Steps to Christ Chapter 13 Rejoicing in the Lord

"The children of God are called to be representatives of Christ, showing forth the goodness and mercy of the Lord. . . . Christians are set as light bearers on the way to heaven. They are to reflect to the world the light shining upon them from Christ. Their life and character should be such that through them others will get a right conception of Christ and His service." Steps to Christ, p. 116

I. Lights in the World

Read Matthew 5:14-16; John 8:12; John 17:18 and 23

Discussion Questions:

- 1. How would you explain what Jesus meant when He said, "I am the light of the world"?
- 2. If Jesus is the light of the world, how can we also be the light of the world?
- 3. What do you think are some practical ways that we can show our light?

II. God's Children Are Happy

Read Psalm 144:15; Psalm 146:5; 1 Peter 4:13-14

Discussion Questions:

- 4. Give some reasons why those who follow the Lord are happy?
- 5. How would you explain 1 Peter 4:13-14?
- 6. How do you think a person would express "exceeding joy" in difficult times?

III. How to Overcome Discouragement?

Read Proverbs 3:5-7; Romans 8:31-32; Philippians 4:13; Hebrews 7:25

Discussion Questions:

- 7. Some Christians are tempted to become discouraged. In view of the texts above, how would your encourage such a person?
- 8. What do you think it means, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me"?
- 9. What are some practical applications that you would make from Proverbs 3:5, 6 and 7?

IV. The Bible Our Anchor

Read Psalm 119:105; Jeremiah 15:16; Romans 10:17; and 2 Timothy 3:15

- 10. Psalm 119:105 uses the metaphors that the Bible is like a lamp and a light. What other metaphors could be used to illustrate the importance of the Bible?
- 11. In Romans 10:17 there is a progression of thought. How do you think the concepts go together?
- 12. How can a little child know the Holy Scriptures? How do we make this happen?
- 13. What do you think is the importance of having family worship?

V. Growing in Grace

Read Proverbs 4:18; 2 Peter 3:18; 1 John 3:2

Discussion Questions:

14. Explain what you think it means to "grow in grace"?

- 15. How is it that we can consider ourselves sons and daughters of God?
- 16. In what ways can it be said that we shine more and more toward the perfect day?

For Meditation:

"By faith we may look to the hereafter and grasp the pledge of God for a growth of intellect, the human faculties uniting with the divine, and every power of the soul being brought into direct contact with the Source of light. We may rejoice that all which has perplexed us in the providences of God will then be made plain, things hard to be understood will then find an explanation, and where our finite minds discovered only confusion and broken purposes, we shall see the most perfect and beautiful harmony." Steps to Christ, p. 112

VI. Summary of Lessons

During the past weeks, we have studied the chapters from the classic little book, Steps to Christ, by Ellen White.

Discussion Questions:

- 17. Which of the thirteen chapters were most interesting to you?
- 18. What are some practical ways you intend to put the principles you have learned into practice?

<u>Prayer:</u>

Holy Father, we thank You for Jesus, Who knows what it is to live on this planet and suffer so much for us. We are thrilled to know that He has gone back to heaven to prepare a place for us and that He has promised to return and create a new heaven and a new earth. O Lord, be with us every day. Strengthen us and help us, that through the Holy Spirit we may draw closer to You. In Jesus' name, Amen