

# BAPTIST FEATURES

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FACES IN THE WELL  
(with mat #1)  
By Gladys Cleone Carpenter

Hiram hurried to the stone well and drank. Then he put on a helmet and walked on. He was thinking someday he would be a great soldier with a silk tent and flashing armor. How well he'd fight!

Soon Abel came to the well. He was carrying fishing nets. He was thinking of buying fleets of boats.

After Abel left, Esther the pottery-maker's little girl came to the well, drank, then filled her jug with the sparkling water. She hoped to someday make jars to hold rich foods and costly oils. She would like to tell her plans to her friend, Ruth. But Ruth was young and would only talk about the precious doll her merchant uncle had given her. Her uncle had just returned with his caravan.

As Esther walked on she came to a great crowd gathered about the Master. She saw Hiram and Abel, so the three met at the feet of Jesus. Jesus was not talking about fighting, nor great fleets of boats, nor costly oils. He was saying that people ought to love their neighbors as themselves.

When Jesus had finished talking, he moved on.

"Well," Hiram said, "I'm going home. I came to see soldiers camped upon the plains. But I don't care now."

"I'm going back, too," Abel declared. "My father may want this net."

"And I need to take a jar of water home," Esther added.

At the well they found Ruth. She was wailing, "My dollie. It's in the w-e-l-l! Oh, I've lost my dollie!"

The doll had not sunk. It was made of a light wood that floated, but was far out of their reach.

Quickly Hiram took some of the rope from the fishing net. He tied it to the wide-mouthed jar that Esther had. Then he lowered it into the well. Soon he caught the doll and pulled it out.

Ruth clapped her hands with joy and laughed.

Hiram leaned over to look again into the well. Plunk! Thud!

"Oh, your helmet!" Esther exclaimed, watching it bang against the sides of the well as it went down.

"I don't need it," Hiram decided. "I can be brave without fighting. Jesus does not fight. I had rather follow his words and love my neighbors rather than to fight with them.

The children took a last look into the well. The heavy helmet was disappearing from sight, but four happy faces were reflected in the water below.

## GOD'S WONDERFUL WORLD

By Mrs. Tom Carter

(with mat #2)

You have seen products advertised and you buy them in the store by their brand name or trademark. Did you know that people have trademarks, too, which indicate their kind of work?

A callus in the center of a man's right hand may indicate that he is a jeweler, for that's what jewelers get from constantly working with pliers in repair work. Violinists get a lump on the neck near the lower jaw from tucking their fiddles under their chins.

Bricklayers seldom have fingerprints on the left hand, due to their continuous handling of rough bricks. The man who works with hot steel develops a red discolored forearm from exposure to the heat of the steel ovens.

Trumpet players get a fuller lip than the man who does not play, because they hold the instrument up to their mouths for such long periods of time. Boxers and wrestlers are marked by cauliflower ears, disfigured noses, and missing teeth.

In the Christian life there are many trademarks of identification. We are to be witnesses for Christ by our words and deeds. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven," Christ tells us.

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