

The Pentecostal

EVANGEL

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January 6, 1957

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

THE SPIRIT HIMSELF



DIVINE PERSON



OVERFLOWING EXPERIENCE



VITAL SEEKING
VARIETY OF GIFTS

EFFECTIVE CHURCH

January Is Training Month
For Sunday School Workers

War or Peace?

The prospect of world peace in 1957 is dim indeed, and it is vain to look to human help for war prevention. The Saviour said, "Ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars" (Matthew 24:6). The world is destined to suffer the scourge of war as long as men persist in sin.

The gospel of Christ, preached in the power of the Holy Spirit, is the only way a divided world can ever come to unity and peace. The curse of Babel can only be lifted by the blessing of Pentecost.

At Babel, God dealt with a rebellious world by confounding its speech and dividing mankind into separate language groups. Prior to Babel there had been much violence between individuals, but no wars between nations—for the simple reason that the whole world was one great nation. After Babel the sin that had set individuals at enmity one against another was permitted to set nations at war against each other. Whence come wars? The Bible says they come from the lusts of the human heart (James 4:1-3).

The Lord weighs the spirits of men. There was a memorable night when He cast the king of Babylon into His balances. Fingers moved upon the wall—fingers without a hand, without an arm, without a body. The fingers wrote, "Weighed and wanting." But the wicked king could not read it. Only the prophet of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit, could interpret that message. Daniel must have interpreted the writing with a heavy heart, for it was a message of doom. That very night King Belshazzar was slain and his kingdom was taken over by the Medes and Persians.

Today the finger of God is pointed at the whole world. "Tekel" could be written on the walls of our nations, our homes, our schools, our whole civilization. The world is weighed in the balances of God and found wanting—but the clouds of divine judgment are fringed with gold. Beyond the clouds of God's wrath there shines the sun of God's mercy, waiting to shed salvation and blessing on all who will repent and turn to the Lord with all their hearts.

At Pentecost there was an event more dramatic and world-shaking than the handwriting of Babylon. There was the sound of a rushing mighty wind from heaven, and the flash of tongues of flame—and suddenly a hundred and twenty men and women were talking in strange tongues that they had never learned, but which the multitude of visitors in Jerusalem could understand. The prophet of God stood up that day and preached to the multitude in the power of that heavenly anointing, and three thousand men were converted to Christ.

In that company of converts there were Parthians and Medes, Romans and Judeans, Egyptians and Asiatics, Mesopotamians and Arabians. They were so moved by the Holy Spirit that they all became fellow penitents, fellow Christians, fellow citizens of Christ's kingdom. They became spiritual brothers, children of God, who could love each other and live together in unity and peace. Our missionaries are seeing the Holy Spirit perform similar miracles throughout the earth today.

The greatest contribution any person can make toward world peace is to preach the gospel of Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. This alone can turn Americans and Russians, Arabs and Jews, Africans and Asiatics into friends of God and friends of one another.

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James Modder delivers two kinds of milk—
Golden Guernsey and "the sincere milk of the Word"

The Merry Milkman

BY ANNE SANDBERG



But he had not reckoned on his Christian wife. Opposite in temperament, she was calm and patient. His frequent bursts of irritability she met with silence. "What can you do with a woman who won't talk back!" he grumbled.

Every Sunday he crowded their ten children into the buggy; and with a "Giddap, Nellie," they trotted to the nearby country church. Later a rattly old Model T performed the same mission.

His wife insisted that the Bible be read daily. "Dad," though unconverted, would lay aside his pipe to listen. When the children impatiently complained, "Why must we have Bible reading every day?" the mother replied, "Because it is right."

After breakfast Mr. Modder tended his forty head of cattle, the truck garden, the horses. If things didn't go right, the hot-tempered farmer poured a stream of curses at his frightened stock. At lunch time he gloomily mourned: "Mom, something is seriously wrong with my stomach; it's always bothering me." Long before, she had learned it wise not to suggest that his ulcerous disposition and quick temper were more than likely causing his ailments. Though she dared say little regarding spiritual matters, her years of godly living made deep inroads into his rebellious, hardened heart.

When her husband was fifty years old, prayers and patience were at last rewarded. During revival services at the country church, the ungodly farmer whole-heartedly accepted Jesus Christ as his Saviour and Lord.

Immediately a radical change took place. The smoking, drinking, and swearing stopped. The deep gloom was replaced by exuberant joy. "I became a new creature in Christ Jesus," he

said. "Even my health improved and I seldom complained of my stomach." In the days that followed, even the animals sensed something had happened to their formerly irascible master, for he treated them with unaccustomed kindness and gentleness.

His life now became characterized by an abiding love for the Bible and a great urge to witness for his Lord.

Being convinced of the importance of hiding God's Word in his heart, he began a systematic program of memorizing it. "I wrote out the Scriptures at night. In the morning I tacked the sheet on the wall behind the cows. As I sat on the stool and milked by hand, I memorized the verses for two and one-half hours every night, and for two and one-half hours every morning."

In this manner he memorized several entire chapters in Romans, many whole Psalms, the book of Ephesians, Isaiah 53 and other chapters; also many separate passages and a host of individual scriptures too numerous to mention. For twenty-three years he diligently continued this program. Three years ago, at 80, he learned the entire 119th Psalm. "My memory isn't so keen any more," he apologized, "so I learned it by sections."

"Mom," he often said when the day's chores were done, "I'm going to John's farm to have a little talk and prayer with him." Or it might be Joe, the hired man—or Mr. Brown, the milk dealer or a passing salesman.

No matter what the trend of conversation, whether with Christian or sinner, he inevitably directed it into spiritual channels. "There's nothing else worth talking about," he said.

He always greeted folk with a booming "Praise the Lord!" and a vigorous handshake. He had a great zest for

(Continued on page twenty-one)

EARLY ONE STINGINGLY COLD WINTER morning, a housewife pushed open her back door to greet the milkman: "Good morning; I'd like an extra quart, please.

"I see you are the new milkman," she observed, briefly examining the tall, rosy-cheeked man.

"Yes, ma'am," he replied with hearty gusto and a wide smile. "But I'm a different kind of milkman."

Answering the customer's puzzled look, he continued: "I peddle Golden Guernsey, the best milk in the state; I also peddle the sincere milk of the Word." Whereupon he enthusiastically explained his "product."

For the twenty-seven years that he delivered milk, he was awarded numerous prizes for top salesmanship. But for faithful Christian service, his reward awaits him on the other shore.

Nearly eighty-three years ago James Modder was born into a Dutch Reformed family in Roseland, Illinois. High-strung, irritable and impatient, he chafed under the restraints of his Christian home, with which his independent spirit found no compatibility. After marriage he moved to a dairy farm in Kenosha, Wisconsin, to be entirely on his own and away from irksome religious influences.

AS WE MAKE THE TURN INTO 1957, the wind of life's adversity has turned into a tempest. Possibly never before, short of war itself, have human affairs been in such a delicate, dangerous situation. As never before we need a hiding place and a covert. Thank the Lord, we have a Man as a perfect shelter in this time of storm.

This Man, Christ Jesus, told us long ago that just such a situation would exist in the last days. Upon the earth, He said, there would be "distress of nations with perplexity; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." "And when these things begin to come to pass," He said, "then look up, and lift up your heads, for your redemption draweth nigh." The things which have recently come to pass seem to be taken directly out of the book of God's prophecy. I refer to Russia's interference in the affairs of the Middle East.

In Ezekiel, chapters 38 and 39, we are told of certain events which are to happen "in the latter days." A battle of Gog and Magog is there described. That this is not the same battle of Gog and Magog that is mentioned in Revelation 20 is easily apparent. That second battle of Gog and Magog occurs *after* the Millennium. It consists of a revolt stirred up and led by Satan, who goes out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth and to gather them together to battle. They go up on the breadth of the earth to encompass the beloved city. Fire comes down from God out of heaven and devours them. The first battle of Gog and Magog described by Ezekiel is of a company which comes up *out of the north parts* to a nation *gathered out of many people*. This company dies by the sword and by hailstones as well as by fire, and after the battle there is one sixth of them left.

It is the first battle of Gog and Magog, as described by Ezekiel, which appears to be on the verge of fulfillment.

The great company coming from the north parts is undoubtedly Russia, which fills the north part of Asia and Eastern Europe. This company is to come into the land that is brought back from the sword and that is recently *gathered out of many people*. This is plainly said

The General Superintendent Speaks



A Hiding Place

"A man shall be a hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest. (Isaiah 32:2)

to be "the mountains of Israel." Within the past ten years Jews from practically every nation have returned to Palestine.

They shall *ascend and come like a storm and be like a cloud to cover the land*. To ascend is to climb, gain height, and this is a good description of the take-off and climb of the modern airplane. These planes are to be so thick they are as a cloud to cover the land. Already Russian planes have flown over Turkey at a great height (according to news reports) on their way to Syria, next door to Israel. Shipments of war material are being unloaded at the Syrian harbor every week. Also, as the world knows, Russian planes and tanks and other munitions have been delivered to Egypt—along with Russian technicians!

But this battle involves more than Egypt, the Arabs, the Jews and Russia. *The merchants of Tarshish and the young lions thereof* will challenge the coming of Russia upon this scene. It is accepted prophetic interpretation that the merchants of Tarshish are the fleets of trading England, and the young lions thereof are her colonies and members of the British Commonwealth. England has become involved with her armies at Suez. New Zealand and Australia have voted with her in the United Nations concerning her invasion of Egypt. While it is true that Canada and Amer-

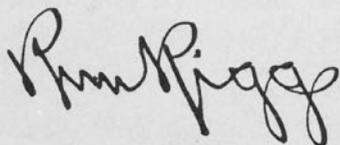
ica withstood England in her venture into the Suez Canal area, yet Canadian soldiers are a part of the United Nation forces there. Our President has announced that America will fight if Russia sends "volunteers" into this arena. And well she might, for if Russia gets possession of the oil of the Middle East she will have our allies on their knees. The precipitant action of England and France has already thrown Europe into confusion and renders her more vulnerable to Russia than ever before.

It is a delicate moment in world history. If it were not for the open and smoldering revolt of Russia's satellites at this critical time, the temptation for Russia to move in force into the Middle East would be very great. THESE GREAT WORLD-SHAKING EVENTS DO NOT RUN WILD OUT OF GOD'S CONTROL. It could be that God let Hungary revolt, and Poland assert her rights, and Tito condemn Moscow at this critical moment to hold the Russians in check. On the other hand, Russia has just now tasted blood (Hungarian blood) and for the first time since World War II has sent her own troops into battle. She has threatened England with a war of rockets. Doubtless it was her growl which caused England and France to agree to a cease-fire, as they did, right in the heat of their invasion of Egypt,

and before they had reached their objective (the recapture of the entire Suez Canal and the overthrow of President Nasser). The world rocks with agitation and military movement—all in the direction of the battle described in Ezekiel, chapters 38 and 39.

What will be the outcome of this battle? God will call for a sword against Russia throughout all the nations of the world. Nature also will make its contribution with earthquake, rain ("overflowing rain"), great hailstones, fire and brimstone. The Lord said, "I will send a fire on Magog and among them that dwell carelessly in the isles [coasts]." God will send a fire on the land of Russia and upon the coasts of the earth. (This could easily refer to atomic fire and destruction which is the prepared weapon of modern war.) So great will be the slaughter that it will take seven months to bury the dead. This will mark the end of Russia, at least for a thousand years. But so deep-seated and virulent are the seeds of the atheism and rebellion of Gog and Magog against God, that they will bring forth another and final harvest at the end of time, just before the Great White Throne Judgment. See Revelation 20:7-9.

This is the first time in all history that the stage has been set so accurately and completely for the fulfillment of this remarkable prophecy. This is confirmation not only that the Bible is God's very Word, but that we are living in the end time. (The events of Ezekiel 38 and 39 are said to "come to pass in the latter days." The end time means the tribulation and all its horrors.) These surely are some of the things which, when they begin to come to pass, mean that our redemption draweth nigh. And that means the coming of the Lord is at hand. *A Man shall be as a hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest.* That Man Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God. The dead in Christ shall rise first; then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air. So shall we ever be with that Man, the Lord Jesus Christ. What a Blessed Hope this is! Let us abide in Him throughout these critical days.



New Year Meditations

by A. B. Simpson

A Covenanted Year

IT IS VERY DELIGHTFUL AND ENCOURAGING to enter upon the year before us with the consciousness that Infinite Wisdom, Love, and Power have covered the coming months and days with the assurance of every needed blessing. There is a way in which this is not only generally true as a matter of course, but may be made very special and definite by an act of consecration and faith. Many of the most useful and honored of God's servants have found it an unspeakable blessing to enter into such a covenant, and to look back upon the past and see how fully God has kept His pledge.

It is a very delightful thing to enter upon the new year with such a covenant. It is not so much what we promise as what we take and let Him undertake. Shall we go forth into a covenanted year, and have Him say to us, down the steps of life's heavenly altar, "Behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, . . . for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of"?

The God Who Is Enough

WHILE ALL THE PROMISES OF GOD are true and precious, yet it is good to take them one by one and especially commit ourselves to them. If you ask God to give you a special message for the opening year, one that will be made seasonable and real in every exigency of the unknown future, you will be surprised how faithfully He will fulfill His word, and how fittingly the Holy Spirit will speak to you of things to come, and anticipate the real needs and exigencies of your life. Wait upon God for such a message, and then use it day by day as a check upon the bank of heaven, as an anchor amid the storms of life, and as a staff to lean upon all along the pilgrim way.

It is an infinite advantage to a weak,

imperfect, and tempted human life to be attached to the Source of all power by that mysterious and yet all-powerful link of confidence and faith; to feel that our life is not dependent upon mere chance or our own foresight, skill, resources, or abilities, but that we carry with us a charmed existence, and that we are always within reach of the infinite resources of divine power and love. This, indeed, gives to a human life an inspiration and an elevation that ought to make our lives sublime. Take the Almighty One thus into your life for the ensuing year, and be ashamed ever to dishonor Him by a doubt, a compromise, or a fear.

Redeeming the Time

TWO LITTLE WORDS ARE FOUND IN the Greek version of Ephesians 5:16. They are translated "*ton kairon*" in the revised version, "Buying up for yourself the opportunity." The two words, *ton kairon*, mean literally, the opportunity.

They do not refer to time in general, but to a special point of time, a juncture, a crisis, a moment full of possibilities and quickly passing by, which we must seize and make the best of before it has passed away.

It is intimated that there are not many such moments of opportunity because the days are evil; like a barren desert, in which, here and there, you find a flower; pluck it while you can; like a business opportunity which comes a few times in a lifetime; buy it up while you have the chance. Be spiritually alert; be not unwise, but understanding what the will of God is. "Walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, buying up for yourselves the opportunity."

Sometimes it is a moment of time to be saved; sometimes a soul to be led to Christ. Sometimes it is an occasion for love; sometimes for patience, sometimes for victory over temptation and sin. Let us redeem it.



America Must Be Stabbed Awake

OR THE BELLS OF DOOM WILL
TOLL ABOVE OUR HELPLESS HEADS!

