



## The Wasted Chase

Mike Martin

*Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.* – Matthew 5:6

Read Romans 13:8-14

Our family dog has a habit that I have been unable to break. She likes to chase things that are not there.

I remember the day it started. I turned the key of our riding lawn mower, and just as the engine roared to life, a mouse ran from underneath the mower. Our dog was standing close by. She erupted into a ball of destructive energy, crashing into and toppling over items on her hunt of a lifetime for the elusive mouse.

She never caught it.

That day started a routine. Without fail, whenever I start the lawn mower, the dog is there, muscles tense with anticipation, watching with laser focus, ready to pursue the mouse that might come out. There has never been another mouse.

I am becoming annoyed by the whole ordeal because the dog is wasting time on something she will never catch and that she really doesn't need. On the floor very close to where she thinks the mouse might emerge sits a dish of dog food meant specifically for a creature like her. It is tasty and designed with the necessary nutrients for a dog's well-being.

Why would the dog want to pursue a morsel of mouse meat when she could enjoy a good meal?

Silly dog.

This experience caused me to think about my human nature and the temptations that I experience to chase

things that will only waste energy and leave me exhausted and empty-handed after it is over.

Silly me.

Satan does all he can to attract us to pursue worldly things that he says will make us happy. But at the end of his pursuits, we find only emptiness. David tells us, "O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him" (Psalm 34:8).

We can satisfy our hunger with spiritual food that helps us grow properly and experience lasting satisfaction.

Selected from *Climbing Upward*, a book of 100 devotionals for adolescent boys. See page 2.



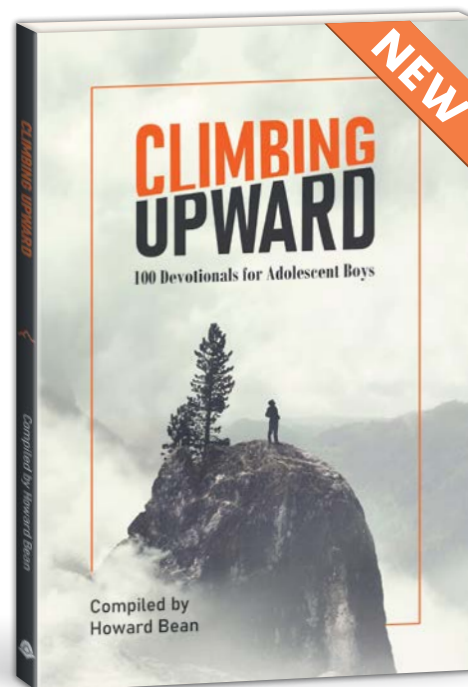
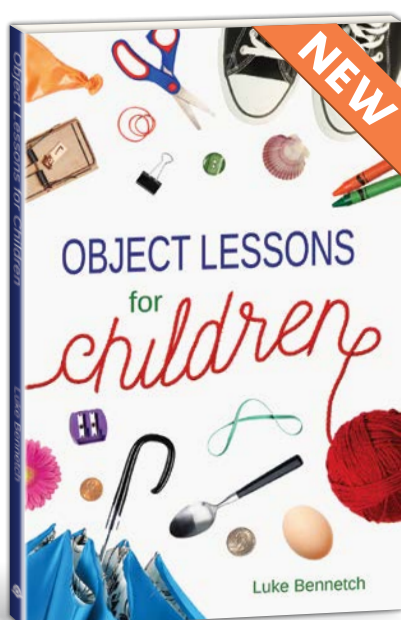
## Climbing Upward

Compiled by Howard Bean

Climbing a mountain involves exerting energy, defying the pull of gravity to reach the summit. Growing up into what God wants us to be also takes dedication and effort: reaching new goals, resisting new temptations, and developing a deeper relationship with God.

This book of one hundred devotionals encourages adolescent boys and young men on the upward climb toward godly manhood. Boys will enjoy these stories and learn life lessons shared by men who remember what it is like to transition from boyhood to young manhood.

