

# THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT SAITH THE LORD

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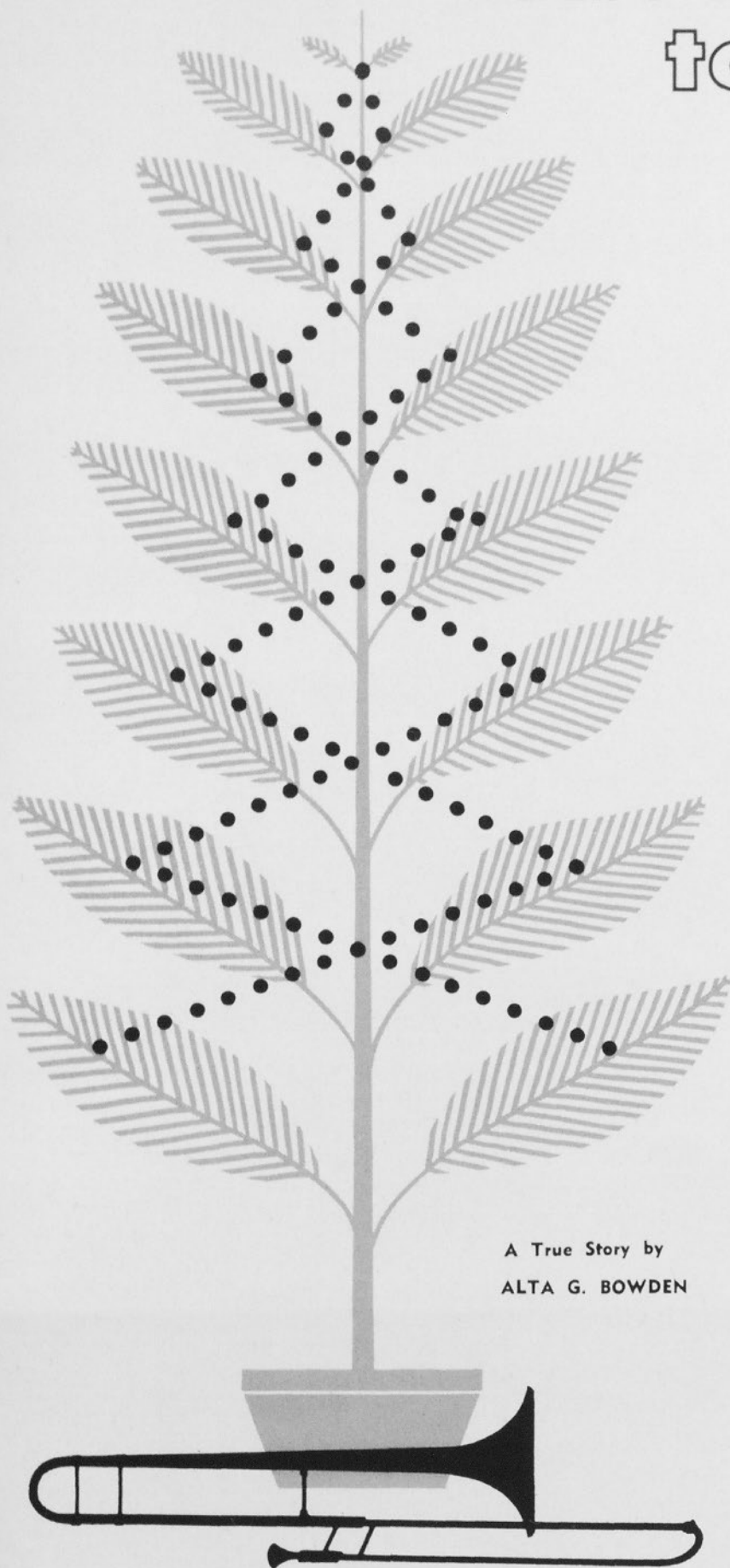
## A GOD-TRIMMED CHRISTMAS TREE

Oh how I love to see  
A God-trimmed Christmas tree  
Whose arms are reaching high  
To praise Him in the sky.  
Its boughs weighed down with snow  
Which sunshine sets aglow.

And in it all day long  
A sparrow chirps her song.  
More lovely is His tree  
Than any trimmed by me.

—Judy Ann Bakelaar

# who needs money to be happy!



A True Story by  
ALTA G. BOWDEN

I MUST ADMIT there were experiences in the great depression I would like to forget, but some were worth remembering. One in particular I shall always treasure. It shines serene as the Christmas star brightening the memory of those dark years.

The story began when one of our boys started praying for a slide trombone. My husband was a small-town minister, and we scarcely had money for the bare necessities of life, let alone musical instruments. The clothes our children wore were mostly hand-me-downs from our church members. Our sewing machine was kept in almost daily use as I remade donated garments into dresses for our girl or trousers and shirts for the boys.

Food, too, was short in those days. We did not go hungry, thank the Lord; but we had to economize by saving every scrap. Stew was a common dish!

We were not alone in our poverty. Hundreds stood in line to obtain enough free government soup to keep them and their children alive. Jobs could not be found. We simply trusted God for our needs from day to day.

Being adults, we knew why we had to do without; but it was hard for children to understand why they could not have some of the things all boys and girls desire. When Donald, our oldest boy, developed a strong desire for a trombone, we hardly knew what to do.

"Can't you get me one, please?" he asked. Lessons at school would be free if only he had an instrument.

I swallowed a lump in my throat and did my best to explain why this was not possible. I told him we should be happy we were not sick, nor hungry—we should be thankful to God for taking such good care of us.

Donald was always a thoughtful child. After I finished talking, he sat there deep in thought for a few minutes. Then he raised his big, tear-filled eyes and said, "Mother, if God can do anything we ask Him to, can't He give me a trombone?"

What could I answer? I could tell him that we must pray according to God's will. I could tell him that if the Lord wanted him to play a trombone He certainly would provide the instrument. But I must admit my faith faltered. As I looked in Donald's eyes, I could see how much he wanted—and I knew the music lessons would be good for him. Finally I replied half-heartedly, "If you really believe, and if you keep on praying, I suppose He can give you a trombone."

His face lit up with joy. "Then I shall pray every day till Christmas," he declared.

I said to myself, "Christmas is months away—he will forget it before then." But I could not have been more mistaken. Every evening when we knelt in family prayer, Donald asked God for a trombone.

As time went by, I became disturbed. Desperately I tried to find some work to earn the necessary money or to put aside something to purchase an instrument;

but each time I managed to save a little, some urgent need would arise and the money would have to be spent. "O God," I would plead, "please help me get the money somehow. This child believes his prayer will be answered. His faith must not be shattered."

Poor, weak mortals that we are—how often we think the answer to prayer depends on us. We think we know what method God will use to grant the petition! I tried to pray with the same faith as Donald, but the heavens seemed as brass. No answer came to all my frantic pleas.

One day my brother's family visited us. After lunch when the children were playing outdoors and we were visiting, my sister-in-law made a remark that fell like a bombshell on my ears.

"We have been wondering if Donald would like to have a trombone," she said.

I sat almost speechless as she went on to explain that they were getting their son a new one, and Donald could have the old one if he wanted it. Did he want a trombone! I told how long he had been praying for one. Soon it was all arranged.

Of course, a great wave of relief swept over me—and thanksgiving. But we decided not to give the instrument to Donald immediately. We would hide it, and let it be a Christmas gift.

Donald kept praying. Many times he asked me whether I had money for the trombone yet. Since he put it that way, I could truthfully say no—but always his reaction was the same. "I still believe I'll get it," he would say, with joyous anticipation.

Christmas Eve came, and I had retired when Donald tiptoed to my bedside. "Mother," he said, "please tell me the truth. Haven't you gotten the money or at least ordered my horn?"

I kissed the sweet, anxious face and replied, "No, Son, I haven't."

To my delight, there were no tears or sadness. Instead he smiled and declared, "I still believe it will be here in the morning." Such faith! No wonder God had intervened.


As soon as I was sure all the children were asleep, I slipped into the living room and placed the trombone under the tree along with a few small gifts we had managed to get for the family. My heart overflowed with praise to the great God who had answered a little boy's prayer.

It was not a beautiful tree—just a scrawny thing we cut ourselves, decorated with ornaments the children had made: paper chains, strings of popcorn, and spools wrapped in tinfoil. But no Christmas tree ever looked more lovely to me than that mangy specimen with the shiny trombone, bright as polish could make it, gleaming underneath. Who needed money to be happy!

On Christmas morning Donald fairly screamed as he caught sight of it. "I did get it!" he cried. "I knew I would." And he held the horn close in his arms. Tears of joy spilled over my cheeks. I looked at my husband and saw that he too was almost overcome.

After a few moments Donald fixed his inquiring gaze on me and said, "Why, Mother, you told me you hadn't ordered it, and you said you didn't have the money."

I replied, "That's right, Son. I never did get the money. God sent it free." And I explained how it all came about.

The lesson I learned that Christmas I shall never forget. God expects us to pray for whatever we need—and to believe that we receive them—but He does not want us to decide how the answer should come. 

## THE BABY WHO GAVE SIGHT

A PHYSICIAN IN THE MATERNITY WARD of a New York hospital undertook the sad duty of telling a young father that his baby had lived but an hour or two. He expressed his sympathy as best he could and was about to leave when the young father detained him.


"Doctor, I've just read that human eyes are needed for the corneal operation. Could my baby's eyes be used to enable someone to see again?" he asked.

The young father signed the necessary papers; the Red Cross Motor Corps hastened to the hospital and took the baby's eyes, sealed in containers of sterile solution, to the bank. The next day, the Red Cross carried the two eyes to two different hospitals. In one operation, a corneal graft restored the sight of a working man, head of a large family, blinded in an industrial accident a few months before. In the second operation, sight was given back to a young mother blinded by a cookstove explosion. Thus two different people were blessed by

the thoughtfulness of a young father, and by the unwitting gift of an infant child who lived only a few hours in this world.

Far across the world, in Palestine, 2,000 years ago, another Baby was born on the first Christmas Day. He lived more than the hour or two, but He, different from any other child who had ever entered this world, was born in order that He might die.

He was born into a world of darkness. Not a few isolated people, blinded by industrial or home accidents, but a whole race, blinded by the entrance of sin, groped in utter darkness. Long before He was born His Father had announced that He would come, and that people who walked in darkness would see a great light (Isaiah 9:2). The Father announced that He would send the Son to open blind eyes (Isaiah 42:7). When He came, He Himself said He had come to give "recovering of sight to the blind" (Luke 4:18).

The factory worker and the woman from the kitchen regained sight from the eyes of the human baby. But their eyes will once more be blinded in death. Those of us who receive sight from the divine Baby shall gaze on the glory of eternity forever. "In my flesh shall I see God, whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another..." (Job 19:25-27). "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift" (2 Corinthians 9:15). 

# The Sweetest Name

Why is Christmas the tenderest time of the year? One reason is that it centers around the birth of a Baby. Nothing softens the human heart quite as quickly as the arrival of a new little bundle of life.

And nothing causes more excitement, either. Everyone waits to see whether it will be a boy or a girl; whether it will look like its mom or its dad; what its hair will be like; and the color of its eyes. Then there is the matter of a name. What will it be called?

One Sunday morning in November, a couple who work with us at the Gospel Publishing House became parents for the first time. Suddenly they had a family—not just one child, but two. The happy father showed up at Sunday school to teach his class as usual, very weary after being up all night, but very excited over his twin sons, and he also was a bit worried. He wanted suggestions for naming the babies. The twins had arrived before any names had been selected.

Naming one child can be quite a problem, to say nothing of twins. A name should be significant; it not only should sound right, but it should have a good meaning—a good association. It should be a name the child will be proud to carry all through life. Jerry and Grace finally decided to give the twins Bible names—Daniel and Samuel.

When Jesus was born there was no problem about naming Him. For the angel had said, "Thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins." Other names had been given, however. There was the word to the shepherds, "Unto you is born this day . . . a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." There was the prophecy, "A virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." Then there was Isaiah 9:6—"Unto us a child is born . . . and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Each of these names has blessed significance. Sometimes one of His names means more to us than another, depending on our circumstances.

*Wonderful* is the name we ascribe when we think of all His words and works. Never man spake as He. Never man performed such miracles.

*Counsellor* is a precious name when we need an advocate or guide. If we stand guilty before our accusers, we need such an advocate. If we are confused, groping for spiritual direction, He will counsel us.

*The mighty God* is He who arose from the dead. Thomas, seeing the resurrected Saviour, was moved to exclaim, "My Lord and my God."

As *The everlasting Father* He is our Provider, a Father to the fatherless. As *The Prince of Peace* He is the One who shall make wars to cease. As *Immanuel* He is "God with us." As *Christ* He is the One sent of God to rule His people. We could dwell at length on each of His names; they are all filled with such meaning and promise.

But the sweetest name of all is *Jesus*, for it means Saviour. He is our Saviour. He has saved us from our sins. He "loved me, and gave himself for me." No wonder John Newton was moved to write:

*"How sweet the name of Jesus sounds in a believer's ear!*

*It soothes his sorrows, heals his wounds, and drives away his fear."*

May this Christmas be sweetened with the sound of that blessed name falling from our lips continually. "Jesus, oh, how sweet the name." "Sweetest name I know." "Precious name, oh how sweet; hope of earth and joy of heaven."

*"Sweetest note in seraph song, sweetest name on mortal tongue,  
Sweetest carol ever sung—Jesus, blessed Jesus."* —R.C.C.

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# CHRISTMAS IN VIETNAM

By ROBERT R. WAY  
Servicemen's Representative  
for the Assemblies of God

In prayer we are brought together. Along with the Christians in Corinth, may we "take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints" (2 Corinthians 8:4). Especially at this season let there be a time of anointed intercession for our servicemen—a time when the church acts in the authority of Jesus Christ and dispenses heaven's blessings of peace and tranquility to the spirits of our brothers in the military. Thank God for spiritual fellowship!

We are faced today with a raging conflict in the physical realm. Equally as fierce is the warfare in the spiritual world. In this battle the greatest single power which can influence the destiny of people is Holy Spirit anointed prayer. The ministry of your congregation will be felt on board ships, in barracks, with flight crews, or at points of conflict half a world away.

For American servicemen held captive by the Viet Cong, safety may hang on some whim of political expediency. These men may be harrassed and tortured at the slightest provocation. Prayer is the quickest means whereby the actions of their captors may be influenced. God can intervene! Will we ever be able to hold our shoulders square with the heavenly world if we neglect our solemn obligation to pray in this crucial hour?

