

- 1 An old Chinese story tells of a farmer whose only horse runs away. "How terrible!" say his neighbours. "Maybe!" says the farmer.
- 2 The next day his horse returns, bringing along three wild horses. "How wonderful!" say his neighbours. "Maybe!" says the father.
- 3 The following day his son tries to tame one of the wild horses, but he falls off and breaks his leg. "How terrible!" say his neighbours. "Maybe!" says the farmer.
- 4 The next day some soldiers come along to force young men of the village to join them in war. Because the lad has a broken leg, he is left behind. "How fortunate!" say the neighbours. "Maybe!" says the farmer.
- 5 The soldiers, still one man short, take the young man's cousin instead. "How dreadful!" say the farmer's neighbours. "Maybe!" says the farmer.
- 6 That night a landslide covers the house in which the cousin would have been sleeping if he had not been taken by the soldiers. "How fortunate!" say the friends. "Maybe!" says the farmer.
- 7 And so the story could go on! One of life's great lessons is this: we're never sure just how things are going to turn out. We'll live a good life if our attitude is always positive - determined to make the best of *all* situations that come our way.
- 8 *Let us pray:*

**Lord Jesus, you promised  
to be with your people always,  
and so we know that you are with us  
in good times and bad.  
Nothing that ever happens to us**

**can separate us from your love.  
Help us always to be positive  
in our attitude  
that we may seek and find  
the best in people and in situations,  
and so draw good  
out of all that happens to us.  
Amen.**

This is an excerpt from the page of this date in  
*'Praying Each Day of the Year'*,  
a 3-volume book  
by Nicholas Hutchinson, FSC.

For details:

<http://www.matthew-james.co.uk/>

Could make use of a search engine  
to research this topic further.

This material is part of  
the prayer and education website  
of the De La Salle Brothers  
in Great Britain:  
[www.prayingeachday.org](http://www.prayingeachday.org)