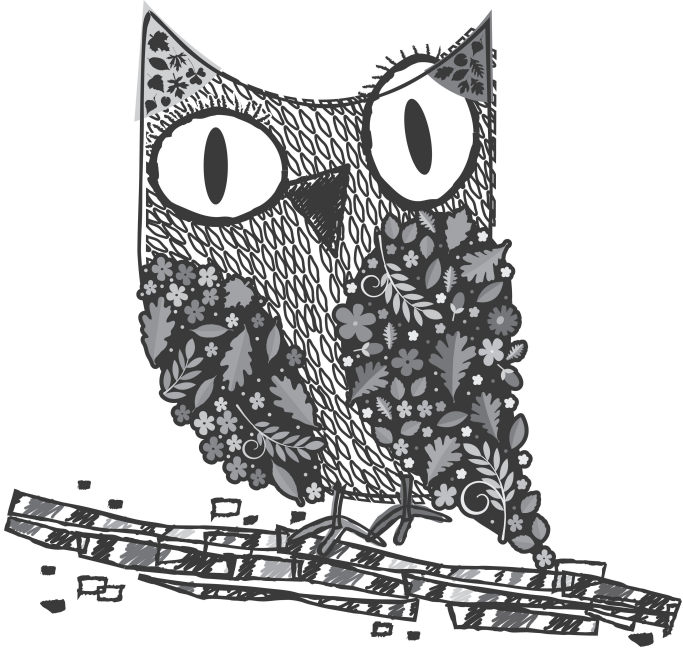




# More of God's Promises Kept



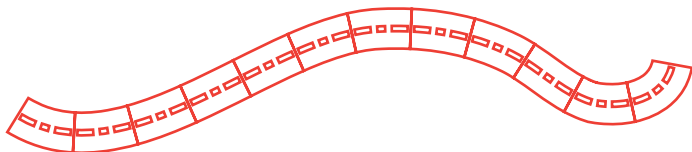




# More of God's Promises Kept

Devotions for Children  
Inspired by  
Charles Spurgeon

Catherine Mackenzie






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## Who was Charles Spurgeon?



Charles Haddon Spurgeon was a Baptist preacher. He was born in the United Kingdom in 1834 and by the time of his death in 1892 he was known as the “Prince of Preachers”. Spurgeon was pastor of the congregation of the New Park Street Chapel and then of the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London for thirty-eight years. As well as preaching many sermons he also wrote a great many books, and hymns. Many Christians, even today, love the daily devotional book he wrote: *The Chequebook of the Bank of Faith*. This book has been based on the topics and Scriptures he used. In a culture where few use a chequebook this publication needed more than a simple rewrite. However, these little devotions have been inspired by what Spurgeon wrote. Hopefully this reimagining of some of his devotions will help a new generation to appreciate his teaching but, most importantly, the Word of God. When you see some words in the text written in red these are taken almost directly from Spurgeon’s own writings. The rest are either explaining or representing what he wrote.

Catherine Mackenzie



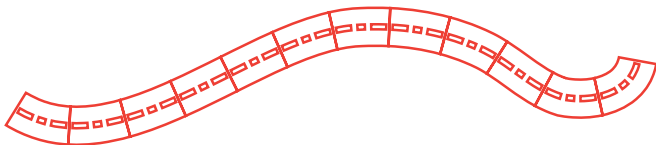
# Contents

1. Silly Sheep .....	8
2. Favourite Things .....	12
3. Payback Time .....	16
4. Sowing and Waiting.....	19
5. Bugging Bugs .....	24
6. Sunshine and Sorrows.....	28
7. Do you run Backwards? .....	32
8. Reminding God.....	38
9. Words have Meaning.....	41
10. Hold Tight.....	44
11. Enemies Think Twice! .....	47
12. Saying Goodbye .....	50
13. Unexpected Help .....	53
14. The Night Sky .....	57
15. Family Futures .....	62
16. Light in the Dark.....	66
17. Fast and Ready .....	70



18. Find and Seek.....	74
19. Choices, Changes.....	77
20. Changes, Choices.....	82
21. Hiding in the Storm.....	86
22. God's Music .....	90





# 1. Silly Sheep

Chequebook Date: 19 April

Bible Verse: For thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I, even I, will both search for sheep, and seek them out (Ezekiel 34:11).

## Are sheep really silly?

I have often heard people describe sheep as stupid animals, but I'm not sure if that is really what they are. I think perhaps they are mostly stubborn. And when you are stubborn you are also probably a bit foolish too.

I've seen some sheep do their best to get out of their fields because they think that the grass on the other side of the fence looks juicier, greener, tastier. So they clamber through a gap, or they jump over the fence, taking no heed to the fact that once they've escaped the field, they are putting





themselves in the path of danger. There are often fast cars on the road outside the field, and there might even be wild animals or dogs that would hurt them.



So, yes, sometimes sheep are silly because they want their own way.

That's one of the reasons sheep need shepherds. A shepherd looks out for them, by making sure they are safe.

The Bible often tells us that human beings are very like sheep – we are stubborn and a bit silly too. God has to look after us as a shepherd looks after the sheep. Human beings – men, women and children – often want to lead their lives their own way. They don't want God making the decisions even though his decisions are best.


Some people seem to think that sin is fun, something to be enjoyed, but sin is something that destroys us and poisons our life. It is to be avoided at all costs. But sinners who do not trust God are like foolish sheep, who think that the green grass on the dangerous cliff top is the best grass to eat. The shepherd






needs to grab those sheep and take them back to the field immediately.

Jesus is great as a seeking shepherd as well as a saving shepherd. Jesus seeks and finds sinners – the ones that don't know him. Jesus finds those people who know nothing about him or his Word.



Then Jesus saves his sheep. A good shepherd looks out for his flock and takes them away from danger – sometimes putting himself in harm's way. Jesus saves sinners who are like wandering sheep. He not only put himself in danger in order to save us – he died instead of us.



God has never lost a single one of his sheep. They are always found. They are always safe. They may have fallen into sin and great suffering, yet God will never let one of them go so far away from God that they can't be saved. In fact, it is impossible for any of the Lord's people to do that. However hard someone tries to run away from God, God will chase them harder. However far away someone tries to get from God, God will



keep pursuing them. Jesus will not lose one of those that God the Father has given to him.



**What you can do:** It is a point of honour with Jesus to seek and to save all the flock, without a single exception. Keep praying for those you know who are lost. We have a good hope for those that God has made us love. This hope is so great that we will always want to pray for them. We know that God will find them.

**Pray:** Dear Heavenly Father, I am like a lost sheep. I have wandered away from you. You have said you will seek and save every one of your sheep. Please forgive my sins. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

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