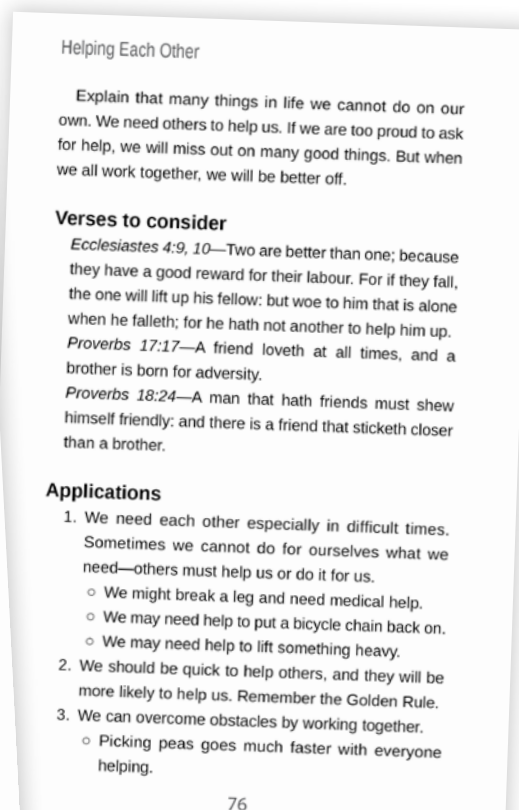
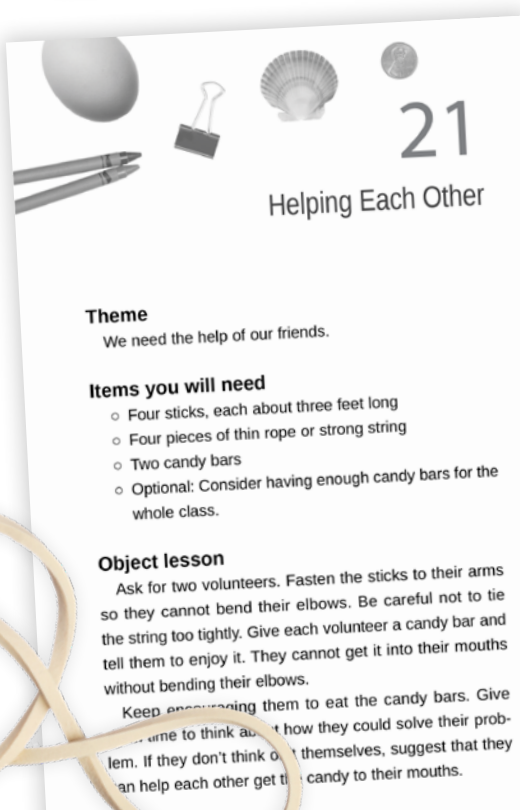
265540 **\$10.75** 230 pages, 6 x 9

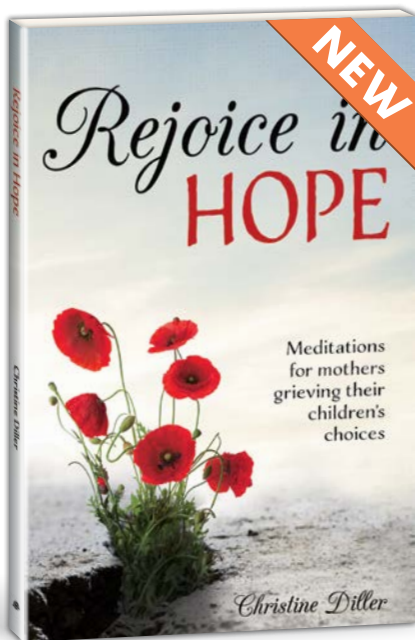


## Object Lessons for Children Luke Bennetch

Jesus used object lessons: a fig tree, a coin, a child. He spoke of taking an ax to a tree and letting our light shine like a candle. *Object Lessons for Children* offers forty object lessons to help you capture children's attention and communicate truth. Each lesson includes instructions, verses, and applications. This handy resource provides you with ready-made lessons or inspiration to create your own.

