

Youth 82



What's
It Like to
Be a Teen
in the
Netherlands?

APRIL

Your Human Potential Is
Incredibly Greater Than
You Have Realized
By Herbert W. Armstrong

Youth 82

April

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COVER: Windmills once provided the pumping power that reclaimed much of the Netherlands from the sea. Now that work is done by huge pumping stations in this modern, industrial nation. Read more about this fascinating country, beginning page 7. Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts.

Letters

A great help

I'd like to thank you for starting the *Youth 82* magazine. It has become a great help in my daily life along with the booklets, the *Plain Truth* and *Good News* magazines. It has become a sort of teen's *Plain Truth*, a magazine with articles we can relate to and understand. The magazine has provided a supplement to our education from our parents and ministers. It has also covered a group of subjects normally left out by the world's educational system.

Trevor Liu
Sydney, Australia

"Yea Team"

I don't know how to thank you for the sensational magazine *Youth 82*. It offers great advice, ideas and information on God's coming Kingdom. Your article in the December issue, "Yea Team," really inspired me. I've always loved all sports including track, and I've always tried to use teamwork in all that I do. Your article, however, gave me that extra push to try my best and put my best foot forward, physically and spiritually in all I do.

Sharon Hofer
Winnipeg, Man.

"Teen Bible Study"

I have just received my copy of [the January] *Youth 82* and I wish to thank everyone who makes the publication possible.

The new articles and expansion of the magazine are much appreciated, and above all the new articles. I am most enthused and appreciative for the new addition of the "Teen Bible Study." The information is very instructive and most of all, it has shown me the importance and necessity for all of God's youth to study their Bibles.

Robert Dunn
Efland, N.C.

Sports and attitudes

The first issue [of *Youth 82*] was very interesting and covered a lot of important subjects. Your new addition to the magazine, the "Teen Bible Study," was very informative and inspiring.

Alan Dean's article on sports and attitudes toward them was exceptionally good. One thing he said made me really think about my attitude towards sports. He wrote: "To give up in a game shows we don't really like the sport, just the winning." That in particular rang true.

Julia Lanum
Ironto, Va.

Your Human Potential Is Incredibly GREATER Than You Have Realized

By Herbert W. Armstrong

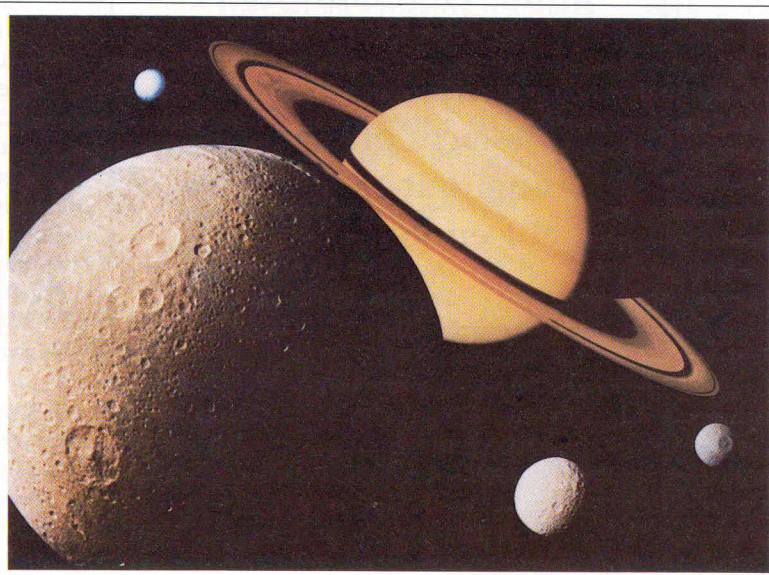
Don't sell yourself short!

The possibilities that lie ahead for you are transcendently greater than you have ever come to know!

When I was an adolescent of 16, as I have said and written many times, **AMBITION** was aroused in me. It was on my first summer vacation

job away from home. I had never thought very seriously before of making something of myself in the world.

I had devoted my time, as most boys do, to "having fun." I had played baseball, football and spun tops. At age



12 I became interested in wrestling. Those were the days when wrestling was wrestling — not a deceptive comedy show like professional wrestling later became. Those were the days when Frank Gotch was world champion — a *real* champion — the days of Farmer Burns, Zsbysco and other

superstrong men. The older brother of a neighbor boy I played with had set up a real wrestling mat, and we boys were learning all about half nelsons, arm locks and toe-holds.

Then at 16 I had a summer vacation job in another town. My employer complimented me on my work, and this caused me to try hard. He began telling me I had abilities to make a real success of my life

— I could really accomplish big things, if I applied myself.

Ambition is the **DESIRE** to accomplish, **PLUS** the will to apply oneself energetically with determination. I didn't then know *what* I would do — in what field I would become such a success — but I began to believe in

Courtesy of NASA

myself, and began to apply myself to studies at the public library, entirely aside from the high school studies.

At age 18 I put myself through a course of self-analysis, by means of a book I found in the public library, *Choosing a Vocation*. It helped me avoid "fitting the square peg in the round hole." It set forth the requirements for success in the professions, businesses, occupations. This self-survey, coupled with a survey of occupations, led me into the advertising profession.

I applied myself vigorously. As I grew into the 20s, I became quite successful. With an office in Chicago's Loop from age 23 to 30, I was finally earning an income that, on today's dollar value, would amount to \$150,000 per year.

Then, at age 34, I was challenged most seriously, and was led into an intensive, almost night-and-day, in-depth study of evolution and the Bible. My marriage depended upon it, and I did not believe in divorce.

This in-depth research OPENED MY EYES to an entirely NEW HORIZON!

Up until then I had been imbued 1) with *self*-confidence and 2) with an horizon limited to mental or physical secular fields.

In other words, I interpreted "human potential" in terms of the physical and the material, as I suppose most everybody does today.

Commonly, people will think of human potential as the possibility of making such a success in life as a Thomas A. Edison, an Einstein, a Paderewski, an Arthur Rubinstein — or, historically, a Napoleon or an Alexander the Great.

But now a WHOLE NEW HORIZON loomed transcendently before my mind's eye — something immeasurably greater and more wonderful than any physical, material or mechanical accomplishment.

And now, too, an entirely NEW kind of CONFIDENCE began to grip me. I began to exchange SELF-confidence for the confidence that is FAITH in the living Jesus Christ.

Self-confidence began to disappear. FAITH, which is RELIANCE on God, began to grow.

And a potentiality that is possible for humans now loomed up stupendously greater than anything I had conceived of before.

I had begun to see, in the Bible, something TREMENDOUS that seems hidden from human eyes in this world. I began to realize that the Gospel message that GOD sent by Jesus Christ involves a vast comprehension of God's great PURPOSE! I

... mortal man has
the transcendent
potential of being born
into the very God
Family as an immortal
spirit being in
superlative glory
and with creative power,
under God and under
Christ, to literally
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the faces of planets
throughout the vastness
of endless space!

began to discover the missing dimension in knowledge — knowledge undiscovered by science, untaught in higher education, glossed over entirely by religion.

Actually, I began to realize that the biblical revelation, and the message Jesus proclaimed, is in fact such STUPENDOUS knowledge that what is being disseminated as higher education is dwarfed into insignificance!

But that monumental message, which was Christ's Gospel — His glorious GOOD news — was soon suppressed, in the very first century!

It is concerned with the Creator's

all-encompassing, overwhelming, overall purpose, involving not only man, but the entire vast and limitless UNIVERSE, to be *made over* by man, when man comes into his projected GLORY! This is no imaginary, illusory play on words — it is REAL!

It means that the great majestic GOD is, literally, reproducing Himself in MAN; that mortal MAN has the transcendent potential of being born into the very GOD FAMILY as an immortal SPIRIT being in superlative GLORY and with creative power, under God and under Christ, to literally make over and renew the faces of planets throughout the vastness of endless SPACE!

It is true that hardly one in a thousand humans ever realizes, even partly, his purely human potential *as a human*. The average human never utilizes even 5 percent of his mental powers. On the purely human level, man has the potential — if an American — of becoming President of the United States. Or of becoming a Thomas A. Edison or an Einstein.

