

Sled Riding on the Steep Hill

Barbara never played with other children. She would stand off by herself and watch while the others had fun playing together. It wasn't because she didn't want to do it. Barbara was afraid of being hurt. She wanted to slide down the snow-covered hill on her sled, if only she could get up the courage to go. She knew it would please her daddy if she could run and play and have fun like the other children, but Barbara began shaking all over when she thought about it.



Then something wonderful happened.

Barbara's mommy and daddy began going to a Christian Science church and she went to the Sunday school. It was there that she learned that God is Love, and that He is everywhere. She was so happy to learn that she could not be separated from Him, even for one minute because God was her Father-Mother, and she was His child. Barbara loved to sing the hymns, especially the one that began, "Shepherd show me how to go". She had heard of shepherds watching over their sheep. The sheep love their shepherd and listen for his voice. She decided that she would be like the sheep and listen for God's voice. Then she would always be safe and happy.

One day, when the children were sliding down the hill on their sleds, Barbara's dad came out to watch them. He noticed a little girl at the very top of the hill getting ready to slide down, and he said to himself, "Oh, if only Barbara could do that!" Then zoom, down the hill came the little girl on her sled, and whoosh, she went right past him like the wind. Have you guessed who it was? Yes, it was Barbara!

Barbara's dad ran over to her and gave her a hug. He asked her how she ever found the courage to do that. She said, "Well, Daddy, when I stood at the top of the hill and looked down, something whispered to me that the hill was very steep and that I was too afraid to go down it. I knew that was error talking to me. Then I remembered the hymn we sang in Sunday school about listening for His voice, so I listened to truth instead of error. The truth told me that since God is everywhere, He must be at the bottom of the hill. And since God was right there with me at the top of the hill too, then I didn't need to be afraid, no matter where I was. So I got on my sled and gave a big push and here I am. That's pretty special, isn't it Daddy?"

"Yes, it was so great to see you on your sled," said her dad. "You know that when you were up on the hill, those were angel thoughts that were with you. And when you wouldn't listen to error, the angel thoughts from God told you that you didn't need to be afraid. Now you can always know that God's Love is with you and you won't ever need to be afraid again."

Psalms 91:11 "He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."

S&H 581: "Angels are God's thoughts passing to Man."