



Puppy-Puppy

Mrs. Grady lived high up in the San Jacinto Mountains in Idyllwild, California. She loved dogs and had two of her own. She took good care of her pets, but a nearby neighbor had several unlicensed dogs which were allowed to run loose.

This neighbor's dog had a large litter of puppies, among

which was a friendly little female puppy. Mrs. Grady often saw this puppy sitting outside, cold and hungry. She would call, "Here puppy, here puppy," and when the puppy came running, she would give her some food. The puppy grew to be a beautiful, friendly dog, but she had never been given a name. She often came to Mrs. Grady's home for treats, and when it was cold or rainy outside, she would stay in the house all night. As Mrs. Grady continued calling to her, "Here puppy-puppy, here puppy-puppy," it soon became the name everybody used for

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Messages
of God's Love

“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are My friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.” John 15:13-14



A Verse to Memorize

her. She had a name at last: Puppy-Puppy.

Most children are given a name soon after they are born. Not only do their parents know their names, but the Lord Jesus knows each one of their names too, because He loves all children. The Bible tells us that He is the Good Shepherd, and “He [calls] His own sheep by name...and...they know His voice” (John 10:3-4). Are you one of His own sheep, and do you know His voice?

When Puppy-Puppy was two years old, Mrs. Grady’s neighbor’s dog had another litter of puppies. **In that litter there was one little puppy which soon became Puppy-Puppy’s best friend.** They were always running and playing together.

When the new little puppy was about five months old, there was a terrible scare in that neighborhood. A large, hungry mountain lion, which weighed almost 200 pounds, came down into Idyllwild and caught several little dogs.



Mountain lions sleep during the day and prowl in search of food at night. **A mountain lion is very strong and moves about quietly looking for food.** It is also very quick and suddenly leaps on its prey, killing it, and then carrying it off to its den.

One night when Puppy-Puppy was sleeping at Mrs. Grady’s home, the dog became very restless and excited. She ran to the door and scratched frantically to get out. Mrs. Grady knew something was very wrong, and so she let Puppy-Puppy out.

The dog ran furiously to her home. There was the mountain lion, crouching and creeping slowly towards the sleeping little puppy. The neighbor saw it and threw a pop can at the mountain lion to scare it off, but it didn’t work. It didn’t even flinch. Just then Puppy-Puppy arrived and ran between the mountain lion and her little puppy friend. Instantly the lion grabbed Puppy-Puppy and hurried off to its den.

We can be touched by love like this that one animal can have for another animal, but it is just a faint picture of the love that the Son of God had for you, when He died on the cross to save you from the just result of your sins. “The Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me” (Galatians 2:20). The Lord Jesus said, “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13). **He has this great love for you! Do you believe it?**



SHIMBI

Many years ago, we pitched camp near a river in Africa where there was a group of villages. We wanted to bring the good news of salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ to these Africans, some of whom had probably never heard of His great love.

The caravan was rather large. Many things had to be taken with us. In those days there were no stores along the roads. Food for a three-week trip plus all we needed for camping and cooking had to be carried with us.

After the tents were pitched and before it got dark, the helpful carriers went into the forest to find wood to build a fire for everyone to sit around. Each man brought a long log and piled it on top of others until the pile was three or four feet high. **What a big fire it made!**

Messengers went to the villages inviting the people to come hear words read from God's Book. When they would see the flames of fire (which could be seen a long way off), they were to come to the meeting.

The dry logs soon burned down to bright red ashes. It was an interesting sight to see the people come. The men came with a blanket draped over one shoulder, the women carried babies on their backs, and children ran happily beside them. While waiting for the meeting to begin, little girls sat close to the missionary, chattering about lots of things. They also liked to peek into the tents to see all the things we had, many of them so strange to them.

When all were seated around the warm ashes, the missionary stood up, started a well-known hymn, prayed and read a chapter from the book of Mark. (Mark was the only part of the Bible translated into their language at that time.)

He spoke faithfully to the people about the love of God in sending the Lord Jesus Christ into this world to die for sinners. On the cross He was punished for the sins of all who would accept Him as their Savior. The missionary explained that each of them was a sinner and that without Christ they would not go to heaven.

There did not seem to be much response at the meeting. But a happy surprise awaited us the next morning. A young boy came to the tent door. Greeting us by clapping his hands together and saying the usual "mutende" (peace), he said he wanted to believe. He had not been able to come to the evening meeting, so came in the morning. His name was Shimbi. He not only wanted to accept the Lord Jesus as his Savior, but he wanted to attend the boys' school on the mission station so he could learn to read. He wanted to be able to read God's Book.

Sure enough, when school opened, he was there. He was a bright pupil and told others in the village about the Lord Jesus. His sister came to the mission station saying she also wanted to believe. She said, "Shimbi has believed, and I do not want to be left out."

Perhaps you have heard the gospel many times. Have you accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior as Shimbi did? **Accept Him now!** Soon it will be too late. Don't wait any longer. God loves you and wants you to be saved. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and [you will] be saved" (Acts 16:31).



Some Amazing Fish (Part 1)

“In six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is.” Exodus 20:11

There are over 34,000 species of fish in the world, and new ones are being discovered all the time. All have been designed by the Creator for the particular part of the ocean, river or lake in which they live, so that they may find food and resist their enemies.

Among these are about 80 kinds of South and Central American freshwater fish that have built-in electricity.

Some of these that live in deep, dark waters can turn headlights and tail-lights on and off as they swim. Others, contacting an enemy fish or one they want for food, turn on a powerful electric current to stun or kill the fish.

Still others in this group, swimming in waters too dark to see through, send out electric signals (like radar) and find their way without difficulty. Some talk to each other through this means. A little three-incher has the appropriate name of *flashlight fish*. When chased by an enemy, it swims in a zigzag pattern, turning on a light located near its eye while “zigging” and turning it off when “zagging.”



Did You Know?
Some fish use electric signals to find their way.



Orange Sea Dragon

This completely baffles the enemy which doesn't know where it will show up next and eventually gives up the chase.

One of the strangest of all fish is the orange *sea dragon*, related to the sea horse. The sea dragon is well-named. Seen from the side, it has a horny head with bulging eyes. Its narrow, wavy body twists into odd shapes as it swims. Then it has growths all down its long, snake-like tail with similar growths along the top and bottom of its body. This whole design makes it look like a dragon or piece of seaweed drifting in the current. When the female lays eggs, she drops them on a sticky part of the male. He carries them around for many days before they hatch and leave him.

The nine- to twelve-inch bat-fish walks and sits like a toad and almost looks like one as it crawls along the ocean floor. It is covered with what look like bony warts all over its skin. When resting, it uses its flippers like elbows, its head lifted up and supported by them.

Many of these fish appear to be completely hidden in the dark, deep homes they occupy. But

a Bible verse asks these questions: “Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the Lord. Do not I fill heaven and earth?” (Jeremiah 23:24).

Another verse speaks more plainly about people: “His eyes are upon the ways of man, and He [sees] all his goings” (Job 34:21). When we think of this, it should make us try to please Him in all that we do.

(to be continued)