But that potential is as nothing compared to the spiritual and transcendent potential of being born into the very GOD FAMILY — and inheriting the very capabilities of GOD!

Actually most of these exciting, inspiring, mind-expanding TRUTHS are never even remotely considered in the religious teachings of this world!

My book, *The Incredible Human Potential*, has appeared in bookstores all over the English-speaking world. It's a story too comprehensive to even begin to condense in this article.

Actually I feel with deep conviction that I myself really did not author this book — that the living Jesus Christ is its real author. I was merely like a stenographer writing it down. And with that understanding, I feel I may say that this is the most important — the most tremendously revealing — book since the Bible! Although it is sold in bookstores, interested readers may send for a free copy now, by mail. □

“Instructions? Now what did I do with those instructions?”

When you're almost through assembling a piece of electronic equipment or sewing a dress and you find some extra parts or pieces of the pattern — then you wish you'd taken the time to read (maybe even memorize!) the instructions in advance.

What seemed to be the shortest distance between two points (starting immediately on the project without examining the instructions) turned out to be no shortcut at all, but a waste of time.

Often, in a hurry to get things done, we try to take such shortcuts that really only shortchange us — cheat us out of the satisfaction of a job well done.

But isn't there a place for shortcuts, you may ask? Only in the sense that after you've thought the job through you discover a simpler way of doing it. This is not taking shortcuts, but simply using your God-given talents to make the most effective use of your time and energy.

This is one reason a professional makes his work look so easy. After having perfected his skills — fine tuning and polishing them — he naturally finds a more efficient and sensible way to do his work. But he doesn't cut corners. Rather, in his pursuit of excellence he discovers how to omit redundant steps and cut out unnecessary clutter. A true professional doesn't cheapen his work or reputation by taking shoddy shortcuts.

His shortcuts are much different from those taken by people trying to do tasks or assignments in the shortest amount of time possible with the least amount of effort — cutting corners and omitting vital steps — hoping that the job will make do and pass inspection.

A few examples of such unproductive shortcuts might be: leaving obvious streaks of unmowed grass on the lawn; leaving particles of dried food on pots, pans and dinnerware when doing the dishes; vacuuming only the easy areas of the carpet but neglecting the

Don't Shortchange Yourself

Many people are shortchanged — cheated — without realizing it. Don't let this happen to you!

By Richard Rice

corners or hard-to-get-to places altogether; exerting minimum effort in doing schoolwork such as term papers, book reports or daily written assignments.

People who use these kinds of shortcuts may get by — but the damage they inflict on their own character and personality is devastating.

They set up a negative self-image and an attitude of self-disrespect. One who does just enough to get by is not only cheating others for whom he may be working, but also is robbing himself of inner satisfaction and the right kind of pride from having done his best.

When one lets down his standards in small everyday things, his life becomes average and mediocre. He falls into a pit he's dug for himself — becoming a victim of his own laziness. He finds that breaks don't come, he's passed over for promotion, opportunities seem to allude him at every turn.

Why? Because he's failed to improve himself or make worthwhile contributions. He's only done what's required of him or perhaps even less. He has taken the path of least resistance. The vital element of

self-discipline, essential to success and a healthy self-image, hasn't been developed.

Are you etching this kind of destructive habit into your life?

If so, change today! You don't need to be mediocre — you can achieve professional quality in everything you do.

Discipline yourself. Study the book of Proverbs in the Bible — it



gives many tips on how to apply your finest efforts.

Strive to become a true professional, set this as a goal in everything you do.

Make Ecclesiastes 9:10 your motto: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

Don't shortchange yourself! □

Face Talk

Can you imagine what life would be like if no one smiled or frowned? What if no one could show shock or sadness?

By Peter Ditzel

If everyone kept a straight face, the world would be a pretty boring place. And not only that — it would be confusing.

It's easy to understand how a tourist might be confused in Bulgaria where people show agreement by turning their heads right-to-left instead of nodding up-and-down.

Or how a NATO general might become offended if a native of New Guinea saluted him by patting him under his chin.

But it has been found that most facial expressions are universal — the same world over. This means that we don't have an excuse if someone misunderstands what we are saying with our face.

Yet, these misunderstandings do happen. And the reason might be that we often don't allow enough of our emotions to show through in our faces.

We look to people's facial expressions to tell us what they are thinking or feeling far more than we realize.

Perhaps you can remember a time when you were walking down the street and saw a friend coming toward you. Your friend was on the opposite side of the street. Just as you were about to call out to him, he



looked at you and suddenly you felt that you should no longer greet him.

You may not have realized it, but you probably changed your mind because your friend didn't show you the right facial expression when he looked at you.

Researchers studying people in various situations and in different places have found that there is a more or less set pattern that we automatically use when greeting each other.

When two friends see each other, they usually lift their eyelids slightly, put their heads back a little and — in the next instant — raise their eyebrows.

What they do after that may vary from country to country. In the United States, they may simply smile and say, "Hi." In some European countries, there will often be a slight nod of the head. And in Tibet, they may stick their tongues out at each other in a friendly greeting.

But wherever they are, if one of the people doesn't put his head back and raise his eyebrows, the other person will immediately feel that something is wrong. This could cause him to avoid his friend and might even lead to hard feelings — all because someone didn't express himself properly with his face.

God didn't make our faces by just laying skin over bone. He put more than 30 muscles in between. And the

purpose of these muscles is to help us to share our feelings with others.

What's your reaction to people who never show their emotions? It's easy to become suspicious of people who always seem to be wearing a mask. You can't tell what they're really thinking because you can't read their faces. This can make you feel uncomfortable — especially when you don't know what they're thinking about you.

We can make people feel at ease around us by expressing ourselves as clearly as possible in our words and faces. And God has given us plenty of ways to do this.

We can put our facial muscles into more than 7,000 combinations. And, fortunately for everyone around us, one of the easiest of these combinations is the smile.

God tells us that as "Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance [one meaning of this word is face] of his friend" (Proverbs 27:17). We can use our faces to shape the faces of others. Chances are if we smile at a friend, he'll smile right back.

But do you know who has the brightest smile? No, it's not someone doing a toothpaste ad. God does — read Revelation 1:16. Since we're made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27), let's polish up our expressions and make our faces shine too! □

Photos by Nathan Faulkner

It's frustrating — you find a really good deal on a radio, track shoes or some luggage, but even though the price is good, you don't have enough money.

And what about those tickets you couldn't afford and that college savings account with nowhere near enough in it?

That settles it. This summer you've got to get a good job so you don't have to go around broke the rest of the year.

But the economic situation doesn't look good for many teenage job searchers, so a head start and a well-planned strategy are vital to your success.

This article presents a strategy for job searchers, whether you're looking just for the summer, or for the long run. Follow this seven-point plan — it can give you a head start that will greatly increase your chances for success in the job market.

1. Plan now. Starting early will give you a jump on the competition. Most high school and college students wait until school is out before looking for a job. That puts them in line with thousands of others who will be looking at the same time.

Why wait until a prospective employer is besieged with applicants? Get to him or her early. The manager will probably be impressed by your initiative and your planning.

2. Evaluate your abilities. There's nothing quite as frustrating as trying to fit a square peg into a round hole, but that's what many people do in their career choices. To be happy with your job, and to serve the employer well, you must know that you are qualified to do a good job. If you don't know what you can

do and the type of work you like, you cannot convince a potential employer that he should hire you.

Consider the example of one of today's most successful men, Herbert W. Armstrong, the founder and chancellor of Ambassador College and pastor general of the Worldwide Church of God. Mr. Armstrong is known and respected by kings, presidents, prime ministers and leaders in business around the world.

At the age of 18 he ran across a book that dealt with self-examination: examining aptitudes, talents, weaknesses, likes and dislikes. The

book also listed and described the professions, the vocations and different kinds of jobs that one might get into.

Mr. Armstrong studied that book and learned the value of evaluating your own strengths and weaknesses — and then mapping out a plan to reach your full potential. You can find similar books in your library. Examine yourself and then chart your own course to success.

