



The Acmar Soul Miner

Searching for wisdom

As for hidden treasures...

For the Lord gives wisdom



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Read for Victory

In October 1922, Bethnal Green, at the East End of London, opened its doors on its first permanent library. It was a red brick building.

The Mayor said, "It's a legacy to generations to enable them to obtain knowledge and sweep away misery and poverty." Only two years later, it had issued a million books.

Trials loomed. In September 1940, a bomb crashed through the roof at 5:55 pm on what would later be known as "Black Saturday." This started the Blitz, a German bombing campaign of England during World War II.

The story of the library took a surprising twist. Rather than hurrying for the nearest shelter, the librarian, George F. Vale, and his deputy, Stanley Snaith, calmly pulled a tarpaulin over the shattered glass dome roof and set about planning a pioneering social experiment that would change the lives of wartime Londoners.

Bethnal Green Underground was a half-completed stop on the Central Line Tube when war broke out and work stopped. One week after the Blitz began, East Enders claimed their right to safety. At seventy-eight feet below ground, it was one of the few really safe places to shelter in Bethnal Green. It was referred to by locals as an "Iron Lung."

Over the next twelve months, it was transformed into a subterranean community with an astonishing array of facilities.

As Stanley Snaith explained, "A new organization had to be created, and created it was, partly by central planning and partly – it is our English way – by brilliant improvisation."

Metal triple bunks sleeping up to 5,000 stretched three-quarters of a mile up the eastbound tunnel. A shelter ticket reserved you a bunk.

There was a three-hundred-seat shelter theatre with a stage and spotlights, which hosted opera and ballet, a café, doctor's quarters and a wartime nursery, which enabled newly enfranchised women to go out to work. There was also a library!

The library was open from 5:30-8:00 pm every evening and loaned out 4,000 volumes of consciously chosen stock of romance, literary classics, children's books, poetry and plays.

Lest we envision too idyllic a life of this underground community, we need remember that 5,000 people hunkered together in a cold, dark, smelly underground tunnel without hygiene facilities called for huge sacrifices. It was the first time British women and children found themselves on the front line of war.

Books became a key weapon in the fight for morale. Professor John Hilton, Director of Home Publicity, put fire in librarians' bellies:

"Books in war time can be a refuge into which we make our way to escape the slings and arrows of outrageous conflict ... Books can be a storehouse from which to draw sure knowledge and rich emotion to clarify our minds and strengthen our souls for the tasks to which we have set our hand."¹

Christians are a people of a Book of books. The Holy Bible strengthens our souls.

