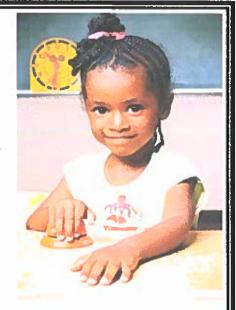
The Lord is My Shepherd

Mary Ann had been learning in Sunday school many truths about God. She learned that God was always with her---protecting and taking care of her. Mary Ann goes to kindergarten. Before she leaves for school each morning, she and her mother love to sing a hymn from the Christian Science Hymnal.

Every morning, Mary Ann's dad takes her to school in the car because the school is far from her house. On the way, they have to drive over a railroad crossing. One morning, when they got to the crossing, there was a freight train stopped on the tracks. The train was too long for them to drive around it, so they had to wait until it left. Because of this Mary Ann got to school very late.



When she walked into her kindergarten room, the teacher and the rest of the children were not there. At first, Mary Ann was frightened. She went out into the hall and there was no one in the hall or in the other rooms next to hers. So she went back into her room and sat down at her desk. She began saying the twenty-third Psalm to herself: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures."

It was a favorite of hers and she could say all of it by heart. Saying it now helped her to feel God's love for her, and it made the fears go away. She had just finished saying it and was ready to begin again when suddenly the door opened and in walked the janitor. The janitor is someone that keeps the building neat and clean. He looked at Mary Ann in a puzzled way. He said he didn't know why, but something told him to go to that part of the school, and that he should look into her kindergarten room. It seemed like a strange thing to do since he was working on the other side of the building, but he listened and obeyed what the thought told him to do. He asked Mary Ann why she was in the room alone. She told him the story about the train making her late for school. The janitor said that she didn't need to worry about finding her teacher because he knew where her class was, and he would take her to them. Off down the hall they went to the gymnasium where Mary Ann's teacher and the other children were playing games.

The teacher was very glad to see Mary Ann. She was also happy that the janitor had found her in the room because they would not be going back there after gym. Their next stop was to be the library. Mary Ann knew that the janitor had heard an angel message from God to go find her. She was so thankful to God for always being there to take care of her.

When she got home, she told her mother about what had happened. Then her mother hugged her and said, "You know, Mary Ann, God always helps us when we're in need, if only we will trust Him, and listen for His voice." "I know," said Mary Ann, "God always talks to me in my thinking, and I am always going to trust God for everything."

Proverbs 3: 5,6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."