

## **DON'T HELP THE BUTTERFLY**

A man found a cocoon of a butterfly. One day a small opening appeared. He sat and watched the butterfly for several hours as it struggled to force its body through the little hole. Then it seemed to stop making any progress. It appeared as if it had gotten as far as it could, and it could go no further.

So the man decided to help the butterfly. He took a pair of scissors and snipped off the remaining bit of the cocoon. The butterfly then emerged easily. But it had a swollen body and small shriveled wings. The man continued to watch the butterfly because he expected that at any moment the wings would enlarge and expand to be able to support the body, which would contract in time. Neither happened! In fact the butterfly spent the rest of its life crawling around with a swollen body and shriveled wings. It never was able to fly.

What the man, in his kindness and haste, did not understand was that the restricting cocoon and the struggle required for the butterfly to get through the tiny opening were Creator's way of forcing fluid from the body of the butterfly into its wings so that it would be ready for flight once it achieved its freedom from the cocoon.

Sometimes the struggles are exactly what we need in our lives. If Creator allowed us to go through our lives without any obstacles, it would cripple us. We would not be as strong as what we could have been. We could never fly!

I asked for Strength . . . . .  
And Creator gave me Difficulties to make me strong.

I asked for Wisdom . . . . .  
And Creator gave me Problems to solve.

I asked for Courage . . . . .  
And Creator gave me Danger to overcome.

I asked for Love . . . . .  
And Creator gave me Opportunities.

I asked for nothing I wanted . . . . .  
And Creator gave me everything I needed.