

The Pentecostal

Evangel

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



DECEMBER 3, 1961 • TEN CENTS



Men of First Assembly, Memphis, work with Pastor James E. Hamill to promote the entire church program. (Read story on pages 8 and 9.)

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..... **We believe** the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. WE BELIEVE that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. WE BELIEVE in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule over the nations. WE BELIEVE that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ.

WE BELIEVE that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. WE BELIEVE that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. WE BELIEVE that the baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it. WE BELIEVE in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life. WE BELIEVE in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.

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Liquor Flights to Continue

The end of liquor flights is not yet in sight. Christian people who plan to ride the airways during the holidays can expect to see their fellow passengers drinking liquor aloft.

Religious and temperance groups who for years have been advocating a ban on liquor flights were encouraged in October when representatives of the nation's major airlines announced they had agreed to discontinue the sale of liquor to coach passengers aboard planes. The plan applied only to coach, and not first-class passengers.

However, the smaller airlines reportedly refused to go along with the idea, and the measure was not approved by the Civil Aeronautics Board. So liquor will continue to be served to those who want it.

Legislation banning the serving or consumption of alcoholic beverages in the skies has been introduced repeatedly in Congress but House and Senate Committees on Interstate Commerce have declined to consider the bills.

The measures have been opposed by the Civil Aeronautics Board and the Federal Aviation Agency on the grounds that present controls on liquor aboard planes are sufficient and that commercial airlines would lose revenue that they need to stay in business. We suspect the latter fact is the chief consideration. If somehow the profit motive could be removed from the making and selling of alcoholic drinks, no doubt the liquor problem would evaporate very quickly.

The serving of liquor on the airliners is an offense to many Christian people. Not only does it create unpleasant situations; it also produces highly dangerous ones.

The number of incidents involving drunken and disorderly conduct by air passengers is increasing. Last summer, for example, the lives of 118 passengers on a Chicago-Los Angeles flight were jeopardized by a drunken passenger. He became enraged when a stewardess took a whiskey bottle from him, and he began to brandish a pocketknife. The passengers, confined to the cabin and unable to escape, nearly panicked before one brave and burly passenger was able to land an overpowering blow on the drunkard's head and disarm him.

A similar incident occurred aboard a Convair. A man who had been drinking before the flight imbibed enough additional liquor in the air to make him intoxicated. He began making such a commotion that the pilot came to investigate. He found the passenger kicking the exit door and shaking it with all his might! He was trying to open it, for in his inebriated state he was quite sure the plane was on the ground, when actually it was 8,000 feet in the air!

"The door-and-step assembly on the Convair opens together," the pilot explained later, "and is located just in front of the propeller to the right engine. At the speed we were flying this whole assembly and the individual would have gone right into the propeller. The least I can say is that every life on that plane was endangered."

"Drinking on airplanes," he declared, "creates nuisances and embarrassments as well as actual dangers for the pilot, stewardesses, and passengers." He is one of many who are pleading for an end to liquor flights. —R.C.C.

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The times call for a spiritual breakthrough that will bring down from heaven the power God has promised His church for these last days.

A PENTECOSTAL BREAKTHROUGH

BY THOMAS F. ZIMMERMAN, GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT, ASSEMBLIES OF GOD

AS I WRITE THESE LINES, THE world is recoiling with mingled fear and anger from the super-bomb detonated by the Soviet Union in its Arctic testing area. The awful blast and its radioactive fallout are reminding mankind once again what horrors we would face in a nuclear war.

At the same time the tremendous buildup of devastating forces in both East and West, coupled with the tense situation in Berlin and other sore points throughout the earth, seems to be reducing the possibilities of averting a nuclear holocaust until the possibilities appear to be slim indeed.

Never before in the history of mankind has the human race had in its control the power to destroy the world. Never before have so many people been captive under the power of godless Communism. Never before has there been such a need to rally the spiritual and moral forces of the free world to withstand threats to our liberties.

But at this hour when our freedom is threatened we find moral conditions at a low ebb. In our own land we find that liquor, narcotics, and dope are being used more widely than ever before, according to reports of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. People in general are seeking after pleasures instead of seeking after God. Surely these signs of the times point to the fact that the return of our Lord and Saviour is drawing very near.

In the words of the prophet, "It is time to seek the Lord, till He come and rain righteousness upon you" (Hosea 10:12). It is time for a spiritual breakthrough. It is time to pray through and touch God until He sends down from heaven the power He has promised for these last days.

During the recent General Council held in Portland, Oregon, plans were made for a denomination-wide advance. It was envisioned that if Jesus should

tarry for another ten years our Assemblies of God work should at least double in the decade. In our thinking, the decade was broken down into two-year periods and the planning committee selected an appropriate theme for the coming biennium—"Breakthrough." Already several headquarters departments are putting their "breakthrough" plans into action. The Home Missions Department has set its goal for the opening of new churches. The Radio Department is expanding into new areas. The Sunday School, Education, Youth, and other departments are likewise looking ahead to an enlarged ministry.

As we pray, plan, and work toward "doubling in a decade" we must not lose sight of the fact that our goals are spiritual. It is necessary to think of numbers, finances, and material considerations, of course, but these things are only the tools and means toward our real goal—a spiritual breakthrough and a winning of the lost for Christ.

"Yet once more . . . let us go forth," is our slogan. It was God who said, "Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven" (Hebrews 12:26). It was the apostle who wrote, "Let us go forth therefore unto Him without the camp, bearing His reproach" (Hebrews 13:13).

We can be encouraged by what God has done for us in the past but there is no room for complacency. We need to look into the Scriptures and see what God has promised in order that we may receive more and even greater outpourings of His Spirit in the future than we have enjoyed in the past.

The prophet Joel, moved by the Holy Spirit to prophesy concerning the last days, wrote:

"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men



shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions; and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out My Spirit. "And I will show wonders . . ." (Joel 2:28-30).

This is the breakthrough for which we pray. It will come only as we put forth a united effort. Revival cannot come to people who are complacent, self-satisfied, lukewarm in their love for Christ and unconcerned over the spiritual condition of lost souls. It will come to people who are wholly dedicated to the Lord and who are seeking Him with all their hearts.

We need a renewed dedication to those activities which brought Pentecostal revival at the turn of the century.

There must be a rededication to the Sunday night evangelistic services, to the mid-week prayer meetings, to Biblical preaching and Pentecostal living. Members of our congregations need a renewal of brotherly love one for another, a greater love for prayer and the Word of God, a greater sense of the urgency of the hour, and a greater dedication to evangelism.

We must work for God while there is time. How much longer our opportunities will last we do not know.

It is noteworthy that the Holy Spirit came in the beginning when the hundred and twenty disciples were in *one* place and *one* accord. The Pentecostal outpouring of the Spirit came in the twen-

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THE GREAT SHAKING



A GENERAL COUNCIL SERMON BY KENNETH D. BARNEY, PASTOR, HEIGHTS ASSEMBLY, HOUSTON, TEXAS

DURING THE DAYS OF ADOLPH HITLER a great deal was said about the "new order" for Europe and eventually the world, but the dream of the Nazis was buried in the rubble of Berlin and became a tragic joke.

Another sinister force was even then at work with its plans for a new order. The world took little note of this while it was just a fantastic ambition in the twisted minds of Lenin, Marx and Engels. But it was not long until the democracies realized they had crushed one monster only to clear the way for another even more vicious, sweeping like a flood from hell over hundreds of millions of people with a goal of world conquest openly announced. The march of Communism has been nothing short of phenomenal, immeasurably more formidable since the Chinese dragon and the Russian bear joined their military might.

Back of this spreading revolution is Satan with his own dream of a new order. His aim is that the old order and especially God and every semblance of religion be erased from the minds of men as every square inch of the globe is made communist soil. Not a phase of life escapes their influence as Communism uses the entertainment world, the athletic, cultural, literary, and even the religious world to bring about its ends. Its demonic strategy calls for the total saturation of earth with Communism, and the planting of their flag on even the planets of outer space. This is *world* revolution which involves the entire universe.

But—God is still on the throne and *He has His plans!* There will indeed be a new order. After allowing man centuries of probation, God will arise at last to put down this flagrant defiance and drive out the enemy.

Our text in Haggai 2:6,7 reads, "For thus saith the Lord of hosts... I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come..." Here God speaks of the manner in which He will bring in His new order. The "Desire of all nations" is none other than our Lord Jesus Christ, and we sing with longing the Christmas carol, "Come, Desire of nations, come..." The Bible warns that before He comes there will be a time of violence, confusion, and tumult. The whole universe will be upset and disarranged. Men may hide in caves from flying bombs, but when God shakes this cosmos there will be no hiding place or escape. Unquestionably we are in the beginning of this shaking now. God is arising. The rumbling thunder of His chariot wheels grows louder and louder. Man cannot forever shake his fists in God's face with impunity.

THE SHAKING OF THE POLITICAL REALM

Within a generation such a great shaking has occurred in the political realm that many international landmarks have fallen and today there is actually a struggle for physical survival. The changes in the world's political structure that have happened in my lifetime of forty years are amazing. Nations, previously strong, have been weakened, and others docile and passive are causing humanity to shudder with fear. Two world wars have shaken our race in one generation and spilled the blood of millions.

During my school days we hardly knew what a communist was—the iron curtain was unknown. "East" and "West" were just two directions on

the compass and did not represent two opposing forces of world politics. People could not have told you the meaning of "The Western bloc," the "Soviet orbit," or "satellite nations." Russia was a backward nation; China, a giant fast asleep. Africa was ruled largely by European nations, and Britain was a mighty empire on which the sun never set. In those days the idea of an unfriendly power having a base ninety miles off Florida would have been scoffed at: the USA seemed safe behind the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. A few marines could handle anyone who tried to give us a hard time.

To combat the onrushing Communist tide our nation has poured out billions of dollars in foreign aid, and we have reason to wonder if this has not alienated more friends than it has won us.

Every nation has become a pawn in an international chess game, made more complicated by the creation of many new nations, especially in Africa. The so-called balance of power has actually shifted to these smaller countries which as yet are not totally committed to either East or West. The United Nations, largely supported by American tax dollars, has proved a weak prop on which to lean.

The most significant development has been the creation of Israel. Small in size, this vigorous little nation has been on the center of the world's stage since it came into being, and to Bible students this is heartening evidence that our God is most certainly shaping the affairs of men.

The explosion of the first Russian nuclear weapon indeed shook the world. For the first time in human history it is now conceivable that the whole human race could be annihilated and the

earth made uninhabitable. This has put fear in men's hearts and handcuffed the democracies, causing them to stand by while the Reds have made bold new grabs of territory and power.

The word "revolution" characterizes the spirit of our times; the whole world is embroiled in it. In many countries where a stable government is in power, there is constant harassment by agitators to overthrow it. Well-organized, large-scale riots instigated by Communists have overthrown governments and changed national policies.

The things that are happening have a supernatural explanation. We read of the final doom of Satan in Isaiah 14: 12 and he is addressed as the one "which didst weaken the nations." It may sound strange to the ears of politicians to talk about Satan weakening nations, but this is God's Word.

God often used heathen nations to punish Israel when she turned her back on Him, and there is no doubt that Communism is today being used of God in this shaking time and is His instrument for carrying out His plans. He is even allowing Satan unusual liberty in creating disturbances in the earth. The Bible shows that spirit forces influence earthly affairs. In Revelation 16 we see the kings of earth gathered to Armageddon through spirit agencies. Daniel learned that the angel sent with the answer to his prayer was hindered by the evil spirit power referred to as the "prince of the kingdom of Persia." We see here national influence exerted by certain evil spirits in Satan's hierarchy. We are in a time of shaking, manifesting itself in outward, earthly circumstances, but basically spiritual in origin.

Jesus spoke of this hour of "distress of nations with perplexity." This is not something afar off; we are engulfed by it at this moment.

THE SHAKING OF THE FINANCIAL REALM

The foundation of any country is its economic power, and no nation can long survive in a state of financial chaos. Great strides in communication and transportation have brought countries of the world closer together and today a nation has to plan its economics, to some extent, on its relations with others. The Communists realize this and seek to bankrupt us, waging fierce competition with us in trade all over the globe.

One of the most awesome problems

'When I Got Saved'

IT IS POSSIBLE TO SPEAK WORDS THAT COMMUNICATE *life*. WHAT WE say may have far-reaching consequences.

About two years ago I dropped in at a local doctor's office to get a checkup. To my surprise, I learned I had liver trouble—part of my liver was dried up. It was decided I should return again to determine the reason for this condition.

While the tests were being made, the doctor began asking me questions; such as, "What type of work do you do?" etc. Then the big question came, "Do you drink?"

I answered, "Doc, for fifteen years I drank every day. I had become an alcoholic."

"Then, that's your trouble," he said.

"But I don't drink any more," I replied.

Very much surprised, he looked at me and asked, "How did you quit?"

I answered, "I quit *when I got saved*." The Lord had wonderfully saved me about six months before this conversation.

About two years later I stopped to see this doctor again because he was being recalled to the armed services. We had become good friends and I hoped I might cheer him up.

While I was there, everyone else in the office left for lunch. I also arose to leave. The doctor followed me to the door, then said: "It may be a long time before I see you again, and there's something you said one day that keeps coming back to me. What did you mean when you said, 'When I got saved'?"

I stood there awhile shocked because I thought everyone in this "Christian" country of ours knew the plan of salvation.

I answered, "Do you read your Bible?"

"No," he replied, "but I go to Sunday school every Sunday and say my prayers every night."

It's hard to believe there are churches with Sunday schools that do not tell a man he must be saved!

I took advantage of this opportunity to witness to the doctor. I told him of the many times the Lord had watched over me in times of need. I told him how the Bible teaches us we must repent, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and be born again.

How long I was there I do not know, but when I finally left I could see big tears about to fall from the doctor's eyes.

I praise God today for those words, *WHEN I GOT SAVED*. I am glad I said them. It always pays to watch what you say, for you never know what your words may mean to others.

—Bonnie L. Chisholm, Atmore, Ala.

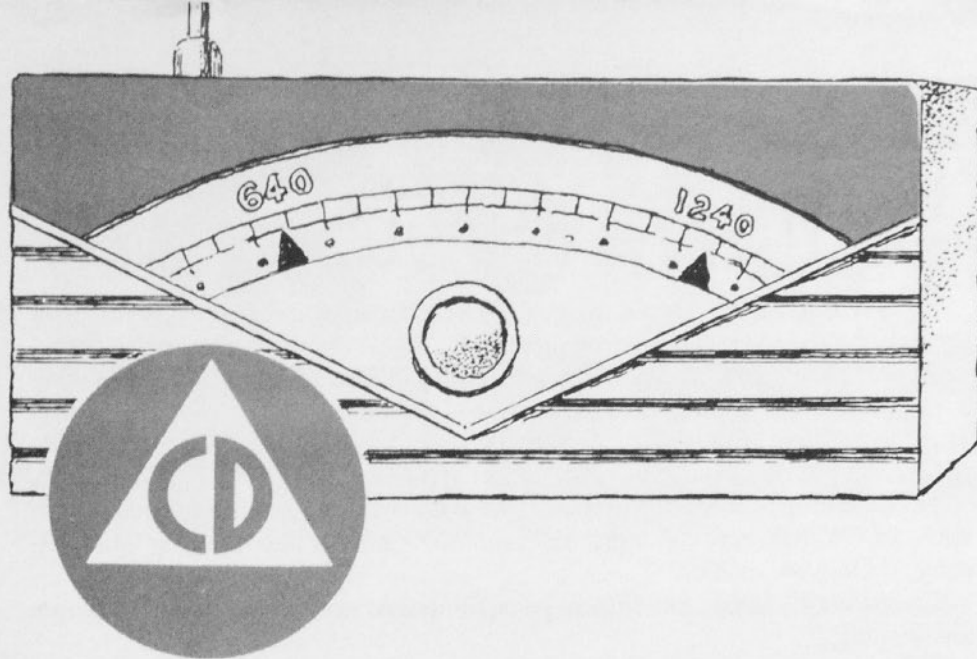
along this line is the gold situation. It was humiliating for an American cabinet officer to have to go to West Germany, hat in hand, and say, "Please Mister, help us. We're about to lose our gold." What would happen if through communist efforts the nations who have a claim on our gold supply should suddenly start calling for their gold? We are indeed walking a tight rope to keep our financial balance.