A symbol of the current crisis is one of our own Assemblies of God military men, Lt. Col. James Robinson Risner. This 40-year-old career pilot in the U. S. Air Force, who served as commanding officer of the 67th tactical fighter squadron (the "Fighting Cocks"), has been flying combat aircraft since he was 18. During the Korean War he was an air ace with eight Communist Migs to his credit.

Last spring Risner had a close encounter with death. While on a mission in North Vietnam, his \$2½ million Thunderchief fighter-bomber was hit by ground fire. Immediately banking into a half circle, he headed for the sea. In an interview held later for *Time* magazine he stated: "When I got to the coastline, I figured I was safe. But in the water was an enemy gunboat, so I had to keep going. Suddenly the plane flipped over and I was flying upside down. I flew about three-fourths of a mile that way. Then I reached down and pulled the seat handles, which flipped off the canopy. Then I groped until I found the ejection handles. I was still pulling them when the butt-snapper—that's a canvas that snaps taut and flips you clear—under my seat propelled me into the air." He landed safely and was picked up by a rescue seaplane.



Symbolic of the current crisis is one of our own Assemblies of God military men, Lt. Col. James Robinson Risner.

**T**HERE IS NO CURE FOR HOMESICKNESS except home. Christmas will be the most lonely time of the year for servicemen away from their sweethearts, wives, and families.

Someone expressed the plight this way: "It hurts too much to laugh, and I'm too big to cry." So they choke back the longing and carry on in the finest military tradition. Though physically they are far from home, in spirit they are beside the family hearth enjoying the jubilant festivities of this happiest of holidays.

But there are no joyous Christmas programs in Vietnam; no happy laughter of carolers; no echoing sleigh bells. Only bloodshed, suffering, weariness—and empty hearts.

Can we do something to brighten their holiday? We can, if we pray. With vividness I recall the months I spent in lonely separation. Yet there was a sense of security, a knowledge that God was near. It banished the smart of aloneness. The hymn I learned as a lad always brought sweet release.

*"There is a place where spirits blend,  
Where friend holds fellowship with friend;  
Though sundered far, by faith they meet  
Around one common mercy seat."*

Later someone asked him if he was afraid. "Fear," said the pilot, "is a luxury one can't afford. I believe in God; I'm at peace with myself. If death comes, I only hope it comes quickly and that I won't be sorry."

Lt. Col. Risner was called back to the Pentagon and awarded the Air Force Cross for heroism. He is the first living recipient of the award, which is the nation's second highest decoration for valor. Then he went back to Vietnam.

In the middle of September, Risner's jet was hit again. Six F-105 Thunderchiefs were on a military mission near the Phu De Van Chan mountain range, 80 miles northwest of Hanoi. They had to brave an almost impossible curtain of ground fire from machine guns and cannons. As soon as his craft was crippled he again headed for the South China Sea, where he had bailed out last spring.


He almost made it. But near the town of Thanh Hoa, within sight of the sea, he had to eject. Men of the squadron circled and saw him in a paddyfield with no injury. Rescue aircraft hurried to the area but Risner had disappeared, and the beeps from his emergency transmitter had ceased.

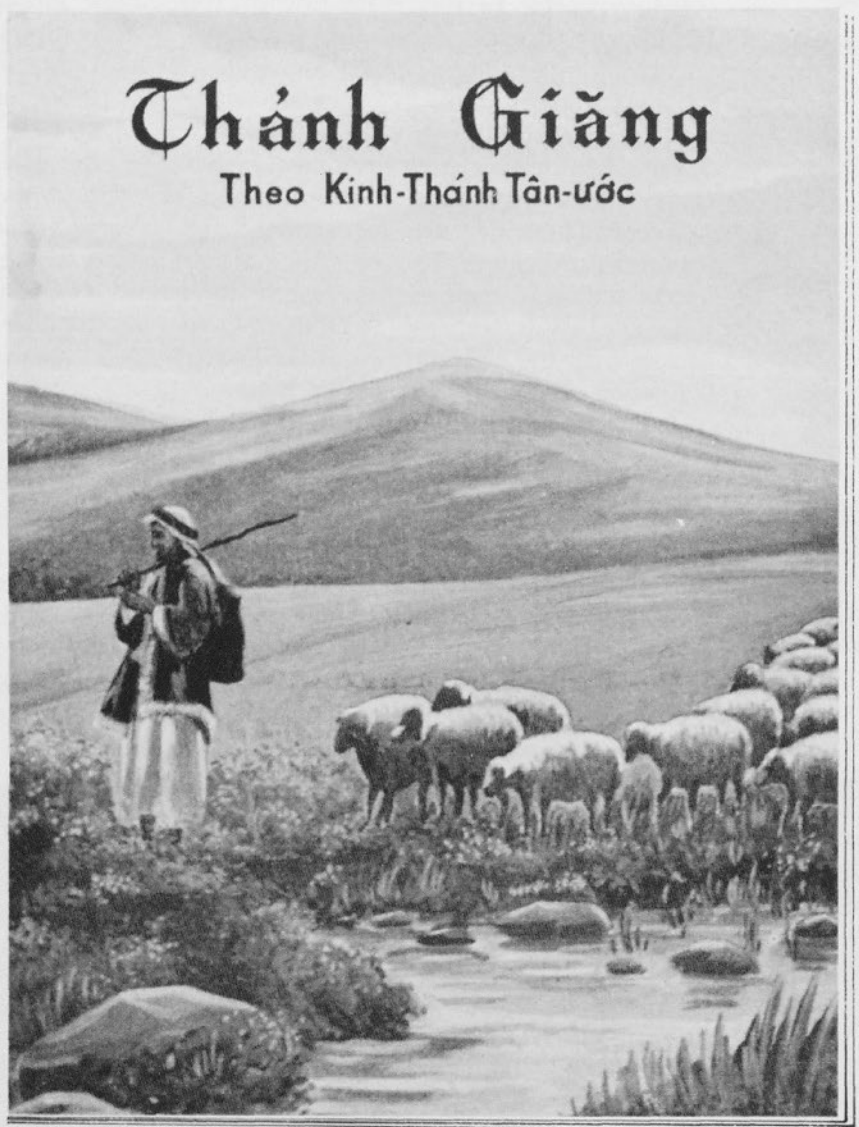
His wife Kathleen and their five sons have moved from Okinawa back to Tulsa, Oklahoma, where they attend an Assemblies of God church. His mother, Mrs. G. W.

Risner, has long been a member of the Assemblies of God and "Jamie," as she calls her son, is a man of whom his loved ones and friends are justifiably proud. During a tour of duty in Hawaii, Lt. Col. Risner served as Sunday school superintendent in the church he attended. Now it is our obligation to support him by our prayer in this time of imprisonment.

James Risner is a symbol of all our servicemen who are giving their best to preserve our freedoms. Godless forces are determined to tyrannize men and destroy the spiritual freedoms which we cherish. They would destroy the Scriptures, close the churches, and silence the voices that would speak for God in our generation.

What can we do for our servicemen? We can take time each day to present their names and their needs in prayer before God's throne. Let our attitude be that of the prophet who cried, "God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you" (1 Samuel 12:23).

Write to them of all the delightful happenings in your home and among your church family. They will live with you those happy holiday experiences; and the merriment of the Christmas season, the fellowship of friends, the blessing of the church services will bring a smile of recollection. And Vietnam for a few minutes will not seem so far away. 



While stationed in foreign lands our servicemen have opportunities to evangelize. Scriptures and tracts in the languages of the people are sent to them free of charge, on request.

Pictured is a Gospel of John in Vietnamese. Also available are New Testaments in Pampangan (Philippines), Gospels of John in Thai (Siam) for use in Thailand; gospel tracts printed in Chinese, Russian, French, German, Korean, and Spanish.

Servicemen obtain tracts in Japanese from Paul F. Klahr, Assemblies of God missionary in Tokyo.

Pray for the many servicemen who are engaging in evangelism, and send an offering to the Servicemen's Division, 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Missouri 65802 to help pay for this gospel literature.

# important DISCOVERY

By PACHECO PYLE

A WISP OF BROWN HAIR, tiny ears, round blue eyes, fat fair cheeks, sweet searching mouth: our son was four months old and perfect. But today he wore a puzzled frown. He was staring at something near his face. It was almost square, and it moved. Suddenly, the edges spread apart, and it opened into crinkly, skinny things.

What a strange and interesting object, his expression said.

Now his eyes widened in surprise. There was another one at the other side of him—just like the first, moving, spreading, opening.

Then they were gone from sight, as suddenly as they had come.

“Weird, beautiful things, whatever can you be?”

They came again, many times during the following weeks. He seemed to sense that they were important to him, and he examined them from every angle, trying to learn their mystery.

Then one sunny morning he sat in his high chair and saw his food on the tray before him. He had often fretted impatiently as I stirred and tested his breakfast. But today his impatience reached a climax, and he grabbed the cereal bowl and held on tightly.

Later in the day, the dog visited the baby's playpen to give him her usual hello. He reached out and grabbed one of her long ears, and she yelped in surprise and pain.

The hands which he had watched in fascination were now at his command. They had been his all along; but in order to use them, he had to accept them as his own.

How like him I was before I met Christ! I had watched Christian people leading lives of peace and joy, and I had stared fascinated, longing to know how such lives came about. There was surely some mystery to becoming good enough to be God's child, I thought.

I examined salvation from every angle, but its secrets refused to open to me.

Then one sunny day I found the verses that solved the mystery: “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast . . .” (Ephesians 2:8, 9).

Salvation did not depend on my goodness but on God's grace! What a relief as I grasped this new truth!

And the promises of God opened to me—mine to enjoy, just as my baby now enjoys his own little hands.

## WONDERING EYES



### HELLO. WHAT KIND OF WORLD IS THIS?

Is it friendly? Does it make sense? Can people be trusted? Will I get hurt?

This child looks out of wondering eyes at the unfamiliar universe. She will grow up to treat other people as she has been treated. Will she see the world as a place where “you’ve got to drop napalm bombs on the bad guys”? Or will she see the world as a place where wise and loving solutions to problems are always possible?

Will she come to know, personally, the Source of heart peace and world peace—the Prince of Peace?

Mother and Father, it's mostly up to you.

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# A GLORIOUS CHURCH



By **WARD R. WILLIAMS**  
Dean of Evangel College  
Springfield, Missouri

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "CHURCH"? Which of its more than seven meanings do you have in mind?

If you answer, "My church is at the corner of Walnut and Main," then by "church" you mean a *building*.

To think of the church as a building contributes to the common misconception that spending time inside a particular building a few hours a week is the mark of a Christian.

If you answer, "My church has 500 in Sunday school," then by "church" you refer to a *congregation*.

When one pastor was asked the question, "Where is your church?" he made it a habit to answer with, "Our church is working in the lumber mill; it is sitting at a desk in the high school; it is operating a gas station over at Fourth and State." His concept of "church" consisted of its members considered as part of the invisible body of Christ who were serving Christ wherever they happened to be.

The apostle Paul sometimes used *church* to refer to a visible group of professing Christians in one place or other. Thus he addresses "the church which is at Corinth," and yet has severe criticism of its practices, even recommending that one member be expelled. All those in this church were not necessarily Christian in a true sense.

If you say, "My church has its headquarters in Springfield, Missouri," you are using "church" to mean the *entire* Assemblies of God as an organized *fellowship*.

If you say, "Church begins at 11 a.m.," you are using "church" to refer to a public *service of worship*.

If you speak of "Christ returning for His bride, which

is the invisible Church," you refer to all living *true believers*, a group accurately known only to God. This is the central scriptural meaning of the word *church*. Jesus said, "I will build my church," and He was referring neither to a denomination, nor to an edifice, nor a local congregation.

The Bible speaks of the Church as being the body of Christ. This is a description that goes right to the heart of the matter. When we sing, "The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ the Lord," we are much nearer the truth than when we sing about "the little brown church in the vale."

The teaching that the Church is the body of Christ helps us understand its true function in His plan. If we look at our own bodies, we recognize that they serve as our means of contact and interchange with the material world all around us.

Suppose I wish to pick up a book and read. My mind desires to know the content of the book, but my feet must carry my body to where the book is located. My arm and hand reach out and by physical manipulation take the physical book from the shelf. Having found the right page, my physical eyes must discern and my physical brain interpret a long and complicated system of symbolic material. Only through these physical members—the eye and brain—interpreting printing into language does my mind finally have the opportunity to grasp the information it originally desired. My mind is immaterial, and the idea it is after is immaterial; but only by the extensive use of material intermediaries can the immaterial be communicated.


So Jesus today, in seeking a contact with this present world, has a body of believers to whom He is related as our minds are to our hands and feet. By the Holy Spirit He is able to act in this world through this body of believers. Therefore He purifies the Church—that He may have an instrument that is clean, able, efficient, and obedient to carry out His will in this world.

In this New Testament concept of the church, the individual member must be subject to the Head, which is Christ. In this way, through our members used as His members, through our bodies used as His body, the will of God can be done in this world. No longer is it for reward that we serve God; no longer is it what God will do for us if we serve Him; but serving Him becomes our highest privilege as well as our duty. Our greatest joy becomes the inner consciousness that we are in the will of God, whether rich or poor, known or unknown, high or low, experiencing adversity or prosperity, in sickness or in health.

If this sounds like a wedding ceremony, it should—because we are the bride of Christ. What a husband! Wedded to Him, we overcome the vicissitudes and cares of life; being truly His, we carry out His will and express His desires in this world, until He comes.

Something of the glory and majesty of the true church is suggested by the words,

*"Do you hear them coming, brother,  
Thronging up the steep of light,  
Clad in glorious shining garments,  
Blood-washed garments pure and white?"*

"'Tis a glorious church, without spot or wrinkle..." and I'm glad that I can say, 'I'm one of them!'" 



## HEALED OF CANCER, GOITER, AND INFECTED KIDNEY

FOURTEEN YEARS AGO I had cancer, and God instantly healed me. At the same time a goiter disappeared and an infected kidney was healed.

I was operating a nursing home in Fine, N. Y., when I became ill. Doctors diagnosed my trouble as cancer of the stomach. I grew steadily worse until I no longer could eat. I was weak and almost helpless. The only nourishment I could take was a small amount of skim milk about twice a day. Even this caused excruciating pain.

