

MARCH-APRIL

Youth 83

A black and white photograph of a person standing on a sharp, dark rock peak. The person is silhouetted against a bright, snowy mountain landscape. The person is holding a rope, suggesting they are a climber. The background shows a vast, snow-covered mountain range with jagged peaks and a clear sky.

**Keep
Your Eyes
on the Goal!**

By Herbert W. Armstrong

Youth 83

March-April

VOL. III, NO. 3

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COVER: Scaling a mountain is a goal that can bring tremendous satisfaction. But what is the greatest goal and how can we achieve it? Read "Keep Your Eyes on the Goal," starting page 1. *Youth 83* Photo.

Letters

"... Everybody's Doing It?"

I really enjoyed your recent article in your December issue, "Are You Sure Everybody's Doing It?" I found it really interesting, and I really agree with it. Especially what you had to say about dating and going steady. Going out with groups of people can be loads of fun. Besides, I think we all know how single dating can get.

This article came at a perfect time for me. I've been thinking a lot lately about what's really OK. I think we should remember our body is the Lord's temple . . . We're at the best time in our lives, why let a thing like peer pressure ruin it?

Stacey Mathews
Omaha, Neb.

Came across as a friend

Thank you for the really helpful article in the December number, "... Everybody's Doing It?"

I'm so glad that you can sit down and write an article so frankly and with the kind of style that puts teens at ease. You came across as a friend . . . Thank you for your openness and the way you approach such a tough subject, one so delicate to talk about.

It seems in this society we are constantly being victims of sex. It is really getting hard to open a magazine or watch TV without having that lure of sex being thrown at you. I know many "Cindys" and "Bills" who feel the pressure from outside.

I do believe that we have to look to the future. I always tell myself, whenever there is a temptation for sex, that I'm saving myself, my mind, body and love, real caring, for that one special girl out there. And, in turn, I hope a girl out there, somewhere in this huge world, is saving herself for me. We can start showing our love for our future partners and mates right now by doing this. It doesn't matter if you're 12, 15 or 19.

Thanks again, Mr. [Dexter H.] Faulkner for the encouragement, openness and realism you show us. We understand and are sincerely trying. You tell us the rights and wrongs of a teenage one-on-one. But, you also show us why! That's really important.

Jacob Bouchard
St. Paul, Alta.

Very vital message

Your article, "Are You Sure Everybody's Doing It?", in the December
(Continued on page 10)

Keep Your Eyes on the Goal

By Herbert W. Armstrong

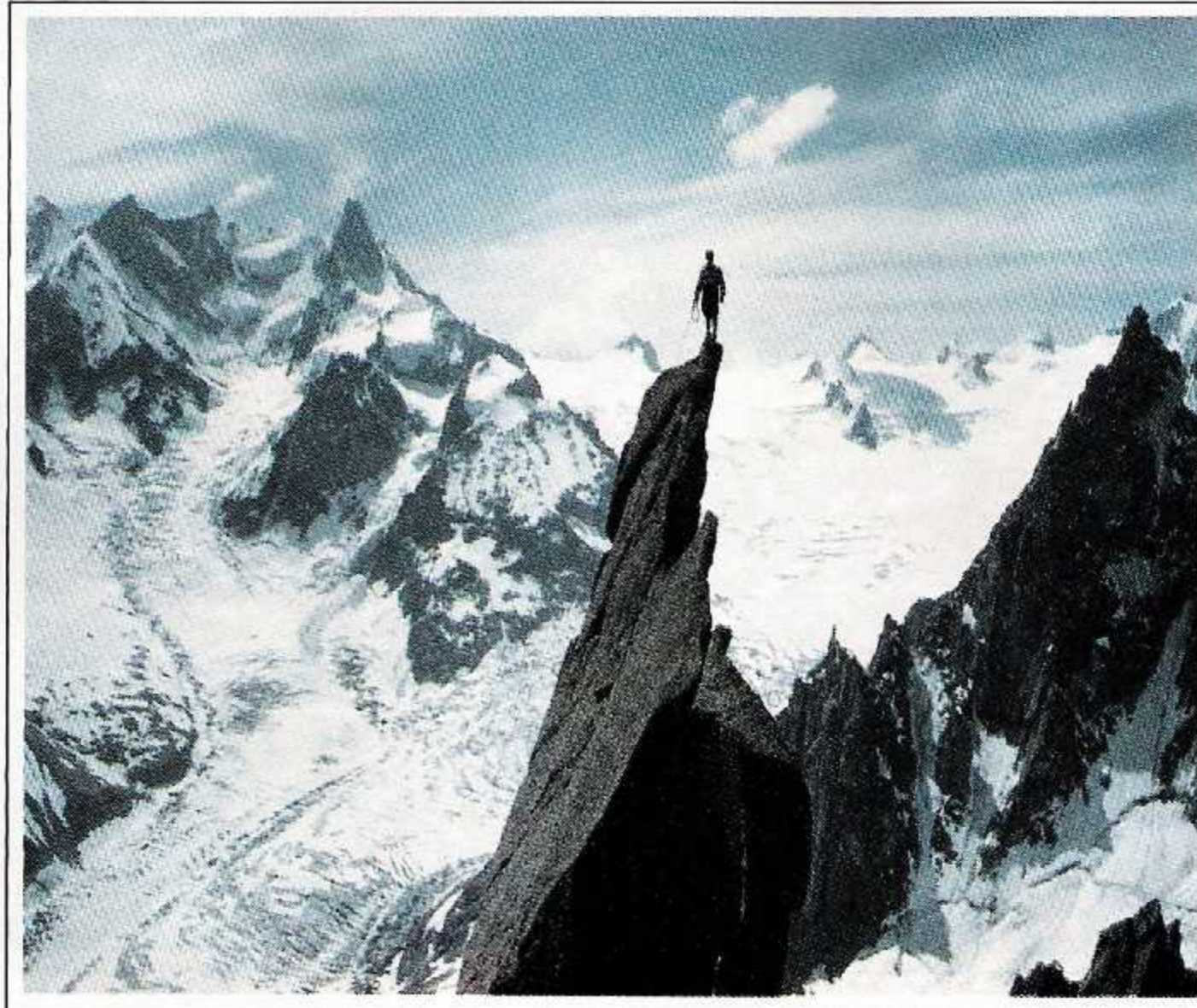
I have written of the *Seven Laws of SUCCESS*. They are really the seven laws of LIFE. Most people do not know or practice or apply a single one of them.

The first is to have the RIGHT GOAL. That goal involves realizing the PURPOSE of your life — the reason why God had you to be born — the reason you draw breath and exist — and it involves realizing HOW to live this temporary existence so as to arrive at that goal.

That GOAL — God's PURPOSE for having put the breath of life in you — is that you be born of GOD, to share with Him the GLORY of creation, to inherit His divine NATURE, to be LIKE HIM — to do what He does, to accomplish what He accomplishes, enjoy what He ENJOYS — peace, happiness, joy, resplendent glory in LIFE EVER-LASTING.

No other goal could be as great. It is superlative.

But consider: What are you, now? Just a mass of matter, put together like a machine. Your present existence has to be constantly SUSTAINED. You have to keep drawing a breath of air into your lungs about every four or five seconds. You have to eat food on the average of three times a day. You have to take care of



eliminating the impurities from food, and of bathing and cleansing your body. You have to maintain and sustain your physical anatomy to keep on existing — and even then you are ageing and degenerating every day and every year — and the most certain thing in this existence we call “life” is that this machine process is going to run down — YOU ARE GOING TO DIE.

Yet most people keep on, day after day, year after year, pumping that existence into themselves, with NO MORE PURPOSE than to try to be comfortable, free from pain and to be pleasing the five senses — with their minds on the passing physical and material things of the moment — things that are not lasting and are soon gone.

Unless God's own CHARACTER is being formed and developed in your mind and your life, replacing the human nature that is there now, you shall have missed your

GOAL. God's PURPOSE is to CREATE within human beings, during this experience we call physical life, a new and perfect CHARACTER, so that you and others may be given eternal life — self-containing, inherent life.

That character is developed through instruction from the Creator Himself. What kind of instruction? Instruction in the true knowledge — knowledge of God's PURPOSE for you — knowledge of and about

GOD — and knowledge of HOW TO LIVE. Jesus Christ said you must actually LIVE BY the words of the Bible. It is your GUIDE TO LIVING — your INSTRUCTION BOOK the Maker sent along to instruct you HOW to OPERATE this mechanism that is YOU.

More, you must study His Word — your BIBLE — to find what is wrong in what you now believe, and what you are now DOING that is wrong — to be CORRECTED and reprovved by it. You must study it to let it INSTRUCT you in the ways of God's RIGHTEOUSNESS — His WAY OF LIFE. And then you must devote yourself to LIVING IT!

This kind of Christian life — the only kind that truly is Christian — requires, as the Bible emphasizes repeatedly, zealous DILIGENCE.

You must CONCENTRATE on it. You must be DEDICATED to it. It requires utter CONSECRATION. It
(Continued on page 28)

Youth '83 Photo



Why Humans Were Put on the Earth

Most people know next to nothing about God. To understand ourselves, why we are, where we are going, and how, we need to know more about our Creator.

By Herbert W. Armstrong

Ask anyone where the real beginning is in the Bible. He would probably reply, "Genesis 1:1." But he would be absolutely wrong!

The real beginning of the Bible is NOT Genesis 1:1, but in the New Testament, John 1:1-2: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was

with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God."

In the beginning there existed two all-knowing, all-powerful, all-perfect SUPERBEINGS. Each possessed supreme MIND and CREATIVE power. One is called "the Word," the other is called "God." But the Word, it states, was also God — though a separate Personage.

Although the one called "God"

was supreme in authority, yet He and the Word were in all other respects equal. In mind they were in complete harmony and agreement.

There existed at first only these two Superpersons in space — no matter, no other beings or life forms, no physical universe. Both Superbeings had always existed. There never was a time when they did not coexist.

Continuing in verse 3: "All

NASA Photo

things were made by him [the Word]; and without him was not any thing made that was made." God created all things *by* and *through* the Word. Since these two Beings thought precisely alike in perfect harmony, the Word created all things exactly as directed by God.

God is Creator

Do you want to know what God is? Above all, *God is Creator!*

These two supernatural SPIRIT BEINGS were both Creators. But, as human beings think, plan and design — even putting their plans on paper before starting to build or construct — so these two Superbeings thought, planned and designed.

There was no hurry. They might have thought and planned for many millions (or even billions) of years, as we count time, before starting the actual MAKING OR CREATING.

Whether you believe it or not, matter was *not* the first thing to be created.

God created not only the visible, but *the invisible!*

The Bible says of the Word: "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and *invisible*, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or *principalities*, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him" (Colossians 1:16).

These two original Persons, being SPIRIT BEINGS themselves, composed of spirit (remember God is spirit — John 4:24), designed and produced a type of spirit being somewhat like themselves — only naturally of far lower degree. These beings, called "angels," are invisible to human eyes.

These spirit-composed angels were of three or more levels of power and ability in thought — simple angels; a higher class of angels called seraphim; and the highest, cherubim, of which there were only three — all inferior in mind and power to God. These created beings (angels) were equipped with minds — with the ability to know, think, reason,

form conclusions, make decisions, set CHOICES.

The supreme accomplishment

Now as Creator, what was the *most important* creation that God could make? Was it the angels? Was it the heavens and the earth — the whole universe? Or was it man himself?

It was *none* of these things!

The supreme achievement of creation is righteous, holy, perfect CHARACTER. I define it as the ability in a separate entity with mind and free moral agency to CHOOSE the right: one who, seeing the way to both good and evil, *voluntarily chooses* the good, even against strongest temptation and pressures and desires to choose evil, and who *wills*, against strongest opposing pressures, to do good.

These created beings — the angels — did *not* have perfect character at creation. *Character cannot be created automatically and instantaneously by fiat.* Character (whether good or evil) must be developed in separate entities possessing thought processes and minds able to think, to know, to reason, to make independent conclusions and choices. And that risks development of evil character.

Of course, this righteous, holy and perfect character must of necessity COME FROM *the original perfect Beings*, yet as a result of the *independent* thinking, reasoning, knowing, and actual choice and desire of the recipients.

Who is God?

It is vital, at this point, to know something more of God. So now consider. God is Creator, Designer, Educator, RULER. God has SUPREME MIND! He IS perfect, holy and righteous character.

The Eternal God is not only Creator of all that is, but is also RULER over all He creates. He is also Educator. He reveals knowledge basic and vital to know — knowledge otherwise inaccessible to man and some of it even to the angels (see I Peter 1:12). What God creates He *maintains*. What He creates, He creates for a

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Was it the
angels?

purpose. He intends it to be put to a use — a *right* use that *preserves* and *improves*. This use, maintenance and improvement is controlled by the GOVERNMENT OF GOD!

Just what is God? He is Creator! But He maintains and preserves what He creates. How? By His government — the government of God!

Now the tremendous supremacy of these two great God-beings was exhibited at this point. They had in mind a tremendous objective for the angels — a purpose supreme. This required the creation of a new substance, MATTER, which comprises the whole vast universe.

So now we finally come to Genesis 1:1. The first four words of the Bible are: "In the beginning God . . ." Since in the Bible God reveals Himself as Creator of ALL — the entire universe with its galaxies, its suns, planets and moons — this places God (as we have previously seen from John 1:1-3) in existence *before* all else. The next word tells us what God did: He "created." God is, first of all, Creator! And what did He create at this time — *after* the creation of the angels? "... the heaven[s] and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).

The Authorized or King James Version renders the word *heaven* in the singular, but the original Hebrew is in the plural — "heavens" — as it should be translated. It is so rendered in the Revised Standard Version and other modern translations. Genesis 1:1 is speaking of the *original* creation of matter — the entire
(Continued on page 26)

The Nest and What Happened to It

By Clayton Steep

They didn't know that I knew what they were doing. But I did.

I stood there, very still, partly hidden in the shadows and watched as they labored.

There were two of them. I quickly concluded that the one with the red head was the male and his solid brown companion was the female.

Both of them were busy. The home they were making for themselves was tucked away in a temporary opening in the partly finished roof of my house. All construction on that part of my roof would now have to be postponed as long as they chose to stay.

How careful they were, these two newcomers, to be sure no one saw them disappear into the safety of the nook with twigs, straw or fragments of string held firmly in their beaks. But *I* saw them.

They perched outside the opening for minutes, looking all over before ducking inside with their tiny loads of building material. Still I remained undetected. I observed, motionless, afraid to breathe, until finally, for lack of oxygen, I was forced to take a deep breath.

That did it! They spotted me!
In a panic of fluttering wings



and startled chirps my two would-be tenants took off for the nearest treetops where they perched, watching me.

I did the graceful thing. I retreated and promptly surrendered a good part of my backyard and garden to them. When they saw conditions were safe again, they continued their project, this time without an audience.

I was satisfied, even happy. For one thing, I was surely going to have less caterpillars and bugs in my garden now with birds constantly around. So I thought the deal was fair. It was worth giving up some territorial rights.

The next time I ventured through what was now their turf — only because I had to get to my garage, mind you — Mr. Bird was chirping from a tree branch and Mrs. Bird was answering from the by-now-completed nest hidden in the eaves.

I began to feel a growing sense of responsibility for this couple and the little ones that would soon hatch. I left the area as quickly as possible, not wanting to upset anybody.

Some days went by and I had to go to the garage again. As I hastened through “no-man’s land,” I was met with an overpowering silence. Not wanting even for a moment to think the worst, I hurriedly finished my errand and disappeared from the scene. But I couldn’t drop the matter there. I had to take another look.

I penetrated their territory once again. Sure enough. Silence.

Both birds were probably out looking for food. That was it. They’d soon be back. But if there were eggs, would both parents be gone at the same time?

I decided to check back a few days later, hoping to be greeted by chirps and a resumption of normal activity around the nest. Instead I found stillness — silence. I had to face the truth. For some reason the nest with five unhatched eggs had been abandoned. Maybe the dogs next door had scared the two birds away. Worse, maybe one of the numerous cats who prowl the region had dined on one or both.

I left the nest where it was for several weeks, just to be sure. Then down it came and construction on my roof continued.

It seems a shame to end the story here and just discard the nest after the incredible effort that went into building it. So to make it all less of a waste, I wish to make a point.

Have you ever looked at a bird’s nest closely? What a masterpiece of design and engineering! The main foundation of this nest is composed of twigs and delicate sticks, the longest being about 6 inches. On this framework a bowl-like structure is woven together from lengths of grass clippings, dried pieces of weeds, pine needles and such.

But that’s not all! There is one more layer inside the “bowl” — a velvety lining made up of dog and cat hairs, bits of string and other soft material. Each tiny twig, each piece of grass, yes, each dog and cat hair was individually selected and picked up.

