

RELIGION FOR THE MODERN WORLD



SCRIPTURE: III John  
DEVOTIONAL READING: I Corin-  
thians 1:10-17

Christian Fellowship

Lesson for December 7, 1947

SUNDAY'S lesson is based on the short third Epistle of John. You can read it in two minutes, but you will not exhaust its meaning in a lifetime. Link with



Dr. Newton

III John the devo-  
tional reading found  
in First Corinthians  
1:10-17, and you  
have a great and  
glorious picture of  
Christian fellow-  
ship. Note these  
words:

"Now I beseech  
you, brethren, by  
the name of our  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
that ye all speak

the same things, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment," I Corinthians 1:10.

And these words from III John, second verse:

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."

Here we have the basis for Christian fellowship.

Let Us Love One Another

WHAT is the first test of Christian fellowship? Read I John 4:7.

Love one for another is the first and last test of Christian fellowship. Of course, love one for another is dependent upon love toward God. We do not really love one another until we first love God. And we do not love God until we realize that he first loves us.

Why do we keep certain letters? Because they are from those who love us, and whom we love. Boys and girls can help to make this a better world if they will express their love one for another in letters.

Gracious Words

IN ECCLESIASTES 10:12, we read: "The words of a wise man's mouth are gracious."

Christmas will soon be here. There will be many Christmas cards and Christmas letters. Let us think carefully of some lonely boy or girl in our community who may not receive such a message unless you

More than that, think of the lonely boy or girl in the hospital, in the orphan home, in the underprivileged tenement. Think what a letter from you to such a lonely neighbor would mean!

Doing Good

CHRISTIAN fellowship, in the last analysis, is doing good. "He that doeth good is of God," says John, and we know that it is true. Intermediate boys and girls can seize upon numerous methods of proving their Christian attitude as we come on toward the Christmas season. Discuss with your teacher next Sunday the idea of providing Christmas gifts for underprivileged boys and girls of your age. If not in your community, somewhere.

While in Europe last summer, I was impressed with the fact that there will be very little Christmas for the young people in many of these lands this year. War has left its frightening de-  
olation. The people are without money and without homes and without clothing and without food.

May I suggest that you discuss plans by which you may send packages through CARE to some lonely, needy neighbor in Europe this Christmas, thus proving your sense of Christian fellowship.

Furthering the Gospel

AS WE grasp more fully the meaning of this lesson next Sunday, our hearts will gladly respond to the opportunities for furthering the Gospel of Jesus Christ, even as Galus and Demetrius impressed John.

In every community are crying needs for Christian ministry. Your newspapers will be telling of special opportunities for Christmas help. Your Community Fund chairman can give you names of worthy neighbors who need help.

"I thank God for your fellowship in furtherance of the Gospel from the first day until now," wrote Paul to the Philippian Christians.

How did they show this fellow-ship? In many, many practical ways, some of which Paul names. They sent food, books, clothing. More than that, they gave them-  
selves in personal visitation to lonely friends. They cheered the faint.

How happy we shall be if after the study of this lesson we go out to do with all our might what our hands find to do.

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All Types Of Wiring

NEXT WEEK: ANOTHER BIBLE LESSON

Timber Cultivation

The "cut out the weed trees" education campaign in forests of this section may carry with it lasting benefits to one and all citizens here, both landlord and tenant.

That timber, especially number one logs, is fast passing out of existence due to clearing off so many acres for pulpwood, saw logs, and other purposes, is becoming known. Especially is this being felt by saw mills and veneer mills and throughout the South.

In an announcement about a campaign to get land owners to utilize crooked and defective trees and tops for pulpwood, fuel, fence posts, and other needs, has been sent here by the Southern States Forestfire Commission, Inc., of Birmingham, Alabama, a private non-profit education Corporation sponsored by local lumber and other wood industry interests.

