

Strawberries or Tobacco

#0977

Study by W. D. Frazee—May 13, 1966

“And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall also My servant be: if any man serve Me, him will my Father honour” John 12:23-26.

“And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto Me. This He said, signifying what death He should die” John 12:32-33.

What death *did* Jesus die? The death of the cross. If we're to meet Him, He invites us to meet Him at the cross. We just heard this message, “There's room at the cross for you.” There's room at the cross for you and me provided, dear friends, we will *come* to the cross and *take* the cross. We must share it with Jesus; that's what He's talking about. “...Where I am, there shall also My servant be.” If we're to be with Him yonder, we must first be with Him here. If we are to share His glory, we must share His cross. The crown comes *after* the cross.

You notice He says here that as the result of this program there will be much what? Much fruit. We may think of fruit as the golden grain of the wheat field, or we may think of fruit as the luscious strawberries gathered from the patch. We may think of fruit as the bushels of apples in the fall; the wine saps are delicious or Rome beauties. In whatever form we think of fruit, we think of harvest; we think of a completed cycle; we think of something *good* that we enjoy and that's good for us, right?

Jesus came to this world looking for fruit, my friends, but He knew that in order to have fruit, seed must be sown and that seed must what? Die. Die. That's what He says here:

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit” John 12:24.

Jesus wanted fruit so He died. Will He get fruit? Oh, yes. Do you want fruit? Yes. Well, you must meet Him at the cross and *you* must die. Then you can have fruit. "I am crucified with Christ..." Paul says in Galatians 2:20. "I am crucified with Christ..."

To die in this sense means to put self aside and that's why Jesus says here in the 25th verse, "He that loveth his life shall lose it." Do you love your life? Well, if you do, you're going to lose it. But if you'll give up your life for Jesus' sake, you'll get it back again and with it, a *multiplied* harvest. Fruit. Fruit.

Now, we've been studying for three weeks and when we first started, I thought surely we would be through this text before now but I must go back to it again tonight. The 62nd chapter of Isaiah and the first verse, and the 61st chapter of Isaiah and the last verse. Isaiah 62:1 and Isaiah 61:11. We'll read the one from Isaiah 61:11 first tonight because it fits right in with the opening text we have read from John:

"For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations" Isaiah 61:11.

God's program of righteousness by faith is like the garden. That's what this says, doesn't it? And it *is*, dear friends, and we've been studying that. The 62nd chapter of Isaiah which we have been looking at brings to our attention the longing desire, the *yearning* desire, of the Savior and of those who are heart-to-heart with Him, that this work of righteousness shall be accomplished, that the church shall appear free from all earthly entanglements, free from worldly influence, shall appear in the beauty of the Lord. Christ is centering His intercession in the Most Holy Place on that great day, and His children here below who are heart-to-heart with Him are joining in earnest prayer that Jesus will accomplish that work and that a church shall be ready for His appearing.

"How will it be done?" the question is. As the garden brings forth the things in it—that's the way it will be done, my friends, not by some sudden miracle, like the blooming of Aaron's rod. No. No.

Don't misunderstand me. It *is* a miracle. The work of grace is *always* a miracle. The growing of these strawberries is a miracle. Can *you* make them? Can you take water and soil and air and sunshine and make anything like this? You know you can't. Only God can do it, but God does it in cooperation with human endeavor, human labor, human effort. Am I correct? And any view of righteousness by faith which leaves the human participation out is simply misleading, my dear friends.

It's true that we can never do it without God. It's true that if we try to do one single part of it *alone*, there's no success in that at all. But it's also true while those who simply wait for God to do it all will come up missing. God does it, but He does it as men cooperate with Him. That's the lesson that we need to learn and that we need to be drilled in over and over again because there are all sorts of heresies and misleading

ideas on the right hand and on the left. And not on just one side; they're on *both* sides, my friends, of this narrow way that leads to life eternal.

Our text is clear:

“For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so [what does that word ‘so’ mean? In the same way.] the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations” Isaiah 61:11.

God gets the glory when we see this beautiful fruit. But oh, my dear friends, it is those who share with Jesus in the preparation of the soil, in the putting in of the plants, in caring for them, and finally in gathering the fruit—they are the ones who enter into the joy of the Lord, in the literal gardens, right down here in this world and in the spiritual gardens of our heart, our homes, and the church universal. Oh, what great privilege we have to be gardeners for God, my friends, laborers together with God, in growing wheat and corn and beans, in growing apples and pears and strawberries, and in growing the blessed fruits of righteousness and praise.

