

Children's Lesson
By: Mrs. Kate Trotter

Being Grown Up



Mahomet, Illinois
November 20, 2005



Oh God, we thank You so much for the word for the children. We thank You that You love these children so much that You are faithful to give each one who does the children's word, a word every week to bring to them. We thank You that You want to speak to them; that Your desire is for them to grow up in You. We thank You, oh God. We ask that You would anoint my lips, we ask that You would cleanse this vessel that I would be able to speak what You want me to speak to these children. We also ask that they would be able to hear and understand. God, I pray that You would open their ears and their hearts that they would hear with their ears and understand with their hearts. In Jesus' name, amen.

Let us praise the Lord, children. Are you ready? Get rid of all your jitters, all of your, "I have to do this. I have to do that. I have to play with my friend next to me. I have to jump around in my seat. Oh, and, oh boy, I get to wear a necklace today and I need to show it to the girls I am sitting with!" Let us get rid of all of it by shaking off our hands and then... What do we do? We get our hands up in the air to praise the Lord and we tell Him that we love Him. That is what we are doing. We are not telling everybody else around us. We are telling the Lord. The oth-

ers get to hear it with us, don't they?

Children: One, two, three - Praise the Lord, I love You, Jesus! I will obey You, Jesus!

Mrs. Trotter: Sit down, please. Is everybody ready for the word? I did not get to hear what was spoken last week so I cannot review with you. We will go right into what I am going to share with you this week.

The funny thing is, I was on a trip. When I got home from the trip on Tuesday night, I remembered it was my week to do the children's word. I like to have time to plan, but I had forgotten that it was my time. So right away I said, "Oh God, I have to know what You want me to do for the children's word." Do you know He was very quick to answer me? Sometimes He makes me wait. But this time He was so fast! Right away, He gave me a verse from I Corinthians 13:11, *When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.*

Can I have Asher come up, please? Asher, can you say hello to everyone? We all heard him talking before we started the children's word, didn't we? He says things like a baby says, doesn't he?

Could I have Mr. Peckmann come up, please? I just want you all to see it. I would like both Mr. Peckmann and Asher to stand side by side. We have tall Mr. Peckmann and we have short Asher. Which one is the man? Point at him, please. Who then is the child? Are they different? They are very different, aren't they? They are different, for example, in size. Also, Mr. Peckmann does not talk like Asher, does he?

Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter: How does Mr. Peckman talk? He talks like a man. He says words; he does not say, "aowa," does he?

What else is different about Mr. Peckman?

Children: He is bigger. He is older.

Mrs. Trotter: Does he eat the same way Asher does? Do you think he is as messy as Asher is when he eats?

Children: No!

Mrs. Trotter: Not nearly. Neither will he suck his thumb or chew on his finger. He probably knows how to read, too. Does Asher know how to read?

Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter: Mr. Peckmann knows how to write. He knows how to talk. He has manners. But babies most often do not have manners, do they? Mr. Peckmann knows when to go to bed at night. But the babies do not know when to go to bed unless their mommies put them down. Everything about Mr. Peckman is very much different than Asher, isn't it? Asher is a child; Mr. Peckman is a man. Thank you very much. You both may sit down now.

Do you remember the verse that I read? *When I was a child, I spake as a child... That is talking as a child. ...I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.* When you think of this verse, do you think God wants you to grow up? Does He want

you to stay children forever? No. He made you to grow up. He did not make you to stay a baby.

Now, when I was little, there was a commercial on

TV and on it they sang a song that said, "I don't want to grow up!" They would sing it over and over and over again, "I don't want to grow up! I don't want to grow up!" They wanted to stay a child. They wanted to stay a little boy or a little girl. But God does not want you to stay a little boy or a little girl. He wants you to grow up and become an adult.

What does it mean to become a man? When are you a man? Now, for girls you understand it is a grown up woman. When?

Child: When you are twelve.