Another way to get to know yourself better is to ask yourself some questions. Do you like to be indoors or out? Do you like physical labor or would you prefer to work in a clerical position? Do you read a lot? What do you read about? Do you have specific ideas about what you want to be?

The things you have done have molded you into the person you are today, and you must be able to relate your personal qualifications to your prospective employer in a clear, well-thought-out manner.

3. Do your homework. In this case not for school, but in preparation for

your job search. You should research the employment trends in your area in relation to student employment. Who's hiring? Where is the company located? Who is the manager? How should you apply?

Make a list of all the places that you feel might employ



In Search of... Summer Jobs

The bad news — summer jobs will be scarce in 1982. The good news — by following these steps, you can be one of the money earners!

By Dennis R. Robertson

students: fast-food restaurants, ice cream shops, parks, zoos, resorts, farms, newspaper distributors, factories. List as many places as you can. After completing your list, call representatives from the places you've thought of and ask if they will be hiring help for the summer. Find out what you should do to apply for a position.

4. Be resourceful. You may have to be creative to obtain the kind of job you want at the rate of pay you expect. You'll probably start by looking in the want ads in your newspaper, but everyone else will be looking at those same ads and applying for the same jobs. You may find it necessary to "hire yourself" a job.

Mr. Armstrong has explained his method of getting the job he wanted as a young man. He had decided, after examining and evaluating his talents and abilities, that advertising would be his chosen profession.

"My uncle told me the place to start was in the want-ad department of a daily newspaper," Mr. Armstrong said.

"I said, 'Where is the best place for me to start?'"

"He said, '*The Register and Leader* here in Des Moines has the No. 1 want-ad department, but I think you'll learn more at *The Capital*.'"

"All right," I said, 'I'll get a job at *The Capital*.'"

"What if they don't need any help over there?" my uncle said.

"I'll convince them that they do need help. They need me!" So I went over and convinced them that they needed me."

Remember, the best job for you may be one the employer hasn't thought of yet.

Advertise yourself. Let your friends and neighbors know that you're interested in finding a summer job. They may know of someone who will need help.

Place notices around your neighborhood offering your services. Many

stores have bulletin boards for this purpose. Call your state employment office and register for summer employment. These offices have job listings for your community and can offer helpful advice in finding a job.

Disneyland and other theme parks are major summertime employers. And don't overlook ski areas — some of them do a brisk summer business as tennis and hiking resorts.



- 1 Plan Now
- 2 Evaluate Abilities
- 3 Do Your Homework
- 4 Be Resourceful
- 5 Seek Counsel
- 6 Never Give Up
- 7 Ask God for Help

The Summer Employment Directory, a Writer's Digest Books publication, lists more than 50,000 jobs with hundreds of different employers. To obtain a copy write directly to: Writer's Digest Books, 9933 Alliance Road, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45242, or visit your library or bookstore.

5. Seek counsel. Word of mouth is probably the best form of advertisement a job seeker could hope for. If one

store manager mentions your name to another manager who has an opening, chances are you'll get the job. Enlist the aid of personal acquaintances who may be in business in the community. Talk with them about your desires and qualifications. They may be able to help you.

Your parents, too, can give you advice concerning your quest for a summer job. Talk with them and listen to their suggestions.

Talk with your teachers, your minister and other community leaders you know. You can save yourself a lot of time and trouble by taking this commonsense approach.

6. Never give up. Too many people fail because they don't hang in there long enough. There's an old saying in the business community: If at first you don't succeed, you're running about average. You may not get the first job you apply for. Or the second. Or the third. But persevere. If you'll keep a positive attitude, not giving up, a better job will come along — one that could mean much more to you in the long run than the job for which you originally applied.

7. Ask God for help. There is a limitless Power in the universe that goes untapped by the majority of young people. God is the great Creator — and He is your Sustainer — willing to give you every good and perfect gift (James 1:17). Pray for God's help, and He will give it.

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that

seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Matthew 7:7-8). That is a promise from God. You cannot fail if you rely on Him.

Follow these points and you'll find you have more to offer a potential employer than you thought you did. This summer's job market will be tight, and good jobs are always hard to come by, but remember — there's an employer somewhere who needs you. Go hire yourself a job. □



Photos by the Netherlands National Tourist Office and Youth 82

What's It Like to Be a Teen in the Netherlands?

When people hear the words *the Netherlands*, most of them think of a country with cheese, tulips, windmills and people wearing wooden shoes.

Although some parts of the Netherlands are like that, most of it is quite modern. While the northeast of the country is predominantly rural, the west is very

much urbanized. In fact this western part can boast the biggest port in the world: Rotterdam.

To the west and north of the Netherlands is the North Sea. Since much of the country is below sea level, dikes are used to keep the water out. In the past, windmills were built to pump the water into canals and from the canals into the sea. This pumping is now done by means of huge pumping stations, but there are still some windmills left.

As you can see, water has played an important role in the history and lives of the Dutch people. No wonder sailing is a popular sport, along with wind surfing. And everyone, young or old, is fond of skating in wintertime.

What is it like to live in this land that the Dutch people have fought so hard to reclaim from the sea? *Youth 82* asked three young people from various parts of the Netherlands to tell you their stories.



The Netherlands

The Netherlands is a small country with about 14 million people who all, believe it or not, own a bicycle and use it frequently!

My name is Wim Wilms, and, like all school-going teens, I cycled to school. We lived far from the school so it took nearly two hours a day!

Now, however, I have moved to Rotterdam to attend university. Finding a place to live was a big problem since we have no campuses, but I was lucky that an elderly Worldwide Church of God member offered me a room in her apartment. I go home on the weekend and return Monday morning with a suitcase full of clean clothes and all the food that I could lay my hands on at home.

I am studying economics — a popular study in the Netherlands. I go to classes that are sometimes

attended by nearly a thousand other students. This was something I really had to get accustomed to because the classes in high school were attended by just 30 boys and girls. However, it's a very popular study and I hope to receive my MSc in about five years. With that degree the chances of getting a good job are quite high, unlike most other studies in the Netherlands.

One of my hobbies is gliding. I have been gliding now for three years. I started at age 16. With a little bit of luck and perseverance I can have my gliding license next summer.

I wanted to become a commercial pilot, but learning to fly is very expensive in the Netherlands. The only inexpensive way to become a pilot here is to go to a government-subsidized pilot school. Being a pilot means you have to work at any time of the day, any day of the week.



That's why they eventually did not accept me at this pilot school after I told them I wanted to keep the Sabbath.

The YOU [Youth Opportunities United, the Worldwide Church of God's youth program] in the Netherlands is steadily growing. In the past we were not always able to have YOU activities because of the small number of members. So we sometimes combined teen and young adult activities. We have had activities such as camp-outs in the Ardens (in southern Belgium) and camp-outs in the northern part of the Netherlands to go *wadlopen*. *Wadlopen* means walking on the bottom of the sea to an island during low tide.

We are fortunate to have a very good relationship with the German YOU. Once in a while we are able to get together for a weekend or so.

The high point of the year for nearly every YOU member in the Netherlands is the SEP [Summer Educational Program] in Scotland. Everyone looks forward to a three-week holiday together with British,



French, German and sometimes even African and American YOU members.

Since the Dutch YOU is growing, we have planned to have a one-day activity each school holiday, so that all YOU members from all parts of the Netherlands can be together.

Living in a windmill

Hello! My name is Karin Rook.

I am 12 years old and live in the Schermer — a polder near Amsterdam. The polder used to be a lake, but it was reclaimed in the 17th century by pumping out the water. At least 53 windmills were used to do this pumping.

There are still 11 windmills left and I live in one of them with my father, mother, brothers and little sister.

Our windmill still has real wings. My father rebuilt a lot inside the mill. There only used to be a cellar and a ground floor. But now we have the first floor and two lofts.

On the first floor there are three bedrooms and a *bedstede*. A *bedstede*

is like a big cupboard with shutters where you can sleep. One of the rooms upstairs is mine.

My brother Heike and I cycle to school together. Our school is in a village about 3 kilometers (2 miles) away from here.