Turn to Galatians the fifth chapter this evening, and I'd like to notice the list of fruits that are spoken of here:

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance...”
Galatians 5:22-23.

Would you like some? Does that fruit look good to you? Here in the dish and here in the text—does it look good? Ah, my friends, it's sweet. You know, these strawberries, they just smell so wonderful. Some of you up here can smell them where you are and I'm smelling them as I talk. They give you an appetite! [Laughter.]

Shall I tell you an interesting experience that happened not too many miles from here, just over in Tennessee? Many years ago, it's been over fifty years ago now, a Seventh-day Adventist, trained at Madison, moved into a community to start a little self-supporting work for God. And of course, he had been trained to use agriculture. That's one of the reasons that the little school that was established there at Madison under the direction of the Lord's messenger was called the Nashville Agricultural and Normal Institute—it was to train farmers and teachers. And every farmer was to be a teacher, and every teacher was to be a farmer. So this man with his family and a few workers went out from Madison and moved into this community and do you know what they found in that community? Just about everybody was growing tobacco! It was a tobacco section.

Well, what's tobacco good for? Well, it's good to make money. The tobacco companies are proving that. If they can spend tens of millions of dollars for advertising,

you know there's money in tobacco. Well, there was money in tobacco back there and so these farmers were growing tobacco, tobacco, tobacco, tobacco. But of course these self-supporting Seventh-day Adventists had not come there to grow tobacco, had they? Oh no. And do you know what they started to grow? Strawberries. That's right. They started to grow strawberries. And I'll tell you something interesting: if you would go up in that community today at certain times of the year, you would find literally carloads of strawberries moving out of that area. You know something about it, don't you? As the result of one little group of workers coming in there and starting to grow strawberries, hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of farmers in that area today are growing strawberries, and it's recognized as one of the great strawberry centers. It started with that little Seventh-day Adventist self-supporting venture over 50 years ago.

Do you know what they did, friend? They didn't do a lot of preaching about it; they just went ahead and grew strawberries. Presently (I don't know how long it took) but somewhere along the line somebody looking over the fence said, "That looks like a good idea. It *smells* like a good idea. It *tastes* like a good idea," and he started to raise some.

Now if you and I are gardening for God, the greatest sermon we can preach, friends, is *not* with our words. It's with our lives, our actions. The strongest argument in favor of the Gospel is what? A loving and lovable Christian. I read that in this wonderful book, *Ministry of Healing*, page 470:

"The strongest argument in favor of the gospel is a loving and lovable Christian" *Ministry of Healing*, page 470.

The folks that started to raise these strawberries up there, they had read that. They had read something else in here too. This is where they got the idea of doing exactly what they did. You will find it on page 193 of this same book:

"Christian farmers can do real missionary work in helping the poor to find homes on the land and in teaching them how to till the soil and make it productive. Teach them how to use the implements of agriculture, how to cultivate various crops, how to plant and care for orchards.

"Let proper methods be taught to all who are willing to learn. If any do not wish you to speak to them of advanced ideas, let the lessons be given silently. Keep up the culture of your own land. Drop a word to your neighbors when you can, and let the harvest be eloquent in favor of right methods. Demonstrate what can be done with the land when properly worked" *Ibid.*, page 193.

You see it worked up there, friends, and it's affected, through its direct and indirect influence, thousands of people because this simple instruction was carried out.

Let's carry it out, agriculturally, in our little gardens. Let's carry it out in our heart gardens. What do you say, friends? It's possible to do too much talking, but it's impossible to have *too* successful a crop, my friend. That's just impossible, either in the garden or in our lives. That which speaks eloquently, this says, is the results. And if we have the results, our words can be fewer.

Let's look at these fruits here in Galatians. "The fruit of the Spirit is love..." Ah friends, a home where love is—how its influence radiates all around, doesn't it? And the more the poor, selfish, dark will is filled with the opposite, the more love shines in contrast, doesn't it? Jesus said a light is put on a candlestick so that those who come in may see the light. The light not only shines to those in the house, it shines out through the windows. Isn't that right? Someone has well said that all the darkness in this world cannot put out the light of a single candle. All the selfishness of this world can't quench the love of one loving heart. It cannot spoil the demonstration of one Christian home. So if we're growing strawberries, even if it's in a tobacco-growing neighborhood, let's keep on doing what? Growing strawberries! Wouldn't you say so?