Can you imagine that? Hundreds and hundreds of jour-
(Continued on page 28)

John Watkins sat nervously as the basketball coach read a list of names — those not chosen for the team.

Tryouts had been long and strenuous, but John had not been removed from the team in the first three cuts. Now the coach was making the final cuts.

As each name was called out John compared his playing ability with that of the person named. He felt he was better than some, but not as good as others.

The coach continued, "... Martin, Steve Turner, John Watkins..." It was like being hit by a bolt of lightning. John was cut from the team — he was devastated.

The coach called those who were cut over to the side and told them they were all good basketball players and the choice was difficult, but there were too many players so they would not be able to play with the team this year. He told them all to try again next year.

The coach tried to soften the blow, but the guys were deeply hurt.

It seemed a fitting end to a miserable week. John had applied for a part-time job, but although his qualifications were good, the company chose someone else.

And then last night Susan, one of his closest friends, told him she didn't want to go to the dance with him.

John, basically a positive person, found himself fighting thoughts of rejection. He told himself he might make the basketball team next year, that there would be other jobs to apply for and that Susan wasn't the only girl in the world — but somehow the hurt wouldn't go away.

Have you ever been rejected? I have — many times — and chances are you have been too. It hurts.

Rejection starts early and continues throughout life. Remember when you started school and your teacher played favorites and let certain pupils participate in the exciting activities and run the important errands? Did you feel rejected when you weren't chosen?

When games were played at recess, were you the

last one chosen or the one neither side wanted?

When sports teams and cheerleaders were selected, were you always left out?

Do you know what it is like to be turned down for college? I do. It hurts to know others think you can't make the grade.

If you've entered the job market (or tried to) you might know how difficult it is to keep a smile on your face after repeated turndowns.

Rejection is at times beyond our control, but there are steps we can take to survive it and overcome it.

Someone does it better

We human beings constantly compare ourselves with others and this can cause feelings of inferiority.

It isn't too difficult to find someone who is better looking, more athletic, more intelligent or wealthier than we are. Comparing ourselves with others doesn't accomplish anything good.

Consider Cindy Jones — at the top of her high school class, cheerleader, intelligent, fairly good looking, a leader in her school. But when Cindy enters college, she struggles to make average grades, doesn't even bother to try out for cheerleader, doesn't have a date for the opening dance and for the most part blends in with the crowd of incoming students.

A confident girl in high school, Cindy is faced with a problem she hasn't faced to this extent before — rejection and inferiority. Cindy is just as smart, just as talented and just as good looking as she

was in high school, but because of basing her self-worth on comparison to others, she feels inferior.

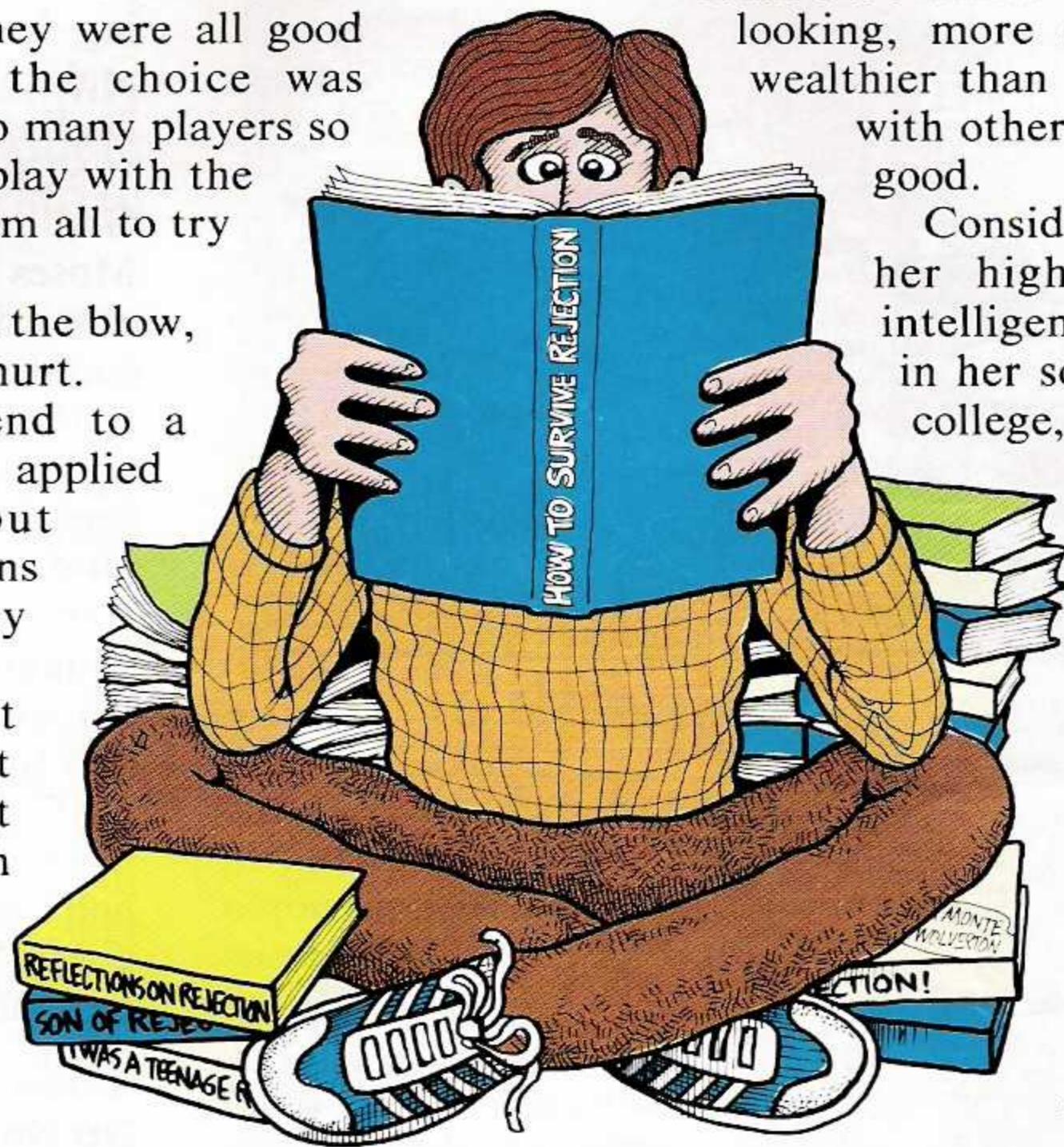
The solution to this is for Cindy Jones to be Cindy Jones, and not try to

be someone else. She needs to

recognize and use her own talents and abilities and not let them go to waste, and to recognize her own weaknesses and work to overcome them — not to morbidly dwell on them and let negative feelings run her life.

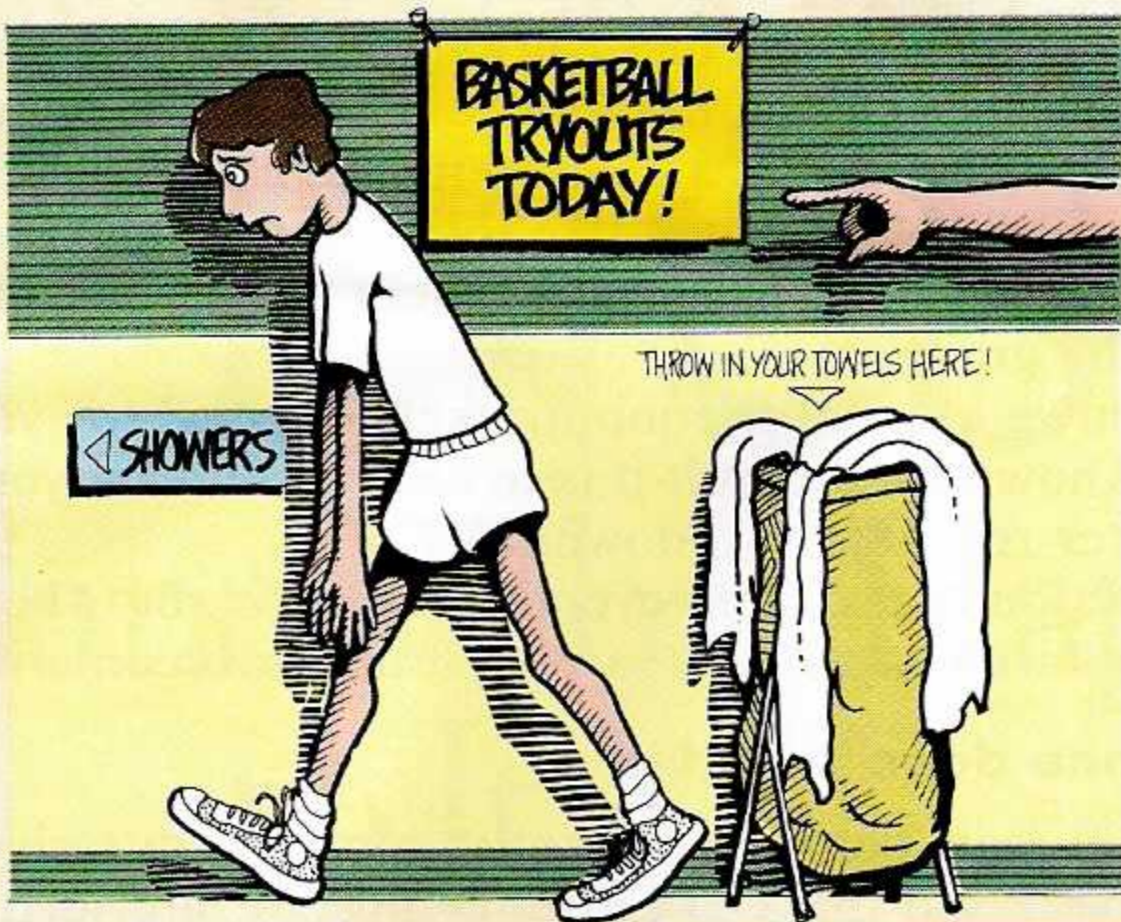
Not recognizing talents

Now let's see what God says about inferiority complexes. Most of us can see why men with boastful



Survival Manual for Rejection

By Thomas C. Hanson



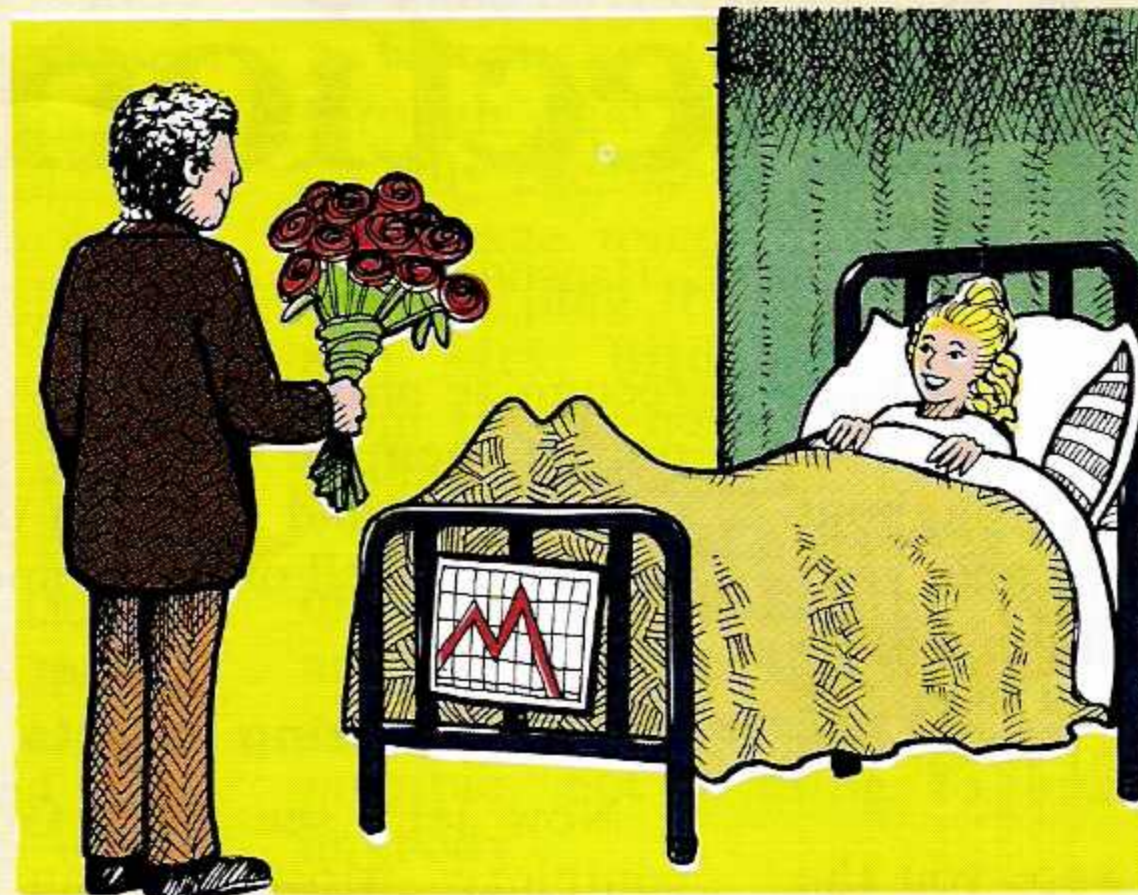
If you get out from the team, it's easy to feel like throwing in the towel — just giving up. Maybe your talents are in other areas. Give it your best shot and don't compare yourself to others — that breeds inferiority complexes. It's easy to find others better than ourselves.

Being turned down for a job is frustrating, especially during economically difficult times. It's a vicious cycle — you don't have experience, but you can't get a job to gain experience. Recognize your talents, even when no one else does.



Sure it hurts when you're turned down for a date. Sometimes rejection is beyond our control, so don't base your self-worth on how others feel about you. The best time to develop self-confidence is even before you're old enough to date.

Everyone likes to get cards or flowers. How many times has a kind word brought you out of the doldrums? The best way to overcome feelings of rejection is to accept (not reject!) others and to make them feel happy.



superiority complexes anger God, but did you know God was also angry at a man for feeling inferior, for not recognizing the talents God had given him?

The event is recounted in the story of Moses and the burning bush in Exodus 3. God chose Moses to go to the leader of Egypt and lead the children of Israel out of slavery.

Moses replied: "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" God told Moses that He would be with him, and performed two miracles — turning Moses' rod into a snake and making his hand leprous and then healing it.

Still Moses wasn't convinced. God had more faith in Moses than Moses had in God or himself. God created man and He knew He could inspire someone He created to lead His people out of Egypt.

Moses begged God to send someone else (Exodus 4:13) and God became angry. He sent Aaron, Moses' brother, to be the spokesman. God wants us to realize the talents He has given us and to use them.

If you refuse to believe you have any talents, you aren't much help to anyone. As the saying goes: "He who thinks he can and he who thinks he can't, are both right."

Do things for others

Another key to overcoming feelings of rejection is to get our minds off ourselves. Don't go around moping about being rejected, but get out and do something for others. Have you ever noticed that the most well-liked people are the ones that are outgoing, friendly and serve others?

A card, a telephone call or a cheery hello can do wonders for others. And it helps us to feel better too, to know we have made a positive impact upon others.

How many times has someone paid you a compliment that, unknown to him or her, helped you get out of the doldrums? In the same way we may not know

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How Do You React to a FAMILY CRISIS?

You can play a big part in helping your family maintain stability and happiness in a crisis. Here's how.

By Lowell Wagner Jr.

Things might have been going along smoothly when, all of a sudden, your family was shaken to its foundations.

Or perhaps it was a more gradual thing, building into a long-term crisis.

Maybe your family hasn't been hit by a crisis, yet. What would you do if one struck?

Family crises come in many forms: death, illness, divorce, desertion, natural disaster, financial troubles, unemployment. Each of these would take several articles to cover completely, but let's look at one example that has afflicted far too many families — unemployment.

With today's worsening worldwide economic conditions, even if your parents aren't out of work, chances are you know several others who are. Besides that, the solutions given here may give you ideas to apply in other crisis situations.

When parents are out of work

What happens when your dad or mom loses his or her job? What will become of your family? In most industrialized countries, unemployment benefits will keep you from starving. But how will the other problems that come up be taken care of?

When your parents find themselves out of work, they enter a world of extreme pressure, stress and uncertainty. Can this have

long-term effects on their health and emotional stability? How can you help your family in this traumatic time?

What will your parents be going through in the first few months of unemployment? What changes will take place in their lives? For the first three to six months, if your dad doesn't find a job, chances are he will go through a period of anger directed at anyone around him. Your mom, if she wasn't already working, will probably look for a job.

