

The Tidal Pool

Christy couldn't wait until school ended for the summer so she could visit Aunt Jane, Uncle Gilbert, and their two boys who lived in a town by the ocean. Christy loved to swim and there wasn't a place to swim where she lived. Her mom and dad could not come along, but Christy knew that God was everywhere and He would take care of her, no matter where she was.

Christy's aunt and uncle lived along the Pacific Ocean. There were big rocks and giant waves that would crash over the rocks. One beautiful day, Christy, her aunt, uncle and cousins decided to go to the beach and cook the fish they caught for lunch. When they got there her cousins and uncle got out their poles and began fishing. Aunt Jane and Christy decided to swim in the surf. They also went into the quieter ocean pools and found seashells and bits of colorful rock.

Soon they heard Uncle Gilbert calling to them, saying that he had caught some fish and he was going to build a fire so they could cook them. Aunt Jane said that she was going to help Uncle Gilbert clean the fish, and that Christy could just stretch out on a flat rock and get some sun. Aunt Jane would call her when lunch was ready.

It was nice to lie on the warm rock while the waves were splashing all around her. The sun was so warm that Christy fell asleep. When she woke up she could see her aunt and uncle still busy getting lunch ready up on the beach. So she decided she would wash the sand and seaweed off before lunch by taking a dip in one of the large ocean tidal pools that was just a little further out on the rocks.

The water was warm in the pool. Christy was enjoying it until a huge wave came up over the rocks and crashed onto her. She realized that the tide was coming in fast and she had better get back to shore. But the rock she had walked out on, to get to the pool, was now under water and waves were crashing over it. She thought about calling out for help, but the waves were too loud for anyone to hear her. She was finding it hard to keep swimming. Then the thought came to her, "I can't be separated from God." She said this as loudly as she could, and she meant it. She was then able to grab onto a rock above her head and hold on. The thought then came to her that the waves would soon fill the big pool and she would be raised up high enough to get out. Sure enough, the next large wave raised the water level up to where she could climb out onto the big flat rock.

When she looked up she saw Uncle Gilbert coming toward her in his big rubber boots. He was telling her that it was time to come to a delicious lunch of fresh fish. He helped Christy get safely back to the beach. After lunch, Christy told them the story about the pool and how God had protected her from harm. The family thanked God for his love and care of Christy, and then sang the hymn, "Christ My Refuge," before continuing their beautiful day at the beach.



Hymn #253 "And o'er earth's troubled angry sea I see Christ walk, and come to me, and tenderly, divinely talk. Thus Truth engrounds me on the rock, upon Life's shore, 'gainst which the winds and waves can shock, oh nevermore!"