What a sad thing it is to see somebody that's been growing strawberries year after year say, "Well, all the neighbors grow tobacco. I guess I'll have to grow tobacco too." You say, "Would anybody do that?" Well, I don't know about the tobacco and the strawberries, but I know it works that way, I'm sorry to say, in many other things. You know what I mean, don't you? If you don't, you ask Jesus. Have you ever started to do something that you knew God wanted you to do and then quit because other people didn't do it? Do you see? It may have been that God was counting on *you* to make that initial demonstration. Somebody in that community that I'm talking about had to be the *first* one that grew strawberries, and he had to keep on for a while too. Thousands today are thankful that he did.

Will you be the one in *your* home, in *your* neighborhood, in *your* community that will start doing something that Jesus said to do?

"If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them" John 13:17.

What a strange thing it would be if some neighbor came along who was growing tobacco and said to the man growing strawberries, "What's the matter with you? Can't you grow tobacco?"

Suppose he said, "Well, no, I can't. I know there's more money in it, but you know, our church frowns on tobacco, and so I just do the best I can with these." Wouldn't that be too bad?

How much better to say when somebody asks why you grow strawberries instead of tobacco, saying, "Well, in the first place, it *smells* better. (Laughter) In the second place, it *tastes* better. In the third place, it brings life and health instead of

disease and death.” Would all of those be good reasons? You might think of some more good reasons.

Oh friends, we should be ready always to give to every man that asketh us the reason of the despair that is in us. Is that what the text says? No. [Laughter.] The reason of the what? The *hope* that’s in us. Precisely so.

“The fruit of the Spirit is love”, what’s that next word? Joy! Joy? That’s right. That’s the fruit of the Spirit, just as good tasting as these beautiful, luscious, ripe red strawberries is this fruit of joy. And that’s the fruit of the what? The Spirit. If we will receive God’s Spirit into our hearts we too will have what? Joy!

“If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them” Ibid.

Now listen. Does somebody tonight say, “I hope not” and yet if that’s what in your mind, I hope you’ll come out with it. Listen, does somebody say, “Well, I’ve tried it and it doesn’t give *me* joy.”

Bless your heart, friend, I will just have to differ with you. You haven’t tried it. You haven’t tried it. You may think you’ve tried it. You may have something that somebody *told* you is it, but if it hasn’t brought you joy, you haven’t tried it, that’s all. How many of you agree with me that I’m telling the truth on that point. All right, well, the rest of you can find the truth too!

“The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy...” And I repeat, if you have tried what you think is the Spirit’s way, the Spirit’s life, and it hasn’t brought you joy, let us, I plead, let us help you to find the *real* thing. For His yoke is easy, His burden is light.

“Oh,” but you say, “Brother Frazee, I thought you read in the first text tonight that if we’re going to have fruit, we’ve got to *die*.” That’s right. “Well, how do you put that together?”

I tell you, it works fine if you just follow the recipe. It’s not only one way to do it—it’s the *only* way. The only way to get the joy of the Lord is to put to death the affections and lusts of this wicked, selfish heart. Selfishness doesn’t make people happy. It makes them greedy. They are wanting something all the time. But I see where the ads are recommending that if you deny yourself and eat Metri-cal at noon that you can indulge yourself at night and eat whatever you want. What a way to be happy—go all day denying yourself and then just gorge yourself at night and call that a *good* time!

Thank God, I know something better, friends. I can honestly say I enjoy every meal I eat. Can you? Well, if you can’t, friends, come and find out how.

“Ah,” but somebody says, “Oh, no. I’ve heard that if you come around *that* program you don’t get to eat so often.” (laughter)

Well, that's part of the secret, friends. Even strawberries, if you eat them all day, they don't taste so good after a while. Am I right? Sure, some of you know that's true. God's way is a wonderful way. God's program is a wonderful program. But as I told you last Friday night, don't worry about the things that are not clear. Just start doing what *is* clear and do it because you love Him and because He said so. You will find by experience what others have found by experience: truly, the light is sweet.