One of the most frustrating things to individuals today is the monster "inflation." The once solid American dol-

lar has gone down in value. So much is being spent for national defense and survival that the federal budget soars and taxes gnaw at everyone's pocketbook, reminding us of the description of Haggai 1:6 of those who earn wages "to put it into a bag with holes."

Lenin predicted that America would be conquered in this way without being attacked—she would fall like an over-ripe fruit into the lap of Communism. For those who have eyes to see and ears to hear there is an ominous un-

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GOD'S CONELRAD

After twenty years Americans still remember Pearl Harbor. In the event of another surprise attack would *you* be prepared?

By TOMMY D. WITT
Pastor, First Assembly of God, Lindsay, California

I WAS A NEWSBOY WHEN THE JAPANESE attacked the U. S. Naval Base at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. I shall always remember the excitement that prevailed as we approached the news office that afternoon.

The paper had already been printed, but this development demanded a new front page. We newsboys yelled up and down the streets, "Extra, Extra! Japs attack Pearl Harbor! Read all about it!"

Almost half of the U. S. Navy was destroyed. America was at war! The frightening truth was that we were not prepared for this devastating assault. *We had not been warned!* Indications are that we now have a better warning system.

If you have paid attention to recent civil defense announcements you will recall warnings like these: "In case of attack, tune to the CONELRAD frequencies of 640 or 1240 kilocycles on your radio dial... For your own safety find out what steps to take in providing a shelter from radiation in your home... Make sure you are prepared... Always tune to 640 or 1240, your CONELRAD stations, for official

information and instructions in event of enemy attack..."

For over a year and a half it was my privilege to be the religious director and announcer for radio station KRKS in Ridgecrest, California, while pastoring in Inyokern. I have read statements like these over the air, time and again, not fully realizing the importance of them. Since then, these statements have made a great impact upon my life.

What is CONELRAD? This is the short term for an emergency broadcasting system officially designated as "Plan for CONTROL of ELECTROMAGNETIC RADIATIONS." The system was devised jointly by the broadcasting industry and the Government to get official information to the American people in event of attack without providing navigational aid to enemy bombers or missiles.

If you are listening to radio or television when CONELRAD is ordered into operation you will hear a message like this:

"We interrupt our normal program to cooperate in security and civil defense measures as requested by the United States Government.

"This is a CONELRAD Radio Alert.

"Normal broadcasting will now be discontinued for an indefinite period.

"Civil defense information will be broadcast in most areas at 640 or 1240 on your regular radio receiver."

As soon as the station leaves the air, tune your AM (standard-band) radio to 640 or 1240 on the dial.

If you are *not* listening to radio or television and you hear your community siren give a steady blast of three to five minutes, this means that an attack is probable. Take action as follows: Tune your AM radio to a CONELRAD frequency (640 or 1240) for official directions. Proceed according to your community's emergency action plan. Don't use the telephone.

If you hear a steady blast of your air-raid siren of three to five minutes, this means an attack is probable. Take action as directed by your local government.

If you hear a warbling tone or short blasts for three minutes, this means that an attack is imminent—take cover immediately in the best available shelter.

In event of attack, local power may fail. Your best insurance for receiving CONELRAD broadcasts is a battery-operated portable radio for use with an aerial outside your shelter area. Keep extra batteries on hand. Mark the dials of your standard-band (AM) radios at the 640 and 1240 frequency positions.

Civil defense authorities advise you to stock a two-weeks supply of food and water—and to be ready to evacuate your home upon a 25-minute notice.

All of us pray that an attack will never come, but have you ever stopped to think that God might permit this? Again—are you prepared? Perhaps you are prepared physically—how about spiritually?

God has His CONELRAD system also. In the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, God's warning signals to sinful men have been heard through the centuries. Typical are these: "Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel" (Amos 4:12). "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27).

God warned Adam and Eve, "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:17). But they disregarded this warning and instead listened to Satan who countered with, "God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be

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opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:5). The first man and woman accepted Satan's proposition, and God banished them from the Garden of Eden.

God's CONELRAD system warned many others whom we read about in the Bible. Familiar examples involve Noah, Lot, Pharaoh, Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar, the rich young ruler, and many others. In every case, when God's warnings were ignored or flaunted, judgment came.

America cannot afford to be unprepared again. Twenty years have passed

since the Pearl Harbor debacle, and our nation is resolved never to be caught napping again.

We sincerely hope that your soul will never face a "Pearl Harbor crisis." You have had the benefit of fair warning. God's CONELRAD system, including the Bible and the Holy Spirit, is faithful in warning men and women of the consequences of sin. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23).

Take Christ as your Saviour today—before it is too late! ◀◀

so we looked it up. We read about the various reactions to snake bites—severe swelling, a purple discoloration, shortness of breath, fainting, rapid pulse, nausea and vomiting, frequently unconsciousness, dim vision. It said that if the bite was untreated, death was most apt to occur the day after the injury.

Prompt action is imperative because the removal of the venom is more difficult, if not impossible, after it is absorbed. A victim of snake bite is advised to lie down and stay quiet. As we read this we realized the gravity of my condition.

Before I went to sleep that night, I had a vision of Jesus healing Peter's mother-in-law and her getting up to minister to her household. Though still suffering, I fell asleep and did not awake until four in the morning. The pain was all gone, but the swelling was even worse.

My husband was not a Christian and he still wanted to call the doctor, but instead we called my parents (Powhattan and Mrs. Huffman). Dad had to drive 164 miles. He arrived about ten o'clock Tuesday night and when he saw my leg he said, "It's bad!" However, he prayed.

The next morning I heard my husband say to our son, "If God heals your mother of that, I will believe her way." Then Dad started to pray. He reminded God that I had been given to Him. Suddenly Dad quit praying—he said, "You are healed; I feel it!"

I looked down at my leg and the swelling was going down. I called to my husband and said, "If you want to see a miracle, come here."

He said, "Well, it's true!"

I got up trusting in the name of Jesus and walked around the bed, then rested. I got up a second time and kept walking until all the swelling was gone. I was healed!

The next Sunday (six days after I was bitten) I went to the Assembly of God Church at Mountain Grove, Mo., where Brother Boulware was pastor at that time. I told the congregation how God had healed me.

The next year (1958) I became pastor of the Assembly of God Church here in Macomb. My husband is now saved and is a firm believer in divine healing. All glory be to God!—Mrs. June Baker, Macomb, Mo.

(Verified by Powhattan Huffman, pastor of Assembly of God, Belleview, Mo.)

Woman Healed of Copperhead Snake Bite

To say that I was afraid of snakes is putting it mildly. I would get sick if I even saw one. So, when I was bitten by a copperhead snake in September, 1957, it was a terrifying experience. But God intervened, and I want to tell you this story of miraculous healing.

It happened in the Ozarks where we had moved the previous May. At about six o'clock one Monday evening, as I was coming around the front of the house, I felt something sting my ankle—it felt like a wasp. I ran into the house and told my husband.

Pulling down my stocking, I saw two pinpoint marks. We then knew it was a snake bite.

My husband grabbed a gun and asked where it happened. I showed him, and there he found a copperhead snake! He quickly killed it and said, "We

are going to the doctor—and quick!" My husband was so scared his face was white.

We drove about a quarter-mile to my uncle's place, where our son was helping with the evening chores. My aunt put her hand on my ankle to pray, but the pain was so severe I wished she would remove her hand. By this time my foot had swollen considerably.

It was at this point that I made my decision—I was going to trust God in this emergency. I remembered the Lord's promise in the Bible: "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover" (Mark 16:17, 18). I had not deliberately invited this snake bite—it was unexpected—and so I felt justified in trusting God to deliver me.

I asked my husband to take me home. By this time I could not walk without help. When we reached home my son and husband put me on the divan, and I asked to be alone. I wanted to pray.

We had a Red Cross first-aid book,



The Pastor and His Men

CHRIST AND HIS DISCIPLES, UNITING THEIR EFFORTS, SET A BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLE FOR TODAY'S PASTORS AND LAYMEN.

BY DOYLE E. BURGESS

Tennessee District MF Director

ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS THAT Jesus did when He entered into public ministry was to seek out men to help in carrying out His great universal plan of redemption.

In choosing members of His staff He did not go to the priesthood to find them but selected men from the rank and file. He called them, transformed them, taught them, trained them, and sent them out into the world as the media of that transforming power with which He wished to work His miracles in the lives of the masses.

Jesus recognized the present condition of these men but He saw also their potentialities so He dealt with them patiently, carefully, constantly, until they were established in the faith—then He gave them work to do. His constant admonition to them was to come up a little higher and to assume additional responsibilities. In this relationship between Christ and His disciples we have a beautiful picture like unto a pastor and his laymen uniting their efforts for the glory of God.

I thank God for a pastor with a shepherd's heart. When James E. Hamill became pastor at First Assembly in Memphis I was still on the inactive list of our membership roll. I was working seven days a week and though I professed to be a Christian I very seldom attended any church service. I was contributing practically nothing to the spiritual or financial progress of the church.

Pastor Hamill taught me to place more value on the things above. He tracked me down and impressed upon me the promise of Christ, who said, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God,

and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."

As a result of the personal interest that this faithful pastor showed in a wayward sheep I "returned to the fold," as it were. I received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and began to learn the joy of sacrificial giving and of winning others to Christ.

What men need today is a proper set of values. It is so easy in this materialistic age to live only for the things which are seen. We need to raise our sights and allow our time to be consumed with the things which are unseen—for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Here is the function of the pastor. He is the spiritual leader. His men look to him for counsel, guidance, and example. Under his direction the men should dedicate their time and talents to God's service. The laymen must not leave all the work to the pastor. They too have definite responsibilities in God's program. They must put church attendance, stewardship, and gospel service first and other things second.

When Brother Hamill became pastor of the First Assembly in Memphis some seventeen years ago he told the people that he envisioned a ministry of much greater scope than the church had yet fulfilled. He said that if he could surround himself with men who would work with him he would dedicate himself to this ministry, which was destined to reach not only the city of Memphis and the Mid-South area but also to many lands overseas.

The first step was taken one afternoon in 1945 when the men of the

church comprising an Advisory Council met with the pastor at the parsonage to chart our course. On that day there was formed a pastor-laymen relationship that through divine enablement has brought the church to where it is today. Together the pastor and his men at First Assembly intend to continue to advance under God's leadership toward ever greater victories.

I am convinced that the success of the Men's Fellowship at First Assembly in Memphis can be matched wherever pastors and their men have the vision and determination to work together. Indeed, the situation in Memphis is being repeated in city after city where our churches have adopted the MF plan.

Our Men's Fellowship organization has presented a tremendous challenge to our denomination.

The launching of this great Pentecostal endeavor has enlisted thousands of Assemblies of God laymen in active Christian service whose talents heretofore were not fully challenged and utilized.

It has brought about a closer unity of purpose between the laymen and their pastor. There is a mutual feeling that they truly are "workers together with God" for the salvation of men's souls.

One of the most encouraging signs on the spiritual horizon of our day is this re-discovery of the latent powers of the laymen in our churches. I am convinced that our individual churches will either retreat, mark time, or advance in direct proportion to the extent that they harness this manpower and utilize it for the Kingdom of Christ.

Newspaperman Emmett Maum Gives a Quick Rundown on MF Activities at First Assembly in Memphis, Tennessee

STRENGTHENING THE HANDS OF THE pastor and providing a strong arm of the church are among the aims fulfilled by the Men's Fellowship of First Assembly of God in Memphis, Tennessee.

Just name an activity—and you will find Men's Fellowship men in the forefront. They will be serving directly for the MF or in responsibilities accepted as laymen of the church.

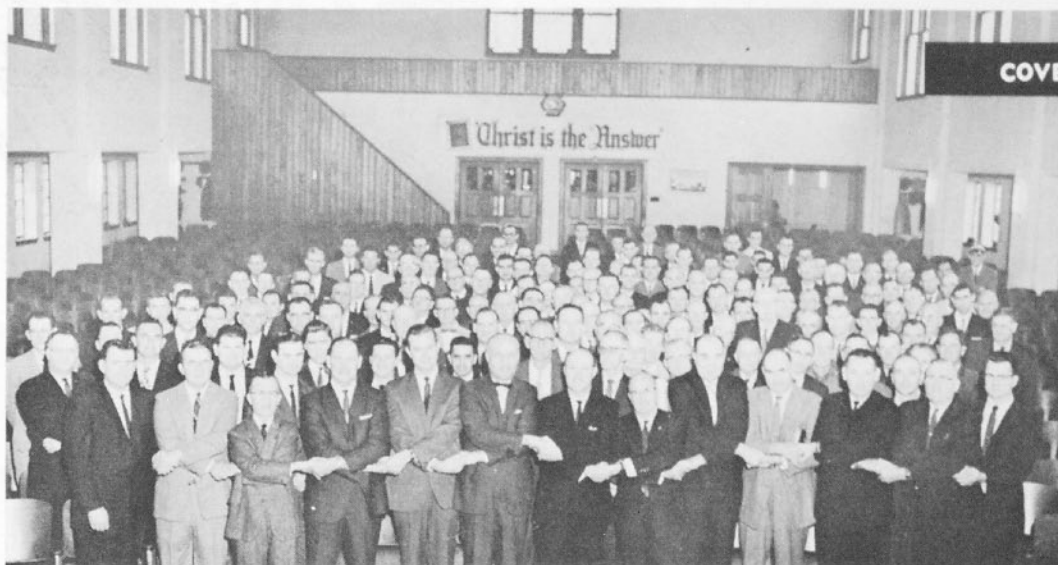
Says Pastor James E. Hamill:

"It is impossible to overestimate the value of our Men's Fellowship. Our men and the pastor are very closely-linked, and the MF always may be counted on to do the job with which it has been entrusted. It undoubtedly is one of the strongest forces in our congregation working for the kingdom of God."

As an example, MF has a committee whose duties are to visit the sick and afflicted in hospitals and homes. This live-wire group makes numerous personal contacts to encourage the ill and shut-ins and pray for them.

Men's Fellowship has a missionary committee which works hard promoting foreign and home missions. First Assembly is one of the fastest-growing missionary churches in the denomination, and MF has had a prominent role in this growth.

The church has an excellent recreation program for young people, sponsored by MF and mapped in conjunction with the youth director, Ernie



Men at Work for Christ

Wood. Thomas Faircloth is chairman of youth activities for MF, as well as a member of the official board. He and his committee are dedicated to offering young people the best program possible—and there is little doubt that they have done so.

Consider also what MF did when First Assembly urgently needed its parking lot paved and sidewalks built from the lot to the educational building and the main building.

"Men's Fellowship met this need in fine style," commented Pastor Hamill. "Our parking lot badly needed paving, for on rainy days the people had to get in mud and water from their cars to go to the buildings. The men gathered funds among themselves for the materials required for the paving job and sidewalks. Then, led by several men in the construction business or on such jobs, the Men's Fellowship did the work."

It was appropriate that committees named by the pastor to serve before and during construction of the beautiful new church (255 North Highland Street) are made up largely of men in MF. These committeemen will continue to offer valuable assistance to the pastor on this project unto the church is completed around April 1, 1962.

MF men were leaders in the drive to sell \$300,000 in bonds to help finance construction of the new building. They sold the bonds in ten days.

And MF members virtually make up the list of workers for the annual budget drive, held in November.

Many and varied are the other tasks of Men's Fellowship members at First Assembly. They are Sunday school workers, choir members, ushers, and leaders for various activities. Vincent Liberto, who heads the committee to visit the sick, is in charge of the "Hour of Power" for adults over Christ's Ambassador age at 6:30 p.m. each Sunday. Doyle E. Burgess, Tennessee MF president and former First Assembly MF president, is the speaker and director for the monthly gospel service for inmates at Fort Pillow Prison Farm near Ripley, Tennessee.

Thomas Faircloth and his wife Pauline have long been Christian Cadet leaders.

Nathan B. Carter, president of First Assembly's MF, is a devoted worker in the church, a long-time choir member and active in many phases of work.

President Carter inaugurated the idea in MF of having every member spend time in prayer daily for the unsaved of the church.

TODAY IS MEN'S FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY

Teamwork is the same . . . to accomplish the following objectives:

(1) To strengthen the ministry of the laymen behind the pastor and to assist him in carrying the spiritual burden.

(2) To develop basic fellowship among men in the local church.

(3) To introduce the second annual Action MANDATORY soul-winning crusade which opens New Year's Eve and continues through March 31, 1962.



