

Created In God's Image

Susan came home from school one day at lunchtime, almost in tears. She told her mother that her friend Vickie was mad at her, and she wouldn't speak to her or play with her. Now Susan and Vickie had been very good friends for a long time.



Mother asked what had happened. Susan said that there was a new girl in her class named Sherry. Sherry also lived in Susan's neighborhood. And since Sherry was a very shy girl, Susan tried hard to make her feel welcome by playing with her and trying to be her friend.

But that created a problem. Vickie became jealous of Sherry, and she tried everything that she could to make Susan quit playing with Sherry. She wanted Susan to just play with her. Susan wanted all three of them to play together, but Vickie said that she never wanted to play with Susan again.

Since mother was very busy making lunch when Susan told her about the problem, she could not do anything about it right then. But she did tell Susan to go to her room and read the 91st Psalm. Reading it made Susan feel much better. So after lunch, she went back to school and tried to forget what had happened.

But things didn't get better; they got worse. The next day when Susan came home after school, she was crying. She said that as she was leaving school, Vicki stuck out her tongue at her, made faces at her, and pushed her into a wall. Susan said that she had run all the way home crying. After Susan stopped crying, she and mother sat down at the table. Mother got out the Bible and opened it to Genesis. There she read that God had created man just like himself, "in his own image." So then everyone that God made must be loving and perfect, just like Him. There couldn't be anyone that was not nice and did unloving things. Mother told Susan that she needed to see Vickie and everyone else that way, as God's perfect child.

The next afternoon, Susan came home from school with a big smile on her face. She skipped into the room where her mother was working and called out to her: "It worked, Mommy. It worked!" She said that all day she had refused to see Vickie any other way than God's perfect child, no matter what she was doing. She also had kept repeating to herself that there couldn't be anything but love between God's children. Then, when the school bell rang for the last class in the afternoon, she passed Vickie in the hall and a wonderful thing happened: Vickie smiled at her and Susan smiled back.

After school, when Susan and Sherry were walking home, they heard someone calling to them. They turned around and there was Vickie. "Wait for me," she said. She ran to catch up with them, and the three girls walked home together, laughing and talking all the way.

Mother and Susan were very thankful that Susan had learned a little of how to demonstrate love and harmony, and because of it she had her best friend back.

Genesis 1:27 "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him."