? The problem with lying is that once you tell a lie it is usually followed by another lie and sometimes you have to repeat that lie to someone else. Plus, you even have to remember what you said in your lie. If you tell the truth you don't have to ‘remember a certain way you told something,’ because when you tell the truth it will be told the same way each time you talk about it.

If you lie, people will never know if they can trust what you say. Do you remember the story of the little boy who was watching sheep? He cried, “Wolf!” just to see if the townspeople would come and help him if a wolf really did try to harm the sheep. After rushing to his aid a few times when it was a false alarm, a lie, the townspeople finally did not believe him. One day when a wolf really did come to harm the sheep and the boy cried, “Wolf!,” no one rushed to his aid and the wolf hurt the sheep. How sad and upset the boy was to lose sheep because no one believed him!

It is an honor to be trusted and for oth-

ers to know you mean what you say!

Why do people lie? *It is to make something look or sound different than it really is – even to cover up for something done wrong. No one wants to admit when they did something that would get them into trouble!*

My father use to say, “Sin has many tools, but a lie is the handle that fits them all!”

What does the scriptures say about lying? The 9th Commandment says, “Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor...”

Proverbs 12:22, “Lying lips are abomination to the Lord; but they that deal truly are His delight.”

2 Nephi 9:34, “Wo unto the liar; for he shall be thrust down into hell.”

I think the scriptures make it pretty clear about how God feels about lying lips. What does the scriptures say about telling the truth?

Message 1:11, “Be humble; if you want your work accepted of men and God, it will be by the Spirit of Humility. You will win favor with God and man and your success is in telling the truth in humility.”

Message 12:2, “...Contend with no man, only contend for the truth. For the truth shall make you free...”

We need to practice being very truthful in all things!

Remember: **“The Truth shall set you free!”**

Love in Christ,
Sister Thresa Ray

Primary

Ruby Draves

Cain and Abel

Genesis 4:1-16

After Adam and Eve left the Garden, they made a life for themselves. They had 2 sons, Cain and Abel. The first born, Cain, was a farmer. Abel became a shepherd, taking care of the family’s sheep.

One day, both sons offered a sacrifice to God. Cain and Abel gave God a special gift: Cain offered up some of the plants he grew and Abel gave God the best sheep in his flock. God looked down on their gifts and was unhappy with Cain but very pleased with Abel.

Why do you think God liked Abel’s gift more than Cain’s? Abel gave the best of what he had to God; Cain did not. Cain kept the best for himself and gave God the fruits and vegetables that he didn’t want. How would you feel if someone gave you a broken toy for your birthday? Would you be happy or excited to get it? So you can understand why God was not happy or excited about Cain’s gift.

When Cain saw that God was unhappy, he became jealous of Abel because God liked his gift better. God asked Cain, “Why art thou wroth?” (why are you angry?). “If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? And if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door.” -Genesis 4:6-7.

God told Cain that if he works hard, does a good job, and shows his gratitude, He would be happy with him. If not, God would not accept him. Plus, God was warning Cain to calm down and not let his anger get the best of him. God knew that anger could make us do things that we might regret later. Unfortunately, Cain was unable to calm down. He was angry with Abel for “showing off” to God and making him look bad. He didn’t understand that Abel did what God expected. Abel wanted God to know that he was grateful for everything God gave him... that is why he gave God the best he had.

Cain could not see this; his anger and jealousy grew. And when he saw his broth-

er in the field, he attacked, killing Abel. Cain quickly buried Abel's body to hide what he had done. But of course, God saw the whole thing.

God asked Cain, "...Where is Abel thy brother?" and Cain responded. "I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?" God asked, "What hast though done, the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground."- Genesis 4:9-10.

Now, God knew the answers to these questions; He saw what Cain had done but He wanted to give Cain the opportunity to tell the truth. But Cain stuck to his story. He killed his brother, tried to hide what he had done, and then lied about it. There was nothing more for God to do but to punish Cain for his sins.

God told Cain, "When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shall thou be in the earth."- Genesis 4:12.

Basically, from now on, Cain would not be able to grow anything for the rest of his life. Plus, he would no longer have a home; he would always be moving from place to place. This is huge for a farmer. Cain would no longer have a farm, a way to grow food, nor a job selling that food. How was he expected to survive?

Cain pled with God, saying that the punishment was too great and that surely someone would kill him if he moved from place to place. God told Cain not to worry, for if anyone tried, He would punish that person 7 times harder than normal. To prevent this, God placed a mark on Cain- something to warn others- so that no one would hurt him. Cain left God's presence and traveled east.

The Bible never tells us if Cain ever asked for forgiveness. But we do know that Cain's sins separated him from God. It tore that friendship, that relationship, apart. If we are disobedient, we must face the punishment, the consequences of our ac-

tions. But the flip side is true, as well. If we do well and obey God's rules and commandments, we will be happy and rewarded. This is not to say we won't slip up. When we sin, we must ask for forgiveness, truly be sorry and pray to God to help us do better. Imagine how differently, Cain's life might have been if he had asked God to forgive him of his bad gift and to help him to do better. Remember, God loves all of us and He wants us by His side.

Craft: Abel's Sheep

Materials

1. White Paper
2. Pencil
3. Crayons Markers
4. Cotton Balls
5. Glue
6. Google Eye

Instructions:

1. Near the top of your paper trace your hand with a pencil.
2. Turn the page upside down, so that your hand is pointed downward. This will become your sheep- your fingers and thumb, its legs and head.
3. Color the tips of your fingers black. Leave the rest of your handprint white.
4. Color the bottom of your paper green for the grass. Add flowers if you like.
5. Color the rest of the paper blue for the sky. Add a sun and clouds if you like.
6. Carefully add glue to the white part of your handprint.
7. Cover the glue with cotton balls to make the sheep's wool.
8. Glue a google eye to your thumb.