BY PAUL REES

TO THE KEEN EYES OF THE PROPHET Ezekiel there once appeared the moving picture of the Almighty coming down to search the streets and dwellings of Jerusalem. God looking for a man! A man who will lead out, who will return to the altars of the Lord, and call others to accompany him! A man who will pioneer the way to national revival! Amazingly enough, God could not find that key man. Therefore Jerusalem and Judah went on to their doom in 586, spiritually unawakened and un-renewed.

Now change the historical setting. Come down to the present. In place of Judah, think of America. In place of Jerusalem, think of your city or mine, New York, or Minneapolis, or Los Angeles. In place of the Temple, think of the Church. Then recall this word of Ezekiel's found in chapter 22, verse 30: "I have looked for a man among

them to build up the wall and man the breach on behalf of the land." (Mofatt).

Are there any broken-down walls in the life of our nation? Think, for example, of what is happening to the home and family life in these forty-eight States. Are there not numerous "gaps" or "breaches" through which a filthy flood is pouring? If so, then remember that God is looking for men—men who are alerted to the peril, men who will be fillers-of-the-gap and who will stand staunchly for spiritual recovery against all the forces of Antichrist and apostasy.

The question I now raise is simple and searching; how can we—you and I—answer this call of God?

SHOW ALL HER ABOMINATIONS

First, I should say that if you and I are going to be God's key men for revival, we must get our eyes open to

the facts. "Show her all her abominations," is the command that came to Ezekiel with respect to Jerusalem. But would Jerusalem be shown? No! She preferred to live on in her fool's paradise of godless prosperity. Even the Temple joined with the market-place and the dens of vice in doing outrage to the holiness of God, and doing it with blind arrogance and complacency.

Consider these flashes of arraignment from the chapter we are examining:

"You are guilty of the blood you shed, befouled by the idols you have made. . . . The leaders of Israel within you have been overbearing. . . . You scorn what is sacred to me, you desecrate my Sabbath. . . . Within you men live lasciviously. . . . The local leaders are roaring lions that tear their prey. . . . The priests violate my law and profane what is sacred to me. . . ."

The Spirit of God takes no delight in publishing or parading these mean and mischievous failures of society and the Church. He brings them up for one reason only; to ram them home to the conscience. *We must be stabbed awake to them, or the bells of doom, soon or*

late, will toll above our helpless heads.

If you are going to be one of God's pioneers for revival, you must begin with yourself. One of the Proverbs might be taken, with all its bluntness, and applied to us who are called of God to further revival. It is the statement, "The eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth" (Proverbs 17:24). He refuses, in other words, to face the realities of his own life.

A RADICAL CURE

If we are to have spiritual revival in our churches, we must counteract the mania for confessing other people's sins rather than our own. Our criticism

of other people is an emotional dug-out in which we are trying to hide from our own failures. It is deadly to our soul's good. It is fatal to revival.

About 1830 Charles G. Finney was the agent of the Spirit of God in bringing revival to the city of Rochester, New York, and its environs. As a result, more than 100,000 persons united with the churches as newly converted believers. Perhaps such a man deserves our respectful attention when he declares: "A revival of religion may be expected when Christians begin to confess their sins to one another." If no one else will support him in that statement, the apostle James will, for he said, "Con-

fess your faults one to another, that ye may be healed" (James 5:16).

Pioneering for revival is costly business. The price must be paid, not by the other brother, but by me! "Let us be clear once and for all," says Cecil Rose, "that honest self-examination and introspection are not the same thing. 'Introspection' is looking inside yourself and doing nothing about it. 'Self-examination' means *allowing God to give you an overhaul with a view to a radical cure.*" It is the "radical cure" that we need, else we shall continue to be part of the problem instead of part of the answer.

—Selected

DEDICATION

by F. B. MEYER

In my inner life I desire to be kept absolutely pure and lovely.

O holy and spotless One, be in me the crystal fountain of purity!

O Lamb of God, be in me the source of absolute meekness and humility!

O Lover of men, be in me a fire of unwaning, all-subduing tenderness!

MAKE ME INSTANTLY SENSITIVE TO THE LEAST taint of impurity and uncharity. Before ever the suggestion has assumed a tangible shape, may I detect it and shelter in Thee.

In my home life may I be made a blessing; its sunbeam when the days are dark; its inspiration when the days are sad and hopeless; its tender comfort when the days are full of pain and tears. Always thinking of others before myself; never imposing my private sorrows or moods; ever with the girt loin and the lighted torch; washing my face and anointing my head and confiding my griefs to Thee only, that I may ever have

"A heart at leisure from itself,
To soothe and sympathize."

In my religious life may the neglect of prayer and Thy holy Word be things of the past. Wake me morning by morning to hear as a disciple! Enable me to spring up at Thy call, and, like all Thy true servants, to rise up early in the morning to gather the manna ere the dew be gone from it. May my fellowship with Thee be unbroken through the day, that I may often look up into Thy face, even if I have not time to speak. Draw me, and I will run after Thee!

"Each moment call from earth away
My soul that only waits Thy call."

In my daily calling make me diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord. May I do my work, not for the wages I may get, not to secure an advance, but so as to please Thee! May it be the one object of my daily striving to do all to the glory of God—not with eye-service, as pleasing men, but in singleness of heart, fearing the Lord, doing the will of God as it is indicated in the circumstances of my life, and looking for my reward from Thy hand, O Divine Master!

In my use of money I would not be anxious about the future, nor hoard up and keep for myself of that which Thou hast given me: I want to be Thy very slave, counting myself and all I have as Thy purchased property, and using all things as Thy representative and steward.

In my use of time and health and all the opportunities of life I desire to act with reverent care, redeeming the time, buying up each opportunity, conserving my body as the pure temple of the Holy Ghost, so partaking of recreation, food, natural scenery, travel, and all lawful pastimes, that I may the better serve Thy purpose in my creation and redemption. Show me what Thy talents are which Thou has entrusted to me, and help me to make the two four, and the five ten.

Now bless me, even me, O Lord; I am Thine; Thy Father gave me to Thee before the world was made; Thou didst purchase me for Thyself by Thy most precious blood; Thou hast begun a good work within me by Thy Holy Spirit; and now afresh take me to Thine heart, and seal me with Thy Spirit. May He enlighten, comfort, and sanctify me, teaching me to pray, and opening the eyes of my heart that I may know Thee and the power of Thy resurrection, that as Thou hast ascended into the heavens so I may also in heart and mind thither ascend and with Thee continually dwell, who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.



Add INFLUENCE To Your Inventory!

BY BARTLETT PETERSON

President, Central Bible Institute, Springfield, Missouri

IT IS CUSTOMARY AT THE BEGINNING of a new year, to take stock of one's resources. May I suggest that every one of us has a valuable possession that we seldom take into account at stock-taking time? It is our influence, either for good or evil.

This year, add influence to your inventory. Set a proper value on it, and take it into account in your plans for 1957.

Influence is *the most potent force in the world*. It sways men for good or for evil. It works quietly, yet with feverish industriousness, day and night without a pause. It is helping to populate either heaven or hell!

The first-century Christians exerted a mighty influence for good. The power released by that Spirit-endued Church was said to have "turned the world upside down" (though actually it turned the world rightside up). They had the heaven-sent gift of holy boldness and went out "into all the world" to teach, preach, heal the sick, cast out devils, and raise the dead.

By their works and by their words they influenced their fellow-men Godward. The greatest leverage in all the world is *influence lived and taught*. No fulcrum force known to engineering and no art of persuasion known to diplomats can equal this. The effect

is multiplied immeasurably when controlled by the Holy Spirit.

The work of teaching is on a par with the work of preaching, according to the Scriptures. Have we placed enough importance upon this ministry?

Encasing a Bible in fine morocco is the task and pride of the publisher; but the man or woman who teaches the Word of God has *a nobler art*, a finer production, and *a greater responsibility*. The teacher is planting the Word within the human heart, and moulding character for time and eternity. What greater work could any mortal ask?

Can you conceive a more worthwhile work than that of teaching a class of lively teen-age boys or giggling girls? There is power in the sacred pages of the Scriptures. Remember what happened when Luther opened a Bible which he had found in the monastery. When its brass-bound covers fell open they shook the shambles of unbelief, church-craft and formalism all the way to Rome and to "the uttermost parts of the earth."

To open God's Book is important. Philip did it and was rewarded with the conversion of the Ethiopian. Who will dare say that the influence of the conversion of that single person has ended even at this late date? And who will measure the effect of the conversion of

one pupil in your Sunday School?

Who made the little papyrus boat that floated one day on the edge of the Nile? That well-made little ark was as important as Noah's great craft for it cradled the future of God's people. Fortunately it had been made with care.

Who made the basket and the rope by which Paul was let down over the wall, thus escaping death? Unknown workers saw the importance of making the basket sturdy and the rope strong. Their work stood up in the hour of test, and the apostle was saved to continue his preaching and teaching.

The Church and her teachings must be preserved at any cost. She must not lose her influence. She must commit her doctrines "... to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2). The Church, to survive, must not only teach but must also train teachers. She must find men and women who are apt to teach; she must train them; she must fill their minds and their hands with knowledge and skill so that the faith that is worth dying for shall never die, but shall go on and on until Jesus comes.

Then *let us teach the Word*. Teach others to teach. This is scriptural. This is essential. Here is an occupation with endless opportunities and limitless possibilities.

Do it well! It has been wisely said, "If a thing is worth doing at all, it is worth doing well." This is all the more true when eternal destinies are at stake. There is nothing insignificant or

JANUARY IS TRAINING MONTH FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS

transitory about this work. We are either building or wrecking for eternity. If you would build for Christ, learn how to do it well—then do it with all your might, and God will help you.

Think not that the work is unimportant. It is the command of God. It seemed a small and unimportant act to cast a hook into the sea at the Master's command, but it produced the miracle of the tax money. It seemed utterly useless to let down the nets again, after a whole night of failure, but there was an abundant reward.

Our task may seem as difficult and as painful as that of stretching forth a withered arm—but oh, what joy there is when the Lord's transforming power is made manifest! Our small store of knowledge may appear as inadequate as the lad's basket lunch, but with His blessing there is sure to be a multiplication into bountifulness.

Our duty, then, is clear. *We must use our influence for Christ.* Though we cannot measure it (it is greater than we think) we can trust Him to multiply our resources and make them adequate in the midst of a generation that is perishing for the Bread of Life.

Jesus may come in 1957. What joy we shall have, should He come on a Sunday morning, if He finds us each in his appointed place in Sunday School, either studying His Word or teaching it effectively to others.

TAKE TIME TO KNOW HIM

If a scholar talked and questioned his teacher all the hours of instruction, would he learn the lessons assigned him? Many of God's children, desirous of knowing their Lord better, think that it consists in effort, either physical or mental.

Psalms 46:10 gives us contrary instructions: quietness and stillness. Waiting on Him is the only way to know Him.

Southey, the poet and scholar, was describing to a Quakeress, with considerable pride, how fully his time was occupied. He told her that he had studied Portuguese grammar while he was shaving; he read Spanish an hour before breakfast; and every moment of his day was consumed in reading, writing, conversing, eating, exercising, and sleeping.

Finally she replied, "And, friend, when dost thou think?"

God is looking for those who are willing to take time to know Him. Will you be one of that number?



Your Questions

ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

Did Peter not say in 1 Peter 3:21 that baptism saves us?

Peter there explains that baptism is "not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God." If a person looks to water to save him he will be lost. If he looks to Christ to save him, and in baptism acknowledges Christ as his Saviour, his salvation will be through Christ and not through the virtue of water.

* * *

Why do we not baptize for the dead?

Because the Bible in no place commands baptism for the dead. Baptism is only for those who "repent and believe the gospel." Dr. Adam Clarke's explanation concerning baptism for the dead is as good as any I found. He states that among the heathen there were baptisms, or initiations, for the dead. Since the Corinthians had been saved out of idolatry and knew this custom, Paul seized upon it in his teaching, emphasizing that baptism for the dead would be of no value if the dead are not raised. It could be possible that some in the Corinthian church had brought over with them from heathenism some rite performed in behalf of the dead. However that may be, there is no Biblical teaching which indicates that God has given instruction for baptizing for the dead.

* * *

Was it fermented wine that Jesus made at the marriage at Cana of Galilee?

No one can give a positive answer. Evidence indicates, however, that it had all the favorable qualities of fermented wine. When the governor of the feast tasted the wine which Jesus had made he declared it to be "the best" wine of the feast. It must have contained the exhilaration that is produced by wine.

Isaiah spoke of "a vineyard of red wine" (chapter 27:2). The word here translated "wine" is *chemer*, which Young's Concordance defines as "a thick, sticky, syrup." Some other verses where *chemer* is used are Daniel 5:1-4, 23.

Another Hebrew word translated "wine" is *yoyin*, which Young defines as "what is pressed out, grape juice." It was on such wine that Noah became intoxicated. "[Noah] drank of the wine, and was drunken" (Genesis 9:21). This term *yoyin* is used many times for fermented wine.

In the New Testament *oinos* is frequently used. Young defines it as "grape juice," but it is used when referring to fermented grape juice, as in Matthew 9:17, where Jesus said, "Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out. . . ." This breaking of the bottles, of course, would be caused by the pressure of the gases in the process of fermentation.

The apostle advised Christians to be "not given to much wine," which indicates that wine was used in Bible times. But this is no reason why Christians should now use intoxicants. Slavery also was practiced in Bible times, but, through the grace of God and the power of the gospel, slavery is now abolished in our land. Women were to be veiled when they appeared in public, but we now have no such custom. There were no hospitals, no public schools in the days of early Christianity. Are we therefore to discard these blessings?

Intoxicating liquors of all kinds are detrimental, and often damning to the soul. Because of their evils, and because of the hold which they get on so many, it is best for Christians to maintain a position of total abstinence. "If meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend" (1 Corinthians 8:13). "It is good neither to eat flesh, nor to drink wine, nor any thing whereby thy brother stumbleth, or is offended, or is made weak" (Romans 14:21).

If you wish Brother Williams to answer a question, send it to "Your Questions," The Pentecostal Evangel, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield 1, Mo. He will answer either in this column or by personal letter.



THIS PRESENT WORLD

Ceylon Villages Being Reached with Scripture

An effort is being made to reach every village and town in Ceylon with some portion of the Word of God in printed form. Co-operating with the Evangelical Fellowship of Ceylon in this every-village-and-town crusade is the Bible Meditation League of Columbus, Ohio. The scripture portions are being printed in Colombo, Ceylon, at BML expense.

Zondervans Announce \$10,000 Contest

The Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, has announced a special contest to secure Christian literature for all fields of endeavor. The contest, which will run until December 31, 1958, offers awards of \$6,000, \$2,000, \$1,000, \$750, and \$250 for the best book manuscripts submitted in any field of Christian significance, fiction or non-fiction.

British Missionaries in Egypt Under Arrest

Some sixty British missionaries were placed under house arrest in Egypt preparatory to being expelled from the country. This was disclosed by missionary officials at a meeting in Buck Hill Falls, Pennsylvania. French missionaries in Egypt, who are few and mainly Roman Catholic, likewise face expulsion, said the Protestant church officials. They predicted that British missionary effort in Egypt is "about finished." The work of the British missionaries is being taken over by Egyptian ministers and American missionaries.

The missionary officials added that mission work in general in the Middle East has "suffered a serious setback." In Syria, they reported, the twenty-five British missionaries to that land have left the country.