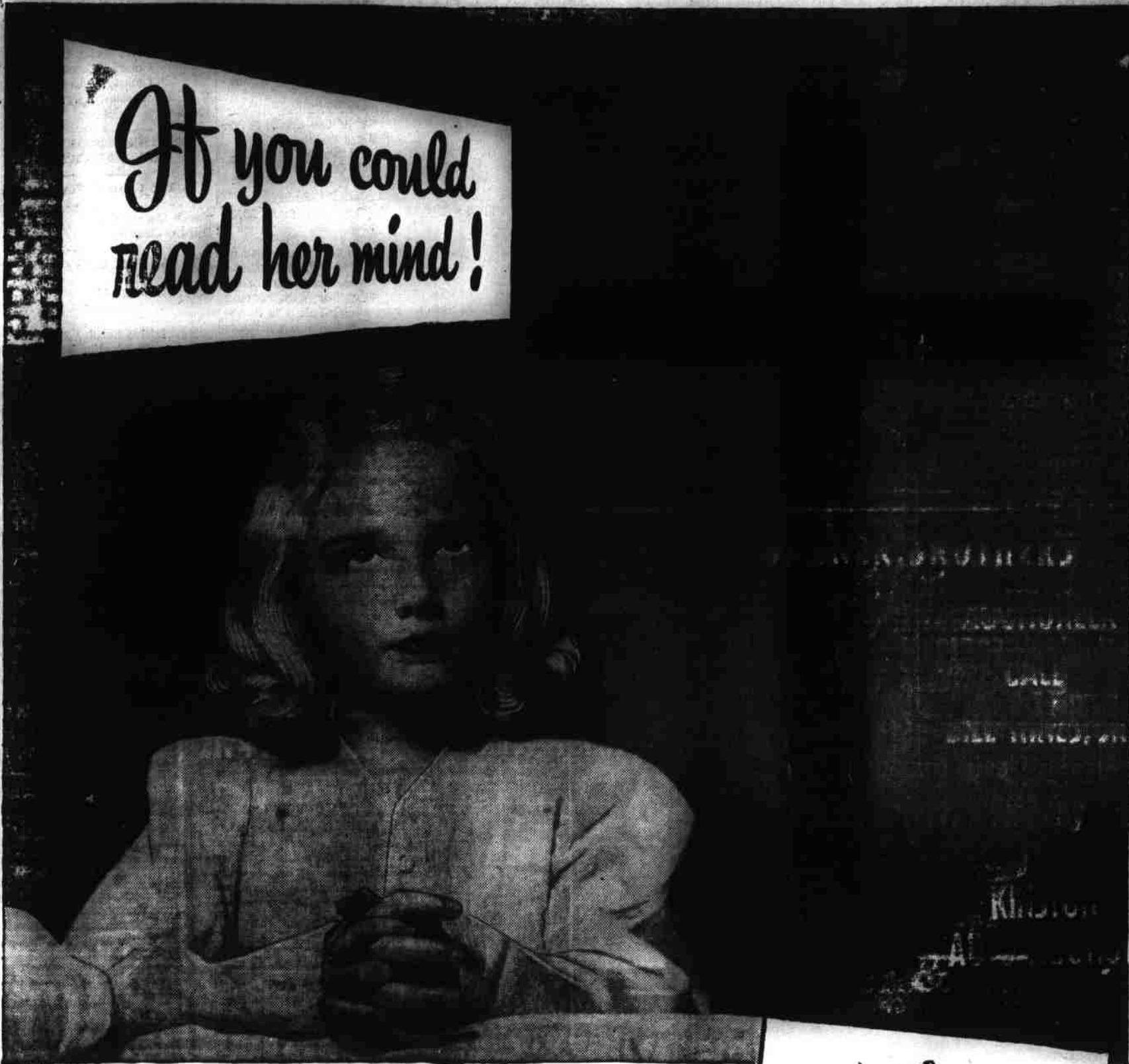
"Fully a third of your trees there will never grow to be fit for lumber or veneer, and these useless trees are daily absorbing soil space that would grow good straight healthy and valuable log timber,

and removal of these so-called "wolf" and weed trees is the purpose of this appeal there to your land owners", the announcement to this paper stated.

Sam Byrd, Native Of This Section Goes On Stage

Sam Byrd, native of the Mount Olive section, will make his first post-war appearance on the stage in Charleston, S. C., in Saroyan's "Time of Your Life". The play will be shown the first in January 8-17.

Mr. Byrd, actor and playwright, played the role of Dude Lester for 1,151 consecutive times in "Tobacco Road" on Broadway and received the Literary Digest Award as the "Best Young Actor on Broadway."



You'd be a stronger man, a stronger woman . . . if you could read her mind!

Those worries and fears that walk forever with us . . . they would fall behind. The sorrows that seem an inescapable part of life . . . they would suddenly be far away. And all of the boredom and drabness of life that make each day too much like the others . . . they, too, would disappear. Today would seem a privilege—tomorrow, a promise.

If you could read her mind you'd be a child again! And as a child you'd kneel and really pray. You'd know it makes a difference when we believe in God. You'd know there is a Way through all the clouds of life. And though you might not know the meaning of the word—you'd have a faith that gives each prayer an Answer.

We cannot, nor should we want to be children again. But that faith, so real in childhood, can be found again in later life. And whenever we find it . . . we're stronger men and women!

The Church can help you re-establish that faith.



THE CHURCH FOR ALL . . . ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For his children's sake. (3) For his sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church on Sunday and read your Bible daily.

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Uncle Sam Says



How about shopping today for Christmas 1947? There's one gift on the market everywhere in America which not only will warm the heart of the recipient this Christmas, but will warm his home when it will mature at the rate of 4% for every \$5 you pay for it now. That's United States Savings Bonds. Bonds will be glad to buy in your loved ones and friends, for Christmas 1947, and leave the present with a great future. Send your bank or post office any-  
time bond orders on your Christmas shopping list.

U.S. Treasury Department