



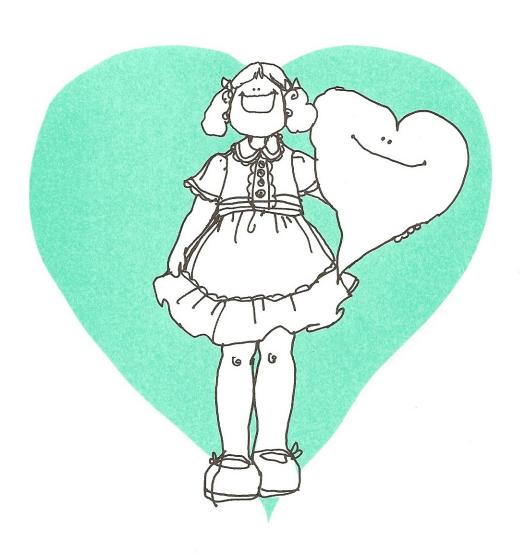
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DEDICATED to Elder Frank Phillips, with thanks.



### FOR GROWNUPS

As you read Naughty Heart, Clean Heart to your child, keep in mind that small children need small doses—perhaps a chapter should be repeated several times before going on to the next. It is possible for little tots to understand righteousness by faith. In Testimonies, volume 1, page 400, we read, "Parents should explain and simplify the plan of salvation to their children that their young minds may comprehend it. . . . Do not teach your children with reference to some future period when they shall be old enough to repent and believe the truth. If properly instructed, very young children may have correct views of their state as sinners and of the way of salvation through Christ."

This story, in a slightly modified form, has been presented to many children in Sabbath school and Vacation Bible School. The results confirm the statement by Ellen White quoted above. The Holy Spirit works with us whenever we present the plan of salvation. It is a moving experience to see the light dawn in children's eyes as they begin to comprehend. More thrilling still is the actual living relationship they may have with Jesus. I'd like to share with you some of their comments.

A 6-year-old boy to his mother, who is worried over a problem: "You shouldn't

worry, Mamma. The main thing is to have a clean heart. Then everything comes out OK."

A 4-year-old girl: "I'm happy all the time 'cause Jesus gives me a happy heart!"

A 6-year-old boy: "I ask Jesus every morning for a clean heart. That's why I'm so good in Sabbath school!"

A 6-year-old boy to his mother: "I am trying to decide whether I really want a clean heart." He was under the weather for about two weeks, deciding. Then one day he ran in from play and said, "Mother! I finally decided! I'm going to be Jesus' boy!"

I was particularly impressed that these little children, who were unfamiliar with 1 John 3:24—"And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us"—still knew that principle experientially. And notice who gets the credit for the good results!

My prayer is that the Holy Spirit may breathe understanding into the hearts of all our little children. And if there be any virtue in this booklet, I'd like to follow the example of the little ones and give Him all the credit.

The following quotation from Steps to Christ and the texts below are used in the manuscript either as quotes, paraphrases,

or as a basis for the material presented.

"Because of his [Adam's] sin our natures are fallen and we cannot make ourselves righteous. Since we are sinful, unholy, we cannot perfectly obey the holy law. We have no righteousness of our own with which to meet the claims of the law of God. But Christ has made a way of escape for us. He lived on earth amid trials and temptations such as we have to meet. He lived a sinless life. He died for us, and now He offers to take our sins and give us His righteousness. If you give yourself to Him, and accept Him as your Saviour, then, sinful as your life may have been, for His sake you are accounted righteous. Christ's character stands in place of your character, and you are accepted before God just as if you had not sinned.

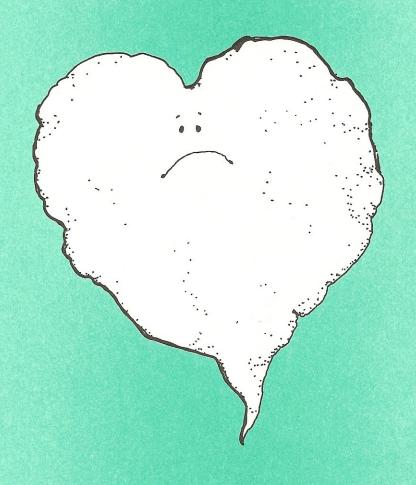
"More than this, Christ changes the heart. He abides in your heart by faith. You are to maintain this connection with Christ by faith and the continual surrender of your will to Him; and so long as you do this, He will work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure. So you may say, 'The life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.' . . . Then with Christ working in you, you will manifest the same spirit and do the same good works—works of righteousness, obedience.

"So we have nothing in ourselves of which to boast. . . . Our only ground of hope is in the righteousness of Christ imputed to us, and in that wrought by His Spirit working in and through us."—Pages 62, 63.

S. D.

Ps. 37:23, 24; 51:10; Isa. 53:5; Eze. 11:19; Rom. 3:10; 5:19; 6:23; 7:15; 1 Cor. 2:16; Gal. 5:19-23; Phil. 2:15; 1 John 1:9; 3:10; Rev. 21:27.

# MARY GETS HELP FROM JESUS



Mary was a little girl just about your size. She wanted to be good, just as you do. She wanted to go to heaven. Only good people will be there, you know. And that was the

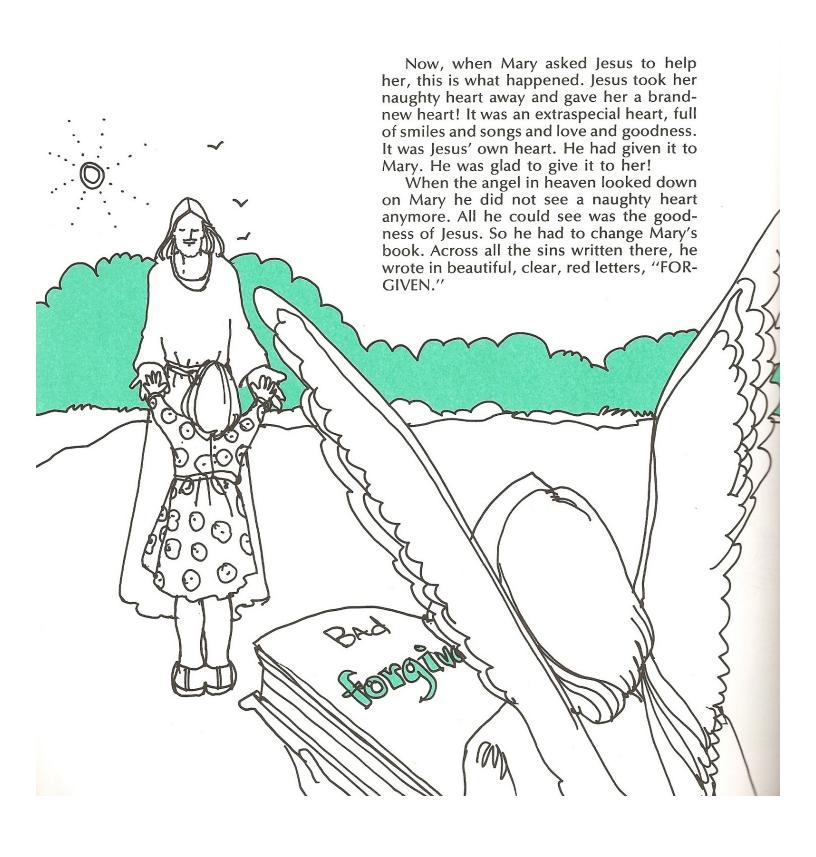
problem. The harder Mary tried to be good, the worse she got! Her heart looked like this. And it seemed there wasn't a thing she could do about it.