Child: When you take up more responsibility.

Child: When you are more mature.

Child: When you are eighteen.

Mrs. Trotter: There you go. That is what I was looking for; when you are eighteen. When I was little, I thought, "When I am eighteen, it means I am a grown up." Then when I got a little bigger, I realized that eighteen was not quite that grown up. I thought, "When I get married, then I will be a grown-up." Yet, when I got married, I realized, "When I have kids, I am going to be a grown-up." But that is not it at all. Becoming a certain age is not growing up. You cannot say, "OK, when I am sixteen, that is the day I become a grown-up." Being a grown-up is not to get married or have a family. It is when you become mature. Then you are finally grown up.

Now, let us keep talking about it so we

I don't want to grow up



can start to understand what that means. What if my body grows up and I still talk like Asher? Is there something wrong? Can my body grow up and I still act like a child?

Children: Yes.

Mrs. Trotter: It sure can. When I become a man, I am supposed to put away childish things. But what if I grow up and I choose not to put them away? I would be grown up yet still act like a little kid. That can happen and it is kind of scary.

We know that our bodies grow up, because that is the first thing we can see. We go from a little tiny baby into a big man like Mr. Peckmann. But let us think about how our soul grows up now that we have looked at our bodies. What are the four parts of your soul?

Children: Mind, emotions, desires and will.

Mrs. Trotter: When you grow up and become a man in your soul, that means when your soul grows up and is not like a little baby anymore, there is a control that you are going to have. Let us think about your mind, what

you think about. You guys think about all sorts of things, don't you? Lots of imaginations, right? Toys and playing and what I am going to be when I grow up and all the

things that I can do outside instead of my school that is right here in front of me. Everything! Your mind goes all over the place. But when you grow from a little baby to a grown-up, you are supposed to be able to control that mind and say, "No, I am learning my memory verse right now and I am not going to think about anything else. No matter how good the candy in the kitchen is, I am not thinking about it, I am going to think about my memory verse right now. Do you see it?



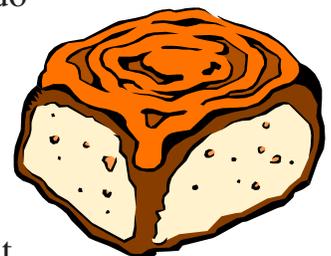
You can begin to control what your mind is going to do. It cannot just go all over the place and think about whatever it wants; you have to make it think properly.

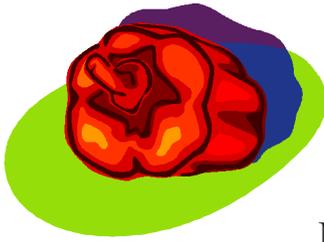
You also cannot think about bad things. Sometimes when your soul is not grown up, it is very easy to think about bad things all the time. You can think bad things about being mean to your brother and bad things about all sorts of things. But when your soul begins to grow up, you can control it so that you do not think bad things. You can say, "I am not going to think that bad thing about Caroline. She is a wonderful girl that God made and I am not going to think a bad thought about her."

Let us see: your emotions. Now, you guys know what baby emotions are like, right? When a baby does not get its way, what does he or she do? They cry, "Waaaaaah, I want it my way!" When they are really little and they cannot talk, they just scream real loud. We have all heard babies screaming and throwing their fits, right? Those are emotions that are not under control. They are little baby emotions; they are not grown up emotions. When you get to be grown up in your body, God wants also your soul to be grown up so that you do not do that with your emotions at all.

Then there is our will, what we decide to do with ourselves. When you are little and Mommy says, "We are going to do this today," and you say, "No, I will not do it! My will, my way, I am not doing your will, your way," that is a baby will; that is not a grown-up. When your baby will grows up, you do not do that any more. You say, "God, I want Your will, Your way, not my will, my way every day."