After six months, the anger might be replaced by severe depression. After a year without work, your dad may entirely give up hope of finding a job.

This year in the life of your father is only hypothetical. It is what happens to many unemployed people, but it doesn't *have* to happen to your dad. With some above average help from his family, he can weather the rigors of unemployment quite well. Let's take a look at several major areas where you can help.

Emotional support

When your dad lost his job, his emotions jumped into high gear. He probably became irritable and tense. If he goes for very long without a job, he might begin to think of himself as a failure. Your dad's cloudy emotions could soon send stormy weather thundering through your entire family.

In the 1930s a depression, much more severe than today's recession, had people everywhere

in its grip. For most of the world, it was a miserable time.

But not on Walton's Mountain! In this television-show world portraying a rural U.S. family during that depression, things remained happy.

What was it that made the Great Depression such a wonderful time for this TV family? And what was it about this program that has made it so special to millions around the world?

In a word, cooperation. The Waltons were a team. They acted as a unit. Every Walton knew that if he worked for the good of the family, it would be for his own good as well. When they saw a chance to help out, they did.

Now you don't need to start calling your brothers and sisters "Dave-Bob" or "Theresa-Boy," or even develop a desire to stay up late at night writing novels, to learn some important lessons from this idealized family. Just like the Waltons, learn to give, to cooperate and to have a positive, helpful attitude when your family is going through hard times.

When your dad loses his job, he may begin to lose his self-esteem. His opinion of himself plummets. He may begin to think he is incapable of accomplishing anything of real value anymore.

One way to help your parents know that they aren't failures is to follow their directions. When they ask you to do something, do it right away. This will not only help them out by removing one more pressure, but it will help

(Continued on page 27)

NEWS THAT AFFECTS YOU

What's Behind This Weird Weather?

• While the Soviet Union basked in its warmest December in more than a century, in Thailand people were scrambling for blankets to keep warm. In Bangkok, Thailand, normal December evening temperatures of 70 degrees (Fahrenheit) plunged to 50 while the Soviet capital, Moscow, reveled in unseasonably warm 40 degree weather during the day.

All around the world odd things are happening to our weather. Drought, flooding, heat waves and cold snaps all seem to be happening more often and getting worse. What's behind this weird weather?

Scientists who study climate (climatologists) believe that the earth's weather patterns are changing from the comparatively tranquil weather we experienced from 1900 to 1960 to the more unpredictable climates facing us now.

Almost all climatologists agree that climatic change can be the result of changes in the earth's orbit around the sun. Barely detectable modifications could produce warmer or cooler weather depending on the direction of the shift.

However, many climatologists believe that there are other causes for our strange weather.

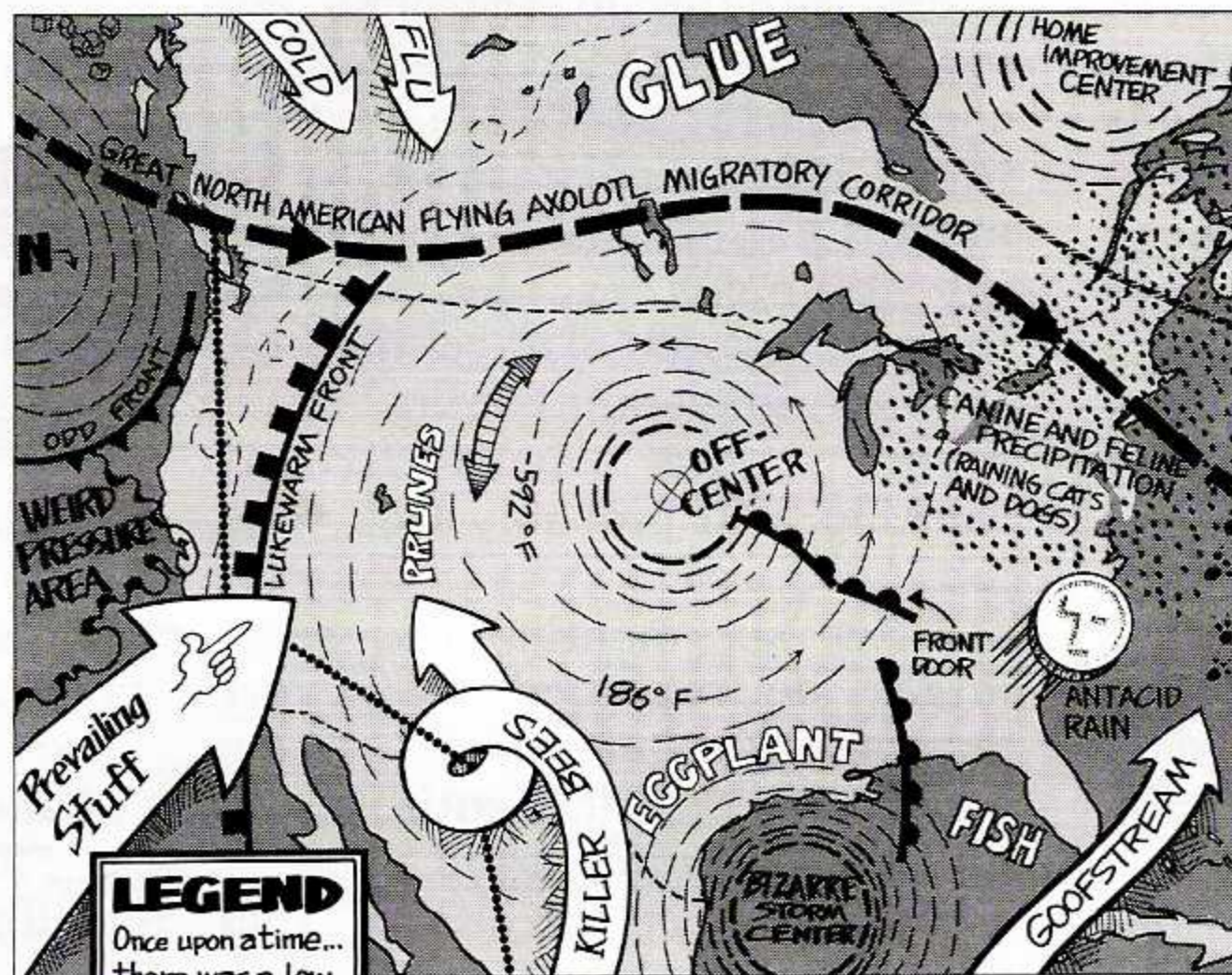
Some believe that when sunspot activity reaches its peak every 11.2 years, the sun actually becomes cooler. This causes earth to be cooler.

Yet others believe that volcanic dust suspended high in

by carbon dioxide reflecting it back to the ground.

The results could be devastating. If it becomes warmer, the polar ice caps would begin to melt, flooding much of the world's coastlands over a period of decades.

Will we be shivering in colder weather, or sweltering in a tropical hothouse? For more information read the article entitled "What's Wrong With Our Weather?" in the April issue of the *Plain Truth* magazine. — By Dan C. Taylor □



Stormy Debate About Acid Rain

the air actually blocks out enough sunshine to lower temperatures on earth.

Another group believes that winters are more intense and longer now because of "snow feedback," a cycle in which snow reflects sunshine back into space, making earth colder and bringing more snow.

Yet another group believes that instead of growing colder, the earth will become warmer.

This group believes that man's increasing use of various fuels like oil, wood and coal will raise the amount of carbon dioxide in the air to such a level that the earth will become like a greenhouse. Heat will be held in

• When someone tells you it's raining cats and dogs, you can be pretty sure they're joking. But when scientists in many countries tell you it's raining acid, and that acid is destroying forests and lakes and streams, you can be pretty sure they're serious — deadly serious.

Acid rain (or, more properly, acid deposition) is a form of pollution in which rain, snow and fog can become 100 to 1,000 times more acidic than normal.

Several theories have been offered to explain it, but the most widely accepted one says that acid rain begins where coal-burning industries release

Illustration by Monte Wolverton

sulfur dioxides and nitrous oxides into the atmosphere. Winds carry these chemicals high into the atmosphere, where they react with water vapor to form sulfuric and nitric acids. The acid vapor can blow hundreds of miles before it falls to the earth as acid rain.

For years, art and history lovers in Europe have complained that acid rain is eating away great old statues and buildings. Recently, scientists in New York, eastern Canada, Sweden and other parts of the world have discovered that whole lakes and streams have turned acidic, killing fish and water plants.

Salmon streams in Norway and Nova Scotia and trout ponds in New York have suffered especially, since these species apparently cannot tolerate even a low level of acid.

Scientists aren't as positive about acid rain's effects on forests. Some blame the deaths of thousands of acres of red spruce, white pine, jack pine and trembling aspen in New York and Scandinavia on it.

Environmentalists and others trying to stop acid rain complain that it's not fair. The people who produce the pollution often don't have to live with the damage it does; people who live near wilderness areas or who like visiting them to enjoy fishing, camping and hiking often do.

Some industrialists, on the other hand, say they are doing their best to keep the air and water clean, installing "scrubbers" to clean much of the sulfur dioxide and nitrous oxides from their emissions. But to equip every factory with scrubbers would cost billions of dollars, and so these manufacturers feel that laws requiring them everywhere should be delayed until scientists have proven that the scrubbers will really help eliminate acid rain.

Meanwhile, the acid continues to fall. — *By Colleen M. Gus* □

CITY IN FOCUS: Jerusalem

At this time of year, Easter and Passover observances focus many people's minds on religion. And nowhere is religion more important than in the city of Jerusalem.

Jerusalem has been called the holiest spot on earth. It is a holy city for three world religions: Christianity, Islam and Judaism. Moslems call it *Al-Quds*, "The Holy." In Hebrew, the city is *Yerushalayim* — "The City of Peace."

Throughout its history, however, Jerusalem has known precious little peace. For millennia, it has been the scene of wars and revolutions. Even in our generation, Jerusalem has been the focus of bitter fighting associated with the founding and defense of the modern state of Israel.

Little is known about Jerusalem before the time of King David of Israel (10th century B.C.). The city's greatest glory was achieved under David's son Solomon, who built a great Temple there. Three and a half centuries later, the Temple was destroyed by the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar, but was later rebuilt.

It was in Jerusalem that many of the great events in the life of Jesus Christ took place. It was there that He was crucified and buried.

The Jerusalem of today is altogether different from the city Jesus knew. Four decades after His crucifixion, the Roman general Titus destroyed the Temple and the city and massacred many of its inhabitants. This time the

Temple was not rebuilt.

Today's Jerusalem consists of the Old City (East Jerusalem) and the newer West Jerusalem. The Old City is enclosed by a centuries-old, 40-foot wall with eight gates.

Among the notable features of interest within the Old City is the Dome of the Rock Mosque, occupying the site of Solomon's Temple. This structure is one of Islam's most sacred shrines. Nearby is the Wailing Wall (Western Wall), holy to Jews as one of the last vestiges of the ancient Temple.

To the east of the Old City rises the Mount of Olives, the site of Jesus' ascension to heaven and also of His prophesied future return to earth. At its foot is the Garden of Gethsemane, where Jesus prayed.

The Bible prophesies that Jerusalem has a future far surpassing the glories of its past! It will one day become the capital of the whole earth. At that time it will truly be "The City of Peace." If you would like to know more about this coming time of peace and prosperity, request our free booklet, *The Wonderful World Tomorrow — What It Will Be Like.* — *By Keith W. Stump* □



The Dome of the Rock Mosque stands in Old Jerusalem, where Solomon's Temple stood.

Letters

(Continued from inside front cover)

Youth 82 really tells it like it is. If only every parent would relate this very vital message to every child at the proper time in life, how many young lives would be saved from all the terrible consequences that result from improper and unwise conduct. I hope and pray that every potential or existing parent who reads this article will clip it for future reference. And then at that "proper time" take it out and reread it before having that talk about "the birds and bees" with their child.

Hank Berger
Diana, Tex.

Won't give in

I am writing about your article, "Are You Sure Everybody's Doing It?" I really enjoyed reading it. I agree with "Cindy." I am glad there are other girls out there who want to wait until they are married. A lot of my friends call me chicken because I won't pop pills or come to their parties. Most of the boys I know won't even talk to me because I won't go to bed with them, like a lot of girls do. Most of the girls make fun of me and say I am too old-fashioned, and will never get married.

I would like to have the book you spoke



A future *Youth 83* reader? This photo was taken by Cindy Dove, a reader from Texas.

of, *The Missing Dimension in Sex*, that Mr. [Herbert W.] Armstrong wrote.

Avis Carol Layne
Whitwell, Tenn.

God on our side

I am writing to thank you for the article, "Are You Sure Everybody's

Doing It?" (December). I am 14 years old, and it makes me feel good to hear *Youth 82* backing up everything I believe in. It's hard for me to explain why I can't go with so and so or date outside my church. People have put me, my parents and the Church down for not dating outside the Church. I received the name "square" or "straight" for a long time. But in the end my friends saw I wasn't going to budge or give in one inch. Today they actually respect me. I still have to be on my guard all the time so I don't budge that extra inch. Though it isn't easy and becomes very tough, we've got God on our side helping us.

Wendy Eckman
Palmer, Alaska

No more prodding

Thank you for your article "Do Adults Accept You?" I was always having to be prodded about doing chores and showing my elders respect. I especially gave my grandmother a hard time. I hope if she reads this letter it will show her how sorry I am.

Tiffany Pepper
Inwood, N.Y.

Helps in training

Thank you so much for the article "A True Story of Endurance" (December). It really helped me to become stronger both mentally and physically as I start my off-season training for swimming. It has also helped me to strive to do my best both in swimming and in school.

Thanks also for the articles "Broke Again?" and "Are You Caught in a Time Warp?" I can't wait to start my record of money spent and how I use my time.

Joan Lipscomb
Ravena, N.Y.

Out of the time warp

I just want to say thank you for *Youth 82*. I especially enjoy the articles with helpful tips.

A special thank you goes to the author of the article in the December issue entitled "Are You Caught in a Time Warp?" The article has helped me put the "must-dos" before the "want-tos." I used to put off cleaning my room until after I went to the recreation center. Now, I see my priorities in the right order.

Sonya Sims
Boaz, Ala.

Surprised about Christmas

I really enjoyed December's "Teen Bible Study: The Surprising Origin of Christmas." I had a lot of important

questions about Christmas, but the Bible study answered them all.

Michael Sherwood
Rome, N.Y.

Pen pals?

Thank you very much for *Youth 82*. I like it so much that I find it hard to wait until I receive the next issue.

I'd like to know if it's possible for you to write in your magazine some addresses of people who want pen pals. I think that a lot of your readers would like to write to pen friends who have common interests, especially if they knew someone in a strange continent or in a different part of the world. I'm sure putting my idea into practice will require much work and time. But I think it's worthwhile. What do you think?

Ulrich Rommel
Pluederhausen, W. Germany

You're right — writing to pen pals can be a lot of fun. It can be a great way to make friends around the world. But experience has taught us that releasing your name and full address in Youth 83 isn't the answer. Along with letters from those genuinely wanting to be pen pals, you may get letters from those just wanting to cause you trouble.

There are many other ways to find pen pals. Ask your teachers and guidance counselors for help. Do you have any foreign exchange students at your school? Get to know them, then write to them when they go back home. Ask your minister as well — he may know of some teens looking for pen pals. Happy hunting — and don't forget to write!

Lessons from Daniel

I send you many greetings from the country of El Salvador in Central America.

I think *Youth 82* is a fantastic magazine for teenagers, and I want to thank Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong very much for sending me these interesting articles.

I read about the life of young Daniel in the article "A Teenager in King Nebuchadnezzar's Court" (June-July 1981). Since finishing my studies in secondary school this past year, I've begun to understand the many pressures this present society imposes upon us — similar to those placed on Daniel in the old Babylonian empire.

Because I am Spanish speaking, *Youth 82* has also helped me to learn more about the English language.

Joseph Angel Mejia
San Salvador, El Salvador



Before You Buy a Car

By Richard Rand

"You'd look good in that car!" The salesman smiles warmly.

You smile too and imagine yourself pulling up in front of your friends, basking in their admiration.

The salesman gives the metallic blue finish an approving pat and says: "And think — you could drive it home today! Just sign here and it's yours."

But wait! Your name on that dotted line means a lot. Be certain before you sign. Make sure you know what you want and that you've got it. This article will show you some factors you should consider.

Before searching for that dream car you need to ask yourself some tough questions:

"Do I absolutely need a car?" The second tough question is, "Do I absolutely need a car right now?" You may find it best to wait before buying one.

But if you and your parents feel you're ready for the responsibility, here are steps to take in looking for a used automobile.