Victory for Spanish Evangelicals

Evangelicals have noted with keen interest a decree issued by Spain's General Franco regarding marriage. Stating that "certain adjustments of present orders have to be made within the framework of the Concordat with the Vatican, in relation to the civil marriage of persons who do not profess the Catholic religion," the decree says that civil marriage will now be authorized for those who can prove that they do not profess the Catholic religion. It is hoped that this will alleviate a very serious problem in evangelical Spanish life.

During most of the Franco regime it has been practically impossible for evangelicals to marry. The government has permitted civil marriage only to persons who have never been baptized in the Roman Catholic Church. In the majority of engaged evangelical couples at least one party is a convert from Roman Catholicism. Because they were baptized in the Catholic Church, they were not permitted to contract marriage outside the church. Now, according to the new decree, anyone who can submit "documents" proving that he does not now "profess the Catholic religion" is eligible to be married by a judge instead of a priest.

Says Religion Flourishing in Romania

A five-man delegation from the Lutheran State Church of Denmark returned from an 18-day visit to Romania and said that religious life was flourishing in that country despite strict government controls.

Severe Restrictions in Estonian Churches

The church in predominately Lutheran Estonia is operating under severe restrictions under Communism, according to the report of a Finnish pastor who visited there recently.

The country's only theological seminary has been shut down, there is a shortage of Bibles and other Christian literature, and there has been virtually no new church building since World War II. There are no Bible study classes, Sunday Schools, or Christian student meetings because the Communist government prohibits any church gatherings except for the purpose of worship.

Communists Active in Africa

In two to four years from now the Western world is likely to be surprised by a new and very vocal crop of young leaders in Africa talking in Marxist phrases and shouting the praises of the Soviet Union, reports *Freedom's Facts*. The reason is that today, and for the past several years, the Reds have been conducting a major propaganda and agitation effort in secondary schools and colleges in that continent.

An observant educator who made a tour of Africa in 1952 reported six Communist organizations with substantial student membership in Egypt. Among colleges in other parts of Africa there were reports of "professional students"—those attending school for the sole purpose of spreading Communist propaganda. A church representative just back from a tour of African missions reported that the amount of such propaganda directed at secondary schools in Africa is tremendous.

Keeping Christ out of Christmas

While Americans were busy with campaigns to "Keep Christ in Christmas" last month, East German Communists were sending directives aimed at keeping Christ out of Christmas. East Germans planning office Christmas parties were ordered to make them expressive of the "new deeper meaning Christmas has in the Workers' and Peasants' Republic." Christmas songs and poems, the directive said, were restricted to those "which tell of the democratic unity of Germany, peace, friendship, and a prosperous socialistic future." Christmas plays had to feature "only such themes as the possibilities of a peaceful use of atomic energy and the discovery of outer space." The directive charged that previous Christmas festivities "quelled the working people's joy of life" because they were "rooted in mysticism and promoted superstition."

All that remains now is for the Communists to change the name of the celebration.

Will Hungary's Rebellion Bring Religious Freedom?

Reports received by the Lutheran World Federation indicate that Church leaders in Hungary consider the position of the Lutheran Church after the recent fighting as "favorable." The Church is said to have recovered its freedom and reports no interference with church life. Reports say that it is possible to resume spiritual care in hospitals and to give religious instruction in schools for the first time in many years. Damage to churches has not been great.

But a pastor who was among the Hungarian refugees reaching America took a less optimistic view of the situation. He said the new Communist government has been too busy putting down the rebellion to have time to interfere with church life in Hungary, but predicted that it will not be long until churches have been robbed of their new-found freedom.

Once for Self, Now for God

Jim Vaus, once a wiretapper for underworld characters like Mickey Cohen, has turned his talents to Christian service since he was converted. He is now in Africa making a survey of the interior. As founder and president of Missionary Communication Service, he is inspecting sites for transmitters needed to provide a modern communication system for the benefit of missionary work in remote interior areas.

NEW "PICTURE PHONE" of Bell Telephone Laboratories is a combination of television and telephone. A small TV camera (left) picks up the caller's face, and a miniature TV picture tube (center) shows the person at the other end of the line.



PHOTO COURTESY SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE CO.

"PICTURE-PHONE" ON ITS WAY

Bell Telephone Laboratories have announced that they now have a two-way "Picture-phone"—a combination of television and telephone—that can swap electrical snapshots every two seconds from coast to coast through standard telephone circuits.

The Picture-phone consists of a small TV camera tube and a small TV picture tube that presents a 2-by-3-inch head-and-shoulders shot of the caller on the screen.

Thus far Bell is making no comments on cost or on when the Picture-phone will be available, but they have said they wouldn't be working on it if they didn't believe they "could offer it to telephone subscribers in the not-too-distant future."

With the new Picture-phone, a person will be able to see as well as hear some friend or loved one, even across the country. When the Picture-phone becomes a reality in homes, undoubtedly people will spend more time "fixing up" before answering the telephone. They will want to look their best for the caller.

The Picture-phone also brings a reminder to us that there is One who sees us at all times. He is not so much concerned about our physical appearance as our spiritual, for "the Lord looketh on the heart." If this thought were constantly before us, it would help us to live better Christian lives.

Bright Outlook For Church Construction in 1957

Church construction should set a new record of \$875,000,000 this year, government experts in the Departments of Commerce and Labor predicted. The figure would exceed the total for 1956 by about \$100,000,000.

The 13 per cent increase is anticipated despite a probable reduction in construction work in many fields, including new homes, during 1957, the government report said. Church building probably will account for two per cent of all construction activity during the year, the largest share in American history.

Record Number of U.S. Missionaries Abroad

A record total of 23,432 Protestant missionaries are serving abroad for 213 agencies in the United States and Canada, according to a survey made by the Missionary Research Library. Four years ago the figure was 18,576.

The survey showed that during 1955 some \$130 million was given by Americans to finance missionary endeavors. Protestant missionaries are now serving in 100 countries.

Other interesting statistics: six out of every ten missionaries are women, but fewer single women than formerly are serving as foreign missionaries. India with 2,127 Protestant missionaries has more than any other country; next are Japan and the Belgian Congo. China, once host to 4,492 American Protestant missionaries, now has but one (a Lutheran) and he is in prison.

In spite of the record number of North American Protestant missionaries serving abroad, however, there are less Protestant missionaries active in the world today. Four years ago there were 35,533. Today there are only 34,692. Other countries have withdrawn more missionaries than North America has been able to replace. As a result, more than two-thirds of all the Protestant missionaries now serving on the foreign mission fields of the world are from United States and Canada. A great responsibility rests upon us to "send the Light."

NAE To Sponsor Washington Seminar

The National Association of Evangelicals announced it will sponsor a seminar in Washington, D. C., February 6-8 for deans and administrators of conservative Protestant colleges to consider ways of encouraging more students to enter government service. Representatives of 70 colleges and seminaries affiliated with the evangelical denominations are expected to attend. Speakers will include government officials.

Dr. Clyde W. Taylor, NAE secretary of public affairs, said, "We hope that the educators and counselors of our Christian schools will catch a new vision of the importance of leadership in government, and thus assist in channeling their graduates into government service."

Bible Society Plans Expansion Program

The Advisory Council of the American Bible Society, representing scores of Protestant denominations, was told of plans for extensive expansion of the Bible Society during the next 25 years. Dr. Eugene A. Nida, associate secretary in charge of translations, told the Advisory Council at its annual meeting that within the next quarter-century the Society "likely" will make 110 revisions of whole Bibles, 150 translations of Old Testaments, 200 translations of New Testaments, and 225 translations of Gospels into new languages. This expansion program is necessary, he said, because of the unprecedented increase in world literacy and a growing nationalism which makes Bibles in so-called "trade or colonial" languages unacceptable.



Overflow crowd at the Raiford meetings in Copenhagen.



Youth meeting at Fons, Denmark (Brother Greisen in front row).

Assemblies of God in Denmark

BY V. G. GREISEN

Formerly Kansas District Superintendent

The relationship between the Pentecostal brethren in the Scandinavian countries and those in the U.S.A. is indeed precious. The Pentecostal World Conferences in the past eight years have done much to strengthen this relationship and erase any misunderstandings there might have been.

Recently Denmark has enjoyed some great evangelistic meetings with the Raifords of Baxter Springs, Kansas. They were here for nearly three weeks. Mr. Raiford is part Indian. He brought his Indian costume, head bonnet and moccasins, and the regalia was quite

an attraction. The leading newspaper put his photo on the front page, and as this reached a couple of million people it was a good advertisement.

The auditoriums and churches were filled to overflowing. Hundreds of sick people were prayed for. The preaching was definitely under the anointing of the Lord and results following the meetings are good. American preachers are welcome in Denmark. Promotional work among the youth and in the Assemblies as a whole is anticipated by the people.

As for my work, I am preparing for

a teaching tour of Denmark. This necessitates having large charts painted and framed. Our schedule is heavy here, so that I have not been able to visit Norway, Sweden, and the Faroe Islands as I had wished. We are booked up for many meetings and conventions. We trust that the teaching of the Word through the charts will be fruitful. Already the Lord has blessed in reviving many of the churches and He alone gets the praise. We are thankful that the Lord has privileged us to be here. The brethren are very favorable to us and desire us to be with them a long time.

Dedication service at the Mariager school when Lt. Rev. Albert Rice and wife adopted baby, Aleece, to the Lord.



The Greisens were welcomed at the school in Mariager when they took up duties there (station wagon given by C.A.'s of Kansas).



Russian Refugees in Need

BY G. KINDERMAN

A note of gratefulness—but also an appeal—was received from the Russian refugees who are in Shanghai, China. We wish to share its contents with the many friends who have an interest in their well-being. The translation of excerpts follows:

"Praise the Lord; and thank you, dear friends in Christ, for the remittance. Many families were enabled to pay off their indebtedness for food purchased on credit, and the most needy families were helped to purchase at least one-half of the monthly ration of flour, rice and salt. These are our only food commodities to keep us from starving.

"The meager diet causes many to grow weak in body. Especially the children and the old people are getting sick. It is a terrible sight to look at our children; their bodies are covered with sores from malnutrition; some have swollen heads and stomachs; their arms and legs are but skin and bone.

"We are like the beggar Lazarus, who

desired to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. (Luke 16:21).

"With deep appreciation and also a plea for continued help, we remain, on behalf of the Shanghai Assembly, your brethren in Christ—

(Signed) VODOPIANOFF AND GOLIN."

We are glad that arrangements are made whereby funds can be sent for the relief of these needy fellow-believers. You may share in this important need by sending donations to Foreign Missions Department, 434 W. Pacific St., Springfield, Mo., designated "Russian Refugees." Let us show our compassion and love for these who, with us, are of the household of faith and in such need at this time.



Mr. & Mrs. LeRoy Williams

Mr. and Mrs. C. LeRoy Williams sailed for Peru December 6 to continue their missionary work there.

* * *

Rebecca Sue was born to Mr. and Mrs. Stevens Nolin of Malaya on November 30.

* * *

A cable has been received from the Lee Roy Ward family telling of their safe arrival in Africa.

CHURCH PARTICIPATION IN MISSIONARY GIVING

September 1956

MISSIONARY News Notes

ON FURLOUGH

Monroe D. Grams and family from Bolivia, South America; they are making their home in care of Gottlieb Grams, Route 4, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

Paul Schoonmaker and family from India; their address is 3140 Sixteenth Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

Herman V. Englegau and family from Africa; their address is 5725 N.E. 62 Ave., Portland 13, Oregon.

Karlene Burt from Egypt; she can be reached at 3133 Stevens St., La Crescenta, Calif.

Florence Christie from Egypt; her address is 205 Newland St., Los Angeles 42, Calif.

* * *

A letter has been received from Melvin W. Steward telling of their safe arrival in the Philippine Islands. They have been in special meetings since November and announce that many have accepted Christ.

	Total Churches	Participating Churches	Participation Percentage
1. S. Idaho	54	50	93
2. Nebraska	82	74	90
3. N. Dakota	51	45	88
4. Illinois	192	167	87
5. Kansas	156	129	83
6. Montana	66	54	82
7. Minnesota	142	113	80
8. S. Dakota	47	37	79
9. New York	144	113	78
10. New Jersey	100	78	78
11. W. Central	207	161	78
12. Northwest	265	204	77
13. Rocky Mountain	121	92	76
14. Wis.-N. Mich.	137	104	76
15. Ohio	174	130	75
16. New England	99	73	74
17. Oregon	204	150	74
18. S. Missouri	324	235	73
19. Wyoming	35	25	71
20. Eastern	245	170	69
21. Michigan	178	123	69
22. S. Florida	152	104	68
23. N. Calif.-Nev.	321	217	68
24. Potomac	172	110	64
25. Alabama	243	151	62
26. New Mexico	79	48	61
27. Appalachian	70	42	60
28. S. California	367	214	58
29. Louisiana	141	82	58
30. Tennessee	89	51	57
31. Indiana	153	87	57
32. W. Florida	132	75	57
33. N. Carolina	76	43	57
34. W. Texas	127	70	55
35. Georgia	124	66	53
36. Oklahoma	490	259	53
37. S. Texas	264	130	49
38. N. Texas	504	239	47
39. Kentucky	69	32	46
40. Mississippi	92	42	46
41. Arizona	79	35	44
42. S. Carolina	53	19	36
43. Arkansas	446	154	35

SPECIAL NOTICE—

Assiut Orphanage

Information has been received that the Foreign Missions Department can now send money to Lillian Trasher by bank transfer. It is not possible for her to cash checks and money orders sent to her by mail. All offerings should therefore be sent through the Foreign Missions Department. The needs of the Assiut Orphanage are now greater than ever, due to the unsettled conditions in Egypt, and we trust Miss Trasher's many friends will continue to support her work.

It is not possible to send gift packages direct to the Orphanage at this time. Send packages marked, "Lillian Trasher," to Assemblies of God Warehouse, 233 Fifty-Third St., Brooklyn 20, New York. Shipment will be made as soon as possible.



Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Welker, who will soon be building a church in Wrangell, Alaska

Modern Pioneers in Alaska

PIONEERING IN ALASKA IS ACCOMPANIED by the same trials of faith as pioneering in the States, and demands sacrifice. But there are also other difficulties facing the pioneer in the cold northland.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Lewis Welker are in the States now after spending about a year assisting in the pioneer work at Barrow, Alaska, where the Alvin Capeners are ministering.

The Welkers are preparing to go back to Alaska where they will go into another building program at Wrangell.

Wrangell is a fishing community where many white people come intermittently to work. There are also Indians to be reached for Christ there.

About three hundred Indian children attend a government school in Wrangell, and they need a Sunday School.

Mr. Welker writes that approximately five thousand dollars is still needed for the proposed building.

At North Pole, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Teeter have built a new log church. About \$1,400 is still needed for this building.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hirschy, pioneers at Kodiak, Alaska, began their work there in 1955. They started with a Sunday School of twelve in their home. The work grew steadily and when one of the teachers moved nearby, two classes were moved to their home. The first of October, 1956, a class was started for Primaries. Their teacher takes the class in his car each Sunday to his home. At present they have six classes held in three different homes.