In the village there are also sport clubs. On Mondays I play table tennis. I also like reading and making jigsaw puzzles. I play the recorder and sometimes the organ too.

I also like swimming. We used to have swimming lessons at school, but not any more. I still swim a lot in our neighbor's swimming pool.

Around our windmill there is a lot of water too. In the summer we like to sail and swim. And we can go skating often in the winter. There are a lot of birds and we even have an owl in the top of the mill. We have a big dog and a fat cat for our pets.

Living on the bottom of a lake could be a little frightening. Some of the villages are at least 4 meters (13 feet) below sea level. If the dikes broke, everything would be inundated.

The Netherlands is a modern country with large cities like Rotterdam, the busiest harbor in the world (lower left photo), and Amsterdam (pictured on page 7). But agriculture is still important and there are still windmills around — in fact, Karin Rook, whose article appears on this page, lives in a windmill (upper right).

In spite of this, and in spite of the fact that we don't have an awful lot of space living in a windmill, I really like it here!

A farm in the south of the Netherlands

Greetings to teenagers all over the world!

My name is Wim Peeters and I am nearly 14 years old. I live in Stramproy, a village near Weert, in the south of the Netherlands.

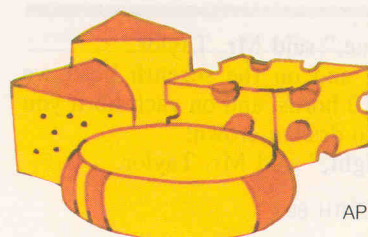
Our home is a small farm. My sister Tanja and I take care of our livestock. I look after our cow and four goats. We also have two rabbits, a guinea pig and a cat — they're normally looked after by Tanja. I also help my father clean out the stable.

The land we own (about one hectare or two acres) is mostly grassland with a small stretch of forest.

I have several hobbies like swimming and playing trumpet. I also have played the accordion and flute and gone horseback riding.

In the Netherlands the Worldwide Church of God has Sabbath services in three places: Bilthoven, Zwolle and Tilburg. We go to Tilburg every week where we have an average attendance of 80 people. We have a very nice hall, but it's a pity that there are hardly any teenagers of my age group in Tilburg. Most teenagers go to Zwolle, but I do have some contact with them by writing.

I have been able to go to the SEP in Scotland twice. Both times I have enjoyed the beautiful camp and the fine activities as well as getting to know the counselors and other campers. I also learned a lot at SEP. □



Artist WINSTON TAYLOR

Illustrating the Fearsome and Fantastic

By John Halford

It's hard enough to imagine the weird and wonderful beast in the book of Revelation, let alone paint a picture of it.

But that's what was needed for Herbert W. Armstrong's *World Tomorrow* television program. Artist Winston Taylor was asked to tackle the project.

"Winston, can you draw us an animal?" asked the Television Department.

"Yes," said Mr. Taylor.

"Its body must be like a leopard, but its feet are like a grizzly bear, and we want it to be coming out of a stormy sea..."

"OK," said Mr. Taylor.

"...and it's got to have seven heads. Four are to be like leopards, one like a lion, another like a bear and the seventh head must be like nothing anybody's ever seen before, except that it must have a mouth like a lion..."

"Fine," said Mr. Taylor.

"...and on the seventh head we need 10 horns, and on each horn you need to draw a crown!"

"Right," said Mr. Taylor.

Those of you who can watch the *World Tomorrow* television program may already be familiar with the paintings used as background illustrations when Mr. Armstrong explains some of the Bible prophecies. Winston Taylor is the artist whose extraordinary talent brings life to some of the fantastic creatures and images described in the books of Daniel and Revelation.

Mr. Taylor, a professional artist for many years, specializes in movie posters and science fiction subjects. You may have seen his work if you saw the posters for the movie *Buck Rogers in the 25th Century*.

The artist is particular about the kind of work he will take on. He quit doing work for horror movies when he felt the themes were getting too macabre and realistic. But he enjoys illustrating Bible prophecy.

He has drawn several illustrations for Mr. Armstrong's program, including Nebuchadnezzar's vision in Daniel 2 and the beasts Daniel saw in chapter seven. He finds the beasts especially challenging.

"You're designing something that does not exist," he explains, "but

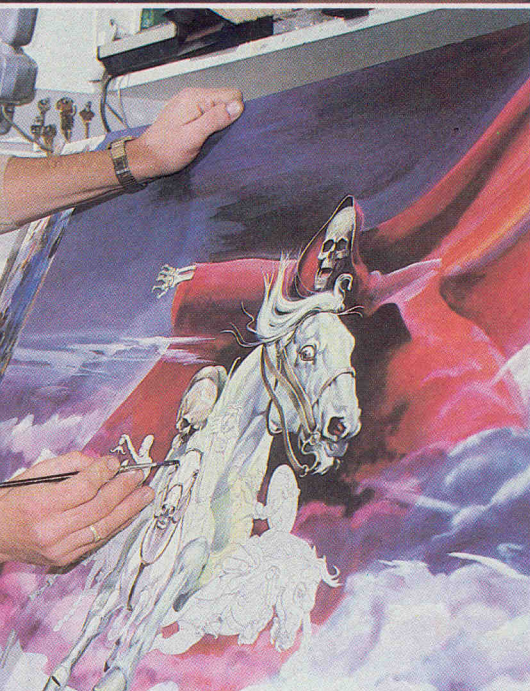


although the beast is fantastic, it must look real."

He does hours of research before beginning the drawing, looking at pictures of real animals, seeing how everything fits. The four-headed leopard was especially difficult.

"I couldn't just stick heads on anywhere," he explains. "Each head must look like it belongs on the body, breathing, eating, snarling."

It may take multiple preliminary sketches before he settles on a satisfactory design. After that it takes Mr. Taylor about a week to complete the painting. He prefers to work on



just one project at a time and give it his full attention.

The idea of illustrating Bible prophecy is not new to Mr. Taylor. "I started getting interested in painting scenes from the book of Revelation when I was 18. It is an exciting and expressive book."

He feels that the illustrations he has done for the *World Tomorrow* program are some of his best work. "You all know your subject, and you convey very well to me what you want," he says.

To be a professional artist is not the easy life some people imagine it to

be. It takes self-discipline, perseverance and proper education.

"I think anybody can learn to draw," says Mr. Taylor. "It's a mechanical thing. The hard part is learning to express yourself on canvas." He studied for years before he was satisfied with his training, and was 30 before he graduated from art schools.

Viewers of the *World Tomorrow* program (send for a free Radio/TV Log for the channel and time it is aired in your area) can expect to see more of Winston Taylor's work illustrating Mr. Armstrong's message in the future. □

Winston Taylor's illustrations of the beast of Revelation 13 (upper and lower right), the four horsemen of Revelation 6 (upper and lower left) and the image of Daniel 2 (above center) have been used in the *World Tomorrow* television program to make the prophecies of the Bible come alive. (Photos by Nathan Faulkner and John Halford)

Have You Ever Wondered...

Mysteries surround us: Why is the sky blue? How do plants get energy from the sun? Questioning how and why can lead to a deeper understanding of God's universe.

By Dan Dragt

What makes a volcano erupt? How can sea creatures live under the incredible pressures miles below the ocean's surface?

Why does your grandfather (or great-grandfather) remember the events of his childhood better than the events of yesterday? How can materials that are normally thrown away be reused?

You may have wondered about these and thousands of other mysteries. Such wondering leads men to probe, research, explore and discover. Man's drive to find the answers has brought the incredible advances made in physical knowledge and technology.

Everything man knows, he knows because he first wondered about it and asked a question. Similarly, everything you know, you know either because you asked a question or because someone was able to give you the answer before you asked.

When you learn a foreign language, for example, some of the first words you are taught are the question words. When you learn Spanish, you are taught *que, cuando, como, donde* and *quien* early so that you can ask questions to learn the language. The same holds true for French, German or whatever language you take.

Using the question words in English (who, what, when, where, why and how) will help you not only



in school, but in unraveling the complexities of the world we live in.