242300 **\$9.50** 149 pages, 5¼ x 8¾





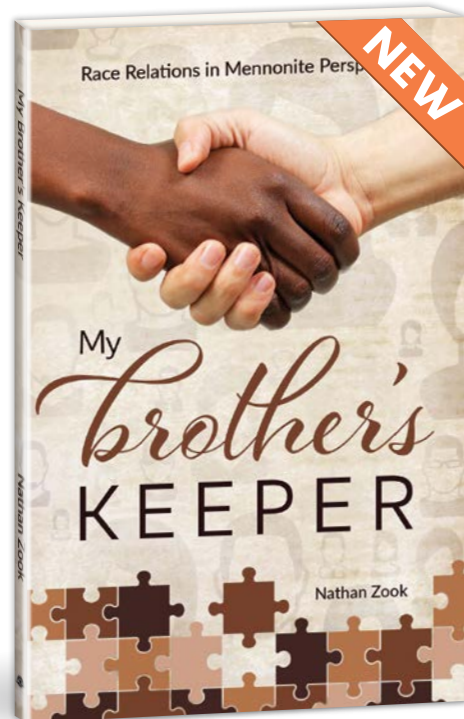
## Rejoice in Hope

Christine Diller

To have a child die would be a horrifying experience, but an even greater fear would be losing them to spiritual death. The author prayed regularly for her growing children. Then she and her husband found themselves in a situation they had never expected. Devastated, she asked, "Why?" Hadn't she prayed for her children all their lives? What went wrong?

*Rejoice in Hope* shares what one mother learned about God's care and the power of prayer. It helps mothers find hope in spiritual struggles they may be facing with their grown children.

240095 **\$7.50** 100 pages, 5¼ x 8¼



## My Brother's Keeper

Nathan Zook

We believe all humans are one extended family descended from Adam and Eve. Yet we may have difficulty seeing a family resemblance or feeling a blood kinship with people from other nationalities, ethnicities, or races.

*My Brother's Keeper* discusses the history of race relations, looks at how Mennonites have responded to racial diversity in the past, and suggests Biblical responses to issues such as interracial marriage, transracial adoptions, race-based privilege, and political correctness.

Our homes and churches can be a foreshadowing of the fellowship of Heaven, where the Bible describes a multiethnic multitude praising God together.

242400 **\$8.50** 116 pages, 5¼ x 8¼

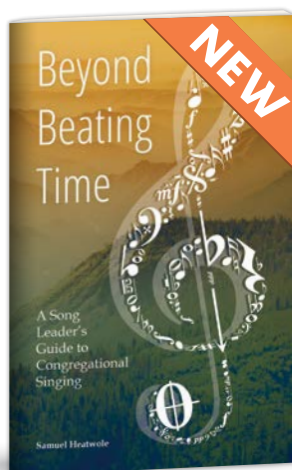
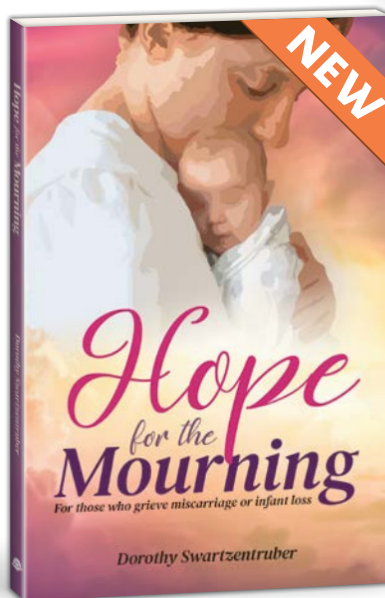
## Hope for the Mourning

Dorothy Swartzentruber

The loss of a child is a profound bereavement. Parents grieve not only the loss of a beloved baby, but also the loss of what that child represented. Losing a baby, whether through miscarriage or a later death, changes a mother and family forever. Though the journey to healing may be grueling, God's arms are underneath, and His grace is sufficient.