Mary knew that Jesus loved her. So the only thing she could think of doing was to ask Him to help her. And that is what she did. She got down on her knees and said,

"Dear Jesus, please help me. Please make me so I won't be naughty anymore. Make my heart clean."





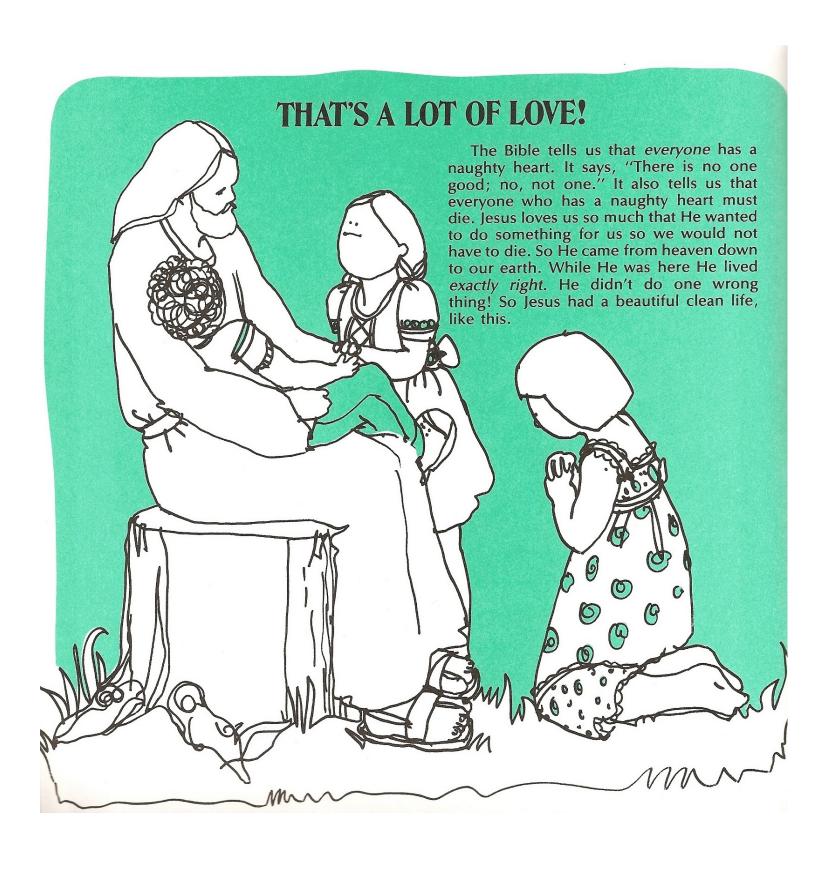
#### Naughty Heart, Clean Heart

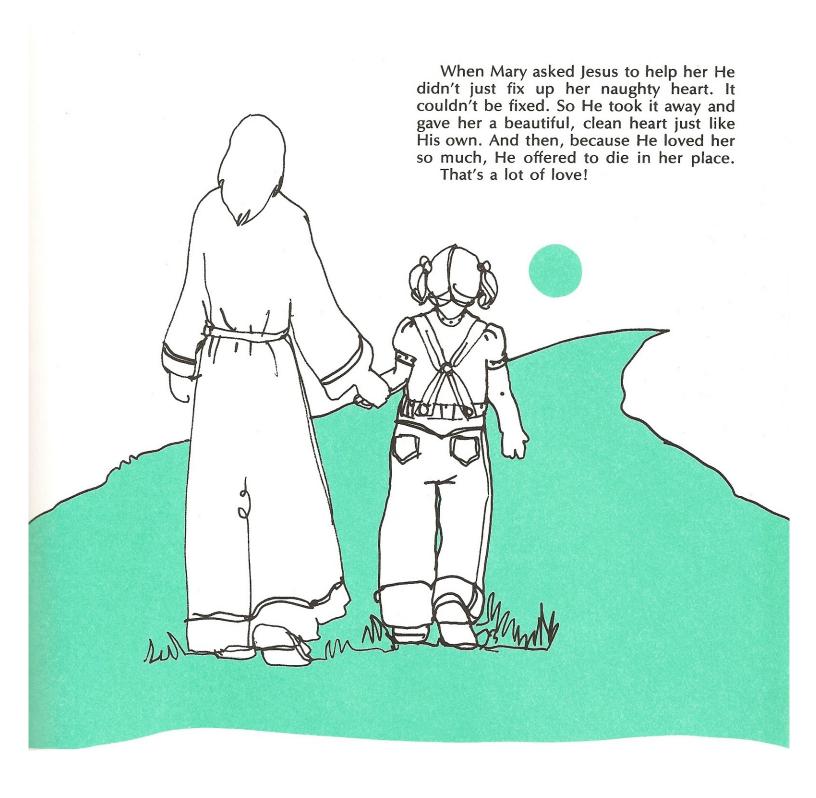
Mary had a naughty heart, and didn't know what to do.

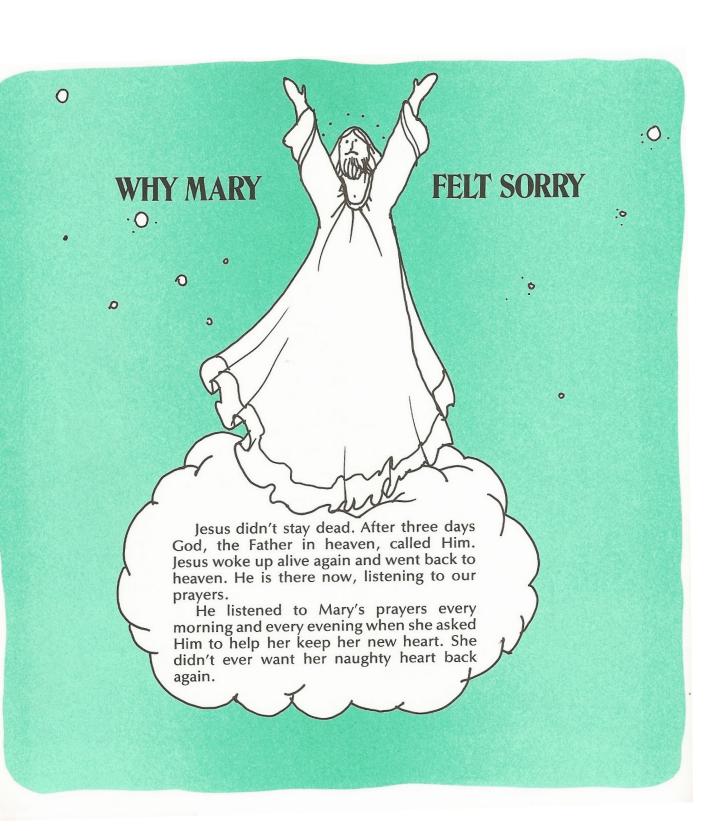
She tried and tried to clean it up and make it bright and new.

