

THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

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GIVE TO MARCH OF DIMES CAMPAIGN

Infantile paralysis is an old chronic illness once classed as being incurable by many of the sufferers.

After the late Franklin D. Roosevelt began his administration as President of the United States one of the major planks in his political platform was to remember the many forgotten persons. Of course, many remembered the depression, during which time many people were unable to secure jobs until the late Mr. Roosevelt was elected President. His first step was to organize the poor and the suffering under government regulations to provide working and living opportunities, namely, the PWA, ERA, NWA, and several other working organizations under the government administration, which gave the many suffering a better opportunity to live.

President Roosevelt being a victim of infantile paralysis, as the people began to make progress from many of these governmental job opportunities, the doctors began to make a study of what could be done for the many victims who suffered along with the late President of this chronic illness. The first step introduced by the doctors was to make a thorough study of infantile paralysis. The name of the illness was changed to polio. The second step was to organize health clinics to give a thorough bone study, and the third step was to organize the social health department in each county, state, and United States in what we call the "March of Dimes," to raise money whereby scientists and doctors could make a thorough medical discovery of the cure of polio, which is the first step leading up to infantile paralysis.

As job opportunities began to expand, more money was raised for medical and hospital treatment. Now there are several clinics throughout the United States, set aside for the study and cure of this illness.

I have seen many persons who were victims of this illness, unable to use any portion of their muscles in the body, have been cured and you would never know that they spent months, and in some instances years, in a polio hospital.

The more the expansion of polio, the more it costs for the healing which is done on a charity basis.

Each President, governor, and all political leaders stress the importance of everyone making a liberal contribution for this illness. No one knows the effect unless they or someone in their immediate family suffer from the illness, and then they are willing to lend a helping hand in securing funds for infantile paralysis. One shouldn't wait to become a victim to observe some suffering.

Leaders or loved ones too can contribute to this very needy cause. The March of Dimes celebrated the 30th of January last year in the form of a dance to provide to the many thousands who attended showing the activities that they can enjoy by the use of their entire body. The March of Dimes further proved that one can at least contribute to the cause of making a scientific discovery in a small manner. "No more than a dime." Many contribute up into the thousands of dollars to go toward health education, clinic devices and medical care.

Since the Late President Roosevelt's administration, scientists, nurses and doctors who have specialized in infantile paralysis have found it to be a curable illness as any other disease germ.

THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**OUR COMPASSIONATE CHRIST****What Is Our Concern?**

Sometimes stories appear in the news telling of the indifference of people to the plight of those who suffer accidents or are victims of criminal attacks. For example, a crowd of people watched while a woman drowned, although many of them could swim. Others refused to get involved while a young girl was beaten to death on the street.

However, other stories tell of the opposite extreme. Crowds today are often determined to take an active part in issues and events. Through protests and demonstrations they seek to bring changes in the policies of government and business. Can we discover in these movements any genuine improvement in the concern of people for those in need?

One of the strongest protests today is that against war, especially the participation of the United States in the war in Vietnam. Young people are making their voices heard against the draft, war industries, and the wholesale destructiveness of modern war.

Many forms of strife reflect a basic attitude of indifference by persons and groups toward other persons and groups. Crime abounds and is increasing at an alarming rate. The criminal takes what he wants with no apparent concern for his victim. Thus his real crime is the violation of his responsibility toward the lives of others.

Racial hatred and conflict have increased sharply in recent years. The civil rights movement brought new hope to black Americans. A great wave of protest continues to challenge the oppression, discrimination, and injustice that have long been the shame of white America. Unfortunately, such action and reaction have often produced deeper misunderstanding,

We urge our readers to join the "March of Dimes" during the month of January, 1972. Don't wait until you become a victim of this illness. Think about many of your neighbors who are unable to enjoy the same privileges of the use of their muscles and limbs as you now enjoy.

When you're traveling the highway you can observe many young men and women or social organizations flagging you down for at least a dime for the March of Dimes. Don't just drive by and say, "I just don't have time to give a dime." Infantile paralysis can easily derive from a victim of a car wreck and you may be that victim. Give to the March of Dimes while you are able. Go from house to house to educate your neighbors to the importance of helping others who are polio victims. Everybody can take a part in helping to thrash out this dreadful illness in some way or the other. Help in the "March of Dimes" today because you may need help as a victim tomorrow.

All publications, magazines, newspapers and the television will remind you of this chronic illness every hour during the day while this drive is in progress. Are you going to ignore the little deed you can do to help remedy the cause? **GIVE TO THE MARCH OF DIMES!**

rioting, violence, and more radical hatred on both sides. No Christian can fail to be genuinely concerned and committed to the healing of this tragic conflict.

Often we fail to recognize that doing nothing may be one of the worst forms of inhumanity. Indifference to the needs of others leads to neglect. When we accept the benefits of a system that exploits others, we are helping rob them of part of their lives. We may depersonalize and destroy others by our lack of concern and neglect of ways in which we could help. We would do well to take a serious look at our society and its systems, perhaps even at our church, and ask ourselves if we are truly sensitive to others' needs and moved with compassion for them.

How many ills of our personal and family lives stem from obsession with ourselves to the exclusion of others? Probably few marital problems would remain unsolved if husbands and wives had at least the same understanding and concern for their partners as for themselves.

Perhaps we would be oversimplifying the matter to say that most of our problems are basically due to selfishness. But a proper regard for others would certainly go far toward resolving or relieving many of our problems.

Searching The Scripture

The Scripture for this lesson is Luke 5:27-32; 7:11-23, 36-50; 10:25-37. Selected verses are printed below.

Luke 5:29-32

29 And Levi made him a great feast in his house; and there was a large company of tax collectors and others sitting at table with them. 30 And the Pharisees and their scribes murmured against his disciples saying, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" 31 And Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no

need of a physician, but those who are sick; 32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance." Luke 7:11-17

11 Soon afterward he went to a city called Na'in, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. 12 As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. 13 And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." 14 And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." 15 And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. 16 Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" 17 And this report concerning him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

Memory Selection: Jesus answered them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick; I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to 'repentance.'" — Luke 5:31-32

What The Scripture Says To Us

This lesson is closely related to the one for last week. Jesus practiced what he taught. His life of compassion and service to others expressed his teaching about divine love. The poor and suffering people of the earth have found in him understanding and sympathy, the healing and help of God. This aspect of Jesus' life seems to find special emphasis in the Gospel According to Luke.

The Outward-Directed Life

The feast at the house of Levi reveals the distinctive attitude of Jesus toward others. The call of Levi, a tax collector (Luke 5:27-28), was itself a significant step. In the minds of the Jewish people, Levi was a traitor because he collaborated with their conquerors, the Romans.

Romans taxes were farmed out to local agents, who were permitted to keep for themselves all they collected above what was due the government. Many yielded to the temptation to extortion, and this fact increased the hatred toward tax collectors. Jesus could hardly have picked a more unpopular person as a disciple.

In gratitude for the opportunity to follow Jesus, Levi made a feast to honor him. He invited "a large company of tax collectors," probably the only friends he had. "The Pharisees and their scribes" were surely not guests for they would not have attended even if invited.

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