Questions can also help you in a practical way. Imagine you are riding your bicycle to the store and the chain comes off. In this situation you would want to know how to put the chain back on, of course. But you'd be even better off knowing not only how to put it back on, but how to maintain the bike so that the chain won't fall off again.

You can learn this by asking a series of questions: Who knows a lot about bicycles? How does a bicycle work? What can be done to keep it from breaking down again? How

Why do birds sing? How can they fly?
What makes some birds migrate halfway around the world?

often should I oil the chain? The answers to these questions will not only help you to maintain your own bicycle, but will qualify you to help others as well.

The desire to ask questions and find answers can also be referred to as the drive to know. This drive to know is one of the major qualities of all inventors.

Charles Goodyear is an excellent example. In his youth, he realized that men would be able to work faster

if their tools were lighter. At 17, he went off to Philadelphia to master the hardware trade. With this training under his belt, he returned home and worked with his father to answer, "How can tools be made lighter?"

The next object of Mr. Goodyear's drive to know was something that was called gum elastic. Gum elastic is a substance as soft and pliable as dough, yet tough and waterproof. Its glaring fault was that it froze and melted easily. Mr. Goodyear asked, "How can gum elastic (rubber) be made temperature resistant?"

Mr. Goodyear found the answer to his question with a process known as vulcanization, which now allows us to use gum elastic to make everything from tires to doorstops. Mr. Goodyear's drive to know did not stop with discovering this process. He went on to ask, "How can vulcanized rubber be put to use?" His first invention using rubber was an improved valve for a life preserver. From there, he applied his discovery of heat-resistant rubber to sails, umbrellas, tents, waders and other useful items.

Mr. Goodyear built a bridge from the unknown to the known. As a student, you can build a bridge from what you are told to what you

knowledge and understanding. As a result, most people listen for what they understand and think will be on the test and not for what they don't understand and can ask questions about. When you ask questions about what you don't understand, you, like Mr. Goodyear, bridge the gap from the unknown to the known.

For instance, you are told in history class that the Roman Empire fell in A.D. 476. But if you just remember that fact for a test, does it give you understanding? No, to achieve understanding you must ask and find answers to questions such as: What was the major cause of Rome's fall? How did Rome's fall affect the rest of the world? How could the powerful nations of today avoid following in Rome's footsteps? When questions like these are asked and answered, a student bridges the gap from what he is told to what he knows and understands.

But learning and understanding don't just happen in school. What about those things we see all the time, but

What have you wondered about but not bothered to ask? Do you know how many sheep it takes to provide the wool for a sweater?



looked, yet the answers are interesting and exciting.

With the drive to know, one question becomes the seed for a series of questions. For example, your first question might be: How were lakes formed? From that seed, a series of more specific questions grows.

Where does the lake's water come from? Do lakes last forever? Why do lakes become shallower? Let one question lead to another and you will acquire a vast knowledge of the world you live in.

Remember, man still knows little or nothing about many things. What we know is small compared to what is left for us to find out. The vast nature of our universe and the infinitesimal nature of subatomic particles are on the limits of man's knowledge although, for now, they are beyond his understanding.

This leaves almost unlimited opportunities for discovery in the physical realm. But, what about beyond this? Will we ever know it all?

No! We won't have to stop wondering and learning for a long time because God's plan for us includes learning more, forever! □



Have you ever wondered how a lake was formed or why trees have branches? Asking these questions can lead to a deeper understanding of God's creation.

that most people overlook? Have you ever thought

to ask questions like these: Why do trees have branches? Why do birds sing? How does a steel ship float? How does electricity get to your outlet? How does a vending machine know when to give you change? Each of these questions can be easily over-

understand. Day after day, you go to school. Day after day, your teachers tell you facts. And day after day, you have to repeat those facts back to your teachers for a grade.

This process generally motivates students to learn for grades, not for



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Chariots of Fire: A Movie With Meaning

When was the last time you saw a movie that really made you feel good? The world of entertainment has gone to extremes to shock, horrify and scare us. But what has happened to entertainment that just gives you a good feeling inside?

Chariots of Fire has recaptured that ability to entertain while getting a meaningful story across.

You may have heard that the movie is about two runners and the Olympics. Yet this story is not just about people winning in races against each other. It's about winning battles against stronger forces — forces that say that you can't change the way things are or the way people feel about you.

Perhaps the most incredible aspect of this movie is that it is a true story. It was written with the help of the sister of one of the runners and one of the participants in the 1924 Olympics.

The film is about two young men — Harold Abrahams, a student at Cambridge University, and Eric Liddell, the son of a Scottish missionary.

Both men can "run like the wind." Abrahams is the son of a wealthy Jewish banker, and the bigotry he has experienced has left him bitter, though self-confident. He seeks to use his running ability as a weapon against anti-Semitism.

Eric Liddell is a famous Scottish rugby player. His father encourages him to use the gift God has given him. "You can praise the Lord by peeling a spud if you peel it to perfection," his father told him.



"Run in His name . . . and let the world stand back in wonder."

The inevitable day comes when Liddell meets Abrahams in a race. Liddell wins, and Abrahams despairs at his first loss. But a professional coach agrees to work with Abrahams, promising him at least "another two yards."

Both Eric Liddell and Harold Abrahams qualify for the 1924 Olympics in Paris, but each is faced with a final test. Liddell's challenge begins on the ship taking the British Olympic team to France, when he finds out that the qualifying heat for the 100 meter race is on Sunday. After struggling so hard to make it to the Olympics, he has to explain to members of the Olympic Committee that he can't run on his "Sabbath."

Despite appeals by the Prince of Wales and other dignitaries, Liddell refuses to compromise with his beliefs.

Abrahams, meanwhile, suffers defeat in his first races. He now must wage a mental battle to gain confidence to do his best in the 100-meter final. The way each runner solves his dilemma gives an exciting climax to the movie.

In a world so obsessed with competition, *Chariots of Fire* shows that there is more to

the race than winning. It explores the motivations, sacrifices and hard work necessary for success, as well as the oft-forgotten value of true sportsmanship.

Chariots of Fire is a movie you'll be glad you've seen. In this action-packed, factual drama, the truth is indeed more amazing than fiction! — By Debbie Burbach □

'Stuff' to Keep Kids Amused

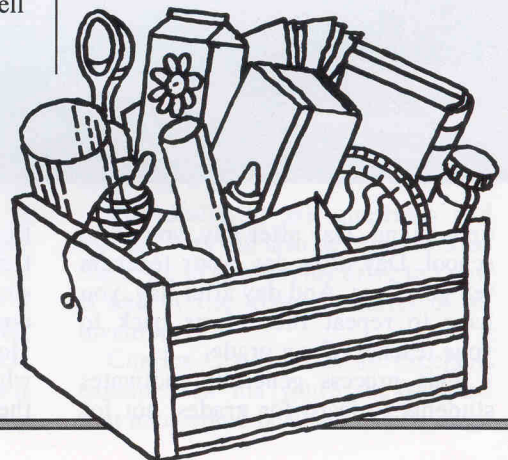
There you are, baby-sitting the neighbor's kids or watching your own brothers and sisters. Then "disaster" strikes.

It can't be! But as you run to the window and look outside, drops of rain are pelting down. Now what do you do, or, more important, what can the children do?

Lots of things! It really doesn't take a whole lot of money and effort to keep youngsters amused.

You've probably seen children spend five minutes playing with a new toy and become tired of it. Yet they spend hours exploring their mother's kitchen cabinets or rummaging through their father's tool box.

Why not use this natural curiosity to your advantage? One of the best things to have on hand when taking care of children is a "stuff box." Almost anything can be converted into a stuff box — an orange



crate, old toy box or trunk, a discarded washer or dryer box.

What do you fill it with? Don't overlook anything that could be transformed into a toy. Get the children's input. They can solve their play needs with their own creativity.

Anything that could be cut, pasted, stacked, tied or glued is a stuff box candidate. Just make sure the object is safe and clean. No small objects should be given to a child who might choke on them, and of course you'll need to supervise to make sure seemingly harmless items don't become a hazard.

Here are ideas for your stuff box: baby-food jars, balloons, cardboard towel tubes, clay, construction paper, egg cartons.

