



Christian Science Sentinel

"What I say unto you I say unto all, *Watch*" —Jesus

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A Collection for Kids



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Rejoice in the Lord always. and again I say, Rejoice.

—Philippians 4:4

A Collection for Kids: January–June 2022

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SENTINEL

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CONTENTS

Use your “superpower” Alicia Clayton	2
Mr. Bumblebee flies home Gay Bryant Flatt	4
Are you a green squirrel? Carolyn Soley Hoffman	5
100 percent faithful Lois Degler	6
A healing at the church cleanup day	8
Where is Love? Virginia Anders	9
Sunday School for Prince Nancy Humphrey Case	10
Questions and answers Joan Sherman Hunt	12
Helping my friend at camp	14
God gave me a friend	15
I prayed on my own at camp	16
The angel book Virginia Anders	17

See **page 19** for submission,
subscription, and contact information.
We look forward to hearing from you!

Use your “superpower”

Alicia Clayton

ONE OF ROLAND'S favorite things is a beautiful metal butterfly with shiny stones on its delicate pink wings. He loves to pretend it is his pet butterfly. He feeds it special butterfly food. He made a bed for it to sleep in. And he always takes very good care of it.

One day, Roland told his mommy that Butterfly was lost. At first, Mommy and Roland thought they could find Butterfly at home. But then Roland said that Butterfly had been pinned on his jacket when they'd gone to the mall. If Butterfly had fallen off at the mall, how would they ever find him?

Roland had been learning in Christian Science Sunday School about the “superheroes” of the Bible, like Moses and Daniel. His teacher called them superheroes because they did things that people didn't ordinarily do and were close to God. Also, they helped others by using their greatest “superpower”: prayer! Roland had learned that his greatest superpower was also prayer.

Roland realized they could pray about Butterfly. Roland prayed by thinking about one idea that he knew was true. He knew that nothing could ever be lost in God's kingdom, because



God’s kingdom is all good and everywhere. It is orderly and harmonious. Roland trusted that God would lead them in their search.

After praying, Roland said they should check the car. As Mommy put on her snow boots, she felt something. Mommy turned the boot over and dumped out what was inside. It was Butterfly! Roland and Mommy were so happy! They knew in their hearts that God had led them to Butterfly.

Afterward, Mommy told Roland that even though she had been praying, she’d been worried that they might not find Butterfly.

“Why were you worried?” Roland asked. “I knew we would find him.”

Like the “superheroes” in the Bible, Roland had prayed and trusted God. He couldn’t wait to do it again. •

Originally published in the January 3, 2022, issue of the Christian Science Sentinel.

*Shepherd, show me how to go
O'er the hillside steep,
How to gather, how to sow, —
How to feed Thy sheep;
I will listen for Thy voice,
Lest my footsteps stray;
I will follow and rejoice
All the rugged way.*

—Mary Baker Eddy, *Poems*, p. 14

Mr. Bumblebee flies home

Gay Bryant Flatt



I WAS SITTING in my garden room on a warm, sunny morning when a big bumblebee flew inside. He was in, but he wanted to be out. He was searching and searching for a way to fly back outdoors. I opened the window wider, along with the patio door into the garden, and tried to show him where to go.

But he ignored me and continued to buzz against a window pane. He didn't seem to know to look for another way. So I decided to leave him alone. I hoped he would find his way out soon.

But that night, the bumblebee was still there. Again I tried to help him find the open door or window. I was afraid he was getting tired from buzzing and buzzing, and I really wanted him to fly back home.

I wondered if there was anything else I could do to help him. Then I had an idea. I could pray. I thought about some ideas from the weekly Christian Science Bible Lesson. You can find it in the *Christian Science Quarterly*, which you might have seen if you go to Christian Science Sunday School. The topic that week was “God the Only Cause and Creator,” and it was all about God’s intelligent creation. I knew that included Mr. Bumblebee!

Then I had a very interesting idea. I wondered why *I* was trying to fix things, when God was already in charge of His own creation. Hadn't He created the bee with its own God-given intelligence? Yes, I thought. Mr. Bumblebee had all the intelligence he needed, coming straight from God!