PHOTO BY A. DEVANEY

CONFIDENTIAL- To Young Homemakers

By BYRDENA SCHUNEMAN

A RECENT ISSUE OF READER'S DIGEST carried an article captioned, "Why Young Mothers Feel Trapped." Though I am a Christian mother, I had to admit that the feelings of self-pity and frustration described were all too familiar to me.

Upon further consideration, it seemed to me quite likely that young *Christian* mothers are subject to even greater pressures than the average. For in addition to the multiple demands made upon them by family and community are the demands they make upon themselves in an effort to attain to the high standard expected of Christian motherhood. Also the church, while unquestionably a great source of strength and comfort, may sometimes be guilty of making unreasonable demands upon their time and energy.

The article described the busy homemaker's plight quite thoroughly and sympathetically, but offered only one short paragraph of somewhat vague advice by way of solution to the problem. Certainly I am no authority, and am far from knowing all the answers, but perhaps a few practical pointers picked up over nearly eighteen years of marriage are worth passing on.

From conversations with other Christian women I gather that one of the greatest causes of frustration for you Christian mothers is that you feel you are falling far short of your ideal of true Christian discipleship. You also

feel that the many ordinary tasks which consume so much of your time are trivial and have no importance in the light of eternity. These feelings of inadequacy and uselessness must be resolved before you can be contented and happy in your career as a Christian homemaker.

Let us consider what should be of greatest importance in your life. You say your highest calling is to love and serve God. Yes, but many a conscientious Christian homemaker has stumbled over the question of just how this is to be done. Perhaps after listening to some stirring message that sounded the call to Christian action, you have thought wistfully, "How I wish I might serve the Lord more actively, but I am so tied down with home duties and the care of my family." For shame! Would you want the Lord to take away your family so that you might serve Him without being hampered? You are shocked, of course, at such a suggestion. All right then, accept your role as homemaker with all the limitations it places upon you. But accept and appreciate also the blessings, advantages and opportunities which are reserved to you as a mother and as the priestess of your household.

Your prime objective might be stated thus: That my family may be happy, healthy, well-fed, fittingly clothed, clean, and showing growth in each of the three vital areas of life—physical, mental, and spiritual. *Give that a little consideration and see how largely dependent upon you the members of your family are for their progress toward these goals.* Do you still feel a need for larger service? Does not your calling challenge all your God-given talents, zeal, and wisdom?

Putting things into their proper perspective and properly evaluating your own importance in the plan of God

will do much toward dissolving your frustrations. But some practical aspects of the situation remain to be dealt with. For instance, your job requires twenty-four hours a day. How can you ever get it all done?

It may be helpful to begin each day with the following prayer, among others. "Dear Lord: Give me this day strength to change the things that need changing, grace to endure what cannot be changed, and wisdom to recognize the difference."

Resign yourself to the obvious fact that there is neither time nor energy to do everything you want to do or even what you think you "need" to do. Budget your time more carefully than your money, for to it there are strict limits and none may be borrowed.

One woman, of whom I read, recommended the practice of "intelligent neglect." Decide which are the really vital and necessary things to be done (in the sight of God, not of the neighbors, or even of the rest of the family). It is helpful in making these decisions to ask, "Which things will seem of consequence or importance ten years from now, or one year, or next week?" Using this yardstick of perspective, you will be surprised to find how much of your daily routine can be sidetracked or actually omitted when necessary.

The old adage, "Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well," like many such proverbs, is not universally applicable. Because you do not have time to steel-wool, wax, and polish your kitchen floor, do you think it slovenly merely to wipe up the spills? Do you never vacuum the house without moving every heavy piece of furniture and cleaning behind it? Do you think it necessary to give the time and attention to ironing a little boy's play jeans (if you iron them at all) that you would give to a Sunday shirt?

Some of the happiest households I know have been run by "a-lick-and-a-promise" housekeepers. It must be admitted that your success with this technique will depend to some extent upon your nature. If you are a perfectionist (in which case you and your family have my sympathy) you may consume more energy worrying about the jobs lightly skimmed over than you saved by skimming.

If you are to be content and at peace with yourself, it is of primary importance that you *learn to accept yourself as you are, including your limitations*. God made you as you are and promises to help you to be your very best. Do not misunderstand me and think that you are to countenance sin in your life. Not at all. Rather, my suggestion is that you be content with the talents and personality God has given you, seek ever to improve and refine them, but never seek to emulate another Christian or act in a manner contrary to your nature simply because you think it may be expected by those around you. If God had wanted us to be so many carbon copies, He would not have placed such a variety on earth.

By the same token, *refrain from trying to mold anyone after your own pattern*. The temptation to impose your own personality upon your children will be great. It is, of course, your sacred duty to do everything you can to mold their characters pleasing to God. There is a sense also, because of inheritance and example, in which you cannot help molding their personalities. But recognize that each of them is a

distinct personality. Allow each child freedom to be himself and do not chide him because he is not like you or some other member of the family.

Do not "bite off more than you can chew." Many a Christian woman has quoted the apostle Paul, "I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me," and has taken upon herself task upon task, responsibility upon responsibility, until her family suffered and her own health was damaged. God expects us to have sense enough to obey His natural laws.

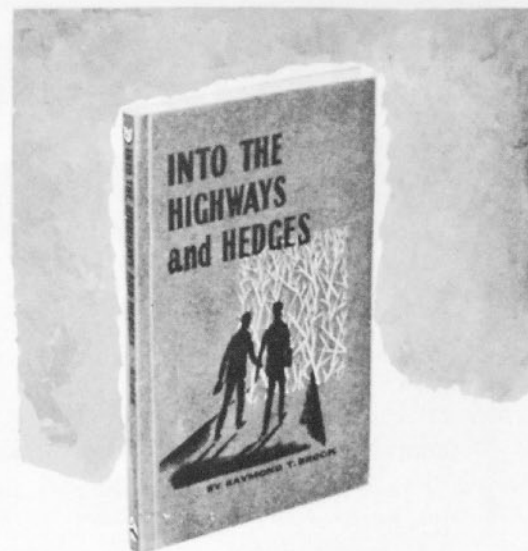
Jesus said that a man about to build sits down first and figures up the cost to be sure he will be able to finish. A wise mother will do the same before accepting another job as den mother, fund drive chairman, P.T.A. committee woman, or even WMC officer or Sunday school teacher.

I can almost hear the righteously indignant objections arising from the pastors and Sunday school superintendents who may have read that last phrase. So let me defend my position by quoting from the aforementioned article—"Today's housewife, trying to serve children, husband, home, and community, has taken on an impossible number of tasks..." Many are forced upon her by the pressure of public opinion. One woman complained, "I didn't realize... that the minute your children step out into the community, the community grabs you by the throat. My commitments to outside activities have eaten up all the leisure I looked forward to. Some of these activities seem worthwhile. Many are not. But if you beg off, you're considered lazy or incompetent."

Many of the decisions you will be called upon to make will not be between what is evil and what is good, but rather between what is worthwhile and what is vital. Your positions of service within the church should be the last activities you would give up.

It took me several years to become fully convinced that certain departments of the church and Sunday school could really function without my esteemed assistance. But sitting back sometimes with your hands folded can be a real stimulus to your spiritual growth, if those hands indicate that you are praying for those who are doing the work.

Live one day at a time. "Take no
(Continued on page twenty-three)

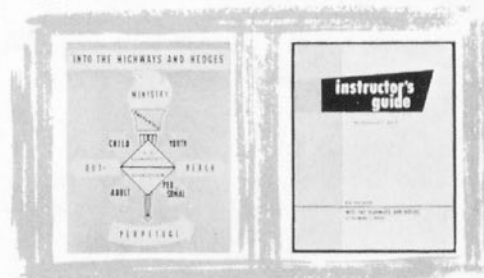


THE 1962 TRAINING MONTH BOOK SELECTION

Into the Highways and Hedges, a new book about Sunday school evangelism, is the 1962 Workers Training Month book selection. Written by *Global Conquest* Editor Raymond T. Brock, this book not only calls attention to the need for evangelism in and through the Sunday school but also offers tips and helps on how to win souls. Packed into the ten chapters are guides that will aid every school in the important mission of personal evangelism. After a study of this book your workers will be inspired with their opportunity and will better see how they can win souls through the Sunday school.

INTO THE HIGHWAYS AND HEDGES
2-533 \$1.25

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS



Instructor's Guide. This guide will give the instructor helps in presenting the evangelism study. It will place at his fingertips materials that will enable him to make the course interesting and effective.
INSTRUCTOR'S GUIDE 31-853 \$1.50

Visual Aid. To help illustrate the *Into the Highways and Hedges* course, excellent visual aids have been designed. These colorful visuals help to focus the attention and impress important truths on the students' minds.
VISUAL AIDS 19-7758 \$3.00



**GOSPEL PUBLISHING
HOUSE**

**NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPT.
1445 Boonville Springfield, Missouri**

FOR THE JUNIOR READER

BIBLE TREES

Can you match the Bible trees listed in the left-hand column below with the persons or things listed in the right-hand column? (You may use items from the right-hand column more than once.)

TREES	PEOPLE OR THINGS
.....1. Algum	a. Elijah (1 Kings 19:5)
.....2. Oak	b. Solomon's Temple (2 Chronicles 2:8)
.....3. Cedar	c. Noah's dove (Genesis 8:11)
.....4. Juniper	d. Israel in captivity (Psalm 137:2)
.....5. Olive	e. Zacchaeus (Luke 19:4)
.....6. Sycamore	f. Absalom (2 Samuel 18:10)
.....7. Fir	
.....8. Willow	

ANSWERS: p-8
1-b; 2-f; 3-b; 4-a; 5-c; 6-e; 7-b;

Your Questions



ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

Does the Bible teach that people will be on earth during the thousand years called the Millennium?

It so teaches in many places. See Isaiah 2:3, 4.

Is there scripture to support the teaching that God brings about wars to punish the wicked?

According to Ezekiel 14:21, war is one of God's means of punishment. He used Babylon to punish Israel for its sins.

I read an article which said that Jesus was seen at the ascension by above five hundred brethren. I cannot find this in any account of the ascension.

I do not know that the ascension was seen by above five hundred brethren but, on another occasion, Christ was seen by a crowd of over five hundred after His resurrection. See 1 Corinthians 15:6.

When Job said, "Who is he that hideth council without knowledge? therefore have I uttered that I understand not; things too wonderful for me, which I knew not" (Job 42:3), did he refer to the experience of speaking in tongues?

I think not. I believe he was confessing and bemoaning some of his statements uttered during the time of his affliction. Both Job and his friends had built up a philosophy of life which proved to be faulty when seen under divine illumination.

If Christ sat down "for ever... on the right hand of God" (Hebrews 10:12), how was it possible for Stephen at his stoning to see Him standing? Acts 7:55.

I believe Stephen literally saw Jesus standing, ready to receive him into heaven. I do not believe Hebrews 10:12 means He necessarily remains seated for ever, but rather that He retains for ever the position of authority "on the right hand of God." Christ has finished the work of redemption and now He rests in what He has done, "from henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool" (Hebrews 10:13).

I have been saved since I was twelve years old and am the parent of a teen-age daughter. I read in Deuteronomy 23:2 that "a bastard shall not enter into the congregation of the Lord; even to his tenth generation." Since I was a bastard child, does this mean my child and I are doomed to hell with no hope of escape? I am heartsick as I read this scripture.

Being barred from "the congregation of the Lord" meant that bastards were excluded from the civil and religious privileges enjoyed by those of Israel, but this did not mean that such were barred from *salvation*. God set a high standard for the commonwealth of Israel that they might properly represent Him as His chosen people. We find, however, that in a time of distress Jephthah the son of a harlot was chosen to lead the people to victory in war; he was endued with the Holy Spirit for this task (see Judges 13:29). He also is recorded in God's "hall of fame" as one of the worthies of faith (Hebrews 11:32).

Let us remember that membership in "the congregation of the Lord," the commonwealth of Israel, was an earthly privilege. In this age of grace Christ offers salvation to "whosoever" will accept Him as Saviour. You gave your life to Christ and you have sought to serve Him. The middle wall of partition that separated the Jews from the Gentiles is broken down (see Ephesians 2:14). Salvation with all its blessings and benefits is to all who love our Lord Jesus, including you and your child. Paul declared, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31).

If you have a spiritual problem or any question about the Bible, you are invited to write to "Your Questions," The Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Missouri. Brother Williams will answer either in this column or by a personal letter (if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope).

ON THE AIR



WITH D.V. HURST
SECRETARY
OF RADIO

Newton Minow, Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, stated recently: "I'm so grateful to you for asking me to talk about radio.

"Radio is America's roommate. We hear its voice from the time we wake up in the morning until we go to sleep at night.

"Radio is also America's traveling companion. It travels with us like a welcome shadow.

"A neighbor puts a radio in his hip pocket when he goes out to prune the roses. The newspaper delivery boy makes his rounds to the sound of music. I have a radio in the bathroom so I can catch the news while I'm shaving. The automobile radio rides in almost every car pool. And some people are even taking sets to the ballpark so they can keep score on the announcer. I suppose that about the only place radio isn't going with us these days is solitary confinement."

A recent radio study made use of the grim "rumor of war" research question. As one might expect, seven out of ten people questioned said that they would turn on their radios to verify a report that war had broken out. And with the aftermath of Hurricane Carla, America was reminded of the herculean service radio provides.

In view of the place this medium occupies in our American way of life, it presents an opportune way to spread the gospel. We would stand guilty, indeed, if we neglected such an avenue to the hearts of men.

* * *

Our world-wide Thanksgiving prayer service, November 19, is now past. The burden of this service was prayer for unsaved loved ones. Even before the meeting, we received testimonies resulting from previous prayer meetings. They encouraged the faith of all who prayed. Like this:

"Some time ago I wrote asking you to pray with me for the salvation of my husband. Praise God that prayer has been answered. He is still a sick man in body, but so glad he knows

WAVES OF GLORY AT SAN JOSE



C. M. Ward speaking at the Revivaltime Crusade in San Jose, Calif. Origination of Revivaltime for October 15 came from here. Part of the music for the crusade was provided by the Volunteer choir (inset) under the direction of Walter Hanson. Marty Karl (front left) was soloist for the crusade.

During the *Revivaltime* Crusade in the Fair Grounds Pavilion at San Jose, California, October 10-20, there were many nights when God's Spirit moved in a very outstanding way.

In one service C. M. Ward observed, "This is like the old-time protracted meetings when the 'break' came."

From the opening service, in which D. V. Hurst brought the message, the people were in a thankful mood, and the praises of God were constantly on their lips. Time and again during the services the people stood with hands raised praising God.

A high point was reached in one

meeting when, in the middle of C. M. Ward's sermon, the people started to clap and rejoice because of the truth presented. People were lifted into a heavenly place. Wave after wave of glory swept over the congregation. Pentecostal blessing broke upon the congregation as in the early days of the movement and sinners were at the altar.

The final service on October 20 featured the volunteer choir, assisted by Monte Vista Christian School choir, in a gospel musicale and concluded with a message by D. V. Hurst.

On Saturday, October 14, the *Re-*

vivaltime service for the following day originated from the Pavilion. The Bethany Bible College choir provided the music for the broadcast. Marty Karl, formerly with the Mariners Quartet but now saved, filled with the Spirit, and preaching, was featured soloist.

The Full Gospel Ministerial Fellowship of the greater San Jose area sponsored the crusade. A. C. Wegner served as chairman of the Crusade Committee; with C. M. Ward, speaker; D. V. Hurst, worship director and Bible teacher; Marty Karl, soloist; and Walter Hanson, song leader and choir director. ◀◀

Jesus as his personal Saviour. He is seventy-nine years old and in very poor health."

Mrs. V. P.
Randall, Kansas

December 17 will be *Revivaltime's* eighth anniversary of network broadcasting. This is also the fifteenth an-

niversary of Assemblies of God national broadcasting. Plan now to give a special Christmas and anniversary offering to *Revivaltime* for its continued ministry. If you have been helped by this ministry during these years and know of others who have, there is no better way to share ap-

preciation than to give others a chance to receive help too!

* * *

See you again?

* * *

Your letters of appreciation and offerings may be sent to *Revivaltime*, Box 70, Springfield, Missouri, U.S.A.

THE CHALLENGE OF THE CONGO

by J. W. TUCKER
Missionary to the Congo

THE CONGO, IN SPITE OF POLITICAL turmoil, remains the same beautiful tropical country it always has been. In the evening stillness, with the silvery moon beaming down, it is difficult to realize that this nation, scarcely more than one year old, has seen so much strife and dissension. Many think this stems from lack of preparation to assume responsibilities and from undue pressure from outside interests. Whatever the causes, The Congo certainly has had her share of difficulties.