Hat boxes, milk cartons, oatmeal boxes, old crayons, old magazines, sea shells, string, wooden clothespins, wooden spools, yarn.

Children can make an amazing variety of homemade toys and games out of these materials, or they might be content just to rummage through them.

Whatever the case may be, with a stuff box around, you won't need to panic if it starts raining or children get bored while you're baby-sitting them. — *By Wilma Niekamp* □

Why Is It Called *Easter*?

East is east and west is west. But is the opposite of Easter, Wester?

The names of some holidays make it easy to figure out what they are all about. In the United States there is one called Thanksgiving and — you guessed it — it's about giving thanks.

But there are others that are more difficult to figure out. What do you think of when someone mentions Easter? Colored eggs, bunny rabbits and hot cross buns? Have you ever



wondered what these symbols have to do with Jesus Christ rising from the dead? And why do they call it *Easter* anyway?

Why not look it up in the Webster's dictionary? Tracing the etymology back you see that it comes from "the prehistoric West Germanic name of a pagan spring festival."

Even farther back the name can be traced to the ancient Assyrian and Babylonian goddess Ishtar, who is associated with the Baal condemned in the Bible.

Why does a modern, so-called Christian festival carry this ancient, pagan name? And what about some of these other customs?

Is it significant that since ancient times, rabbits have been thought of as a fertility symbol, especially in the spring?

And what about the ancient legend that says the goddess who gave her name to Easter hatched out of (what else?) a giant egg?

And did you know that sunrise services carry on a tradition that started centuries before Christ?

Nowadays, of course, most Christian churches celebrate Easter as the anniversary of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. They would probably be surprised to hear that Jesus did not rise from the dead on an Easter Sunday. But the Bible actually proves that Jesus was resurrected around sunset on Saturday.

How does God feel when people use pagan symbols to celebrate a day named after a false goddess? Most people don't know. But you can. Just read our free booklet *The Plain Truth About Easter*. Send for your free copy today. See the inside front cover for the address nearest you. — *By Peter Ditzel* □

Proverbs for Today: The Boomerang Will Come Home

Boomerangs are fun! I've enjoyed the thrill of tossing my boomerang into the sky, and then watching it circle and fly until it returned to where I was standing.

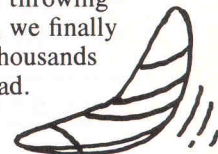
You may not realize it, but you have a boomerang too — in fact, you have lots of them. Every time you do something, it's like throwing a boomerang into the air. If the act you did was good, it will hover and in time come back and reward you.

If the act you did was bad, your boomerang will hover and fly, for however long, until finally it comes back to haunt you.

This is what wise King Solomon meant when he said, "If thou be wise, thou shalt be wise for thyself; but if thou scornest, thou alone shalt bear it" (Proverbs 9:12). Our good acts and our bad come back on our own head — not someone else's.

In our daily process of throwing good or bad boomerangs, we finally come to where literally thousands are floating above our head. There may be so many that we lose track of them, or lose confidence in them and think they will never land. But we are wrong.

Although we have forgotten that we have tossed them into the air, or although we think the good we've done has been forgotten or the bad has passed us by, nonetheless, the
(Continued on page 16)



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boomerangs will finish their journey to our credit or disgrace.

However, God is merciful, and those who truly are sorry and determined not to throw more bad boomerangs need not fret over past mistakes. Remember, though:

"If thou be wise, thou shalt be wise for thyself" because the wise boomerang you threw will come home to bless you. "But if thou scornest, thou alone shalt bear it."

— By Bernie Schnippert □

Plant Your Own Garden—Indoors!

A garden — in the house? You've got to be kidding!

Well, it's not exactly a full-size garden, but did you know that you can grow a minigarden indoors in a terrarium? Terrariums are gardens enclosed in glass containers. You may have an empty fish tank or fish bowl that would make an excellent terrarium. Large jars and brandy snifters can be used as containers.

A terrarium is easy to make and requires little care after it is planted.

To start, select plants for your terrarium that thrive in high humidity, such as African violets,



begonia, coleus, ivy, peperomia and philodendron.

Place a 1-inch layer of gravel, broken flower pot pieces or charcoal in the bottom of your container.

Next, prepare a soil mixture of equal parts of sand, peat moss and garden soil for a layer 1½ to 2 inches deep. Mound the soil to one side of your container to make a slope.

Now it's time to plant. By using a long pair of tweezers or sticks tied to tweezers, arrange the plants in your container. Try not to get soil on the leaves.

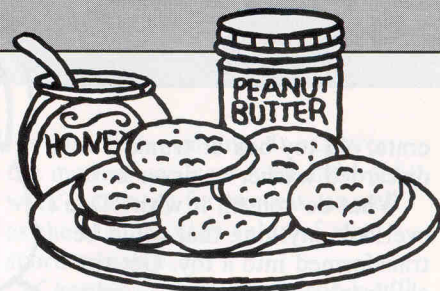
After the plants are arranged, clean the leaves with a small brush, then mist the plants and soil with water.

Cover your terrarium with a sheet of glass or a piece of plastic film, and there you have it. The terrarium is finished and yours to enjoy, or it makes a nice gift.

Just be sure to put your terrarium in a place where it has bright light, but not direct sunlight as the sun will heat the air inside it and kill the plants.

Water the plants just enough to keep the soil moist. If the inside of the container becomes fogged, open the cover a little to evaporate the excess water.

One last hint is to turn your terrarium every so often so the plants will grow uniformly. Happy gardening! — By Wilma Niekamp □



Two Unleavened Peanut Butter Treats

Whole-wheat Crisps

- ¾ cup peanut butter
- 1 cup water
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 3 cups whole-wheat flour
- Salt

Preheat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit. Butter and lightly flour cookie sheets.

Combine peanut butter and water in a medium-size bowl and stir to dissolve the peanut butter. Stir in the honey. Add flour, and salt to taste. Mix into a stiff dough.

Roll dough very thin on prepared cookie sheets. Prick with a fork and cut into squares. Bake about 12 minutes.

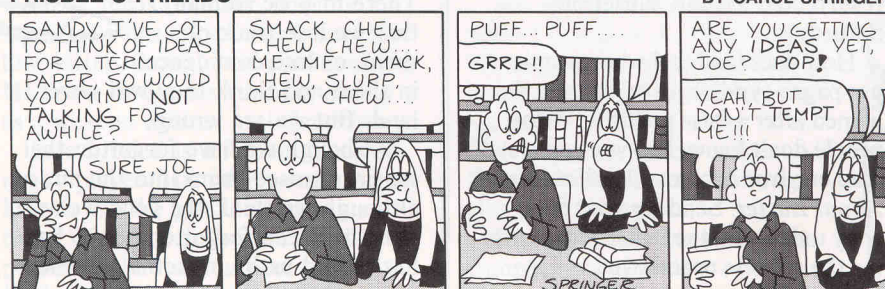
Quick and Easy Cookies

- ½ cup oil
- ¾ cup honey
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup peanut butter
- 1½ cups sifted whole-wheat flour
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons water
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- ½ cup chopped, unsalted peanuts (or other nuts)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit and butter cookie sheets.

Mix oil, honey, eggs and peanut butter thoroughly. Sift flour and salt into this mixture and mix well. Add water and vanilla, then stir in nuts. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto cookie sheets and spread each cookie slightly with the spoon. Bake 10 minutes or until lightly browned. □

FRISBEE'S FRIENDS



Dear Diary

Scenes from the past as if told by an eyewitness.

I've just returned from school and wanted to write you before I get busy on other projects.

From my window I can see that odd family putting the finishing touches on their structure — whatever you want to call it. It is huge!

Daddy says that they believe there is going to be a great flood and only their family will be saved. Isn't that funny? Daddy says they believe they are the only ones who are keeping God's laws.

Who is God? Some ultimate power that guides and directs our lives? No one directs my life. I make my own decisions and plan my own life.

I'm excited about my future. Both Dad and Mom are behind my decision to get further training in dance and the theater. I'm going to be an actress. It will take a few years of hard work and self-discipline, but nothing will stop me from reaching the top. No — not even Noah, that peculiar man.