The Sunday School averaged fifty in September, despite the inconvenience of not having a building. Mrs. Hirschy writes:

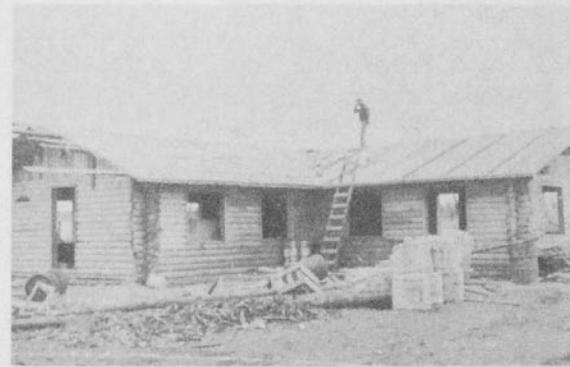
"In all of our work in Alaska we have never seen the Lord work in a more wonderful way. So many are interested in coming to church. I have had mothers stop me on the street and ask when they could start their children to Sunday School. Just the other day a mother came to the house to see about starting her girl to Sunday School.

"Recently a Junior boy who was here the first Sunday we had Sunday School, gave his testimony of salvation. He and his sister have been very faithful to come. Their mother is coming with them now.

"We have seen sick bodies healed and souls saved. Last Sunday night a young

man was saved. Several were at the altar seeking the Holy Spirit. Another man joined the church Sunday.

"Last winter we purchased three army surplus buildings and have them wrecked to build a church. We have the lots bought and cleared, ready to start construction. We hope to be able to build next summer as soon as the weather is good. Last summer Brother Hirschy had to take a job to support the work. We



New log church at North Pole, Alaska. Doors, windows, and roof were added after this picture was taken.

are trusting that next summer he will have his time free to build the church."

At Juneau another kind of building is under way. For a quarter of a century, Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Johnson and their co-workers have taken the pliable young lives of homeless Alaska children and built them into sturdy Christian characters at the Juneau Children's Home.

Now that Home has had its usual



Sunday School in Kodiak, Alaska. This group meets in three different homes on Sunday mornings.

water supply cut off, and is facing an urgent need for a well.

Two attempts at drilling a well have been made, but due to the fact that the Home is in an old slide area, it is a long and expensive process to reach bedrock. The drillers had to pull out after drilling 225 feet the second time, but they expect to set up again early in February. Mrs. Johnson says the Health Department can close the Home unless they get a satisfactory source of water.

Funds are urgently needed to complete this project, and prayer is requested that the Lord will enable them to reach bedrock speedily in this new attempt.

Please designate your offering for JUNEAU WELL, KODIAK BUILDING, WRANGELL BUILDING, NORTH POLE BUILDING or for ALASKA BUILDING FUND, and send it to—

HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT
434 West Pacific Street
Springfield 1, Missouri

When a Roman ordered a statue he usually told the sculptor that it must be *sine cera*, "without wax." It had become customary for sculptors to cover their mistakes with a little wax; then after the statue had been delivered, paid for, and placed in some beautiful garden, the sun would melt the wax and the imperfection would come to light. Paul prayed that the Philippians would be *sine cera*, and without offense until the day of Jesus Christ, the day when every man's work shall be tested with fire.

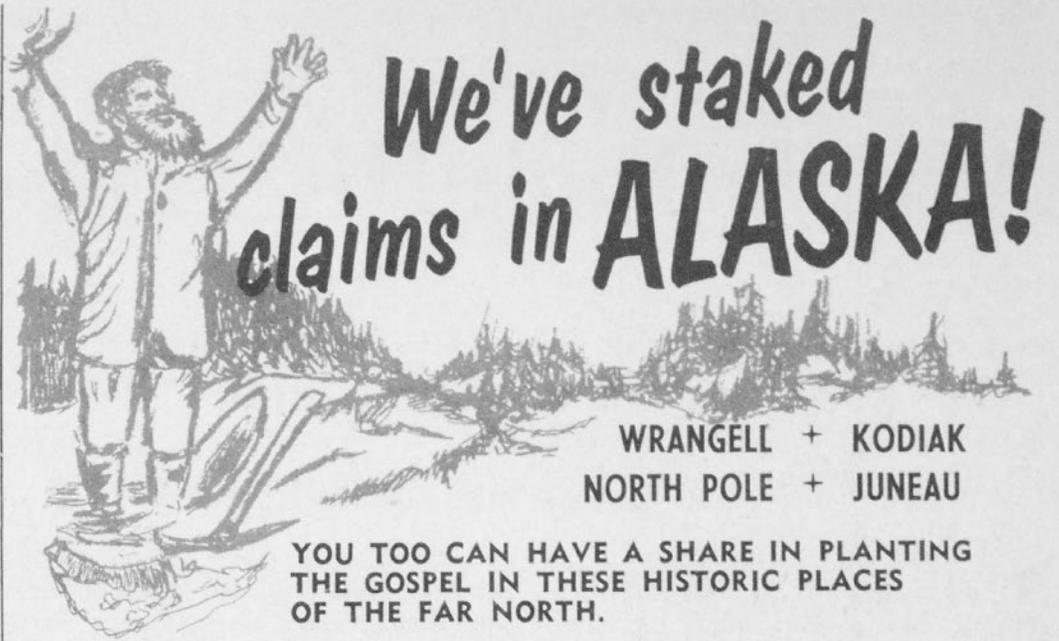
"A TRAINED WORKER

MAKES A
DIFFERENCE"



You'll see improvement in your Sunday School in the year ahead as you begin 1957 with a Workers' Training Course. Use the Book-of-the-Month selection, "The Spirit Himself" by Ralph M. Riggs.

NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPT.
434 W. Pacific, Springfield 1, Mo.



We've staked claims in ALASKA!

WRANGELL + KODIAK
NORTH POLE + JUNEAU

YOU TOO CAN HAVE A SHARE IN PLANTING
THE GOSPEL IN THESE HISTORIC PLACES
OF THE FAR NORTH.

Pioneering is difficult anywhere, but in Alaska, the bitter cold, the winter darkness, and the high cost of building materials combine to make it an even harder task. In spite of this, men in search of gold opened the frozen land, even in the face of death. Seeking for greater wealth—men's souls—our missionaries have built churches in strategic locations all over the territory.

New works still are being built and they need our help. In each of these new locations there is a distinct need for a full gospel witness.

At Wrangell, a rented store building has been our church for a number of years. But recently a lot has been purchased and plans are being made to build a church there.

At Kodiak, many servicemen and their families are finding Christ in the home of our missionaries there. The need for a building in which to hold services is acute.

At North Pole a log church is being built to house the growing congregation. Here too, servicemen and their families are among those finding Christ as their Saviour.

At Juneau, our Juneau Children's Home is drilling a much-needed well. Their former source of water has been cut off, and they are desperately in need of an adequate and safe water supply. While this is not a material building need, they too are building—building young lives for God. So their need for a well cannot be overlooked when Alaska's building needs are under consideration.

You can have a share in our rush to claim men's souls, by sending an offering for one of these building projects or for the Juneau well. If you wish, you may simply designate your offering for ALASKA BUILDING FUND.

SHARE TODAY!



HOME MISSIONS DEPARTMENT
434 West Pacific Street
Springfield 1, Missouri

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

AMOUNT ENCLOSED FOR ALASKA
BUILDING FUND: \$.....

Arthur Took His Turn

A STORY SHOWING THE BLESSED INFLUENCE OF A FAMILY ALTAR

BY OLIVE E. BEAN

NIGHT WAS SETTLING DOWN. THE evening shadows were filling the land. The drowsy twitter of the birds sounded from the trees on the academy campus next to our home.

A rap came at the front door. Mother answered it and found a man standing in the shadows with a pail in his hand.

"Please, Ma'am, could you give a poor fellow a bite to eat?" he asked.

"Why—, yes, I think so," and she stood with a puzzled look on her face. To herself she thought, "That voice sounds familiar; who can it be?"

In that moment of hesitation, the man stepped from the shadows and exclaimed:

"Mother, don't you know me?"

"Oh, Arthur," she cried. "I knew that voice, though you tried to change it.

Come in! Come in!" and she gave him a welcoming kiss.

"Who was it?" you ask. It was my oldest brother, a railroad engineer. The end of his division was just fourteen miles away and he had come on down to the home village to spend the night. I had been away for two or three years and it was good to have a visit from Arthur after all this time.

Visiting around the supper table and after supper, recalling youth and childhood days, the evening seemed to go on wings. Finally my father looked at the clock, and said:

"Olive, bring the Bible. We must read and get ready for bed. Arthur will have to get away early in the morning. He needs a good rest."

I cannot remember the Bible reading that evening. What I do distinctly

remember was our kneeling in prayer. Father prayed and Mother prayed. Then, since I was the oldest child, it was my turn. Arthur was next in years and it came his turn to pray. For a long time he had wandered off in the paths of sin. We knelt in silence, waiting for Arthur to pray. No one else offered to substitute for him. Presently a sob broke the silence and he began:

"O Lord, Thou knowest I have wandered far away from Thee. My heart has become as hard as the iron rails over which my engine runs. Please forgive me tonight, dear Lord. Take me back into the fold."

The rest of us were holding on in faith and prayer. When Arthur had finished his prayer, the four younger children prayed. Of course, we all had a time of rejoicing over Arthur's return to God. We were almost too happy to sleep.

Back through the years, the family worship period had been a regular part of our day. Each child was taught to pray at the family altar as soon as he learned how to formulate a petition. That blessed habit of family prayer, with each member taking part, was the means of causing my brother Arthur to pray his way back to the fold at our family altar that evening. It was his turn to pray. He couldn't let it go by.

Are you keeping the family altar intact? It may mean the salvation of your loved ones, and of many others too. Don't fail to pray.

—Missionary Worker

For Junior Readers—

STRANGE HABITS

One day soon, watch your dog! When he wants to lie down, he most likely will turn around once, twice, or three times before doing so. It's a habit with dogs. You can't break them of it, because it's their nature to do so.

Animal habits are strange. There's always a reason for habits. For instance, the habit of turning around before lying down was acquired before dogs were domesticated by men. As creatures of the wild, they formed the habit of turning around in order to mat down the stiff grass for a bed whenever they wanted to rest or sleep.

Dogs have always rested and slept with the wind blowing directly at their noses. This way, their highly developed sense of

smell tells them if any enemy is approaching.

Dogs acquired their habits from their ancestors. In the same way, human beings acquire habits from other people. But, unlike animals, we have the intelligence to choose our habits. Our Bible tells us of many desirable habits to be acquired, such



as honesty, humility, and a forgiving spirit.

It also tells us of Daniel and his holy habits of worship and prayer, and how God protected him in the lions' den. It says: "Now when Daniel knew . . . he knelt upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime" (Daniel 6:10).

Develop the habit of prayer. Each day, before you go to school, kneel and ask the Lord to go with you; and before you go to sleep at night, kneel and ask your heavenly Father to take care of you. These are the best habits you can ever have, for God always answers prayer.

—Baptist Standard

* * * SMALL SEEDS

Don't be deceived by the apparent smallness of a thing. You may count the apples on a tree, but who can count the trees in the apple? You may reckon the acorns on the oak, but not the oaks in the acorn. One may count the number of souls he has won to Christ in their last hour of life, but who can know the great good he has done by leading one small child to Jesus?



Our Family Altar

UNIVERSAL WEEK OF PRAYER, JANUARY 6-13

This week only, "Our Family Altar" departs from its usual form to present a special emphasis for the Universal Week of Prayer, January 6 through 13. This is done with the hope that our readers will join the multitude of Christians across the world who will begin the new year in prayer and meditation. There is great power in united prayer.

MONDAY, JANUARY 7

The Christian and God

SCRIPTURE: John 14:6-13; 17:1-3; 1 John 4:9-19

TODAY'S GEM: "We love him, because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19).

FOR THE PARENT: Emphasize that God is revealed to us through Jesus. God loved us so much that even when we were sinners, He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for us. Point out that we should love God because He is our Father, not just because of all the things He does for us. God wants us to worship Him, and we must worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). All we do should be for God's glory.

QUESTION TIME: How is God revealed to us? (see above) Why should we love God? (1 John 4:19) How should we worship Him? (John 4:24)

PRAY for more devotion to God's Word and will, and to God Himself; for a deeper love toward God; for growth in grace and godliness, in humility and holiness.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 8

The Christian and Christ

SCRIPTURE: Luke 9:18-35; Philippians 2:5-11

TODAY'S GEM: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16).

FOR THE PARENT: Point out that in order to redeem sinners (and "all have sinned") the Son of God went to the Cross and died in our place. Christians are called upon both to believe on Him and to suffer for Him (Phil. 1:29). We should have a greater appreciation of His death on the Cross, His resurrection from the dead, His present ministry in our behalf (Heb. 7:25), and of Himself.

QUESTION TIME: Why did Christ go to the Cross? (see above) Who is Jesus Christ? (Matt. 16:16) What else, besides believing on Christ, are Christians

called to do? (Phil. 1:29)

PRAY for a new appreciation of the Person and work of Christ; for the mind of Christ to be in us; for us to accept Him as Lord in all parts of our lives; for a greater love to Him.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9

The Christian and the Church

SCRIPTURE: John 17:9-26; Ephesians 4:1-16

TODAY'S GEM: "Ye are the body of Christ" (1 Cor. 12:27)

FOR THE PARENT: Emphasize that the body of Christ, the Church, is not one particular denomination or group, but is made up of all persons everywhere who believe in Jesus as Saviour and have accepted Him as Lord. Every believer has a particular responsibility in the body. (Use the illustration of the parts of the natural body to emphasize this.) Point out especially the need of co-operation among true Christians. Stress that, as in the natural, when one member of the body suffers the whole body suffers, so it is also in the spiritual.

QUESTION TIME: Who makes up what is known as the body of Christ? Why is it necessary for Christians to work together?

PRAY for right relationships with other believers; for a closer spiritual unity among God's people; for churches on mission fields.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 10

The Christian and the Family

SCRIPTURE: Mark 10:6-9; Ephesians 5:22 to 6:4

TODAY'S GEM: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right" (Eph. 6:1).

FOR THE PARENT: Point out that the family is ordained of God, and that the strength of the church and nation will be no greater than that of its families. Mar-

riage is ordained of God to be a lifelong partnership between two Christians; there can be no fundamental harmony between a Christian and a nonbeliever. Stress especially the family relationships listed in Ephesians 5:22 to 6:4. Christian love should be our means to obtain proper, healthy family relationships—thinking of others before ourselves.

QUESTION TIME: Who instituted the family? (God) Why shouldn't a Christian marry a person who is not a Christian? (see above) How can we have a happy family? (see above)

PRAY for the establishing of family worship in every Christian home.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

The Christian and Business

SCRIPTURE: Acts 18:1-3; 20:33-35; Ephesians 4:28; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12

TODAY'S GEM: "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

FOR THE PARENT: In our work we should be known as persons of truth, uprightness and honesty (this should also be true in school). Christian love should govern all our relationships in school and work. Emphasize that Christians should not take part in any business or school activity which destroys the physical, mental, moral, or spiritual well-being of themselves or others. Point out also that God is not opposed to our being prosperous, but we should never let prosperity come between us and God.

QUESTION TIME: In what type of business or school activity should Christians refuse to take part? (see above) What is the danger of prosperity? (see above)

PRAY that honesty and uprightness will always characterize our business dealings; that we will give gladly to God.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

The Christian and the World

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 5:13-16; 28:18-20; Romans 13:1-10

TODAY'S GEM: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself" (Rom. 13:9).