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

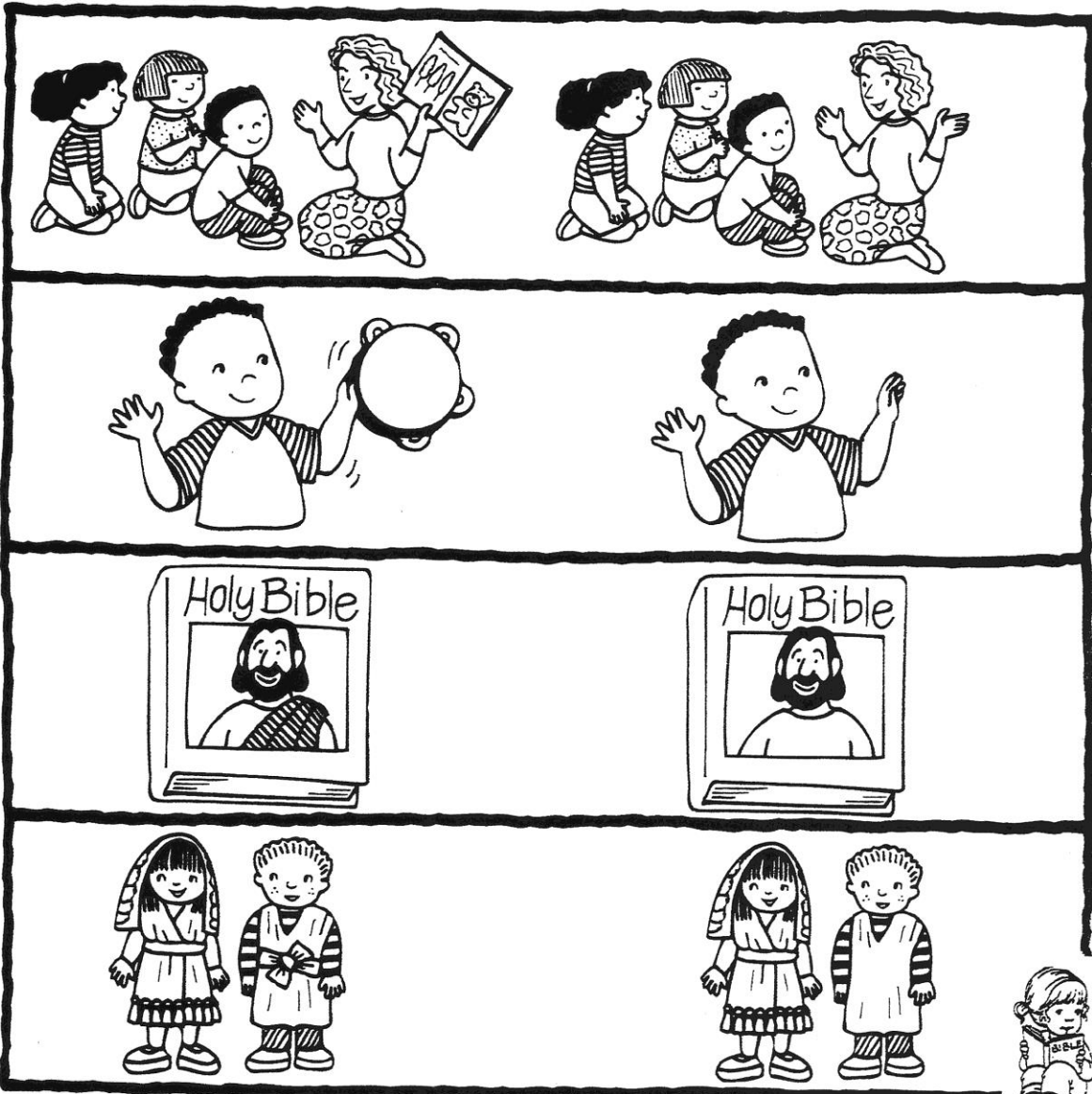
¹Thompson, Kate. *The Little Wartime Library*. USA: Kate Thompson and Hachette Book Group, Inc., 2022, pages 434-451.

Children's Camp

Look at the pictures.

Find what is missing in the second picture in each row.

Draw the missing part.



The wisdom of God.
We see it in verses but sometimes we have
to dig to uncover the meaning.

Look Here:

*The Bible is given by God for correction
and instruction in doing right.*
(2 Timothy 3:16)

Digging In:

The Bible is a book of 66 different books.
There are about 40 different authors.

The Bible is written about God.
The Bible tells us that God loves people.

God wants people to believe in Jesus.
Believers in Jesus will live forever.

The Acmar Community Quilt

Taking out the trash is not a chore we generally enjoy, but boy, if we miss a pick-up day, we realize our garbage can fills up quickly! If you think about it, a huge percentage of our trash today is made up of packaging – cardboard, paper, plastics, and glass. Have you ever wondered what folks in Acmar did with their trash in “the old days”? Well, to begin with, households generated very little trash. Gardens provided produce that was eaten or canned, and those canning jars were reused season after season and not thrown away. What little paper trash there was would usually be burned. Plastic really wasn’t an issue. So that left the glass containers.

We’ve shared before how Jessie Turner and Linda Anders in the late 1950s and early 60s knew where a lot of “old Acmar” trash was taken. They were like Acmar’s early archeologists! They enjoyed taking the kids out to the woods where the kids played and Linda and Jessie dug up old bottles that time had covered over. It was a bit of a fun treasure hunt. Jessie’s brother, Buddy Wilson, knew good places to dig in the old Mine No.1 camp area and would often give old bottles he found to Jessie. They speculated what the bottles might have contained. Some were beautifully shaped or a color like blue, green, or brown. Some bottles were easily recognized, while there was no way to know about the others. The bottles were collected, but never cleaned or displayed, just stashed away in the garage.



















Fast forward over sixty years when cleaning out the garage uncovers those dusty, dirty bottles. Again, some are easily recognizable like the blue Phillips Milk of Magnesia bottles, or the clear milk bottles. Some are admired for their shape or obvious age. (Remember glass baby bottles?) Very few would still have labels, but many of the glass bottles have embossed areas with the company names or where they were manufactured. There are milk bottles from local area dairies. With access to information on the internet now, a little research has identified some of the contents that would have been in some of those bottles and what their intended use was.

