The Plainfield Independent Newsletter

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OUR THOUGHT FOR EACH DAY

By Mary Baker Eddy

"Every day, every hour, our work increases in effectiveness and power."

THINK UPON THIS

We must not attribute more and more intelligence to matter, but less and less, if we would be wise and healthy.

S&H (62:20-22)

A QUOTE FROM THE PAST Bicknell Young

"The healing will be permanent, when you uncover the specific mesmeric suggestion that is claiming to mesmerize the Christ Consciousness."

GEMS FROM OUR HERITAGE

Doris White Evans

One with God is a majority. We can do whatever God ordains, if we line ourselves up with Him.

QUOTES FROM PETER V. ROSS

Page 101

You are within the scope of perfect God and perfect man.

JIM'S CORNER

When did the sun stand still? See – Joshua (10:12-14)

THOUGHTS FROM MISCELLANEOUS WRITINGS

Page 277:23-24

No evidence before the material senses can close my eyes to the scientific proof that God, good, is supreme.

A SURPRISING TRANSLATION

Charles Spurgeon

One walking with me observed, with some emphasis, "I do not believe as you do. I am an Agnostic." "Oh," I said to him. "Yes. That is a Greek word, is it not? The Latin word, I think, is *ignoramus*." He did not like it at all! Yet I only translated his language from Greek to Latin.

These are queer waters to get into, when all your philosophy brings you is the confession that you know nothing, and the stolidity which enables you to glory in your ignorance!

SPRING

"April showers bring May flowers." Let us be sure to notice and appreciate the beauty of God's creation! While all of nature seems dormant during the Winter season, in Spring, the beauty of God's creation bursts forth in all its glory. It is a time to say, "Thank you, God, for the beauty of Spring."

ARBOR DAY

The last Friday in April is noted as Arbor Day, a "tree planting day." The purpose is to stress the importance of trees. They provide erosion protection, production of oxygen, and a residence for much wildlife. But the most wonderful result of trees remains to be the beauty of God's forests — His creation. How fitting to now include a famous poem by Mr. Joyce Kilmer, a native of New Brunswick, New Jersey.

TREES

Joyce Kilmer

I think that I shall never see A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest Against the earth's sweet flowing breast;

> A tree that looks at God all day, And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

> A tree that may in summer wear A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain; Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me, But only God can make a tree.

GOD FIRST

As a constant reminder for all who visit my home, is a pyramid-shaped piece of fiberboard displaying the statement, "God First." It is prominently displayed on the "pot shelf" between the kitchen and dining area. In this age of computers, such a sign can be easily made; and we have many thoughts from which to choose, such as "God Is All" or "Perfect God, Perfect Me."

WORKING FOR CHURCH Benjamin Ndukwe

I recently met somebody, who is from Boston, where he was born and raised. He found out that I was an immigrant, and he wanted to know how, when, and why I came here. I was glad to share with him my story of how Plainfield Church brought me here.

When I mentioned our church, he almost jumped off his seat and he asked, "Are you a Christian Scientist?" I told him, "Yes, I am." Then he told me, about three times, that Christian Science is the only true religion. He said it was because it was the only religion in the world today that is telling people about how to pray!

I did not need to tell him much, because he seemed to know a lot about it, and he is not even a Christian Scientist! That made me very, very, happy. He has been to the church in Boston. He was upset how Christian Science was treated many years ago, which I did not even know about. I told him the work our church is doing, how our publications and our website are reaching out to almost everyone in every corner of the world.

So if you are doing anything here, I want you to take courage and be happy and continue to do it, because it is blessing people beyond our imagination. I want to thank everyone for their work!

WATCH FOR CHURCH

"Glory be to God, and peace to the struggling hearts! Christ hath rolled away the stone from the door of human hope and faith, and through the revelation and demonstration of life in God, hath elevated them to possible atone-ment with the spiritual idea of man and his divine Principle, Love." (S&H)

The glory of God fills our Wednesday meeting, through our overflowing expressions of love and gratitude! Christian Science is what the world is seeking and so badly needs, and God is drawing each one to this feast of good. God's healing message is heard! Every argument of evil is shattered, and man finds his unity with God, all good!

"To-day my soul can only sing and soar. An increasing sense of God's love, omnipresence, and omnipotence enfolds me. Each day I know Him nearer, love Him more, and humbly pray to serve Him better. Thus seeking and finding (though feebly), finally may we not together rejoice in the church triumphant?" (My.)