Though this book is written from a mother's perspective and includes experiences and quotes from many mothers, husbands and caring friends who read this book will better understand how to support those who grieve.

241000 **\$8.95** 100 pages, 5¼ x 8¼



## Beyond Beating Time

Samuel Heatwole

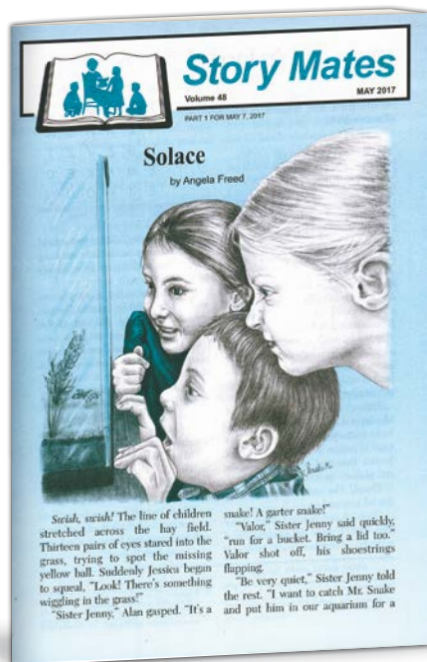
The song leader's role in a worship service goes much deeper than starting songs and beating time. The song leader's confidence, song selections, and level of preparation complement or detract from the service.

*Beyond Beating Time* shares instructions and tips for both novices and experienced leaders. Topics include personal preparation, choosing appropriate selections, and encouragement to become an effective song leader who blesses his congregation.

285145 **\$5.25** 54 pages, 5¼ x 8¼

# Stories and Encouragement Every Week

Imagine the anticipation and delight of getting a packet of stories and activities in the mail every month. Christian Light publishes three levels of story papers—one issue for every week, mailed monthly.



## Story Mates

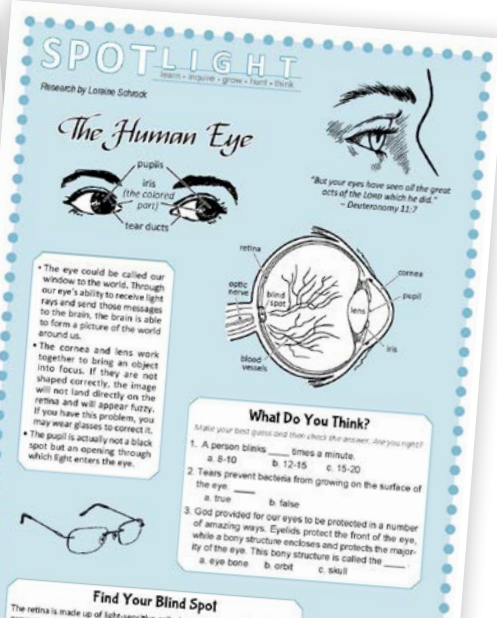
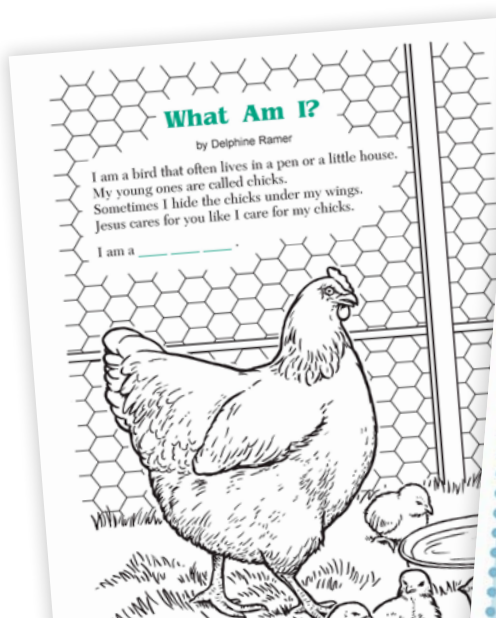
*Story Mates* is written for children ages 4-8. Children enjoy the read-aloud stories, poems, and simple activities such as word search puzzles, pictures to color, and more.

