THE FUTURE OUTLOOK

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FIRST AID

Too much emphasis can never be placed on the importance of knowing first aid and reading all available information. It is also important that every child should learn to swim. We urge our readers to take advantage of the swimming classes offered by the Red Cross, throughout the city.

Numerous deaths and disabilities have been caused by the lack of one having a little knowledge of first aid.

First aid medical devices are useless without knowing how and when to use them. Every organization should employ three or more persons that have a knowledge of the use of first aid.

On one occasion an ambulance was called for a victim of a knife wound and enroute to the hospital the ambulance was blocked by a train. The ambulance attendants had no knowledge of first aid and the victim died from a hemorrhage. This was uncalled for. By all means such persons as policemen, ambulance attendants, and all public transportation operators should have a knowledge of first aid.

First aid is needed in the home, especially where small children reside. One with a thorough knowledge of first aid shouldn't use it to capitalize upon anyone. They should give their services free and willingly in the case of emergencies.

When a family takes a vacation in their personal vehicle or any trip they should always have their first aid kit with them. They may not need it for themselves but there are so many accidents on the highways that they could render service to someone else.

May we name a few accidents and emergencies that could be remedied by someone having some knowledge of first aid, electric shock, freezing, unconsciousness, burns, cramps, dog bite, hemorrhages, poison gases, etc.

Such incidents may occur at anytime but the ambulance attendants, police departments and fire departments should be prepared to render first aid for any particular case that may happen before the doctor arrives.

We advise all of our readers to study some phase of first aid. Have literature in the homes as well as on the job. We further advise our readers, who have no knowledge of first aid to beware of advice given by the many peddlers of patent medicines, which are supposed to remedy many little illnesses.

A story tells of a young man who suffered from a throat illness: He took the advice of 114 persons who had no knowledge of treatment for his case and the more remedies he took the worse his throat became. Finally he visited his physician and no one out of the 114 persons had suggested any type of medical treatment anywhere near the cure.

We should all have our family doctors, both dental and medical and never complain to others of our personal illness except in the case of an accident or emergency.

Why not write to the Red Cross today for first aid literature for your convenience. May we also advise our readers that some things are required such as death, in our immediate family. Don't allow yourself to forget the fact that many illnesses may arise in which a person with a knowledge of first aid may be able to help before the doctor arrives.

First aid is necessary to the victim as well as it would be to the one who acquires the knowledge of administering its uses.

THIS WEEK'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

MEETING GOD THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES

What Is Our Concern?

The Bible is the Christian's chief source of knowledge concerning the being, character, and will of God. This library of religion that we call the Bible is "able to instruct (us) for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus." (2 Timothy 3:15) United Methodists share with the whole Christian church belief in the power of the Bible to inform the human mind, sanctify the human spirit, and redeem human society.

In this lesson we seek understanding of the way the Bible aids our spiritual development.

The Bible is a record of God's revelation of himself to men. In Christ he revealed himself supremely. In Christ we face judgment, for we see how far short we fall from God's purpose for us. But in Christ we also find that God loves us so much that he has made redemption available to us at great cost to himself. Therefore we call the record of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection "the gospel," which means "good news."

Multitudes of men and women in every age, and not least in our own, have found that as they study the Scriptures, the Christ does step from the written page to become their Present Companion. In this lesson we should learn some ways in which we may meet the living God through the Scriptures. We shall also consider some ideas that may help us understand and interpret the Scriptures.

Searching the Scripture

The Scripture for this lesson is Psalms 119:9-18, 97-104; 2 Timothy 3:14-17. Selected verses are printed below.

2 Timothy 3:14-17

14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it 15 and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. 16 All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

Psalms 119:9-18

9 How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to thy word. 10 With my whole heart I seek thee; let me not wander from thy commandments! 11 I have laid up thy word in my heart, that I might not sin against thee. 12 Blessed be thou, O Lord; teach me thy statutes! 13 With my lips I declare all the ordinances of thy mouth. 14 In the way of thy testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. 15 I will meditate on thy precepts, and fix my eyes on thy ways. 16 I will delight in thy statutes; I will not forget thy word. 17 Deal bountifully with thy servant, that I may live and observe thy word. 18 Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.

Memory Selection: With my whole heart I seek thee; let me not wander from thy commandments! -- Psalms 119:10

What the Scripture Says to Us

The person who wants to understand God's Word must, above all, give time to thoughtful reading of the Scripture itself. In studying these lessons, therefore, be sure to read all the suggested passages, not just the ones printed in this quarterly.

A Guide for Life

Psalms 119 stresses the study of God's Word. The psalmist was probably thinking primarily of the Law, or Torah (Genesis through Deuteronomy), which the people of Israel regarded as the chief treasure given to them by God.

Several different Hebrew words are used in this psalm to describe the Law. These are translated as "law," "testimonies," "ways," "precepts," "statutes," "commandments," "word," and "promise."

Regular and honest study of the word of God, such as the psalmist describes, provides a solid foundation for the beginning and continuation of renewal in a person's life. This kind of thoughtful consideration of the truth of God reveals insights that a sensitive human spirit may use in the quiet development of a holy life, one that is centered in God and gives strength for daily tasks.

The Uses of Scripture

The Christian believes that the word of God is uniquely contained in the Bible. These writings, as the passage from Second Timothy suggests, have a fivefold purpose:

1. Teaching. We are told that God created man in his own image. (Genesis 1:26-27) Surely no small part of man's likeness to God lies in the powers of the human mind. In science man discovers the thoughts of God concerning the structure of his universe; in music and art man shares the thought of God that is beauty; in law and government man follows the thought of God that is order rather than chaos; in service man reflects the thought of God that is creative love and caring. Scripture (especially that which reveals the mind and character of Jesus Christ) teaches us to think the thoughts of God after him. (See Psalms 139:17.)

2. Reproof. We need to have our error pointed out to us. Some error comes in the realm of behavior; some, in the realm of thought. All of us from time to time miss the way as we seek to live the Christian life. The message of the Bible has stood the test of the centuries because it shows us our error when it occurs.

3. Correction. We need to know not only what is wrong but also how to right that wrong. We need law to say to us, "You shall not"; but we also need guideposts to read, "This is the way." Again, the biblical message will serve well to lead us in paths of righteousness.

4. Training in righteousness. The central principles of Christian morality are laid down in the Bible. The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17) state in brief form the basic standards of righteousness. Many Christians feel that these ancient laws have been replaced by a new and deeper ethic of love to God and love to man as set forth in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5 through 7) and as summarized by Jesus in the Great Commandment. (See Matthew 22:37-40.)

The truth is that love is the underlying principle of the law. It does not replace the law; rather, it fulfills the law. (See Romans 13:8-10.) Moreover, love helps us when we face new and unusual circumstances; it can point us to the right action in situations where we do not have a specific law to guide us.

5. Salvaton through faith in Christ Jesus. The story of salvation told in the Scriptures reaches its climax in the new life that is given through Jesus Christ. This experience of the love of God will bear fruit in love for all mankind, equipping us "for every good work." We know that we are not granted the new life in Christ because of doing good. Rather, we seek in all ways to do all the good we can because we are disciples of Christ Jesus.

Inspired Writings

What is the meaning of the statement in 2 Timothy 3:16 that "all Scripture is inspired by God"?

The root meaning of the word inspire is literally "breathe into." When we speak of the biblical writings as inspired, we are saying that in and through these words we find the life of God expressing itself much as the life of a man expresses itself through that man's speaking.

Of course, some of a man's words reveal much more of his true nature than do others. Also,

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