

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

CONSERVING THE FAMILY HERITAGE

International Sunday School Lesson For May 18, 1952.

"Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long in the land which Jehovah thy God giveth thee."—Exodus 20: 12.

Lesson Text: Exodus 20: 12; Mark 7: 9-15; John 19: 23-27.

If you are a keen observer and sensitive to the moods and trends of modern life, you are already cognizant of the fact that there is something radically wrong with American home life. Contemporary American life seems to contribute to the breaking up of the old-fashioned home.

Parents have, for the most part, turned over to the public schools the responsibility of training their children's minds and relinquished to the Sunday Schools and churches the obligation to mold the character of their children. This is unfortunate because the home and its influence cannot be replaced by any social agency lacking the same intimate association and close affection which should exist within the family circle.

Our national life would probably improve if we could increase the stability and unselfishness of our homes, which should be the controlling influence and impelling inspiration for right living and service in every life. The family unit has for its supreme purpose the proper training and development of new lives. This involves a series of processes with each individual child, requiring approximately twenty years, and even longer, before the child is adequately prepared to assume the problems and difficulties of adult life.

The most important element which enters into such training is the emphasis devoted to religious and moral principles. Religion furnishes to the home, as it does to every segment of society, the complete answer to the needs of every moment, furnishing the basis, if accepted, for a contented, happy and successful life.

The basis for a happy, contented home-life depends upon the relationship which exists between parents and children. The right relationship will only be possible if there is mutual respect, one for the other. In the Fifth Commandment, children are commanded to "honor" their father and their mother. As a reward for such action, God promises that their "days may be long in the land which Jehovah thy God giveth thee."

The word "honor" involves reverence (Lev. 19: 32); obedience (Col. 3: 20); gratitude, (I Tim. 5: 4); the following of advice (Prov. 1: 8); and, of course, the exclusion of all the feelings and actions opposite to these (Ex. 2: 15-17; Deut. 27: 16).—F. W. Farrar. This "honor" will find expression in an acceptance of parental authority and in a becoming deference to one's parents' desires and wishes. The children who are rude, insolent and disrespectful to their parents are not only guilty of breaking this commandment, but they show themselves utterly lacking in moral and spiritual discernment.

Although this commandment seems to be concerned solely with the duty of the child toward its parents, it, by inference, clearly teaches that parents have responsibilities to their children. In order to receive the honor of one's children, parents should be worthy of their children's respect. A parent lacking in character and self-respect has no right to expect that an intelligent child shall honor him.

Parents, to merit the respect of their children, should give them the best care—mental, physical and spiritual—that is possible. They should have, in the home, the benefit of proper examples of Christian living in order that they may have the chance to evaluate the advantages of proper choices.