While strife has visited some areas, other areas have remained calm and peaceful from the beginning. Our area has enjoyed relative peace. True, we had to go through road blocks every time we went anywhere, but usually the "Mission Protestante" sticker on the windshield or the announcement that we were Protestants was sufficient to gain immediate passage. Rare were the times when we were detained at length or questioned to any great extent.

The Congo, the former Belgian Congo, is to be distinguished from *Congo*, the former French Congo. Brother and Sister Tucker have remained in The Congo except for a few weeks during the early stages of the independence period. They will be joined this month by Misses Lillian Hogan and Gail Winters who have completed their furlough and are returning for a regular term of service.



VBS pupils and workers in Paulis, The Congo. This was the first VBS ever held in Paulis and it was conducted after the political upheaval

The missionary outlook is bright. Nothing is being done to hinder the missionary program. Never, since my first contact with The Congo in 1939, have I had reason to be more hopeful for what can be accomplished. In many instances the authorities (who, except in isolated areas, are not prejudiced against us for any religious reasons) have made a genuine effort to help us.

The attitude of the population in general seems to be more friendly than before. It has never been our practice to remain aloof from the people, and now that equality has been assured they accept us much more readily. This, of course, is to our advantage in spreading the gospel.

Opportunities in the field of literature are limitless. We can reach the best educated as well as the uneducated who are just learning to read. A printed page in African hands is not meaningless. Even for those who cannot read the mystery of the printed page creates a desire to know the hidden message. Through Sunday school quarterlies published by our press this message is reaching areas where we have been unable to work.

We were able recently to talk to the Protestant chaplain of the army about beginning a literature program for the servicemen. His interest was very keen and he is anticipating the time when he can furnish gospel literature to all the camps.

Our chances of working among the military are good. We have authority to hold services regularly in the local camp, and this week the small chapel was almost filled to capacity for our service. My wife and the Bible woman, Sara Anabote, hold authorization to do house-to-house visitation within the

December is here!

Christmas is just a few days away!

Have you remembered your missionaries in your holiday planning?

Send your SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING to the Foreign Missions Department, 1445 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri.

camp where the soldiers live with their families.

Our first vacation Bible school was held in Paulis and it was a tremendous success.

Our personal evangelism program could be increased if we had more missionary personnel to meet the challenge.

Other fields are opening as the Congolese realize the need for contact with the outside world. Arrangements are now being made to begin English lessons for those who are interested. This offers many opportunities for the soul-burdened native to come freely to his Christian teacher for spiritual guidance while receiving extra help with his lessons.

We can buy a fine building here in Paulis for less than one-third its value if we can raise sufficient funds. We do not have long to decide. The building is well located and would serve as a reading room, bookshop, and an urgently needed place to hold services for the educated.

Also a church building in the Native City is urgently needed. Our present "shed tabernacle" is rapidly being crowded out. Sunday attendance is averaging 300.

The opportunities for further service in The Congo are many. Just how long we can continue our work here is a question that cannot be answered. We have the present. God help us to work while it is yet day!

If you should like to help in purchasing the building in Paulis, you may do so by sending your offering to the Foreign Missions Department, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo., Designation: J. W. Tucker, Paulis Church Building. ◀◀

VICTORY- Then Persecution

By LAWRENCE R. LARSON
Missionary to Fiji

SEVERAL MONTHS AGO I VISITED A village called Nabuli where there was no Pentecostal work. Accompanying me was the recently saved son of the chief of this village. We discovered upon arrival at the village that the government representative had been saved in the church at Suva, and that a recently converted young lady was also living there. They both were glad to see us.

After we had gone from one grass house to another announcing a gospel service, the villagers gathered in the nicest home in Nabuli where we presented to them the simple message of salvation. When the invitation was given several responded, among them the chief of two villages and his wife. This was victory!

A few weeks later in an attempt to get the work in that village established, we sent two men on a long hike from the end of the bus line to Nabuli for a Sunday service. But a man met them at the entrance to the village and would not permit them to enter. They were forced to return home without having the meeting.

The next day I took two big Fijian men with me, hoping to enter the vil-

lage and to prepare for the establishment of a future work. We had no trouble, at first, and went into the home of a Christian family. We had not been there long, however, when the man who had opposed the young preachers the day before appeared at the open door. He made a great commotion and told us to leave the village immediately. His words could not be ignored easily because they were accompanied by a very restless 18-inch cane knife which he held in his right hand. After a while the man left, expecting us to go from the village. But we did not depart. We remained in that humble house and had a private service for the new converts.

When the service was over we decided to see the newly converted chief before leaving the village. As we approached his place he came to meet us and honored us by asking us to come into the house. We accepted the invitation and had an inspirational time of enthusiastic discussion of the Word of God. He was thrilled to have us visit him and showed his pleasure by sending a lad to get some soft coconuts from a nearby tree so that we could be refreshed before our return journey.

While the chief was showing us his best hospitality, the man who had previously tried to force us out of the village suddenly came toward the open door. Demon power possessed him. He would not usually enter the chief's house without permission, but on this

occasion he was beyond his powers of self-control. He entered the house with a great noise, quickly went behind me and stopped beside the chief. He kicked his chief and told the others to leave the house. The cane knife in his restless hand was very persuasive, so we left. He followed and pushed me, slapping me on the head. Thank God, he did not use the hand which held the knife! He threatened the life of any missionary who ever returned to the village. Then he went back into the house and kicked and pushed the chief again. Only God's grace kept the big men with us from fighting back.

As we slowly left the village, a woman believer spoke in our defense. The demon-possessed man ran to her and slapped her very hard on the face. Then he pushed her backwards to the ground, in spite of the fact that she was carrying a baby on her back.

We finally left the village with the persecutor's cursings following us.

The final results of that day are still unknown, but we are praying that the Lord will save this man and set him free from Satan's power. Please pray that a door to the gospel shall be opened in this village. Some of its converts are now going to a distant city to attend services because of their genuine hunger for God's Word.

God is presently blessing throughout Fiji, but persecution ever follows us. People are hungry for God, but the enemy is trying to hinder. We covet your prayers for Fiji. ◀◀

MISSIONARY News Notes



GOING: Miss Lois Lemm has returned to Liberia for another term of service at New Hope Leprosy Mission.

Miss Louise Davis has arrived in Liberia for another term of service.

The Floyd Horst family has returned to the Philippines.

Stig Sundberg is now in language school in Costa Rica in preparation for service in Venezuela. He will be joined later by his wife and son.

The Ronald S. Pecks, new recruits from the South Carolina District have arrived in East Pakistan.

COMING: Palma Ramsborg, formerly stationed in Formosa, is on furlough at Lakefield, Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. Cyle Davis, on furlough from Chile, are living at 640½ E. Grand Avenue, Springfield, Missouri.



Mr. and Mrs. Stig Sundberg



Mr. and Mrs. Floyd H. Horst and son



Mr. and Mrs. Ronald S. Peck



Lois Lemm

Louise Davis

Carl Perry, associate pastor of First Assembly, and Joseph Dunets, pastor of Evangel Temple, talk with Gene Edwards, leader of the Soul-Winning Training Course.

I AM CONVINCED," SAYS JOSEPH DUNETS, "THAT WINNING people to Christ through personal evangelism is the greatest need of the hour.

"Not only is it the way to bring the sinners to Christ; it is also the answer to the spiritual need of the Christian people in our churches."

Joe Dunets, pastor of a large Assemblies of God church in Portland, Oregon (Evangel Temple), says his church is a different place since last July when the members went to work at the job of pointing their neighbors and associates to the Saviour.

But his church is not alone in this work. All of the Assemblies of God pastors in the Portland area are enthused about the soul-winning efforts being made.

Portland's First Assembly dismissed the Wednesday prayer services for a month in order to let the members visit homes to witness for the Lord. The results were most encouraging.

The Assembly of God at Gladstone, Oregon, rallied its members and they contacted ninety-six homes in one week. Out of these contacts fourteen persons were converted.

In one week the members of Evangel Temple went out and won fifty souls for Christ.

It all began when Gene Edwards, a Spirit-filled minister from the Southern Baptist Convention, came to Portland and presented his method of personal soul winning. First he conducted a one-week training course at Evangel Temple. The following month he returned to Portland for a city-wide training course in which most of the Assemblies of the area participated. A number of pastors who were unable to cooperate with the city-wide course due to conflicting programs took the training course later and taught it to their members.

"The results have been phenomenal," says Brother Dunets. "Many souls are finding the Lord Jesus Christ each week. Large groups of laymen are going out weekly to win men and women in their homes or wherever they may find them."

The workers meet at the church to pray for a few minutes and then divide into teams of two men or two women each. Their assignment may be to call on a person who visited the church or Sunday school, or it may be a person who recently moved into the neighborhood. They take with them a good supply of gospel literature. This includes the outreach issue of the *Evangel*, as well as local church advertising, and good tracts.

One of the two workers on each team is a "silent partner." When they visit a home he lets the other partner do most of the talking while he fends off possible distractions. For example, if there are small children in the home he tries to keep them occupied while his partner converses with the father or mother about Christ.

"The basic approach should not be offensive, and yet we must find out whether or not the individuals are saved," says Brother Dunets.

"If we discover they are not saved, there is a way of working with the Holy Spirit by presenting a few simple Bible truths to lead them to a decision for the Lord Jesus."

A typical conversation, he said, might go like this:

"Are you interested in spiritual things?"



TWENTIETH-CENTURY

"Yes, I go to church whenever I can. My children go to Sunday school."

"In your opinion, what is man's greatest spiritual need?"

"Well, a person must have faith. He needs to have faith in God and faith in other people too."

The soul winner avoids arguments and goes right to the point. "The Bible says that man's greatest spiritual need is a personal experience of salvation," he says. "Have you ever thought of your need of salvation?"

Thus he has brought the individual right to the real issue without offending him. The individual may remark that he feels he already is a Christian but the soul winner keeps the conversation moving in a positive direction by asking, "What do you think one has to do to receive this gift of salvation?"

Regardless of what the individual may say in his reply the soul winner answers, "I appreciate your thought, but may I read three or four verses of Scripture that show us what God says about receiving the gift of salvation?"

He then turns to Romans 3:23. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

"In other words, I have sinned. My friend here has sinned. All have sinned. You have sinned too."

Then he reads Romans 6:23. "'The wages of sin is death.' This is spiritual death. It is hell."

"But see what Romans 5:8 says. 'God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.'" And he explains what this means.

Turning back again to Romans 6:23 he reads the rest of that verse—"But the gift of God is eternal life." He explains that a gift cannot be earned. It simply must be accepted.

"And how do we accept it? Read here in my New Testament what Romans 10:9 says—'That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.' If you wish to be saved and are willing

The story of a Personal Evangelism Campaign



Soul-Winning Training Course in Portland, Oregon led by Gene Edwards, was attended by members of various Assemblies of God churches in the Portland area.

TURY WITNESSES

to give up all your sin, God is saying there are two things you should do. Believe in Jesus as your personal Saviour, and confess Him as your Lord—and He says you are saved.”

To bring the matter to a climax, the soul winner points to Romans 10:13—“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” He then invites the individual to bow his head and repeat a simple but sincere prayer, if he is willing to call upon the name of the Lord for salvation.

Brother Dunets called on a sick man at the hospital who was a Klamath Indian, a very intelligent man with a college education, but the man was too ill to talk, so the pastor talked with some of the loved ones who were present. He was able to lead three of them to Christ. Then all four offered special prayer for the sick man. Three days later Brother Dunets was able to converse with the man and he showed him the foregoing scriptures. When he brought the man to the point of praying the Indian complied, but each time the pastor spoke some phrases in the prayer there was a long pause before the Indian man repeated them. This man, a stoic Indian, was fighting back the tears. At the conclusion of the prayer the man was so overcome with emotion in spite of himself that he pulled up the bedsheet and wiped his eyes.

The pastor's wife became burdened for the salvation of her neighbors and for the people who came to her door. She won a neighbor lady and a saleslady to Christ. She also won her life insurance agent by following the same steps that are outlined above.

Church members began working on their workmates. For example, one member works for a milk company driving a delivery truck. The man who alternates with him (driving the truck on his days off) was a member of a fundamental church. He asked this man whether he was saved. The man said he thought he was. But when the soul winner pointed the man to these Scriptures he admitted he needed salvation, so they prayed together; and the man has never ceased

to be grateful to his friend for helping him to know from the Bible that he truly is a born-again believer in Christ.

“We must go back to the New Testament method of winning souls,” says Pastor Dunets. “God loves the whole world and He wants everyone to be saved. The way is so plain that ‘the wayfaring man, though a fool, need not err therein.’ Or, to put it in modern language, the way should be made so plain that if one were a hobo and a half-wit he couldn't miss it. That is why I like this simple plan. It is so simple that every Spirit-filled layman in all our churches can become a soul winner.”

Even the children are using this method. Pastor Ben Taylor of Gladstone said, “Yesterday my little ten-year-old won a fifteen-year-old girl for whom we had been praying for a long time.”

There are at least four persons in heaven who would not be there if the Portland churches had not been stirred to this personal evangelism. All four of these persons were led to Christ through personal soul winning during the past summer and they have died since.

The pastors set the example. Whereas formerly they had difficulty in getting more than a handful of members to participate in Sunday school visitation programs. Now they are getting scores of members to go out every week. The Christians' lives are so different since they began to win souls. They pray more; they study their Bibles; they have a joy and zest in gospel service that has transformed their church.

The more souls that are won by the members, the more work there is for the pastor. There are follow-up calls to be made and new converts to be taught. Pastor Dunets started a special class for new converts during the Sunday school hour. It includes the young people, the middle-aged, and the elderly. New converts attend this special class for eight to twelve weeks in order to get some roots in the Word of God. Then they transfer to their respective places in the regular Sunday school classes.

Exactly how the Early Church evangelized we may not know, but it is clear that they followed some plan of every-member evangelism, for we read in Acts 8:4, “They that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the Word.” And this referred to the laymen, not the apostles, for the apostles, according to verse 1, remained in Jerusalem.

Says Pastor Dunets: “I notice these words in Acts 19:10—‘And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.’

“And yet, in this twentieth century, only one-fourth of the world even professes any form of Christianity. Therefore, we must go back to the New Testament method of winning souls. I believe that if every Christian and convert would faithfully, prayerfully, and consistently witness for the Lord and point souls to Him, the whole world could hear the gospel by the space of two years.

“A revival of soul winning in which the laymen open their hearts to God and get a burden for their fellow workers, their loved ones, and the entire community, may well prove to be the key to the revival we are longing for.”

ampaign that has changed hundreds of lives.



Boys from the Juneau Home ready for school



Juneau girls prepared for a rainy day



Boys enjoy the new recreation shelter



Nursery children at Juneau enjoy Christmas



Boys at the Valdez Home play basketball



Christmas gifts for the Valdez Home, provided by the Iliamma ship's crew members

Christmas is a much-anticipated event in the the Assemblies of God Children's Homes in Alaska—thanks to concerned WMC groups, churches, and individuals who make it so.

“I Just Can't Wait”

BY RUTH LYON

GOOD NIGHT, EDDIE. HAVE A GOOD night's sleep." The Juneau Children's Home matron bent over to give the twelve-year-old boy a goodnight kiss. This may have been a simple thing to do, but it meant worlds to that child.

He had come to the Home as a lonely, forlorn little boy, placed among total strangers. He had been taken in as one of the "family" and had found himself in a warm house with a good, hot dinner placed before him. Now he had been tucked into a clean, warm bed. Then to have Mrs. Helen Johnson, the matron, come by to tell him "good-night" almost filled his happy heart to bursting.

Soon Eddie gave his heart to the Lord. He finished high school in Juneau and then attended Southwestern Bible Institute in Waxahachie, Tex.

Eddie returned to Juneau and later became pastor of the Petersburg Assembly for five years. He married the Lyle Johnsons' daughter and they have two children. Eddie Hughes is presently the pastor of a church in Southern California and has a fine ministry.

About the time Eddie came to the Home, a pretty brown-eyed blonde became part of the "family." About a year later, Lillian accepted the Lord as

Saviour. She also completed high school in Juneau and then had two years of Bible college training. She enjoyed the fine things of life and loved to entertain and to be with friends. Lillian was just the type of lovely young woman who would marry, settle down in some nice community, and rear her family in comfortable surroundings. She would enjoy a normal, calm life.