The used car market

It's been said that one definition of a perfect crime is a used car. A U.S. government report claimed that one million consumers get stuck with defective used cars each year. How can you avoid becoming one of these statistics?

The best place to look is a new-car dealer who sells the make of car you are looking for. Usually this shows the former owner liked his car so much he traded it in for another car of the same make.

Most independent car dealers

get cars from auctions. Although bargains can be found, many cars from auctions have been in wrecks, have high mileage or the dealer can't sell them easily for one reason or another.

Sometimes you can get a bargain from a newspaper ad placed by a private owner. But you have to be careful. What are his reasons for selling? Usually, you purchase such a car as it is — with no guarantee.

How to judge a good car

If you are not acquainted with the mechanical aspects of a car, a mechanic you know could give you guidelines.

Ask other people with similar cars how they like their cars. Check *Consumer Reports'* annual buyers' guide in your library for frequency of repairs reports.

When you go to a dealer, get

the name of the former owner and call and ask about the car. Why did the person trade? Did the car have any problems? If the dealer doesn't know the name, you're taking more of a chance.

Do independent research. Don't necessarily believe a car salesman who is looking for a commission. What about the dealer's reputation?

Check the car's general appearance. Unevenly worn tires show improper alignment or the suspension may have been damaged in a wreck. If the surfaces of fenders and doors are not straight, this could also mean the car has been in a wreck.

Look under the car for leaks. Is the oil dirty and black or has it been changed regularly? Is the oil filter grimy and greasy? Is the car properly lubricated?

Test drive the car. Is the steering loose? That's sometimes costly to repair. Does it pull hard to one side while driving? If so, the alignment is off and a wheel alignment won't help if it's been in a bad wreck.

Since cars in the lower price range are usually sold as is, you'll want to have it checked even further. Take it to a diagnostic center to test its general condition. This may cost you \$30 to \$40, but it's worth it. Have them check the clutch, the transmission, the engine and the rear end — the most expensive components.

How much is it worth?

The value of a used car is determined by several factors: among them, its age, make, condition and popularity.

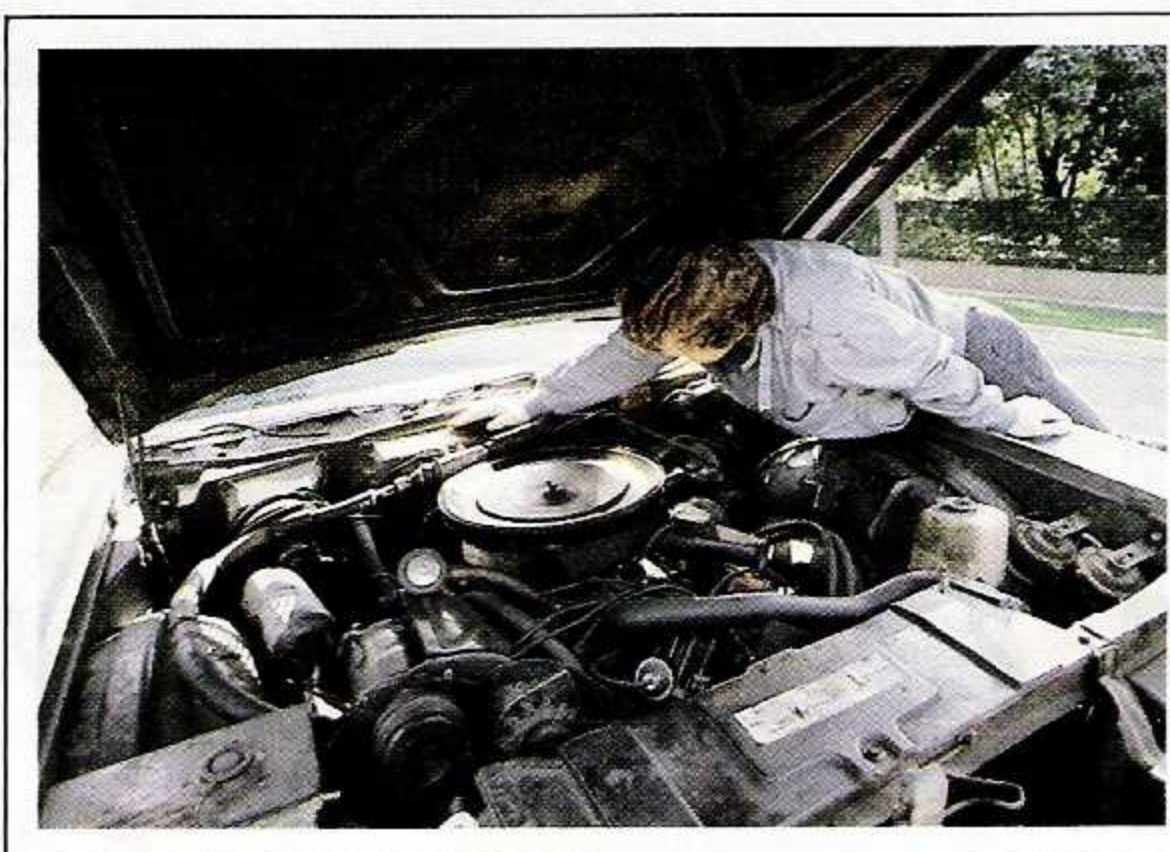
Check the *Kelley Blue Book* (in the West and Midwest) or the *Official Used Car Guide of the National Automobile Dealer's Association* or similar guides that can usually be found at your library's reference desk. These books give the wholesale and retail value for various cars.

If you check the ads in the newspaper, you can see general

asking prices. Practically no one pays the asking price. Make a counteroffer and usually a deal can be made somewhere in between.

What kind of car are you looking for? A small economy model or a car with room for several friends, equipment and so on? A larger, older car may

If you and your parents feel you're ready to buy a car, make sure you check it out completely, from the engine to the tail pipe. (Photos by G.A. Belluche Jr.)



require more gasoline, but a lower initial cost may make it cheaper to drive if you only use it occasionally. On the other hand, if you drive it daily, it may be better to spend more for an economy car.

Another thing to consider is the price of repairs. It might be wise to look for popular domestic cars to save some repair hassles. Foreign car parts are often more expensive and harder to find.

Counting the cost

In the United States, plan on spending \$1,500 or so to buy a good used car. (Prices may be much different in other countries.) It's best to save up first than to plan on paying with future earnings. If all you earn goes to payments, you'll be a servant to the car instead of vice versa.

Budget for tires, tune-up, a tail pipe and other parts that may need to be replaced. A car has

15,000 parts, any of which can wear out even if the car looks good. So don't spend every cent you have budgeted on the car itself.

The cost of the car is only part of the expense. Remember license, tax, insurance, repairs, gas and oil and so on. It's not worth the price to try to save on these. It is especially vital that no one should drive unless he or she is protected by insurance.

Can you afford a car? The first thing to consider is not whether you have the money to

cover all the expenses just listed. What you should consider first is what is most important to you.

Are you planning to go to college or vocational school? These important goals can have expensive price tags. Will buying a car keep you from these other personal goals?

Ask for guidance about how to achieve all your goals. Your parents and guidance counselor have probably had to face similar decisions on matters of priorities and they may be able to help you plan how to achieve your goals.

But what if you find from all this that you can't realistically afford a car now? Then what?

Well, there are alternatives to spending a lot of money on a car now. Some of the common ones include public transportation such as trains and buses, riding bicycles, calling a taxicab, walking, arranging a car pool or riding with friends, borrowing the family car occasionally and convincing your parents that they would enjoy coming to your activities.

In a future issue we will look at alternative forms of transportation in more detail, including some creative ideas. Write and let us know what alternative forms you use, and perhaps even have discovered! □

I have a pair of binoculars, and every time I see them, they remind me of someone.

You see, once someone wanted to borrow them to go mountain climbing and I was happy to loan them. However, at the top of the mountain my binoculars fell down a cliff face, damaging the lens covers and marking the frame.

They still worked, but the rock marks and indentations are a perpetual reminder to me of someone who borrowed an item and returned it in a worse condition than before. A simple trip to a binocular store could have repaired the damage at small cost and ensured a lasting good impression — instead of a bad one!

What are some of the pitfalls and hazards of borrowing things? Does God have laws of responsibility for conduct in using the things of others?

Think for a moment how you feel when people “borrow” something from you without asking. Don't you feel a little affronted? Perhaps you even think: How dare they! Don't you feel a little taken advantage of and put upon? Whether the borrower takes your schoolbooks, sports gear, personal clothes or even a bicycle or automobile, don't you feel disrespected?

There are two main problems in “borrowing” things without permission. First, you need to be able to return them in the same condition, and this just might be a problem if they are expensive or of an irreplaceable nature. Second, your act might be classed as stealing (Exodus 20:15).

Now think for a moment about when the shoe is on the other foot — your own — and you have taken something without permission. How do you feel inside? Don't you feel a little guilty — have some pangs of conscience?

And what if the item gets damaged or broken? Then you are faced with the temptation to lie and cover up. It can get messy and

Is Borrowing Stealing From Your Friendships?

Do people borrow things from you without asking? Do they return them in the same condition — or worse? Can borrowing even be stealing?

By Graemme J. Marshall

even nasty.

So what is a right way to go about borrowing something from someone else and still leave a good impression with them? Here are some tips:

1. Ask the person first.
2. Guarantee that you'll repair any damage that may occur. If damage would be beyond your capacity to pay for, then you may need to question whether you should borrow the item at all.

3. Offer to pay to rent it. Negotiate a deal acceptable to both parties.

4. Return the borrowed article cleaner, more polished and sparkling than when you took it.

But, what if the owner is not available just when you need it?

And you know from past understanding that to borrow from him or her is not a problem? Then be sure to leave a courtesy note or message, whether it be your brother, sister, friend or neighbor.

The most important thing to consider is, what does God have to

say about being responsible people?

Exodus 22:14-15 gives the answer. Verse 15 tells us that if a thing is hired (rented), then damage and wear and tear is (or can be) included in the charge. Verse 14 tells us that if it isn't



hired and becomes damaged, then you are responsible to make it as good as it was before.

Following through with these laws of responsibility means that you will leave a lasting good impression. And your friends may just be willing to loan things to you again in the future! □

By Phillip C. Jones

When people hear the name Bermuda, many of them immediately think of the infamous Bermuda Triangle.

And with good reason, because Bermuda is the northernmost point of a triangular mystery zone stretching from Bermuda to Florida and down to the Caribbean. Thousands of men and hundreds of ships and planes have been disappearing there without a trace for decades.

But despite the stigma attached to Bermuda, each year more than a half million tourists and residents travel safely to and from the island by sea and air.

Where is Bermuda? Most people think that it is one of the many tiny West Indian islands scattered throughout the Caribbean Sea. But Bermuda is more than a thousand miles to the north, just 580 miles off the coast of North Carolina in the Atlantic Ocean. To locate it on a map, you would have to look hard. The period at the end of this sentence is usually larger than the dot that represents Bermuda on many world maps.

Imagine living in a country 21 miles long and about 2 miles wide. Well, about 55,000 people do!

Chances are if you lived in Bermuda, your home would be much like those in suburban America. The neighborhoods would be smaller, though, and your home probably would be on a hill overlooking the ocean, or nestled in gently rolling hills in the island's interior.

An interesting aspect of life in Bermuda is the way we collect our water.

Our houses are built with special roofs that allow us to catch rainwater. Drains around the side carry the water below the house to our tanks. These tanks, which could be compared to a basement cellar, store 12,000 to 15,000 gallons of water depending on the



What's It Like to Be a **BERMUDA**

size of the house.

The air in Bermuda is clean and free from factory pollution, so there is no need to purify our water, although we do check it from time to time.

Some major hotels and our hospital along with a few other institutions have their own desalination processes to produce freshwater from seawater.

Young people in Bermuda

usually don't stray too far from their homes. Their closest friends generally live within a quarter-mile area, although most teens know dozens of others all over the island. By the time a student graduates from one of the island's nine high schools, he probably knows hundreds of others. That's a sizable chunk of the island's teens! There's plenty of opportunity to meet others during sports



Clockwise from lower left: An overview of some of the islands in the Bermudian archipelago; a resort hotel, part of Bermuda's thriving tourist industry; Front Street in Hamilton, Bermuda's capital; fishing off a pier; and teens with their mopeds, a popular form of transportation. (Photos by Gene H. Hogberg and Graham Mocklow)



Teen in Bermuda?

events between schools or after school in Hamilton, the island's only city, where many converge to catch buses home.

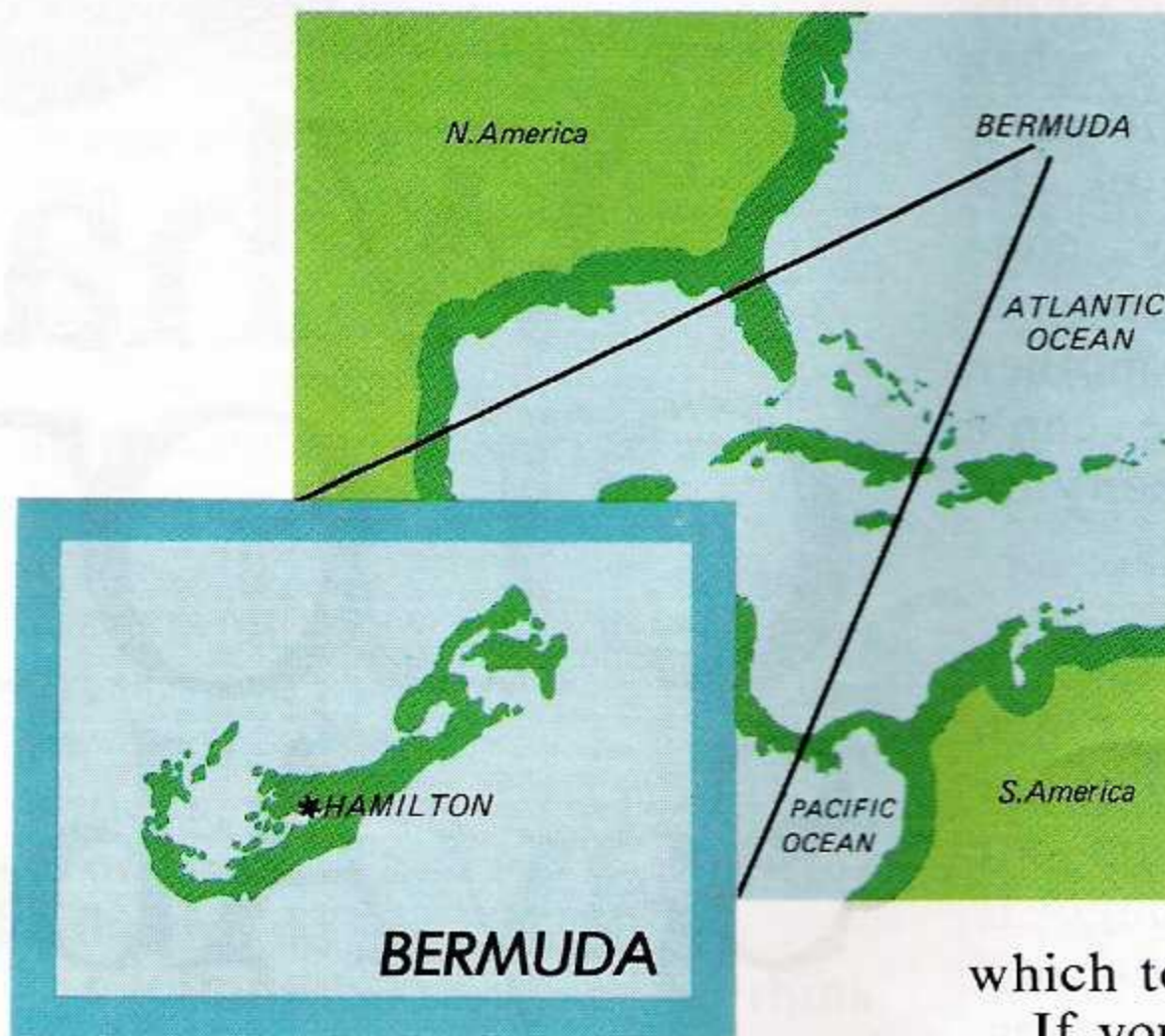
While buses are a popular and economical mode of transportation, the easiest way to get around is on a moped (a low-powered motorbike). You have to be 16 to obtain a driver's license for a moped. And to be able to ride a larger motorcycle or drive a car or

truck, one has to be 18 or older. Teens can hardly wait to turn 16 so they can travel more freely about the country.

It takes considerable time to travel any distance in Bermuda, because the speed limit is only 20 miles an hour (35 kilometers). And if you think that's slow, the speed is 15 miles an hour on the streets of Hamilton.

