Sundav School Lesson

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position by the Crucifixion, in

the very city where Christ had

died, the disciples boldly declar-

ed their faith in his mission.

Equally remarkable is the fact

persons were prepared to accept

the reinterpretation of national

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church shared its faith with oth-

ers. The Nature of the Church 1. The church is a continua- meeting, one of the saints was tion of the life of Christ in the testifying how God had saved world. Just as the physical body him forty years before. Finally of Jesus was the vehicle for the the leader interrupted. "Brothincarnation of God, so the church er, we know you were saved is the medium of his continuing forty years ago, but what has that on that day three thousand activity.

2. The church is a witnessing community. A witness cannot community. Jesus told the dishopes that a crucified Messiah speak of things he has heard at ciples to wait, and they waited. required. Obviously, the Holy second hand. He can testify only The Holy Spirit directed the Spirit was working not only in to what he himself has seen and disciples to go into the street the words of the speakers but known. Peter, once filled with and witness to the Messiah, and also in the hearts of the hear- Jewish racial pride, was a wit- they obeyed. Peter told his hear-ers. Without fear, the early ness: "God has shown me that ers to repent and be baptized, other is bearing his witness in

I should not call any man common or unclean."

At an old-fashioned class God done for you today?"

3. The church is an obedient

and they did so. The church, the sincerity and that together they our witness in obedience.

confuse our thoughts with God's guide them into all truth. thoughts. We do not find it easy his own reason.

Each should recognize that the

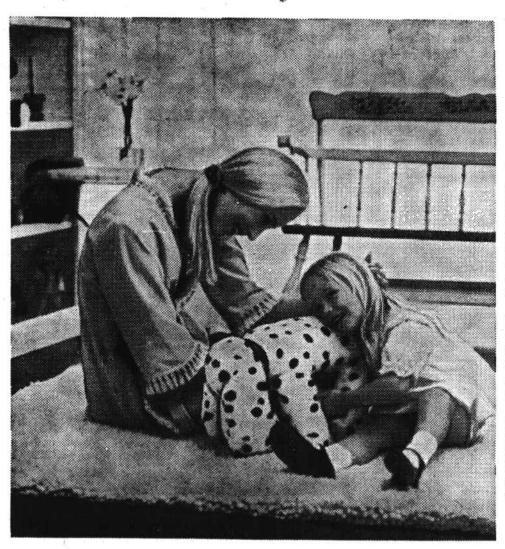
Body of Christ, is always obe- may come to a clearer underdient to the Lord, its head. If standing of God's will than eiwe are to be faithful members ther of them could find alone. of the church, we too must bear Therefore, they will continue to walk together, confident in the The problem is that we often promise that the Holy Spirit will

God, our Father, who sent to know what God wills the thy Son into the world to rechurch to do. We live in a secu- deem it and who raised up the lar world that really does not church to continue his work, expect any word from God. make us trustworthy and obe-Modern man expects to solve dient servants of thy love; his problems by the exercise of through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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