But Jesus had a better way when Mary did her part.

He took her badness all away, and gave her His clean heart.

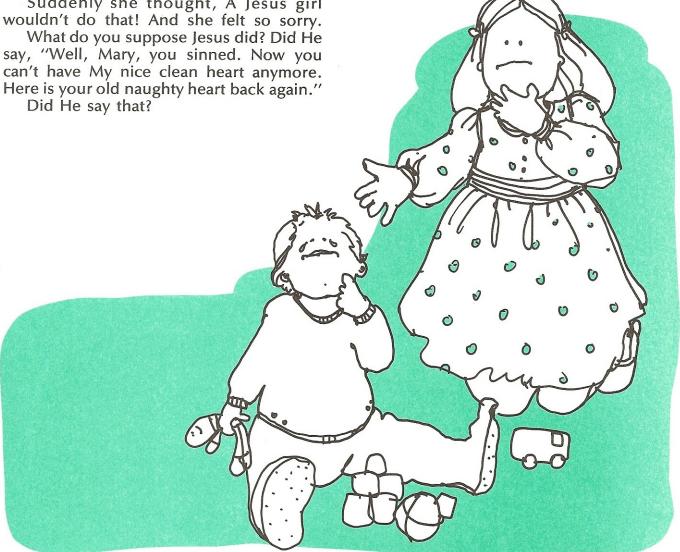






One day Mary was playing with her baby brother. He wanted a toy that she was holding. When she didn't let go he leaned over and bit her. Mary didn't even think of what she was doing, but reached out and pulled baby brother's hair and yelled at him.

Suddenly she thought, A Jesus girl

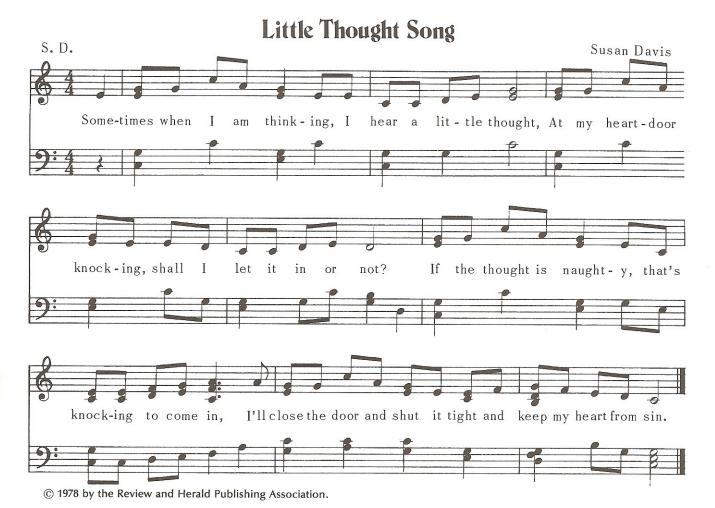


#### NO, HE CERTAINLY DIDN'T!

He made Mary think, That wasn't the right thing to do. And quickly Mary thought, I'm sorry, Jesus. I'm sorry! Then Jesus forgave her.

Mary's book in heaven is still clean. The angel began to write down Mary's sin, but Mary quickly saw her mistake and asked Jesus to forgive her.





Little Thought Song

Sometimes, when I am thinking, I hear a little thought

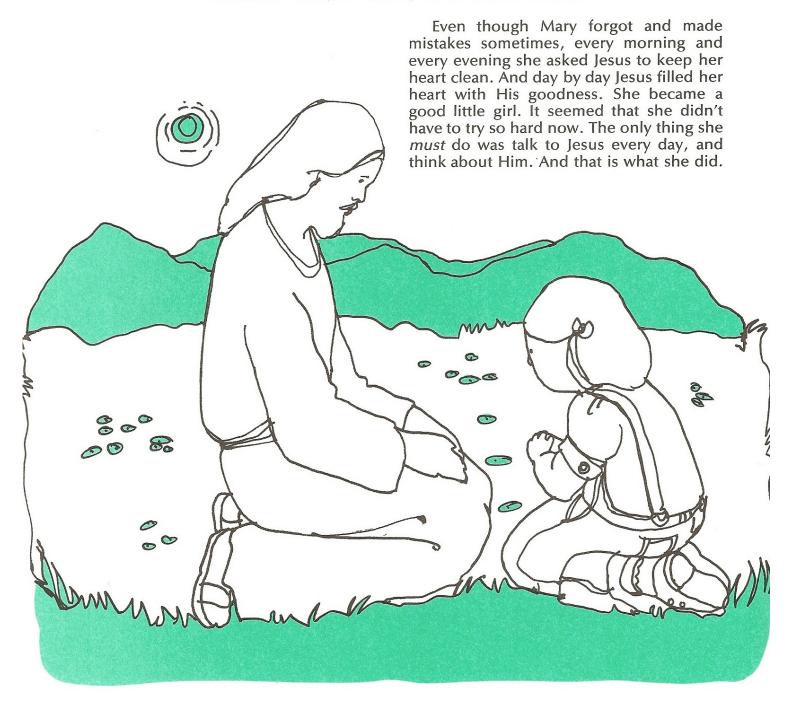
At my heart-door knocking (knock)—shall I let it in or not?

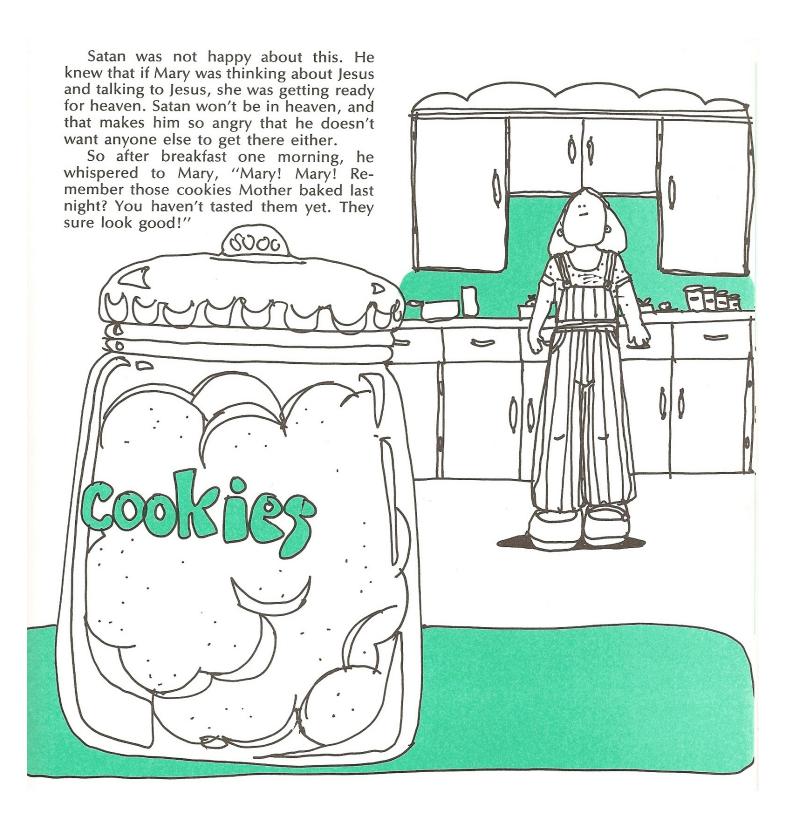
If the thought is naughty, that's knocking (knock) to come in,

I'll close the door and shut it tight.

