

# HOUSTON VISITING CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSE SERVICE, INC.

June 2021

## That Ole Coca-Cola Bottle Trick Can't Fool Us!

I was around age six when I visited my friend Mark with my parents and several other family friends. We all sat in Mark's living room watching his dad regale us with a razzle-dazzle magic show. The big reveal at the end appeared to be a frosty-cold glass bottle of Coca-Cola, which the magician casually placed inside a paper bag. He then crumpled up the bag and tossed it over his shoulder.

His audience erupted in joyful applause. All of us knew it wasn't a glass bottle—all of us, that is, except Mom, who was mystified. To her, it *had* to have been the real deal. She recognized that famous brand of bottle when she saw it! Thus, she was positive that the act she'd just witnessed defied logic.

We tried in vain to explain the trick to her; Mom remained unmoved, unconvinced. Then Mark's magician dad quietly placed the rubber Coca-Cola bottle in her hands. Suddenly, she saw the truth. Oh, my, what a good laugh she had at herself!

All of us can identify with my mom. We're deceived by an illusion and then, in a moment of clarity, discover the truth and snap out of the spell. Once we see a lie debunked, we're never again fooled by it. Whether the lie appears as chronic illness or immobility or lack of any sort or inharmony within families, churches, governments, our Mind, God, is right here to awaken us to the truth of our perfect being, untouched by mortal mind's hypnotic illusions.

It's really about perspective, isn't it? "Mortal mind sees what it believes as certainly as it believes what it sees," explains Mary Baker Eddy on page 86 of *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*.



Photo by Pablo Merchán Montes on Unsplash

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The kindly way my friend's dad disproved my mom's false perspective and gently corrected her thought by showing her the real object cut through the noise of a room full of well-meaning explainers. It mattered not that she was the last one in the room to get it.

Likewise, when we enlist a Christian Science nurse, our thought opens (either instantly or gradually) to Truth. Our mental storm is quieted, enabling us to recognize and accept our God-made perfection. We are blessed spiritually, in ways far beyond the practical physical aid we receive. Our *Journal*-listed nurse Susie Petersen gently turns our consciousness to the tender, loving presence of the Christ and encourages us to firmly reject fear and the fetters of false beliefs, which claim to disguise us as frail, injured, or sickly mortals.

Working alongside a Christian Science practitioner on every case she attends, Susie brings the light of Christ, Truth, into the sickroom by refusing to see us in any way other than the way God sees us. You might say that every lie presenting man as a failing mortal is no more real to her than was the collapsible rubber bottle of Coca-Cola to me!

## Rise Now

By Faith Walsh Heidtbrink, published in *Boundless Light*, p. 112  
(from the December 29, 1986, *Christian Science Sentinel*)

I waited  
and waited  
(like the man at the pool of Bethesda)  
for an angel  
to come and move the waters  
of my thought.

But then God said:  
"Don't wait . . . rise now!"

So as I looked  
with my heart I found  
that His angels were all around!  
And, as I rose, they took my hand  
and tenderly  
led me on.

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*Christian Science Hymn 324*