One day friends brought me some papers which told of God's power to heal. They had gotten these at a meeting in another city where they had witnessed miracles of healing in answer to prayer. I decided to write to the evangelist and ask him to pray for my body. I knew the doctors could not cure me. They were merely giving me pills to alleviate the awful torment of the constant pain.

I mailed the letter on Tuesday. The next day I was much worse—but on Thursday something wonderful happened.

I lay in bed very ill and weak, partly in a stupor from the pain-killing pills. About three in the afternoon I heard a voice, as clear as if someone were in the room, saying to me, "Get up."

Startled, coming instantly to my senses, I answered, "Oh, I am so weak and ill, I cannot get up."

About a half hour later I heard the same voice again. Clearly and distinctly it said, "Get up."

This time, without answering, I tried to lift my head. I found I could even arise from bed and stand on my feet. The weakness was gone. The pain had ceased. A goiter in my neck had disappeared. Later I learned that an infected kidney was healed too!

I ran my hands over my body where formerly there



This picture of Belle Weaver was taken after she was healed of cancer and had gained some weight. She witnessed to the community that God answers prayer.

had been such pain, but there was no soreness now. Though I was very thin and weak, I now was able to lift my hands and walk. I walked around the room praising and thanking God for the miracle He had wrought.

I went downstairs where Mabel, who helped me in the home, was preparing supper. She was startled to see me; but when she heard me praising God for healing, she joined in and thanked the Lord for this miracle.

At mealtime I sat down and ate a good supper, partaking of all that the rest ate. There was no pain at all! Early the next morning I prepared breakfast for the household, much to the surprise of all.

One of my doctors visited me, as he was leaving the community and wished to say good-bye. He said it did not seem possible that I was moving around in my nursing home as I had done before my illness. "It is a miracle that you are cured!" he said. "You had cancer, and we wanted to cut it out."—Belle Weaver, Edwards, N. Y.

*(Endorsed by Pastor and Mrs. E. H. Simmons, Assembly of God, Edwards, N. Y., who state that God used Sister Weaver's miracle of healing to bring souls to Christ and to establish the Pentecostal testimony in this community.)*

## HEALED OF STOMACH ULCERS

IN SEPTEMBER, 1952, God saved me from a life of terrible sin and misery. I was very sick at that time with stomach ulcers and God wonderfully healed me.

The healing occurred in Carthage, N. Y., where Evangelist L. C. Robie was conducting special meetings. The evangelist offered a general prayer for healing. He instructed us to place our hand on whatever part of our body needed healing. In faith, I placed my hand on my stomach as he prayed. Suddenly I felt a warmth in my stomach, and I knew I had been healed! That warm sensation stayed with me all through the meeting. Oh, how good it felt!

After the service was over, we started for home, rejoicing over God's goodness. We stopped at a diner to eat. I really enjoyed that lunch for I ate things I could not eat at all before I was healed.

I began to gain weight, and felt so well every day. I found I could eat so many things that were forbidden me before.

I am still rejoicing over the wonderful healing power of God. Just three years ago, God also healed me of polio through the earnest prayers of His people. Praise His wonderful name!—Irvin E. Stowell, Edwards, N. Y.

*(Brother Stowell is Sunday school superintendent at the Assembly of God, Edwards, N. Y. His testimony is endorsed by the pastor, E. H. Simmons.)*

If God has healed you recently, we invite you to write out your testimony for publication. This can encourage others who need healing to believe and receive the Lord's healing touch. Please make your testimony as brief as possible, and ask your pastor to sign it. Then mail it to: *The Pentecostal Evangel*, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo. 65802.

# TAIWAN

## A CENTURY OF PROTESTANT MISSIONS



**W**E ARE NOT READY for a 1965 Protestant centennial evangelistic crusade," was the consensus of certain Protestant officials in Taiwan in 1964. Laymen lacked a passion for souls. Literature specialists might design and print attractive literature, but church members would not get it distributed. Without church support and follow-up the work of radio evangelists and radio choirs could be rendered useless.

That was the condition in Taiwan only a few months before the start of the Protestant centennial observances of James Maxwell's 1865 arrival on the island. The churches of Taiwan had looked forward to an extra evangelistic thrust during the centennial year, 1965, but many believed that a deeper-life, church-centered revival was needed first.

As church leaders voiced their opinions of the spiritual condition of some Protestant churches in Taiwan, Paul Pipkin, director of the China Assemblies of God Department of Evangelism, listened intently. He began to seek God's guidance in an effort to cope with the

condition and to make the desired evangelistic thrust more effective. With the shadow of communism hovering like a black cloud over all Asia, a God-sent revival was so needed!

From hours of seeking God's answer, he developed a series of sermons on the life of Gideon. He felt these could be used in an *Operation Deeper Life* among the Chinese churches. He believed that Taiwan could be saved and made a Christian stronghold just as Israel had been saved from her enemy and strengthened spiritually under Gideon. Chinese Christians would need to make the same kind of consecration to God and dedication to His service as did Gideon and his followers.

Shortly after this deeper-life crusades were conducted by Paul Pipkin and Timothy Chang, his interpreter, in Assemblies of God churches. At the conclusion of the message, each Chinese Christian was invited to pledge to pray 10 minutes extra each day for the desired evangelistic thrust of the centennial year, to read his Bible 10 minutes daily, to tithe his income to his local church,



**Above photo: The James Maxwell Memorial Church (Presbyterian) built in memory of the first Protestant missionary to Taiwan in 1865.**

**Left photo: Some of the hundreds of Christians of Taiwan who pledged themselves to prayer and witnessing in 1965, their centennial year.**

and to distribute 10 tracts daily as a personal witness for Christ in 1965.

The China Assemblies of God Department of Evangelism, at Taipei, began receiving decision cards from the services. The first 10 meetings assured the distribution of 15,000 tracts each month, plus a total of 27 hours daily in Bible reading, and 27 hours daily in prayer for evangelization of the lost. Beautiful "Gideon Cadet Certificates" were issued to the Christians. Here was tangible evidence of a deeper-life revival in the true meaning of the term. It was a time of decision for the church, and every letter of commitment brought rejoicing to the leaders of the movement.

As the Assemblies of God *Operation Deeper Life* was coming to an end, the Taiwan Evangelical Fellowship (a sister organization to the National Association of Evangelicals in the United States) expressed interest in the program. Its executive committee voted to adopt the *Operation Deeper Life* format to precede the centennial evangelistic crusades originally planned. On behalf of the Taiwan Evangelical Fellowship, Miss Elizabeth Evans, TEF office secretary, and Dr. James Dixon, of the Taipei Presbyterian Seminary, arranged with the Assemblies of God Foreign Missions Department for Paul Pipkin to be shared with the Taiwan Evangelical Fellowship to carry the deeper-life program to all interested evangelical churches in Taiwan.

*Operation Deeper Life*, with its laymen mobilization program, soon was greatly expanded. Eighteen union efforts were conducted, attended by pastors and laymen of more than 150 churches. Participating were the Presbyterian Church, Southern Baptist Convention, Mission Covenant, Friends, Taiwan Holiness, Swedish Holiness, and the Assemblies of God. Besides these union efforts Paul Pipkin and Timothy Chang were invited to minister in local churches. Hopes began to revive for dynamic Christian witnessing during the century that was being born.

Paul Pipkin rejoiced as he witnessed the Holy Spirit's move in the churches. A deeper hunger for a move of God's Spirit soon became evident. The missionary heard confessions of weaknesses and fruitlessness. There were times when God gave a vision of lost humanity to those who sought His will. Among the laity were persons who expressed a longing for assurance that their sins had been forgiven. Many asked that the Spirit of God direct their lives even as Gideon's life was directed. "But the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon" (Judges 6:34).

In one city a leading minister requested an interview. He sobbed out a story of spiritual defeat, telling how he regretted having attended seminary or ever having become a member of the clergy. He contemplated leaving the ministry. But victory came to the weary, discouraged man. Before he left the hotel room, he said, "This is the happiest moment of my life. I will continue in the ministry and bring this revival to my people."

In a Presbyterian church, Paul Pipkin was asked to pray for a number of sick persons. The local pastor arranged for the sick to walk by the pulpit, and an amazing number of them filed by for prayer. After each prayer, the pastor led the large congregation in saying, "Thank you, Jesus! Thank you, Jesus!" Sick persons found the Lord to be "... the same yesterday, and today, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8).



Paul Pipkin and his interpreter, Timothy Chang, preach the gospel from denominational pulpits of the Taiwan Evangelical Fellowship.

There were some large, beautiful churches with conservative, ritualistic worship; notwithstanding, faith and expectancy seemed to be on every hand, and the Spirit of God entered those churches, too, and met needs.

In one place Paul Pipkin and Timothy Chang encountered resistance. They placed the matter before God. Following the next message, the pastor wept in the presence of his congregation. He acknowledged a personal need and took the blame for the church's low spiritual tide. The pastor urged the people to join him in repentance before God. Key members of the church presented themselves to seek God's face, and the church was brought to a place of unity and love.

A woman, the picture of fear, needed deliverance from oppression. She told of being threatened at night by monkeys. Paul Pipkin and Timothy Chang joined in prayer for her, and relief came to her troubled mind.

More than 135 hours of daily prayer and an equal amount of Bible study were pledged on postcards received at the office of the Taiwan Evangelical Fellowship. Approximately 300 persons indicated that they would tithe in 1965. Laymen pledged to distribute 70,000 tracts each month during 1965—or 840,000 tracts during this entire year.

Immediately following the TEF *Operation Deeper Life*, the Protestant Centennial Committee launched an all-out evangelistic thrust throughout Taiwan similar to that originally planned—a centennial evangelistic crusade. Forty campaigns were conducted with such outstanding evangelists as Calvin Chao and Andrew Gih as the featured speakers. Some personal workers used in the evangelistic meetings were Christians who had consecrated themselves to God in the deeper-life meetings.

A growing team spirit has developed among Christians in Taiwan in this centennial year. Christians are working zealously to strengthen their local churches.

The Holy Spirit responds to faith in any nation. Evangelical groups of Taiwan worked together for revival among the laymen. God met them.

As the Taiwan churches face the onslaughts of the enemy in their second century, they must exercise faith, consecrate themselves, and entreat anew for a continuous deeper-life revival!

One Illinois church gives more than . . .

# 43% of total income TO MISSIONS



CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY in Zion, Illinois, broke all former records in faith promises for missions giving at its recent missions convention. The total promised was \$15,085.

This church has always far exceeded its actual pledges in its missions giving. Last year the pledges were \$14,922, but total giving to world missions was \$22,171.52. This amount, approximately 43.5 percent of the church budget was an increase of \$4,920.77 over the previous year. The members gave over \$27,000 in cooperative fellowship giving, or 53 percent of their budget.

Christian Assembly led the Illinois District in Boy's and Girl's Mission-

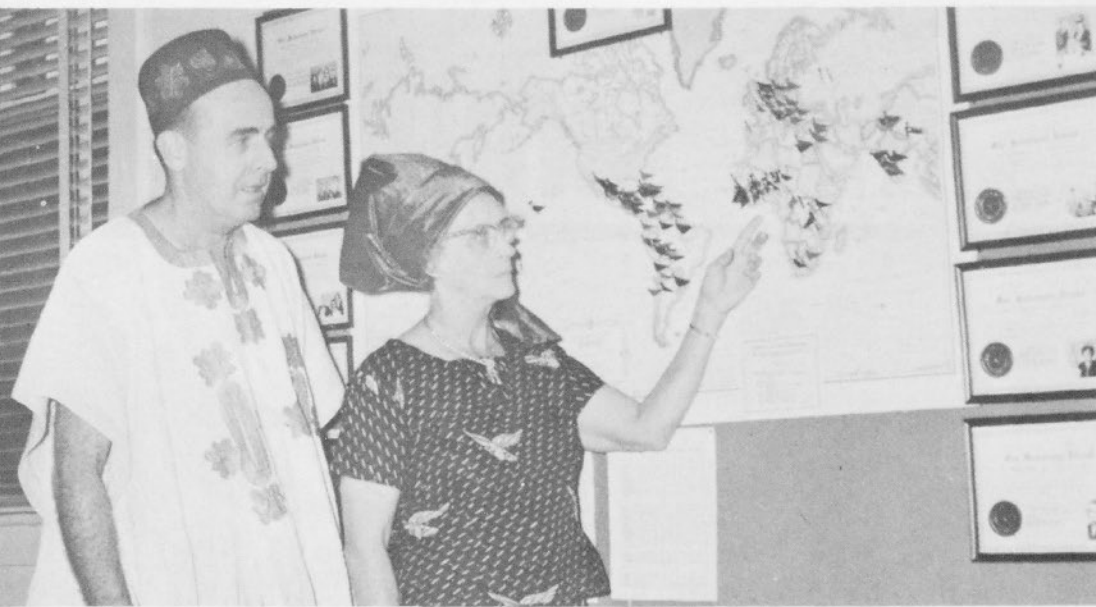
ary Crusade giving last year. With a goal of \$500 for the year, the Zion BGMC raised \$714.32. The local Women's Missionary Council was second in Illinois in the penny fund offering, used to buy property for home missions projects. The women collected 56,270 pennies and also gave almost \$400 for other projects.

Pastor Michael Tabor says that the church has a monthly missions Sunday when the Christians pay their faith promises. Also the total Sunday school offering for this day goes to missions. In addition, at least once a month the pastor emphasizes missions in a midweek service by giving the names of missionaries to different

Missionary John Hurston (left), speaking at the annual missions convention in Zion, Ill., tells of the stirring revival God has sent to Korea.

Pastor Michael Tabor of Zion's Christian Assembly leads the services during the week-long missions convention.






Rex and Martha Jackson received regular support from the Christian Assembly in Zion, Ill., during nearly 25 years of missionary service in Nigeria.

individuals in the church for prayer. Missionary letters are read at this service as well as on Sunday mornings.

A week-long missions convention highlights the church's yearly missions program. This year, missionaries taking part were John Hurston of Korea; Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Stone, new appointees to Uruguay; the Rex Jacksons, missionaries to Nigeria for nearly 25 years; and a team of workers from the Chicago Teen Challenge Center. The local choir gave an impressive performance of a missionary cantata, "The Greatest Story Yet Untold."

Christian Assembly's accomplishments prove that a church does not

need thousands of members to have an effective worldwide evangelism program. The church, with an average Sunday school attendance of 234 contributes nearly \$2,000 a month to help support 11 missionary families and three single missionaries; to help five home missionary families; and to help home missions projects such as *Sites for Souls*, Teen Challenge, Chicago Hebrew work, and new churches in the district.

