

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

LIVING IN CHRIST

International Sunday School Lesson for November 16, 1941.

GOLDEN TEXT: "Abide in me, and I in you."—John 15:4.

(Lesson Text: John 15:1-10)

The lesson for this week closely follows that of last week on "Repentance and Faith." True repentance is accompanied by faith in Jesus. This faith results in union with Christ. Paul expressed it thus: "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me" (Gal. 2:20). Again, on another occasion, this great Christian declared, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature" (II Cor. 5:17).

To be a Christian, then, means to be joined to Christ, not simply by the tie of faith and love, but in the reality of spiritual oneness. Every Christian should be able to say with Paul, "Christ liveth in me."

W. N. Clark, in An Outline of Christian Theology, describes such a union as follows: "By spiritual union with him a man is delivered from sinning and the spirit that will sin, and made possessor of the spirit that is right and will do right, and is thereby saved. In Christ he is a new creature, 'created in Christ Jesus unto good works' (Eph. 2:10); and toward this new creation the whole work of God, from the Incarnation to his own renewal, has directly tended.

"The men who are thus 'in Christ' do truly constitute a New Humanity . . . To come into spiritual fellowship and moral unity with him is to enter into that ideal humanity which fulfills God's design . . . The ties of this humanity are not carnal but spiritual, and it life is the holy, eternal life which is in Christ . . . Union with Christ delivers a man from that selfish isolation in which the sins and burdens of his human brothers are nothing to him, and brings him into the fellowship of salvation."

Nowhere is this fact of spiritual union set forth more clearly or more beautifully than by Christ, in talking with his disciples. He declared, "I am the true vine, and ye are the branches." The Christian is a branch in the vine which is Christ. The branch has no life within itself without the vine and its purpose is to adorn the vine and to bear fruit. If a branch fails to bear fruit, it is removed from the vine, and even the fruit-bearing branch must be pruned in order that it bear more and better fruit.

There is nothing more disappointing and more tragic than a fruitless Christian. The fruitless Christian defeats the very purpose of God's regenerating grace in his life, which is that that life might become a channel of blessing to those with whom he comes in contact. It is tragic to contemplate the fact that only a small minority of those who accept Jesus Christ become active for him, either in his church or in the world at large.

The blessings that come to the fruit-bearing Christian, who abides in Christ are suggested in verses 7-10. These are: (1) God's answer to prayer. Jesus says, "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." (2) The glorifying of God. (3) Being called a disciple of Jesus. (4) The blessing of continuing in the love of Christ, and, (5) the fullness of joy in knowing that one's life is entirely consecrated to God.

Abiding in Christ should certainly mean living in Christ—having fellowship with Christ, finding joy in his service and walking in his steps, conscious of his guiding presence. The Christian who is conscious of the abiding presence of Christ in his life

will certainly be less likely to do unworthy acts. Therefore, union with Christ assures us that we will be more able to live victoriously and die triumphantly, believing that we shall have a share in his immortality. If we suffer with him while here on this earth, he has promised that we shall reign with him hereafter.

Let us ask ourselves today, and every day, "Is Christ living in me?" If he is not, you have only to open your heart to him, for he has declared, "Lo, I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." (Rev. 3:20).

Oak Grove Group Presents Play At New Hope Friday

The young people of Oak Grove Church will present a play, "A Hooded Coon," at the New Hope Community House Friday evening, November 14, at 8 o'clock.

Included in the cast of characters are: Everett Bright, Talmage Lewis, Mrs. Henry Ownley, John Asbell, Carl Lewis, Doris Lewis, Mrs. Roy Pierce, Mrs. George Jackson and George Jackson.

The play is a three-act affair and an evening of entertainment is promised those who attend.

Bonner Urges Naming Ship "Virginia Dare"

Congressman Herbert C. Bonner had a conference last week with Rear Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the United States Marine Corps, urging him to name the first ship launched at Wilmington, N. C., the "Virginia Dare," in honor of the first English-speaking white child born in America.

In a letter to Admiral Land, Mr. Bonner briefly told of Virginia Dare's birth on Roanoke Island in the year 1587, and the portrayal of the fate of the early settlers at the Watergate Theatre at Fort Raleigh for the past five years.

