“STOP THE CAR!” by Al Diestelkamp

I know this will “date” me, but I remember as a child several occasions on which our family would have to take a streetcar to go to worship. For the benefit of young ones who read this, a streetcar was like a bus that rode on tracks that were in the middle of busy streets. Yes, we had a family car; but when my father would be away preaching in gospel meetings, we would have to find another means of transportation.

I was reminded of this pleasant experience when I read an old story about a small boy who was riding home from church on a streetcar. He was delighted with the picture story card he had received in Bible class that morning. The message on the card was, “Have faith in God.”

On his way home, his precious possession slipped from his fingers and fluttered out the open window of the streetcar onto the pavement. With a cry of distress he shouted, “Stop the car, I’ve lost my faith in God!”

The good-natured conductor signaled and the card was recovered amid smiles of the other passengers. One passenger commented about the blessed innocence of childhood. Another noted that there would be many happier and truer lives if we older ones would call a halt when we find ourselves rushing ahead on some road where we are in danger of leaving our faith in God behind.

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