Something is going on over there at that boat. I'll be right back after I take a closer look.

I'm back. How interesting! Noah told his family to take pairs of every kind of animal on board. How they'll be able to find all those animals is beyond me!

Dear Diary,

Wow — they are bringing animals to their boat that I haven't seen before! They must have been collecting animals for quite a long time now. They are even bringing aboard doves, eagles, ducks — ooh, and lions and zebras and horses. The horses are beautiful, but they don't compare with my mare, Sundance. She's anxious for me to ride her. Perhaps I will when I've finished writing you.

I sure hope that family knows how to tame

animals. I'd sure hate to see them eaten alive by the tigers — or the other ferocious beasts — even though the family is so strange. But, for some reason, the animals don't seem to be acting beastly at the moment. And Noah's family would be bright enough to think of building cages inside, I suppose.

People pretty much ignore Noah. He's been building this boat for years — long before I was born. We don't really concern ourselves with his silly message of doom.

There are, however, several funny Noah jokes going around at school. I'm not a good joke teller or I'd tell you one. They all have to do with Noah's strange beliefs and his continuous pounding and pitching. Poor Noah.

Dear Diary,

Those animals are really being herded onto the boat in a hurry. Ha — maybe it will begin to rain!

It doesn't look as though they have any more animals to board. No, they don't. Hmm — this is interesting. They are boarding the boat themselves!

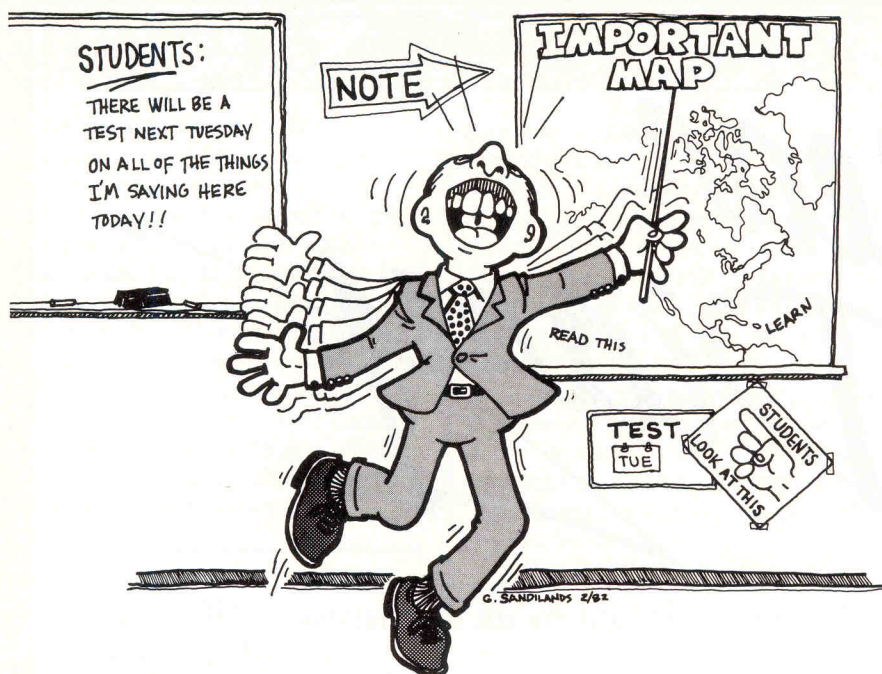
Dear Diary,

In a way I'm beginning to get a little nervous. Ha — in a week or two the door will open and Noah and his family will come out of that smelly animal farm. Won't we have fun at school with new Noah jokes for awhile!

The family in the boat seem all prepared for rain now. I wonder how long they will sit in that boat?

Isn't that funny — it's starting to rain. In fact, it's a storm. Maybe Noah was right. Mom's calling me — I'd better go. — *By Lori Richardson* □

"But as the days of Noe [Noah] were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be" (Matthew 24:37).



Are You Missing Your Cue?

Here's how to recognize and use the oft-overlooked cues that can improve your grades.

By Ron Felling

Did you know that only about one of every four students walks out of a class with the main idea that the teacher was trying to communicate firmly in mind?

Without catching that main idea, what chance do those other three students have to understand the material and prepare effectively for the test?

Why is it that some students get the main idea while others do not? It's because few students know *what* to listen for or *how* to write this information down for later review.

Every teacher gives clues as to what he or she feels is important. These "cues" are given in various forms. By listening and watching for them, you can greatly improve your notes and your grades. Following are six cues to look for:

1. **Visual aids.** If the instructor writes notes on the board, uses overhead transparencies or shows slides, he probably feels the information is important — important enough to repeat on the test!

2. **Hand gestures and body movement.** The next things to look for are hand gestures and body movement. If your teacher waves his hands so much that he appears to be attempting to

stop a train, chances are he is trying to signal important information to you.

3. **Pauses.** Has your teacher ever paused midsentence for what seemed to be an awkward period of time? Sometimes this is done so you will burn the next two or three sentences into your memory. Take note.

4. **Voice volume.** If your teacher is speaking in a normal tone, and then all of a sudden raises his voice, he is probably trying to impress upon you the importance of what he's saying. Be especially careful to write down what is said at these times.

5. **Lead-ins.** Often, during your science, English, history or geography classes, your teacher will say a phrase that signals important points to come. For example, if he says, "Three reasons for this are . . .", you should get ready to note these points that you'll probably see again — on a test.

6. **Introductions and conclusions.** Another important thing to remember is that teachers may put more preparation into their introductions and conclusions, so be sure to pay close attention at these critical times.

Now that you know what to listen for, here are some additional tips to help you take good notes.

Always try to write notes in your own words. Mechanically writing down whatever you hear won't help you understand the material. Strive for understanding instead of memorization of the teacher's words.

Another idea is to put "tabs" in your margins. A tab is a word or phrase that helps bring the main points back to memory. They allow you to skim over your notes quickly when you review.

Generally, one or two pages of notes is enough for any one hour of instruction. If you are taking more, you may be writing down unimportant points and missing some of the main ones.

Be sure to write with a pen, since notes written with a lead pencil will probably be smeared and hard to read after a year's use.

If you catch your cues and follow these other tips, you'll be on your way to success in school, with more understanding and improved grades! □

Teen Bible Study

Your Awesome POTENTIAL

Prepared by Richard H. Sedliacik

Can you imagine what it would be like to zip through space to any place in the universe in an instant? Or to have strengths and abilities far greater than Superman? Can you even begin to grasp what it would be like to live forever?

Believe it or not, that is your awesome potential!

Ponce de Leon, a Spanish explorer who lived in the early 1500s, searched in vain for the mythical Fountain of Youth. But you can find the source of eternal youth because God has revealed it to us.

What is it?

To find the answer to this exciting question, we must go back to the very first chapter of Genesis and learn the purpose for our lives. We need to know why God created us and gave us life and breath.

But first, do you have your Bible in front of you? And do you have a pen or pencil and paper? It's important to always look up and read every scripture given in answer to the questions asked in these "Teen Bible Studies." And copying the answers in a notebook will aid you in learning the material and reviewing your studies later.

Now that you have your Bible, your pen and paper, let's begin.

1. What do the very first words of the Bible tell us about God? Genesis 1:1.

The original Hebrew word for God in verse one is *Elohim*. *Elohim* is a uniplural or collective noun, like the words *church*, *family* or *kingdom*, all of which are composed of more than one member. In other words, the name *Elohim* stands for a group composed of two or more individuals. *Elohim*, as intended in Genesis 1:1, is the God Kingdom or God Family.

2. But who are the individuals presently composing *Elohim*? John 1:1-2. Was it the "Word" who created all things? Verse 3. What did the Word later become? Verse 14. Who, then, is the Word? Ephesians 3:9, last part. And who is the other divine member of the God Family? I Corinthians 8:6.

John 1:1 and Genesis 1:1 are two accounts that bring us back to the same time in prehistory

— the original creation of the universe. Both verses reveal that the two supreme Beings of the God Family created all things.