FOR THE PARENT: Emphasize that the Christian should be a good citizen. Point out from Romans 13 that we are to be obedient to those in places of authority. Also stress the importance of our influence on those about us, showing that if we become worldly, we will fail to influence those who are not saved. If we love our fellow men, we will not find it hard to get along with them.

QUESTION TIME: How can we fulfill God's law? (Rom. 13:10) Why should we obey those in authority? (Rom. 13:1-4) What do you think was meant by Jesus when He called Christians the "salt of the earth" and the "light of the world"? (Matt. 5:13-16)

PRAY for a greater love toward others; for those who are suffering in other lands; for those who have not yet heard the gospel.

THIS BUSINESS OF PRAYER

REAL PRAYER IS A BUSINESS

TRANSACTION BETWEEN MAN AND GOD.

IT REQUIRES MUTUAL PARTICIPATION.

THE TROUBLE WITH SOME CHRISTIANS is that they think of prayer as a ritual instead of a business transaction. When we really pray we are doing business with God. Let me illustrate:

A certain woman, who knew how to pray, had in her employ a neighbor who was quite poor. One day as she was doing some cleaning, this neighbor remarked, "If the frost would only hold off, we would have enough green beans for the entire community."

The employer knew that this woman's family had meager means. No doubt the beans were badly needed for food during the winter. So she asked, "How much longer do you need to get your crop in?"

"Two or three weeks, ma'am. We were late getting them planted."

The employer looked at her calendar. It was the first week in October. Killing frosts might come at any time in that locality. They had been known to occur in September.

"I know you need your beans," she said. "You keep on cultivating and caring for them. I'm going to ask the Lord to hold off the frost until you harvest them."

In the following days the weather turned cold several nights, and warnings of killing frost were issued by the weather bureau on each occasion; but

it failed to come. Even though some snow fell, the needy people got their bean crop.

"This is the first time I ever picked beans out from under the snow," the husband told his wife's employer.

"What did I tell you?" she replied. "I asked the Lord to give you a bean crop."

"But we didn't have the faith you had," he answered.

They sold twenty-two bushels of beans, had all they could use and can, and gave away quantities. The first killing frost came on the night of October 31. It's thrilling to do business with God.

CHECK YOURSELF

To be effective, prayer must be based on a right relationship between the asker and the Giver. That relationship comes through accepting Jesus Christ as our Saviour. Though God in His grace may answer some prayers of sinners, the only prayer of the sinner that He has obligated Himself to answer is the prayer for salvation. The promises of God are for members of His family.

Added to this right relationship, there must be a correct attitude toward prayer. To conceive of prayer as a means of battering down God's resistance or a method of coaxing indulgences out of Him is to misunderstand entirely the

function of prayer. Such concepts are heathenistic.

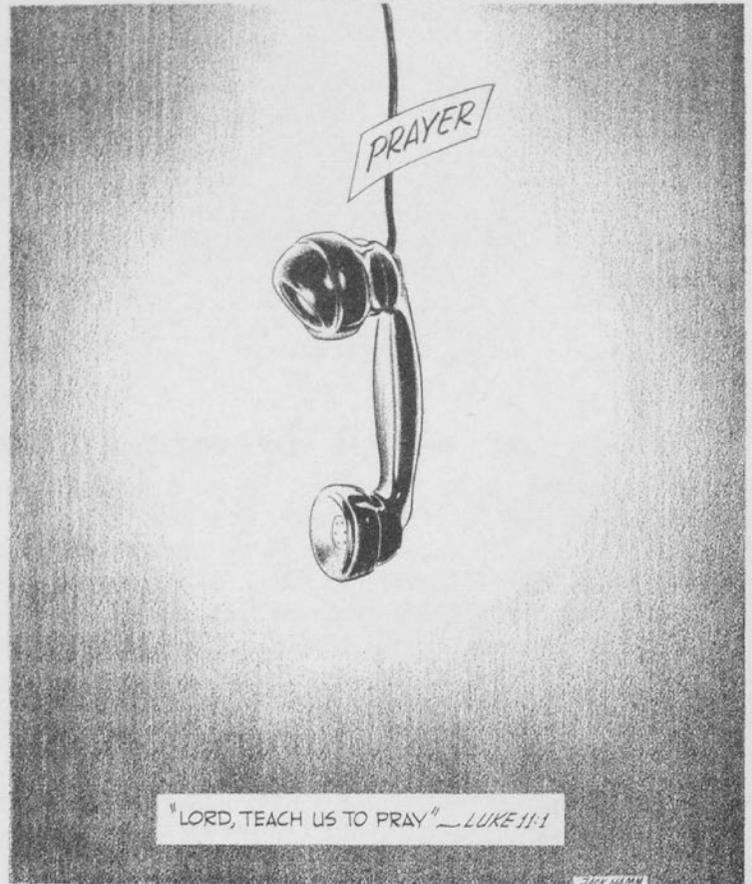
God's Word assures us that He desires that we have abundant lives. He is anxious to give that which is for the best interests of those concerned.

But we often ask God to do things which He knows are not for our good. Parents must withhold from children those desires which, if granted, would ultimately harm them. Likewise parents also withhold privileges which their children are not mature enough to employ wisely. Similarly, God in His loving mercy must sometimes withhold from us our ill-advised desires. Probably the worst thing that could happen to us would be for God to grant us every wish we express to Him. One man put it this way: "I thank God for His wisdom in not granting all my foolish prayers."

One woman had the custom of writing out at the beginning of the year her ambitions for that year. She made a note of the changes or experiences she wished might come to pass in her own life and the lives of loved ones.

As years passed and she looked back on the record of ambitions of previous years, she could not escape laughing at some, blushing at others, and shaking her head at most of the rest. Only a few were really worthwhile. And how

LINE ALWAYS OPEN



often this is true with our prayers. We cannot always act wisely, but God evaluates our desires. Out of His kindness, He does not fulfill all of them.

There are also petitions that God cannot grant because, even though the object may be legitimate, our motives are not pure. For example, a person might pray for promotion for a neighbor, not because he sincerely wanted to see him advanced and prospered, but because promotion would mean a change of location! Or one might ask God for skill as a musician, not because he wanted to glorify God and bring pleasure and inspiration to others, but because he wanted personal prestige. The asker needs to analyze his motives in prayer. It may be that his motives need to be purified.

PRAYER CHANGES THINGS

Prayer is one of God's methods of developing Christian personality. This is shown in the fact that prayer results in a change in the asker rather than in the Giver. The Bible declares that God is unchanging—the same “yesterday, and today, and for ever.” God will not be wheedled into doing anything. Prayer does not change God, it changes us.

It has been well said that *God always lightens the burden or strengthens the back*. Most prayer requests seek to have God lighten the burden. God often favors us by strengthening our backs instead. Too few of us accept our trials as capital on which dividends may be drawn. We forget that wind-blown, storm-tossed trees develop the most beautifully grained wood. So, mistakenly we try to pray our trials away, instead of praying that God will help us to profit from them.

Prayer develops our Christian lives by making us conscious of the needs of others as well. The wife and co-workers of a missionary on a foreign field discerned that he needed a rest. They offered up prayer for him, since there were no funds to finance such a respite. From across the sea, from persons who knew nothing of the need, come a check to this man with these instructions: “Use this for something for yourself personally.”

In effect the wife and co-workers had said to the Lord, “We're willing and anxious, Lord, for Thee to bestow a blessing on our fellow-laborer.” God honored their prayer, and who can question that they were blessed as much as the object of their prayers, if not more. Certainly praying for others develops

us spiritually. To desire prosperity and good fortune for others makes us positive in nature and more Christlike.

AN UNLIMITED FIELD

One of the riches of prayer is that it can involve any area of life. There is no limit to what can be asked and received through prayer. We can do business with God in the physical realm of health and healing, the mental realm of mastery or acumen, the emotional realm of courage and trust, the material realm of finances and producing income, the domestic realm of child-rearing and home-making, or any other realm of life. No matter what the scope of our problem, we can do business with God.

This points up another fact: there are no situations too trifling to take up with God. After all, who can say when something is “little.” Due to the tensions and conflicts among people today, an apparently small item can explode into a major catastrophe. God wants us to consult Him about all matters, whether they seem minute or colossal.

A businessman made it his custom to consult the Lord about his buying and selling. Once he had the opportunity to purchase a factory close-out stock of parts for old model automobile motors. After praying about it, he felt impressed to buy it. The manufacturers later confessed they thought they were unloading something on him which he would never sell.

Then came war, unforeseen at the time of the purchase, accompanied by a shortage of transportation. Old models were reclaimed from the junk heap and pressed into service, creating a lively demand for the very replacement parts the man had stocked. The manufacturers were forced to refer all their customers to him, and he was well profited by his transaction—one which was the direct result of doing business with God.

ACCEPTING GOD'S BLESSINGS

God does not force His blessings upon us. By prayer we assure Him that we are willing to have Him participate in our affairs.

A couple received the offer of a new type of occupation in a new locale. It meant disposing of their holdings and moving to a distant state.

“Lord,” they prayed, “if You want us to go to this new occupation and location, send us a buyer by or before a week from Friday.” (There was a

time limit on the offer that had been made to them.)

The intervening ten days elapsed. Friday came without a word from the prospect from their own city who had been “dickering” with them for their business. They were about to retire for the night when the phone rang. It was a long distance call from a western state, and the caller said, “I know you usually close at noon on Saturday, but wait for me until I get there tomorrow. I am coming by plane to buy your business and will make the deposit as soon as I arrive.”

This man had inspected the place several months previously, but had not at that time, or since, indicated any interest in buying. Now he suddenly appeared and purchased the business for several thousand dollars cash, to the advantage of the couple. They have never had any reason to believe other than that God arranged the deal for them.

DON'T FORGET THANKFULNESS

Finally, our prayers should always incorporate thanksgiving. Businessmen constantly use the phrase, “Thank you.” It is one of the first expressions most children are taught. Should we be less courteous to God than to each other?

Our gratitude evidences maturity when it reaches beyond thankfulness for the gift and becomes appreciation for the Giver. Some people have prayer lists—records of persons and things to be prayed about. Certainly there is merit in this. But one individual has gone beyond that. She keeps a praise list on which she writes one or more things each day for which she is grateful. She praises God for answered prayers, for the “over-and-above” bounties which He has lavished from His storehouse of love. But even more than that she finds herself worshiping God for what He is.

If you wish to transact business with God successfully, recheck these points: Are you rightly related to Him through accepting Christ as your Saviour? Do you have a correct attitude toward prayer, and pure motives in prayer? Are you willing to allow God to develop your Christian personality through your prayer experiences? Do your prayers include intercession for others, and gratitude as well as petition? If you can answer these questions in the affirmative, then you have this promise: “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:16).

SUNDAY'S LESSON



CHRIST, THE WILLING HEALER

Sunday School Lesson for January 13, 1957

LUKE 5:12-26

The subject of our lesson today is a vital one. Is Christ really willing to heal *all* who are sick today? Many Christians find this difficult to believe. But where are we to go for the answer? Surely not to the realm of human experience! But "what saith the Scriptures?" The Word of God is the source of truth!

THE HEALING OF THE LEPER (Luke 5:12-15)

The leper's doubt. "Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean." This man was convinced of Christ's *ability* to heal him, but he questioned Christ's *willingness* to do it. And thousands of Christians today are just like him! Yet how would any of us feel if one of our friends were to say to us, "I know you can help me, but I am not so sure that you will do so"? Would we not far rather have that friend doubt our ability rather than our willingness? Faith in Christ's ability to heal is not enough—even the devil believes that! It is faith in Christ's willingness to help us that defeats Satan and brings victory!

The Lord's willingness. "And he put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will: be thou clean." The very suddenness with which Jesus healed the leper seems to emphasize the fact that there is no question concerning Christ's willingness to heal. Space will not permit a lengthy treatment of the question, "Is Christ willing to heal all who are sick?" We, therefore, submit the following suggestive thoughts in regard to the matter:

1. Matthew tells us that Jesus atoned for our sicknesses as well as our sins (Matt. 8:17). If Jesus died for the sins of all, did He not also die for the sicknesses of all?

2. Many instances of healing in the Old Testament occurred in connection with types of the Atonement (see Num. 21:6-9; John 3:14, 15). If healing is not in the atonement, and therefore not for all, then these types are meaningless.

3. God revealed Himself to His Old Testament people as "Jehovah-Rapha"—"I am the Lord that healeth thee." And there was a time when the entire nation of Israel enjoyed divine health (Psalm 105:37). God says, "I am the Lord, I change not" (Mal. 3:6).

4. More than two thirds of Christ's ministry on earth was devoted to healing the sick. In the Gospels no one who ever came to Jesus for healing failed to receive it.

5. Christ promised that all followers of His who believed in Him would heal the sick (Mark 16:17, 18).

6. Christ placed the ministry and gifts of healing in the church and left directions for them (1 Cor. 12:9, 10; James 5:14).

7. God's Word promises long life, and seems to indicate that there is no reason for people dying prematurely. (See Psalms 91:16; 90:10; 102:24; Eccl. 7:17).

THE HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC

(Luke 5:16-26)

Jesus alone was responsible for the healing of the leper. The second portion of our lesson shows how very much Christ's followers may be able to help needy men and women find Christ as their Saviour and Healer. The story of the healing of the paralytic may be developed profitably according to the following heading—"How any church can get men to Christ."

1. *By having a divine concern and compassion for others.* These four did not go to church thinking only of blessings for themselves. Their hearts went out to their crippled friend whom they had sought out.

2. *By realizing the value of personal contact.* The paralytic could not have come to church of his own accord. His friends brought him to Jesus. More souls are still won through friendly personal work than through any other!

3. *By possessing zeal and energy which refuses to give up in the face of difficulties.* Faith and love found a way—down through the roof! We need more of this spirit!

4. *By a spirit of co-operation which endures until the goal is accomplished.* Each man held up his corner of the paralytic's cot; each man was important to the success of the task. Such co-operation still builds churches today!

5. *By exercising corporate faith.* "When he saw their faith." The paralytic was not saved and healed due to his faith alone, but to combined faith. If there is power in individual faith, think of the possibilities in corporate faith. Those who are weak in faith may receive help from God as a result of the faith exercised by others!

—by J. Bashford Bishop

THE PARALYTIC'S FOUR FRIENDS



THE MERRY MILKMAN

(Continued from page three)

life and lived it fully, but only in relation to the spiritual. To him, nothing else was important.

In 1924, eighteen years after his conversion, he received the fullness of the Holy Spirit in a little Pentecostal church. If his cup had been filled before, it overflowed beyond measure now. His joy knew no bounds!

After ten years on the farm, the family moved into the city where he became a milkman with Milk Producers Association. He continued memorizing and fearlessly witnessing to fellow workmen and employers alike.

"With the bosses I went slow, but I gave them my testimony and they respected me. After I received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, I became bold as a lion. One time the Lord enabled me to testify to sixty milkmen at a union meeting."

One day he was called into the office of his superior. "Jim," Mr. Van Alstine said, "there have been complaints from some of our customers that you are preaching too much religion. I suggest that you be careful about that in the future. Confine yourself to selling milk."