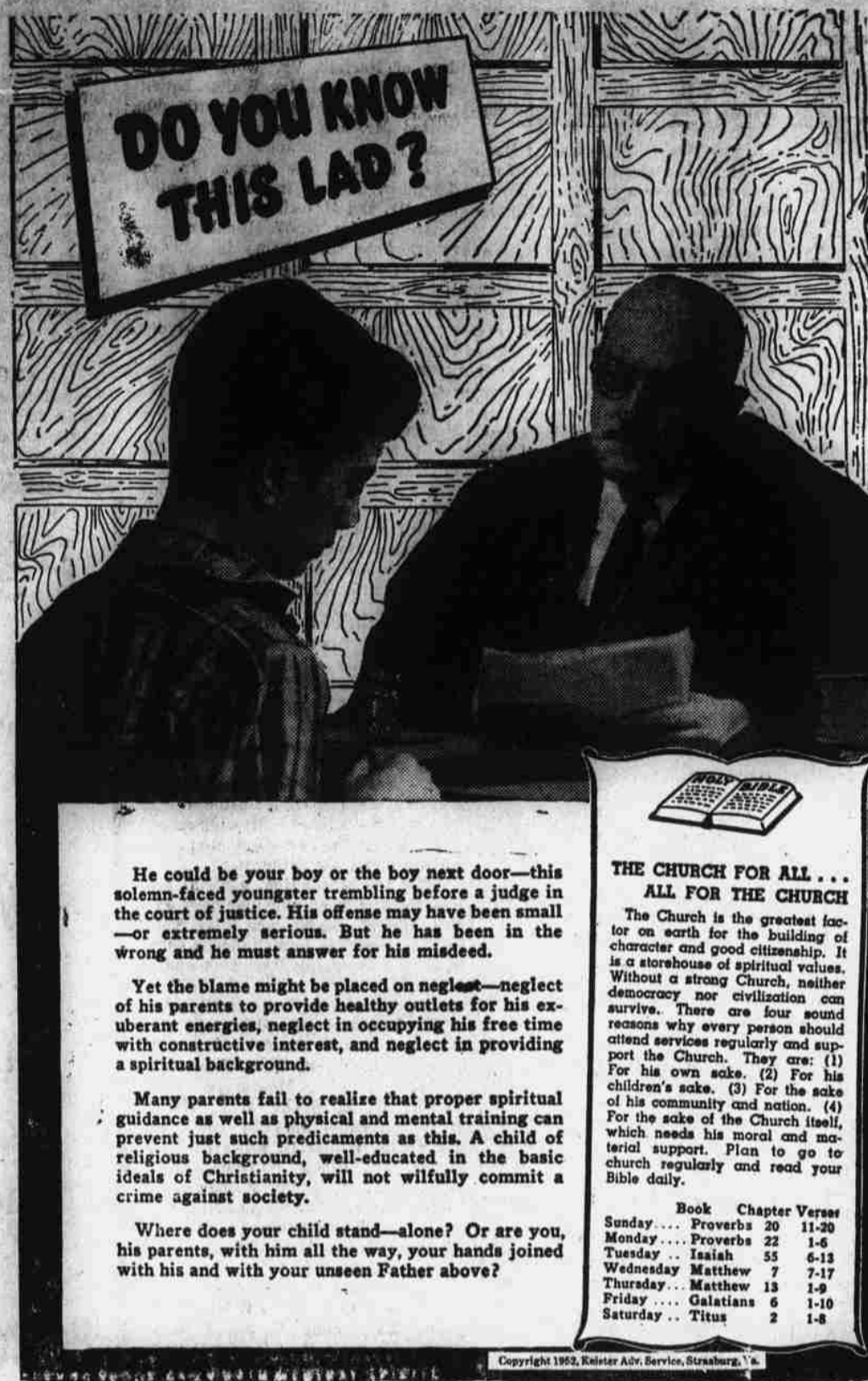
Jesus never intended to relieve parents from their responsibility in the building of Christian homes. While he loved youth, and demanded respect from them to father and mother, He was speaking to parents when he said that it were better for a man to be drowned in the sea than to lead a child astray!

One of the most beautiful acts performed by Jesus on earth was that, as he hung dying on the cross, was to think of his mother and leave her in the tender care of that disciple "whom he loved." No mother ever loved a son more, and no son ever brought greater honor to his mother than did Jesus of Nazareth.

The promise that goes along with obedience to this commandment is not so much a promise for the individual as it is a promise for the nation, as a whole. When the home-life of a nation is stable and secure, then the national life is secure. When the home disintegrates, the nation is doomed.

(These commentaries are based on copyrighted outlines produced by the Division of Christian Education, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A. and used by permission.)

BE A BETTER CITIZEN!



He could be your boy or the boy next door—this solemn-faced youngster trembling before a judge in the court of justice. His offense may have been small—or extremely serious. But he has been in the wrong and he must answer for his misdeed.

Yet the blame might be placed on neglect—neglect of his parents to provide healthy outlets for his exuberant energies, neglect in occupying his free time with constructive interest, and neglect in providing a spiritual background.

Many parents fail to realize that proper spiritual guidance as well as physical and mental training can prevent just such predicaments as this. A child of religious background, well-educated in the basic ideals of Christianity, will not wilfully commit a crime against society.

Where does your child stand—alone? Or are you, his parents, with him all the way, your hands joined with his and with your unseen Father above?