Now, what about





what you want - your desires? I will tell you the truth: last night for dinner I wanted some of Aunt

Melissa's cinnamon rolls instead of dinner. Do you think that was a good desire?

Children: Yes!

Mrs. Trotter: No, it was not! My body does not need sweets and treats for dinner, does it? It really needs something good to put in it, like stuffed peppers. My daddy said I was not eating a cinnamon roll for dinner, I was having stuffed peppers. Now, that was my desires saying, "I want baby desires. I do not want grown up desires. I want to have what I like and what I want and I want to have it now. I want candy for breakfast, candy for lunch and treats for dinner. Do not make me eat vegetables!" That is where your desires come into play. For example, I want something at the store. My mommy will not give it to me so my baby desires go, "Waaaah, I want that! Give it to me! Buy it for me! Get it for me!" My baby desires also say, "I do not want to go to bed. I want to stay up late. I want to do what big people do," while little bodies need more sleep than big bodies because they must grow and so they must go to bed earlier. Grown-up desires say, "I want what God wants for me, where He wants me to be, what He wants me to do and what He want me to have. I want that."

So we see our body grows up from babies to grown-ups. We see our souls grow up from babies to grown-ups. What else do we see as Christians? Christians have to grow up, too. God made a certain building to show us how to grow up. What building is it?

Children: The Tabernacle!

Mrs. Trotter: That is right, children. It is the Tabernacle. This is the building that God made to show us how to grow up as

Christians. What part of the Tabernacle are we found at when we are baby Christians?

Children: The Outer Court.

Mrs. Trotter: It is called the Outer Court. Maybe as a young person we are in the first room, which is called the Holy Place.

Then, when we grow up to be a perfect man, we are in the Holy of Holies. It is when you become a son of God and you are like

God. So, you start as babies and you grow up as you go through the Tabernacle.

Have you ever thought about where you are in your growing up? Let us have Georgia stand right here and let us have Moriah stand right here and let us have Katie stand right here in the middle. They are all at different stages of growing up, aren't they? Little, bigger, biggest - they are all in different stages. But they are not yet a full grown-up, are they? Have you ever thought about where you are? You know you are not a grown-up, but you sure should not act like Asher anymore, because you are much older than he is. Thank you, girls, you may sit down now.

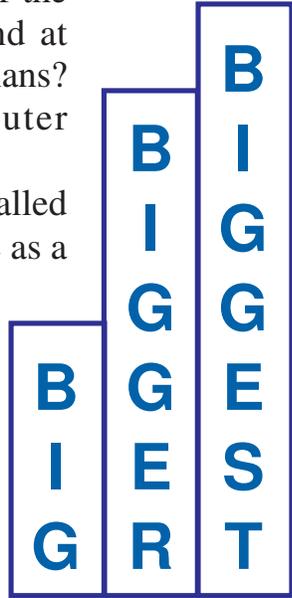
So, you are somewhere in the middle. How about with your soul? Are you a grown-up with your soul yet?

Children: No!

Mrs. Trotter: Do you have it under control?

Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter: Are you doing everything right with your soul?



Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter: Does sometimes your mind think, “I just want to daydream instead of doing my school,” and you cannot make it stop?

Children: Yes.

Mrs. Trotter: Are your emotions grown up all the way?

Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter: No, but they are probably not screaming every thirty minutes anymore, are they?

Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter: I hope not. Is your will all the way grown up? Or, do you sometimes still want to have your way?

Children: Yes.

Mrs. Trotter: Sometimes I still want to have my way and that is not acceptable either. That means my emotions are not all the way grown up. Are your desires all the way grown up?

Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter: No, you are still working on all those things that you want to be and that you want to have. You still find yourself saying, “I want that new doll from that American Girl magazine that has all the pretty dresses and that is all I want. I want that, I want that, I want that and I do not care that it is not supposed to be!”

How about in the Tabernacle? As Christians, are you completely grown up? Are you all the way to the end in the Holy of Holies?

Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter:
No, but if you have

been born again, you are somewhere in the Outer Court. It is hard to say where you are in the Tabernacle. It is hard to say, “I am standing right here at the Brazen Altar. I am totally done dying to sin. I am not going to have any more of that sin problem at all.”



Or, it is hard to say, “I am here at the Brazen Laver. I am totally done dying to self. I do not need to have any more baptisms, because I have got them checked off.” It is hard to say, “I am completely done. I am baptized in water, I am baptized in the Holy Ghost, I have been baptized into Christ and I am totally done.”

But what if we decide we have gotten born again, we have had our baptism in water, because we knew God wanted us to get baptized in water, and now we are happy. We do not need anything else. We say, “I am all done. I do not need to do anything other than go to church and tell people I was born again and baptized and that is it.” Are we all grown up?

Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter: Did we finish our course?

Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter: Did we get to the end?

Children: No.

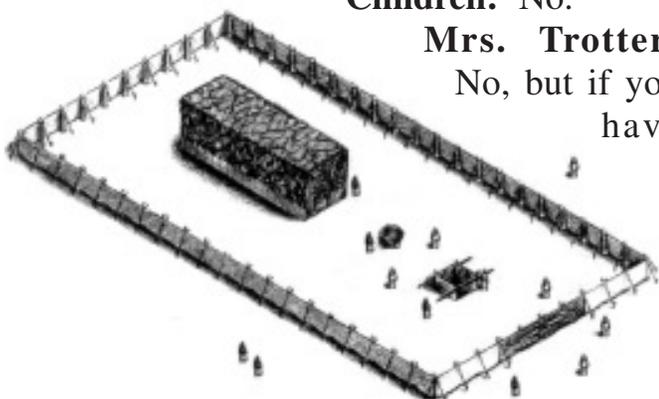
Mrs. Trotter: Does God want us to get to the end?

Children: Yes.

Mrs. Trotter: He sure does. So, if we get an attitude where we do not have to do anything more because we got baptized in water and that is all we are doing, are we all the way grown up into a perfect man?

Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter: No, we are not. We stay somewhere in the middle, don't we? We are then like these girls here. They are not babies anymore, but they are not grown-ups ei-



ther. So, God says He does not want us to be happy staying ten years old. He wants us to grow all the way up.

What is the next place in the Tabernacle that we would need to go to grow up more? What is that place called?

Children: The Golden Lampstand.

Mrs. Trotter: Yes! We walk through another entrance into the Holy Place and we see that first we go to the Golden Lampstand. Here we learn how God flows through us and shines out of the midst of us. He begins to work in us and we begin to be a light to all those in the world.

Let us see where we would need to go next. We need to go next to the Table of Shewbread. That is the next piece of furniture in the Tabernacle. There we begin to learn what it means to feed on Christ, to see God moving in the world and in the midst of us, to fellowship properly with the brethren and to feed on His Word all the time. If we do not begin to do that, have we grown all the way up?

Children: No.

Mrs. Trotter: No, we still are somewhere in the middle. Let us see what is next. Does anyone know?

Children: The Golden Altar of Incense.

Mrs. Trotter: Very well. What do we do at the Golden Altar of Incense? We offer our soul. Our soul has to be grown up, though. You cannot offer your soul when it is still a baby. It would be all dirty, wouldn't it? We

have to get our soul to grow up as Christians so that we can come to this place where we offer our whole self to God.

