



HOUSTON VISITING CHRISTIAN SCIENCE NURSE SERVICE, INC.

Our mission is to heal through practical, operative Christian Science.

November 2023

Love Enriches

In the Christian Science church Sunday School in Spring, Texas, there is a small, framed image of Winnie-the-Pooh and Piglet sitting together on a log. Beneath them is a caption: "Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of Gratitude."

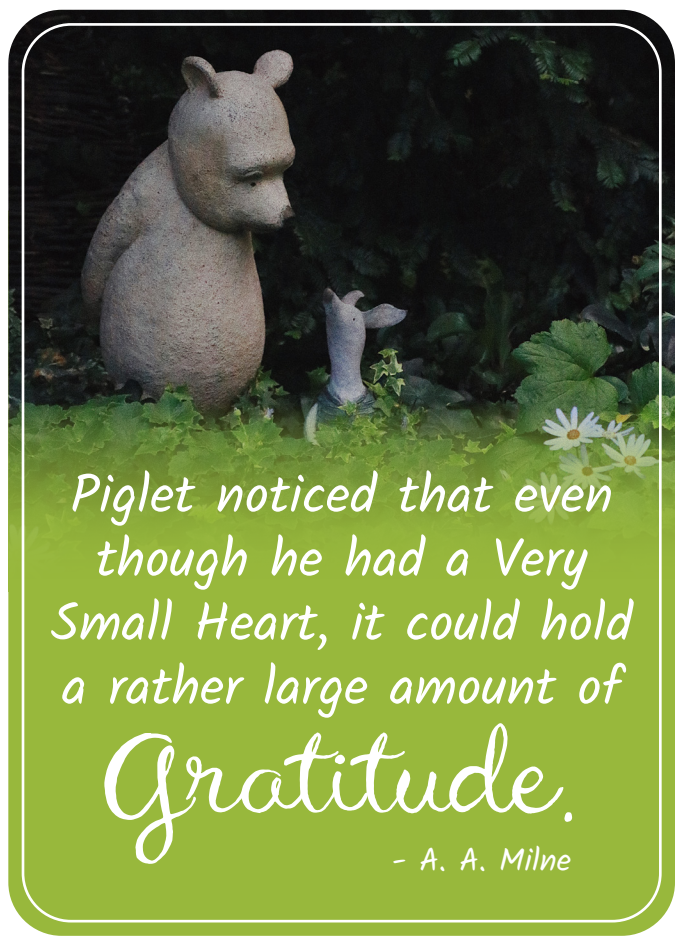
The enriching character of gratitude, so sweetly expressed by author A. A. Milne and illustrator E. H. Shepard, is not something we *acquire*.

Rather, gratitude is a built-in feature of man. It's inherent in our spiritual nature, which embodies divine Love. And divine Love cannot reflect itself as our love *without* having a full measure of gratitude.

You could call gratitude our ceaseless prayer, our cup that runneth over, and one of God's greatest gifts to us and to our world. (See Violet Ker Seymer's hymn 146/147 in the *Christian Science Hymnal*.)

Our responsibility—our response to God's ability—is to be grateful for every good He gives us. One way to show our gratitude to God is to always forgive His children—including ourselves.

When we forgive our neighbor, we are loving him as we would have him love us. Forgiveness is a healing balm: it relinquishes all mental or audible condemnation of self and of others.



When I apologized recently to a dear friend for failing to respond to her email in a timely fashion, she graciously assured me there was *nothing* to forgive. As proof, she shared the article "[Forgive, And Ye Shall Be Forgiven](#)" (*The Christian Science Journal*, May 1908). Its author, Ida Mitchell Roff, beautifully articulates why forgiveness is so indispensable to healing—indeed, to our salvation.

Joining hands with gratitude and forgiveness is the equally essential quality of humility. Mortal sense may dismiss humility as outmoded or ineffectual—as if it means being walked on, like a doormat.

However, if we consider the lives of our humble exemplars, Christ Jesus and Mary Baker Eddy, we realize that humility means forgiving—refusing to be offended by—all wrong committed against one, unless the offense be against God. Their humility allowed them to correct students impersonally—gently or sternly, as needed, but always with divine Love.

Humility heals, even when it takes the form of sheep, the humblest of creatures. Two years ago we shared a true story about the healing power of humble sheep. To re-read it, [click here](#).

Gratitude. Forgiveness. Humility. When we actively live these three Godly qualities, we are able to prove the truth of this message from our Master: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Matthew 7:7, 8).

Your Houston Visiting Christian Science Nurse Service feels your love. Your love for God. Your love for Christian Science—the Comforter promised by Christ Jesus.

We feel your gratitude for the healing presence of our *Journal*-listed, Houston-based Christian Science nurse, Susie Petersen.

We ask your forgiveness if we have neglected in any way, at any time, to show our immense gratitude for you!

We understand the spiritual humility it takes for you to depend upon Christian Science treatment—and, if appropriate, Christian Science nursing care—when you are seeking healing.

We know that your Love-inspired gratitude, forgiveness, and humility have enriched you immeasurably.

And guess what: Your Love-inspired gratitude, forgiveness, and humility have enriched us, too!

From our Piglet-like “Very Small [Big] Hearts . . . holding a rather large amount of Gratitude,” we humbly thank each local branch church and each precious individual who loves, embraces, and bears witness to Christian Science healing and supports us prayerfully and financially.



Yes, friends, thanks to God and His sons and daughters—you!—the Houston Visiting Christian Science Nurse Service is indeed enriched every day.

Lovingly,
Board of Directors

Financial Assistance Available

Any Christian Scientist relying upon the services of a Christian Science practitioner and/or a *Journal*-listed Christian Science nurse may obtain financial support by applying to the [National Fund for Christian Science Nursing](#) (NFCSN). You may contact The Principle Foundation, which manages this fund, by emailing info@nfcsn.org or by calling (800) 873-2843.

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Members of Houston-area branch churches not currently represented on our board are *welcome* to join us.

Make a Donation

Our office is your home – providing care in the comfort of your residence.

Thank you for your support.

Houston Visiting Christian Science Nurse Service, Inc. is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax-deductible.

Our service is grateful for the financial support from area Christian Science churches and individuals. Their contributions help us pay for our contracted staff and operating expenses.

BANKING CONTRIBUTIONS: To set up recurring donations to be deducted electronically from your checking account, please call our service at (713) 304-8384 and leave your name and contact number. Our treasurer will return your call and will be happy to assist you or answer questions.

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Houston Visiting Christian Science Nurse Service, Inc.
815 Valley Ranch Drive, Katy, TX 77450

Make a
Donation

“Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee”
Christian Science Hymn 324