World missions is a vital part of this church's life. Its missionary outreach has provided the message of eternal life to literally thousands in far corners of the earth. 



The Christian Assembly has been greatly blessed of God because of its systematic and dedicated missions program.



## CALL TO ACTION

J. Philip Hogan

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN MISSIONS


### OUR GUARANTEE OF VICTORY

AS WE CLOSE out another calendar year, we have an opportunity to reflect. When an enterprise as vast and as costly as the foreign missions outreach of the Church is involved, there are people who ask, "What of the future? Do we have any guarantee of victory?"

Such questions become even more pertinent when we consider that much of our foreign work is going on in the world's most vital areas of political and military concern. In the crisis, confusion, and frustration of these times we unerringly turn to the New Testament for a renewing vision of realism and hope.

Professor Oscar Cullman articulated this truth well when he said, "The decisive battle in a war may already have occurred in a relatively early stage of the war, yet the war still continues. . . . Precisely this is the situation of which the New Testament is conscious. . . . The revelation consists precisely in the fact of the proclamation that that event on the Cross, together with the Resurrection which followed, was the already concluded decisive battle. This then means that the hope for the future can now be supported by faith in the past."

That which has already happened offers the solemn guarantee for that which will take place. On this foundation, and on no other, can the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ base its faith and mission, knowing that it is part of a complex and magnificent master plan. When Jesus appears, His coming will not in itself be the victory, but the culmination of the victory already won.

This could not have been explained more clearly than when Peter said, "This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. . . . For David is not ascended into the heavens: but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, until I make thy foes thy footstool" (Acts 2:32-35). 

## IF CHRIST HAD NOT COME

IF JESUS CHRIST had not come, the prophecies would be unfulfilled; there would be no Saviour for mankind. The character of God who loves us and cares for us as a Father would be unknown; the secret of peace for the soul would be unrevealed; the world would be without the marvelous example of a sinless life. We would be groping our way without His matchless teaching. We would have no assurance that God hears and answers when we pray. The blessing of freedom as we know it would not have been experienced; and eternal life would still be a fond hope instead of a great conviction and eager expectation.

But Christ did come—and He was born for you. It was said, "This child is set for the fall and rising again of many" (Luke 2:34). This greatest night of history is for you and me a night of destiny. Your soul is at stake, and Christ is the issue. To many He is a stumblingstone and a rock of offense. To the believer He is the Rock of Ages.

Let your heart become a manger in which Christ by faith is born in you, and let your life be a chapel in which God is praised for His unspeakable gift.

(Adapted from a tract, "Jesus the Saviour Is Born," written by Dr. Paul S. James and published by the American Tract Society.)



This joyous season gives the missions staff an opportunity to thank each **Evangel** reader who has supported world missions during 1965. Through your prayers and contributions, our foreign and home missionaries have been able to continue their dedicated ministry of world evangelization. May the year ahead be a blessed one for you.

# THE UNDIVORCED

**WE ARE SHOCKED AND SADDENED** when a seemingly solid marriage ends in divorce, for divorce always leaves ugly scars, sometimes never-healing wounds.

However, there is a situation that can be equally as heartbreaking. A prominent physician observed recently that while one out of three marriages ends in divorce, another one out of three is not so much a state of marriage as it is simply of being "undivorced." Love and communication are gone, but the couple remains together because of social pressures, children, finances, or for some other reason.

What can be done for couples who are *undivorced*, as the doctor called it? Scripturally, they should not pursue separation, but living together without understanding and love creates severe tensions. When love leaves the home, it becomes merely a house where an assortment of human beings just happen to eat and sleep together. Out of such homes, we are told, come juvenile delinquents and neurotics, or worse. Unhappiness breeds unhappiness, and the children's marriages are often as chaotic as their parents'.

Specialists have written books going into great detail and giving a wide variety of suggestions for making love come alive once more. However, I have found no advice better than that given by Peter in his First Epistle, chapter 3.

After giving each partner some very practical advice, Peter states some broad principles of marital harmony. This philosophy is so simple and yet so profound that all married couples can profit from them. They can prevent marriage problems, and they can solve them.

### "BE YE ALL OF ONE MIND"

Psychologists say the most common problem in marriage, one which often leads to divorce, is lack of communication. Somewhere during the years

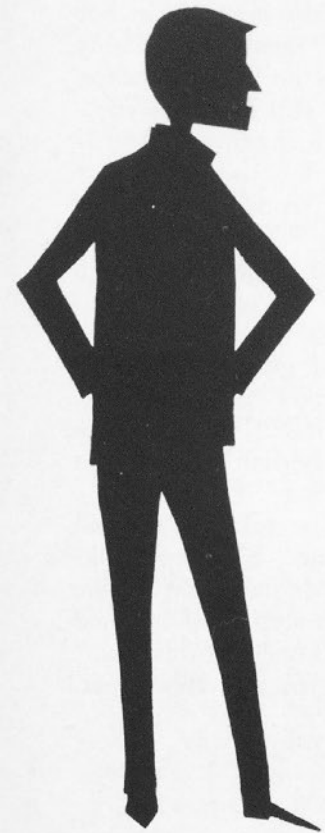


of marriage the partners have drifted apart and there is no longer a common link between them. As a result, there are quarrels over money, the raising of children, sex, in-laws, and a dozen other things. Through constant disagreement, communication breaks down.

But how does "one-mindedness" come about? It will help to talk things out without great emotion. Concentrate on areas of agreement rather than on your differences. Remember, you were attracted through some common interest. Perhaps this could be developed again. Pray together about your problems. If you still have trouble, arrange for a joint conference with your pastor. Most pastors have not only a theological background, but also education and practical experience in dealing with such problems.

### "HAVING COMPASSION ONE OF ANOTHER"

Compassion is defined as "sympathetic consciousness of another's distress, coupled with a desire to relieve it." Often married couples, in



By **CHARLES R. HEMBREE**  
 Pastor, Hessville Assembly  
 Hammond, Indiana

the heat of arguments, concentrate on one another's faults rather than on the problem that distresses each. Because of this, the original problem is seldom solved but is pushed back in the subconscious to join our unsolved problems. This leads not to relief, but to frustration. If each marriage partner will practice compassion toward the other in the truest sense of the word problems can be worked out as they come up.

**"LOVE AS BRETHREN"**

The heart of Peter's entire message to married couples is his appeal for respect for each other in the marriage relationship. But are husbands and wives to have the same affection for one another as brothers in the Lord? How does this work? We do not speak disrespectfully to our brother in the Lord, lest he be offended. We are careful not to take advantage of him, and we are quick to help him when he is in trouble. We make an effort to see that he enjoys the time we spend with him. We would not

lose our temper with a brother.

So Peter says if marriage partners will have the same respect for each other as they do for their brothers and sisters in the Lord, their love will stay alive. How much richer and deeper the marriage relationship would be if we learned to love as brethren!

**"BE PITIFUL"**


The New English Bible translates this "be kindly." So few practice kindness toward their mates. When as a minister I am performing a wedding ceremony, I would sometimes like to stop and ask most unceremoniously, "Do you know what you are promising before God?" So many repeat the sacred vows without thinking what is involved.

If marriage partners would really follow through on all the promises they make on their wedding day, they would deal kindly with each other all the days of their lives. And a person concerned about the other's welfare is a person easy to love.

**"BE COURTEOUS: NOT RENDERING EVIL FOR EVIL"**

Here is one of the most important keys to a successful marriage. Marriage is not only *selecting* the right mate; it is also *being* the right mate. Some wives complain that their husbands, who are most considerate to others, are inconsiderate in the home. Likewise, a husband may complain that while the wife is very gracious to those outside the home, she says many harsh and cutting things to her family.

If we could realize that Christ taught Christianity in family relationships just as in all others, our homes would be happier places. We must go the second mile in marriage, turn the other cheek, be concerned with giving rather than with getting. The spirit of giving is contagious and soon the other marriage partner begins to consider ways to reciprocate. The result is that a rare sweetness and tenderness comes into their relationship.

Some might say these suggestions are trite, or too hard to follow. Yet as they are lived out in homes, love comes alive and hearts are made happy. If even one of the marriage partners takes the initiative in building a scriptural marriage relationship, a great change will take place. The undivorced can be reunited and the divided spirits can again become one. I have seen it work in the lives of those who dared to try it. 



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I MET HER IN PORTLAND, OREGON, and she told me her story. When I asked what her name was, she said, "Honey child, you couldn't say it. Just call me Brown Sugar. Everyone else does."

The work God has called this dear old saint to do is not easy, but it is richly rewarding. One day as she was praying, the Lord spoke to her. "Brown Sugar, I have called you to a hard work. Will you do it?"

"Yes, Lord, if You will go with me."

"I will never leave you nor forsake you as long as you do My will. You will have no money at times, no food, and no place to sleep except in bus depots. No church will help you, and you will have no permanent home. Are you still willing?"

She told me she answered "Yes" without hesitation, for she wanted to follow her Lord.

The Lord continued, "I have children in trouble, and no one cares. I am asking you to help them. Go now to the bus depot and you will find a little girl who plans to take her life in an hour. She has blue eyes, brown curls, and is about five feet tall. She will be crying. Help her and send her home."

The old saint hurried to the bus depot and found the girl crying. "Honey child, what's wrong?" she asked.

"I am lost," the girl said.

"More ways than one," mused Brown Sugar, smelling alcohol on her breath.

"What do you mean?"

"My Lord died to save you. Why don't you let Him?"

The girl laughed bitterly. "I don't know who your Lord is, but no one can save me. See that clock? In 30 minutes I am going to end it all."

"You mean take your own life?" The girl nodded and Brown Sugar continued, "Shame on you. And besides you wouldn't end it all. You just begin it in hell and that forever. Honey child, those flames are mighty hot. And if you kill yourself, there is no way of escape. Besides, my Lord sent me here to tell you He loves you."

"My own mother doesn't love me. How can your Lord? And why does He want to?"

"God thought enough of you to send Jesus to die for you," Brown Sugar said.

Changing the subject the girl said hopefully, "I am dying for a drink. Have you got a drink?"

"Yes, I have a drink," Brown Sugar answered.

"Please, give it to me!" the girl cried, grabbing her arm.

"I have living water. It doesn't come from a bottle. It comes from my Lord. He sent me to tell you He died for you. He wants to give you eternal life," Brown Sugar said.

To the girl it was a cruel joke. She tossed her head and cried, "Go ahead, make fun of me." She kept looking at the clock. "When that train goes over that bridge I'll be on the bridge. And trains don't stop," she laughed wildly. "They'll say good riddance. No one will miss me."

Brown Sugar caught her by the arm and shook her.

# BROWN SUGAR

By MABLE STAFFORD





"Stop that this minute. Jesus cares for you, Honey, or He wouldn't have sent me here to talk to you."

"You called me Honey," the girl began to cry again. "It has been so long since anyone called me that."

"I love you, and Jesus loves you. Let me tell you about Him," pleaded Brown Sugar.

"Please do," the girl whispered.

In a few minutes Mary accepted Christ as her Saviour. As she wiped the tears from her eyes a big policeman came over to them and asked, "Is this lady bothering you?"

"Oh, no, Mister. She is the only friend I have—except Jesus," Mary smiled. "Hear that train? I would have been under its wheels, but she helped me find Jesus, and now I am going home."

The Lord spoke to Brown Sugar again. "You buy her a ticket." The ticket cost \$8 and she had \$2 left. Then the Lord spoke again. "Give her the rest of the money for food." Brown Sugar obeyed.

"I put her on the bus," she told me, "then I turned to go—where? I remembered the Lord's words, 'Sometimes you won't have any place to sleep and sometimes you won't eat.'"

She looked up to see a man walking toward her. He said, "I just saw what you did for the girl. I need help too."

Thinking he wanted money she told him she had just given the girl her last. "Oh, I don't want money," he said. "I want help. I am a wino. My wife has tried every way in the world to help me. I have been to doctors, I have joined nondrinkers clubs, but I'm still a drunkard. I heard that girl say she wasn't burning up for a drink anymore. Can you help me?"

"No," said the old saint, "but Jesus can."

"Please tell me how," he pleaded, and she did. A few minutes later he rose from his knees shouting, "It's gone! The craving's gone!" People turned to look, but he didn't care. Brown Sugar talked to him about living for the Lord, and he said, "I'm going home to tell my wife the good news!"

As he shook her hand when he left, he placed a \$20 bill in it. In such ways God uses her and provides for her.

"When I have no money, I fast until the Lord sends someone to help," she told me. "When I have no place to stay, I sleep in the bus depot. The police don't bother me; but if they say anything, I just show them my Bible. I have a good time helping my Lord. I preach some and see souls saved, but my greatest harvest is in the depot."

Because Brown Sugar places herself at God's disposal, He uses her in many ways.

A young minister was so discouraged he felt he could not go on. He prayed in despair, "Lord, if You don't want me to quit, send someone to help me." Then as he walked along the street a hand was laid on his shoulder and Brown Sugar said, "What's wrong, son?" He told her, and she prayed for him there on the street.

"When we got to our feet, my troubles were gone," he said. "It was just like God to send Brown Sugar along when I needed help."

I have not heard anything from Brown Sugar for a year or so, but I know this: if she is still alive, she is in the harvest, working for the Lord.

## AND THE WORLD GOES ON...

We were eating Sunday dinner when he came.  
The voices of our children were raised in laughter.  
There was closeness, harmony, comfort, plenty.  
We had forgotten the world outside—  
Until that knock came, and I went to the door.

He was a very small brown boy,  
With thin, scarred arms and legs.  
His brown eyes were sad, but wary,  
Like those of a wounded animal.  
I knew his story.

"Can I mow your lawn?"

He bowed his head, afraid for my answer...

I was kind, but—

Back at the table, my food seemed suddenly tasteless.  
All my blessings!

My happy children, so safe from that child's sorrow,  
That child who suffered so much, who needed so much.

And the world goes on...

Standing horrified with his three brothers,  
He had watched his mother die by her own hand;  
It was just a few days ago, up the street from us.

And the world goes on...

"Why didn't you stop her?" the grandmother asked;  
And the children had cried,

But the world goes on...

The little boy keeps mowing lawns for a pittance,  
And his brothers play in the streets.  
No mother marks their comings and goings—  
No father cares.

And the world goes on...

