

## Jean Passes a Bicycle Test

Jean had a beautiful two-wheel bike that she loved to ride. At her school was a Bicycle Club where everyone learned how to care for their bikes. Jean joined the club when school began in September. A policeman came to the club's meetings at the school and taught the students about brakes, lights for night riding, reflectors, and many other safety things. He taught them hand signals that would tell car drivers whether the bicycle rider was going to turn, slow down, or stop. And he taught them how to repair their bikes if they were to have a problem.

In the spring, everyone had to take a bicycle test that was required. Jean became very nervous about the test and she told her mother that it was going to be very difficult. She also said that she would have to ride a strange bike to take the test, and the bike was too big for her. Jean said that she had talked with her friends and many of them were going to get notes from their mothers so that they could get excused from the test. Jean begged her mother to write a note for her.

"Why, Jean," her mother said, "that sounds as though error were frightening you, and your friends, too. The policeman has worked very hard with your group. Does it seem fair to him to do this?"

Jean shook her head no. She and her mother sat down together. Her mother asked Jean if she were to write a note to have her excused from taking the test, would Jean be obeying the commandments. Jean had learned the Ten Commandments, and she knew that whenever she had obeyed them, she was guided by God.

Then mother said, "The first commandment is, 'Thou shalt have no other gods before me.' A note would be like obeying a false god of fear."

Suddenly, the truth about what mother was saying dawned on Jean and her face lit up. "Mother, you do not need to write a note," she said. "God will guide me tomorrow, so I can't be afraid that I will be given a bicycle that is too big or strange."

The next day, a very happy girl came running into the house. "Mother, God did guide me, and I passed the test with a high mark! And, guess what! The other girls decided that they wanted to take the test, too."

Later, Jean was given a really neat badge for having passed the bicycle test with the highest score. Whenever Jean wore the badge it was a reminder of how God guided her decision to take the test. She was also happy that she hadn't disappointed the police instructor, and that all her friends had passed the test, too.



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*S&H 454: "Love inspires, illumines, designates, and leads the way."*