Right then, the bee stopped buzzing against the window pane. He turned and flew straight out the door and was free.

Later I thought of a passage from a book I love to read along with the Bible: *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy. In one place, this book says that “. . . infinite space is peopled with God’s ideas, reflecting Him in countless spiritual forms” (p. 503).

I loved thinking of Mr. Bumblebee this way. He was one of those countless spiritual forms, the expression of Life (another name for God) and intelligence. I felt so happy to know that this beautiful creature, who was treasured by God, had found his freedom. ●

Originally published in the January 17 & 24, 2022, issue of the Christian Science Sentinel.

Are you a green squirrel?

Carolyn Soley Hoffman



SAM CALLED HIS Christian Science Sunday School teacher, Elisabeth, to tell her he'd hurt his finger. "It really, really hurts!" he said.

"Oh, hello," Sam's teacher replied. "Is this Sam, the green squirrel?"

Sam thought that was a silly thing to say. "No," he told her. He knew who he was.

"Then you must be Sam, the purple-beaked buzzard," Elisabeth said.

"No!" laughed Sam. He didn't believe that silly thought either, because he knew who he was.

"Oh, that's right," Elisabeth said. "You are Sam, and you are lost in a scary swamp."

"No!" Sam said again. "I am Sam. A boy. I am a student in your Sunday School class who has a very hurt finger."

"Oh, Sam," Elisabeth answered, "you never believed for one second that you were a green squirrel or a purple-beaked buzzard, or that you were lost in a scary swamp—because you know who you are."

Sam thought about this for a minute.

"Remember what we talk about in Sunday School?" Elisabeth asked.

"Who you are is God's child. You are always safe and loved and cared for by God. God gives you only good. So you can't be OK one moment and hurt the next."

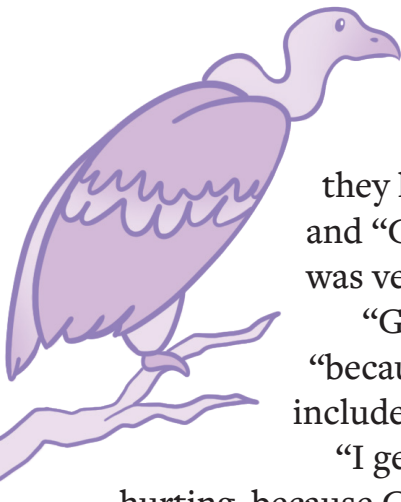
Elisabeth reminded him of something from the Bible they had read in class: "God created man in his own image" and "God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good" (Genesis 1:27, 31).

"Good never changes into something bad," Elisabeth said, "because our God keeps safe all the good that He made. That includes you!"

"I get it," Sam agreed happily. "I am all good with nothing hurting, because God made me that way and keeps me that way. Thanks, Elisabeth. See you on Sunday!"

Now Sam *really* knew who he was. And his finger? It was all better. ●

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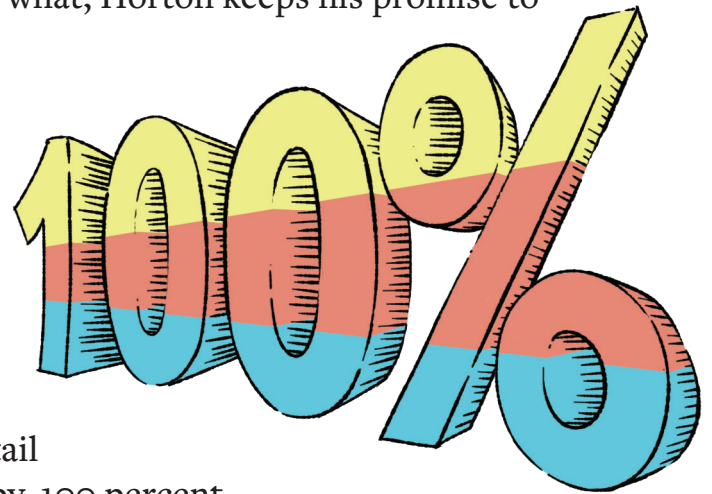