No church misses these wandering lambs from its fold,  
Yet, "It is not the will of your Father  
That one of these little ones should perish."

And the church goes on...

Lavishing tender care upon her own,  
While these little ones and countless others bear  
A nameless hunger for that same care.

And the world goes on...for it is the world;  
But while it measures out charity

From some community fund,  
Those children grope for the Bread of Life—  
Which only the church can give—

And know not for what they seek.

Shall we withhold that Bread,  
And thus create by default what they frown upon as  
Juvenile delinquents

To be incarcerated somewhere by society,  
While the church goes on, nurturing her own,  
Neglecting the rest?

*Father, forgive us.*

*Stop us from going on without seeing or caring,*

*And reach out through us Thy hands of love*

*To all the sorrowing children.*

—By a Christian mother



# GOD PROTECTS HIS SON

Sunday School Lesson for December 26, 1965

MATTHEW 2:13-23

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

*Angelic Warning* (v. 13). The Wise Men had been warned in a dream not to return to Herod. Here Joseph was similarly warned to flee into Egypt. Joseph probably had no idea of the danger the Child faced, but God knew and was quick to provide a means of protection. "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them" (Psalm 34:7). Unseen angelic hosts still far outnumber our unseen adversaries and our seen dangers! (See 2 Kings 6:15-17; Hebrews 1:14.)

*Joseph's Obedience* (vv. 14, 15). Joseph knew the journey to Egypt would be both inconvenient and dangerous to the Child and His mother. Yet Joseph was prompt to obey. Quite often God may guide us in ways which seem unreasonable and difficult; but no one who has followed a genuine directive from heaven ever failed to profit by it.

*Herod's Wrath* (vv. 16-18). "Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceed-

ing wrath." Too bad Herod did not realize he was really mocked of *God*. Instead, he became furious and commanded the slaughter of innocent children. Perhaps we have been thwarted and have considered ourselves mocked by people and circumstances. If so, would it not be wise to ask ourselves whether God is dealing with us through these people or circumstances? If we listen closely, we may hear the Lord saying to us, "Ye shall not go up, nor fight against your brethren... for this thing is from me" (1 Kings 12:24).

There are no limits to which men go—once they abandon themselves to evil. Herod stands out in the pages of history as a monster of cruelty. His slaughter of the innocents was in keeping with his self-centered character.

But as one writer says, "The slaughter of the innocents by modern Herods is still going on physically, morally, and religiously, by neglect, ignorance, cruelty, fashions, bad company, saloons, cigarettes, harmful reading, low amusements, unclean habits, gross immorality." But, thank God, children also have their "guardian angels" in the persons of godly parents, ministers, and Sunday school teachers—and added to this they have good literature, spiritual atmosphere, Christian homes and associates.

*Herod's Doom* (vv. 19, 20). Herod soon joined the murdered babies in death. Josephus, the Jewish historian, said that the last year of Herod's life was a living hell, a time of unending pain. "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord" (Romans 12:19).

"They are dead that sought the young child's life" (v. 20). What an illustration of the *folly of fighting against God!* Destructive critics have sought the life of the Bible; persecutors have sought the life of the Church; unbelievers have sought the life of Christianity. But the passage of time has brought the same report, "They are dead which sought the young child's life." And that will be said of everyone who arises to fight God and His anointed.

"The good have everything to hope from time; the bad have everything to fear from it." Empires and individuals who exalt themselves against God die; God's truth and Kingdom go marching on! The temporal can never conquer the eternal!

*Christ's Preservation* (vv. 21-23). God knew exactly in what soil the tender Babe would flourish best. Therefore, He led Joseph to settle in a place which, in the natural, would be most unlikely—the lowly, despised village of Nazareth. We do not know exactly what Old Testament reference Matthew had in mind here. Probably he referred to Isaiah 11:1 in which Christ is referred to as a *Branch*. This word closely resembles the word from which the name *Nazareth* is derived. This may also be a reference to Isaiah 53:2, which predicted that Christ would grow up in humble and unpretentious surroundings. Thus Christ, living in such an environment, was sheltered and protected from premature notoriety which would have hindered God's purposes for His life.

God knows exactly where to place us. If we believe Romans 8:28, we will not complain about our environment or seek to escape from it. On the contrary, if God has placed us where we are, we ought to look to Him to make us "more than conquerors" and to help us become a blessing in our environment.

## THE PLACE OF SAFETY



# The Building Grows (1955-1959)

By NOEL PERKIN, Foreign Missions Director Emeritus



THERE HAS BEEN A STEADY ADVANCE of foreign missions throughout the history of the Assemblies of God. At the 1957 General Council, the General Superintendent said, "The past two years have been the most eventful of the 44-year history of *The Pentecostal Evangel*" (for the magazine doubled in size, added color, and adopted a new format). What was true of the *Evangel* could also be said for the Foreign Missions Department. The five-year period from 1955 through 1959 brought many changes in administrative structure, finances, long-range projects, and pattern of growth throughout the world.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS BOARD ESTABLISHED

The 1955 General Council at Oklahoma City was said to be the greatest in size of any General Council held up to that time. In one of the gatherings there were some 6,500 in the main auditorium and another 700 in an adjoining hall. A number of policy changes made at that time greatly influenced the future successes of foreign missions.

The General Council agreed with the executive presbytery and the Foreign Missions Department that the growth of the work justified enlarging the top body of foreign missions administration. The General Council accepted a special committee's recommendation that the foreign missions board be established, and that, since the work of the Foreign Missions Department necessitated close cooperation of all the home churches to provide the funds and personnel for missions, it would be proper that the board include six pastors selected from representative geographical areas of the country. It was also decided that an advisory committee be formed of six consecrated, Spirit-filled laymen from among our fellowship, known for their spirituality, good judgment, and faithfulness. These would be named by the general presbytery to work with the foreign missions board.

The foreign missions board, therefore, consists of the executive director of the Foreign Missions Department, two other members of the executive presbytery, the four field secretaries, six pastors, and the advisory committee of six laymen. The pastors are appointed for periods of three years with their terms staggered so that just two are changed each year.

## MISSIONARY REPRESENTATION DEFINED

Up until 1955, the representation of the foreign fields on the general presbytery was through the executive director and the four field secretaries, together with

superintendents of our overseas missionary fellowship committees who happened to be in the United States at the time of the General Council. To increase and stabilize the foreign missionary representation, the General Council decided that two missionaries be selected from each of the areas represented by the field secretaries. These would serve in the general presbytery sessions. Such appointees would serve only while on furlough, and others would be selected for each succeeding year.

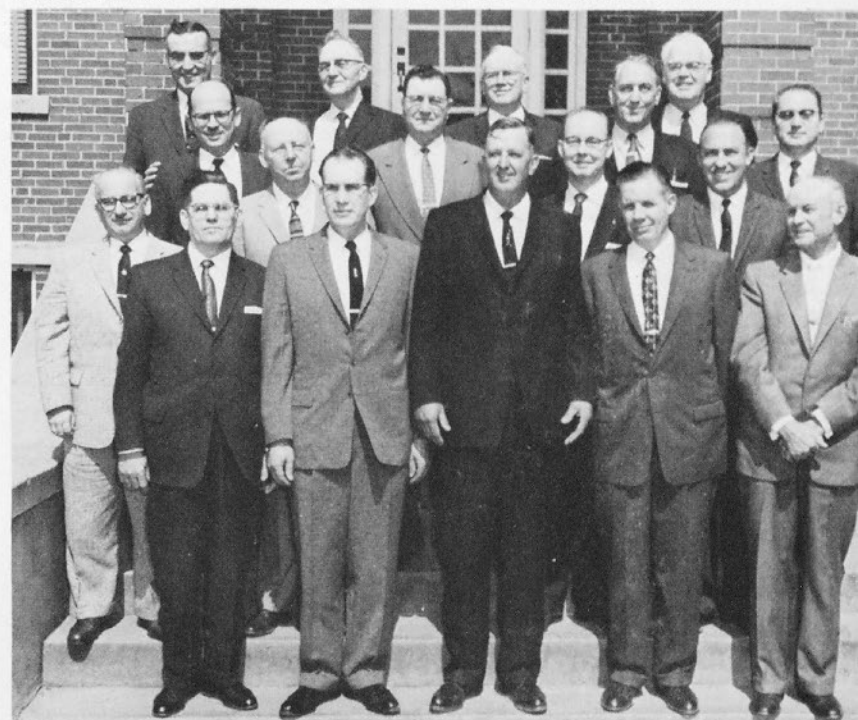
## WORLD MISSIONS PLAN INAUGURATED

The *World Missions Plan*, which calls for a division of missionary offerings by each local church between foreign missions and home missions, was incorporated into the bylaws of the Assemblies of God in 1955. The division of funds under this plan is as follows:

- 70% to Foreign Missions
- 5% to Foreign Missions Administration
- 5% to National Home Missions
- 20% to District Home Missions

The purpose of this division was to provide for the

Creation of a Foreign Missions Board was an important step in developing our missions program. This photo was taken in 1959.



total expenses involved in missions, both in the work of the Foreign Missions Department for overseas evangelism and in the work of the Home Missions Department for establishing new churches in unreached areas in our own country.

A further decision was that up to 10 percent of undesignated offerings to missions could be used for administration and promotion.

#### GLOBAL CONQUEST IS BORN

In 1957 was launched the *Global Conquest* program, a strategic plan of missions advance designed to pinpoint the areas of special need and urgency so that interested friends might know how to best invest their missionary offerings. It was to be a three-pronged evangelistic thrust through (1) increasing the distribution of gospel literature, (2) increasing our efforts to train and help thrust forth God-anointed, Bible-instructed national ministers in every land, and (3) increasing our emphasis on evangelizing strategic centers of population for Christ by converging our efforts on carefully selected places throughout the world. By coordinated and concentrated missionary endeavor the church might thus become more widely established in the world. The results of this program through the ensuing years has been most gratifying. *Global Conquest* has become the strategic arm of Assemblies of God missions. Through it significant advances have been made, especially in the great cities of the world.

*Global Conquest* magazine was first published in August, 1959, and has since become a major means of informing Christian believers of the evangelistic advances of Assemblies of God missions around the world. It replaced *The World Challenge*, which had merged with *The Pentecostal Evangel* in 1959.

#### DEFINITE GOALS SET

At the 1957 General Council a number of goals were approved, among which were the following:

- 60 additional missionaries by 1960
- 10,000 national workers by 1960
- 600,000 members in foreign lands

At that time there were 758 missionaries and other ordained ministers of the General Council serving overseas, 8,005 national workers, and 574,653 members of



Literature distribution is one of the projects of Global Conquest. Here Pablo Morales witnesses with literature in Colombia.

the Assemblies of God in foreign lands. By 1960, there were 788 appointed missionaries on our list, 12,657 ordained, licensed, and lay workers in our mission fields, and 745,446 active adult members in the Assemblies of God overseas, along with 240,000 other adherents who were not registered as members.

#### THE SCHOOL OF MISSIONS

In 1957, official approval was given at the General Council for an annual School of Missions. At first it was called a School of Missionary Orientation, but later it was officially named the School of Missions so not only missionary candidates but also missionaries on furlough and district missionary secretaries could be included. The school gives a wide range of instruction and is largely carried out in the form of a missions seminar with studies in the many aspects of evangelism, human relations, and means of communicating the gospel.

The period from 1955 through 1959 saw a general reorganization of the administrative structure of the Foreign Missions Department, necessary because of the impressive growth of Assemblies of God missions around the world.

Global Conquest is our strategic mission of evangelism. As these students evangelize in Nigeria, so the gospel must be preached everywhere.





# HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT CONFRONTED ME

By HAROLD L. CHRISTMANN

Chairman of the Department of Religion and Philosophy  
Evangel College, Springfield, Missouri

FOR SEVERAL YEARS I hungered for the power to live as the early Christians lived and to do the things Christ said His disciples would be able to do. I was an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and served three years active duty as a Navy chaplain. Then I became pastor of First Christian Church in El Cajon, California.

There was a deep longing in my heart to have a healing ministry, but I did not know how to have Christ's power within me. I prayed; I pleaded; I begged. Finally, in frustration, I committed the matter to God.

In the providence of God my Navy duty took me to San Diego. There, through the encouragement of friends, I began to pray for the sick, but there was still no evidence of healing in my personal ministry.

Later, at a Spiritual Life camp, I came into fresh contact with the living Christ. Before this, my awareness of Him was primarily as of the Holy One of God, seated at the right hand of the Father. Now He was the living Christ within. The Holy Spirit also became a living reality in my life. He was no longer simply a doctrine to be taught, but a person whose fellowship was to be enjoyed.

I began to see God's healing power manifested in my ministry. First, my wife was healed of depression. Then a Navy wife I visited in the hospital was converted and healed of a serious back condition. Prayer became for me an exciting time of communion with God.

Then came a testing time. All sense perception of the presence of the Lord departed. I thought I could never pray for the sick again. But through this experience the Lord taught me a precious lesson: the recovery of those for whom I prayed did not depend upon my feeling, but upon His Word.

But there were other problems. Discouragement came. The responsibilities of the ministry weighed heavily upon me. The taste of reality I had had caused me to realize there must be more.

Then I met a Pentecostal minister. To my surprise, I discovered that he was not only human but quite likeable. Here was a man with whom I could talk, and with whom I found a real spiritual kinship.

It was about this time that I became aware of the move of the Holy Spirit among various denominations—Baptists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, and others. Then a Lutheran pastor who was a friend of mine received the Pentecostal Baptism. That convinced me this Baptism was real.

I asked my Pentecostal pastor friend to give me books


on the baptism in the Spirit, for I wanted to be sure there was a firm scriptural foundation for this experience. When I was convinced of that, I knew I wanted the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

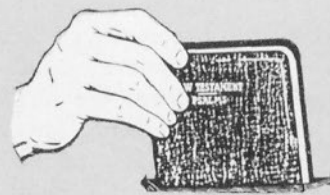
I began to meet daily with R. L. Davis, pastor of Central Assembly of God in El Cajon. The second day we prayed together God filled me with the Holy Spirit. I began to speak in tongues and continued to speak fluently. It was as if someone had opened the floodgates and the living waters flowed (John 7:37, 38).

I was quite surprised at the absence of strong feelings at the time I received the baptism of the Spirit; but then I realized that the initial scriptural evidence of the infilling of the Spirit is not feelings but speaking in other tongues.