Although slow, these are comfortable speeds since Bermuda has no highways, only narrow winding roads. These roads were designed for horse-drawn vehicles and bicycles. It has only been during the past 20 years that the roads have been redesigned for motorized traffic.

One of Britain's few remaining colonies, Bermuda is an affluent country. There is no unemployment, illiteracy, poverty or slums in Bermuda. The island has little



farming, no heavy industry and neither manufactures nor exports anything. Almost everything has to be imported. How does Bermuda rank among the world's wealthiest countries?

The answer is tourism. Bermuda is an extremely popular resort, with a mild subtropical climate

that attracts tourists from all over the world. These visitors come to swim, snorkel, wind surf, sail, fish, play golf and tennis or just sightsee and relax.

While tourism is the mainstay of the island's economy, hundreds of jobs are also created by foreign companies. These international businesses set up headquarters on the island to escape the heavy taxation and other complicated laws in their home countries.

Many of the young men, upon graduation from high school, are absorbed into the resort hotel industry. They work as waiters, cooks, maintenance men or construction laborers. The girls work as secretaries, other office-related jobs or clerks. Still other young people travel abroad to further their education in universities in the United States, Canada and Britain before returning home to work.

Because of the country's high standard of living, in many ways the life-style of young Bermudians is quite similar to those of their counterparts in other Western countries.

Although God has blessed the country with abundant material wealth, it also shares the problems of the Western countries. Bermuda has one of the highest divorce and illegitimate birth rates in the world. Many young people grow up in broken homes, some never knowing their fathers. Widespread misuse of alcohol and drugs is prevalent among the country's teens.

But, despite the problems, Bermuda is still a nice place in which to grow up.

If you would like to come visit sometime, don't be too concerned about the Bermuda Triangle. Although Mark Twain once said, "Bermuda is heaven, but you have to go through hell to get there," today that is only half true. It is still a beautiful place, but now you can get there with the greatest of ease. □

Everyone's eyes are on you. What kind of first impression will you give?

By Ronda Kelly

When you walk into a classroom, an office or a bus, for an instant you receive the undivided attention of those around you.

In that instant those observing you decide whether you are a threat or an attraction, or whether you are of interest to them or not. What does that first instant tell people about you?

It may not seem fair that people don't even have the patience to wait for you to open your mouth before making a judgment — but that's usually the way it is. If you ruin this first moment, you will have to work awfully hard to disprove that impression later.

Without being aware of it, many times we give impressions and messages to others by what we wear — messages far different from what you might think. In today's fast-paced society, contacts are brief and we often get just one chance to tell another person who we are. We can't afford to waste an opportunity by sending the wrong message.

The clothing language

Clothing is a language much like body language. It projects our needs, our personalities and our destinations. This language is often used by the powerful and the wealthy. They dress to show the status that they have achieved and expect to be treated a certain way because of it. By overlooking the importance of the clothing language, you may convey uncertainty or low self-esteem.

Those who know us well can often see our personality in the style of clothes we wear. Have you



What Your CLOTHES Say About You

heard comments like, "That dress looks just like Sally Smith"? This obviously does not mean that the dress is 5 feet 6 inches tall with blond hair. It does, however, mean that the dress suggests Sally Smith's personality. Is your cloth-

ing expressing your true personality?

Looking your best

You may be thinking: Look at me! I'm too fat, too skinny, too short or too tall. How can I dress

to make myself look good?

First of all you must honestly look at yourself. Analyze both your good features and those you aren't happy with. Remember, you are not alone in having something that you wish to conceal. Few people are completely satisfied with the way they look. You have to work with what you have and make yourself look your very best. Here are a few basic guidelines:

If you feel you are too heavy, beware of full skirts, tight clothes and large prints.

If you feel too thin, you shouldn't wear anything clingy. Wear clothes with fullness and softness, avoiding vertical stripes.

The short person should avoid wearing clothes that are big, bulky or complicated. Don't wear anything that will chop up your body with contrasting bold colors.

Avoid narrow skirts, V necklines and vertical stripes if you feel too tall.

Remember that you can often improve your appearance with diet and exercise. If you decide you want to do this, you can even use clothing as a reward to inspire you.

Good health is a must in order to have a good appearance. It is impossible to look good unless you feel good. No matter how carefully you select your clothes, your appearance will be marred unless you take good care of yourself and always look well groomed.

Perfection in grooming extends beyond the body to clothing. Outer garments should be kept spotlessly clean, pressed and repaired. Poise and assurance result when you are well groomed. If your appearance is neat and orderly, your thinking is often more organized. You won't need to be annoyed with a run in a stocking or a conspicuous pin.

Nothing to wear?

Are you one of those people who looks into a closetful of clothes and says, "I don't have anything to wear"? This could be true if the clothes in the closet were purchased for the wrong

Dressing well depends far more on good taste and intelligence than on spending a lot of money.

reasons, without proper planning.

Regardless of how much or how little you may have to spend for clothes, organize and evaluate what you have. Consider each item carefully. Note which items are wearable as they are, which ones need to be cleaned or altered, and which ones are of no further use to you and can be thrown out, stored somewhere else or given away.

Dressing well depends far more on good taste and intelligence than on spending a lot of money. If your budget is slim, have a few good things rather than many cheap ones. Quality clothing will retain its appearance with frequent wearing long after the inexpensive garment looks shabby.

Before you buy something next time, make sure that it is as a result of thought and not impulse. Get advice from parents, home economics teachers and books on the subject.

Good grooming can be of value in getting and holding jobs and it is also essential in social relationships. By emphasizing positive aspects of yourself through your dress, you can inspire confidence in your abilities. A positive outlook, reflected in our dress and grooming, can be a positive influence on those around us.

Clothing reveals how we think we look; it also conveys a sense of our inner self. Why not put your talents and values on the outside, and display them where they will do the most good?

By dressing creatively, in good taste and appropriately for the situation, you show that you care not only about yourself, but about others as well. □

A limited clothing budget is an added challenge in developing a quality wardrobe. The following tips could help make the most of your money.

Invest in quality. To save the most money in the long run, buy the best quality items at the lowest prices, planning to keep them for years.

Know your colors. If you don't know what looks good on you, experiment. Take note when someone says, "Hey, that color makes your eyes look really blue." Pinpoint the colors you feel good wearing.

Have a master plan. Review the contents of your closet at least twice a year — before warm weather and before cold. Make sure you have the basics you need, coordinated so that you can mix and match for variety and versatility.

Keep researching. If you see someone who looks well groomed, analyze why. Windowshop. Flip through magazines. Hunt down that elusive outlet store you've heard about. Ask your parents for tips.

Decisions, decisions. When deciding whether to buy an item or not, ask yourself some questions: Where can I wear this and for how many seasons of the year? What do I already have that it will coordinate with? If it's a special care item, is it worth my time or money? Is it the right color? (Check carefully — store lighting can be misleading.) Is it well made? (Check for linings, extra buttons, straight hems, bias plaids cut on true bias.)

When not to buy. Don't buy fad items and, no matter how exceptional the price, don't buy a garment if it's not exactly what you want. Also, don't buy the first thing you see unless it's precisely what you need, and then only after you've looked further.

Sew it yourself. Consider buying a pattern and sewing some items yourself. — *By Linda Moll Smith* □

How to Take Prize-Winning Photos

By Nathan Faulkner

So you want to enter a photo contest . . . Where do you start? What should you take pictures of? Will you have a chance to win?

Yes, you will have a chance to win — if you know what the judges are looking for and follow the rules.

Probably the first thing judges look for is originality. Put yourself in the place of a photo-contest judge. In front of you there are many, many photographs of, let's

say, cats. There are pictures of all kinds of cats — fat cats, skinny cats, fluffy cats, white cats, black cats and maybe even tiger cats. Everybody sent in a picture of his or her cat.

But to you, the judge, all these cats look the same. To you, each one has no special meaning because you don't know the story behind each picture. You don't know that this fluffy cat just caught a mouse or that this other cat had just been staring into a fishbowl.

Can you see how hard it would be for the judges if there were no originality in the photographs? And how easy it would be for them to pick as a winner an original picture that told a story? So to be a winner, try to tell a story with your picture — show your subject in action.

Keep your work simple. Don't include everything around an object in your photograph unless that is your purpose.

Most of the time it is better to focus in on one object and make that the main subject in your picture.

Don't be afraid to be different. If everyone took pictures that looked like postcards, then magazines would be very boring. Move

your subject out of the middle of your frame. Then have your subject facing into the frame, not out of it.

Look for different angles, directions, perspectives, times or moods you can photograph your subject in.

The next thing that judges will usually look for is technical quality. Judges expect quality — remember, this is a contest. Put your best foot forward.

Look at your picture. Now ask yourself if that picture is technologically perfect. That is, are the focus, exposure and composition used to best effect? Part of the art of photography is learning to use these mechanical functions to produce a desired artistic effect.

Remember, just because you saw the early morning dew beading up on a deep velvety red rose as the sun appeared over the horizon and sent star sparkles glistening off into the royal blue sky, does not mean that the film in your camera captured the same thing. Study and practice are necessary to produce advanced effects.

Some of the photos turned in to photo contests are underexposed, out-of-focus, "grain-o-graphs." If the quality of a photo is not good, chances are the judges will pass over it without another look. Be sure your pictures are in sharp focus and printed well. Give your best.

Make sure your print is correctly trimmed before sending it in. Remember that the better your print looks, the more attention the judge will give to it.

When big prints are made from a small negative (such as 110 cameras), the grain of the film is much easier to see. If you plan to do a lot with photography, it is advisable that you use a 35-mm. camera.

And remember, judges can't bend the rules for your picture — when you send it in for a certain category, make sure it fits that category. Make sure that it's the right dimensions and obeys all the contest rules. Ask yourself, "Would I pick this picture as a winner?" □



There's no secret to taking prize-winning photos — just stick to this simple set of guidelines. The originality in the photo above, for example, helped it win a prize in a contest in which the author was a judge. (Photo by Melissa Horst)

Dear Diary

Here is the story of a momentous spring thousands of years ago as if told by an eyewitness.

I must hurry and write this before the sun sets.

Many things have happened since I last wrote in this diary, so let me start at the beginning.

I already wrote about the plagues that God cursed Egypt with except for the last one. This plague was so terrible that Pharaoh finally agreed to let us leave Egypt. All the firstborn were killed, both of people and of cattle.

In order to escape this deadly curse, the Israelite families were instructed to kill a lamb and put its blood on our doorposts. Then the death angel would pass over us and the plague would not harm any of us inside the house. If we didn't do this, our firstborn would die too. Oh, how awful! Both Father and Michael would have been killed. I sure am glad I am an Israelite!

That evening we had dinner at our house and invited our neighbors to share the lamb we prepared.

In a way, it was sad to leave our homes and head for an unknown destination. I am told we are going to the "promised land," but I have also heard stories about the people in these lands. I've heard that they are warlike and barbaric. I can't understand why people enjoy hurting each other and making other people into slaves. Will people ever be able to live peacefully with each other?

It was slow moving for a while when we left Goshen. All I could see was people. People in front, back and on all sides. I longed to sit down to a home-cooked meal with just my family. Will I ever taste those wonderful meals again? I am really getting tired of this flat, dry, tasteless bread we have to eat. I wonder what Moses will do when we run out of this bread? Well, I guess I won't worry about that one yet.

Besides I've worried enough today already.

Yesterday we were camped near the Red Sea when someone yelled: "Pharaoh and his armies are coming! They're going to kill us!" Had Moses made a mistake in bringing us out? Wouldn't it have been better for us to live the life of a slave rather than die here at the Red Sea?

Questions and comments were flying back and forth and many began to question Moses' authority. What gave him the right to believe that he was God's only instrument in bringing the people to a "promised land"? Men were arguing about different routes they would have chosen if they had been in charge.

And then the most fantastic thing happened. Moses held a rod over the sea and immediately a pathway was formed clear to the other side. No longer were people questioning the authority of Moses!

As our family went through those massive walls of water, I clung to my father. It was a bit unnerving to think that we were right in the middle of the sea. We moved rather quickly, but even so it seemed to take forever to get to the other side. I'm glad I was in the middle and not the back of this crowd. I felt a bit more protected from the approaching army.

We finally all reached the other side safely. But none too soon. Now Pharaoh and his army were riding through the sea! Would the walls of water allow them to come through safely too? No! Just before reaching us on the other side the walls came crashing down and killed the entire army.

We all breathed a sigh of relief. We began to dance and sing praises to God for delivering us from the Egyptians. Now we really are free! —
By Lori Richardson □

The biblical account of this story is found in Exodus 11-15.

News & Reviews

Exercise? Skip It!

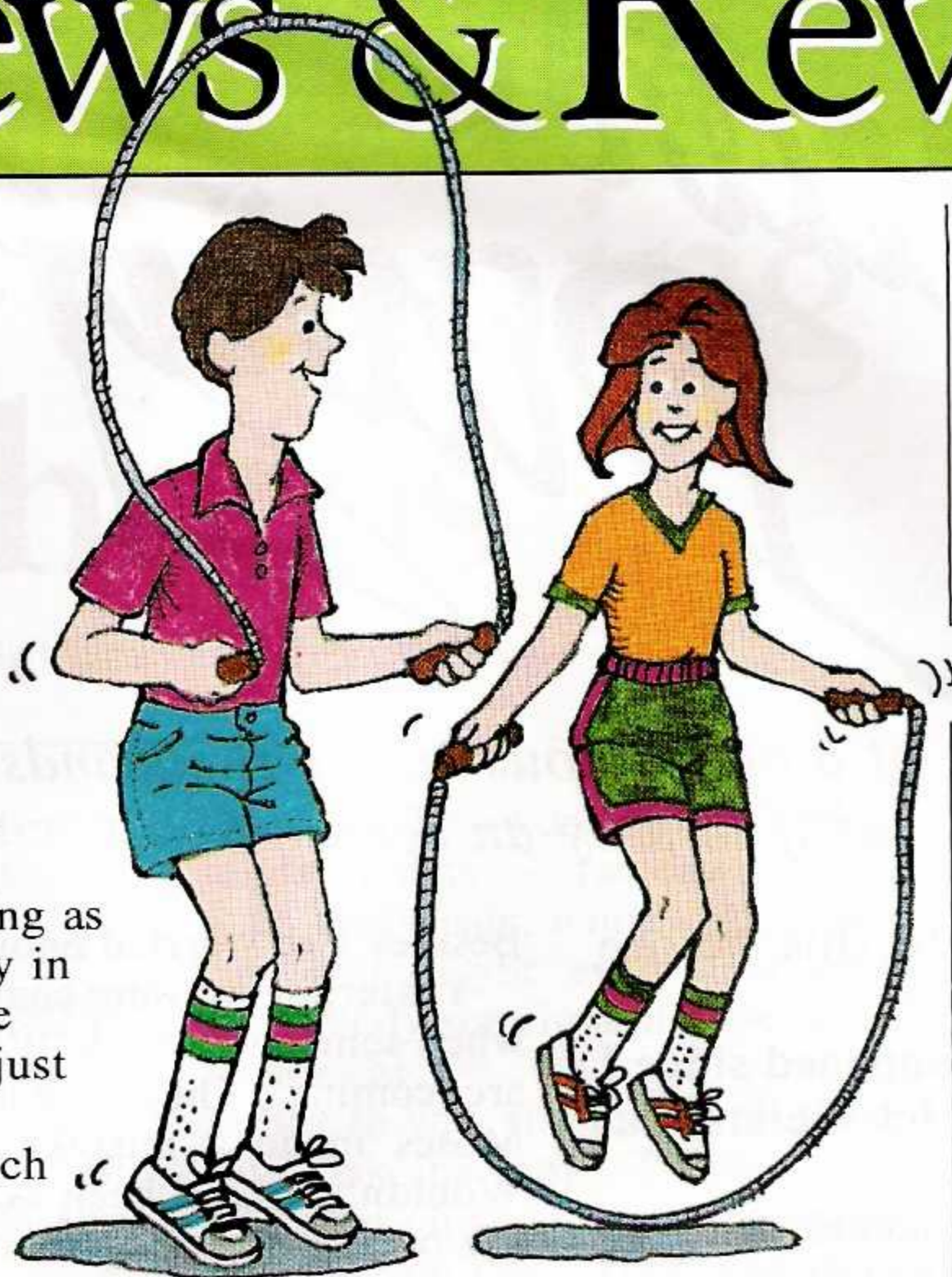
These days it seems we're constantly advised to exercise to receive the benefits of vibrant health. Medical and health authorities recommend walking, jogging and running as good ways to keep the body in shape. Each of these can be effective, but some people just don't enjoy them, and, besides, they aren't too much fun in foul weather.