100 percent faithful

Lois Degler

DO YOU KNOW the story about an elephant named Horton? He offers to help his friend, a bird named Mayzie, by sitting on her egg. She flies off to take a vacation, and Horton keeps his promise to sit on the egg. He stays through rain, lightning, and thunder. He stays through sleet and snow. He even stays when his friends laugh at him. No matter what, Horton keeps his promise to stay in the nest on the egg. He says,

“I meant what I said
And I said what I meant. . . .
An elephant’s faithful
One hundred percent!”
(Dr. Seuss, *Horton Hatches the Egg*).



At the end of the story, a baby bird hatches, and it looks like Horton, with a tail and a trunk like his. And everyone is happy, 100 percent.

The part I like best about this story is the 100-percent-faithful part. To be faithful means to keep promises, to be true to your word. It makes me think about how God is faithful to His promise to love us and take care of us—no matter what. God’s faithfulness is 100 percent.

Here’s one way God tells us this in the Bible: “I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you” (Jeremiah 31:3, English Standard Version).

There are lots of stories in the Bible that show God’s faithfulness. Do you know any?

One that I like is in the book of Exodus. It’s about how God showed a man named Moses the way to a new home for his people, the children of Israel. This Promised Land was a long way from where they were living in Egypt, and it took years to get there. But God was faithful to them, and they always had what they needed to eat and drink, even though they were traveling through the desert.

God has been faithful to His promise to take care of me, too. When I got stung by a wasp, I prayed, and God showed me I could forgive the

ANNA LITWILLER — STAFF

wasp. Then the pain stopped. When I accidentally banged my head on the garage door, God told me I could stop thinking I'd made a dumb mistake and instead remember that God had been taking care of me the whole time. Then I wasn't at all hurt. When I needed a friend, God brought me one, and I was grateful.

God is faithful to you, too—whether the challenges you face seem big or small. Remember His promise to love you with an everlasting love. Then, if something seems hard or scary or if you feel alone, you can remember that God is always doing everything just right to take care of you. His care is always 100 percent. •

Originally published in the February 21, 2022, issue of the Christian Science Sentinel.

*Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God,
the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and
mercy with them that love him and keep his
commandments to a thousand generations;*

— Deuteronomy 7:9

A healing at the church cleanup day

Elise

I GO TO Christian Science Sunday School. One day last year, the church I attend held a cleanup day. I was helping spread mulch on the flower beds when I tripped over one of the tools and hurt my foot.

I limped to a nearby bench to rest. That’s when I noticed that a friend of mine who is a Christian Science practitioner—someone who prays for people when they need healing—was sitting nearby. I slowly moved over to where she was sitting, and when she saw that I wasn’t doing too well, she started talking to me about God.

We talked about how God made me and about the fact that I am His perfect creation. Then she asked me, “What do the bushes and trees say when you cut off their branches while pruning them?”

I was surprised by this question and answered, “Ouch?”

But my friend reminded me that they don’t say anything, because they have no mind of their own to tell them that they need to feel hurt. I understood this to mean that since God is my creator and my Mind (one of the synonyms Mary Baker Eddy uses for God in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*), I didn’t have another mind to convince me that my foot could be hurt.

This helped me, and I was able to stand up and walk again. I thanked my friend and walked into the nearby Christian Science Reading Room to read a few Bible stories. It was fun to speak with the librarian while I was there, and I soon realized that my foot didn’t hurt at all. I went back outside and continued working. I had had a healing!

This experience taught me a lot about God, including that He is always there to help when you need it. I am grateful for Christian Science and for my friend’s help. •



ANNA LITWILLER — STAFF

Originally published in the March 7, 2022, issue of the Christian Science Sentinel.

Where is Love?

Virginia Anders

DAVID WAS WORRIED. He didn't want to go to bed in his new bedroom in his new house. He missed his old bedroom in his old house, where he felt safe.