"Well, Sir," the milkman replied dubiously, "that will be a difficult thing. I'm so full of the joy of the Lord that I can't help talking about it. The Bible says, 'If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature.' If you will pardon me, Mr. Van Alstine, you need this salvation, too, and. . . ."

"All right, Modder, enough of that. Remember what I said about sticking to selling milk."

"Yes, Sir, I'll try."

He tried, but was only partially successful. The irresistibly bubbling joy popped off the lid and impelled him to give the Good News to needy souls. However, after two more warnings to "either peddle milk or preach the gospel," he was more careful and less indiscriminate. He spoke only to those who displayed spiritual hunger.

He was so irrepressibly full of the glory of God and the memorized Word, that when he began to testify in a church service no one knew when and where he would cease. He quoted long passages of scripture and made com-

ments. "Oh, how I love thy law; it is my meditation all the day!" (Psalm 119:97) was fully true of him.

Frequently during a testimony meeting his good wife leaned over and whispered; whereupon he would reply: "I see I'm talking too long; my wife is pulling my coat. Well, hallelujah, it's wonderful! I could go on and on; but before I stop, let me quote the 15th chapter of John. It was an inspiration to me today. . . .!"

One of his favorite church testimonies was this: "I was born sixty years ago and born again ten years ago, so that makes me only ten years old. I'm so happy, I feel like a kid! Glory!" He was ready to bounce for joy.

If the atmosphere was heavy in a meeting and no one seemed responsive or thankful, Mr. Modder was. "I can always testify that, I'm saved and on my way to heaven. If you don't have anything to be happy about, just start talking to people about the Lord; and I guarantee you'll soon be shouting." And he concluded with a booming, "Hallelujah!"

So for thirty three years, Mr. Modder has been diligently memorizing the Bible and joyfully proclaiming its message. He retired at eighty, declaring cheerfully: "Now I will have more time to peddle the sincere milk of the Word."

Vigorous and hardy, he still prefers his bicycle to the car and enjoys a swim in nearby Lake Michigan. "Last summer when the water registered 50 degrees, I swam to the end of the pier when the young people shiveringly refused to go in, he chuckled.

His good health he attributes to his joy in the Lord. "Proverbs 17:22 says, 'A merry heart doeth good like a medicine,' and Psalm 92:14 states, 'They shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be fat and flourishing.' It is actually true in me. I have no distress of any kind; I haven't got a corn or a bunion on my feet; I can see well and hear well; I no longer have stomach trouble. The joy of the Lord is my strength and I'm happy all the time. There's nothing like it. Hallelujah!"

(Continued on next page)

MINISTERING AMONG OUR SERVICEMEN



THERE IS an Assemblies of God military chaplain or pastor at each of these locations (and dozens more) who makes personal contact with young men stationed nearby. Continue to watch the EVANGEL for other installations not listed here.

We are reaching SERVICEMEN stationed at . . .

Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, England
Camp McCoy, Wisconsin
Fort Hood, Texas
Scott Air Force Base, Illinois
Nellis AF Base, Las Vegas, Nevada
Lakehurst Naval Air Station, Lakehurst, New Jersey
Wurtsmith AF Base, Oscoda, Michigan
Orley Field, Paris, France
Fairchild AF Base, Spokane, Washington
Olathe Naval Base, Olathe, Kansas
Wheeler AF Base and Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
Bolling Field, Washington, D. C.
Andrews AF Base, Washington, D.C.
Great Falls AF Base, Montana
Graham AF Base, Marianna, Florida
U. S. Naval Hospital, San Diego, California
U. S. Naval Base, Kodiak, Alaska
U. S. Submarine Base, New London, Connecticut
U. S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Connecticut
Edwards AF Base, California
U. S. Coast Guard Training Station, New London, Connecticut
Patrick AF Base, Cocoa, Florida
Kaneohe Naval Station, Hawaii
Reese AF Base, Lubbock, Texas
Harlingen AF Base, Texas
Youngstown Air Base, Ohio
Brook Army Hospital, San Antonio, Tex.
Fort Sam Houston, Texas
Kelly AF Base, San Antonio, Texas
Ethan Allen AF Base, Burlington, Vermont
Camp Hanford, Washington
Castle AF Base, California
Davis-Monthan AF Base, Ariz.
Chanute AF Base, Illinois
Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky
Ellington AF Base, Texas
McChord Field, Washington

SEND US the address of your serviceman assigned to any of these bases. We will inform the chaplain or pastor about him. Or, better yet, send your serviceman's address without delay no matter where he is stationed. We will place him on our mailing list whether or not we have a chaplain or pastor to contact him.

ALL SERVICEMEN on our mailing list regularly receive friendly correspondence, REVEILLE, and other gospel literature and services. There is no charge for this ministry; the Servicemen's Division is supported by freewill offerings. Address all correspondence and offerings to:

SERVICEMEN'S DIVISION
434 West Pacific Street
Springfield 1, Missouri

When the Church Repents The World Will Repent

BY DONALD GEE

WHY IS IT THAT THERE IS SO MUCH shallowness in the work of God? There has been no repentance. We are forgetting the first word of the Gospel and that word is not Believe, but Repent. Some are taking a shortcut and saying, "Only Believe." We need to repent first.

The first word to every man who is not right with God, is repent. "For God commandeth all men everywhere to repent." Repentance is sweet. It is a change of heart and mind so that instead of running away from God we run into His arms.

How can we come to a hatred of sin and repentance from it? We must get a renewed vision of God and His holiness. When we see God in His

(Continued from preceding page)

"He is so lively at eighty-three," said his wife, "that I have to continually remind him to slow up because he isn't so young any more."

He often bicycles to a nearby park for meditation. "And if there is someone around," he remarked, "I talk to him about his soul."

The changes which began at conversion continued, and today he is a ripe, mature saint. "I used to be hot-tempered and irritable. But all that has passed away. The Lord has given me patience and contentment.

"My wife and I have wonderful fellowship. Every morning after breakfast we read the Bible together and pray."

The future looks bright to him. "I feel as though I'm eighty-three years young and am eagerly looking forward to the coming of the Lord or my going home. And as long as He gives me strength, I will continue memorizing His Word and declaring His glorious salvation."

holiness we realize how unclean we are. God gave Isaiah such a vision. He saw the King high and lifted up and saw himself unclean and undone. Oh, for a vision of the holiness of God today!

Beloved, have we repented? Have we turned from our sin? May God help us to drop every sin which besets us, as though it were a red-hot brick. Any sin we are hugging to our bosom will take us to hell. It costs too much to keep sin in our lives.

ROCKBOTTOM REPENTANCE

How can we have a revival of repentance? First of all, let me say that I speak to myself and perchance to my Brother-Preachers. I have been deeply impressed by the book of Jonah. We find that Jonah went to Nineveh to preach repentance. In three days he got Nineveh on its face before God. But first of all a terrific repentance had come into Jonah's heart while he was in the bottom of the sea.

We will not see real repentance until the Church repents. Four out of seven churches mentioned in Revelation were commanded by the Lord to repent. When the Church repents the world will repent. Oh, may the Lord give us repentance in Zion, a time of deep heart-searching until we have a revival of repentance. I am convinced that much of the lack of depth in our converts today is the result of the lack of depth in us preachers. Spiritual children take after their spiritual fathers. When the Church produces the right kind of preachers she will have the right kind of children.

The Church needs a Spirit-anointed ministry. We need the Spirit to preach judgment and I am sure we ought to be preaching judgment. I have heard some preach judgment and it was like the rattling of an old tin can. I believe we have

to preach it with a lump in our throats and tears in our eyes. Then we will see results.

GOD'S OVERRULING

I shall never forget a Sunday night in Finland. I had read of Wesley and Whitefield and how sinners were cut by the Word, and I had a longing to see God working that way today.

God granted my desire while I was in Helsingfors. While waiting on the Lord for a message I felt impressed to speak on sinning against the Holy Ghost. The pastor was anxious to have a good meeting for the last night, and when I announced my subject his face became long and he said, "Do you not think that is a mistake for tonight?"

But the Word went forth as a sword of the Spirit, and in all my ministry I have never seen such a meeting. The people were cut by the Word. One woman cried out, "Oh, Lord, save me!" And when the altar call was given they simply rushed to the front. Oh, such a night! Men and women were sobbing because their hearts had been broken by the Word of God, and altar workers were going about with tears of joy running down their faces. I am constantly seeking God to work in that way.

LORD! SEND A MELTING FIRE!

There is a difference between remorse and repentance. Remorse is a fire that burns and destroys. Repentance is a fire that melts. Today may the Lord send a melting fire into our midst.

It is the "goodness of God" which leads men to repentance. I know only one way to become repentant and that is by the Spirit of grace. Let us pray down the Spirit that melts our hearts to repentance and then we shall see God working in revival power. Have we lost the anointing? Let us stay on our faces before God until we have again the unction from the Holy One.

Are you in need of healing? Watch next week's issue of THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL for outstanding articles and personal testimonies concerning the Lord's power to heal our bodies.

For the Hour of Prayer

BY ELVA JOHNSON

The National Home Missions Department has appreciated the prayers of the many friends of home missions during the past year. And out on the home harvest field, laboring often in remote, difficult places, our home missionaries appreciate your prayers too.

There is very little of glamor and attractiveness in an Indian Reservation in the desert areas of the Southwest. But our missionaries are there bringing the gospel message wherever Indian souls await the good news.

Our workers among the Deaf face discouragements peculiar to their work, but the love of Christ constrains them to be persistent in the work. Your prayers have undergirded their ministry, and souls have been saved.

In Alaska the long cold winter takes its toll of strength from missionaries whose lives are dedicated to winning the people of the North to Christ. Intercession by those who cannot go but are willing to be prayer partners in this work, keeps the missionary faithful when it would be easier to give up.

Men who have found Christ behind prison bars and are now studying our Correspondence Courses know the worth of prayer in the hours of discouragement.

And it is the same in all our home mission fields. "The fervent, effectual prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

To help direct you in definite prayer for our home missionaries the National

Home Missions Department has prepared a new 36-page booklet to be used throughout 1957. The booklet contains a monthly prayer request for home missions, pages for writing in your own personal prayer lists, and inspirational poems for each month.

A copy will be sent free of charge to anyone requesting it. Women's Missionary Council groups will find the booklets ideal for use in getting acquainted with home missions needs. Local WMC presidents may request the booklets in quantities up to 25 for their groups.

Just ask for "Book of Remembrance" on a postal card and address it to Miss Elva Johnson, Home Missions Department, 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield 1, Missouri.

DO YOU NEED A CHRISTIAN HOME?

Write to the Department of Benevolences, 434 West Pacific Street, Springfield, Missouri, if you are 65 or over and interested in an Assemblies of God retirement home program for laymen and ministers.

Biographical SKETCHES

16th Century A.D.

POLITICAL & RELIGIOUS CONDITIONS CALLED FOR A MAN OF KNOX'S ZEAL. JOHN KNOX BECAME THE CHIEF FIGURE OF THE SCOTTISH REFORMATION.

THE CASTLE OF ST. ANDREWS WAS BESIEGED AND KNOX WAS FORCED TO WORK AS A GALLEY SLAVE FOR NINE MONTHS.



HE BECAME A PROTESTANT AFTER HIS STUDY OF AUGUSTINE AND HIS ASSOCIATION WITH WISHART



CORRUPTION WITHIN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE CRUEL DEATH OF GEORGE WISHART BY THE PAPACY, CAUSED THE PEOPLE TO FEEL THE NEED OF A REFORMATION



WHEN "BLOODY MARY" (MARY TUDOR) ASCENDED THE THRONE, SHE HAD MANY PROTESTANTS PUT TO DEATH. KNOX FLED TO GERMANY AND SWITZERLAND.



JOHN KNOX

AFTER HIS RETURN FROM SWITZERLAND, HE FINALLY BROUGHT SCOTLAND TO A PROTESTANT VICTORY



REVIVALTIME MAIL HEAVY!

RADIO DEPARTMENT

JANUARY 6, 1957

From Every Walk of Life Come Thousands of Letters

BY STANLEY MICHAEL

IN RADIO MINISTRY, YOU PREACH BY faith. You don't see your audience, but you hope that they are there. You cannot depend on your audience for preaching inspiration, but must depend wholly on the ministry of the Holy Spirit, for He knows who is on the receiving end and at their radios at that very moment. Week after week, God through the Holy Spirit directs men and women to their radios, and then, through the Word, speaks directly to their hearts.

Men and women from every walk of life have written in response to REVIVALTIME'S message in sermon and song. This is the power of radio. It reaches behind the doors where the gospel worker has been shut out. It reaches the shut-ins, the rich, the poor, the depressed, and the unconcerned. We know that you will be thrilled to read a few of the letters received from people of various walks of life.

A CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT IN FLORIDA

"Will you please send me a transcript of the revival message that was on the radio Sunday night."

A CHAPLAIN OF THE JUVENILE COURTS, CALIFORNIA

"Yesterday evening I heard by radio the latter half of your message, 'No Compromise.' My reaction was that it was a hardhitting message in the right direction. I would greatly appreciate receiving a copy of the above mentioned sermon. Have you ever preached a sermon that had to do with the liquor

traffic? And if you have, would it be possible for me to get a copy? As late as last year I crossed the USA addressing on the subject 'Juvenile Delinquency.' The booze gang have no time for me."

A JEWELER IN NORTH DAKOTA

"Please rush your book entitled 'Egypt.' I assure you of my appreciation for getting this book at the very earliest."

A DOCTOR IN WISCONSIN

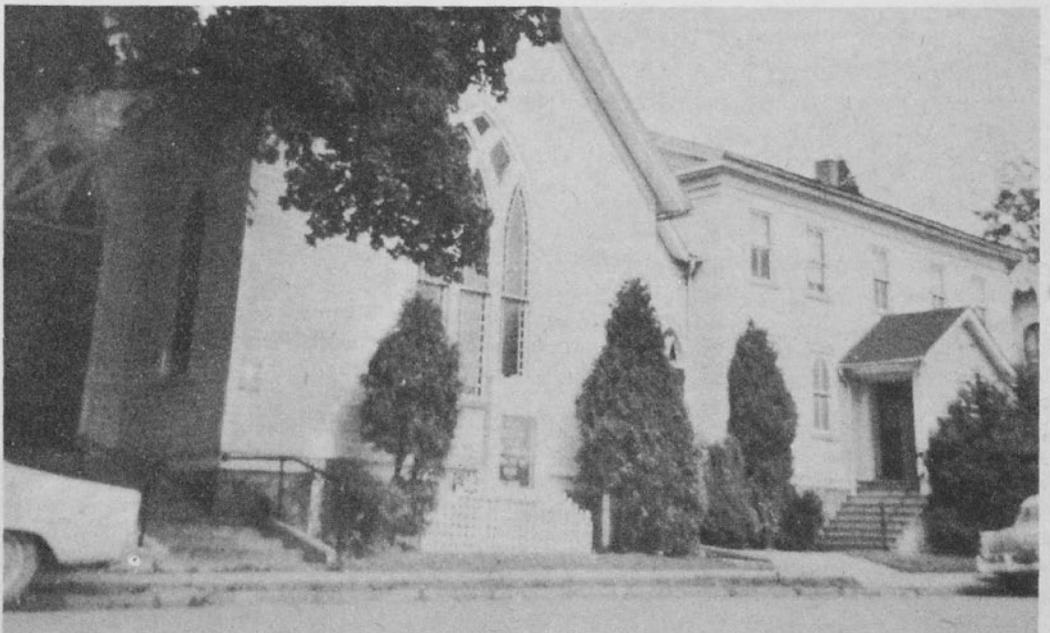
"May God continue to bless you and your broadcast. It is reaching souls in this area. We are also backing you up with our prayers."