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 the 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 regularly and read your Bible daily.

Book	Chapter	Verses
Sunday . . .	Proverbs	20 11-20
Monday . . .	Proverbs	22 1-6
Tuesday . . .	Isaiah	55 6-13
Wednesday . . .	Matthew	7 7-17
Thursday . . .	Matthew	13 1-9
Friday . . .	Galatians	6 1-10
Saturday . . .	Titus	2 1-8

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Perquimans Church Services

HERTFORD BAPTIST CHURCH
C. W. Duling, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Evening Worship, 8 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Wednesday at 8 P. M.

BETHLEHEM CHURCH OF CHRIST
Joe Brickhouse, Pastor
First Sunday
11 A. M. and 8 P. M.

BURGESS BAPTIST CHURCH
Colton Jackson, Jr. Pastor
Church services second and fourth Sundays at 11 A. M.
Sunday School at 10:00 A. M.
Church service 7:45 P. M. second and fourth Sundays.

PERQUIMANS CHARGE CHURCHES

H. M. Jamieson, Pastor
First Sunday:
New Hope Church, 11:00 A. M.
Oak Grove Church, 7:00 P. M.
Second Sunday
Winfall Church, 11:00 A. M.
Cedar Grove Church, 10 A. M.
Woodland Church, 7:00 P. M.
Third Sunday
Oak Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
New Hope Church, 7:00 P. M.
Fourth Sunday
Cedar Grove Church, 11:00 A. M.
Woodland Church, 10 A. M.
Winfall Church, 7:00 P. M.
Fifth Sunday
Woodland Church, 11:00 A. M.
Prayer Meeting each Wednesday at Winfall Church, 7:00 P. M.

ANDERSON'S METHODIST CHURCH

R. M. Gradeless, Pastor
Church School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 A. M., second and fourth Sundays.

WOODVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH

James F. Burke, Pastor
Church Services on second and fourth Sundays at 11 A. M.
First and Third Sundays at 7:45 P. M.
Sunday School 9:45 A. M.

UP RIVER FRIENDS CHURCH

Elizabeth White, Pastor
Sunday School, 9:45 A. M.
Church Services, 11 A. M.
Christian Endeavor, 6:30 P. M.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Bennie Crawford, Pastor
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Preaching first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Preaching second and fourth Sunday evening at 7:30.

PINEY WOODS FRIENDS CHURCH

No Pastor At Present
Sunday School, 10 A. M.
Morning worship—11:00 A. M.

WHITEVILLE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School, 11 A. M., every Sunday except third Sunday.
Church services every third Sunday at 8 P. M.

HERTFORD METHODIST CHURCH

A. L. Chaplin, Pastor
Church School, 9:45 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Youth Fellowship, 6:45 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 P. M.
Mid-week Fellowship, Wednesday at 7:30 P. M.

BAGLEY SWAMP PILGRIM

Coy S. Saunders, Pastor
Sunday School, 10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship, 11:00 o'clock.
Young People's Meeting, 6:30 P. M.
Evening Worship, 7:30 o'clock.
Mid-week Services, Thursday at 7:30 P. M.

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rev. Charles F. Wolf, Rector.
9:45 A. M., Church School, every Sunday.
9:00 A. M., Holy Communion, 1st Sunday.
8:30 A. M., Holy Communion, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays.
11:00 A. M., Holy Communion, 3rd Sunday.
11:00 A. M., Morning Prayer, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sundays.
10:00 A. M., Holy Communion, Fridays and Saints' Days.

BEREA CHURCH OF CHRIST

Walker Perry, Pastor
2nd and 4th Sunday at 10:30 A. M.
Morning worship on first and third Sundays at 11 A. M.
Evening worship first and third Sundays at 7:30 P. M.

CHAPPELL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

A. E. Outlaw, Pastor
Sunday School, 2 P. M. every first Sunday.
Church Services 3 P. M. every first Sunday.
Sunday school at 11 A. M. every second, third and fourth Sunday.

Go To Church Your Church Any Church But Go