David didn't want to tell anybody what was bothering him. He didn't want his older brother to think he was a baby. But there were dark places in his new room. And there was a big tree that made shadows on his wall. This scared him. He never wanted to go to bed anymore, and this made his parents upset.

Each week, David went with his mom and brother to church. There, they were all learning about Christian Science and how to pray. So David's mom knew she could pray about bedtime. She knew God had an answer for David, and as she prayed, an idea came to her.

That night, when David's mom told him it was time to go to bed, he started to get upset just like he had done since they moved. But then his mom surprised him. She told him she had a new game they were going to play that would be really fun. He wasn't sure about that, but he hopped into his bed anyway. Mom said they were going to play the "Where is Love?" game. David knew that Love is another name for God.

"Where is Love?" David's mom asked him. "Is it on your pillow?"

"Yes," David said, because he knew that Love, God, is everywhere.

"Is Love around your toes?" she asked as she tickled his feet.

"Yes!" he said, laughing.

"Is Love in your closet?" she asked. "What about under the bed? On the table?"

"Yes, yes, and yes!"

They went through everything in David's room, and there wasn't a single place where Love wasn't. Even in the darkest corners and shadows.

After that, David wasn't afraid anymore. He wasn't even the littlest bit worried. He understood that he was never alone in the dark, because Love was everywhere. Love was always with him.

David had discovered what a verse in the Bible says: "I am sure that



ANNA LUTWILLER — STAFF

nothing can separate us from the love God has for us. Not death, not life, not angels, not ruling spirits, nothing now, nothing in the future, no powers, nothing above us, nothing below us, or anything else in the whole world will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 8:38, 39, International Children’s Bible).

David and his mom played this game every night and never found a single place where Love was not, because Love is All and ever present. Wherever you are, you can find Love, too! •

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Sunday School for Prince

Nancy Humphrey Case

HE WAS JUST a little colt when we first saw him, but he held his head high and pranced proudly, his chestnut coat and white socks gleaming in the sun. My dad bought him for my sisters and me, and we named our pony Prince.

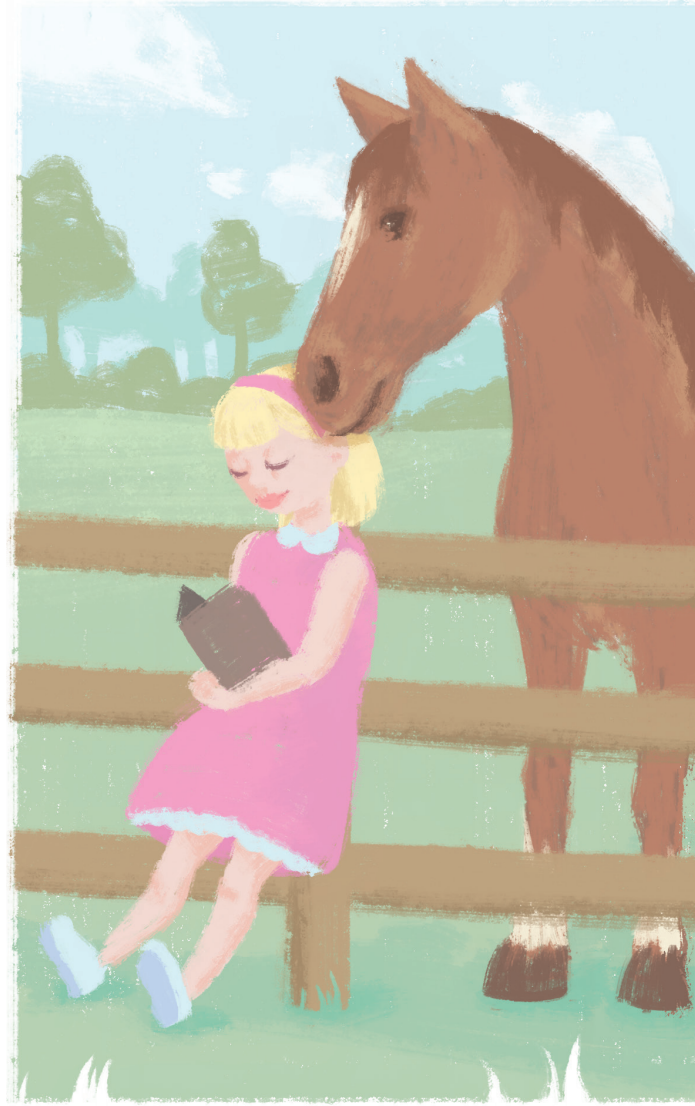
My older sister rode him when we first brought him home. But when she outgrew him, I learned to ride, and Prince learned how to enjoy being ridden. We became good friends. I loved brushing him, kissing his neck with its sweet pony smell, and just lying in the grass reading a book while he grazed nearby. Best of all, I loved trotting him through the woods and fields behind our house, exploring new trails or weaving our way among the wild blueberry bushes.

