



PRAYING HYDE

Missionary to India

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NOTE TO THE TEACHER

Display each illustration where indicated in text, laying volume aside when the story line continues beyond the picture.

Hopefully, you are encouraging your class to practice a daily Quiet Time alone with God. To help them, why not provide each one with Quiet Time Notebooks containing daily assigned readings. This will stimulate your class to emulate Praying Hyde.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Do you have a nickname?

If you have, it probably tells something about you. An elderly woman had the nickname TIGER Bennett when she was a little girl. But she was not like a tiger when she grew up. She was dear and sweet and everyone loved her. She told thousands of children about the Lord Jesus who died for them.

Surely when the Lord said, “Frances, I want you to come home to Heaven now,” there were many boys and girls already there to welcome her. More will follow her there because she led them to receive the Lord Jesus Who is the only way to Heaven.

No, as a woman, Frances Bennett was not like a tiger. Yet because that was her nickname when she was little, we know she must have been a fighter. Her nickname tells us this.

We are going to learn about John Hyde—a man who had a wonderful nickname: Praying Hyde. Would you like that for a nickname? Can you guess what kind of man he was to have earned such a nickname?

Did John Hyde offer beautiful prayers in public places where many people heard him? Did they talk about his beautiful prayers and so call him Praying Hyde? These questions will be answered in our story. Listen carefully!



Show Illustration #1

John Hyde was born in Illinois in 1865. His father, a minister, was good and kind to everyone. John’s mother, a lovely Christian woman, was said to be “Christ like.” John Hyde knew what it was to hear his mother and father pray. He learned to pray when he was small.

John had two brothers and three sisters. John’s father often prayed, “Dear God, please send missionaries to far-off places [distant lands] where the people do not know about the Lord Jesus.” So John’s father was not surprised when two of his sons wanted to become missionaries.

One of John’s older brothers was named Edmund. When he grew up, Edmund went away to school where he studied to be a missionary.

One summer Edmund was on vacation from school. Instead of going home, he went to the state of Montana. There he worked hard to get Sunday schools started.



Show Illustration #2

One day Edmund became ill. The doctor said, “You have mountain fever. You must get home as quickly as you can.”

So John’s brother Edmund started for home. At that time the quickest way to travel was by train. And even that was not fast! To get from Montana to Illinois would take at least two days.

Friends knew that Edmund’s fever might get so high that he would become delirious. So they pinned his railroad ticket to his coat. They wrote notes to the conductors who would be on the trains. The notes told where he was going and exactly what trains he had to take.

What a hard trip that must have been for a sick man to take alone! Back home, John and the rest of the family were praying for Edmund, though they did not know he was ill.

Edmund finally arrived home safely. How glad his family was to see him!



Show Illustration #3

How sad they were only a few days later when Edmund died. They didn’t understand God’s way. But they all knew how to pray, and so they did. God gave them peace in their hearts, even in their trouble.

Has He ever done this for you, too?

John had been planning to be a preacher in the United States. But after Edmund died, John felt the Lord wanted him to take his brother’s place. At first John was not quite willing.