And keep my heart from sin. (hand over heart)

### MARY AND THE COOKY JAR





Mary almost started for the cooky jar when she remembered that she was not supposed to eat between meals. Quickly she asked Jesus to help her. And did Jesus help her? YES, HE DID!

Mary didn't go to the cooky jar, but just

stood quietly. Pretty soon she began to think, I'm not really hungry. That cooky will taste just as good after lunch. And she ran out to play.

Satan had to leave, because Mary had turned to Jesus for help.



# CLEAN HEART, GOOD THOUGHTS

A clean heart is a wonderful thing to have. The good men and women in the Bible all had clean hearts. King David asked for a clean heart much the same way Mary did. He said, "Make a clean heart in me, God."

Having a clean heart means the same as having a clean mind. Your mind is the thinking-place in your head. The Bible says, "You must have the same mind Jesus had."

What do you think Jesus' thinking-place was like? Was it cluttered up with anger, and lies, and mean thoughts?

NO, IT WASN'T!

Jesus' thinking-place was full of good thoughts only, all the time.

He thought of God the Father.

He thought of how to help people.

He thought of the beautiful things God had made.

He thought true things.

He had a clean mind. That is the same as saying He had a clean heart. And when you ask Him, He will give His clean heart to you! Then *your* thinking-place will be full of good thoughts all the time.

You will think of Jesus.

You will think how to help people.

You will think of the beautiful things God has made.

You will think true things.

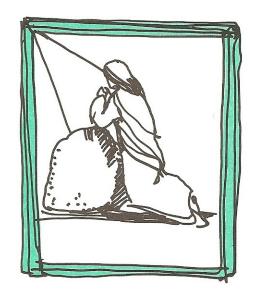
You will have a clean heart. And a clean heart is always a happy heart.





Happy Heart Song
A happy heart, a happy heart,
How do I get a happy heart?
Not from money, not from toys,
Not from other girls and boys.
The only way, the only way,
Is by following Jesus every day.

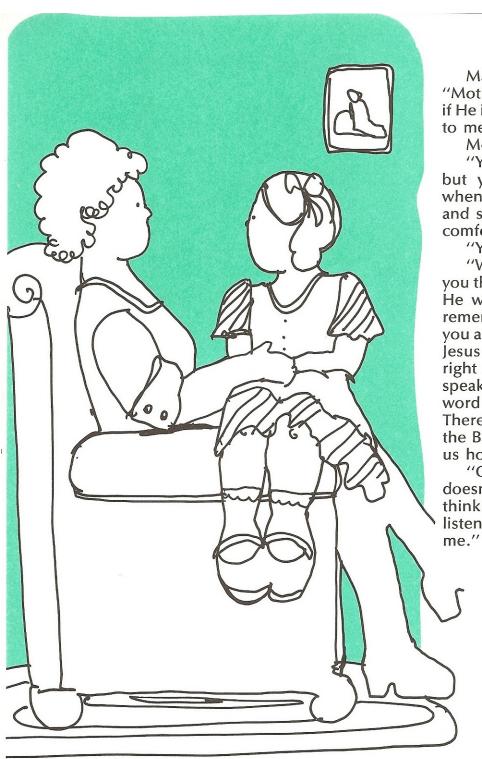




## **HOW JESUS** TALKS TO MARY

Mary liked to talk to Jesus and to think about Him. One day she was standing in front of a big picture of Jesus that hung in the living room. She was thinking how kind He looked. "Hello, Jesus," said Mary.

But the picture didn't say anything. Mary remembered that she never had heard Jesus talk-at least, not the way Mommy or Daddy or her friends talked. She was sure Jesus lived in heaven, and loved her, and she talked to Him. So why didn't He talk back?



Mary went to Mother and asked, "Mother, why doesn't Jesus talk to me if He is my friend? My other friends talk to me, but He doesn't."

Mother smiled.

"You have heard Jesus talk to you, but you didn't know it. Remember when you pulled little brother's hair, and suddenly you felt all bad and uncomfortable inside?"

"Yes, I remember," said Mary.

"Well, that is how Jesus was telling you that you did something wrong, and He would like to forgive you. Then, remember how happy you felt when you asked Him to forgive you? That was Jesus telling you everything was all right again. And, of course, He always speaks to us through the Bible. Every word of the Bible is for you, Mary. There are many stories and letters in the Bible, and every one of them tells us how much Jesus loves us."

"Oh, I see!" said Mary, "Jesus doesn't talk to my ears; He talks to my thinking-place. I'm going to learn to listen for the special way Jesus talks to



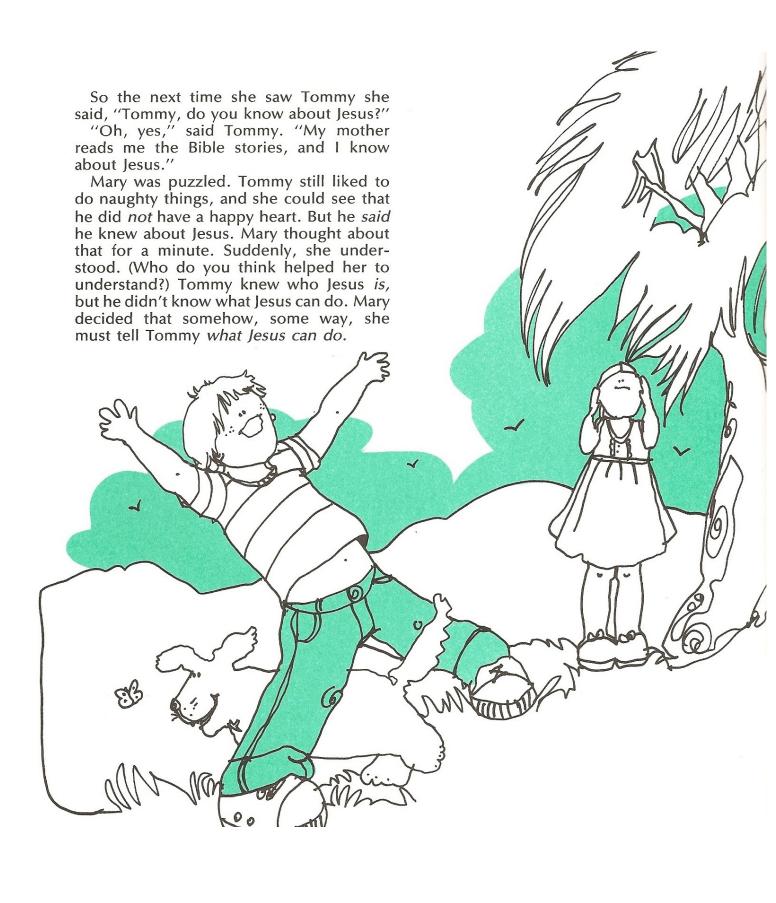
## WHY MARY FELT SAD

Every day Mary asked Jesus to make her heart clean. Every day she talked to Him and listened to Him. She was so happy! She didn't even want to do naughty things. She knew that she was God's child.