What happens then? We grew up. We go in to the Holy of Holies inside the Taber-

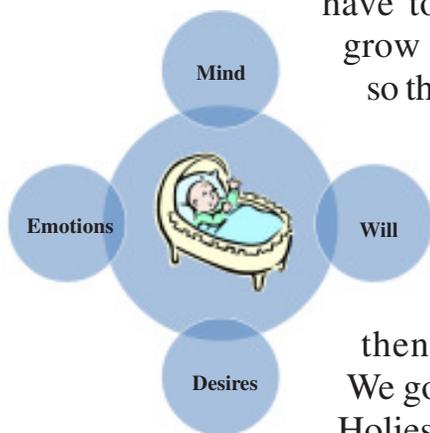
nacle where the Mercy Seat and the Ark of the Covenant are and we become that perfect man that God is asking us to be. We are no longer babies. We are no longer in the middle. We are no longer saying, "I am done. I only want to have my baptism in water and I do not really care about anything else anymore because I got it." God wants us to have more. He wants us to grow all the way up like Mr. Peckmann is grown all the way up. He says, "Come with me all the way through to the end. Go through all the places in the Tabernacle until you are just like Me." It is hard to tell where we are at in the Tabernacle, isn't it? It is hard to say, "I am right here in the middle." But what we know is that no one has reached the end yet.

Child: Except for Jesus.

Mrs. Trotter: Except for Jesus, that is right. He

went in so that we all could go in, too. We do not want to be found outside here. We want to be in the end where we are covered up, where we are like God. But we are not there yet. Do we even care that we are not there? Some days we do not care. Some days we want what we want. Some days we want to do what we want to do. Some days we want to have fits. Some days we just do not care. Some days we live and say, "Well, I read my Bible and I did pray this morning. So, I am all done for the day," until it is bedtime and then we pray again. Or, "I am done being a Christian until it is lunch time and it is my turn to pray. Then I will think about God again and I will think about being a Christian again for a minute until we are done praying." But God does not want us to be like that.

What do you do if you do not care? What



do you do if you are not worried about it? What do you do if you are not at the end and you know that you need to be at the end, but you just do not really think about it very much? My daddy told me when I was probably sixteen that if I did not care, but knew that I needed to be something more than what I was already that I needed to pray and ask God to give me that desire. It is a funny prayer, isn't it? "God, I really do not want anything right now so I am asking that You put in me a desire to make me want it, to make me want You, to make me to want to be like You." Isn't that a funny prayer?

So, I started praying and said, "Well, God, my daddy says I need to ask You that I would have a desire to be like You, a desire to be in the end of the Tabernacle and not at the beginning, a desire to not be a baby, but a grown up. Can you please put that desire in me?" The next day I did not feel any different. I wondered about that, but my daddy said I needed to pray some more. So I prayed and I prayed. Sometimes I would not remember to pray and then I would remember again. But I would know I was not living to be a grown up, I was living to be a child and stay a baby. Yet I would pray again and God began to put a little desire in my heart and that desire grew. It grew from a little baby desire and it is still growing every day.

Do you children have that desire? Not really? Some days it is like, "I do not care," and some days it is, "Yes." Do you think we could pray right now and ask God to give us that desire? Go ahead and bow your heads.

God, You see these little children and you see their baby



desires. You see how they want to be what they want to be and how they want to do what they want to do. God, we pray that You would begin to plant in each and every one of them a desire to serve You and follow after You.



God, I pray that You would plant that desire in them that it would grow from a little, tiny flame into a bigger and bigger flame every day, that they would begin to truly desire to be what You want them to be, to be a grown-up in the Kingdom of God. Not a little child any more, not a baby, but a grown-up, a perfect man like Jesus Christ was. God, we just pray that You would begin to plant this desire in their souls, that they would not forget about You, but each and every day they would remember to cry out to You, "God, give me that desire so that I would really, really want to be a grown-up in Your Kingdom." In Jesus' name, amen.

The Bible verse that I want to read last is found in Ephesians 4:13-15 where God is talking about how we grow up. ***Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: ¹⁴That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; He is talking about the fact that our souls are babies and they can go anywhere and do anything and we do not seem to mind if we sin and have trouble. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ.*** So, He is saying, "I want you to come from a baby and grow up all the way to be like Jesus Christ, a perfect man." Amen.