Why not try something different? There's one activity that can be done indoors or out, and all it requires is a 9-foot length of hemp, cotton or nylon. That's right — rope jumping!

Jumping rope can help trim legs, thighs and hips, and the rhythmic turning of the rope exercises more of the upper body than jogging does. Jumping increases energy, makes sturdier feet, ankles and wrists, and improves coordination.

A study at the University of Illinois demonstrated the benefits. The participants were boys ages 9 to 11, whose only vigorous exercise was jumping rope. Results showed that the boys developed more efficient hearts and improved endurance, their chests deepened and their postures improved. Fat was reduced and muscular strength increased. On the average the boys could jump about 4 inches higher than before they entered the program.

At Arizona State University, researcher Jack Baker took 92 unfit students, put half in a 30-minute-a-day jogging program and half in a



10-minute-a-day rope-jumping program. Results of the test, reported in *Research Quarterly*, showed that the two groups shared almost identical improvement in cardiovascular efficiency. His conclusion was that 10 minutes of rope jumping is about equal to 30 minutes of jogging.

So if you're looking for a way to get in that much-needed exercise, and walking, jogging and running don't interest you, jump ahead — and jump rope!

— By Tom Delamater □

Facts About Acne

A look in the mirror confirms your worst fears. There on your chin is a telltale spot you call a pimple, your mother politely refers to as a blemish and the dermatologist terms *acne vulgaris*.

Acne has plagued some 80 percent of Americans at one time or another, usually during

the teen years. Are you a victim of bothersome blackheads without really knowing the facts about them?

Of and by themselves, foods have little effect on acne says the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in a reprint article entitled "Stubborn and Vexing, That's Acne." No germ or virus has been found to cause acne either.

In fact, scientists still aren't quite sure what causes it, but they do know that acne is a disease of the pilosebaceous unit in the skin. The symptoms appear on your face when the sebaceous (oil) glands work overtime, making the skin more oily and plugging up the skin's pores.

A pilosebaceous unit is made up of a hair follicle (root) and a sebaceous gland. These are connected to the surface of your skin by a duct through which the hair follicle passes.

The sebaceous gland produces a mixture of fats and waxes that travel through this duct. This mixture is called sebum. Sebum is good because it helps keep your skin and hair lubricated; otherwise, your skin would be itchy and flaky and your hair would be dry and brittle. When this sebum blocks the duct, however, acne develops.

There is no "magic potion" to dispose of acne once and for all. There are methods you can use to reduce



your symptoms and prevent scarring, but time may be the best healer of all, as most cases of mild acne disappear as you get older. Still, it's best if you follow a few simple guidelines from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Facial creams, moisturizers or cosmetics can block the ducts even more. Clean your face at least twice daily when it feels oily with a mild soap and water, taking care not to rub too hard. Scrubbing your face could irritate the skin and make the acne worse.

Even though you may be tempted to pick and squeeze at your face — don't. You can cause injury to the skin and the tissues beneath the surface, leaving scars. Also, avoid tight headbands, turtleneck sweaters and shirts, as these can rub on acne and make it harder to treat.

The sun's rays have a natural healing effect. But avoid overexposure — drying the skin too much can have bad effects too. — *By Wilma Niekamp* □

Proverbs for Today: King of the Mountain

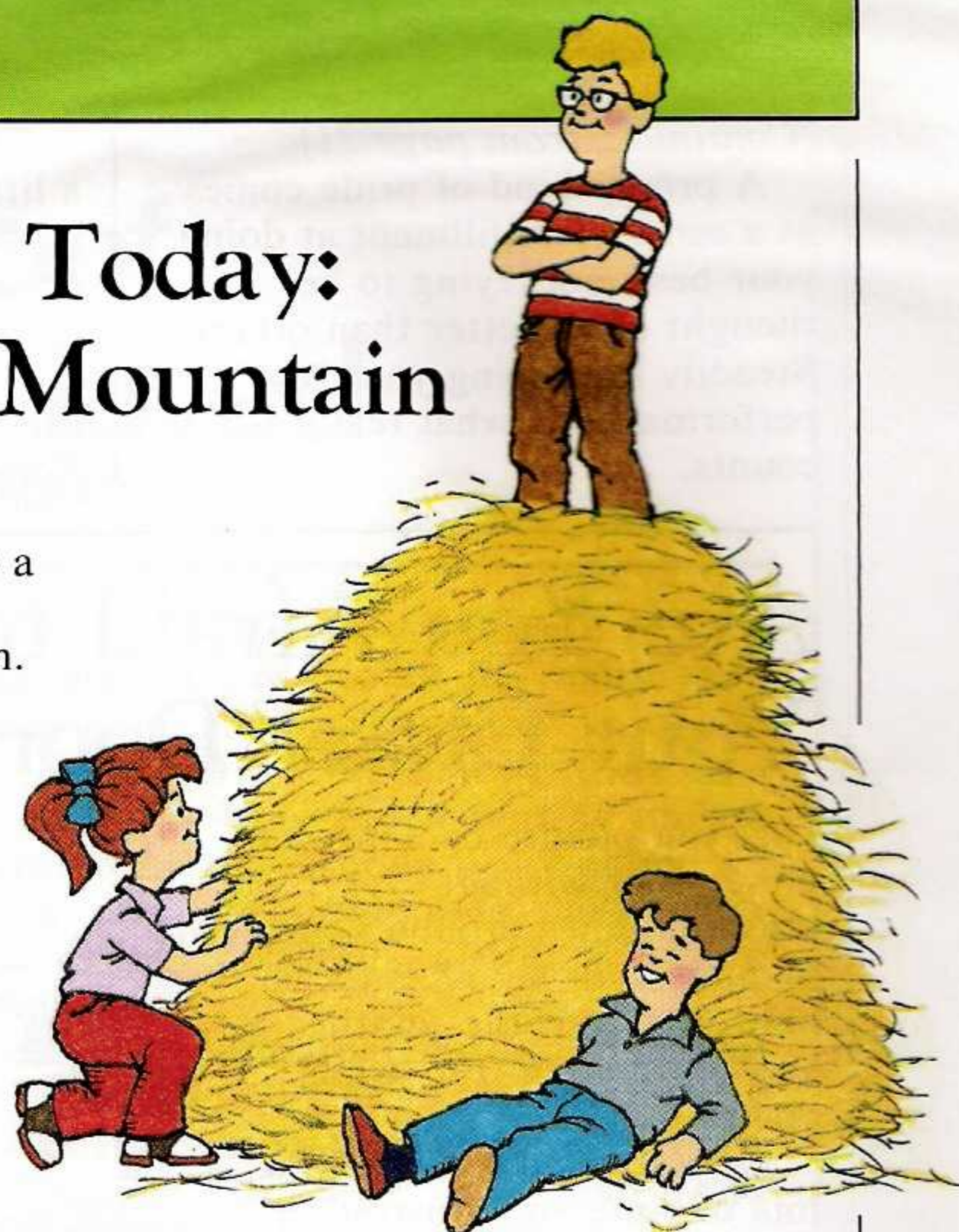
"I'm king of the mountain!"

Standing precariously atop a huge mound of loose hay, I made this proud proclamation. Within seconds my brother grabbed my legs from behind and upended me. A familiar slide down the slick haystack left me in a heap at the bottom.

As young teens we used to play this game on my grandfather's haystacks. It was fun to struggle up the stack and try to assume sole possession of the summit.

Perhaps you have enjoyed this activity yourself on hay, snow or a grassy knoll. Have you noticed what happens to the one who is the most vocal about taking over the top? Usually the others team up to throw the boastful one down.

King Solomon must have seen



this type of thing happen. He wrote: "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18, Revised Authorized Version, also called the New King James Version).

Tumbling headlong down the big haystack illustrates a generally harmless consequence of pride. But the consequences can be much more serious.

The Bible tells us that the archangel Lucifer (who became Satan) made an assault on God's throne (see Isaiah 14:12-15). He tried to become "king of the mountain." Why? Because of pride. But he was cast back down to earth. (For more information, send for our free booklet, *Did God Create a Devil?*)

People tend to want to be on top — to be No. 1. Usually the wrong kind of pride — trying to prove that they're better than everyone else — is the reason. This attitude promises to result in some kind of failure.

(Continued on page 22)

Let an Expert Say It for You

"Stronger than an army is a quotation whose time has come," said William Gates, an American educator. He was right. An appropriate quotation from an expert adds power and life to any term paper.

Experts can help you write the sentence that expresses your thoughts exactly as you intended. Books of quotations are packed with interesting quotes about anything from atomic power to zoology.

Some useful quotation books are *Peter's Quotations, Ideas for Our Time* by Laurence J. Peter; *The International Thesaurus of Quotations* by Rhoda Thomas

Tripp; and *Bartlett's Familiar Quotations* by John Bartlett.

These books can help you find exactly what you want to say. Quoting an authority also adds credibility to your paper. Your teacher will know that you researched your subject and did not write it as a last-minute thought.

Perhaps one of the best reasons for using quotations was given by Michel de Montaigne, a 16th-century French author, considered by many to be the father of the modern essay: "I quote others only to better express myself." — *By George Hague* □

News & Reviews

(Continued from page 21)

A proper kind of pride comes as a sense of fulfillment at doing your best, not trying to be thought of as better than others. Steadily improving your own performance is what really counts.

There will always be someone a little bigger, faster or stronger to take over the lead. While you are ahead, don't be arrogant or cocky. Just do your best and remember that haystack — avoid the "slide of pride"! — *By Jim Roberts* □

Are You Afraid to Open Your Closet Door?

Can you picture opening your closet door without everything crashing down around your head? Wouldn't it be nice to be able to find the clothes you're looking for when you're in a hurry?

Organization can save you lots of time and frustration in the future, so resolve to set aside an evening or a rainy day to get your closet organized.

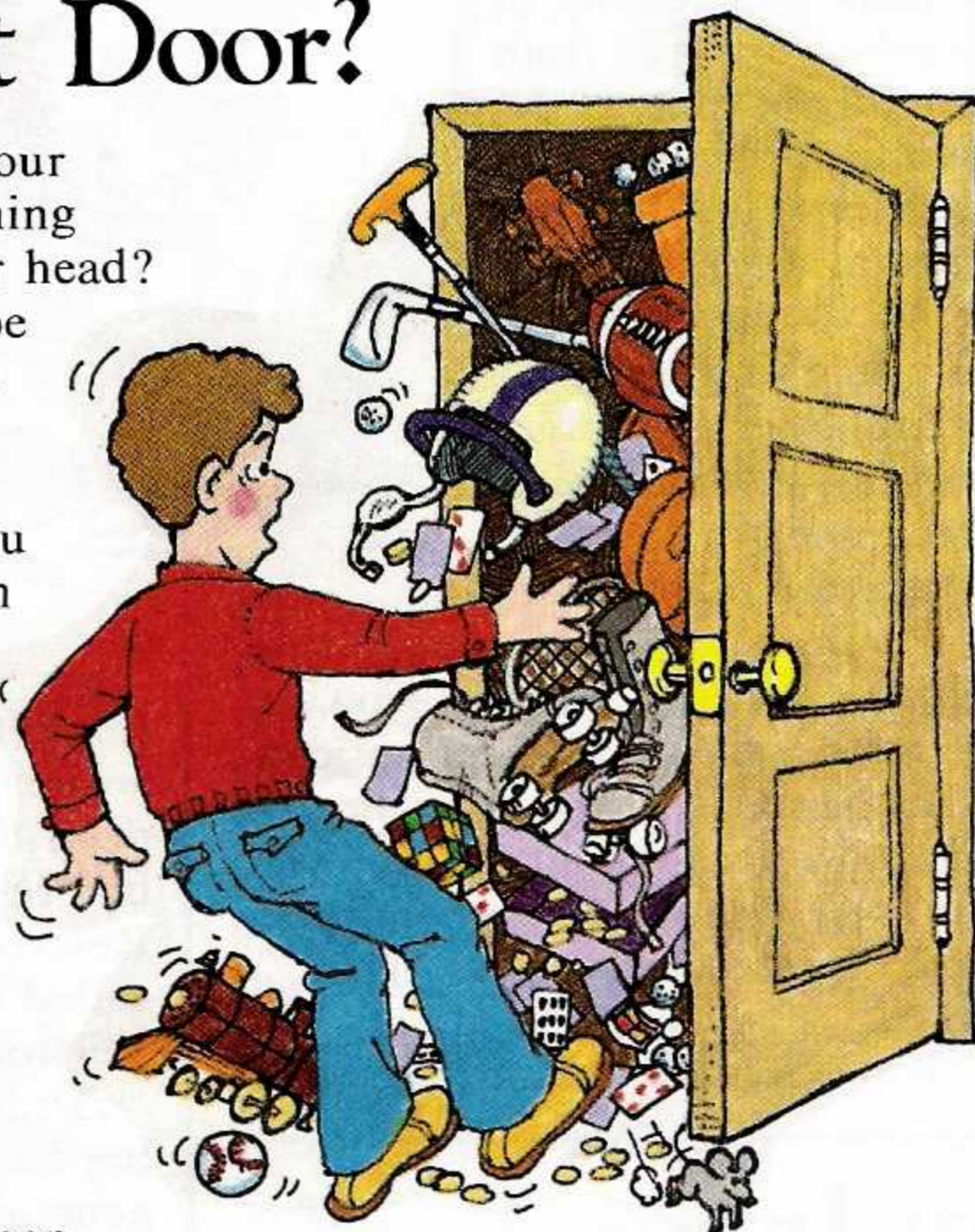
Throw away old belongings or pack them neatly in boxes for storage. Some articles you may want to give to a friend or take to a second-hand shop.

After deciding what to keep, arrange to have a proper place for everything.

If you have a shelf in your closet, use it to store suitcases, games or out-of-season clothing. Shoe boxes are helpful in keeping little odds and ends and for storing extra shoes.

Another idea is to arrange clothes by color or type. For example, place dresses together, shirts together and pants together. To save space on the clothes rack, skirts and pants can be hung on tiered hangers, allowing you to hang several skirts or pants in the space of one.

If you share the closet with a brother or sister, perhaps you can divide the closet fairly and help



each other by keeping your areas clean.

Don't live in fear of opening your closet door. You can have a neat, organized closet! — *By Wilma Niekamp* □

A Quick Tip for Friendship

Pssst! Want a hot tip for winning friends?

It's so simple, but it can have great results: Take an interest in others!

When you see a friend or acquaintance, show you are glad to see him or her. Smile! Look at him. Greet him by name. According to one study, a person's own name is the world's most pleasant sound to him.

You will notice that most popular people show a genuine, natural interest in the welfare of others. When such people see a friend, they don't start unloading all their problems. Instead, they ask how things are going for the other person.

If their friend seems depressed, they lend a sympathetic ear. If he says things are great, they are enthusiastic to hear that he was selected captain of the team, received all *As* or is going somewhere exciting for a family vacation.

The point is, the quickest way to make people respond to you is to take an interest in *them*. They'll be grateful and it'll make them feel good to know you care. And you will benefit from understanding them, and people in general, a little better. — *By Colleen M. Gus* □

FRISBEE'S FRIENDS



Teen Bible Study

Here's Proof Jesus Christ Lived

Prepared by Richard A. Sedliacik

Have you ever wondered if the Christ of the Bible really lived? Whether He performed such astonishing miracles as raising men from the dead, healing the blind and lame, and even walking on water?

Did Christ really walk the dusty roads of Palestine during the time of the Roman occupation more than 1,900 years ago?

The Bible bears record of a man named Jesus Christ. But is there proof outside the Bible that He really lived? That He performed miracles? That He was condemned to death by the Roman governor Pilate as recorded in the Bible?

It might surprise you to learn that such proof exists. Christ's existence can be proven not only from within the pages of the Bible itself, but also from the words of Roman historians and others who wrote about Him.

Before beginning this fascinating study, be sure to get your Bible, some paper and a pen or pencil. To benefit most from these studies, you should write out the Bible verses given in answer to the questions. This will help you remember what you are learning.

Before examining other historical evidence of Christ's existence, let's see some of the evidence the Bible itself has to offer.

1. Does the Bible record Christ's existence as a human being during the days of the Roman Empire? Matthew 1:16, 18, 21, 2:1-6, Luke 20:20-25, John 11:47-48.

The entire New Testament is a record of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the Church He founded. The written accounts, or gospels, of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John (Jesus' disciples and apostles) clearly show that Christ was born during the days of Herod, king of Judea, and that He lived during the time of the Roman Caesars and Roman occupation of Palestine.