But the call of God on her life changed all this. Lillian married a young minister, Alvin Capener, with the same call to Nome, Alaska. She willingly took their two small children and accompanied her husband to live in that far north country under very primitive conditions.

Life is hard in the North at the best. It is difficult to get proper food and enough water. Alvin and Lillian (Lehtosaari) Capener have been the key to opening the door of salvation and Pentecostal blessing to all of Alaska's north-coast Eskimos. Five Eskimo Assemblies have come into being through the revival that has come to them. The Capeners have built churches where they have established congregations.

A number of years ago when the Ray Cathers were operating the Children's Farm Home at Palmer, Alaska, two-year-old Ted became a member of the "family." He was unable to walk, due to rickets. His mother had always

*The writer is indebted to Mrs. Lyle Johnson and Dorothy Wilks for stories of the children mentioned in this article.

tried to keep him out of sight and he had developed rickets from malnutrition and lack of sunlight. He had never taken food except from a bottle. His hair was shoulder length and badly matted. His face was haggard and thin.

Little Ted sat in a crib, rocking his frail body back and forth while tears fell from his sad, brown eyes. He was clothed in a dingy old snowsuit and nothing else. Every few seconds he would scream and his little eyes would go tightly shut while his mouth went wide open and very square. He held one arm over his head as though to shield it from a blow.

Feeding Ted solid food was a two-man job. The first haircut revealed many scars and bumps which the poor child had accumulated over the two years of his existence. As he grew, they gradually disappeared.

On Christmas morning, when Ted was just past three years old, he took his first step. Brother Cather knelt by the Christmas tree with his arms held out toward Ted. The child lost his balance and fell, but he got up and tried again. He took another step, then two and three, then threw himself into "Daddy's" arms. Staff members had been fearful Ted might never walk.

Today, Ted is a fine-looking young man who is making a place for himself in the world.*

These are only three of the many stories that could be related about the unfortunate children salvaged from lives of unhappiness, and perhaps crime, by the three Assemblies of God orphanages in Alaska. Through the years, most of the boys and girls raised in the Homes have become young people of whom the Assemblies of God and the Homes can well be proud. They have brought honor to those who have sacrificed so willingly their time, their finances, and their strength to give them loving care when they most needed it.

Several "products" of the Homes are now in the ministry. Others are pursuing secular careers. Most are Christians, having been converted while in the Homes.

Staff members have always made it a matter of first importance to provide Christian training for those under their care. But staff members could not carry the load alone. It has been the continued support of interested Christians that has helped to keep the Homes operating.

"I just can't wait," was a common

expression heard around the Assemblies of God Valdez Children's Home during the Christmas season last year, according to D. T. Schmidt, supervisor. Brother Schmidt wrote the Home Missions Department expressing the gratitude of children and staff members alike to WMC groups, churches, and friends for providing such a wonderful Christmas for them. He said:

"We thank all of you for the lovely gifts, such as: fruit, candy, nuts, cookies, apples, school supplies, beautiful clothing, toys, and other items. It was amusing to watch the children exchange clothing that was a little too large or a little too small for them. They willingly helped each other solve the problem.

"For a few weeks before Christmas, the staff members were very busy. The children were so eagerly looking forward to Christmas Eve when we opened the gifts.

"We were so glad that each child was so well remembered. Many times we have heard a boy or girl say, 'I just can't wait.' We decorated the tables with candles for the Christmas Eve dinner. A ham and a turkey were given to the Home by the Alaska Steamship crew.

"After dinner we all gathered in the living room around the Christmas tree to have a little program. The story, 'Ivory Palaces,' was read and made a

real impression on the attentive listeners. Then we sang Christmas songs before opening the gifts.

"We thank God that you made it possible for them and all of us to have such a good Christmas, for even the staff members were remembered. Many times before Christmas, we took advantage of every opportunity to tell the boys and girls why we celebrate this season.

"Some of the children were moved when we explained how you sacrificed to give such good gifts. We all appreciate your willingness to share with us and to work so hard in preparing the gifts."

Each year the Home Missions Department sends each Home a special gift that both staff members and children can enjoy. This is possible only as those interested in the welfare of the seventy children and sixteen staff members will share their means.

Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive," and He taught us that when we share our substance with the less fortunate we actually are giving to Him. What better time could you choose to give something special to Him than on His birthday? Send your offering today (since checks must be mailed early) direct to the Home Missions Department, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo., for *Children of Alaska Christmas Fund*.

Primary Christmas Project

Children of the Primary Department of Central Assembly, Springfield, Mo., wanted to do something special for the children of home missionaries at Christmas. (Mrs. Lloyd Beam is superintendent of this department.) For the last two years, each Primary class has adopted a missionary child and sent him or her a lovely Christmas gift. The following letter from a mother of children who received gifts is typical: "Dear Primary Department and Mrs. Beam:

"I'm sorry I haven't written you before this to tell you how pleased the children were to receive the gifts. Tim is at the age where he wants to set things up in his room to decorate it. So the little car is placed on a night stand beside his bed and he treasures it dearly. Brenda surely did like her puppet dolls. She sat down and put them together as soon as she received them.

"We do thank you so much for re-

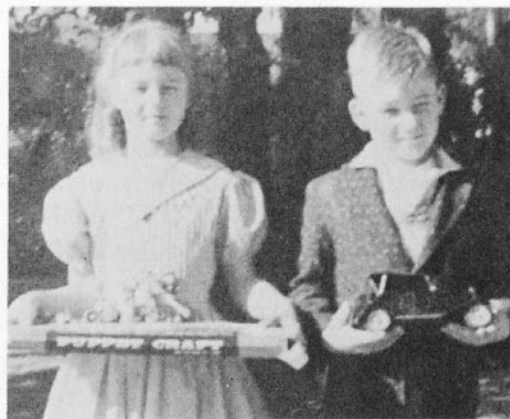
membering them. It meant so much to them. God bless all of you.

"Your missionaries to the Jews,
Brother and Sister Manuel Buttram,
Brenda and Timmy."

This year the children plan to adopt children of foreign missionaries.

* * *

Note: Names of missionary children may be obtained upon request from the Home Missions Department, 1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo.



Brenda and Timothy Buttram hold Christmas gifts they received from the Primary Department of Central Assembly, Springfield, Mo.

Sunday's Lesson

"RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH"



PAUL WITNESSES BEFORE RULERS

Sunday School Lesson for December 10, 1961

Acts 24:10-16; 26:22-29

PAUL BEFORE FELIX. Acts 24.

Tertullus' Accusation (vv. 1-9). With money to back it, the Jewish council undoubtedly paid a good price to hire this eloquent lawyer. By means of undeserved praise and flattery, coupled with falsehood, he sought to win the favor of Felix. In his speech he accused Paul (1) of being a plague to the Jews; (2) of sedition, that is, of stirring up the people against Roman authority; (3) of profaning the Temple. These were serious charges, especially the second which was punishable by death. Observe Paul's answer—

Paul's Defense (vv. 10-25). He had come to the Temple to worship, not to profane its precincts (vv. 11, 18). He had not been disputing or stirring up the Jews but had been worshipping. Far from being a lawbreaker, he was a law-believer (v. 14). Instead of being an offender, Paul had endeavored to live with a conscience void of offense toward God and man. And he had succeeded!

Here is a point worth developing. The Bible speaks of the good conscience (1 Timothy 1:5, 19), the weak conscience (1 Corinthians 8:7), the pure conscience (1 Timothy 3:9), the defiled conscience (Titus 1:5), and seared conscience (1 Timothy 4:2). What kind have we?

After hearing Paul, Felix postponed further trial for several days, then called for him again, Felix's wife being present on the second occasion. This time Paul preached the gospel and touched the sore spot in the life of this profligate and his equally wicked wife. Paul preached: (1) *righteousness*—the righteousness of Jesus, showing Felix his need of a Saviour; (2) *temperance*—exposing Felix's immorality, excess, and wild self-indulgence; (3) *judgment to come*—reminding Felix that God would some day require him to give an account of his sins, of his unrestrained cruelty, in unjustly killing and torturing thousands of souls. Here are lessons for us as well: (1) we need Christ's own righteousness imputed to us and worked out in our conduct; (2) we need that fruit of the Spirit which is temperance or self-control; (3) we need to live with a view to the coming judgment.

Felix's Response (vv. 25-27). How did Felix respond to Paul's preaching? (1) *He trembled*. Why? Because his conscience accused him! Spirit-inspired witnessing will produce this effect! (2) He *procrastinated*. "When I have a convenient season I will call for thee." That season never came for Felix, just as it never comes for multitudes today.

PAUL BEFORE FESTUS AND AGRIPPA. Acts 26.

Paul's Testimony (vv. 1-23). His boldness is again evident. Kingly robes held no fear for Paul! He would as soon tell a king what Jesus had done for him as he would a beggar!

(1) *He tells Agrippa of his specific call* (v. 18). This is every Christian's call—"to open their eyes." The unsaved

must first receive the Word in their minds; but that is not enough. "To turn them from darkness to light"—thus the will must likewise be converted. This is followed by bringing them into direct contact with the power of God and away from "the power of Satan."

(2) *He tells Agrippa of his obedience to that call* (v. 19). Are we obedient to the vision God has given us?

Festus' Reaction (v. 24). "Paul, thou art beside thyself." So says the man of the world about the Spirit-filled Christian. But if we are beside ourselves it is for Christ's sake. Better be a fool for Christ than a fool for the devil!

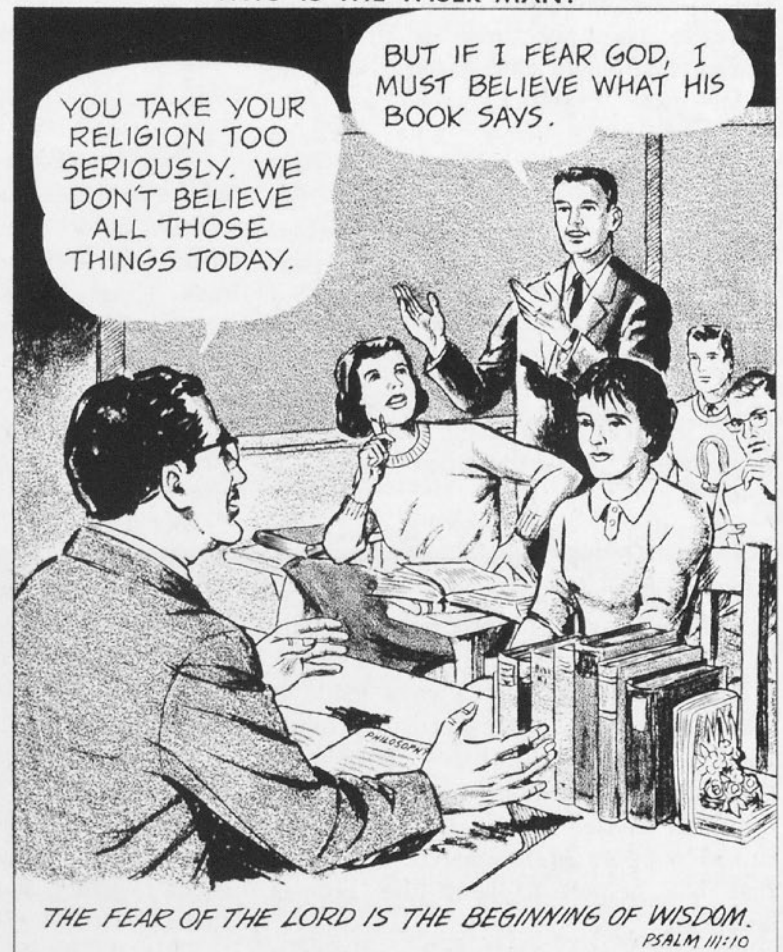
Agrippa's Comment (v. 28). "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." Whether these words were spoken in sarcasm or sincerity makes no difference. In either case, they were solemn words. Agrippa was undoubtedly aware of the truth of Paul's preaching. If he really was almost persuaded, it was *almost—but lost!* If it was only sarcasm, it only heightened his guilt.

Regardless of what Agrippa may have meant, Paul made his aim very clear—"I would to God, that not only thou, but also all that hear me this day, were both almost, and altogether such as I am"—that is, a child of God. In other words, Paul as much as said, "I would that you might share my faith without sharing my misfortunes!"

Agrippa, who at first must have thought he would hear a cringing appeal for mercy, found himself on trial pressed to accept Christ. Paul was a man gripped with a "magnificent obsession"—to win all men for Christ. Jesus is still looking for Christians who can say, "The love of Christ constraineth us." Christians who are thus constrained are motivated by the greatest of all dynamics!

—J. Bashford Bishop

WHO IS THE WISER MAN?





The Family Altar



MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS DAILY BIBLE READINGS BY R. G. CHAMPION

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

READ: 1 Peter 1:1-5

LEARN: "Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (1 Peter 1:5).

FOR THE PARENT: Point out: (1) Peter's greeting, v. 1; (2) the work of the Trinity in our salvation, v. 2; (3) Peter's blessing, v. 2; (4) the Christian's joy in blessing the Lord, v. 3; (5) the possessions we have in God—a living hope, an incorruptible inheritance, and an undefiled inheritance that is eternal, vv. 3, 4; (6) God's keeping power, v. 5; (7) the part faith plays, v. 5; (8) our hope of some day seeing the Lord and being with Him in glory, v. 5.

QUESTION TIME: What possessions does the Christian have? (vv. 3, 4) How does Peter point out the work of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in our salvation? (v. 2)

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS: John T. Covlasky, Alaska; Mrs. Herbert B. Felton, Argentina; J. Philip Hogan, Executive Director, Springfield, Missouri; Mrs. Paul R. Weidman, Japan.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

READ: 1 Peter 1:6-12

LEARN: "That the trial of your faith . . . might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 1:7).

FOR THE PARENT: Review yesterday's material briefly. Then point out: (1) the joy of our salvation, v. 6; (2) Christians will face trials, v. 6; (3) the purpose of trials, v. 7; (4) our joy in looking forward to the soon returning of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, v. 8; (5) the goal of our faith, v. 9; (6) the prophets' desire to know more about the truths they prophesied, vv. 10-12; (7) our privilege in knowing these great truths, v. 12.

QUESTION TIME: What is the purpose of trials? (v. 7) What did the prophets do besides foretell Christ's coming?

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS: Donel Leach, Alaska; Lowell E. Dowdy, Chile.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

READ: 1 Peter 1:13-20

LEARN: "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation" (1 Peter 1:15).

FOR THE PARENT: After reviewing briefly the material for the two previous days, point out that these blessings place some responsibilities upon us: (1) be firm in our mental knowledge of our relationship with Christ, v. 13; (2) be sober, v. 13; (3) be obedient, v. 14; (4) avoiding the sins which once entangled us, v. 14; (5) be holy in all matters of life—"conversation" refers to our entire manner of living, not just speech, v. 15; (6) treat all men the same, v. 17; (7) remember the source of our redemption, vv. 18-20.

QUESTION TIME: Why is it important that we be holy? (vv. 15, 16) How do we have redemption? (vv. 18-20)

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAY: Earl D. McKenzie, Alaska.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

READ: Acts 24:10-16; 26:22-29

LEARN: "How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?" (Romans 10:14).

FOR THE PARENT: (Additional material on "Paul Witnesses Before Rulers" will be found on Sunday's Lesson page.) When God called Paul to serve Him, He told him he would some day testify before kings. These passages are partial fulfillment of that prediction. Review the story of Paul before Felix and King Agrippa. Stress his boldness both in answering the charges against him and in testifying of his faith in Christ.

QUESTION TIME: How did Paul refute the charges against him? (24:10-13) What was Paul's personal testimony regarding his relationships with others? (24:16)

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS: Mrs. Ray Cather, Alaska; Mrs. David Hogan, Alaska; Mrs. Elmer Kaufmann (Indian), Arizona; Miss Mildred M. Pitts, Alaska; Mrs. J. J. Chaney, West Africa; Mrs. Leonard M. Nipper, Japan.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

READ: Matthew 22:37, 38; Exodus 20:3-12 (Sunday's Lesson for Juniors)

LEARN: "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him" (John 14:21).

FOR THE PARENT: Christian growth is evidenced by our love for God. Stress the idea that our love for God is shown by our keeping His commandments. Then discuss His commandments that relate to our relationship with the Lord (Exodus 20:3-11). When we demonstrate our love for God, we have the assurance that He will also manifest His love toward us.

