

HEART MATTERS

NON SCHOLÆ SED VITÆ

Libraries of Hope Newsletter

WE WISH YOU ALL
A VERY LOVELY
CHRISTMAS AND
A FESTIVE AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

THANKS FOR MAKING
OUR JOBS WORTH
THE EFFORT.
LOOKING FORWARD
TO MANY MORE
YEARS TO COME!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

****PLEASE NOTE:**

Now that there is an option off Facebook with our new MOI Community in Mighty Networks, these newsletters will be much shorter and will mostly be used to keep you up to date with announcements. Everyone is invited to join our Community there; however, completing the Catch the Vision intro course at librariesofhope.com is required.

--**Happy first day of December!** And our tour around the world continues...

This month's stop takes us to Ancient Greece and Rome, which eventually leads us to Italy. Our connection to American studies is through George Washington who many likened to the Roman hero, Cincinnatus.

I know December is a busy month, so I went light on American studies. There are so many inspiring stories from the life of Washington that remind us of the influence of just one man of virtue. Pick at least a few to share each December.

The study of Greece and Rome is a huge undertaking. So you may want to revisit it in the summer. Or some people like to exchange Months 4 and 6 from time to time and study the Holy Land stories during the Christmas season and study Greece and Rome in Month 6 when we talk about our New Nation. The Founders drew heavily from their writings and example, so it works well in Month 6, too.

But keep in mind that there was a Pattern unfolding that you will recognize as the Pattern for Learning and Creation. The Greeks developed a love of beauty and truth, which the Romans took to heart as they built their empire on Law and Order, which was necessary to spread the message of Jesus' spiritual kingdom.

(Announcements cont.) As Mary MacGregor says in the final paragraph of her story of Greece: “although the Romans conquered Greece, and so made her subject to them, they could not escape her influence. The Greek language was spoken by every educated Roman, Greek plays were acted at Rome, Greek literature was read and studied.

“Wherever the Romans went they carried with them the habits and the culture of the people whom they had conquered. And the greatest and most precious thing the Greeks had to teach the world was, ‘the just consideration of the truth of things everywhere.’”

We owe so much to the Greeks!

Greek mythology actually leads to Christ. Angelina Stanford does a wonderful class on that. So it’s not out of place in this Christmas season. And understanding the Roman world to which Christ was born adds meaning to His teachings--meaning that is applicable to what we are facing in our world today.

I know you’re busy--so turn on the audios I’m doing of Washington and the Story of Greece and stories from Greek mythology and you’ll be able to keep in the rhythm of the rotation.

Our Nature Study topic is Plants and Trees--how about studying more about Evergreen trees while you are decorating your Christmas tree? The study carries over into January when you look at Gardening which gives you the opportunity to continue your study of the December nature topic.

The Mother’s University topic is Art--and has any single country contributed more to the development of Painting and Sculpture than Italy? Much of their work centered on the life of Christ and was religious in nature, also in line with Christmas. One option for you is I put together a presentation on the Madonna you can draw upon, also very much in line with the Christmas season. It can be found in [Podcast #31](#).

So no need to skip the rotation this month! It all works into one harmonious whole.

--Several of you have asked for resources to bring in more stories of Jesus during the Christmas season.

I have some things to offer, but they get buried in everything. So let me highlight them.

At the bottom of the Storytelling page in the Mothers University at welleducatedheart.com, you will find 22 stories with suggested songs and pictures and stories you can take straight from the scriptures. There is a pdf of artwork to print out.

If you go to mybelmonde.com, there is a Stories of Jesus audio series with pictures you can print out to create their own Stories of Jesus book. Go to Month 6 and select Holy Land. You’ll see the options there.

There is an audio of a book of the stories of Jesus written by mothers for mothers of the life of Jesus, but you’d have to listen to 2 chapters a day to be done by Christmas. <http://www.mybelmonde.com/young-folks-4.html>

On the same page as the illustrated story are the audios I am doing of Farrar’s Life of Christ(also called A Beautiful Life). I’m just over halfway there--that’s been a long project! Definitely for more mature listeners. But if you click on the Fine Art Gallery, there is a lot of Fine art you can choose from. They aren’t directly linked to Wikimedia Commons, but the artist and title of the work are there so you can easily bring it up in Wikimedia Commons. <http://www.mybelmonde.com/beautiful-life-images.html>

And don’t forget our Stories of Jesus book that is a compilation of verses from the KJV of the Bible with places to glue in fine art images that are provided for you.

