Name _____ Number Right _____ **2**

Directions: *You have 4½ minutes to read the selection and answer the questions. Do not begin reading until your teacher gives the signal.*

A Dangerous Plant

In the jungle, a strange plant can be found. It is called the strangler fig. This plant starts as a tiny seed dropped by a bird onto a tree trunk. The seed puts out thread like roots through which it gets nourishment from the air.

At first the strangler fig is small and looks harmless, but it grows very quickly. Soon it has shoots going both up into the air and down into the soil. Large leaves develop which keep light from the tree. Its roots entwine themselves around the tree trunk, stealing nourishment from it.

The strangler fig gets bigger and bigger. It becomes stronger and stronger. Gradually it strangles the tree to death.

This tree reminds us of bad habits. They seem so harmless at first, but oh, how quickly they grow! Maybe it is a little lie, stealing something that doesn't belong to you, or cheating at school. Maybe it is not keeping your promises, putting things off, or never being on time. Like the strangler fig, these habits become stronger and stronger. We become their slaves.

A wise man once said: "Habits are the deepest laws of human nature; first we make our habits, and then our habits make us."

Ask God to help you conquer your bad habits before they conquer you.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Circle the correct answer.

1. The strangler fig is found _?_.
   - **a.** in the jungle
   - **b.** on the seacoast
   - **c.** on mountaintops
   - **d.** in Arctic regions

2. The seed of a strangler fig is _?_.
   - **a.** planted by an enemy
   - **b.** carried by the wind
   - **c.** dropped by a bird onto a tree trunk
   - **d.** carried by an ant

3. The strangler fig plant starts as a tiny seed and _?_.
   - **a.** it stays tiny
   - **b.** it grows slowly
   - **c.** it grows so big it kills the tree
   - **d.** it soon dies

4. The strangler fig reminds us of _?_.
   - **a.** something to eat
   - **b.** a forest
   - **c.** a fighter
   - **d.** bad habits

5. Bad habits _?_.
   - **a.** are harmless
   - **b.** will ruin us in the end
   - **c.** do not grow bigger
   - **d.** are fun

Number Right	5	4	3	2–0
Rating	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor

LIVEWORKSHEETS