

## **“The Cashew”**

It was the middle of a busy day. I was in the midst of many stops. I'd been trying to limit between meal snacks. I was hungry! Then I spied it! A cashew on the console. Just lying there by itself among some loose change. Let me replay the soundtrack of the dialog I had with myself.

“Oh look! A cashew!”

*“For heaven’s sake Larry ... how long has that been there?”*

“I can’t remember the last time I had cashews in the car.”

*“It’s likely been there for years!”*

“I think I’ll eat it!”

*“Don’t be crazy ... we don’t know what kind of germs are on it!”*

“I think I’ll eat it!”

*“We could die!”*

“I want it ... I think I’ll eat it!”

*“It’s so gross ... how pathetic are we? It’s likely stale, crawling with bacteria!”*

“I’m gonna eat it!”

*“Don’t do it!!!!”*

With that I popped the errant cashew in my mouth! It was the most disgusting thing I’ve EVER tasted! I wanted to stop right there in traffic, open the door and spew the nasty thing from my mouth. But I couldn’t. I chewed and swallowed. The taste lingered in my mouth, and my stomach churned and twirled from the unknown contamination I had digested for hours. It looked so innocent, that lonely golden brown cashew lying there.

Dear friends, sin in our lives is just like that cashew! When Satan tempted Eve to eat the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden, it looked so attractive!

“When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.” Genesis 3:6 NIV

They were surrounded by God’s beautiful provision, but that which was forbidden looked so lovely! That is still the Enemy’s tactic today!

“And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light.” 2 Corinthians 11:14 NIV

“No man is first tempted by sin as sin. The power of sin is its disguise of beauty. If it appeared in its own name we should not receive it. But when it knocks at the door it gives a false name — the name of virtue. We let it in on false pretences. It has the dress of a seraph, the gait of an archangel, the voice of a messenger from heaven.” George Matheson

Alcohol or drugs appear to be the perfect answer to relax! The sexual sin feels wonderful! The endless buying seems attractive to us! To tell that person off makes one feel strong! But what seems great at first ... even though it goes against the loving guidance God has provided, will ALWAYS wind up leaving a bad taste in your mouth!!!

Dear ones ... be careful out there ... don't eat the cashew on the console!

Larry M. Dentler, CBC Executive Board

### **Weekly Prayer Request**

Over the past seven weeks your CBC Prayer Committee has asked you to read Matthew 6:5–13 and to pray according to the model prayer which Jesus gave His disciples. Although this is the final week of the series, please do not fail to use this model prayer as an encouragement and guide for your future prayer life.

**Week Seven – PRAISE** - Read Matthew 6:9 – 13

Verse 13b – “For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen”

- As we begin with praise it is only proper that we also end our praying with praise!
- Let us acknowledge the majesty \* power \* mercy \* holiness of our God
- Let us thank Him for hearing and the response/answer to our praying.

### **CBC Prayer Committee**