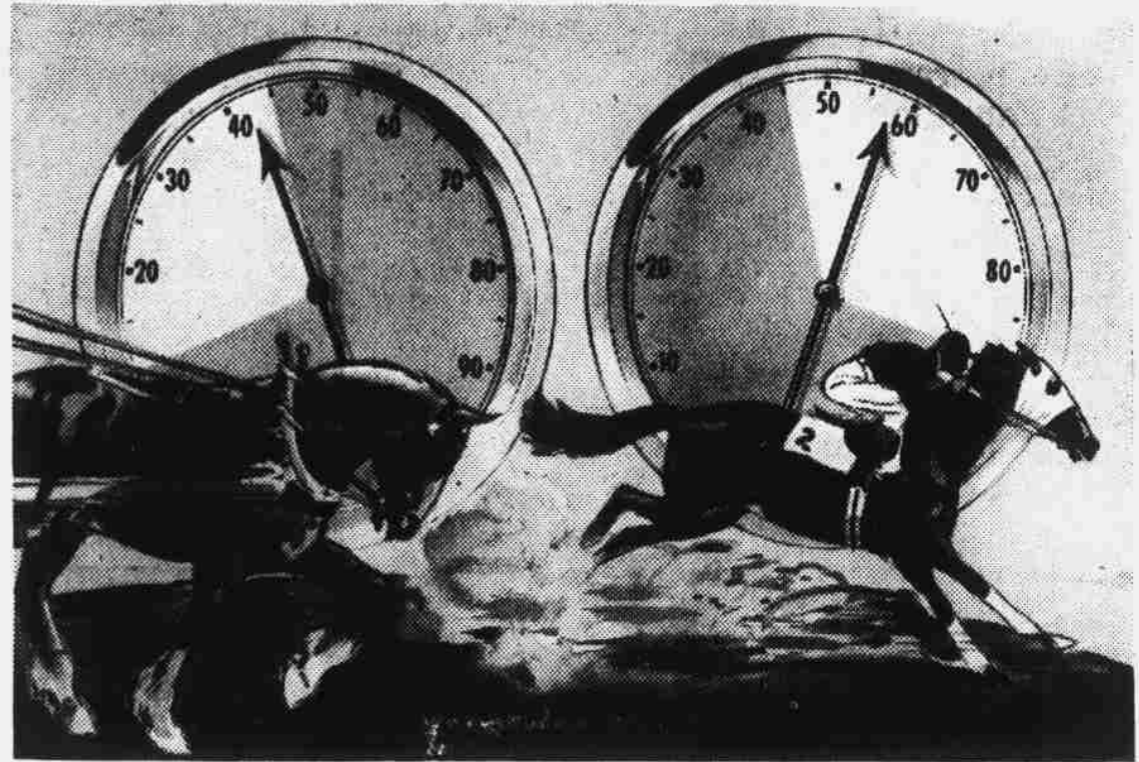
"The ship named the 'Virginia Dare,' having been built on the North Carolina coast, would return to England, bringing back home the spirit of these early adventurous colonists, as well as the spirit of America," wrote Bonner.

WRIGHT-BLANCHARD VOWS MADE IN EVENING CEREMONY

(Continued From Page Two)

a gift in crystal. Honoring Mrs. Wright before her marriage, Mrs. R. G. Stephens, Miss Blannie Rae Morris and Miss Myldred Gupton were gracious hostesses at a tea and handkerchief shower given at the Hobbsville teacherage.

Canadian textile mills are using more Brazilian cotton, the Department of Commerce reports.



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NO JOB in the world offers so much as a career in the U. S. Navy or the Naval Reserve. It's interesting . . . healthy . . . full of thrills. Yet it prepares you to be a real success in life—whether you remain in the Navy or decide to return to civil life.

Uncle Sam's new two-ocean Navy offers you tremendous opportunities for advancement in a wide variety of fascinating jobs. There are 45 skilled trades and vocations. If you're interested, for instance, in radio work, engineering, aerial photography, carpentry, pharmacy, welding, the Navy may spend \$1500 in one year training you to become an expert in your chosen field.

If you apply yourself, advancement and increases in pay will follow regularly. Before the end of your first enlistment you can be earning up to \$126 a month—with your board, keep, and a complete outfit of clothing given you free! If, at the end of your term of service, you wish to get a job in civil life, your Navy training will be a tremendous asset to you. Employers the country over are eager to employ Navy-trained men.

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- Saturday, Nov. 14—First Edenton Showing Gene Autry and Smiley Burnette in "DOWN MEXICO WAY" King Texas Rangers No. 9 Comedy
- Sunday, Nov. 16—George Brent and Ilona Massey in "INTERNATIONAL LADY"
- Monday-Tuesday, Nov. 17-18—Jeanette Macdonald and Brian Aherne in "SMILIN' THROUGH" A New Picture Filmed in Technicolor Matinee 10c-25c. Night 10c-35c
- Wednesday, Nov. 19—Double Feature 10c and 25c Dorothy Lamour in "ST. LOUIS BLUES" Donald Wood in "I WAS A PRISONER ON DEVIL'S ISLAND"
- Thursday and Friday, Nov. 20-21—A Thrilling Treat Betty Grable and Victor Mature in "BOY" "BOY"

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