There were some stormy days ahead, but the Holy Spirit provided adequate resources to meet the trials. Whatever spiritual reality I had before, now I had more of it. There were more healings. My wife and daughter received this experience of Pentecost as we prayed together in our home. Two youths in my church, the minister of music, and another member received the infilling of the Holy Spirit. How happy I was! I transferred my ministerial affiliation to the Southern California District of the Assemblies of God in 1963.

I found the Pentecostal experience is not the final goal but the beginning of a new life in the Spirit. We are like babes who must learn how to walk in the Spirit. Let me encourage any denominational friend who may read this testimony. Do not let previous teaching, past experience, or any person rob you of this mighty infilling of the Holy Spirit.

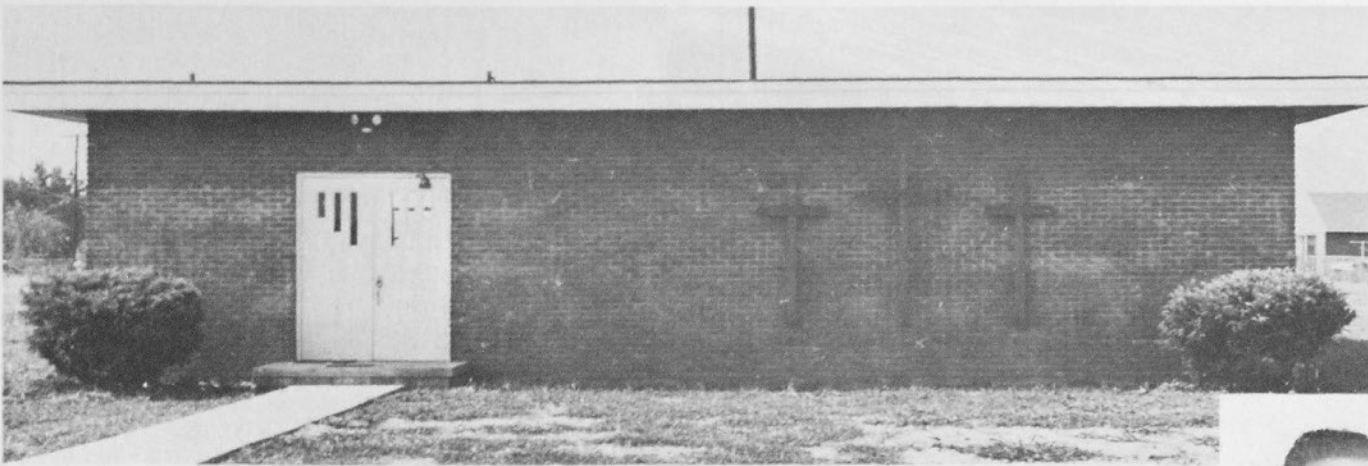
For Pentecost is not a denomination; it is an experience. Even more, it is an exciting way of life. 



## Walking with the WORD

### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR DECEMBER 19-26

Sunday—Psalms 146, 147	Thursday—Revelation 16
Monday—Revelation 13	Friday—Revelation 17
Tuesday—Revelation 14	Saturday—Psalms 148, 149
Wednesday—Revelation 15	Sunday—Psalm 150



The first unit of the East Barton Assembly in West Memphis, Ark., was completed in nine months. Pastor Floyd Ashpole is shown (at right).




## West Memphis, Arkansas Gets Second Assembly

WEST MEMPHIS, ARK., its growing population already in excess of 22,000, now has a second Assembly of God. Located in the eastern section of the city, the East Barton Assembly of God was pioneered by Floyd Ashpole early in 1965. There were 12 charter members.

The section assisted with food, offerings, and material, and also contributed labor toward building the new church. The District Home Missions Department gave \$4,148, making it possible to complete and furnish the first unit of the proposed three-unit structure. In the nine-month history of the church, the congregation has been able to operate on the pay-as-you-go plan. The church will soon be self-supporting. The WMC's spearheaded raising funds for a hard-surfaced parking area.

The building is of block and brick-veneer construction and has 1,668 square feet of floor space. The auditorium seats approximately 125. The building site cost \$11,000, and the church and property have been appraised at \$20,000.

Sunday school attendance averaged 55 in October, 1965, but attendance at services has been as high as 75. In answer to prayer, the Lord sent the church a devoted and talented pianist.

Pastor Ashpole and his congregation are enthusiastic about the future of the congregation and are believing God to give them many souls in West Memphis. Already signs of a revival are evident. 

## CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY "MOTHERS" NEW CHURCH

BORN OF A PASTOR'S UNSELFISH VISION to extend the kingdom of God in his area, a church has recently been established in Vernon, Conn., with Michelino Ricci as pastor. Services are temporarily being conducted in the Northeast School.


About a dozen families living in Vernon were attending the Assembly in Manchester where Kenneth Gustafson is pastor. Realizing these people could form the nucleus of a new church in their own community, Brother Gustafson spearheaded opening a work in Vernon rather than enlarge his own church building at this time to accommodate his growing congregation.

About 150 attended the afternoon rally on October 10

Michelino Ricci (left), pastor of the new Assembly in Vernon, Conn., and Kenneth Gustafson, pastor of the Manchester Assembly, hold the church sign for the new Vernon congregation which temporarily meets in the Northeast School building.

which opened the new church. Thomas Brubaker, Southern New England assistant district superintendent, was the main speaker.

All services of the new church are well attended. The third Sunday, 52 people attended the morning service.

The congregation plans to erect a church and is now seeking a suitable site. 



# After the TORNADO

ONE OF THE CASUALTIES of the tornado which struck Wichita Falls, Tex., in April, 1964, was the Eden Hills Assembly of God, a new church started by Pastor John D. Ward.

Pastor Ward had previously started Sunnyside Assembly, also of Wichita Falls, and served it for four years before resigning to pioneer this new church in the area of Sheppard Air Force Base. As a schoolteacher on the base he had seen the great spiritual need there.

Because of a shortage of buildings after the tornado, the new church was not able to reopen until August, 1964. At that time the congregation arranged to purchase two and one-half acres of land on a hill overlooking Sheppard Air Force Base. The national *Sites for Souls* program pledged \$6,000 toward purchase of the land.

One year to the minute from the time the tornado destroyed their building, the congregation of the new church, now to be known as Northwest Assembly of God, gathered to break ground for the new building. Construction began April 16, with Pastor Ward, who designed the church, serving as general contractor. Besides financial contributions, church members gave of their time and labor to keep costs at a minimum.

The dedication service was conducted on August 15, 1965, by J. T. Davis, assistant superintendent of the North Texas District.

The main auditorium of the new building seats 180, and the adjoining fellowship hall can be used to boost seating capacity to 325. Other features include Sunday school classrooms, rest rooms, kitchen, modern furnishings, and air conditioning. The structure and land are valued at more than \$50,000, nearly twice the actual cost.



This new Northwest Assembly, Wichita Falls, Tex., replaces the church (formerly called the Eden Hills Assembly) which was destroyed by a tornado in April, 1964. Pastor John D. Ward is seen at right.



Pastor Ward says, "We wish to express our deep gratitude to the *Sites for Souls* program for helping new churches such as ours to build in desirable and accessible locations. This advantage has meant a tremendous difference to this church. Our congregation has now also become a sponsoring church of *Sites for Souls*."

## WHEN CHRISTMAS FAILS

FOR MANY, CHRISTMAS FAILS. Although the day may be hilarious and the children happy, it all falls flat and the world goes back into the same old rut. Why? Because Christ was not put first. There can be no real or lasting joy until first of all we know the peace of the Lord.

Christmas can be a time of lasting happiness. If you have not yet come to Christ, make this your happiest Christmas by accepting into your heart the One whose birthday we celebrate this holiday season—and know His joy forever.

—George Wells Arms

## even in Alaska—nothing warms like love



Our children's homes in Alaska are an expression of love that works not only in practical ways, like providing food and clothing. They offer tender care and affection. These homes are extensions of *your* concern. Just as you cheer your own home with extras at Christmas, we know you'll want to bring an extra touch of warmth to our Alaska youngsters. Show your Christian love by a gift now to the *Children of Alaska Christmas Fund*. It will be used to assure a gift for each child in the Assemblies of God homes at Juneau and Valdez. Send your gift to:

**CHILDREN OF ALASKA CHRISTMAS FUND**  
1445 BOONVILLE AVE., SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65802

# THE STORY OF BARABBAS

FROM PRISON TO LIBERTY THROUGH THE  
SENTENCE OF ANOTHER

**B**ARABBAS IS CONDEMNED TO DIE. No one has ever questioned the justice of his sentence. He is a rebel against the law—a murderer. And now he lies bound, under sentence of death, awaiting execution.

Just before him is the awful death of crucifixion. He knows what that means: long hours of agony, the hands and feet torn by great spikes, the wrists and shoulder joints dislocated by the dragging down of the body, each quivery nerve a separate torture through tension, a burning thirst, and a jeering mob all around.

The jailers prepare three crosses. Barabbas well knows the three sockets cut in the rock out there in the Place of the Skull. Is one of these crosses for him? The very thought gives him a sense of suffocation. Then he is told: yes, he is to die in the morning. Two others are to die with him, but he, the worst criminal, is to have the middle cross.

Then the night falls. But it is a disturbed night. Even in the prison it is perceived that something unusual is occurring. Confused noises, the tramping of feet are heard. Barabbas wonders what it all means. Perhaps it is another rebellion such as he, poor misguided robber, raised against the law.

But the night wears on, and at last comes daybreak—his last day! Now he hears footsteps. The prison door swings open. But just as he is summoning all his strength for the death which awaits him, he hears the joyful words: "Go free! Barabbas, another takes your place; another is to die today between the two thieves."

"What?"

"Yes, there is another Man to be crucified in your place."

He cannot understand it, but he soon finds himself outside the prison—once more a free man.

It is so bright outdoors, and it feels as if the weight of the world had been lifted from his shoulders. He

begins to ask questions about the events of the previous day. One can well suppose he would join the crowd which was already moving out to the "Place of the Skull."

He wants to see if it is really the great Teacher who is to die in his place. He knows the other two criminals well; but they have no one to take their place on the cross. What a mercy that there is someone for him!

Here come the prisoners. Barabbas presses near to see, but the crowd is too great. He sees, however, that one of them is no longer able to carry His cross and another man bears it for Him. Among the others the prisoner is unrecognizable. His head and face are red with blood. His clothes cling to His back where the blood has come through.

Slowly they proceed to the place of execution. The crosses are thrown on the ground, and one by one the prisoners are pressed down upon them. Cries of pain reach his ears as the nails are driven through their hands and feet; but from the center cross on which lay that extraordinary blood-stained figure not a sound is heard. The crosses are raised and dropped into their sockets. Again there come cries of pain from two men as the weight of the body pulls the nail wounds wider open, but none from the third.

Now Barabbas can see for himself who it is on the center cross. Yes, it is that new Teacher out of Galilee, the Man who spake as never man spake, the Man whose life had been absolutely without sin. Adam sinned, and Moses, and all the prophets, but not this Man. He had done so much good. He restored sight to the blind. He healed even leprosy by a touch or a word. One day when the crowd got hungry He produced enough food for 5,000 men, not to mention women and children, out of five loaves and a few small fishes. Why should this Man die? What wrong had He done?

Barabbas admired this Nazarene but he had loved his sin too well to leave it. Now he stands before the Person whose love he had despised, and marvels that because of the Lord Jesus he is not hanging there on the cross.

Barabbas could clearly understand what it is to be saved by the death of another.

First, he knew he was guilty and under the just condemnation of the law (Luke 23:25). In both these respects Barabbas was just like you and me (Romans 3:10-20, 23; Galatians 3:10).

Second, Barabbas knew the Sufferer before him was not there on the cross because of His own sin. He was "not guilty" (John 8:46; 19:4; 1 Peter 2:22).

Third, he was convinced that if Jesus had not been crucified there, he himself would be hanging on that middle cross. Jesus was actually dying in his place—an innocent and holy Being bearing the penalty which the law had justly decreed for him, Barabbas (2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13; 1 Peter 2:22-24; 3:18; Isaiah 53:5, 6).

Fourth, Barabbas clearly realized he never could have bribed any man to die in his place. The Man on the cross was there of His own free will, dying for him. It was an act of grace (Psalm 69:19-21; Romans 4:4, 5; Ephesians 2:4-9; 2 Timothy 1:9; Titus 2:11).

Fifth, Barabbas was sure that when the Lord Jesus died, he himself escaped death. Pilate had set the choice: Barabbas or Jesus. The crowd had decided that *Jesus*



should die. When Jesus said, "It is finished," and died, then Barabbas realized that the danger for him was past. (See John 19:30; Romans 5:9; Ephesians 1:7; Colossians 1:14; 1 John 1:7; Hebrews 10:10-14.)

What applied to Barabbas, applies also to us. It was in our place that Christ hung on the cross. We have sinned, and we deserve the penalty of eternal death. Just as Barabbas was free because Christ had died, so we need not receive the wages of sin, which is death. If we accept the Lord Jesus as our Substitute, God will, on the ground of what His Son has done, declare us free from the punishment of our sin.

Will you not receive Christ now as your Substitute? Then forgiveness of sins will be yours, for "through his name, whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins" (Acts 10:43).

—The Standard Bearer

## WHAT SHALL I GIVE FOR CHRISTMAS?

By G. RAYMOND CARLSON  
President, North Central Bible College  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

WHAT SHALL I GIVE FOR CHRISTMAS? Millions are still asking this question.

The giving of gifts is associated with Christmas. It had its beginning when the Wise Men brought their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the Christ-child.

The business world has commercialized this sacred season. For many, the financial return is of first importance.

But what of the Christian? He is not a slave to such travesties. And neither is he obliged to withdraw from the joy of gift buying, the tinkle of bells, the bright decorations, and the gay spirit of the season.

In the midst of all this hustle and bustle, there is one great question which cannot go unanswered. That question is not, "What shall I give for Christmas?" Rather, that question is, "What shall I give *Him* for Christmas?"

To delight Christ's heart, the Christian should give the utmost of love and devotion—a stewardship of all that we are, have, and possess.

As His child, you can also give to Him by giving to those who might otherwise be overlooked. There are the needy and the deprived. What about the ill, the aged, the orphan? Or what have you done for pioneer pastors? Have you remembered the foreign missionaries who have left loved ones and home to go with the glad tidings to the far corners of the earth?

Our Lord said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40).

