



THE WALKING UMBRELLA

Please note that this teaching text has not been proofed.

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Chapter 1



Would you like to hear about a walking umbrella? If you had been in Wilmington, Delaware, you could have seen it with your own eyes, for it really, truly happened.

Show Illustration #1

A big, big umbrella was moving quickly down the street. It seemed to be walking by itself, low to the ground. It was a beautiful, bright, many-colored umbrella. Man-sized, it bobbed, bobbed, bobbed along.



Show Illustration #2

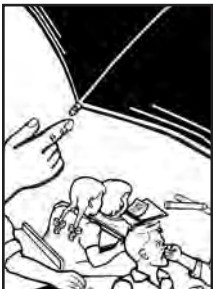
Everyone was curious about the strange umbrella. So boys and girls and grown-ups followed it. Soon they discovered that the small feet which carried the umbrella belonged to a nice black boy. He walked quietly and quickly. The watchers followed.



Finally he came to a shady spot under a huge tree. He put the big umbrella on the ground.

Show Illustration #3

“Who wants to hear the story about my umbrella?” he asked. The children crowded close to him. “Sit down and listen,” he ordered. Everyone obeyed, even though some of his listeners were larger than he.



Show Illustration #4

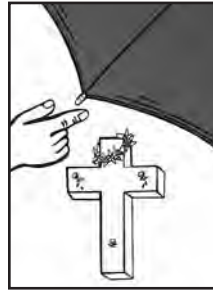
He pointed to the part of his umbrella that was colored black. “See this black color?” he began. “Black makes us think of sin and of darkness. Every one of us has done something wrong at some time or other. Usually we do wrong things when no one is around. Or we do them in

the dark when no one can see us. The wrong things we do are sin.” Everyone listened closely.



Show Illustration #5

“Now see this gold color? That makes us think of heaven, where the street is made of gold. No sin can ever get inside heaven. If it did, it would spoil heaven. There is no sin there. So none of us can go to heaven because all of us do wrong, sinful things.” The listeners were sad.



Show Illustration #6

“But see this red color?” he continued. “This tells us that the Lord Jesus Christ died on the cross and shed His precious blood to forgive our sins. The Lord Jesus is the Son of God. He took the punishment we deserve. When we believe that He is God’s Son and receive Him as our Saviour, He forgives our sin and...



Show Illustration #7

...makes our hearts clean and pure, like this white color in my umbrella. But we have to believe Him. We have to trust Him. We have to ask Him to forgive our sins. When we do, He comes into our lives and becomes our Saviour! He gives us His kind of life—everlasting life. He sees to it that we can go to heaven when we die.”



Show Illustration #8

He continued, “How many of you know that you are sinners but you want to go to heaven some day?” Up went every hand. “All right then, tell God you are a sinner.”

Quickly and quietly the children knelt on the ground. Each spoke reverently to God, confessing his sin. “Now tell Him you believe the Lord Jesus Christ is God’s Son and that He died for you. Ask Him to forgive your sins and save you right now, for Jesus’ sake.” Softly the children

prayed.