

## The Lost Money

Katrina was a little girl that lived in a village in a country called Switzerland. Because she lived right in the village, she could walk to the stores when she was sent to buy something. On this particular day she was on the way to the bakery to buy a loaf of bread for breakfast for her and her four brothers. Mother had told her to be very careful because the money in her pocket was the last money they had until Father got home from work.

But when Katrina got to the bakery, the money was not in her pocket. She stared at the bread and pastries in the window. She had no money to buy the bread. What was she to do? Then she remembered that she had been taught that God is Love, and He is always here and ready to help. So she started to pray, "Help me, dear God, help me." She also repeated something that she had learned from *Science and Health*. It was, "Divine Love always has met and always will meet every human need."

She began to feel angry with herself that she had played in the street and forgot to obey when her mother had told her to go straight to the baker's shop. In playing, she had lost the money. But then she remembered the gentle voice of her mother saying that "Everything is all right when we love enough." She had also been told that when we get angry, we stop loving.

Katrina wanted to love. Her sad face brightened. She knew that she loved her mother, father, and her brothers. She also loved the baker's wife and the policeman at the corner. She loved the people that were passing by her as she stood at the bakery window. "Oh yes," she thought, "I do love everyone, so everything will be all right." She felt peaceful and close to God, who is divine Love.

While she was thinking about all this, she saw a little woman, with curly white hair like her grandmother's, who was trying to cross the street, but she seemed to be afraid. Katrina quickly went to the woman's side, took her by the arm, and helped her across the busy street. When they got to the other side, the woman gave Katrina the sweetest smile and told her what a good girl she had been to help her. Then she put something in Katrina's hand and walked off down the street. When Katrina opened her hand, she saw a shiny piece of money just like the one she had lost. She then whispered to herself, "Oh, thank you, God, thank you." Now she had money to buy the bread.

Katrina hurried home with the bread. When she went into the kitchen, the sweet smell of hot chocolate was in the air. Mother was filling the big yellow cups for Katrina's brothers. She asked Katrina what had kept her so long at the bakery. Katrina told her the story about the money. Then she said, "Wasn't God quick to help me when I was really sure that I loved?" "Yes dear," said Mother, "God is always very near and ready to help us. But when we have angry thoughts, they must be healed first. Then we can be God's child and reflect His love as you did with the woman that you helped."



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*S&H 579: "(DIVINE LOVE) is my shepherd; I shall not want."*