QUESTION TIME: How can we show our love to God? (See above) What are some of His commandments? (Exodus 20:3-11)

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS: Andrew H. Hargrave, Nigeria; William F. Bingham (Deaf), Michigan.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

READ: 2 Kings 4:38-44 (Sunday's Lesson for Primaries)

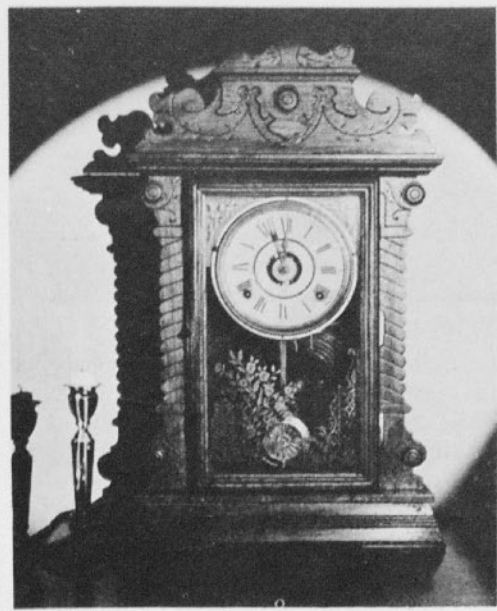
LEARN: "God is mighty" (Job 36:5).

FOR THE PARENT: This lesson centers in two more miracles which God wrought through Elisha. Have the group review the story of the poisoned pottage, showing how it had accidentally happened. Then discuss the miracle, the faith of the people in eating what had previously been unfit to eat, and the result—no harm to anyone. Discuss also how Elisha miraculously fed 100 men and how the word of the Lord was fulfilled to the letter. Stress the great power of God in supplying all our needs.

QUESTION TIME: How did the pottage get poisoned? (v. 39) What did Elisha do? (v. 41) What was the result? (v. 42) What lesson did you learn from this miracle?

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS: Mrs. Ralph Holder (Indian), California; Margaret J. Brown, Indonesia; Mrs. Leonard P. Emory, Paraguay; Delmar C. Kingsriter, Nyasaland; Mrs. David T. Scott, Chile; Marie Stephany (superannuated), China; Gail P. Winters, Congo.

MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS FOR SUNDAY: George Downs, Alaska; Marlin W. Peterson, Liberia; Mrs. Ivan V. Hagar, Liberia; Paul D. Schoonmaker, India.



WILL YOU HAVE TIME TO MAKE YOUR WILL?

A young father, walking through the woods with his family, was fatally wounded by a hunter's stray bullet. And so it was that suddenly, with no warning and no thought of disaster, a family was left fatherless.

To add to this tragedy, because the man had not yet bothered to set down in writing his desire concerning his earthly possessions this family was also left at the mercy of the state.

In order to settle the estate, all the victim's possessions had to be appraised and many of his treasures sold in order to pay legal fees. Can you imagine the heartache his wife knew at seeing them taken one by one—things she cherished because they had been his? Of course, the man would have wanted his family to be able to keep every single item. But he did not leave it said in a proper form acceptable to the courts. In the end there were countless fees to be paid.

This case may be marked down with many others yet to come, where a simple will would have avoided the waste of needed funds.

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THE GREAT SHAKING

(Continued from page five)

dercurrent in the shaky financial picture today.

THE SHAKING OF THE ELEMENTS

Nature itself seems disturbed; at times one would think it is in convulsion over the sins of men. We hear of the increase of tornadoes, floods, earthquakes, drouth, and other tragedies involving the elements.

Several years ago *Newsweek* magazine carried an article entitled "Our Crazy Weather" which reviewed strange goings on, weather-wise, in every part of the world. Meteorologists cannot explain these strange conditions but agree that a change is taking place in our basic weather pattern. Jesus prophesied of signs in the sun, moon, and stars, "upon the earth distress of nations with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring," and Joel spoke of the sun turning to darkness and the moon to blood before the great and terrible day of the Lord would come. 2 Peter 3:10 speaks of the heavens passing away with great noise and the elements melting with fervent heat. In Revelation 6:12-14 the picture shows convulsions of nature as the sixth seal is opened.

Since the whole universe has been affected by Satan's rebellion, it is logical that when God almighty begins to shake all things the impact of judgment will be felt in every area.

THE SHAKING OF THE SOCIAL REALM

Our society no longer has a sense of solidity. There is fear, unrest, and strife, with class against class and race against race. Our country is constantly torn by the struggle between management and labor.

There is an appalling lack of trust among men and we remember Jesus warned that "brother shall betray brother to death, the father the son, and children shall rise up against their parents and shall cause them to be put to death." This gruesome spectacle has become a reality under Communism where blood ties are not sacred and family members are rewarded for spying on each other.

Our blood runs cold at the crimes

of violence committed at such an alarming rate with seeming nonchalance on the part of the criminals. Sometimes a murderer declares, "I don't know why I did it. Something just got hold of me and I couldn't help it."

Drunkenness and dope addiction have become problems of national concern. The terrific nervous tension under which we live has produced waves of nervous breakdowns and mental disorders. Jesus said that men's hearts would fail them for fear in the last days; this prediction seems to be literally fulfilled for heart disease has become one of our greatest killers.

No institution has suffered more than the home in these chaotic times, and when the home goes to pieces so does society. The monster divorce threatens the very foundation on which our civilization stands. In 2 Timothy 3 we have a complete summary of what to expect in the way of social conditions in the end time—it is the picture of what we see about us today.

SHAKING OF THE SPIRITUAL REALM

Strange forces and counter-forces are evident in the religious world today. Amazing upheavals are taking place.

The religion of the modernists was dealt a rude blow with the dropping of the first atomic bomb and our introduction into this fear-ridden nuclear age. The dreamy assurances that the world will get better and better until



at last we shall bring in the kingdom of God by our own goodness may appear glamorous when things are rosy, but when the world faces annihilation men reach for something more secure.

In this great vacuum many grope in the dark, wanting something that will still the storm of their troubled souls. Confused church members across the land are disturbed at the ineffectiveness of the religion they have been professing. In some of the large and fashionable churches, long known for their modernism and drift from the fundamentals of true Christianity, groups of people are seeking God and are being baptized in the Holy Ghost according to the apostolic pattern.

God never leaves His children to flounder in a slough of pessimism. Always there is a rainbow of hope for the redeemed. The New Testament commentary to the passage in Haggai is found in Hebrews 12 which continues to the thought that "those things which cannot be shaken may remain. Wherefore we, receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably..." Everything considered stable by men is tottering, but there is the unshakable rock on which redeemed feet may stand while the storm rages! There is that which cannot be shaken and there are things that shall remain.

The one unshakable institution is the kingdom of God. Daniel caught a glimpse of it and said, "In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed... and it shall stand forever" (Daniel 2:44). If this was anyone's word but God's I would reject it as foolish optimism, but God said it and I believe it!

John saw this time in Revelation 11:15 and said, "The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever... And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time... that thou... shouldst destroy them which destroy the earth." I wonder if Khrushchev has ever read that: *God shall destroy them that destroy the earth!*

Those of us who know Christ have come under the benevolent, protective power of a kingdom greater than any on this earth. We march beneath a banner that shall never know defeat. Almost two thousand years ago the Son of God climbed Calvary's hillside

to unfurl the blood-stained banner of redemption for all the world to see. Millions have marched to the holy wars of His kingdom to keep the banner waving. It has been attacked by men and devils and at this hour is probably under the heaviest assault of the ages. But have no fear, Christian! The planets may be shaken from their orbits, the mountains may disappear into the sea, and the kingdoms of men disintegrate, but we through faith in Christ have received a kingdom which cannot be moved. It shall remain.

This age is in its death throes, and for those whose hopes are tied to this present world it will be tragic indeed, for the old order is on its way out. The only safe course is to come into God's new order through the new birth—through the cleansing of the blood of Jesus.

CONFIDENTIAL

(Continued from page eleven)

thought for the morrow," said Jesus. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." This very obvious rule for physical, mental, and spiritual health nevertheless needs much repeating. A social calendar is often a necessity in our complex and busy society. But do not let those circled dates become hurdles on a cinder track with you the panting racer who has scarcely time to regain his balance after clearing one hurdle before another faces him.

Enjoy life one day at a time. Enjoy your children as they are right now. If they are going through a stage which you find irritating, remember that the next one may be worse. Looking ahead to a time when things may be better is a sure way of robbing yourself of the happiness that should be yours today.

"Steal away to Jesus." A time of quiet and devotion is essential to everyone's Christian growth. For you who are continually draining your resources in service to others, these times of refreshing are doubly important. Perhaps this advice should have come first rather than last on the list. For private devotions should not be a last measure of desperation, but rather the Christian mother's first step toward fitting herself for her vastly important and God-blessed career.

—The United Brethren



JOIN THE DELEGATES

You are invited to join the delegates to the 1962 Regional Sunday School Conventions. Each Sunday school should plan now to send one or more representatives to the convention in its area. The convention locations, dates, and speakers are:

EASTERN—Harrisburg, Pa.
March 20-22 **Ivar Frick**

CENTRAL—Oklahoma City
April 3-5 **Wm. Kirschke**

WESTERN—Fresno, Calif.
April 10-12 **Kenneth Schmidt**

Plan now to attend the convention in your area.

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President Ashcroft speaks at groundbreaking.



Grant A. Wacker, Public Relations Director, presides at groundbreaking for library building.

Ground Broken at Evangel College for First Permanent Building

SPRINGFIELD, Missouri—Ground was broken for a new library-chapel building during the recent meeting (October 10-13) of the Council of Evangel College. Construction of the building, which will be the first permanent structure at Evangel, is scheduled to start early in 1962.

The building is planned so that it will contain both a chapel and a library. Current enrollment at Evangel College is 568, and continued growth is expected to make an additional building for a chapel necessary

within ten years. At that time the library area will be expanded to fill the entire original building.

President Ashcroft gave the address at the groundbreaking. He recalled the time, just a few years ago, when what is now the Evangel College campus was a Veterans Hospital which had been declared surplus by the government. Upon learning of this development the General Council made application for it. After several months of waiting, a telegram was received from the

government that 59½ acres of this choice property had been awarded, without charge, to the Assemblies of God for a college site.

Appreciation was expressed by Brother Ashcroft to the laymen of the Evangel College Council for their vision and courage in taking the big step of faith toward the construction of the first permanent building. He spoke gratefully of their pledge of financial support to make this building possible.

In the closing meeting the Council members pledged and contributed enough to meet their first annual payment of \$55,000 for the library building. They voted to contribute a like amount during the 1962-63 and 1963-64 years.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

All officers of the Council of Evangel College were re-elected on the nominating ballot. Named for three-year terms were Al Rediger, president; L. P. Safford, northeast regional vice-president; and Vern Howell, southwest regional vice-president.

Two-year terms of office will be served by Sam Monzingo, secretary; and regional vice-presidents Oscar Love, north central; and Doyle Burgess, southeast. Murle Webster, treasurer; and regional vice-presidents Charles Young, northwest, and W. E. DeWitt, south central, will serve one-year terms.

The Council voted to form regional, state and area chapters. Currently the organization has 350 members in 42 states, with membership by invitation. State chapters have already been formed in Nebraska and South Dakota, and there is one area chapter in Dallas, Tex. It was recommended that additional Council members be named to facilitate forming of state and local chapters.

A recommendation was passed that Evangel College administrators study an integrated fund-raising program with funds to be allotted to college operational costs, student loan and scholarship funds, and other needs on a percentage basis.

The businessmen of the Council also recommended that a professionally-produced doc-



Participating in the groundbreaking ceremony were (left to right): Glenroy Shedd, president of Evangel College student body; J. Robert Ashcroft, president of Evangel College; Thomas F. Zimmerman, general superintendent of the Assemblies of God; Guy Basye, member of Evangel College board of directors; Al Rediger, president of the Council of Evangel College; and Jim Teuber, vice-president of Evangel College Alumni Association.

umentary film be produced for college promotion. Men on the Council committee studying visual aids contributed \$1,000 for equipment for Evangel's speech department.

In other actions, the Council advised further development of a new organization for Evangel students interested in service as lay missionaries after graduation, both abroad and in needy areas in the U.S.

A long-range goal of 1,250 local Assemblies of God churches participating in the Evangel College Scholarship Plan was adopted. Presently 135 churches are taking part in the plan.

Lee Smith, Huron, S. Dak., was named "Council man of the year" for his work in raising funds for Evangel College through donations from business firms in his area. Cited for enrolling seven or more churches in the college scholarship plan were Kingsland Smith, Dallas, Tex.; Max Ephraim, Jr., Chicago, Ill.; Dr. Oscar Love, Flint, Mich.; and Wesley Daniel, Memphis, Tenn.

A Pentecostal Breakthrough

(Continued from page three)

tieth century when similar conditions were extant. It came when Christian people were assembled in one place for one purpose and that was to seek the Lord with all their hearts.

During those early days God was in those meetings with such power that thousands of individuals were drawn in. It was not the fancy buildings, well-planned services, talented singing, or polished preaching that drew the people. It was the Spirit of God. The people hungered and thirsted after spiritual things and God was there to satisfy that longing in their hearts.

We err if we think a well-planned church program can meet the need in human lives. It is God the people need. If we make elaborate preparations to produce a distinctive service we may defeat our purpose for our planning may prevent the spontaneous moving of the Holy Spirit in our midst. Pentecostal revival is always characterized by a hunger for God which causes people to forget time, food, and personal plans. God moves when people become serious about needing Him. They that seek Him shall surely find. They that are hungry shall be filled.

It is our fervent hope that the spiritual aims of "Breakthrough" shall be burned into the hearts of all our people. Surely our goal should be more churches, more members, larger Sunday schools and youth groups, greater outreach through radio, missions, and lit-

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

The Evangel College Women's Auxiliary, which met simultaneously with the Council, re-elected Mrs. Charles W. H. Scott as president. Other officers selected were Mrs. Earl Foster, Springfield, Mo., vice-president; Mrs. Doyle Burgess, Memphis, Tenn., second vice-president; Mrs. W. E. DeWitt, Springfield, Mo., secretary; and Mrs. F. O. Majors, Dothan, Ala., treasurer.

The Women's Auxiliary announced a project of enrolling 1,000 associate members during the coming year. Also, it decided to form local chapters of Auxiliary and associate members in any city where there are ten or more women affiliated with the organization.

In another action, the Auxiliary voted to raise \$1,500 to furnish the lounge in Evangel's library building, to be built in 1962. They adopted an additional goal of providing furniture for lounges in newly renovated dormitory buildings at Evangel.

erature, and other increases, but our efforts will fail unless we constantly emphasize that our main goal is spiritual. Spiritual goals must be accomplished by spiritual means. We must pray as well as work—we must depend on God to work with us—for it is written that "except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it" (Psalm 127:1).

"Breakthrough" calls for consecration. "And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord?" (1 Chronicles 29:5). Perhaps many young people will feel strongly moved to seek employment in areas where new churches are being started, so that they may help in the pioneer effort. Maybe you will be awakened in the night with an inner urge to pray on behalf of some particular evangelistic project. No doubt as you pray for souls the Lord will lead you to some individual to whom you can speak a word in season. This is the true breakthrough—not the buildings, numbers, or money. These will come automatically when there is a new fervency in spirit, a new dedication to God, a new burden for lost souls.

Surely the mercies and blessing of the Lord have been with us in years gone by and yet there is much land to be possessed. As we unitedly seek His face He will revive us again. Now is the time to break through!

Yet once more... let us go forth.

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Spotlight on Evangelism

COMPILED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EVANGELISM, 434 WEST PACIFIC ST., SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI

► HULETT, WYO.—Twelve days of special services with Evangelist and Mrs. Bob Ludwig at the Assembly of God here were a blessing to the congregation. Their ministry in music and song at the Saturday night musicale was an effective outreach to the community. —*D. E. Wileman, Pastor*

► OLNEY, TEX.—Evangelist Ike Davis of Ft. Worth, Tex., recently concluded a revival at the Assembly of God church here. The church was blessed and strengthened as a result of the anointing of God upon the services. —*W. C. Harding, Pastor*

► NORTH McALESTER, OKLA.—Sunday school attendance almost doubled during four weeks of revival conducted at North McAlester Assembly with Evangelist Roland Burch of Panama, Okla. Many found Christ as their personal Saviour and others were filled with the Holy Spirit. On the last Sunday there were 127 present in Sunday school. —*Alton Parker, Pastor*

► INDEPENDENCE, OREG.—The Assembly of God church here just closed a revival with Evangelists Leslie and Oleta Eldridge. Eleven found Christ as their Saviour and three received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Others testified to healing. The ministry of the evangelists in the Word and song was appreciated by the congregation. —*Charles W. Shaw, Pastor*

► TUPELO, ARK.—The Assembly of God here has witnessed a mighty revival. As a result of the meetings held with Evangelist and Mrs. Tommy Piker, 41 persons were saved, 28 were baptized in water, and 20 united with the church. This revival began before the evangelist ever came and continued for two weeks following the special meetings. We thank God for the outpouring of His Holy Spirit. —*Mrs. Gladys Woods, Pastor*

► HOHENWALD, TENN.—On August 25, First Assembly of God concluded a two-week revival with Evangelist and Mrs. Clyde McCullough of Trimble, Tenn. Twenty-five claimed salvation, 10 received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, and several testified to healing. The church as a whole was blessed spiritually, financially, and numerically. This was acclaimed to be one of the best revivals in the history of the church.