--NEW BOOKS TO BE RELEASED MID-DECEMBER:

(continued on next page)



MY
Fine Art
STORY BOOK

VOLUME FIVE

COMPILED BY MARLENE PETERSON



Stories of
Roland

CLASSIC LIT FOR YOUNG READERS

TOLD BY H.E. MARSHALL



Stories of
William Tell

CLASSIC LIT FOR YOUNG READERS

TOLD BY H.E. MARSHALL



*Young People's Story of
American Literature*

THE APPRECIATION SERIES

IDA PRENTICE WHITCOMB



*Famous English
Statesmen*

FAMOUS LIVES SERIES

SARAH KNOWLES BOLTON

(Announcements cont.) My Fine Art Story Book offers stories of artists and art from France in this edition.

Appreciation Series tells you the story of American Literature. It is written by Ida Prentice Whitcomb who also wrote The Story of Art and The Story of Music that has been offered previously and which will become part of the Appreciation Series.

Classic Lit for Young Readers is a story of Roland, epic hero of France, and the story of William Tell and the Swiss fight for freedom.

This month's Famous Lives brings you stories of Great English Statesmen. You can't surround your youth with too many noble examples!

--Month 4 audios are now available to listen to in fcbelmonde.com.

Notice there is a Christmas section. Most of these stories are in the Christmas book from the Story Hour Series --The Life and Adventures of Santa Claus, The Christmas Porringer, Why the Chimes Rang, and I just finished recording The Birds' Christmas Carol. The one offering not in the book is Van Dyke's The Mansion.

(Announcements cont.) I'll be adding 2 or 3 chapters a day over the next few days from The True Story of Washington found in the book on Washington in the Freedom Series. You can also find stories about Washington in MASB. You will already find some stories from Greek mythology in the Story Hour series, but I am adding the Old Greek Stories retold by James Baldwin as well.

I have just started recording Mary MacGregor's The Story of Greece and should be able to add 2 or 3 chapters a day. It's a great introductory to Greek history. The chapters are only 6 to 8 minutes long.

There is also an introductory book to the story of Rome written by Mara Pratt.

Look for stories of Italian painters from Amy Steedman's Knights of Art in month 1 My Fine Art Story Book you might like to share with your kids.

And you will find audios of the Legends from Italy from the Imaginative Series. Very Christmas-y.

I'll see what else I get done! Maybe I'll pick one of the Cousins....

<https://www.fcbelmonde.com/month-four>

--To those of you who are close to finishing Catch the Vision so that you can join our MOI community in Mighty Networks, if you need a little nudge, Angela Johnson will be our guest presenter for our Simple Joy virtual presentation next Wednesday (Dec 7) at noon, Mountain Time.

(Just a reminder--don't let the \$25.00 fee that covers your welcome packet keep you away. If that is what is holding you up, please know there have been women who have gifted scholarships to cover you. Pay it forward when and if you can. Just email me at librariesofhope@gmail.com and we will take care of it).

Here's a [short video](#) where she describes some of her creations of the life of Christ in the Light of the World exhibit at Ashton Gardens.

She is a self-taught sculptor--(sculptress?). Her latest project based on the vision of Lehi's Tree of Life is in the process of being installed near Light of the World at the gardens. What an inspiring story she has. Perfect to go along with the December Mother's University topic of Art.

I'd love to have you join us live! But it will be archived if you join later.

Art credit: At Christmas Time by Emil Barbarini



(Announcements cont.) --I'm so excited to let you know that Donna Nielsen, author of *Beloved Bridegroom* and an extraordinary scholar, is going to be our guest presenter for our January Simple Joy meeting in our MOI community in Mighty Networks. I'll tell you more what she'll be sharing as we get closer, but in the meantime, she thought you might enjoy this presentation she did on the story of Christmas. https://youtu.be/Yru5Y_efh84

Have you ever wondered why Mary was troubled by Gabriel's greeting, or what swaddling bands represent? Do you know if women were involved in ancient Temple service, or how carpenters were regarded in Christ's time? Just who were the Magi and how did their gifts bear testimony of Christ's redemptive mission? Listen to the answers to these questions and many more fascinating insights into the real background and symbolic meaning of Christ's miraculous birth and early life.

--From this month's Mother's Learning Library Art volume:

"Truth is always more important than facts.

"The difference between a [photograph] and a [painting] is like this: If the brain cap of a man could be removed and a photograph of the brain could be taken, what would it reveal? It would reveal only decomposition and re-composition, molecular agitations and vibrations. These are physical phenomena. There is absolutely nothing else which the eye can see.

"But the man on whom the operation is performed, what does he see?

"He is conscious of thought, emotion, will, hopes, aspirations and ideals. The photograph gives one the external physical facts. The artist's picture gives one the true inwardness of the same facts. Art does not deal with things as they are in themselves. Science does that. But art deals exclusively with things as they affect the human soul."

Art credit: *Malerin im Wild* by Charles Deshayes