If there was anything I liked even more than being with Prince, it was going to Christian Science Sunday School. Learning about God, Spirit, the ever-present good that is Love, gave me a deep, warm feeling. Sometimes, discovering new meaning in a Bible verse was as wonderful to me as discovering a big hay field at the end of a wooded trail. And having healings was as joyful as galloping home at top speed.

One morning when I went out to feed Prince, he did not look good. He had gotten tangled up in some rusty old barbed wire and had big, deep cuts on his front legs. His head hung down, and he couldn’t walk very well. But because of what I’d learned in Sunday School, I wasn’t worried or sad—I knew I could pray for him right then and there.

I told my mom so she could pray for Prince, too. Then I took my Bible and my copy of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy out to the barn. I pulled up a stool next to Prince’s head, and I read him that week’s Bible Lesson from the *Christian Science Quarterly* because I knew it was filled with healing ideas that could help him. I told him what it says in the first chapter of Genesis in the Bible—that God saw everything that He had made, and it was very good. And I told Prince that meant he was very good, right then. In fact, perfect. It was like a Sunday School class for my pony.

Christ Jesus promised, “Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32). I was sure that the truth would heal Prince, and it did. Within a very short time, the cuts healed, and Prince and I were trotting—even galloping—freely across the fields again, glorifying our very good God. •



Originally published in the April 4, 2022, issue of the Christian Science Sentinel.

Questions and answers

Joan Sherman Hunt

“WHY CAN’T I see God?” Joy asked one night at bedtime. “Is He real or pretend?”

Joy had also learned that people have first names and last names, so she added, “Does God have a last name?”

Mom assured Joy that God was definitely real, not make-believe like the fairy godmothers or talking mice or giants in the stories they read together.

Mom also said that God doesn’t have a last name, but He does have many names that tell us more about Him. These names can be found in the Bible and in *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* by Mary Baker Eddy.

Mom and Joy began to think about other names they used for God. They remembered a prayer they said at bedtime, which Joy knew by heart:

Father-Mother God,
Loving me,—
Guard me when I sleep;
Guide my little feet
Up to Thee.

(Mary Baker Eddy, *Poems*, p. 69)

This prayer includes the name Father-Mother, followed by “God, loving me.” Mom told Joy that another special name for God is Love and that at that moment and every moment, God was loving her.

Joy knew love was real even though she couldn’t see it with her eyes. One of her favorite people in the whole world was her cousin, Gabrielle, who had recently moved far away to another country. Mom reminded Joy that she didn’t have to see Gabrielle with her eyes or hug her with her arms to love her or feel loved by her. So, she could feel divine Love’s presence and know Love was real, even if she couldn’t see it.

With these happy thoughts, Joy fell asleep.

For a few days, Joy didn’t ask any more questions about God. But then one morning Joy really needed to understand that God was real and was loving her and taking care of her. She stumbled out of bed, crying, tugging on her ear, and saying that it hurt. Her dad and mom started to pray and to talk to her about God’s love.

Joy climbed into the rocking chair with Mom, and Mom began singing favorite hymns from the *Christian Science Hymnal*.