—*H. D. Nance, Pastor*

► BRINKLEY, ARK.—A four-week revival was recently conducted at the Assembly of God church here with Evangelist Freddie Richardson of Malvern, Ark. Seventeen were saved or reclaimed and ten received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We thank God for this glorious move of His Spirit and are looking forward to more of His blessings. —*C. L. Clay, Pastor*

► JAYTON, TEX.—The Assembly of God here reports an outstanding well-attended revival. Seven were saved, several reclaimed, one filled with the Holy Spirit, and many refilled. Visitors from other churches were moved by the Spirit of God. A Methodist lady declared that these were the same kind of services witnessed in Methodism years ago. The evangelists were Roy and Mrs. Lee of Madera, Calif., assisted musically by Evangelist and Mrs. Gene Hensley. —*Elmer Tyler, Pastor*

► HARVEY'S LAKE, PA.—An old-fashioned outpouring and visitation of the Holy Spirit was manifested during a revival at Emmanuel Mission recently with Evangelist Jack and Clara Peters. During these services 37 made decisions for Christ, others were reclaimed, and 10 received the mighty baptism of the Holy Spirit. A number received healing. Holy Ghost intercession was a marked feature of this revival among the young people, as they experienced what old-

timers had talked about for years. Sunday school attendance reached a high of 94 during the meetings. The fire of the Holy Spirit spread to other local Assemblies also. A number of nearby pastors cooperated in this effort.

—*George W. Clement, Pastor*

► PERTH AMBOY, N. J.—An area-wide tent revival with six churches cooperating was held here in July with Evangelist and Mrs. Ralph Bender. This proved to be the most outstanding meeting this area has ever witnessed. More than 90 made a decision for Christ, and 30 received the baptism in the Holy Spirit. There were outstanding miracles of healing. The evangelist's emphasis on healing, backed by deep Pentecostal messages, was a great benefit to the churches. The Hammond organ music provided by Sister Bender was most inspirational. Each sponsoring church was spiritually revived and reaped great benefits. The new converts immediately located these churches and are attending faithfully. —*David Garlock, Chm.*

► ASHTABULA, OHIO—A very successful revival has just been concluded at First Assembly with Evangelist John Higginbotham of Cleveland, Ohio. Eleven found Christ as Saviour and a number reported physical healing. During the Sunday morning service there was such strong conviction that five came forward for salvation. The evangelist's forceful, old-fashioned preaching and dedicated prayer life brought great blessing to the congregation. —*S. J. Reck, Pastor*

► ZANESVILLE, OHIO—Evangelist Kenneth Murie of Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, recently conducted a revival at the First Assembly of God. A number of persons experienced healings as the evangelist stressed faith in the Atonement. Two were filled with the Holy Spirit.

—*Curtis A. Arnold, Pastor*



Large crowds attended Evangelist Jimmy Snow's tent meetings in his home town—Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. The city-wide crusade was sponsored by the Pentecostal Pastors' Fellowship of Halifax.

► **MINERVA, OHIO**—The Assembly of God here experienced a real refreshing during two weeks of revival meetings concluded on July 27 with Evangelist John W. Higginbotham of Cleveland, Ohio. Sinners were saved and believers filled with the Holy Spirit. The congregation rejoices over this move of God's Spirit.

—Paul Hartshorn, Pastor

► **NAUGATUCK, CONN.**—A tremendous outpouring of the Spirit of God was experienced at Full Gospel Tabernacle during a Labor Day convention with Evangelist Stefan Gulyas. Several made decisions for Christ, and there were some outstanding cases of healing. Slides were shown of the Pentecostal World Conference, western Europe, and scenes behind the Iron Curtain. As the evangelist spoke of conditions in these countries, the truth concerning the soon coming of the Lord was made real to the hearts of the people.

—J. A. Eckstadt, Pastor

► **CORTEZ, COLO.**—The tide of revival is at a high peak at First Assembly following a ten-night revival just concluded by Evangelist George Hayes of Houston, Tex. Several confessed Christ as Saviour, and the entire church was stirred by the anointed preaching. The evangelist re-emphasized the truth of the soon return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

—Jack D. Brock, Pastor

EIGHT SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTIONS WELL ATTENDED IN AUSTRALIA

The Assemblies of God in Australia have become keenly Sunday school conscious. Hearts in every corner of the Commonwealth have caught the Sunday school evangelistic flame, following the eight conventions conducted by Brother and Sister William E. Kirschke.

These conventions were held at Melbourne, Vic., Adelaide, S.A., Sydney and Parkes, N.S.W., Brisbane, Maryborough, and Townsville, Old., and Perth, W.A. Total registrations were 791, and many others attended the sessions.

Each convention began on a Friday night with a visual presentation and message by Brother Kirschke. All-day sessions were held on Saturday. A comprehensive study of the administration and operation of the Sunday school was presented by Brother and Sister Kirschke. Each convention was concluded with Sunday ministry.

Raymond J. Moulton, who is managing director of the Gospel Publishing House in Australia (which distributes literature produced by our own Gospel Publishing House in Springfield, Missouri), attended all the conventions. He presented the *Word of Life* Sunday school literature, and great interest was shown in these materials.

Extensive book displays were set up at the conventions, providing delegates the opportunity to examine the full range of Sunday school teaching materials, visual aids, etc., available. It is believed that the Assemblies of God Sunday schools in Australia will make increased use of these materials in the days ahead.

After a full year of ministry abroad Brother and Sister Kirschke have returned to the United States. Their ministry in Aus-

tralia was very fruitful in the Sunday school cause and left a lingering impact, according to enthusiastic reports.

WITH CHRIST

WALTER P. HUTSON, 66, of Norfolk, Ark., went to his eternal reward on September 21. Ordained in the Arkansas District in 1952, Brother Hutson was pastor in Norfolk and served until 1955. He also ministered as an evangelist. He was superannuated in 1958. Survivors include his wife and six children.

FELIX FLORES, 70, of Chicago, Ill., went to his eternal reward September 13. Brother Flores was ordained in 1929 in the Latin American Branch and served as pastor and evangelist before being superannuated in September 1956. Pastorates held were in San Antonio, Sugar Land, Brownsville, Yoakum, Del Rio and Eagle Pass, Tex. He is survived by his wife.

GORDON PALMER, 82, of Bakersfield, Calif., went to be forever with the Lord on August 22. He was ordained in 1934 in the Oklahoma district and later became a member of the Southern California district, serving as pastor and evangelist. After pastoring in Bixby, Okla., Brother Palmer went to pioneer the Panama Lane Assembly of God in Bakersfield, remaining there from 1945 until he was superannuated in 1958.

L. D. STATON, 49, of Greer, S. C., passed to his eternal reward on October 10 after a three-day illness. Ordained in 1943 in the South Carolina District, he had served as a general presbyter for that district as well

as pastor and evangelist. He was founder and minister of Assemblies of God churches in Greenwood and Greer, S. C., and a former pastor in Dawson, Ga. He is survived by his wife and four sons. Mrs. Staton is carrying on the ministry at Greer at the present time.

AUTHER P. BRYAN, 80, of Wetumka, Okla., was called to his eternal reward on August 27. Ordained in the Oklahoma District in 1926, he served as pastor and evangelist through the years. Pastorates held were in Wetumka, Allen, Anadarko, and Haskell, Okla. He was superannuated in 1947.

JESSE M. BARNES, 73, of Caryville, Fla., went to be with the Lord September 29. Ordained in 1933 in the West Florida District, he served as pastor and evangelist. Pastorates held were in Bonifay and Caryville, Fla. He was superannuated in 1959. Brother Barnes is survived by his wife and eight children.

MALCOLM EDWARDS of Phoenix, Ariz., went to be with the Lord on August 11. In 1956 he became a licensed minister in the Arizona District and served as an evangelist and pastor. Brother Edwards pastored the church in Avondale during 1960. He is survived by his wife.

RISDEN BARNARD, 79, of Justin, Tex., passed away October 14. He was licensed with the Texas District in 1939. He is survived by a son, H. E. Barnard of Justin, Tex. who is an Assemblies of God ordained minister. Word of his death was received from a grandson, student at S.B.I., who states, "From my very earliest recollection of him he has been in the ministry."

EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN CALENDAR

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ark.	Gurdon	First	Dec. 3—	Freddie Richardson	E. S. Story
	Monette	Childress	Dec. 4—	Loyd Middleton	R. E. Middleton
Calif.	Crescent City	A/G	Dec. 5-17	Ernest Rogers	D. L. Rhodes
	El Cajon	First	Dec. 3-10	Don & Patti Hall	Elmer Van Horn
	Harbor City	A/G	Dec. 3-17	Larry Allbaugh	Floyd McWhinney
	Mojave	First	Nov. 26-Dec. 10	Zambos-Elwood Team	J. Kirk Soper
Colo.	Lakewood	Garden	Dec. 3-24	E. L. & Mrs. Surratt	Hubert Surratt
Fla.	Miami	Christian	Dec. 3-17	Victor Etienne	Ivan R. Loy
Ga.	Dawson	First	Dec. 3-10	J. I. Carroll	Jesse Ray
Ill.	Bridgeport	A/G	Nov. 21—	Walter & Ruth Lascelle	Truman Smith
Iowa	Camden	First	Nov. 28-Dec. 10	M. R. Hutchinson	Harvey Anderson
	Iowa City	First	Dec. 5-10	Bob & Pat Ludwig	George Muller
Kans.	Plainville	A/G	Dec. 10-22	Jeremiah Hanley	Harold W. Smith
Md.	Westernport	First	Nov. 19-Dec. 10	J. Earl Douglass	A. Newton Chase
Mich.	Swartz Creek	A/G	Dec. 5-17	Bob & Jeri Winford	Clenton G. Winford
Minn.	Barnesville	A/G	Nov. 28-Dec. 10	Evelyn Glosser	K. L. Peters
	Pelican Rapids	A/G	Dec. 6-17	C. Merrill Johnson	C. G. Scharnberg
Nebr.	Alliance	A/G	Nov. 28-Dec. 10	Musical Lebacks	Don Ziegler
N. Mex.	Mescalero	Apache	Dec. 6-10	Jerry & Mrs. Roberts	F. W. Olson
N. Y.	Franklin Square	Bethel	Nov. 29-Dec. 10	Martin Busse	Albert Andreasen
	Geneva	A/G	Dec. 6-10	John French	G. L. Hubbard
	Lockport	A/G	Dec. 4-17	Allan A. Swift	Gordon Bender
	Oneota	A/G Revival Ctr.	Dec. 5-10	E. Petroski	R. Banach
N. Dak.	Mandan	Bethel	Dec. 5-10	Arthur & Anna Berg	Herman G. Johnson
Okla.	Rush Springs	First	Dec. 4—	Al Davis	Andrew Young
Oreg.	Mt. Hood	A/G	Dec. 5—	Gospel Evangelaires	Arthur L. Sparks
Pa.	Jeannette	A/G	Nov. 28—	Harold W. May, Jr.	Richard J. Barriss
	Littlestown	A/G	Dec. 6-10	Olshevski Musical Tm.	Samuel Garrett
	Mt. Union	A/G	Nov. 21-Dec. 10	V. M. Dullabaun	Oran A. Catterson
Tex.	Linden	First	Nov. 29—	Leon Morrow	Billy R. Jones
	Mesquite	First	Dec. 4-10	Hulan W. Hood	Jesse K. Moon
	Plainview	First	Nov. 26—	Jimmy & Carol Snow	Don George
Wis.	Antigo	A/G	Dec. 5-17	Joel Palmer	Paul Ade

Announcements should reach the Department of Evangelism 30 days in advance, due to the fact that *THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL* is made up 25 days before the date which appears upon it.

LETTERS

EVANGEL READERS WRITE

Worthwhile Christmas Gifts

Last Christmas I sent *The Pentecostal Evangel* to several relatives at your special rate, including my brother-in-law who is in a hospital. You will be encouraged to know that during the past year he has been saved, and he has promised Pastor Harold Schmitt that as soon as he is released from the hospital he will attend Calvary Temple in Jacksonville, Fla., regularly.

Recently he visited my home and talked to me for some time about his plans and determination. He also asked for books to study to learn more about our Assemblies of God doctrines and I furnished him with several books by Pearlman, Riggs, and Brumback from my own shelves.

My brother-in-law told me that when he has finished reading his *Evangel* he passes it on to someone else in the hospital. He said he had a waiting line of several nurses and patients who wish to read it.

I also subscribed for two of my brothers, one of whom is in a false doctrine. He wrote me and thanked me for the *Evangel* and stated he was glad to get it each week. My other brother informed me that he is going to church and that he loves the Lord.

My sister is serving Christ but she does not understand the truths about the Holy Spirit. I know that the *Evangel* has helped her very much.

Please pray for her husband, who is unsaved. I hope he will read the magazine and find the Saviour too.

Thank you for the opportunity through the special Christmas rate to get the *Evangel* into the hands of my loved ones so as to help them spiritually.

ALBERT S. ROWLEY
Jacksonville, Florida

When the Spirit Fell at Topeka

In Russell P. Spittle's review of the book *The Promise Fulfilled* by Klaude Kendrick there is a reference to Agnes Ozman, a student at the Bethel Bible School in Topeka, Kansas, where the Spirit fell at the turn of the century. The statement is made that "although Agnes Ozman was not the first person in modern times to speak in tongues, she was the first person to have received such an experience in the Holy Spirit as a result of the expectation of speaking in tongues."

This statement is not entirely accurate and I think it should be corrected.

I am the daughter of Mrs. Agnes N. O. LaBerge (nee Agnes N. Ozman), who passed away in November 1938. I have heard her say many times that she did not know that she

would speak in tongues when she received the baptism of the Holy Spirit (on January 1, 1901). She said she only knew that there was more for her spiritually. After she spoke in tongues she was satisfied. Let me quote from her book *What God Hath Wrought*, page 29:

"I did not know that I would talk with tongues when I received the Baptism, but as soon as I did on that night I spoke in tongues and I knew I had received the promise of the Father, fulfilled, blessed be God."

I hope you will publish a correction in the *Evangel* due to the historical significance of this statement. The students were praying for the New Testament experience but they were not praying for tongues. They were seeking the Lord and when He filled them with the Spirit they spoke in tongues.

MRS. H. J. GIBSON
320 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, California

Mistaken Identity

May I correct a little mistake that appeared in the October 15 issue of the *Evangel*. The fine-looking man in the photograph on page 15 is not Abram Hernandez, C. A. President of Mexico, but our own Brother David Paco of the Bethany Bible College staff.

Brother Paco is a BBC graduate now serving as director of public relations. He is also director of Christian service here at the college. He ministered in song at several meetings during the General Council in Portland.

C. C. BURNETT, PRESIDENT
Bethany Bible College
Santa Cruz, California

Mobilizing Our Spiritual Forces

We are very pleased by your well-written editorial in the September 3rd issue ("It's Time to Pray"). Please mail me sixty copies of this issue for distribution to different churches.

The President of the U.S. has called for partial mobilization of the American people to face the dark days ahead. We also need to mobilize our spiritual forces to meet the physical and spiritual opposition of the diabolical force of Communism.

CECILIA FORCELLA
Newark, N. J.

We thought the editorial, "It's Time to Pray!" was an article that would help to turn the unsaved to God and move lukewarm Christians to rededication which might also save our country from Communism. Our church (Calvary Assembly of God, Carthage) ran the entire article in our local newspaper as a paid advertisement.