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace..." Peace in a war-filled, warring world. There is fighting over in Vietnam but if that were all the fighting, this would be a comparatively peaceful world. But there's fighting going on in every city in this world, my friends. Every Babylon and Sodom is full of strife—strife between class and class, race and race, the rich and the poor, fighting right in the homes of people. The very home that ought to be the sanctuary of love becomes a battlefield, sometimes right out in the open, sometimes a cold war of indifference. Oh friends, what a sad work. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace..."

Wouldn't you think that everybody would want to grow strawberries instead of tobacco? Wouldn't you? Well, do *you*? Do you like it? Do you like God's way, God's program? If you do, stick right to it and devote every square foot of your garden to something out of heaven. What do you say, friends? Don't make any room for the tobacco plant, even if all the neighbors grow tobacco. The more they raise, the less you need to raise, isn't that right? Sure! The world will do plenty to satisfy its desires for selfishness in its varied forms. But you and I, if we have been called to God's way must keep busy growing the flowers and the fruit of heaven. Nothing else? Nothing else.

What are we going to do with the weeds? Well, instead of a bowl of strawberries last Friday night, what did we have here? A hoe. Some of you remember it. How many of you have been using the hoe this week, may I see your hands? Isn't that fine? And if the rain will let us, we'll probably use the hoe again next week. Isn't that right, Brother Miller? ["That's right."] I'm sure we will. Well, why do we have to use the hoe? To keep out the weeds.

Listen: if a tobacco plant should happen to dare unfold its leaves in your garden, what would you do with it? Would you say, "Oh, look! We've got something just like the neighbors' now. Let's pet it and take care of it." Would you? What would you do? Cut it. Use the hoe. And we found that the hoe is what? The Word of God. "It is written" is the weapon with which to slay every plant.

Some plants have to be, not cut, but *pulled up*. You remember we noticed about Johnson grass. You can cut that, but what will happen? Why, it'll just start coming up again. It would laugh at you if it knew how to laugh. But here is the remedy for some of these things: Matthew the 15th chapter and the 13th verse. Use this method on some things where the hoe won't work:

"But He answered and said, Every plant, which My heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up" Matthew 15:13.

Girls, is the way your hair looks tonight, is that a plant of heavenly origin? Did you get that out of heaven? Well, if you did, then take care of it. But if you didn't get it out of heaven, what's a good thing to do with it? Root up that habit. That's right. What about the shoes on your feet, men, women, and children? Are they shoes that belong to the feet of the ransomed of the Lord? Do they help you in walking the path to heaven or did they come out of Paris and Hollywood? Do they belong to the dance halls of Sodom and Babylon? What about the books on the library table or in the bookcase? Are they books that lead to heaven or do they lead to the world? What about the music on the piano or on the record player? When you hear it playing, do you want to go to heaven or do you want to go to the 'bright spots' of this world: the nightclubs or the hillbilly assemblies or some other place? Are those fair questions?

You know, somebody would have said "Amen" if I had kept off of these practical points. As long as we deal with strawberries and don't tell just what 'strawberries' mean and what 'tobacco means, it's all right, isn't it? Well, friends, I'm not going to go through a long list tonight. I am talking tonight particularly about the importance of once we get hold of a good thing of sticking with it; that's my point, and not being bothered about what other people do, whether it's in diet or dress or music or reading or education or recreation or amusements or anything else. In our hearts, in our homes, let's rejoice to raise fruits, raise strawberries. What do you say, friend? Let's enjoy it because it was meant to be.

What a shame it would be if tomorrow when we come to the table somebody should give us a lecture on that we *must* eat strawberries, that we're going to get sick if we don't, that we might even be lost if we don't. Wouldn't that be too bad? Oh, no. You know what I find? I find that where people are enjoying strawberries, if anybody comes around, they hope they'll be invited to get some. If you and I will simply enjoy God's way of life, God's program of education, God's way of home life, God's way of recreation and amusement, God's way of enjoying ourselves—if we'll just enjoy it, and shall I say, smack our lips, you know, politely, but enough so that it's evident that we're enjoying it...

