

WINNING HABITS

Everybody has his habits,
And they hold him like a chain.
Makes no difference if he's crawling
Or be hobbling on a cane.
Habit wakes us in the morning;
Habits tell us when to eat.
Habit often is the driver
When we're going down the street.

Doing things by habit isn't
Always bad A man must view
Habit as a curse or blessing
By the thing it makes him do.
Since it seems we're bound to have them
We must screen 'em close and then
Keep on struggling to develop
Habits that will help us win!

by Dwayne Laws

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES AND NURSING INFANTS

¹⁴Then *the* blind and *the* lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. ¹⁵But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant ¹⁶and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?"

And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read,
*'Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants
You have perfected praise'?*" (Matt 21:14-16 NKJV)

I heard or read the story of a mother describing the "worst day of her life". "The washing machine had broken down, the telephone kept ringing, her head ached, and the mail carrier brought a bill that she did not have the money to pay. Almost to the breaking point, she lifted her one year old son into his high chair, leaned her head against the tray and began to cry. Without a word her son took the pacifier out of his mouth and stuck it in hers".

You may be ahead of me, but please read on anyway. The infant could not fix the washing machine, stop the ringing phone, pay the bills, or provide pills

for the mother's aching head, but what he could do, he did. We, who are adults, need to learn to imbibe this spirit of innocence and use the opportunities that confront us to do what good things we are able to do, instead of bewailing our lack of ability and the absence of opportunity.

However, there is another lesson, we might learn from this incident. If we could put reasoning in his mind and rational thinking in his activity we might surmise that he is saying: "Mom, when I am afraid, hurting, hungry, in need of a change or just need to be picked up and loved, this is what you do for me, and expect it to be enough! So, get over it!"

Many have heard or used the expression "Out of the mouths of babes", so much that it has almost become a cliché. Yet likely, we have given little thought to its origin or meaning. The most perfect praise comes from pure hearts that have an absence of prejudice, envy, hatred and pride.

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