

# A LEAF'S MISSION

A PRETTY GOLDEN LEAF HAD FALLEN FROM THE GRAND SUGAR MAPLE TREE. IT FLOATED BACK AND FORTH ON THE WIND TILL IT SETTLED GENTLY ON THE GROUND. IT WAS AUTUMN, THE TIME OF YEAR WHEN MAPLE TREES SHED THEIR LEAVES.

GOLDEN, THE PRETTY LEAF, HAD SPENT A HAPPY YEAR UP HIGH IN THE TREE ALONG WITH HIS FELLOW LEAVES, SOAKING UP THE SUN'S RAYS TO HELP NOURISH AND BEAUTIFY THE STATELY MAPLE. NOW GOLDEN AND THE OTHER LEAVES WERE LYING ON THE FOREST FLOOR.



*DURING THE YEAR, GOD HAS USED US TO DRAW IN THE POWER OF THE SUN, WHICH HELPED OUR TREE PRODUCE SAP, THOUGH GOLDEN. SOME OF THAT SAP WILL BE EXTRACTED NEXT SPRING TO MAKE YUMMY MAPLE SYRUP! I'VE HEARD THE FARMER'S SON LOVES MAPLE SYRUP ON HIS WAFFLES FOR BREAKFAST. I WONDER HOW GOD WILL USE ME NOW THAT I'M ON THE GROUND.*

*JUST THEN TWO OF THE FARMER'S CHILDREN PASSED BY, HAPPILY SKIPPING ALONG CARRYING A SMALL BUCKET OF BIRDSEED TO PUT IN A BIRDFEEDER FOR THE BIRDS TO EAT DURING THE WINTER. A SEED FELL FROM BETSY'S BUCKET AND ROLLED ALONG THE GROUND UNTIL IT WAS RIGHT NEXT TO GOLDEN. THEN A LITTLE BREEZE NUDGED GOLDEN OVER THE SEED. THE LITTLE SEED AND GOLDEN CUDDLED UP TOGETHER THROUGH THE AUTUMN AND WINTER MONTHS.*



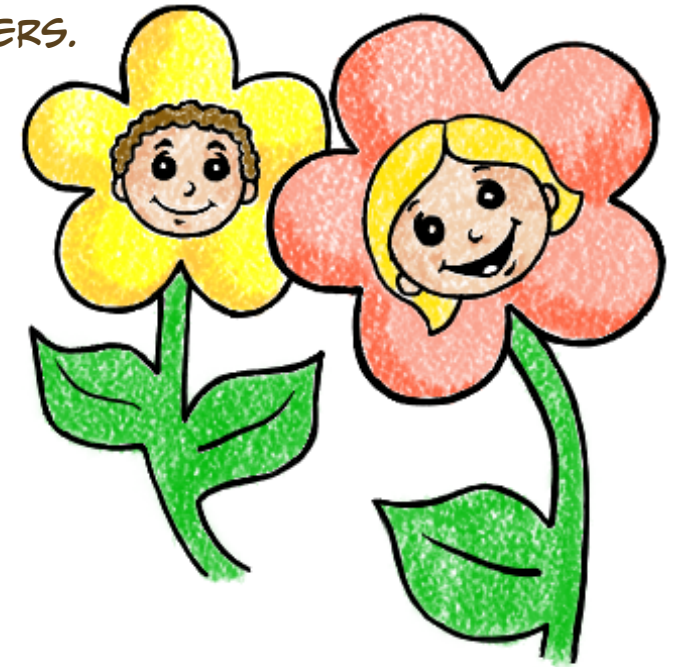
SPRING CAME, AND A LITTLE GREEN PLANT PUSHED UP FROM THE LITTLE SEED THAT HAD BEEN SHELTERED BY GOLDEN. UP IT GREW, TILL IN TIME IT BLOSSOMED INTO A LOVELY YELLOW FLOWER. GOLDEN HAD KEPT THE LITTLE SEED SHELTERED DURING THE LONG WINTER MONTHS, AND NOW IT BLOSSOMED WITH FULL SPLENDOR. ONCE AGAIN, GOD USED SMALL THINGS AND LITTLE ACTIONS TO BRING ABOUT BEAUTY IN THE WORLD.



THOUGH YOU ARE YOUNG, THERE ARE ALWAYS WAYS THAT YOU CAN BE USED BY GOD TO MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE.

ONE SPECIAL WAY THAT YOU CAN HELP OTHERS IS THROUGH COVERING THEM WITH PRAYERS FOR GOD'S LOVE TO BE MANIFESTED IN THEIR LIVES.

THROUGH YOUR PRAYERS YOU CAN HELP A SEED OF GOD'S LOVE GROW AND BLOSSOM IN THE LIVES OF OTHERS, BRINGING JOY TO THEIR LIVES AND TO OTHERS.



"PRAY FOR ALL PEOPLE. ASK GOD TO HELP THEM"  
(1 TIMOTHY 2:1 NLT).

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