And listen, don't put it off. Oh, no. The veneer will be so thin it will show through fast. If you don't enjoy strawberries, don't make like you do. No. Go to God and pray until God gives you an experience, my friends. And if you don't know how to get it, let us help you. There are men and women here tonight, friends, that have been converted, thank God. That doesn't mean they're perfect, but it means they want to be perfect and it means that they want to get as far from this world as they can, and they want to grow the fruits and flowers of heaven. They've found what they want. They may not have all they want of it, but they're sure what they want: more and more and more and more. That's what it means to be converted. If you haven't been converted, you *can* be if you'll come and seek for it. Jesus is ready to save you.

But now here's some good news, friends, and whoever picked these strawberries would probably agree with me: God doesn't wait until we get a garden with absolutely

no weeds in it to give us some fruit. Correct? Aren't you glad? Wouldn't it be too bad if God should tell the angels, "Now hold back the fruit on the strawberries and hold back the lettuce and the carrots until those people down there, for six months, can keep every weed out of the garden." Does God do it that way? Oh, no. It would do what to us? Discourage us. And listen: God doesn't wait until you and I arrive at perfection before giving us *some* love and *some* joy and *some* peace. Am I correct? Yes! Just as soon as we give ourselves to God, He begins to work in our hearts this blessed work of righteousness.

Joy, and peace, and love... But listen, if we get presumptuous about that and say, "That's good news. I guess it doesn't make much difference whether we get the weeds or not..." Listen: every weed we let stay in there lessens the crop. Am I correct? And if we'll do enough of that presumption, pretty soon there won't be *any* crop. Am I correct in that? So let nobody be lulled to sleep. But on the other hand, thank God, friends, let's be of good courage. If we'll cut the weeds as we can, with the blessing of God, let's not get down and murmur and complain because we can't see that we are reaching perfection. Our righteousness is by *faith*. We believe that Jesus forgives our sins and covers us so that we are accepted just as if we had not sinned. Is that right? We also believe that He is working in us this blessed work of righteousness, and that He will finish what He has begun, and we're are going to hoe every day. We're going to pull up the Johnson grass, every plant which my heavenly Father hath not planted. And we're going to keep picking the fruit and enjoying it.

Now, we should turn over to John the 15th chapter and here's another wonderful verse on fruit—fruit from the garden, fruit from the vineyard, fruit from the orchard:

"Herein is My Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit..."
John 15:8.

Remember, the purpose of the garden is not primarily to slay weeds. The purpose of having a garden isn't to get an acre free of weeds. That isn't the purpose of the garden. The purpose of the garden is to have what? Fruit. The cutting of weeds is incidental. Any view of religion that thinks of it most of all in a *negative* way, of the things we *don't* do and *can't* do, is a very meager view. It's inadequate. It's not realistic, friends. The real purpose of religion is to grow fruit, just like a garden, the fruit of love, joy, peace and all these other precious fruits. So don't keep the mind concentrated on the weeds. If you see one, cut it. But keep the mind concentrated on the carrots and the lettuce, on the apples, the strawberries. Am I correct, friends? Overcome evil with good. And "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit." Much love? Oh, yes. Much joy? Yes. Much peace? Thank God. Much long suffering? Enough so you can even sit through breakfast where somebody has been unfortunate enough to burn the toast without losing your temper? Have you that much long suffering? Well, if you have, friends, be thankful! Be thankful. But you can have still more than that. There is more for you, plenty more where that came from. "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit." Think of it, friends. Did Jesus, when He was here, exhibit a longsuffering that even when they spit in His face, pulled His hair,

crowned Him with thorns, beat Him, kicked Him, scourged Him, and crucified Him—did He still exhibit love, mercy, forgiveness, long suffering? Did He? Oh friends, I want to grow that kind of fruit, don't you? Much fruit, much fruit. And if all around us are growing the brambles of hate and meanness and criticism and gossip and faultfinding, that's no reason for *me* to have any, is it? The more brambles around us, the more so the lilies need to grow, the more some beautiful flower needs to unfold its petals. Thank God, friends, for every Christian heart and every Christian home in this world that's exhibiting the beauty of holiness amid the surrounding apostasy.

By the way, you who have *Selected Messages*, book 2, read that expression on page 380. It's wonderful. It says:

“The remnant that purify their souls by obeying the truth [gather strength from the trying process, exhibiting] the beauty of holiness amid the surrounding apostasy” *Selected Messages*, Volume 2, page 380.

They are growing flowers when there are brambles all around. They are growing strawberries in communities that are full of tobacco. And they are not apologetic for it. They don't feel deprived or underprivileged. Oh, no. They are thankful—thankful to God for the privilege.