2. Was Christ's miraculous birth to a virgin in the town of Bethlehem of Judea predicted hundreds of years earlier? Matthew 1:22-23,

Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 2:5-6, Micah 5:2.

These are merely two of the more than 300 prophecies and references to Jesus Christ in the Old Testament that are mentioned in the New Testament as having been fulfilled by Him. These prophecies, as historians and archaeologists will admit, were all written hundreds of years before Christ was born!

3. Did Christ show that the Scriptures of His day (now called the Old Testament of the Bible we have today) spoke about Him? John 5:39 and Luke 24:25-27, 44. Also read Matthew 26:55-56 and Luke 4:17-21.

Now let's notice several more specific Old Testament prophecies about Christ and see how He fulfilled them.

4. Was Christ to be betrayed by a friend for 30 pieces of silver? Psalm 41:9, Zechariah 11:12-13 compared with Matthew 26:14-16.

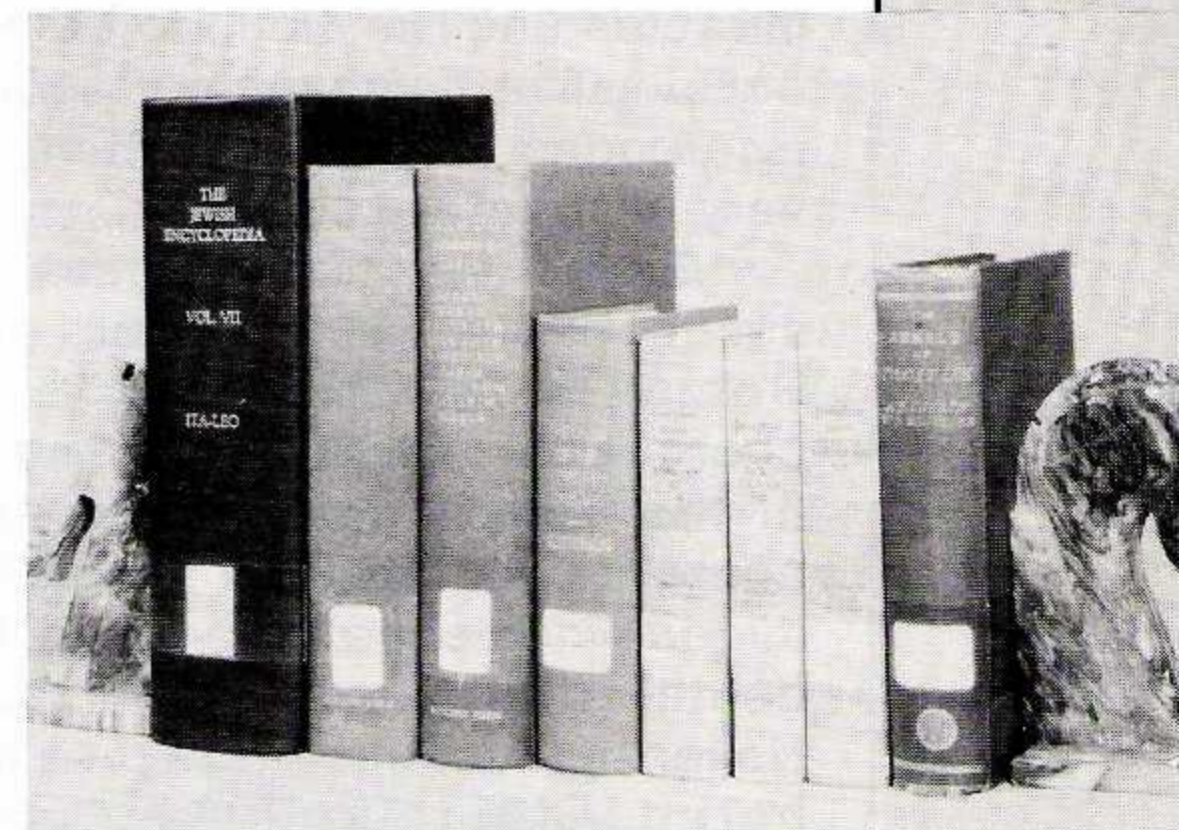
5. Would Jesus suffer a painful and agonizing death, with His hands and His feet pierced?

Isaiah 53:7-9, Psalm 22:14-17, Zechariah 12:10 compared with Matthew 27:31, John 19:1, 34 and 20:24-29.

6. And yet would the bones in His body not be broken? Psalm 34:20 compared with John 19:33, 36.

7. Would lots be cast for Christ's robe? Psalm 22:18 compared with Matthew 27:35.

The New Testament accounts of Christ's



Jesus Christ is mentioned in several historical sources besides the Bible. (Photo by Hal Finch)

Teen Bible Study

life show that He fulfilled each and every one of these and other prophecies written hundreds of years before His birth!

8. While on earth, did Jesus perform many miracles? Matthew 11:4-5, 15:30-31, 14:25-27, Luke 17:12-14, John 11:11-14, 38-44.

9. Did the religious leaders of the Jews, who were envious of Christ's miracles and fame, claim that His power was from a source other than God? Matthew 12:24.

Although the religious leaders hated Christ and denied that He was the prophesied Messiah, they were forced by the very fact of His miracles and influence among the people to give recognition to Him in their records.

Jesus is often referred to in the Jewish *Talmud*. The *Talmud* is a record of Jewish debates, doctrines, stories and traditions covering a period from before the birth of Christ to the centuries immediately following. In the *Talmud* Jesus is scornfully referred to as "that man," "dead dog," "the hanged one" and "the sorcerer." (The *Jewish Encyclopedia* lists the places where Jesus is referred to in the *Talmud*.)

The *Talmud* records Jesus' healing of the blind, the lame and the leprous. It also mentions His walking on the sea! But the *Talmud* also speaks of Jesus as having learned sorcery in Egypt (recall Matthew 12:24), in an attempt to discredit His miracles and His claim to being the very Son of God. The *Talmud* also records a full list of references to Jesus' mother, Mary, but in a very derogatory sense.

10. The envious religious leaders finally succeeded in having Jesus arrested by the Roman authorities under trumped-up charges that He was plotting the overthrow of the Roman government, and other false accusations. Did Pontius Pilate, governor of Judea, find Jesus guilty of anything worthy of death after examining Him? Luke 23:13-23. Nevertheless, did Pilate give in to those who hated Christ and who demanded His crucifixion? Verse 24.

This event was recorded by the Roman historian Tacitus, who lived less than a hundred years after Christ. He wrote that "Christus [the Latin spelling of Christ], from whom the name [Christians] had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty [crucifixion] during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus . . ."

(*Annals*, XV, 44).

As a Roman historian, Tacitus had access to government records of the Roman Empire. He was able to examine official historical documents showing that Christ was crucified!

Suetonius, another Roman historian and a contemporary of Tacitus, also refers to Christ. He tells us that in A.D. 49 the Emperor Claudius banished all Jews from the city of Rome (an incident also mentioned in Acts 18:2) and that Christ's followers were blamed: "He expelled the Jews from Rome, on account of the riots in which they were constantly indulging, at the instigation of Chrestus [a common misspelling of the name of Christ]" (*The Lives of the Caesars*, Book V, 25).

Reference to Christ is also made by the non-Christian Jewish historian Flavius Josephus of the first century A.D. Writing about the death of James, Josephus called him "the brother of Jesus who was called Christ" (*Antiquities of the Jews*, XX:9, 1).

These men were non-Christians — their writings are neutral, historical evidence of Jesus' life and crucifixion by the Romans.

An early reference to Christ also was made by Pliny the Younger, who was governor of Bithynia in Asia Minor. He wrote many letters to the Emperor Trajan concerning how Christians should be dealt with. One such letter, written about A.D. 111-113, provides conclusive evidence concerning Christ's existence and that of His followers (Christians) who were put to death for not renouncing their belief in Christ and their refusal to curse Him.

In this letter, Pliny describes Christians as coming together at fixed seasons and singing a hymn to "Christ, as to a god." This phrase clearly shows that Pliny considered Christ to have been a historical figure. He had no reason to doubt Christ's existence for he knew that Jesus was a real person who had lived and taught in the Roman Empire less than a hundred years earlier!

But what was the historical, literal Jesus of the Bible really like? Was He the pale-faced, delicate and effeminate-looking person so often portrayed by most of professing Christianity today? Or was He a real he-man who radiated true manliness and would command our respect if we met Him today? We'll find out in our next study. □

Dear Youth 83,



Practical Bible-based answers to the problems of growing up.

Q. I just turned 15 years old about three weeks ago. My problem is that I am quite a bit overweight and I get very self-conscious about it. It is especially bad because people sometimes call me names. What am I supposed to do when people make fun at me?

A. Being overweight is a common problem and of course one experienced by people of all age groups. It is sad but true that people aren't very understanding, and sometimes are even cruel about things like this.

Although the people who make fun of you probably have other problems of their own far worse than yours, nonetheless the fact that a weight problem is easily seen makes it an easy target of ridicule. People can forget your many strong points and can even help you forget them. When you see things out of perspective, it can be easy to feel self-conscious.

Although you cannot change the way other people treat you, you can take some positive steps. If your being overweight has no medical basis, you can do like many other people facing a similar situation have done: Take responsibility for your own looks. It isn't easy, but these people decided to make no excuses but discipline themselves to lose weight through balanced, commonsense programs. You can design such a program with your parents' assistance and your doctor's advice if necessary.

Succeeding at your diet will not only improve your looks and health, but give you a feeling of accomplishment and self-worth.

And if you can get your family involved, they can provide needed encouragement.

Therefore get the problem into perspective while you deal with it in a constructive manner, and in the process resolve to never let yourself judge someone harshly according to outward appearances as some people have done to you.

Q. I read *Youth 82 [83]* all the time and like it very much. From time to time I want to read the scriptures that you quote in some of the articles, or wish to read from the Bible on my own.

My question is, what kind of Bible should I read? There are so many of them.

A. Almost any Bible will do to look up the scriptures from our articles, or even to do your own personal Bible study, but we do have some suggestions for you.

The Authorized or King James Version (AV) of the Bible is a very good translation and is the most widely used Bible in the English-speaking world.

The Revised Standard Version is also a very good translation and is generally as good as the Authorized Version.

The problem with both of these translations is that they use somewhat antiquated English that might be hard to understand at first. But with continued reading the style will become more familiar.

One good idea is to supplement these translations with a more readable modern version available at many Bible bookstores. The clerk should be

able to give you advice about some of these.

For example, the Authorized Version has recently been updated with modern English replacing wording that has changed since it was produced in 1611. Obsolete words have been replaced, for example *thee* and *thou* have been replaced with *you*.

This revision is called the Revised Authorized Version (RAV) in Great Britain and known as the New King James Version in the United States. Many of the quotations in this magazine are taken from this version.

If your funds are low, you may be pleasantly surprised to find how inexpensive a Bible can be if you purchase it in paperback or buy a used copy at a used bookstore. □

We welcome your questions and will use excerpts from as many as possible. Sorry we can't answer them all. Answers are prepared by Bernard W. Schnipert, a minister of the Worldwide Church of God. Address your questions to "Dear Youth 83," 300 W. Green St., Pasadena, Calif., 91129



...the government
of God... was
abolished from the
earth. It must be
restored. That is
*uppermost in God's
mind!*

(Continued from page 3)

universe, including our earth. The original Hebrew words imply a perfect creation. God reveals Himself as Creator of perfection, light and beauty. Every reference in the Bible describes the condition of each phase of God's creation as very good — perfect. It is a perfect creation, beautiful to the eye. God is a perfectionist!

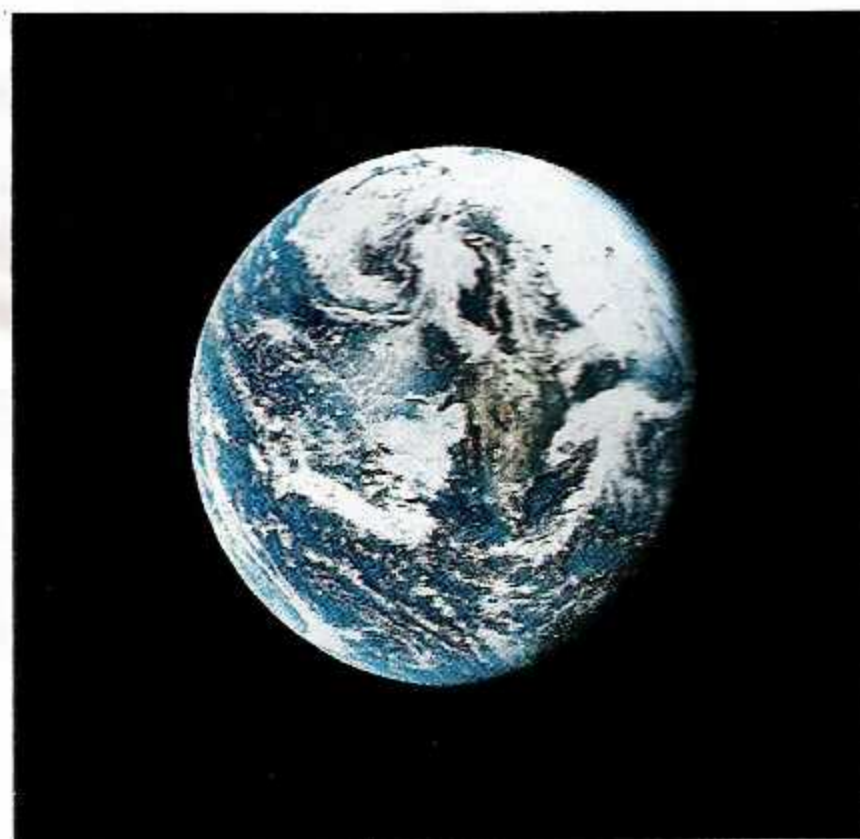
Creation not finished!

Even though God is perfect — and He is a perfectionist, having created everything perfect — He often does *not* complete His creation all at once. This was true of the angels. The second stage of the angelic creation was the development of character — whether good or evil.

This earth, as only few know, originally was populated by angels.

God had a great purpose in mind for them. Great accomplishment was planned for them. God purposed that the angels utilize the raw materials and the many properties built into the matter of the earth to complete its creation — for God is the Author of beauty, harmony, peace, joy, perfection and glory.

This, of course, demanded law and order — harmony — and that all the angels pull together for their grand accomplishment. So the Creator set over them a GOVERNMENT — His government, with His constitution and laws. God's LAWS were — and are — a way of life; the way of love — outgoing concern for the welfare of others; the way of peace,



harmony, helping, serving, sharing.

The government of God is a way of life. It is the way that develops righteous, holy, perfect character. It is the way that produces peace, harmony, happiness, joy, abundance. It is the way of love. It is love to God in implicit *obedience*, adulation, worship, reliance and faith — knowing that *God Himself is love!*

So God established on earth a throne to administer His government. On it, He placed a super-archangel named Lucifer. This great Lucifer was *originally* a bringer of light and truth. He was perfect as created.

Next to God, this superangel was the most powerful and most mighty being that it was possible for God to create. He was *perfect* in all his ways *until iniquity* (lawlessness) was found in him of his own free choice (Ezekiel 28:15).

The first rebels

This Lucifer led his angels (one third of all the angels — and it is probable that it was the same third that populated the earth under Lucifer) into sin — transgression of the laws of God's government.

God had wisely chosen to make angels, and later humans, *free moral agents* — with free choice. Otherwise neither angels nor humans could attain God's holy, perfect, righteous character. God gave the angels minds of their own. And He made them immortal — they never die. They were each individually created. They

do not reproduce themselves.

God bestowed upon angels minds possessing *great knowledge* — superior to that possessed by man. One might suppose that, endowed with such great knowledge and being created holy, they would never choose wrongly or commit sin.

But some of them did! Their superior knowledge did not prevent rebellion, sin and worldwide chaos and destruction.

Originally, the angels under Lucifer were holy — and Lucifer himself, sealing up the sum of wisdom, perfection and beauty, was created perfect. Yet he led the first rebellion, and evidently induced his angels to follow him in this super sin. Thus the angels sinned (II Peter 2:4). They rebelled against God's way. They deliberately formed within themselves *evil* character. They turned from God's government to vanity, lust and greed; jealousy and envy; competition leading to strife, violence, war. They resented any rule over them. They wanted to choose *their own way*, not God's way.

Thus the government of God was rejected, removed from the earth.

The creation of this group of angels *was now* complete! They had formed evil character. They became *demons*. And the great Lucifer became Satan the devil.

So possession of vast knowledge and endowment with free choice does not constitute perfect righteous character.

What God is

But now look at God Himself and consider what He must have considered. God possesses perfect, righteous character. God will not sin. God will not go contrary to the perfect, holy, spiritual *law* that He created and set in living, active, inexorable motion, to cause and produce *all good*. God has *so set* Himself that He cannot sin.