PRESIDENT OF A TOY FACTORY IN PENNSYLVANIA

"I travel forty miles each way, twice a week. Sometimes I have been very discouraged, but God has given me grace to keep going. Pray for us. May God richly bless you in your wonderful work. We enjoy your radio broadcast every Sunday evening on our way home."

A DENTIST FROM MISSOURI

"I have just finished reading your book 'How Not to Have a Nervous Collapse,' and I had made up my mind



GOD ANSWERED PRAYER—Pictured above is the church building recently purchased and occupied by First Assembly of God, Brookville, Pennsylvania. The Assembly in Brookville was begun four years ago in a third floor meeting hall by Vernon Boyer. Recently the group was able to purchase the building formerly used by the Evangelical United Brethren church, one block from the business district. (This church was featured in the November 18 EVANGEL as the church for which God miraculously answered prayer by sending more than enough money for the down payment on the building and by blessing greatly in the revival campaign which began when the church was occupied. The prayer requests had been remembered before God during one of REVIVALTIME'S great prayer meetings.)

to write you a letter even before I got to the end where you mention writing a letter. You have expressed my inner thoughts better than I can express them. We humans are like a bunch of ants running here and there, seeking we know not what, while all the time the answers to all our problems are found right before us in the Bible."

A SERVICEMAN IN TEXAS

"I have truly been enjoying REVIVALTIME over the radio. I have accepted Christ as my Saviour—and having been used to straightforward preaching in the Assembly of God I attended back home, the program has been especially inspiring to me while away from home."

A NURSE IN NEW JERSEY

"I heard your sermon a few weeks ago. It was so beautiful and the Lord spoke to me. I would like to have a copy of that sermon."

A LUTHERAN IN OHIO

"I just wanted to let you know how I await your program. It is wonderful. I can't send much, but I can send a little every now and then."

THE DEAN AND REGISTRAR OF A COLLEGE IN KANSAS

"I listen to REVIVALTIME over the radio, and was much interested in what you had to say about the situation in the Near East. I would appreciate receiving a copy of your discussion on Egypt."

AN OPTOMETRIST IN MARYLAND

"Enclosed find two dollars to apply on your radio expense. We love to hear you and thank God for your radio ministry."

AN OSTEOPATH IN PENNSYLVANIA

"Kindly send me a copy of your excellent sermon 'Germ Warfare.' Thank you very much, and may God continue His blessing on you and the wonderful work you are doing."

A UNIVERSITY INSTRUCTOR IN NORTH CAROLINA

"Please send me your last prophetic bulletin. Thank you."

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS IN MISSOURI

"Please send to the undersigned a copy of the messages that were preached

yesterday and last week. I thought they were grand."

POLICEMAN IN JAMAICA

"I am a constant listener to your program which comes over Radio Jamaica every Sunday morning, and I am pleased to inform you that it has brought many blessings to my soul. Every Sunday a lot of policemen gather around the radio to listen to your broadcast, and the only regret is that we cannot have it more often."

PRINCIPAL OF A HIGH SCHOOL IN GEORGIA

"Please send me several copies of your message to graduates. We have thirty students in our graduating class. If you can spare this number, we would appreciate your doing so."

You, too, can share in this ministry to men and women in every walk of life. By your letters and prayers, you can be the means of leading souls to Christ through the effective ministry of REVIVALTIME. Let us know that you are anxious to share in the world-wide ministry of REVIVALTIME, by writing this week. The address is P.O. Box 70, Springfield, Missouri. Let REVIVALTIME help you make 1957 a great soul-winning year, if Christ should tarry.

Evangel College Obtains Certification by State Committee

Evangel College, newest school of the Assemblies of God, has been granted certificate privilege, a preliminary step toward full accreditation, according to Dean Richard Strahan.

Approval by the University of Missouri Committee on Accredited Schools and Colleges means the new college, which opened less than two years ago, may receive veterans on the GI bill, starting with the second semester which begins later this month.

Other privileges received by virtue of recognition include: (1) qualification to accept students under the state rehabilitation program; (2) State Education Department approval of hours toward the teaching certificate; (3) enrollment of the college in the U.S. Department of Education's Directory of Higher Education; and (4) transfer-of-credit privileges for students who wish to continue training in other colleges of higher learning.

Evangel College already has one student who will receive state aid under the rehab-

ilitation program. Applications from approximately 25 veterans are also on hand awaiting the final nod from the Veterans Administration.

Members of the University of Missouri Committee on Accreditation visited Evangel College several weeks ago to review courses and inspect facilities. Heading the committee was Dr. Edward Palmquist, chairman of the committee and associate dean of the University's College of Arts and Sciences.

According to the statement on certificate privileges, courses satisfactorily completed at Evangel College will be "extended the same recognition and accepted on the same basis as work in an accredited junior college."

Dean Strahan of Evangel College was told by the accrediting committee that certificate privilege is the highest recognition granted to colleges on the first visit of the committee. The program will be subject to review in 1957 when the college's third year is added. If progress continues, the

school may receive full accreditation for the first two years of its program at that time.

Recognition of course work at Evangel College was based on admission standards, organization, administration, faculty training, size of classes, registration procedures, library and laboratory facilities, and courses specified in accrediting.

Currently the college has 185 students enrolled in its two-year program. With veteran enrollment, the college expects to increase its student body to more than 200 this month beginning with the second semester.

In addition to the general program, the college also has eight students (two sophomores and six freshmen) enrolled in a nursing program. Nursing students take laboratory work through the co-operation of Burge Hospital.

Steps are being taken to stabilize the college's financial program in accord with standards of the North Central Accrediting Association in order to receive recognition from that body at the earliest possible date.

Students interested in enrolling for the second semester should write immediately to Dean Richard Strahan, 1111 North Glenstone Avenue, Springfield, Missouri, for an application blank. Registration will be on Monday, January 21. Classes will begin on Tuesday, January 22.



Fagots From the Torch of Evangelism

Compiled by the Department of Evangelism, 434 West Pacific St., Springfield, Mo.

► **KANSAS CITY, MO.**—Evangelist Carl Haas recently conducted two weeks of revival in the Sheffield Assembly of God. The people enjoyed the straight-forward messages. Souls were saved and believers were healed by the power of God. On the closing night there was a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

—C. W. Quattlebaum, Pastor

► **HOBBS, NEW MEX.**—God gave the Glad Tidings Assembly here a great time of blessing during the revival with Evangelist and Mrs. Leslie C. Eldridge of Bakersfield, Calif. The ministry was very inspirational to the church and there were six saved and two filled with the Holy Spirit. The church is planning to construct a new building in the next few weeks.

—Roy F. George, Pastor

► **EUREKA, CALIF.**—The Bethel Assembly of God recently enjoyed a gracious revival under the ministry of the Singing Wyricks of Covelo, Calif. Eighteen sought the Lord for salvation and six were baptized in the Holy Spirit. Many outstanding healings followed the anointed preaching of Brother Wyrick. Large crowds attended the meetings. The last week extra chairs had to be brought in to accommodate the people. The revival spirit still prevails.

—H. C. Lafferty, Pastor

► **TURLOCK, CALIF.**—Under the ministry of Evangelist Watson Argue, Bethel Temple has just concluded one of the most successful revival campaigns in the history of the church. The attendance was high in every service, and on Sunday night the building was crowded to capacity. Besides many who were saved and filled with the Spirit, there were outstanding healings evidenced. One child was miraculously delivered of an affliction which had taken the lives of two other children in the same family.

—Robert Carrington, Pastor

► **BLOOMSBURG, PA.**—Evangelist Paul Cox of Allentown, Pa. recently conducted three weeks of revival meetings in the Glad Tidings Pentecostal Church. A number of souls were saved and several backsliders were reclaimed. Two received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and a number testified to physical healing. One woman received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in her car just before entering her home at one o'clock in the morning. The climax of the campaign came the last Sunday morning when eight persons were at the altar for salvation. The singing of the Coxes was a great blessing in the service.

—George Butrin, Pastor

► **PARIS, ILL.**—A very profitable meeting was conducted here in October by the Musical Hilds of Minneapolis, Minn. Their appeal to youth brought a real challenge to the community. In the Monday evening Children's Rally there were 93 in attendance representing 13 different churches. The attendance was excellent in all the services. The church was encouraged to work more fervently and received spiritual blessings. Twenty-four came to the altar seeking Christ as Saviour. The party is composed of Evangelist and Mrs. Paul Hild and their daughter Cheryl Sue.

—R. L. Farquhar, Pastor

RESIGNS AFTER THIRTEEN YEARS

BULLARD, TEX.—J. T. Davis has pastored the Assembly here for 13 years. During this time the church, which was formerly a rural church, was relocated in town. A building with Sunday School facilities and a parsonage were built. Five from the congregation have entered the ministry.

Brother Davis has now resigned and has accepted the pastorate of the Assembly of God in Whitehouse, Tex.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORKERS TRAINING COURSE—Jan. 14, at Midway Assembly of God, Subiaco, Ark. O. R. Ball, Ripley, Tenn., instructor. (Gorman Daniel is Pastor.)

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS TRAINING—Jan. 6-11 at Assembly of God, Fort Madison, Iowa. Stanton Johnson, instructor.—by Fred R. Gottwald, Pastor.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS TRAINING—January 21-25 at Victory Temple, New Orleans, La. L. C. Miller, Morrilton, Ark., instructor. Sponsored by five churches in New Orleans and vicinity.—by L. O. Waldon, Pastor, Victory Temple.

MISSIONARY CONVENTION—Jan. 10-13 at Assembly of God, Olive and Ardmore Sts., Bellflower, Calif. Speakers: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Epler, Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Carlson, and Marie Juergenson.—by David D. Pearce, Pastor.

DEEPER LIFE CONFERENCE—Jan. 16-18 at Faith Tabernacle, Garden City, Kans. Speakers: T. J. Jones, Minneapolis, Minn. and Claude J. Utley, District Superintendent. Morning and afternoon sessions for ministers; evening services open to the public. Richard Dortch is host pastor.—by D. C. Branham, Sectional Presbyterian.

AREA WORKERS TRAINING COURSE—Jan. 21-25 at Elwood, Kans. Owen Carr, Kansas District C. A. President and S. S. Director, instructor. Wyatt Park Assembly and Central Assembly in St. Joseph, Mo., are co-operating.—by John F. Perry, Pastor, Elwood Assembly of God.

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

STATE	CITY	CHURCH	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ark.	Little Rock	Central	Jan 6—	Benny Sapp & wife	J. W. Farrell
Calif.	Bell Gardens	First	Dec. 30—	Star Thomas	F. E. Robertson
	Delhi	Good Tidings	Dec. 30—	Jerry Fischer	W. Frazier
	Grass Valley	Bethel	Dec. 30—	Claude O. Wood	Douglas Fairington
	Hanford	Glad Tidings	Jan. 13—	Tom Miller & wife	Gene Forrest
	Martinez	A of G	Jan. 13—	Troy B. Helms	L. L. Ferguson
	Santa Maria	A of G	Jan. 6—	L. L. Ammons & wife	J. W. Dollins
	Sunnyvale	First	Jan. 6-20	Tanner Team	Ralph Hillegas
Ind.	Michigan City	A of G	Jan. 13-27	Cox-Brown	Stewart Robinson
	Topeka	Glad Tidings	Jan. 13—	Ward Popejoy Family	Gearl B. Manning
La.	Doyline	A of G	Jan. 6-20	Glenn Montgomery	J. G. Youngblood
	Monroe	Morning Side	Jan. 13—	E. H. Sherratt & wife	E. J. Graves
	Shreveport	Glad Tidings	Dec. 30-Jan. 13	Jimmie Mayo, Jr.	Chas. H. Miller
Minn.	St. Paul	Full Gospel	Jan. 8-13	Christian Hild	Melford Olson
Mo.	Brookfield	A of G	Jan. 13-27	Paul Sandgren & wife	Donald Rich
N.J.	Camden	Calvary	Jan. 8-13	Watters Gospel Team	Harold Barnes
Ohio	Wapakoneta	First	Jan. 1-13	Dean Ash	Alta Culpepper
Okla.	Okmulgee	* First	Jan. 7-13	N. B. Rayburn	E. W. Rethford
	Picher	A of G	Jan. 15—	Norman Surrat	S. J. Peter
	Wewoka	A of G	Jan. 6-20	Carrol McBride & wife	R. S. Strange
Oreg.	Nyssa	A of G	Jan. 1—	Everett H. Olp	A. F. Stubblefield
Pa.	York	Faith Temple	Jan. 6-27	Hardt Evang. Party	Boston W. Turner
Tex.	Houston	Radio Revival ch.	Dec. 30—	Paul Emerson	Kenneth Berry
Wash.	N. Bonneville	A of G	Jan. 13—	Orville Phillips	S. Workman
	Oroville	A of G	Jan. 6—	Norwood-Carlquist	C. O. Gunderson
	Spokane	* First	Jan. 7-13	W. C. Peirce	Wallace Bragg

* Workers Training

Announcements should reach the Department of Evangelism 30 days in advance, due to the fact that THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL is made up 24 days before the date which appears upon it.

Born of a Virgin

PROOF FROM AN ANCIENT DOCUMENT THAT "ALMAH" MEANS "VIRGIN"

IN RECENT TIMES THERE HAS BEEN much dispute concerning the translation of the Hebrew word "Almah." Does it mean "Virgin," as the King James Version has it, or "young woman" as the Revised Standard Version and Jewish translation of "Almah" render it?

We do not intend to cover the ground which has been ably dealt with by many conservative Christian scholars. However, let us state briefly, that from our own knowledge of the Hebrew Bible we are absolutely convinced that "Almah" in the famous passage of Isaiah 7:14 means "Virgin" and not "young woman."

We wish to bring to your attention a testimony from the ancient past, confirming the King James translation, which in turn is in agreement with the old Jewish translation of the Hebrew Bible into Greek, known as the Septuagint, prepared by seventy Jewish scholars around the year 280 B.C.

The famous Fourth Century church historian, Eusebius, (died around 330 A.D.) in his Ecclesiastical History, gives a significant quotation from Justin Martyr, a Jewish Christian of the middle of the Second Century.

"God," said Justin Martyr, "became man, and the Lord himself saved us, giving us the sign of the Virgin. But not as some say, that now presume to interpret the Scriptures, 'Behold, a young woman shall conceive and bear a son,' as Theodotian of Ephesus and Aquila of Pontus have translated, both of them Jewish proselytes [Greeks who became Jews]. Whom the Ebionites following assert that Jesus was begotten of Joseph." After a little, he adds: "For before the Romans established their empire, whilst yet the Macedonians had possession of Asia, Ptolemy the son of Lagus, being ambitious to adorn the library established by him in Alexandria with the works of all men, as many as were worthy of being

studied, requested of the inhabitants of Jerusalem to have their works translated into the Greek; but as they were yet subject to the Macedonians, they sent seventy of their elders that were best skilled in the Scriptures, and in both languages, to Ptolemy, and thus Providence favoured his design."—Eusebius' Ecclesiastical History, Book 5, Chapter 8.