Soon they found a new hymn they had never sung together before. It began by using the name Father for God: “Father, we Thy loving children/Lift our hearts in joy today.” And a little later on, the hymn even mentioned ears: “Eager ears, expectant, joyful,/Ready for Thy right commands” (Elizabeth C. Adams, No. 58, © CSBD).

As Joy’s mom sang and prayed, she heard God tell her that He is speaking to all of His precious children every minute and in words that are just right for their ears. And Joy also heard a “right command” from God. She stopped crying, closed her eyes, and became very still. Then, she looked up and softly said, “Mama, God loves all the tiny babies. And He loves the mamas and the daddies, too.”

She sat quietly for another few minutes; then she touched her ear and said, “Doesn’t hurt, Mama.”

Joy was healed! They ran downstairs to have breakfast.

Now Joy really knows that God is Love and God is real. And she also knows that whenever she has a question about God, God will always answer it. •



Originally published in the April 18, 2022, issue of the Christian Science Sentinel.

Helping my friend at camp

Max

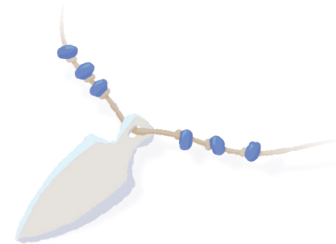
I WENT TO a camp in Maine for Christian Scientists last summer. One night as I was getting ready for bed, I overheard my friend talking to one of our counselors about being homesick.

That's when I remembered something my mom had told me before I went to camp. She said that there is only one Mind. There aren't any separate minds, because we are each Mind's creation. Mind is God, and we are all together in God, who is good. So we can never be separate from good. My mom's words were kind of like a prayer, and they had helped me, so I thought they might help my friend.

I went up to him and told him what my mom had told me. It made him feel better right away! He thanked me and was immediately happy again. Then we went to bed. He was healed.

At camp each week, an arrowhead award is given to campers who have done things around the camp that have to do with Christian Science. I got an arrowhead for helping my friend feel better with spiritual ideas.

I am very grateful for Christian Science, for my Sunday School teacher, and for my mom and dad, who teach me things about God all the time. ●



ANNA LITWILLER — STAFF

Originally published in the May 2, 2022, issue of the Christian Science Sentinel.

God gave me a friend

Naomi

DURING THE PANDEMIC, I was feeling lonely and praying for a best friend. My mom told me she knew that God would give me a friend, because when she was young, she felt the same way, and her prayers were answered.

We talked about some ideas from Christian Science that helped her, like each of us as God’s child is complete, and God meets every need, including a friend. Mary Baker Eddy said something about this when she wrote, “Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need” (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 494).

I thought I might find a friend when I went to camp in the summer before fourth grade. One day, during recess at camp, I felt really lonely, so I went and sat on a playground staircase. Then I had a thought that I might find a best friend very soon. I think that might have been God talking to me because of what happened next.

I saw a boy in a purple hoodie, and I shyly said, “Hi.”

He turned around and said,
“Would you like to talk with me?”

“Sure!” I said.

Excitement started hopping inside me! I started being very talkative with my new friend. He said his name was Evan. We turned into really good friends and found out that we had lots of things in common.

This experience showed me that God loves each of us very much. And now I know we can turn to Him for anything, and He will always meet our needs.●



ANNA LITWILLER — STAFF

Originally published in the May 23, 2022, issue of the Christian Science Sentinel.

I prayed on my own at camp

Peter

MY NAME IS Peter, and I'm in sixth grade. I have been going to sleep-away camp for two summers. One of my favorite things to do at camp is miniature horse riding. Miniature horses, even when fully grown, are much smaller than a full-size horse, and we ride in little carriages behind them. I love this activity because the horses are so cute, and we get to tour the whole camp this way.

One day last summer, while we were in the carriages waiting for the horses to be harnessed, I felt a prick on my index finger. It immediately began to hurt, and I could see the spot where something—probably a bee—had stung me.

Because I was at a camp with other Christian Scientists, it felt very natural to start praying right away. In my Christian Science Sunday School at home, I had learned that I could pray for healing. And I'd had other healings of things like headaches and stomachaches, so I knew this could be healed, too.