The Greek word translated into English as *Word* in John 1:1 is *Logos*. It means spokesman or one who speaks. It was actually the *Logos*, the Spokesman — the Word of the God Family — who "spoke, and it [the creation] was done" by the power of the Spirit of God (Psalm 33:6-9, 104:30). And so everything was created and made by the divine Being who later became the human Jesus Christ.

The Word, then, is the divine Personage who was made flesh nearly 2,000 years ago. He was begotten (conceived) in the virgin Mary by God who, through this miraculous begetting, became His Father. Yet, at that prehistoric time of the first verse of John 1, the Word was not yet the Son of God. He became God's Son later, through being begotten by God and born of Mary as a human being.

3. Is the God Family eternal, or ever living? Psalm 90:2, 102:25-27.

Both members of the Godhead have always existed. Our finite human minds can't quite understand how these immortal supreme Beings could have always existed, but neither can we quite understand what electricity is. Yet, we know electricity exists and is very real!

But what does all of this have to do with your awesome potential? Everything! For God is in the process of expanding His universe-ruling Family. And you can become a member of that eternal Family!

Man is not just another animal as evolutionists claim. God's purpose for creating man far surpasses anything ever imagined by the mind of man. Let's return to the first chapter of Genesis and begin to understand the most astounding revelation of your Bible.

4. After what "kinds" were the animals, fish and fowl created? Genesis 1:20-25.

These verses plainly state, without any interpretation, that God created fish to reproduce after their own kind, birds after their kind and cattle after the cattle kind. Each kind may have

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many varieties within it, but all creatures reproduce only after their own kind. That is why dogs reproduce dogs, monkeys reproduce monkeys, sheep reproduce sheep.

5. But what about man? After whose "image" and "likeness" was man created? Genesis 1:26-27.

In God's pattern for all life, like reproduces like. And just as each created form of plant or animal life reproduces after its own kind, so humans reproduce humans. But unlike any of the animals created by God, man was created in God's likeness.

These scriptures refute the theory that man is merely the highest of the animals, having evolved from lower mammals. They clearly state that God created man after His own image and likeness. God made man like Himself — in the same form and shape. And He is now in the process of creating man after His own kind!

Notice again what God said in Genesis 1:26: "Let us make man in our image." The original Hebrew here indicates far more than merely the outward form and shape of God — His likeness. *Image* also refers to mind and character. God intended for man — to whom He gave the gift of a thinking, reasoning mind — to develop the very mind and character of God!

Each animal was created with a brain suited for its needs. But animals do not have the attributes of mind and character that God gave only to man. It is these special qualities that separate men from animals.

The attributes of human mind and character truly make man God's unique physical creation. God has shared some of His own qualities with human beings and expects them to develop the "image" of God's perfect mind and holy character.

Simply stated, God is reproducing Himself. The awesome potential of all human beings — past, present and future — is that of becoming the literal children of God — members of His own spirit Family!

Notice the overwhelming evidence of God's breathtaking purpose for you.

6. Is God still in the process of forming and molding man as a potter works with clay? Isaiah 64:8. Did Job realize God was forming a special creation in his life? Job 14:14-15.

Notice the latter part of verse 15: "Thou wilt have a desire to the work of thine hands." Job knew he was a piece of divine workmanship in the hands of the Master Potter.

What God created at the time described in the

first chapter of Genesis was a physical creation. Man, made of the dust of the ground, was the material being that God planned to mold, shape and form into a perfect spiritual creation. He pictures us as the clay, Himself as the potter who is forming us into the spiritual image of Himself.

7. Are true Christians clearly being fashioned by God for a specific purpose? Ephesians 2:10.

"We" in New Testament language usually refers to Christians, as Paul intended in verse 10. Christians are God's "workmanship." They are being created "unto good works."

God, through the Holy Spirit He puts within Christians (after their repentance and baptism), is forming in them His perfect spiritual character. With their obedient cooperation, He is creating in them His own character and image. He is creating them to be the supreme masterpiece of all His works of creation — individuals who will ultimately be capable of exercising the awesome powers of the God Family! (More about these powers next time.)

And so man, the material creation, is only the first phase of this creative process. Now the clay model has to be fashioned and molded by experience, with the aid of God's Holy Spirit, into the finished spiritual masterpiece possessing the very character of God. An analogy of this process would be a caterpillar going through a metamorphosis and emerging a beautiful butterfly. Man must undergo a spiritual metamorphosis or change into perfect spiritual members in the divine God Family!

8. Does God plainly show that it is His purpose to increase His divine Family by bringing many sons into it? Hebrews 2:9-10, Revelation 21:7. Isn't Jesus Christ actually the first of many sons of God? Romans 8:29, Colossians 1:18.

To be "conformed to the image" of Christ means to become like Him — to be glorified as He is glorified — to be a part of the divine Family of God as much as Christ now is.

9. But what must happen to flesh-and-blood human beings before they can enter God's Family? I Corinthians 15:49-53, John 3:3-8.

Jesus said we must be "born again" — changed into spirit. Yes, born again — this time born of the Spirit of God as divine Sons in the Family of God!

Next time we'll study more about this incredibly wonderful truth. And we'll see how exciting it will be as a powerful spirit being, living and working together with Jesus Christ and other born-again members of God's universe-ruling Family. □

BY THE WAY...



Put Your Headphones On

By Dexter Faulkner

My teenage son tells me that when he wants to really listen to a favorite record or tape, he puts on his headphones. Other sounds are blocked out. The sound is like being in the middle of the recording studio. You can catch all the nuances without turning the volume to an ear-damaging level to cover outside noises. It's total listening, he tells me.

We probably listen more than we do any other human activity except breathe. Listening is important to success in many aspects of life — socially, educationally and in family relationships too.

How would you describe your listening ability? Would you rate it as total listening, tuning in and out or completely turned off? And most important, how would your friends and parents describe your listening ability? Do you listen to others as you like to be listened to?

These are hard questions, but sometimes we should stop and think about them and give ourselves honest answers.

The value of really listening to another or being listened to is difficult to estimate. Suffice it to say, one of the greatest gifts we can give to our parents and friends (or anybody for that matter) is *total listening*.

Again, ask yourself, How is my listening ability? How often do I have to ask people to repeat something they just said? How well do I hear and remember names?

Do you want to listen better? If you do, you have already taken a big step in increasing your listening ability. One way to keep your motivation going is to count the things you learn about your friends and family each time you listen.

Second, avoid interrupting. Concentrate on what your parent or friend is saying. Try to create an atmosphere for communication. You can do this by stopping whatever else you're doing and facing the person talking to you.

One of the biggest problems in

listening is that we fail to focus on the other person's point of view or idea. It's human nature to want to tell our ideas, feelings, opinions, convictions and jokes. And we want to tell our own thoughts instantly — without even waiting until the other person has finished talking. We interrupt and often change the subject at the same time.

Another point to remember: Often the nonverbal interruptions are the most annoying. An impatient look, a sigh, a glance around the room, crossed arms, drumming fingers on chair or table — these and other mannerisms are ways of stating, without a word: "Are you through now? I'm not really listening and I want to talk or be on my way."

Therefore, the way to let parents and others know we are really tuned in, with our headphones on, is to listen with our bodies.

To let a person know that you are ready and willing to be a listener, stop what you are doing and turn to him or her with your eyes, ears and the rest of your body.

In the Bible the apostle James wisely warned, "Let every man [and woman] be swift to hear, slow to speak..." (James 1:19).

And King Solomon advised: "He who restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding" (Proverbs 17:27, Revised Standard Version). And, "If one gives answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame" (Proverbs 18:13, RSV).

Listening is a gift you can give, no matter who you are. And you can give it to anyone. It doesn't cost a cent, but it's priceless to a person who needs a listener (and we all do). Whoever you are, you can start today to become a better listener. □

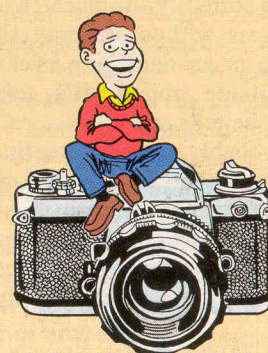
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