Next door to Mary lived a boy named Tommy. He was just about your size. And he was Mary's friend. But when Mary saw Tommy do naughty things she felt sad.

Tommy do naughty things she felt sad.

Tommy doesn't know about having a clean heart, she thought. I wish he knew how Jesus takes away all our sins and gives us His good clean life.





As they were running happily to the back yard, suddenly Mary's puppy came bouncing out to meet them. He ran right between Tommy's legs. Tommy tripped and fell down. He wasn't really hurt, but he was angry!

"That stupid dog!" shouted Tommy. "Doesn't he know enough to keep out of

the way?"

Mary put her hands over her ears, and prayed, "Help me quick, Jesus!" Then she turned to Tommy and said, "Tommy, you aren't happy in your heart."

"What?" said Tommy with a puzzled look

on his face.

"You aren't happy in your heart!" repeated Mary. "But I know what could make you happy."

"Well, what?" he asked.

"Jesus," answered Mary.

Tommy looked disappointed. "Oh, I already know about Jesus."

"I think there's something you don't know," said Mary. "If you want, I could tell you about it."

"Well, if you want to, I guess. Go ahead." And Tommy settled comfortably on the grass in the shade of the weeping willow tree.

"Tommy, isn't it awfully hard to be

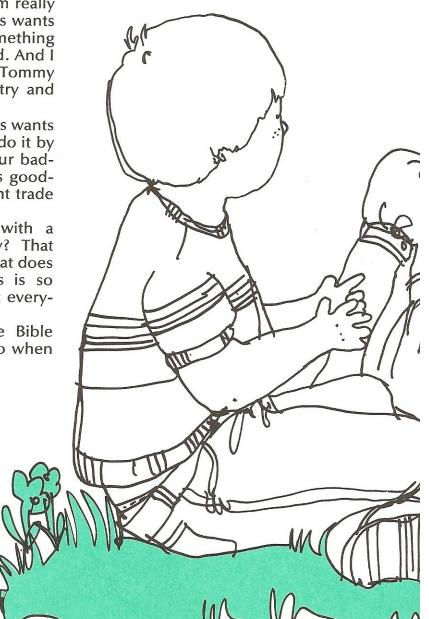
"Yes," sighed Tommy. "It sure is. Every morning I make up my mind that I'm really going to be good today, just as Jesus wants me to. But then every time something happens and the whole day is ruined. And I don't know what I can do about it." Tommy looked down at the grass. "I just try and try."

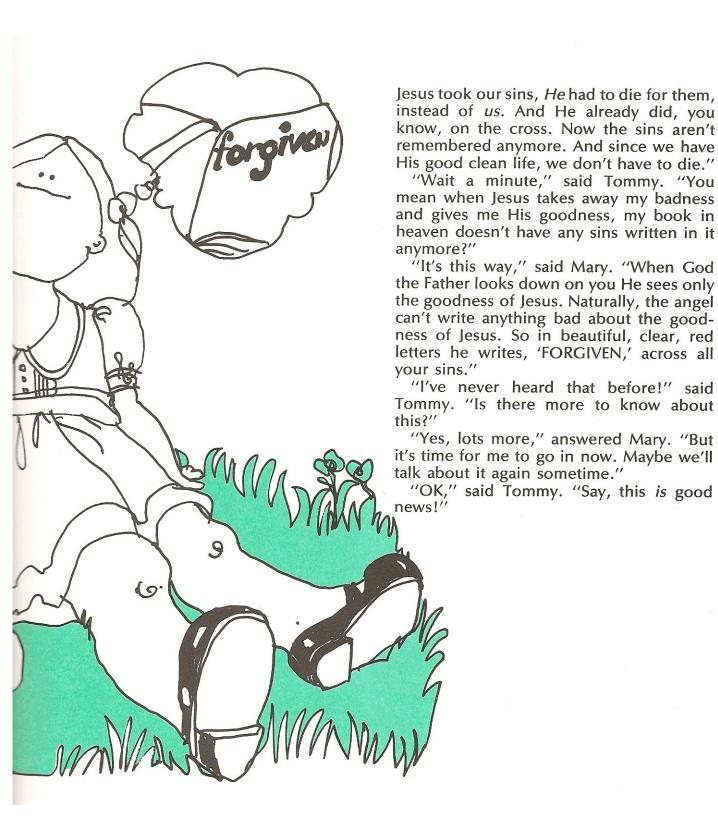
"Tommy, you can be good as Jesus wants you to," said Mary. "But you don't do it by trying hard. You do it by giving your badness to Jesus, and He gives you His goodness. It's a trade, see? Just as I might trade my ball for your marbles!"

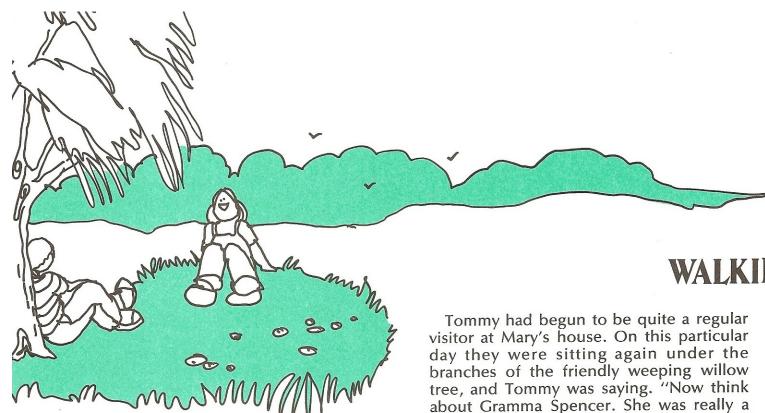
"A trade!" exclaimed Tommy with a strange look on his face. "Really? That sounds . . . well, interesting. But what does Jesus do with our badness? Jesus is so good, Mary, that He wouldn't want every-

body's old sins around Him."

"You're right," said Mary. "The Bible says, 'The wages of sin is death.' So when







Tommy had begun to be quite a regular visitor at Mary's house. On this particular day they were sitting again under the branches of the friendly weeping willow tree, and Tommy was saying. "Now think about Gramma Spencer. She was really a good old lady and she loved Jesus. She died two weeks ago. You said "—and he turned to point his finger right at Mary—"you said that Jesus took our sins, and He died for them so we wouldn't have to die. So why did Gramma Spencer die?"