The Septuagint translates Isaiah 7:14 in the following manner:

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; behold a virgin [Greek

'parthenos'] shall conceive in her womb and bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Emmanuel."

It follows clearly from the above that every serious student of the Hebrew Bible may say to those who do not translate "Almah" as "Virgin":

"Look here, gentlemen, if I have to choose between the contemporary translators of the Bible, some of whom are definitely biased against the Virgin Birth, and between those ancient Jewish Scholars of 280 B.C. who had no axe to grind, and who knew their Hebrew far better than any modern translator can ever hope to know it, I prefer to follow the authority of those ancient Hebrew scholars."

And if the testimony of the Septuagint and of other early Christian scholars is not sufficient, we also have the testimony of the Jewish Evangelist of the First Gospel who wrote:

"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us" (Matt. 1:23). —from "Israel My Glory" Victor Buksbazen, Editor

The Promises of God

The Bible contains many precious promises made by God to man. Every book in the Bible contains such promises, except Titus. The books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel have the most; they contain slightly over a thousand promises each, a total of 3,086 in the three books. Most of these are of a prophetic nature, such as, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son."

Many verses have more than one promise. For example, Isaiah 40:31 has four: "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint."

The chapter with the most promises is Deuteronomy 28, with a total of 133. These have to do with the blessings and cursings God promised the Israelites when they would reach Canaan, according as they would obey or disobey His commands.

These are some of the facts discovered by Everek R. Storms, editor of

The Gospel Banner, during a survey of the Bible promises. He rated Psalm 37 as the most wonderful chapter. He found it contains 43 precious promises, such as, "Delight thyself also in the Lord, and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart."

Summing up his survey, Editor Storms said: "These promises are ours for the asking—7,487 of them made by God Himself. They are waiting for us to test and prove them. We go to church and sing, 'Standing on the Promises,' but most of us are simply sitting on them. These are perilous times in which we are living. Recent developments in Europe and the Middle East emphasize this all too clearly. But the reply which Adoniram Judson gave his mission board when they inquired about the prospects for the future of God's work in Burma is still true for all of us: 'The future is as bright as the promises of God.' Each of us can count on the promises of God. Why not try some of them and see?"

There's a BOOK here for YOU

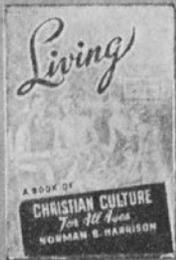


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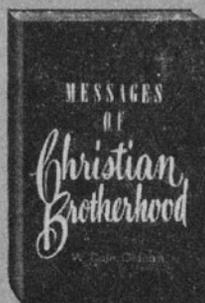
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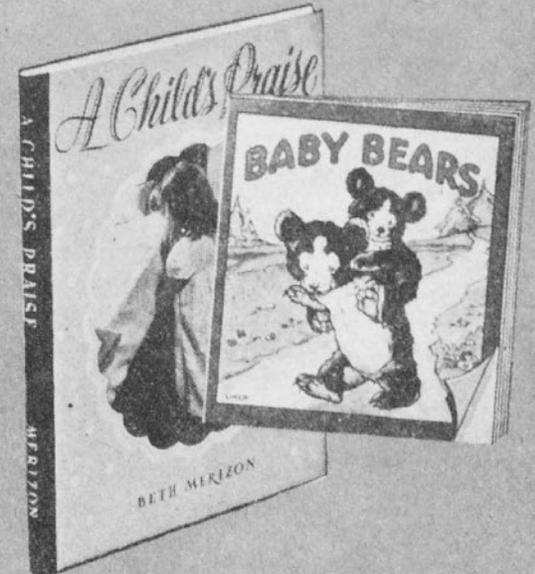
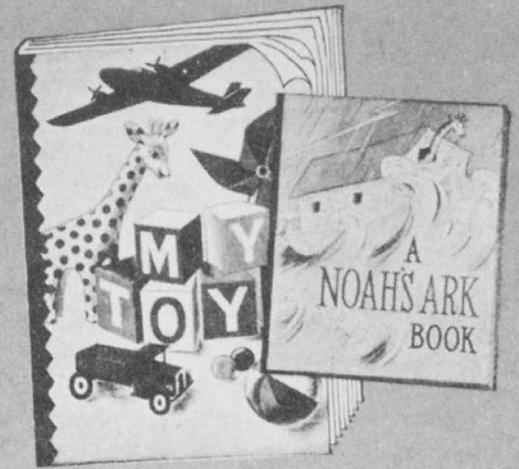
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Beginning Again

ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A poor man who sat at the roadside and wept. Twilight began to fall around him; it grew dark and night descended upon his darkened soul. Everything seemed dreary and desolate to him, and bitter tears rolled down his cheeks. They were the most bitter tears anyone could shed, for he wept over himself.

He had often done that which was wrong and now he clearly saw how badly he had wronged everyone. He looked back until a whole chain of evil deeds presented themselves before him. They were neglected duties, pride and egotism, falsehood and lack of love. He heard his own words echoing back to him out of the darkness, and they were so paltry, so poor, so cheap, so corrupt and depraved. He bowed his head deeper and deeper; shame burned upon his tear-stained cheeks and his tears fell uninterruptedly.

"Is this I?" he asked himself.

"Yes, this is really I. I who wanted to be such a good person. What shall become of me? I am so foul, so evil and so weak in my soul" And he continued to sob bitterly.



The Year Before Us

Standing at the portal
Of the opening year,
Words of comfort meet us,
Hushing every fear:
"I, the Lord, am with thee,
Be thou not afraid!
I will keep and strengthen,
Be thou not dismayed!"
Resting on His promise,
What have we to fear?
God is all-sufficient
For the coming year.

—Frances Ridley Havergal



The heavens high above the poor man's sorrow were full of endless music. Suns and stars sang the glory of God; angels and principalities sang His praises. But down through the everlasting praises, God heard the sobs of a poor human being. He saw his anguish and sent one of His servants to help him.

God's servant came and touched the shoulders of the weeping man and he looked up. Perhaps he did not see an angel in shining clothes—the servant of God is often but a mere man—but he saw the gentle light of God in his eyes.

"You are blessed!" said God's servant.

"Blessed, you say?" answered the one who wept. "How can you say that? Don't you see that I am a very unhappy person?"

"No, you are blessed," was the answer. "You are blessed because you now see. You see yourself, full of evil and wickedness. This hurts. He who does that which is wrong, but does not see it and does not repent, is unhappy, even if he himself does not know it. But he who recognizes it, and is repentant, may begin again. You may begin again—therefore I call you blessed. Do you understand what I mean?"

He bowed his head. "Perhaps," he said dubiously, and hesitantly began to dry his tears.

God's servant continued, "Tonight you sat down and turned the pages in your Book of Life. What you have seen has caused you sorrow. God once gave you a clean, white page. You were to have filled it with everything good and now you see it soiled, ugly and ruined."

"It is so," said the poor human being. "This is the reason for my sorrow."

"But your Book of Life is not finished. God has turned the pages and a new white, clean page is now before you. You may begin again. That which was selfishness will become love, that which was a neglect of duty will become the fulfillment of duty. Everything is to become new, because you may begin again every day. God forgives the past of which you have repented. God blesses the new, which you desire to begin. God is the great renewer. Every spring the earth begins to dress itself with a new dress. Every day the sun shines again over the earth. God is also the renewer of your life. He is the One who turns the pages; it is He who gives you the new day. God will be with you if you are honest about it. Commit your will to Him." Thus spoke the servant of God.

BIBLE "FIGURETS" AVAILABLE TO SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

The Gospel Publishing House is offering an absolutely new product to the Sunday Schools of America. They are little replicas of Bible characters for use in illustrating the Bible lessons.

The "Figurets," as they are called, are three inches high, made of elastic-vinyl, a pliable, rubberlike substance. They can stand alone and can hold objects in their hands. For instance, Moses can hold the Ten Commandments; Aaron can hold the rod; Saul can hold the javelin; David can hold the harp.

Not only can the teacher use the "Figurets" during the class period. She can buy several sets and give them to the pupils at the end of the quarter as awards for regular attendance; and the pupils can re-enact the lessons at home over and over again, thus impressing Bible truths on their young minds.

Four sets are being offered in 1957, as follows: First Quarter, The Passover Story; Second Quarter, Moses at Sinai; Third Quarter, The Story of Gideon; Fourth Quarter, The Story of David. Each set contains seven to nine pieces. The sets sell for 66 cents each. Ten or more sets can be purchased for 45 cents each.

The Gospel Publishing House, Springfield, Missouri, is the exclusive agent for Bible "Figurets." No other agent anywhere sells them.

The long night came to its close. Day dawned in the east and the sun rose again in a blaze of glory. He who had seen himself and anguished over himself stood up to meet its cheery glow.

"It is light once again," he said. "It is God who has turned the page and I want to begin in the might of His power. I thank Thee, God, for a new day!"

—Anonymous

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God's Two Directives

BY OSWALD J. SMITH

THERE ARE TWO TREMENDOUS STATEMENTS in God's Word—statements so simple, yet so positive and definite, that no one can afford to ignore them. You will find them in Acts 16:21, "Believe and be saved," and 2 Corinthians 6:17, "Come out and be separate."

1. Believe and Be Saved

To believe is to renounce all dependence on heathen religions, as well as Jewish, Catholic and Protestant, and to trust Jesus Christ and Him alone for salvation. To turn from all works, ceremonies, sacraments, self-righteousness and deeds of merit, to Christ, the Son of God, who died for your sins and rose for your justification. To receive Jesus Christ as your own personal Saviour, and give yourself—body, soul and spirit, for time and eternity—to Him. Thus you will pass out of death and into life, from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light, and from bondage to freedom. You will be born again, born from above, born of the Spirit of God.

There must come a definite moment in your life when this happens—when you open your heart to Jesus Christ and become God's child. "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God" (John 1:12). That is what it means to believe and be saved. Will you receive Him? Do it, and do it—*now!*

2. Come Out and Be Separate

No sooner are you saved than you become a new creature in Christ Jesus. Old things have passed away and all things have become new. The things you hated you love, and the things you loved you hate, because you have a new nature and are living in a new world.

If you worked for a brewery, you will give up your job and get another. If you served liquor, you will refuse to serve it again. If you were a drunkard,

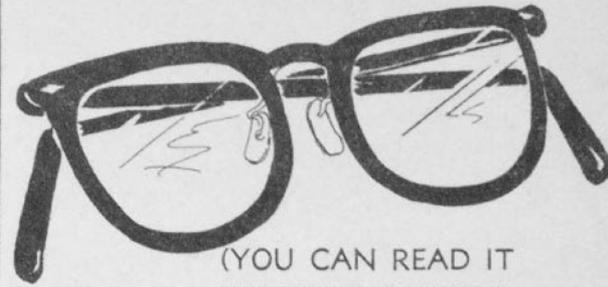
you will become sober. If you were a thief, you will henceforth be honest. If you used tobacco, you will use it no more. If you were immoral and unclean, you will become pure. If you danced you will give it up. If you gambled, you will gamble no more. If your language was filthy, it will henceforth be clean. If you used to swear, you will swear no more. If you dressed immodestly and worldly, you will dress like a Christian. You will not leave yourself open to criticism. There will be no appeal to the flesh. You will not be a stumbling block. As you once served the Devil, so now you will serve God. You will go to no place where you would not want Christ to find you when He comes.

The world will no longer attract you. To be a friend of the world is to be the enemy of God. You will not be a good mixer, you will be a good separator. If you cannot maintain your former position in life by working for an honest living, you will do what Christ told the rich young ruler to do—you will sell what you have and be content to live in a humble home on a modest income. Like converted drunkards, you will give your testimony freely. Never again will you feel at home in the world that crucified your Lord.

All this may sound negative. It is not. It is "the expulsive power of a new affection." These former things will drop off like the autumn leaves. You will not have to give them up, you will not want them. As Christ comes in, the world goes out. When you have tasted the fruit of Canaan, you will crave no more the manna of the wilderness.

These, my friends, are the two most positive directives in the Bible—"Believe and be saved—come out and be separate." I challenge you to face them. If you will, you will not only be a Christian, you will be a mature and useful Christian, and your reward will be great.

HERE IS A MESSAGE
FOR PEOPLE PAST FORTY:



(YOU CAN READ IT
WITHOUT GLASSES)

*The Assemblies of
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BY VANCE HAYNER

We would do well to slow down
before we break down

A Word to Prospective Maniacs

I AM CONVINCED THAT IF THE DEVIL cannot make us lazy, he will make us so busy here and there that the best is sacrificed for the good. I once thought that every invitation I received as a speaker was the leading of the Lord. But I discovered that I was sometimes invited to speak at two different places at the same time, and I realized that the Lord knew that I was singular, not plural. From that I went on to learn that I had been given some common sense and was expected to use it under the Spirit's direction.

DO NOT IMITATE THE DEVIL

We display the Lord's leading as much by what we refuse as by what we accept. The Lord is not interested in mere quantity production. We can often do more by doing less. It is no mark of godliness to be forever running about in a fever, our tongues hanging out, in a glorified St. Vitus' dance. These dear souls who argue that the Devil never takes a vacation should remember that we are not expected to imitate the Devil. We follow the Lord, who was unhurried, and who said, "Come ye yourselves apart . . . and rest a while."

It is high time we learned that in this nerve-racking, maddening modern rush we have let the spirit of the times rob

us of meditation, devotion, rest, the passive side of our Christian experience, without which we cannot be active to the glory of God. There is no depth to us. We are whizzing around from preacher to preacher, meeting to meeting, with pad and pencil, hiding the Word in our notebooks instead of in our hearts. A lot of our Christian life and work is frothy, superficial, thin. We are growing mushrooms, not oaks.

LEARN TO SAY "NO"

I have learned long since that when I arrive in a place and calls descend like locusts for me to come to this meeting, grab a sandwich and hop to another, address the "Whoozits" at ten and the "Whatsits" at eleven, only to arrive at the main meeting woozy and exhausted, part of a preacher's best equipment is a good healthy No. It is a subtle snare, and both we and the people who invite us are unwittingly deceived by it. If either we or they took second thought, we could see that we defeat our own purposes when we spread ourselves too thin, striking everywhere and hitting hard nowhere. We Christians often lead dissipated lives, squandering our energies but becoming so exhausted that none of it counts for much.

The temptation is great for an aggressive preacher to run a church, hold

outside meetings, carry a radio program, edit a magazine, write books, and from there on add a new sideline every little while, until he ends up in a hospital. Once in a while there is a Hercules who can stand it, but is it the best way? The old saints did a few things well, as a rule. They took time to be still, and we go back to them now to feed our souls. They produced cream, and it takes time for cream to rise.

TAKE TIME OUT

If our lives and ministry count for anything today, we must solemnly resolve to make time for God. It is not easy. Some people won't like it, but somebody else wouldn't like it if we did some other way, so that doesn't matter. We must make out a schedule and work out a program at all costs that will eliminate the nonessential (including a lot of things which some dear souls will think are very essential), put first things first, and make a lot of second-rate things stay in line, no matter how much they clamor for first place.

It is the best way to get to heaven without detouring by an insane asylum. You will make a life as well as a living, and stay not only clothed but in your right mind.

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