And why not do something special for your church? For your pastor, too. Encourage his heart in a tangible way at this glad season.

So in the midst of our Christmas activities, let us remember: "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men; knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ" (Colossians 3:23, 24).

—Minnesota Fellowship Tidings



## Your Questions

Answered by Ernest S. Williams

*Can you tell us where the lost tribes of Israel may be?*

God's promise is that He will gather them from Egypt, Pathros, Cush, Elim, Shinar, Hamath, and from the islands of the sea (Isaiah 11:11). God knows where all those of Israel are; I can only speak of the countries named in Scripture.

*Please explain Isaiah 14:12-14.*

Many believe that these verses describe the power that activated the king of Babylon, Satan; and that Lucifer, son of the morning, is a description of Satan before he fell. "For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend. . . . I will be like the Most High." This describes Lucifer's rebellion that resulted in his fall. We believe he had no tempter, but his ambition got the better of him, making him greedy for power.

*Will the wicked be annihilated at the final judgment? (Revelation 20:11-15)*

The Scriptures teach the wicked dead will be resurrected to face the judgment (1 Corinthians 15:23, 24; Revelation 20:11-15). According to Matthew 25:41 those "on the left hand" will hear the sentence, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels."

The doctrine of annihilation declares a man is judged and then destroyed. This means that the wicked and the righteous shall meet the same fate. This is contrary to Scripture which says God is going to give "every man according as his work shall be" (Revelation 22:12).

We do better to prepare for coming judgment by accepting Christ and living for Him than by hoping to escape the damnation of hell by explaining away everlasting punishment.

*In Isaiah 45:11, God says, "Concerning the work of my hands command ye me." Do you believe we can command God?*

The *Analytical Concordance* says the Hebrew word *amar*, translated "command" in Isaiah 45:11, means "to say; lift up the voice." I would interpret this to mean, "Lift up your voice in confidence." None of us can command that God *obey* us, but we can ask in faith that He will fulfill His promises.

However, we must meet conditions, wishing His will to be done. We cannot expect God to fulfill our carnal desires. "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your own lusts" (James 4:3). We must be guided by the Holy Spirit: "For we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered" (Romans 8:26, 27).

*If you have a spiritual problem or any question about the Bible, you are invited to write to "Your Questions," The Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri 65802. Brother Williams will answer if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope.*

THE SUCCESS OF *Revivaltime's* radio ministry is, to a great extent, the direct result of giving individual attention to individual needs.

One listener in Lockport, N. Y., testified: "*Revivaltime* is a ministry with a heart. You people are all personally concerned with the problems and spiritual growth of other folk."

Letters such as this warm the hearts of the radio team, for this is the very purpose for the Radio Department's existence—to reach behind closed doors where no other ministry can go and present Christ as the answer to every dilemma.

*Revivaltime's* weekly radio congregation is comprised of millions of persons, many of whom are without Christ. In the broadcast's full-gospel message they see a glimmer of hope, a possible solution to their problems and personal conflicts. At Evangelist C. M. Ward's invitation they ask the *Revivaltime* team to pray with them concerning their needs.

Take, for instance, this letter from a mother in Saskatchewan, Canada:

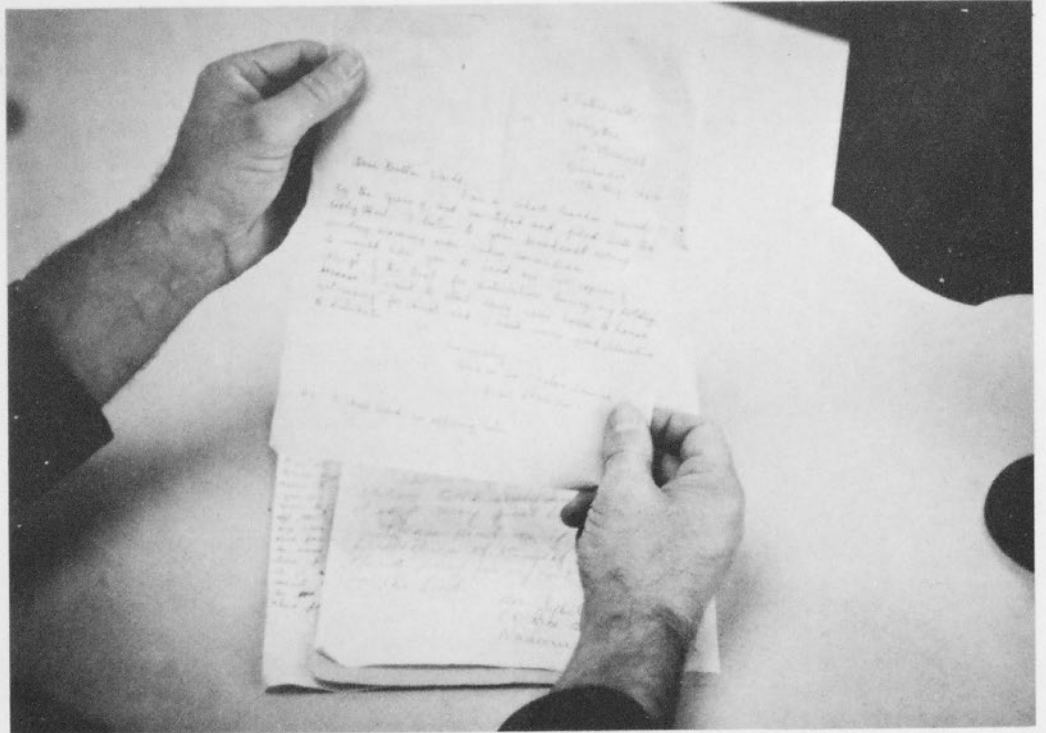
## INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION EARNS FRIENDS FOR REVIVALTIME

"We have only been listening to *Revivaltime* for a few weeks, but already we have been blessed and inspired. Brother Ward, I am asking you and your prayer partners to take my daughter before God's throne. She is 10 and cannot walk, talk, or even sit up. Her head was injured at birth, and now her brain does not have room to grow. She can't even support herself like a healthy baby. We believe that with God all things are possible."

Or look at this heart-rending letter from a worried father:

"My wife and I have been separated for six months. Her mother took her away and took my children out of school without telling me.

"She has taught my little boy to hate his daddy; but when he is away



Individual attention is given to the hundreds of letters sent to *Revivaltime* each week. Some need personal counsel; some ask for doctrinal guidance; and some request prayer.

### RADIO LISTENERS APPRECIATE REVIVALTIME'S WILLINGNESS TO MINISTER TO THEIR NEEDS

By RON ROWDEN

from them, he hugs my neck and tells me he loves me.

"She doesn't want the children, but she is suing for divorce and asking custody. She will leave them with her mother.

"I am a diabetic and can't get a good job, so I can't support my wife as she wants to be treated. But I still love my children. Pray hard that my wife and I will get back together again."

Every request is prayed over. Every problem is dealt with. Every question is answered with sound, scriptural advice. And as needs are taken before God, He responds in miraculous ways!


"I wrote asking you to pray for my wife and me," said a young hus-

band in Hartford, Ala. "She had left me several weeks before. You prayed and sent me a copy of your sermon, 'Divorce Is Not the Answer.' I gave her that sermon, and in less than a month she returned home. Thank you so much!"

Several months ago a Louisburg, Kans., listener wrote seeking salvation. His second letter arrived just a few days ago: "I want to thank you for the literature. I got down on my knees and accepted the Lord Jesus as my Saviour. Thank you for praying and counseling with me."

This is *Revivaltime's* ministry in action—souls being saved, hearts being encouraged, and spirits being lifted. *This is your investment reaping precious dividends!*

*Revivaltime* appreciates the faithful support of its radio congregation. The uncontrollable rise of airtime and production costs now threatens the future of this radio ministry. If we are to maintain and extend the broadcast's outreach, we must have the regular support of every radio friend. Every \$10 given sends the truth to 12,000 needy souls.

*Revivaltime* is waiting to share your burden, to pray with you, and to minister to your needs. Whether you are able to send a contribution or not, at this time, we invite you to send your special requests to *Revivaltime*, Box 70, Springfield, Mo. 65801. 



# What Does CHRISTMAS Mean to YOUR CHILDREN?

By MINA ARNOLD YOUNG

WHAT DOES CHRISTMAS MEAN to your children, or to other children you know? Does it mean exciting new toys which will be enjoyed for a few days and then broken or ignored? Does it mean vacation from school, stomachs full almost to bursting, and pictures of Santa Claus everywhere?

Or is it a time to remember the greatest gift of all, the gift that never breaks or wears out, which becomes more precious every day, the gift of spiritual blessing which is theirs because "God so loved . . . that he gave"?

Yes, God gave the gift, but He has given us the joyous privilege of spreading the news that it is available for all. In America, full-gospel churches may be found in almost every town; radio and television programs announce the glad news; and anyone who wishes can purchase a Bible for a small sum. Yet there are many in the world who have no way of learning about Jesus. God is counting on us to tell them. He is counting on our children to have a part in sending the good news too.

About the time Mary Slessor was born, missionaries were sent for the first time to Calabar, Africa. Mary's mother was interested in missionary work and read all about the work in Calabar to her children. Is it any wonder that when Mary was grown she went to Africa and became a true missionary heroine of the jungles?

Other missionaries had their interest in foreign missions aroused while they were children. Will our boys and girls be willing to sacrifice to spread the gospel when they are grown if

they do not take an active interest in missionary work now?

The *Boys and Girls Missionary Crusade* is a missionary program planned for children. Through BGMC they learn about the work being done on the various mission fields. They learn to feel the need, and they have an opportunity every month to do something about it. The little amount that one child can give would not go far in spreading the gospel; but with thousands of children working together across the land, great things can be accomplished for God.

Everyone in the church has his part in the missionary program. The adults provide the money which sends missionaries to the various countries and supports them while there. The young people, through Speed-the-Light, provide these workers with means of transportation which enable them to reach larger areas and accomplish much more for God. The children, through BGMC, furnish gospel literature which has helped thousands to see their need of Christ and to know how to live acceptably for Him.

BGMC is planned to meet two

needs: (1) the need of unsaved people for the gospel in their own languages; (2) the need of our own boys and girls—the need to look away from themselves, to know the desperate plight of people without God, and to have a part in winning them to Christ.

These needs exist all year long. But is it not especially appropriate at Christmas to stress giving for love of the Christ whose birthday we celebrate? Will not children be benefited if they give less thought to what they will receive and more to how to earn money to put in their missionary barrels? That added giving will mean that more souls can be reached with the gospel!

So may Christmas this year mean more to our children than receiving gifts for themselves. May it mean that they have helped to start neglected souls on the way to heaven!"

## HOW THE CHILDREN WERE WON

One morning a Christian father, with face aglow, met his pastor who asked him the cause of his happiness.

"I have reason to be happy," replied the father. "My last boy was converted this morning at our altar of family worship."

"How did it happen?" asked the pastor.

"It was the same old way," was the answer. "I prayed all night for my boy; and this morning at family prayers, he surrendered." —Illustrator

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# FOREIGN NEWS DIGEST

## Bechuanaland

### First Church Built

The Assemblies of God has just built its first church in Bechuanaland. Located in the capital, Gaberones, the new church will be dedicated in special services with Field Secretary for Africa Everett Phillips as guest speaker. Missionary John Richards reports that during the construction of the church building he fell 15½ feet from the gable to the hard ground, just missing a big iron stake in the ground. Although his left ankle bone was cracked

and his body jarred, he is praising God for having saved his life.  
\* \* \*

Other works in the new field of Bechuanaland are also progressing well. A tent campaign was held at Molepolole, about 35 miles from the capital. The tribal chief has donated a site for a church building, the first site in the tribal authority zones. Local converts have pledged \$117 toward their own new church building. There are 92,000 people in that tribe.

Another area of victory is Lobatsi. Believers are holding services in inadequate rooms in dif-

ferent parts of the city, but the local missionaries have just received a letter from city authorities stating that they intend to lay out a new township and will grant the Assemblies of God a building site.

## Liberia

### STL Plane Damaged

Mrs. Betty Backman and I recently took a 25-mile preaching trek back in the bush. We walked for three days, stopping in the different villages for services. The Lord gave us some good services and souls were saved.

On the fourth day we reached Feloka where we received word that the Speed-the-Light plane had just crashed on the field at New Hope Town. Sister Backman's 10-year-old son Randy was in the plane.

Although the message assured us no one was seriously injured, we immediately started our trip back home. What had taken us over 11 hours to walk before we now walked in a little over eight hours.

At 10:30 that night we reached New Hope Town, but two hours before we reached it our lantern

## MISSIONARY NEWS NOTES

Missionaries returning to the United States are the **James Anderson** family (India), **Robert Cobb** and family (Ghana), **Murray Brown** and family (Togo), **Lawrence Olson** and family (Brazil), and Mr. and Mrs. **William Mincey** (Korea). Mr. and Mrs. **Vernon Hagar** (Liberia), and **Helen Rye** (Jamaica) are returning to the States for health reasons.

Leaving for their respective fields are the **E. E. Shaffer** family (Korea), the **Arthur Sholtis** family (Korea), Mr. and Mrs. **Charles Woolever** (Tanzania), **Alta Hodge** and **Christelle**

**Evans** (India), **Alice Stewart** (Taiwan), **Louise Davis** and **Rose Klob** (Liberia).

New missionaries leaving for their appointed fields are **Loretta Castaldi** (Italy), and **Wilma Jones** (Belgium). The **Norman Lesterjette** family (Dominican Republic), and the **Clarence Van Dolsen** family (Uruguay) are leaving for language school in Costa Rica.

The **Raymond Lockwoods** (Nigeria), Mr. and Mrs. **Raymond Jacobs** (Indonesia), and Mr. and Mrs. **Lyle Phillips** (Japan), are transferring to home ministry.



E. E. Shaffer family



Norman Lesterjette family



Arthur Sholtis family



Wilma Jones



Alta Hodge



Christelle Evans



Alice Stewart



Louise Davis



Rose Klob



Loretta Castaldi



Mr. and Mrs. Charles Woolever



Clarence Van Dolsen family

went out. We had to wade a river and walk across another river on a big log in the dark. Twice we got into driver ants. But we praise the Lord for His protecting power.

Although the airplane was severely damaged, we thank the Lord that no one was seriously hurt. The airplane will probably be flying again soon.