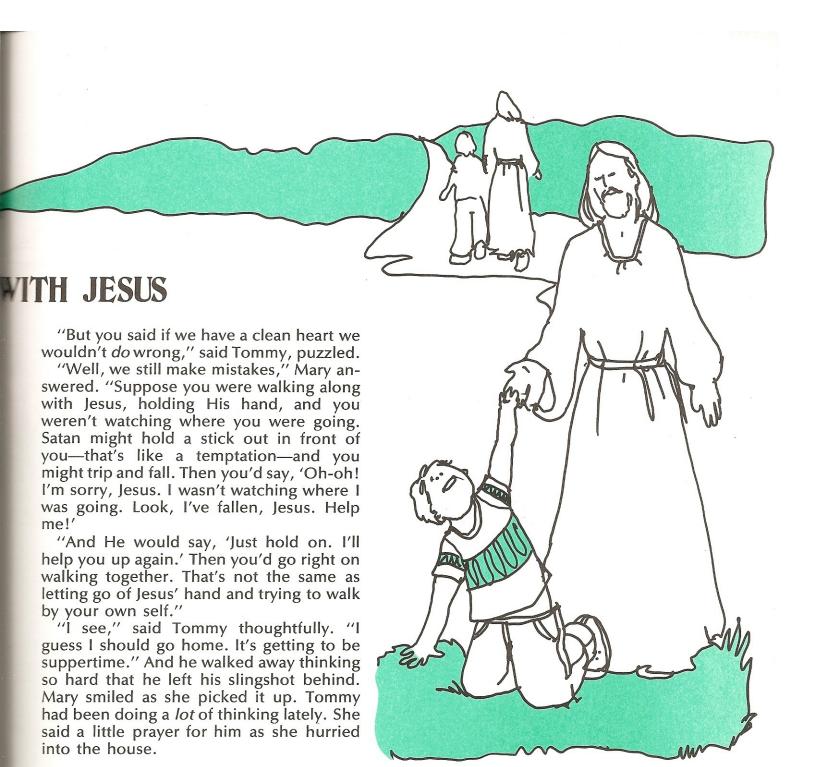
"But, Tommy," said Mary, "Gramma Spencer won't stay dead! When Jesus comes He'll call her and she'll rise right up out of her grave. But if she'd been wicked she wouldn't have heard Him call, because

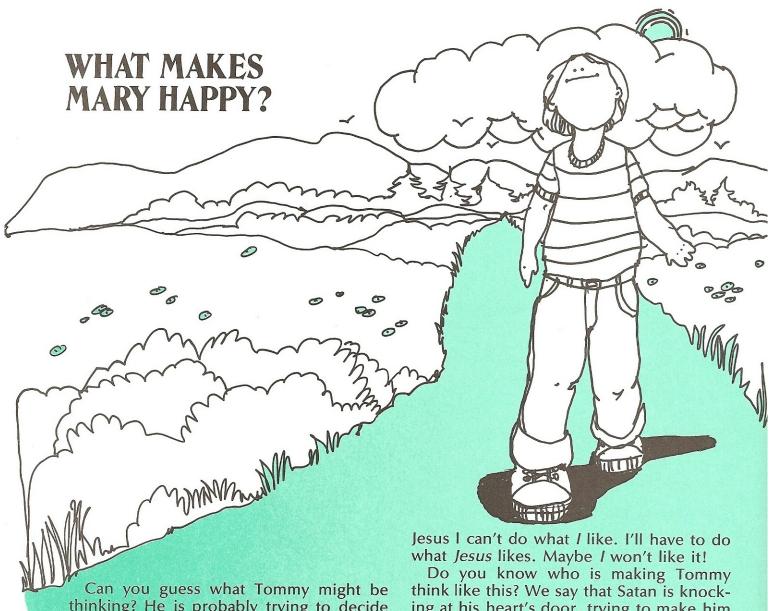
she wouldn't know His voice."

"Well, I've never heard Him, myself,"

said Tommy thoughtfully.

"Jesus talks to us by speaking to our minds," Mary explained. "When we do wrong, He makes us feel bad inside, and that's how He says, 'You did wrong, but I'll be glad to forgive you if you're sorry."



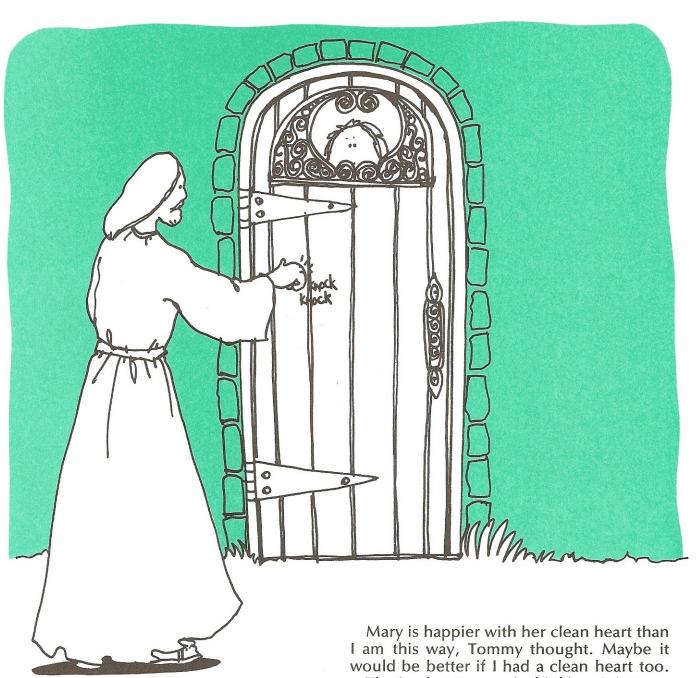


thinking? He is probably trying to decide whether he really wants to trade his naughty heart for a clean heart. He's never had a clean heart before, and he isn't sure he knows what it is.