MRS. D. E. SKILES
Carthage, Illinois

A Remarkable Coincidence

Permit me to answer a question that was asked on the front cover of the September 24th issue of *The Pentecostal Evangel*.

There was a striking picture of a little Eskimo girl performing with a hula hoop while standing on an enormous walrus. The photo was obtained by courtesy of Wien Alaska Airlines. Beneath the picture you asked the question, "Will this Eskimo child learn the gospel too?"

I know you will be glad to learn that this little girl certainly has heard the gospel. Indeed, she is a regular attendant at the Assembly of God Sunday school here in Barrow, Alaska. Her name is Etta Ahkivgak.



She is now seven years old. Her parents also attend our church. Her mother not only is saved but has received the baptism of the Holy Spirit as well.

Is not this a remarkable coincidence? A commercial picture is chosen to grace the cover of *The Pentecostal Evangel*. The editor, having no knowledge of the circumstances of this picture, asks this pertinent question. A missionary thousands of miles away opens



his *Evangel*, is greeted by a picture of one of his Sunday school children, notes the inquiry, and with a glad heart submits this report.

Is not this an answer, once again, to the oft-repeated question, "Do Missions Pay?"

PAUL E. BILLS
Missionary-Pastor
Barrow, Alaska

● This is a remarkable coincidence indeed. God bless Etta. We are glad she knows the Bible stories, as well as knowing how to twirl a hula hoop. And God bless our fine missionaries in Alaska who are telling the Eskimo children about Jesus. Brother Bills took the accompanying picture which shows little Etta standing before her Sunday school class pointing to the Bible lesson picture.

"Drive Reverently"

I appreciated very much your editorial entitled, "Drive Reverently." It might be quite revealing to discover how many Christians are involved in accidents simply through violation of that principle, not to speak of being a bad example to their children who will one day be driving cars also.

MRS. G. W. SANDBERG
Blue Island, Illinois

I want to thank you for the editorial, "Drive Reverently." It should be shouted from every pulpit, but I fear the ministers themselves are among the worst offenders. I received a report from my insurance company. They listed young men under twenty-five as the poorest risks, and preachers next.

EARL M. BROWN
Marianna, Florida

Key to Safe Driving

In the various articles that are written concerning highway safety, one important point is often overlooked. Many accidents could be avoided if those going out on our highways would take time to pray for God's protection.

I was reminded of this on a vacation trip. While driving through a Montana town our car was struck by another which backed out from the curb unexpectedly. After the accident, the reproving thought flashed through my mind, "You didn't pray this morning." Though a strong believer in prayer I was in a hurry and I failed to ask God for His protection.

Not only were we delayed on our vacation trip, but the other motorist had no insurance so we had a repair bill.

We are admonished to pray about everything (Philippians 4:6). Then why not pray for our own safety and that of other travelers? And when is a better time than early morning hours before starting out to meet the hazards of the road?

BLANCH STOVALL
Redlands, California

A GOOD IDEA

Pastor L. H. Blakney of Young's Cove, New Brunswick, Canada, recently ordered 78 subscriptions for his church families. He gives these as a Christmas remembrance, taking advantage of the special Christmas rate, and he gets a beautiful Christmas greeting folder and matching envelope for each subscription, free of charge.

Brother Blakney has done this in former years also. He finds it is a gift his church families appreciate very much; and the weekly visits of the Evangel to all these homes is an extension of his pastoral ministry, for the readers get spiritual help from the magazine.

Other pastors and churches might like to take advantage of this opportunity also. There is a saving of 25 cents on each subscription. If you place the order immediately you will receive the free greeting cards in time for Christmas mailing.

THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL
1445 Boonville Avenue
Springfield, Missouri

This Christmas Give Evangel GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS

You save when you order more subscriptions
(Allow three weeks for listing and mailing)

AN ATTRACTIVE GIFT CARD

with matching envelope will be sent for each subscription you order. You may sign it personally and mail it to convey your greeting and announce your gift.

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Special Christmas Gift Rates—

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- Each Additional One-Year Subscription \$2.25

* Rates listed are for the U.S., its possessions, U. S. servicemen abroad, and P.U.A.S. countries. In CANADA, add 50c for postage for each subscription. In OTHER LANDS, add \$1.75 for postage for each subscription.



THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

1445 BOONVILLE, SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI



Gifts for CHILDREN



PLASTIC MUGS AND BOWLS. These flexible polyethylene mugs and cereal bowls are available in four different colors, impregnated with sparkling tinsel. Each unit has a table grace printed on it with an attractive decoration that will add cheer to the table setting and delight any child. The mugs and bowls may be purchased separately or in sets.

- 17 EV 7278 Mug, Blue
- 17 EV 7279 Mug, Pink
- 17 EV 7274 Mug, Yellow
- 17 EV 7276 Mug, Green

Boxed, 30c each

- 17 EV 7284 Bowl, Blue
- 17 EV 7285 Bowl, Pink
- 17 EV 7282 Bowl, Yellow
- 17 EV 7283 Bowl, Green

Unboxed, 40c each

- 17 EV 7289 Mug and Bowl Set, Blue
- 17 EV 7288 Mug and Bowl Set, Pink
- 17 EV 7286 Mug and Bowl Set, Yellow
- 17 EV 7287 Mug and Bowl Set, Green

Boxed, each set, 75c

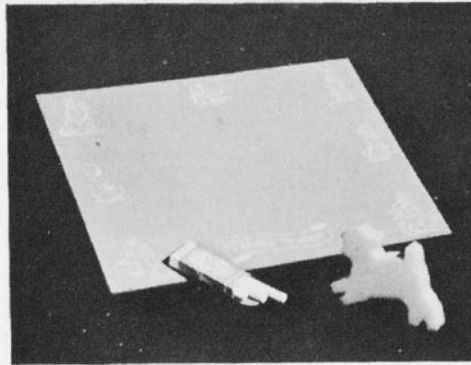
BIBLE PICTURE CHALK BOARD. A wonderful gift for hours of creative entertainment for the little folks. Delightful Bible designs and motto, in yellow, decorate the smooth, durable green writing surface. This surface is very easy on the eye. Just the right size to carry easily. Comes complete with a box of chalk and sponge eraser in the significant shape of a lamb. Choice of two mottoes. Non-toxic; in polyethylene bag. Size 15¾ x 11¾ inches.

18 EV 7537 I Belong to Jesus

18 EV 7538 Jesus Loves Me
89c each

BEDTIME PRAYER NITE LITE. A light that's just right for child's room or nursery. Safe, durable, nonbreakable plastic. Hand painted—in ten colors. Hangs on the wall like a picture. Replacable 6-watt bulb. Six-foot electric cord, push-button switch, and bulb socket are Underwriters approved. Beautifully boxed. Over-all size 7½ x 8½ x 2 inches. A wonderful gift. A treasure to own.

21 EV 8215 \$4.95



BEDTIME PRAYERS. These bedtime prayers will help inspire reverence and gratitude and help teach self-expression in communion with God. There is a different prayer each night for an entire month. They are written for children of all ages. Printed in 4 colors and gold. 16 cards; each is folded and has 2 prayers and illustrations. Packaged in hinged clear top plastic box with red base. Size 4½ x 3¾ inches.

17 EV 7154 75c Box

33 And when they were come to the place, which is called Cal'vá-ry, there they crucified him, and the male-factors, one on the righthand, and the other on the left.



CHILD'S LAMP with prayer... attractively decorated in four colors

This is the kind of item you fall in love with the first time you see it—and so will the children. It has the charm of childhood that delights boys and girls. The white washable plastic shade features the most loved of all bedtime prayers and is decorated in four colors with matching colors on the opaque white glass base. Lamp measures 14 inches high, 6¾ inches wide at the base. Has push button switch and ivory colored cord.

**The Prayer . . . Now I lay me down to sleep
I pray Thee, Lord, my soul
to keep
Guard me thru the starry
night
And waken me at morning's
light.**

17 EV 7232 \$4.95

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

The Rainbow Edition of THE HOLY BIBLE. A wonderful first Bible, containing the entire Old and New Testaments and many colorful features to appeal to young readers: full-color covers of sturdy cloth; decorative end papers featuring The Lord's Prayer and the 23rd Psalm; 8 full-page, full-color illustrations of Biblical scenes; 8 illuminated pages of Spiritual Memory Gems; illuminated Presentation Page. Printed on INDO-TEXT, beautifully white, amazingly strong. Size 4¼ x 6 7/16 inches. 1,056 pages of text. Gift boxed.

1 EV 305 \$2.75

1 EV 304 SAME WITH ZIPPER \$3.75

THE RAINBOW TESTAMENT

This beautiful little Testament is printed on the loveliest of all India papers, **World Indo-Text**, and exquisitely bound in a full-color pictorial cloth cover with blue edges. Easy to read—printed in clear Nonpareil type. Contains the New Testament and Psalms complete. Presentation Page and seven full-color illustrations. Excellent gift. Size 2¾ x 4¾ x 7/16.

1 EV 446 \$1.00



FOR THE 6-9-YEAR-OLDS

MY BIBLE DICTIONARY. Unusual, educational, word-and-picture dictionary of the Bible for children. Simple definitions of over 400 words often misunderstood. 182 well-chosen pictures, in two colors, 48 pages with full-color cover in shiny Kromekote. Interesting, easy way for youngsters to build a Bible vocabulary.

3 EV 3891..... 50c

BIBLE STORIES ABOUT JESUS, by Tessa Colina. Features full-color, full-page Bible art illustrations, and 44 stories from the New Testament. Beautifully and simply written so the young child can enjoy hearing them read, and the junior child can read for himself.

3 EV 345.....\$1.95

LITTLE PILGRIM'S PROGRESS, by Helen L. Taylor. John Bunyan's famous classic, rewritten in the language of children, tells the story of Little Christian and his search for the Celestial City. Paper bound, 256 pages.

3 EV 1936..... 89c

BIBLE PICTURE ABC BOOK, by Elsie E. Egermeier. Children love these 26 stories written in simple, direct language, each with a beautiful full-color picture on the facing page. A Scripture reference is given at the bottom of each story. For ages 6 to 10. 30 pictures. Cloth bound, 64 pages.

3 EV 3032.....\$1.95

SUSIE'S BABIES, by E. Margaret Clarkson. This beautifully illustrated volume answers the question: "Where did I come from?" From the author's classroom experience in raising hamsters (Susie and her eight babies), Miss Clarkson presents the facts of procreation with sensitivity and a naturally reverent approach. A delightful, entertaining, and instructive book for young, inquiring minds.

3 EV 2636.....\$2.50

FOR THE 4- 6-YEAR-OLDS

BOYS AND GIRLS WHO KNEW JESUS, by Edith Kent Battle. These simple and appealing stories that reverently tell about the wondrous life of Jesus as viewed by the children who knew and loved Him will be enjoyed again and again both by parents and children. Beautiful color and black and white illustrations give added charm and interest to the text. Cloth bound, 46 pages.

3 EV 1148.....\$2.00

GARDEN FULL OF PRAYERS. A brand-new fold-up picture book continuing the delightful story of Sally, Tommy, and their family. As you read, your child may look under lift-up flaps for surprises mentioned in the stories. Included are some Bible stories about gardens, too. With each story is a brief prayer to learn. Die-cut, with shiny board cover, plastic cone hinge. Full color throughout. Approximately 7 x 10 1/4 inches. An extra special gift.

3 EV 3964.....\$1.00

BIBLE STORIES FOR LITTLE FOLK, by Edna B. Row. Forty-four Old and New Testament stories for children from 4 to 8 years of age. Each story illustrated with full-page Bible Art picture in color. Includes many of the most beautiful stories of the Bible, beginning with the creation and ending with the story of Jesus and the family of Bethany. 160 pages, 6 1/2 x 8 inches, brightly bound.

3 EV 346.....\$1.95

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS for Children, edited by Mary Alice Jones. An explanation of the Ten Commandments, written in an engaging and simple style. Each commandment is effectively explained and has an attractive picture in full color to illustrate the thought. A novel means of introducing young people to God's laws. Size: 9 1/2 x 12 3/8 inches. Laminated boards, 28 pages.

3 EV 2669.....\$1.00

FOR THE 2- 3-YEAR-OLDS

LITTLE BOOKS FOR LITTLE PEOPLE. Wonderful little plastic picture books especially designed for two- to five-year-olds. Key words are printed in large type under full-color large pictures illustrating familiar Bible stories and basic concepts to make Christian teaching easy and effective. 12 pages each, 5 1/2 x 6 3/4 inches. May be cleaned with a damp cloth.

- 3 EV 3997 Thank You
 - 3 EV 3998 Noah's Ark
 - 3 EV 3999 Baby Jesus
 - 3 EV 4005 Little Boy Jesus
 - 3 EV 4006 Father We Thank Thee
 - 3 EV 4007 Little Baby Moses
 - 3 EV 4009 My Sunday Book
- 25c each

WHICH CHILD IS HELPING? Introduces different members of the family who may need help in one way or another, with a little nursery child doing the needed helpful thing and who therefore, "is pleasing Jesus." For 2- and 3-year-olds, Printed on very heavy stock, with a plastic spiral backbone. 16 pages in beautiful color.

3 EV 3734..... 75c

FEET TO HELP, by Marie H. Frost and Bernice T. Cory. A presentation illustrating how young feet may run and share, keep quiet in church, cross the street at the proper time, stay on paths in the garden. An attractive puppet of a young child is provided. A strong spiritual tone. Printed on extra heavy stock; plastic spiral binding; 20 pages.

3 EV 3968..... 60c

WHEN I TALK TO GOD. Children will enjoy learning these simple prayers for bedtime, morning, before meals, before church, and other occasions. Beautifully illustrated in full color. Bound in durable washable plastic, 10 pages.

3 EV 3920..... 35c

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THE TRUE EXPRESSION OF CHRISTIAN FAITH IS NOT A sigh but a song. Unbelief turns life sour, but faith in God gives life a song.

In Christ, God has done something that changes the fate of sinful men. The gospel sounds a note of hope that our sad world needs. Ours is a singing faith!

We see this in the early Christians. Their religion was not something to wrangle about—it was something to sing about. They were “in Christ” and life had lost its gloom, its emptiness, and its discord. Their joy was so deep and lasting that it was not affected by circumstances, however unpleasant they may have been.

When thrown into jail, they did not bemoan or bewail their plight, but we read, “And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them” (Acts 16:25).

Notice that Luke does not say whether Paul and Silas were good singers, or whether they sang in harmony. The important fact was that they were not giving way to defeat or discouragement. They sang when they might have complained. Their faith was alive and it put a song in their hearts, for even in prison they had fellowship with the living Christ and all gloom was dissolved.

It is not always possible to rejoice in our circumstances, but “in the Lord” there is always reason for rejoicing. And this is the secret that Paul would share with us when he writes, “Rejoice in the Lord always”—not because of prosperity, or popularity, or pleasure, but “in the Lord.”

This display of faith and courage must have amazed the other inmates. Certainly there was nothing about Roman jails to make anyone feel like bursting forth into song. More often than not they were gloomy dungeons, damp and filthy. Often the food consisted of nothing more than bread and water. Only a few hours before this Paul and Silas had been beaten with many stripes. How could they sing?

The answer is, their faith was buoyant and their hearts

were full, and so they gave a witness to the triumph and sufficiency of God’s grace. It is no wonder that in a moment of fear and calamity the jailer wanted to know how to be saved!

There is only One who can give a song in the dark hours of life and make men sing under such circumstances. That One is Jesus. Only He can give *songs in the night*.

In the light of this picture of men praising God amid brutal persecution, what are we to think of professing Christians who instead of being bright, happy, and thankful are sulking in their homes nursing grudges? Silent, long-faced Christians attract no one. Do we give the world the impression that we are happy in the Lord? Can they see that it is a wonderful thing to be saved? Do they hear our song?

The next time you feel sorry for yourself, try singing a hymn of praise. There is a faith-increasing power, a lifting power in praise. The heart is stirred and warmed. The soul takes wing and soars into the heavens.

And don’t we have something to sing about? Someone came to Gilbert Chesterton and criticized the Salvation Army on the ground that it represented a cheap and highly emotional form of Christianity. However, the Roman Catholic Chesterton went to the Army’s defense. “Their methods are unassailable,” he said. “Anyone who really believes in the Christian faith must dance for sheer joy because he has found something that opens up the sure path to triumph.”

To this the psalmist would have said a hearty “Amen.” He says, “I waited patiently for the Lord: and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord” (Psalm 40:1-4).

How wonderful to come out of the mire and into the choir. Let us sing! ◀◀