But now, look a little further at this text:

“Herein is My Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be My disciples” John 15:8.

Fruit-bearing in the Christian garden is not merely the development of the graces of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, and so forth. It is the winning of souls. The Christian is bearing fruit to the glory of God when he gets other souls into the experience with him. And God wants you in your garden to be growing not only fruits in your own life; He wants you to be bringing disciples to Jesus.

Don't think you have to wait a long time. Here is something you can start right in at, glory be to God! You don't to wait until you get every weed cut. You should be *willing* to cut every weed, but look at Andrew. The first day he met Jesus he was out after another man. What was his name? Peter. Who was Peter? His brother. The next day Jesus called Philip, and Philip right away, as he answered the call, he thought about a friend of his named who? Nathanael. And he ran over there where he and Philip had been praying under the fig tree and he said, “Nathanael, we have found Him. Come and see.”

Oh, my friends, if you are in the thrill of your first love, never lose it. Start in bringing men to Christ right now. Let nothing else divert you. Let no offer of money keep you from the real gold that is going to shine through eternal ages. And let no tobacco crop with all its money appeal keep you from growing the strawberries of blood-

bought souls for eternity. “Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit...” Devote the life to these two things—to seeking from Jesus every day the graces of the Spirit in your life, and then to devote your time to winning others to this same blessed way.

Shall we pray?

Oh, my Father, thrill our hearts with the glorious privilege of being gardens for God. May we, like Jesus, fall into the ground and die that there may be an abundant harvest, that there may be much fruit. May our selfish plans, our worldly ways, our human desires, be put aside, and may we from this moment live for one thing and one only—to please the One who gave everything for us. For His sake. Amen.

Now the book, *That I May Know Him*, page 218:

“God wants you to let Him manage you, that you may be a lovable Christian. The Lord would have the natural and hereditary traits of character come under the pruning knife”
That I May Know Him, page 218.

Back to the garden, you see. You have to prune if you want fruit, don’t you?

“All who would win souls to Christ must be winsome” *Ibid.*,
page 218.

Let’s be willing to be pruned, friends. Even some good things have to be pruned off, things we can’t see anything bad about. Let’s be willing to be pruned, what do you say, so we can bear fruit. And remember, this says that “all who would win souls must be winsome.”

I remember Dr. Harding of Loma Linda University. He was giving a study on health and he brought out this point. “Now,” he says, “what’s the real purpose of all this?” Well, it’s to be like Jesus and to help others. “Now,” he said, “tell me: if a person has been eating white bread all the time, if they learn that whole wheat bread is better and they start in to eat whole wheat bread,” he said, “tell me, should they be easier to live with or harder to live with than they were before?” “Now,” he said, “if you started to eat whole wheat bread and you’re harder to live with than you were before, maybe you need to go back to eating white bread!” Something to think about, friends. Something to think about.

Oh, I thank God that eating strawberries... Oh! I was about to say it ought to make people happy. What do *you* say? I think if they really get strawberries, it will. But just quitting tobacco in itself doesn’t make people happy. You have to put something in its place, don’t you? Yes, otherwise you’d... You know... It isn’t just a matter of food; it’s satisfaction, friends. That’s what people smoke for—they want to get some satisfaction. The satisfaction they get is an illusion; it’s a *delusion*; but they feel it

nevertheless. That's what they get from whiskey. That's what they get from movies. That's what they get from most of these TV programs. It's an imaginary, fictitious sensation. But oh, the *real* thing, if we get it, will make us happy. Somebody else has found it true? To the glory of God? Yes, Sister Johnson? [She shares a short testimony.]

Praise the Lord, Sister. I know that's just what He's got you doing.

And over a few miles west of here, with a 5-day plan... Go ahead; tell us, Sister. We'll enjoy it.

[Sister shares testimony.] The last 5-day plan I attended was the first one in Hartford, Connecticut, and a minister friend of mine, Elder Mills, some of you might be acquainted with him, really had wonderful success there working with the Lord. The first night, 130 people turned out and by the time the 5-day plan was through, 100 had stuck with him and 80 had quit tobacco! Why, that was in my mind, you know. [Laughter.]