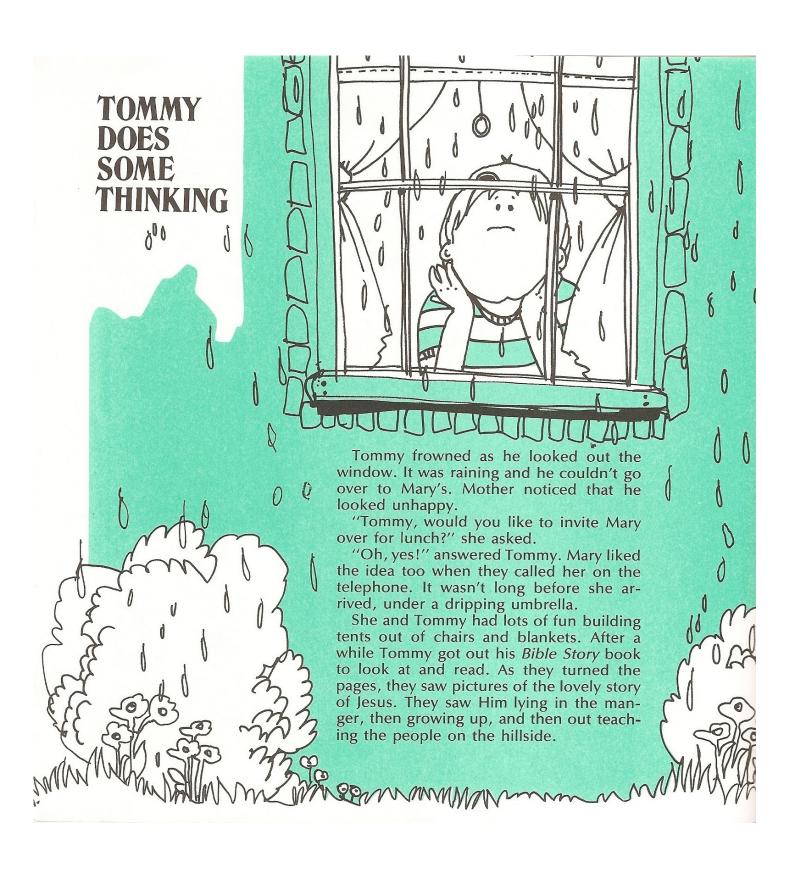
Maybe, he thinks, maybe I won't like it! After all, with this heart I've got I can do a lot of fun naughty things. But if I give it to

ing at his heart's door, trying to make him think wrong. [Parents note: sing "Little Thought Song," page 17.]

But, then, Tommy thinks, look at Mary. She has a clean heart and she likes it. She says it makes her want to obey. Mary is kind and happy. I wonder whether that's why Mary is always happy?



That's what Tommy is thinking. It is Jesus knocking at Tommy's heart-door now. He is waiting to come in.



"Just to think He never did one wrong thing!" said Tommy.

"No," said Mary. "He never did."

They kept turning the pages and soon they came to a picture of Jesus on the cross. The children's faces looked sad.

"What bad men, to hurt our Jesus," said Mary. "But He died for us."

"That seems so sad," said Tommy.

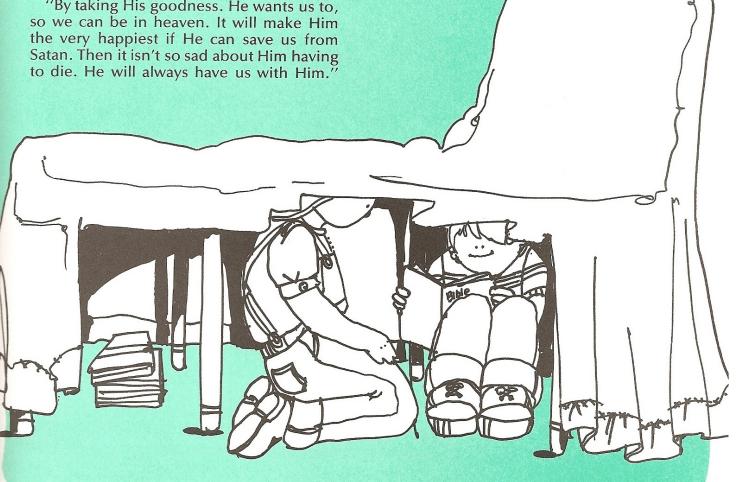
"Well, we can help make Jesus glad that He did it," said Mary.

"How?" asked Tommy.

"By taking His goodness. He wants us to,

"I never thought of that," said Tommy thoughtfully.

"Lunchtime!" called Tommy's mother. The children put the books away. But Tommy had a lot of ideas in his thinkingplace as he sat down to eat.



## WHICH BOX WOULD YOU CHOOSE?

Tommy is still trying to decide whether he wants the clean heart. Did *you* ever have to decide between two things? Suppose you had to choose which one of these presents you wanted.

Both of them are nicely wrapped.

Both look good to you.

But one of them has a new Sabbath outfit inside.

The other has some old greasy rags inside!

Can you choose the better one?

But if each of the boxes had a little note on it, you might find it easier to choose. Suppose the note on one of the presents said "Greasy Rags." And the note on the other said, "Sabbath Clothes."

Now can you choose the better one?





Jesus knew it would be hard for us to choose between a clean heart and a naughty heart if we didn't know what was inside each one. So He thought of a way to help us. In the Bible He has told us what each heart has inside.

The Bible says the naughty heart is full of uncleanness, idols, hatred, fighting, anger, envy, and other wicked things.

The clean heart, God tells us, is full of love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness and goodness, and other nice things. If we choose that heart we will be able to go to heaven.

Now all of us, even Tommy, are sure that the clean heart is really the better one. But does Jesus try to *make* us take the clean heart?

NO, HE DOESN'T.

He lets us choose whichever one we want.



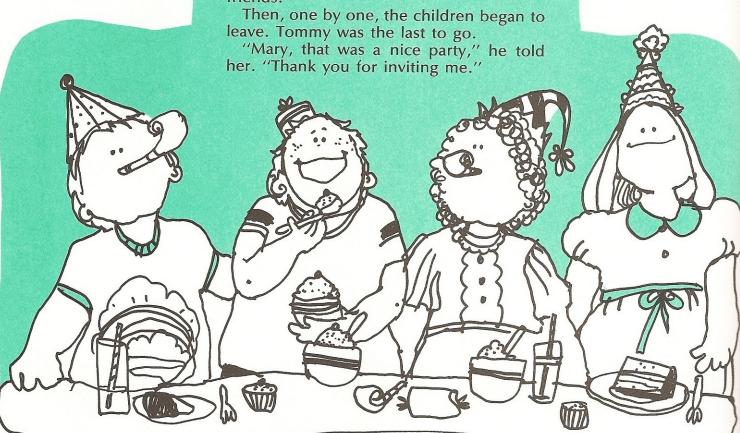
## **TOMMY CHOOSES**

Tommy knocked on Mary's door. This was a special day.

"Happy birthday, dear Mary," he sang when she opened the door. He handed her a present.

"Oh, thank you, Tommy!" said Mary. "Please come in."

Tommy joined the other children at Mary's party. They had such a nice time playing games. Then came the time for the goodies, and after that Mary opened her presents. None of them were very big, but she liked them because they came from her friends.



Mary wondered why he looked happier than usual as he turned to leave. She watched him run toward home. Suddenly, the puppy dashed around the corner of the house and ran right between Tommy's legs and down they both went, with a yelp and a squeal.

Oh, dear! thought Mary. Now Tommy

will be angry.

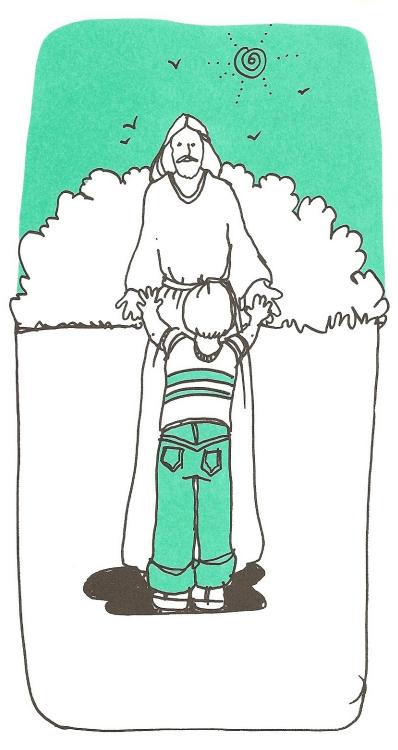
But Tommy only got up, patted the puppy and said, "I'm sorry, doggy. You'd better be more careful from now on. You might get hurt!"