—Miss Bobbie Wilkins

### France

#### Gypsy Work Moves Forward

For the second time this year the Pentecostal gypsies of France came together for a camp meeting. (The one held last May was so successful that they decided to have another in August.) At this second camp meeting there were some 1,000 trailers, 136 teachers, and over 7,000 gypsies besides outside visitors.

Such an impression was made in France by this united gypsy effort that a part of one of the evening services was broadcast on the radio and televised by the government owned and directed TV station. The telecast was seen all over France and in part of Switzerland.

The gypsies are now asking the government for permission to have a weekly radio program. The government radio station has an average listening audience of over a million and at times of special programs has up to 10 million listeners.

This group of Assemblies of God gypsies made a great decision at the camp meeting: to buy permanent grounds on which to locate their headquarters, a Bible school, public school for the children, and room for at least 3,000 trailers.

### Taiwan

#### First Youth Camp a Success

The Christ's Ambassadors (youth) organization in Taiwan is growing.

News has just been received that the first all-Taiwan C. A. camp has just been held outside the southern city of Tainan. Missionary James Andrews, C. A. director for Taiwan, reports that because of the strange high school schedules they were not sure how many C.A.'s to expect, but 110 teen-agers attended. Some 40 came all the way from the northern part of the island on an eight-hour train trip.

While heavy typhoon rains poured down upon the camp, spiritual rains began to fall in the services. Young people began to get right with God by confessing their sins.

During prayer times young people who previously had only heard about the outpouring of the Holy Spirit began to experience it. One

of the high points of the camp was the testimony service on Friday morning when the students told what God had done for them during several days they were at camp.

### Korea

#### Reds Use Scripture As Propaganda Vehicle

Communists in the Far East are flooding South Korea with propaganda and anti-American literature disguised as Scriptures, according to James Roe, secretary for Asia for the British and Foreign Bible Society.

Back in England after a recent visit to Korea, Mr. Roe said: "I managed to secure a copy of a faked version of St. Luke's gospel during my visit. The document consists entirely of anti-American cartoons bound in a standard cover of the Gospel of St. Luke.

"The book, with copies of other faked literature, was shown to me by an official of the South Korean Ministry of Information. He told me his government is faced with intense difficulties in trying to overcome the scale and audacity of these forgeries."

—Evangelical Press News

### Fiji

#### Marvelous Results of Tent Crusade

Many glorious victories for God were recorded in our recent evangelistic crusade. A total of 141 made decisions for Christ. About 50 were filled with the Holy Spirit. Scores of people received healing for their bodies.

Every meeting was well attended, and we had a Sunday school rally with over 1,300 present. All in all God blessed in a wonderful way. We thank you for your prayers which reached God's throne on our behalf.

God's blessings continue to rest upon the islands. Presently four of our national pastors are having evangelistic tent meetings. They have just finished a meeting on one of the islands where over 100 found Christ as their Saviour. One night 15 were filled with the Spirit, and God performed miraculous healings.

A Hindu mother came to the meetings, gave her heart to the Lord, and requested prayer for her four-year-old child who had been helpless from birth. Following the service the father of the child, also a Hindu, came to report that the child had suddenly lifted himself into a sitting position—something that had never happened before. As the father realized that God was touching his child, he too, reached out and touched God and found wonderful peace for his soul that night.

—Orville and Yvonne Carlson

# LAST CHANCE

5 SHOPPING DAYS TILL CHRISTMAS

...to take advantage of this year's reduced Christmas gift rates on the 'Evangel'

There are just five days left to take advantage of the reduced rates on Evangel Christmas gift subscriptions. Your order must be postmarked by December 24. Airmail your order today for Evangel Christmas gifts—warm and friendly gifts that will express your thoughtfulness 52 times.

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# NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

## TEENS SPARK REVIVAL IN CALIFORNIA CHURCH

SANTA MONICA, CALIF.—The teen-age group of Central Assembly here has been experiencing a Holy Ghost revival, and the fire of their enthusiasm has spread to the adults.

Newly Spirit-filled young people are going into the Sunday school classes of youth their own age and testifying to those whose custom is leave after Sunday school instead of remaining for the morning service. They are getting conversions right in the Sunday school classes.

At the Sunday night service they crowd for the front rows. They do personal work, bring unsaved young people to the altar, show them the scriptures on conversion and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and pray faithfully with them. Sometimes the praying goes on for hours. New faces are seen at the altar at every service.

This fire was ignited during meetings with Pastor L. G. Gilmore and his group from Tucson, Ariz., on a recent three-day visit. Now it is rolling ahead on its own God-given momentum; new people constantly being added and on hand for every service. God is fulfilling His promise, "Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy... your young men shall see visions" (Joel 2:28).

—Philip H. Hawtin, pastor

AMARILLO, TEX.—Fairview Assembly here recently conducted a revival campaign with Evangelists Tommy and Esther Lance. Over 300 visitors were counted during the three-week effort. Four young married couples, including two for whom the church had been praying about five years; accepted Christ as Saviour. At least 15 teen-agers were saved or reclaimed. Many healings were reported.

—A. L. Beggs, pastor

\* \* \*

HAMLIN, PA.—A three-day youth revival campaign at First Assembly here resulted in 12 accepting Christ. Freddy Clark was the evangelist.

The campaign included a Saturday night banquet in a nearby auditorium. Through this special outreach new young people were contacted by the church. The entire congregation experienced a distinct spiritual uplift.

—Ralph E. Midgett, pastor

\* \* \*

SOUTH ROXANA, ILL.—Some 38 found salvation and 21 received the Holy Spirit during a five-week revival campaign at the Assembly here. Evangelist Billy Heady and family were the visiting ministers.

One young man accepted Christ, received the Holy Spirit, and was healed of stomach ulcers during the campaign. God is still moving, and hearts are being stirred.

—C. M. Twente, pastor

## NEW FIRST ASSEMBLY DEDICATED IN ANNANDALE, VIRGINIA

ANNANDALE, VA.—First Assembly dedicated its new church plant here in early October. Dedication ceremonies were conducted by Assistant Superintendent Obie

L. Harrup, Sr., and Secretary-Treasurer W. P. Odum of the Potomac District.

The \$150,000 church is made of brick in a modern ranch style

featuring exposed interior laminated arches, finished in rich tawny oak. Furnishings are of the same color, with red cathedral carpet from wall to wall. The edifice also contains classrooms and a young people's chapel. Indebtedness is less than half the appraised value of the structure.

—J. Edward Garns, pastor

The new First Assembly in Annandale is constructed of brick in a modern ranch style.



## NEW ASSEMBLY IN HOPKINS, MINNESOTA

HOPKINS, MINN.—The congregation of the Hopkins Assembly of God has dedicated its new church building. Herman Rohde, Minnesota district superintendent, officiated at the ceremony. Also participating were Harry Myers, then assistant district superintendent, and Robert Hanson, sectional presbyter.

This is the congregation's first

new building since the church began under the direction of Floyd Horst in the 1930's. Attendance has increased since moving into the new building, reaching a record of 82.

Much of the work on the building and grounds was completed by members of the church. The building seats 252.

—Harlan Wartenbee, pastor

TROY, N. Y.—The congregation of First Assembly has enjoyed revival services with Evangelist and Mrs. Russell Goodwin Sr. One young man was healed of a leg injury which caused him to limp for two years. Later a letter from the young man and his father testified to the completeness of the

healing. Others reported healings also. The church is enjoying an influx of newcomers and a move of God's Spirit.

—Daniel A. Mucci, pastor

\* \* \*

ARVIN, CALIF.—Meridian Assembly here recently concluded a two-week campaign with Evangelist E. J. Stufflebeem of Tallahassee, Fla. At least five made decisions for Christ, and believers received the Holy Spirit. Testimonies came from people who have been delivered from worldly habits. Others reported healings.

—Tom Melroy, pastor

\* \* \*

HURON, S. DAK.—The Assembly here recently conducted a conference on Bible prophecy with Evangelist and Mrs. Dave Lewis. Audio-visual aids helped in understanding the prophetic messages and Pentecostal truths which were the themes of the services.

—E. A. North, pastor

\* \* \*

FAIRVIEW, OKLA.—Midway Assembly here experienced a refreshing during revival services with Evangelist William Caldwell. The ministry of healing was especially appreciated, and reports of healings continue to be heard.

—J. P. McCamey, pastor

## NEW CHURCH IN NORTH DAKOTA

FINLEY, N. DAK.—The Assembly of God congregation here now worships in this fine new building (shown below). The Braunberger Brothers Construction Company, members of the church, drew the blueprints and served as general contractors. The sanctuary will seat 120. It is finished with oak paneling, pews, pulpit, and wood-work.

The work in Finley began in a portable tabernacle sponsored by the North Dakota District Council and one pastor after another



labored faithfully to build it up. When James J. Ballweber became pastor in October, 1962, the church was worshipping in the basement of the present building. Work on the superstructure began in October, 1964, and the new facilities were dedicated last April 25. Kenneth E. Olson, district superintendent, was the speaker and led the formal ceremony at the dedication.

\* \* \*

RAPID CITY, MICH.—Souls were saved and Christians rededicated their lives during a well-attended evangelistic campaign held at the Assembly of God here.

Evangelist Michael and Peggy Lord conducted the meetings which

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ark.	Jacksonville	First	Dec. 31-Jan. 2	Ed Eaton	Lester Burton
Fla.	Eau Gallie	Glad Tidings	Dec. 21-26	Freddy Clark	Martha Oldham
	Palatka	First	Dec. 26-Jan. 9	Bob McCutchen	Norman McCutchen
	Sebring	First	Dec. 21-Jan. 2	"Little Joe" Peterson Tm.	John Paulk
La.	Rayville	A/G	Jan. 2-16	C. E. Gilbert	Bob Brantley
Mass.	Lawrence	A/G	Dec. 31-Jan. 2	John W. Follette	Helen Wight
Pa.	Dover	Pentecostal	Dec. 28-Jan. 9	Charles S. Morris	John Beamer
	Peckville	A/G	Dec. 28-Jan. 9	Duane M. Wessman	Ernest Drost
Greece	Athens	Church of Pent.	Dec. 19-Jan. 9	Watson Argue	Mary Metaxatos
Wales	Cardiff	City Temple	Dec. 26—	Winferd Mack	P. S. Brewster
Venezuela	Coro	A/G	Dec. 20-22	Oren & Inez Paris	Juan Garcia
	La Cuesta	A/G	Dec. 23-26	Oren & Inez Paris	Gabino Torres

Due to printing schedule, announcements must reach *The Pentecostal Evangel* five weeks in advance.

Several accepted Christ or were reclaimed and others received the Holy Spirit. A number reported healings. Excellent crowds attended nightly. The entire church was blessed and refreshed as people sought God for revival.

—Archie J. Winkle, pastor

\* \* \*

WEST CARROLLTON, OHIO—A spirit of revival is present in the Assembly here. Many souls have found salvation including seven who accepted Christ prior to a recent two-week revival campaign.

During the services with Evangelist and Mrs. John Higginbotham, 12 were saved or reclaimed. Five received the Holy Spirit.

The pastor and evangelist had the joy of baptizing five in water. A spirit of love and unity is very evident in the church. The Sunday school has grown, and the entire church has been edified.

—R. J. Pasquale, pastor

\* \* \*

DECATUR, ALA.—Over 800 pieces of gospel literature, including *The Pentecostal Evangel*, were distributed during the "God Save America" crusade at First Assembly here. Also featured was a "gospel parade" in which the evangelists, Michael and Peggy Lord, wore their Mexican costumes.

Attendance was above average with many visitors in the service.

were preceded by a course in personal witnessing. Tracts, *The Pentecostal Evangel*, and other Christian literature were placed on newsstands and in business places.

The ministry of music and the preaching of the Word was very effective.

—H. J. Maloney, pastor

\* \* \*

BORGER, TEX.—First Assembly witnessed a move of God's Spirit during a 10-day revival campaign with Evangelists Tommy and Esther Lance. Also featured for one service was the *Revivaltime* Choir from Central Bible College, Springfield, Mo.

so serve as a social hall seats 250. Included in the plant are 19 classrooms, library, church office, pastor's office, kitchen, nursery,

crib room, choir room, and quarters for the Women's Missionary Council and Royal Rangers.

—Herman Kazen, pastor



## CHURCH AND PARSONAGE DEDICATED

ANACORTES, WASH.—The congregation of the Assembly of God here dedicated a new church and parsonage September 26. Some 550 attended the dedication service. R. J. Carlson, superintendent of the Northwest District, officiated.

The main auditorium of the 17,000-square-foot edifice seats 450. Pews and furniture are of light oak, enhancing the decor of open laminated beams and ceiling. This is complemented by deep carpeting in the aisles.

A fireside chapel which will al-

Souls found the Lord, Christians rededicated themselves, and one was baptized with the Holy Spirit.

—M. E. Fuber, pastor

## MISSIONARIES' FRIEND HAS 95TH BIRTHDAY

CHICAGO, ILL.—Mrs. Effie Spencer, missionaries' friend, was honored recently at a dinner on the occasion of her 95th birthday. Many friends from Chicago churches attended the dinner. Others sent fruit, flowers, cards, and well wishes.

Since 1930 Mrs. Spencer has been matron of the Missionary Rest Home at 1848 Berenice. Thousands of missionaries, ministers, and evangelists from all over the world have come to know her as the "lady with a keen mind and tender heart."

## WITH CHRIST

MARY ELLEN HITCHCOCK, 87, of Oakland, Calif., went to be forever with Christ on October 9. An ordained minister of the Northern California-Nevada district since 1917, Sister Hitchcock served as an evangelist and held a pastorate in Oakland. She is survived by her sisters, Ida, Blanche, and Sarah Alice, also of Oakland.

CHARLES SIMMENROTH, 75, a licensed minister with the New Jersey district, went to his eternal reward September 23. Brother Simmenroth was pastor of Elishabeth Mission in Elizabeth, N. J., until his death.

GWENDOLINE GLADYS HARRIS, 48, of Groton, N. Y., went to her eternal reward August 1. Sister Harris held credentials with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada for 22 years and was licensed by the New York District in 1964. She is survived by her husband, Almer G. Harris, pastor of the Groton Assembly.

ALFRED R. WICKER, 68, pastor at Kellerton, Iowa, passed away August 31 after a brief illness. He was a licensed minister with the Iowa district.

# S T L U K E

The birth of Jesus Christ according to the Gospel of Saint Luke, Chapter two:

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the City of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David: To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. ✦ And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped

him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them: Fear not, for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. ✦