## Partners

*Partners* is written for ages 9-14. Older children enjoy the stories, activities such as crossword puzzles, a "pen partners" feature, and more.

## Companions

*Companions* is written for youth and adults. It includes stories, inspirational and doctrinal articles, poems, and a bimonthly study outline on a Biblical subject.



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# Helping Students Learn the Bible

Christian Light Bible curriculum helps students learn Bible stories and teaching, Bible culture and geography, and Biblical principles for life.

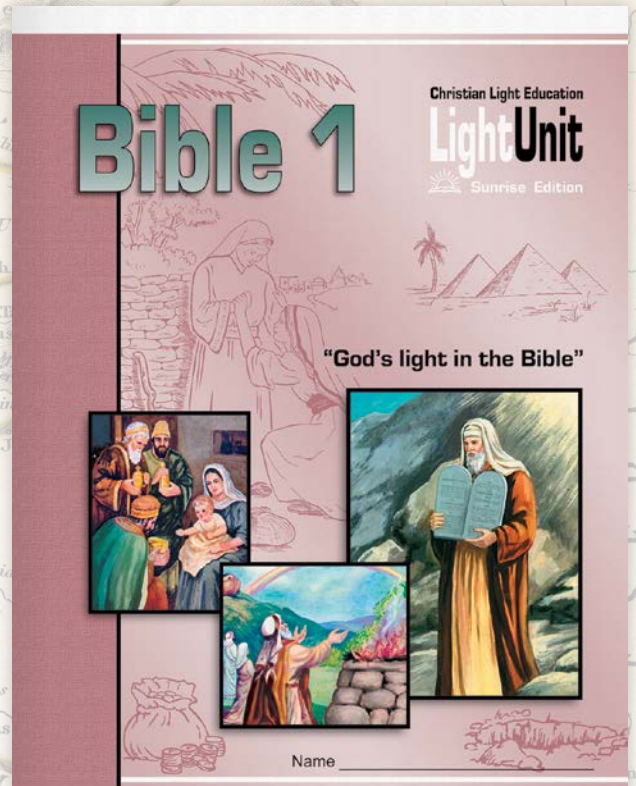
The goal of instructing children in the Scriptures is that they might set their hope in God (Psalm 78:1-7).

During the earliest years, we endeavor to familiarize students with Bible accounts and generate enthusiasm for God's story, laying a foundation for deeper understanding as students mature. Students are not tested in Grades 1 and 2 because the work is devotional rather than academic.

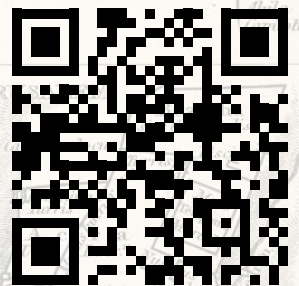
Lessons in Grades 3-6 are built on Bible stories retold in the student LightUnits. Students complete exercises, including working with maps of Bible lands. Most stories are illustrated with realistic pencil drawings.

In Grades 7 and 8, students study the New Testament, reading Scripture passages and interacting with what they read through commentary and exercises.

The Bible stories are the most wonderful retelling I have heard. I teach Sunday school and I have seen a lot. There is nothing better than Christian Light. –North Carolina



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# Still the Storm

Loreen Plett Zehr

"You ask about this picture all the time, Tina!" Mom exclaimed as Tina pointed to the drawing of the Man on the cross. "I don't know why they did it to Him. His name is Jesus. Now stop asking!"

Somberly Tina stared at the picture. The Man had died there on the cross. But why? For sin? What did that mean? Raised in an Old Colony Mennonite setting in Mexico, Tina faced many adversities, storms that threatened her quest for truth. Illiteracy. Abuse. Mockery. Drunkenness. Doubt. Tragedy. Would she ever find the One who holds the answers and stills the storms?

265535 **\$13.50** 397 pages, 5¼ x 9¼