For instance, the Henry Wampole Company bottle would have held *Wampole's Perfected and Tasteless Preparation*, a tonic containing 12 % alcohol, cod liver oil, and some sort of cherry extract. (Tasteless???) Atwood’s *Jaundice Bitters* contained 16½ % alcohol and was recommended for “jaundice, headache, dyspepsia, worms, dizziness, loss of appetite, darting pains, colds and fevers. For cleansing the blood of humors and moistening the skin. Also for liver complaints, strangury, dropsy, croup and phthisis.” The Herb Medicine Co. produced *Lightning Hot Drops* for gastric discomfort. Containing 50% alcohol, chloroform, ether, myrrh, capsicum, and lavender, they claimed it “produces a warming, comfortable feeling in the stomach.” The Caldwell Company claimed their tonic helped with “constipation and conditions resulting from it. Owing to its mild action and pleasant taste the ideal laxative for children, women and old folks, and all those who cannot stand a harsh purgative.” (Milder, maybe since it only contained 6% alcohol?) And there’s *Glover's Imperial Sarcoptic Mange Medicine*. This two-for-one wonder gives directions for use on humans AND dogs!

Although we might find these items funny now, it’s important to keep perspective of the time period when they would have been used. Besides the various tonics, there were bottles that held juice, vanilla extract, skin creams and more common everyday items.

Of course, the former contents of all the bottles cannot be identified, but their survival through these years is appreciated. Apparently, there is now a market for many of those bottles that are considered collectibles and would sell for surprising amounts, especially the ones considered examples of “quack medicine.” There are also soda bottles that are still popular today like early *Coca-Cola* and some with drink names that you probably don’t recognize like *Try-Me Cola*, *Lotta Cola*, and *Mingle Cola*. There were also soda water bottles by *Coca-Cola* that were actually manufactured in near-by Leeds.



August 2023						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Audio Sermon Podcasts On Website	<i>Soul Miner</i> on the Website in Gallery	1 JOLLY ELDERS Moody Baptist 11:30 am	2  MCA 3-5 p White's Chapel	3	4	5
6  CHURCH 9 a	7	8  Joseph Grant Howard	9  CHURCH SUPPER 6 p	10 MOODY BINGO 10  Linda Lee	11  Alexa Wimberly	12
13  CHURCH 9 a	14  Leigh Byers	15  Adam Byers  Merritt Champion	16  MCA 3-5 p White's Chapel	17	18  Martha Womack	19
20  CHURCH 9 a	21  Phil Howard	22  Lee Raines	23	24	25	26  Coleman Cash Gable
27  CHURCH 9 a Meeting 10:15 am	28	29	30  Beau Lamphear	31		

Soul Food for August

Mon., July 31
Tue., August 1
Wed., August 2
Thur., August 3
Fri., August 4
Sat., August 5

Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7, 15
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21
John 21:15-17
1 Samuel 16:6-13

Acmar UMC / P.O. Box 85 / 4107 Old Acton Road
Moody, AL 35004 Phone: 205 640 4325
Moody Crossroads / Intersection Hwy. 411/Cty. Rd. 10
Take County Rd. 10 W. (Park Ave.) toward Trussville;
Travel 1 mile; Turn right on Acmar Rd.; travel 2 miles;
Left onto Old Acton Rd., Church is on the left

Mon., August 7
Tue., August 8
Wed., August 9
Thur., August 10
Fri., August 11
Sat., August 12

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33
Psalm 46:1-11
Acts 16:25-32



Food for the Soul

Mon., August 21
Tue., August 22
Wed., August 23
Thur., August 24
Fri., August 25
Sat., August 26

Exodus 1:1 – 2:10
Psalm 124
Romans 12:1-8
Matthew 16:13-20
Lamentations 3:19-23
Isaiah 40:25-31

Mon., August 14
Tue., August 15
Wed., August 16
Thur., August 17
Fri., August 18
Sat., August 19

Genesis 45:1-15
Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Matthew 15:10-28
Acts 2:32-35
Luke 12:22-34

Mon., August 28
Tue., August 29
Wed., August 30
Thur., August 31
Fri., September 1
Sat., September 2

Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45
Romans 12:9-21
Matthew 16:21-28