Going back in here through the hollows and highways and byways, tobacco has always been the question. Many people have told me that they would *like* to quit. Now *that* was in my mind too. So showing the children at some films, I asked them, "Well, who would like for your mother and daddy to know how to quit and to get some help?" Well, *every* hand went up, 130 children you know, and that was in my mind. [Laughter.]

"Well," I thought, "that will work now. We'll start a 5-day plan." Asking anybody, nobody had seen the 5-day plan, but I knew that we could get the film so, working together with the Temperance Department, we planned it up and the teachers' advisors were *very* enthusiastic. "Yes, fine, you can come to schools and we'll bring our husbands and we'll bring this one..." "Well," I said, "that's grand!" So writing up a letter and sending it to every child, to the parents, and putting an ad into the Japanese paper (somebody more or less thought I was very unwise to make so much publicity because we only had about 50 chairs available).

Well, I was wondering now, "What is going to happen?" and so they came with their projectors and the film, and we waited and we waited... And just two days before, I had been in Kentucky and had a wonderful experience, but I had forgotten that after the mountaintop there is usually a valley to go through and I didn't count on that on Monday here. The night came. On time (I) was here. Nobody was there. We waited 5 more minutes, 10 more minutes, 15 more minutes; nobody came. There was *nobody* there.

Well, I was slightly deflated by then. [Laughter.] And so, all at once I said, "You come up in the car and we go after them." And I know somebody wanted to come and just mentioning to her, I said, "You know, I'm a little bit disappointed." So very quickly she said, "You know, the Lord has a lesson in every experience." Well, what was the lesson? I asked the Lord, "Now what is the lesson you want me to learn from this?"

Finally we got one man to come out and I was so happy, never mind he had seen it before. One man was enough and oh, we really enjoyed, you know, catered to him. [Laughter.] ... We took him home, and his dear wife is dying of cancer, and we had been seeing them, the folks, several times.

I asked him, "Would you like to come back tomorrow?" "Yes, yes," and he seemed to enjoy it. Well, the next day I thought, I knew I had to do something and go after them and just go and visit and I visited till I nearly dropped that night.

And now who will come? One family had promised me; they wanted to come so badly, and she needed it because she had a heart condition. She had quit already, coughing. She was very enthusiastic; perhaps her heart felt better. But you know, a shower kept her from coming the first night.

Well, the next night I was very, very on her heels, you know, that they were going to come. Well, sure enough, here they came, bringing some young people and some from the school that had been smoking there in the sixth grade classroom. There were about seven young people that had been smoking, so I went to the school and encouraged them and the teachers.

"Yes, well, my husband doesn't want to come," "this one doesn't want to come," and so it went one after the other. Well, finally the second night we had out this family and about three teenagers, and some of her children there and another man from the hollow. Well, we were happy they were surely coming nightly and as I said, we didn't think of the hundred anywhere before. We were just glad that we had this many.

And the third day, well, there were even more coming, more children this time too, but never mind. A teenager was there that said she knew Alexis. Well, I know Mother should see this and Dad, but mother was smoking secretly and she never wanted her husband to know that she never came. But her son was the one that came that had smoked cigars and so the third night, again I went out all day and I found out already you have to go shortly before the program and sure enough, Satan just trying to keep them at home, with visitors and so on... Well, I tell you, you have to *compel* them to come in and literally drag and just follow the cow [laughter] so that they really got there.

And sure enough, they came and the last night the Lord blessed. We had ten adults and eight children, some of them from the school. But the children that came the night before, I scared the parents because I took them home to the wrong place and so the mother was sure to come the next night. [Laughter.] So we had quite a nice group out the last night and Mr. Jones, the one that I am working with the family, he said he quit. Right from the first day he quit, but his wife said, "You know, I'm so nervous, I can't quit; he nags me all the time."

Well, now we have to work with them and of course, with this type of people, you have to be close by with them day after day, encouraging them. Well, I found out today

that they have a greater problem, but they wanted to come in. They want to know about the Lord more and they want to change their habits of living. So I know the Lord is opening the doors and Brother Jacobson has talked to this Mr. Jones and said, "You know, we have 1500 people on the job, and I think if you talk to the men in charge, you can get that program to show right on the job." Now we're going right to the job next week and maybe instead of 100, we might have 1500 next time. So the Lord was good to us and I was very much encouraged after last night.

Elder Frazee: Thank you for that good report. Very realistic, folks. Who else?
[Tape ends.]

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