So here we have the state of things, as God saw them, after the sinning devil and demons were cast down to the earth they had ruined.

When the earth first was created, the angels shouted for joy (Job 38:7). There was happiness, joy, ecstasy, perfect peace on the earth as long as the government of God was administered on earth. But the universal sin of the angels on earth had apparently brought universal destruction! The earth was in a state of ruin.

Can we see, therefore, that God had these facts to consider? That immortal beings possessing great knowledge and freedom of choice, but *without* proven righteous character, could not guarantee the preservation and improvement of His creation.

You see, *God is Creator and Preserver* of His creation. It is Satan and his angels who turned to destruction — and became destroyers.

The second phase of God's great purpose

God knew that if the angels chose evil character, it left Him as the only Being in existence who could possibly be relied upon never to deviate from His government, its laws and its way of life.

We have now reached the point where the government of God — the means of building and instilling righteous, holy, perfect character — was abolished from the earth. It must be restored. That is *uppermost in God's mind!*

God must have said: "There's just not enough of me." He needed millions or billions of perfect and righteous beings, governed by His government, to complete in beauty, majesty and glory not only the other planets of our solar system, but of our Milky Way, and the countless other galaxies of the limitless, vast universe. So now comes the next phase of God's overwhelmingly grand purpose: to REPRODUCE HIMSELF into billions of God-beings. □

Mr. Armstrong's free booklet, *Why Were You Born?*, contains more information on this subject. See the inside front cover for the address nearest you.

FAMILY CRISIS?

(Continued from page 7)

rebuild their self-esteem by showing them that you respect them, their opinions and their ideas.

Money matters

Think about all the ways your family spends money. Did you realize that a good portion goes for things that can't be bought at the store?

When you turn on the faucet or the stove or turn the furnace way up, you're making some significant purchases for the family. How would you like to pay for it all yourself?

Be as frugal as you can — don't waste! It will not only help out by making the bills smaller, but it will show your parents that you *are* trying and that you *do* care.

When the going got tough on Walton's Mountain, the family banded together. They made it a goal to work together. You can do this with your family too. One way is to plant a garden. Offer to do some of the work it would take to care for one. Find other projects as well that you can all work on together.

There are many other ways you can help save money around your house. But remember, by far the biggest contribution you can make is through a cooperative, giving spirit.

Keeping healthy

One doctor has called the recession the world's greatest cause of disease. Not smoking or pollution or eating junk food. The recession! Why does he say this?

As the recession has deepened, doctors have noticed that more and more stress-related health problems are appearing. Statistics have even been compiled showing the number of stress-related deaths that will be caused by each 1 percent rise in the unemployment rate. These doctors have discovered a definite link between a rise in the rate and a rise in stress-related deaths.

These very real dangers threaten the health of anyone who has

been out of work for a while. The hazards of unemployment are not to be taken lightly. Both of your parents are exposed to enormous amounts of stress that can cause high blood pressure and heart attacks. Alcoholism and — in extreme cases — suicide are other results.

The guidelines we talked about earlier can do much to head these hazards off at the pass.

You can also encourage your parents to get in some sort of exercise. Even if it's just a short walk each evening, exercise helps counter the effects of stress.

Get some extra help

There is yet one other thing you should do — the most important of all: Ask God for His help with this problem.

In Matthew 6:31-33, God makes a promise to you. "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' . . . For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Revised Authorized Version, also called the New King James Version).

That's a promise — hold God to His promise! Tell God, in prayer, about your family's problem. Ask for His guidance. He may not provide a job immediately (although that is very possible), but He will one way or another make sure your family's needs are always met.

We hope your dad won't lose his job to begin with. But if it should happen — or has already happened — apply the principles outlined in this article. It will take sacrifice on your part. It will take a giving attitude. Once you have started, though, don't give up. You'll soon see results.

Your positive, helpful outlook will spread through the whole family. The problems won't seem nearly as big as they once did. Your family will survive, and could even benefit, from this trial. You can help conquer your family crisis! □

Friends Are 'In'

(Continued from page 29)

sense? Friendship is based on two things: love and loyalty.

"A friend loves at all times" (Proverbs 17:17). He loves when he disagrees with his friend. He remains faithful when his friend slights him or gets angry at him or her. He rejoices when good things happen to his friend and sorrows when he or she is in pain. Circumstances do not alter his attitude or action toward him.

Choose your friends carefully, because they exert a powerful influence on how you think and act. "He who walks with the wise grows wise, but a companion of fools suffers harm" (Proverbs 13:20). We are affected by the company we keep. An old Chinese proverb observes, "He who lies with dogs will get fleas."

We should encourage our friends. We should be builders in their lives. We should inspire them by what we say and do. "An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up" (Proverbs 12:25).

We also build up our friends by being ourselves, not by trying to conform to what we think they want us to be or saying what they want us to say. If they are about to make a terrible mistake in their lives we should speak up. Solomon noted that as "iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17). God uses friends as a gentle abrasive to sandpaper the rough edges off our personalities; to teach and mellow us and help us grow into mature adults.

It's hard now to believe your parents, or older brother or sister, when they say that once you're in college or out of school entirely, having been in a school "out" crowd doesn't matter. As a matter of interest, ask them where the members of the "in" group of their school days are today. I think you will be surprised.

Cliques are limiting. As a teen, now is the time to develop unlimited friendships that will last a lifetime! □

Eyes on Goal

(Continued from page 1)

requires total EARNESTNESS.

It requires, in addition, the application of the other six laws of SUCCESS — education, in which the Bible is the main textbook; good physical health; DRIVE, or concentrated DILIGENCE and EFFORT; resourcefulness; sticking to it — enduring; and continual contact with, and the guidance, help, and power of GOD.

Remember what a GLORIOUS GOAL we have before us! Make it your supreme overall life VOCATION, and WORK HARD AT IT! □

For more information about this vital subject, send for Mr. Armstrong's free booklet, *The Seven Laws of Success*. See the inside front cover for the address nearest you.

The Nest

(Continued from page 4)

neys to search for and retrieve little pieces of building material. And then without glue or plaster or tools of any kind it was all put together into a well-formed nest. Now that's a lesson in skill and diligence!

Do you think you could gather twigs, straw, animal hairs and similar items, and weave them into a nest? Why don't you try? To be more than fair, we'll allow you to use one whole hand. But only one. The bird only has its bill, remember. It is doubtful you can construct anything resembling a genuine bird's nest.

Why can they do it while you can't? Not because of evolution, that's for sure! The truth is that God gave each kind of bird the knowledge and ability it needs to build its nest. He put it in their little brains.

He didn't give that skill to humans though. Humans don't need it. Birds do.

How wise is the Creator of all living things! □

Rejection

(Continued from page 6)

how much our kind words have helped others.

In short, the best way to overcome feelings of rejection is to accept (not reject!) others and to try to make them feel happy.

Values: true or false?

Often, people are accepted or rejected because they do or don't measure up to some overemphasized value. For example, we live in a world that worships physical beauty. The muscular guy with broad shoulders and a lifeguard tan or the shapely girl with a model's looks is often popular, even if he or she is devoid of character, personality and intelligence. Sad as that is, there is little that we can do to change the way the world thinks.

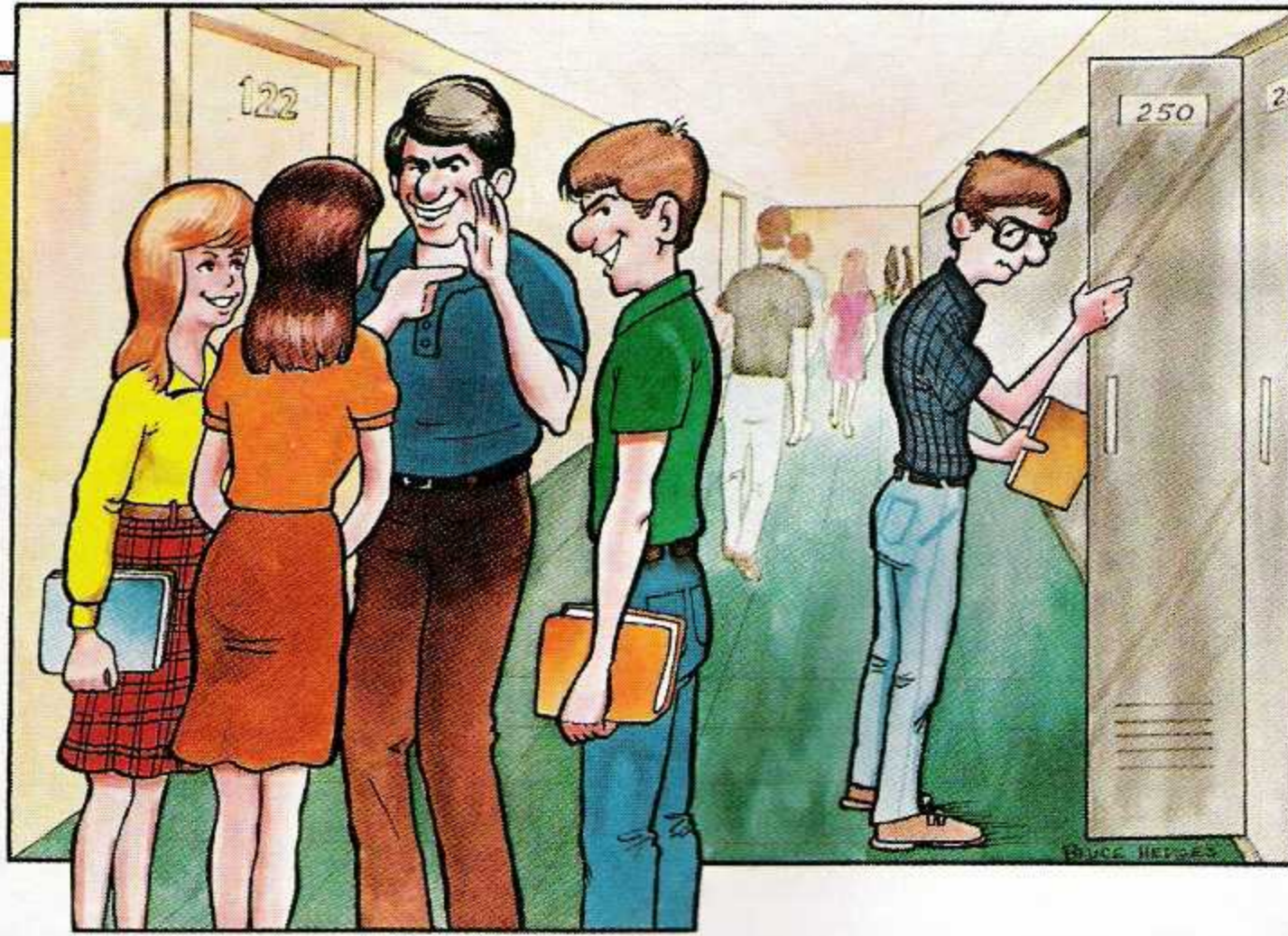
Acceptance at home can compensate for some of the rejections life throws at us. The family can offer a shelter from these wrong ways of judging human worth. By stressing each other's strong points and character, your family can reflect the true values.

Talk to Mom and Dad about it. They have probably suffered all the kinds of rejection we have. Don't hesitate to go and ask them for help.

God looks on the heart, not the outward appearance, and He is no respecter of persons. We can be accepted in His sight no matter what others think. The account of Samuel setting apart David to be king in I Samuel 16 shows that God wasn't using the same criteria to make this decision that men were. Instead, God looks on the inside.

God wasn't as impressed by David's older, taller, stronger brothers as He was with David's potential, his wisdom and his sterling character. What's on the inside counts.

As much as we humanly desire to be liked by others, we must remember that to be accepted by God is more important. And, if we do our part, God will never reject us. □



BY THE WAY...

group, they are guilty of pride.

Pride affects many great people . . . and many not so great! It's easy for some to become wrapped up in their self-importance and think the world revolves around them. We should be alert to the dangers of pride. It can hurt and destroy friendships and our personal character growth. "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18, New International Version throughout).

But these dangers do not destroy the value of group friendships. Christ Himself worked closely with a small group of people, called disciples or students, building them to maturity. Building is the key. If a group's members are helping each other grow, the group is worthwhile. If a group is hurting its members or those outside the group, it is not.

What about you and your best friends? Do you bring out the best in the people you are with? Do you bring others into your group? Are you able to learn and grow from a variety of friendships? Do you see and care about the needs of those outside your friendship group? I hope you can answer yes to all these questions. If not, you have something to work on.

Many times real, lasting friendships cannot be developed in cliques because the emphasis is on belonging to the "in" group for what you can get out of it. That's not real friendship.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "The only way to have a friend is to be one." What does real friendship involve? How can we be friends in the purest

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Cliques Are 'Out' Friends Are 'In'

By Dexter H. Faulkner

If you're "in," you really feel secure with your friends; if you're "out" it hurts, especially when you are ignored, not invited to parties, criticized or obviously made to feel rejected in other ways.

How about you, do you belong to a clique?

To many teens, those exclusive groups — cliques — are the biggest cause of pain during the teenage years, responsible for untold hours of sadness, anger and frustration. Cliques can influence the way we talk, walk, dress and even think. Often, being accepted by the "in" crowd seems essential to a girl's or guy's happiness.

Few people can totally ignore cliques. But if we learn how to deal with them, we can be spared a lot of heartaches and unhappiness.

First, we need to learn to recognize why people rely so heavily on cliques. I think it could be best summed up this way. Most teens are unsure of themselves (I know I was when I was in school), so they form

tight little groups to alleviate some of this basic insecurity.

To feel really safe we try to pigeonhole each other in certain categories. That way everyone knows who's "in" and who's "out." Oftentimes, the "ins" run the school. They dominate sports, the student government and clubs. The "outs" are everyone else.

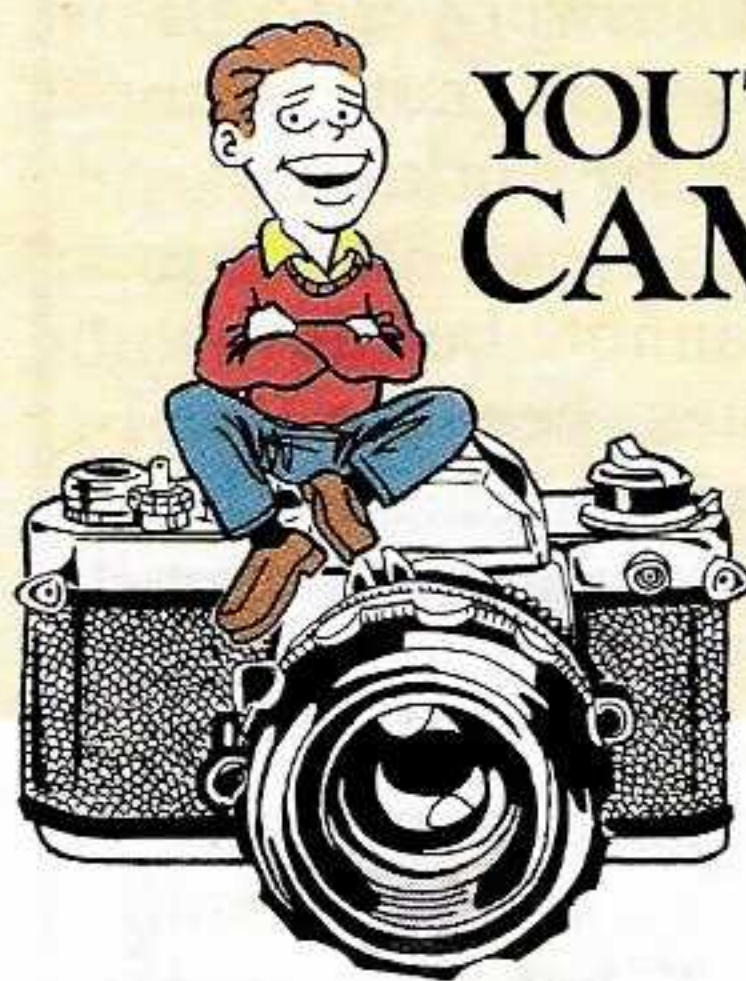
Cliques can provide you with a group of friends with interests similar to yours, but the danger lies in limiting yourself to those interests. Probably you belong to several friendship groups at school or church, each of whose members bring out different parts of your personality. That may be well and good. But if one of these groups is formed to exclude others, it is a clique and should be avoided.

If group members become so involved with each other that they cannot reach out to others, they are hurting not only those outside the group, but themselves. If they see themselves as better than those outside the

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