I thought of the book of Genesis in the Bible, where God created every creature and called it good. I realized that since a bee is good, it couldn't hurt me. This idea calmed me down, and I wasn't afraid anymore. I forgot all about the sting, and I was able to participate in the activity and have fun. After we were done, I couldn't feel or even see where the bee had stung me. The mark was totally gone. I was so happy!

I'm so grateful for this experience. It showed me I can rely on God and expect healing, even when I am on my own. •



ANNA LUTWILLER — STAFF

Originally published in the June 6, 2022, issue of the Christian Science Sentinel.

The angel book

Virginia Anders

BETSY WAS GOING to camp. She'd never been away from her mom and dad, her cat, or her home for such a long time before. She was excited as she thought about all the new activities she would get to try. But she was also worried. Even after Betsy made a list of all the fun things she might get to do at camp, like making new friends, going on hikes, and canoeing, she was still worried.

Betsy went to Christian Science Sunday School, where she was learning about how much God loved her. She'd also learned that she could talk to God about anything and get answers that helped and healed her. So, she decided to write down all the things she was afraid of about camp and then ask God about each of them. She got a small notebook and started to write.

Here's what Betsy put down:

Bees

Snakes

Mosquitoes

She asked God about her list, and an angel message—that's another name for a thought from God—came right back to her. God told her that He created everything in the universe, just as it says in the Bible in the book of Genesis. And not only that, but He made everything good—only good. So, Betsy realized she didn't need to be afraid of bees, snakes, mosquitoes, or any other creature, because they were all actually God's *good* creatures.

Next she wrote down:

Homesick or miss my mom

Betsy got quiet and listened, and the next angel message she heard reminded her of the twenty-third Psalm. It told her that she lived in “the house of the Lord” (v. 6), no matter where she was. Then another message reminded her that God was her Father-Mother. She could never be outside of or separate from God's mothering love, and she was always at home in this love.

In what she thought of as her “angel book,” Betsy wrote down all her worries. Then, beside them she wrote God’s answers. She was happy to discover that there was an answer for every fear. She took her book with her to camp and tucked it in her back pocket, so she had all the comforting ideas with her wherever she was. If she felt afraid about anything, she asked God about it and wrote down His answer in her special book. She went through every day at camp being happy and fearless, safe in God’s love. And she got to do all those fun things at camp that she’d been looking forward to, too.



When Betsy came home, she kept praying and writing in her angel book, until one day she realized that she didn’t need the book anymore. She knew that God was always right with her, telling her just what she needed to know. She wasn’t worried. She felt free.

Maybe you can make your own angel book! •

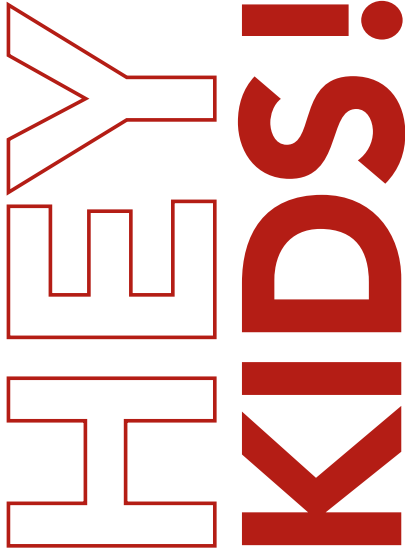
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When angels visit us, we do not hear the rustle of wings, nor feel the feathery touch of the breast of a dove; but we know their presence by the love they create in our hearts. Oh, may you feel this touch,— it is not the clasping of hands, nor a loved person present; it is more than this: it is a spiritual idea that lights your path! The Psalmist saith: “He shall give His angels charge over thee.” God gives you His spiritual ideas, and in turn, they give you daily supplies. Never ask for to-morrow. it is enough that divine Love is an ever-present help; and if you wait, never doubting, you will have all you need every moment.

— Mary Baker Eddy, *Miscellaneous Writings* 1883–1896, pp. 306–307

A Collection for Kids:

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