"Know every day that the world is ready for Christian Science." –Mary Baker Eddy (Blue Book p. 98)

"FRUITAGE" CHAPTER Lynda Spencer

I love the reading of Fruitage during each Sunday service. At the beginning of the chapter of Fruitage it is mentioned that these healings were chosen from the Christian Science Journal and Sentinel. These healings spanned over many years during Mrs. Eddy's time. There were many similar healings to choose from in the publications, so it is evident that the testimonies were hand-picked and Godled, as a teaching tool, each with specific placement and purpose.

Recently I have been reading this chapter in the 1910 edition of Science and Health, this being the final edition given to the world by Mary Baker Eddy. In comparing that edition with the edition currently sold by the Boston organization, I found that three testimonies in Fruitage were changed or relocated after Mrs. Eddy's passing in 1910, one as soon as 1912, and the following beautiful testimony was removed entirely.

SCIENCE AND HEALTH A PRICELESS BOON

"I am a willing witness to the healing power of Christian Science,

having had a lifetime's battle with disease and medical experiments. Various doctors finally admitted that they had exhausted their resources, and could only offer me palliatives, saying that a cure was impossible. I had paralysis of the bowels, frequent sick headaches with unutterable agony, and my mortal career was nearly brought to an end by a malignant type of yellow fever. Many were the attending evils of this physical inharmony, but God confounds the wisdom of men, for while studying Science and Health two years ago, the veil of ignorance was lifted and perfect health was shown to me to be my real condition, and to such there is no relapse. The constant use of glasses, which were apparently a necessity to me for years, was proven needless, and they were laid aside. Mrs. Eddy has made Scripture reading a never-failing well of comfort to me. By her interpretation "the way of the Lord" is made straight to me and mine. It aids us in our daily overcoming of the tyranny of the flesh and its rebellion against the blessed leading of Christ, Truth. The daily study of the Bible and our textbook is bringing more and more into our consciousness the power of God unto salvation.

— J. C., Manatee, Fla.

ARMOR ON

Dale Wallis

Thank you for Sunday's (February 18, 2018) dynamic Roundtable; thank you for sharing missionary Terry Mize's powerful experience (can be found on YouTube) of bearing witness to, and demonstrating the power of God! This and the other experiences related in the Roundtable show that when we are prepared and have our armor on — the truth imbibed in our consciousness — then no evil can come nigh our dwelling!

As it said in the Lesson on Soul, from Proverbs, "whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil."

AN INTERESTING LETTER

I've recently learned of your church. I'm amazed I have not heard of you until now. As a Journal-listed Christian Science nurse for almost 20 years, I've seen a lot to be concerned about.

The Board of Directors has made some serious mistakes along the way, and the trending signs are that the mainline movement is in continual decline and basically heading toward extinction (except for the rare branch church bucking the trend).

I've never been as concerned about preserving the "organization of church" as much as keeping true to the actual spirit of Christian Science. There should be more independent Christian Science churches. I hope to visit your church someday.

Name Withheld

TO LIVE WITH GOD

Mary Beth Singleterry

We have been getting many new calls, and many new people finding our church. I find it interesting that, even though many of them have been lifelong Christian Scientists, they have never heard about watching or how to watch—mainly because the books that explain it, these valuable books, are deemed unauthorized by the Boston organization.

The new visitors have also mentioned our Wednesday services, in which we have an abundance of testimonies. I am very grateful for this wonderful expression of Truth we have here. Each Wednesday there is a demonstration of powerful readings. heard Recently we about omnipresence and omnipotence of divine Love, which was wonderful. I have always been so comforted by the words, "Immanuel, God with us."

A number of years ago I was feeling quite overwhelmed by a lot of things I had to do. I realize that at the time, I was trying to do everything humanly, and trying to remember all the things that needed to be done. Our church magazine at that time was called "Healing Thoughts." It was in one of these old magazines that I found a beautiful poem that I saved and have worked with many times since then. It is by N. L. Michel, and the last stanza reads:

If I can fit some heavy heart
With wings of hope,
And faithful be in little things,
Can calmly smile and see
Beyond the woe that seems to be,
And serve and give and grow.
If I can fill my place in life, and sing,
Then I have lived with God
Through everything."

That is the answer, all that is required of us. If we hold our position the best we know how, with joy and gratitude, we can say of ourselves, we have lived with God through everything.

This is an informational newsletter for members of the Plainfield Christian Science Church, Independent, intended to be a means for communication with each other, and is supported and provided by the efforts of the membership at large. Each member shall do his part to ensure the continuing success of Independent Christian Science as a worldwide activity. Let us begin with our Newsletter.