Mary could hardly believe her ears. That didn't even sound like Tommy. Then suddenly she knew something. Do you know, too?

Yes, Tommy had seen that he had a naughty heart he couldn't change. And he had said, "Jesus, I want to have Your goodness. Please take my naughty heart away." And Jesus had done it for Tommy, too.

Mary was so happy! She knew that in the book of life in heaven one more name had been written down—TOMMY.

[Parents note: sing "Naughty Heart, Clean Heart" song here, page 11, using Tommy's name instead of Mary's.]



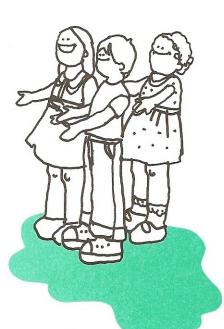


## A NEW HEART FOR YOU

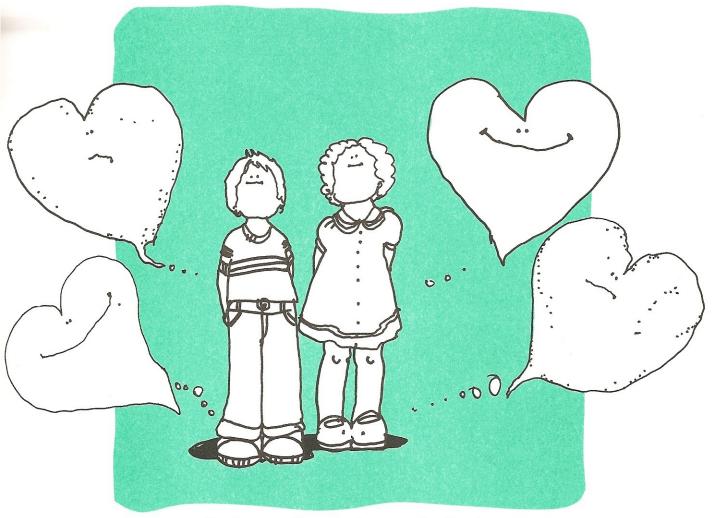
Everyone in this world is born with a naughty heart. You were born with one, too. Jesus doesn't want you to die because of that naughtiness, so He thought of a way to give you a life that will never end.

First He lived a good clean life for you, because He knew you couldn't do it for yourself.

Now He offers to trade with you. He'll take your naughtiness and give you His goodness. He died for your sin so you wouldn't have to.



The Gift of God Is Eternal Life



But Jesus will not *make* you take the clean heart. You can choose whichever heart you want.

The naughty heart is full of uncleanness and idols, hatred and fighting, anger and envy, and other wicked things. It brings death.

The clean heart is full of love and joy, peace and patience, gentleness and goodness, and other nice things. It brings life.

Which one do you choose?



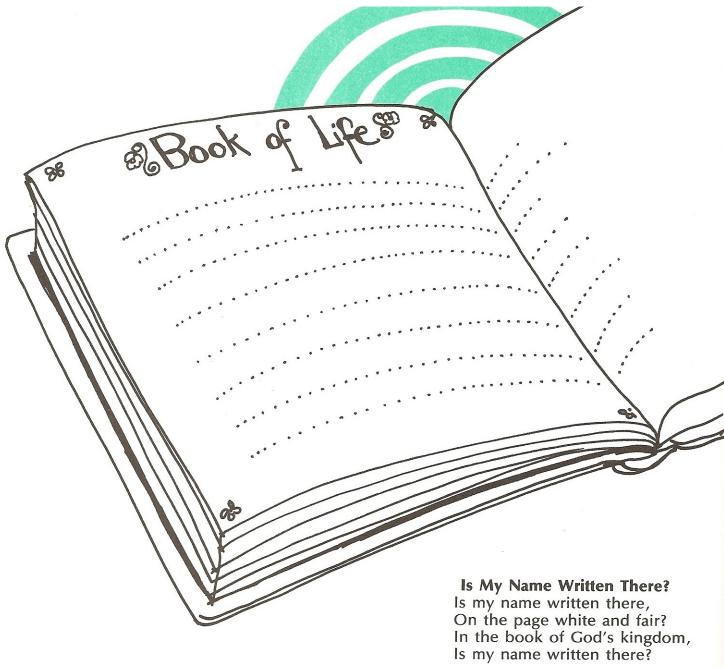


## **Two Sides**

Two sides. I can choose. It's only up to me! Two sides. I can choose. On which side will I be? (slowly) I choose the Happy side, the happy side, That's the place for me.

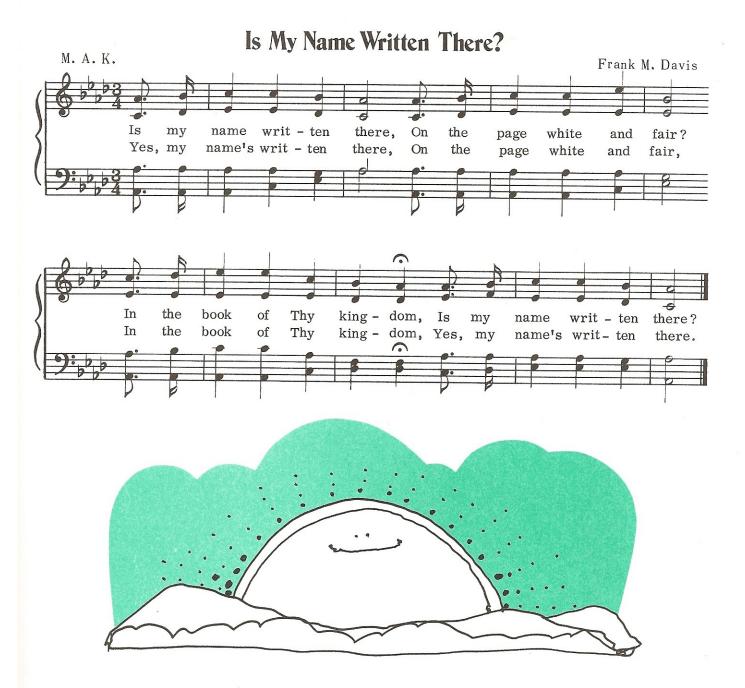
The happy side, the happy side, Is where I want to be!
When I chose Jesus for my Friend,
He took away my sin,
And I find each day
As I walk His way
I'm on the happy side with Him!





If you choose the clean heart, Jesus will write your name down in the book of life, too. There's room for lots of names. Wouldn't you like yours to be there?

Yes, my name's written there, On the page white and fair, In the book of God's kingdom, Yes, my name's written there.



AND THAT'S THE BEGINNING OF ETERNAL LIFE!