

THE Pentecostal evangel

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

MAY 13, 1973 / TEN CENTS

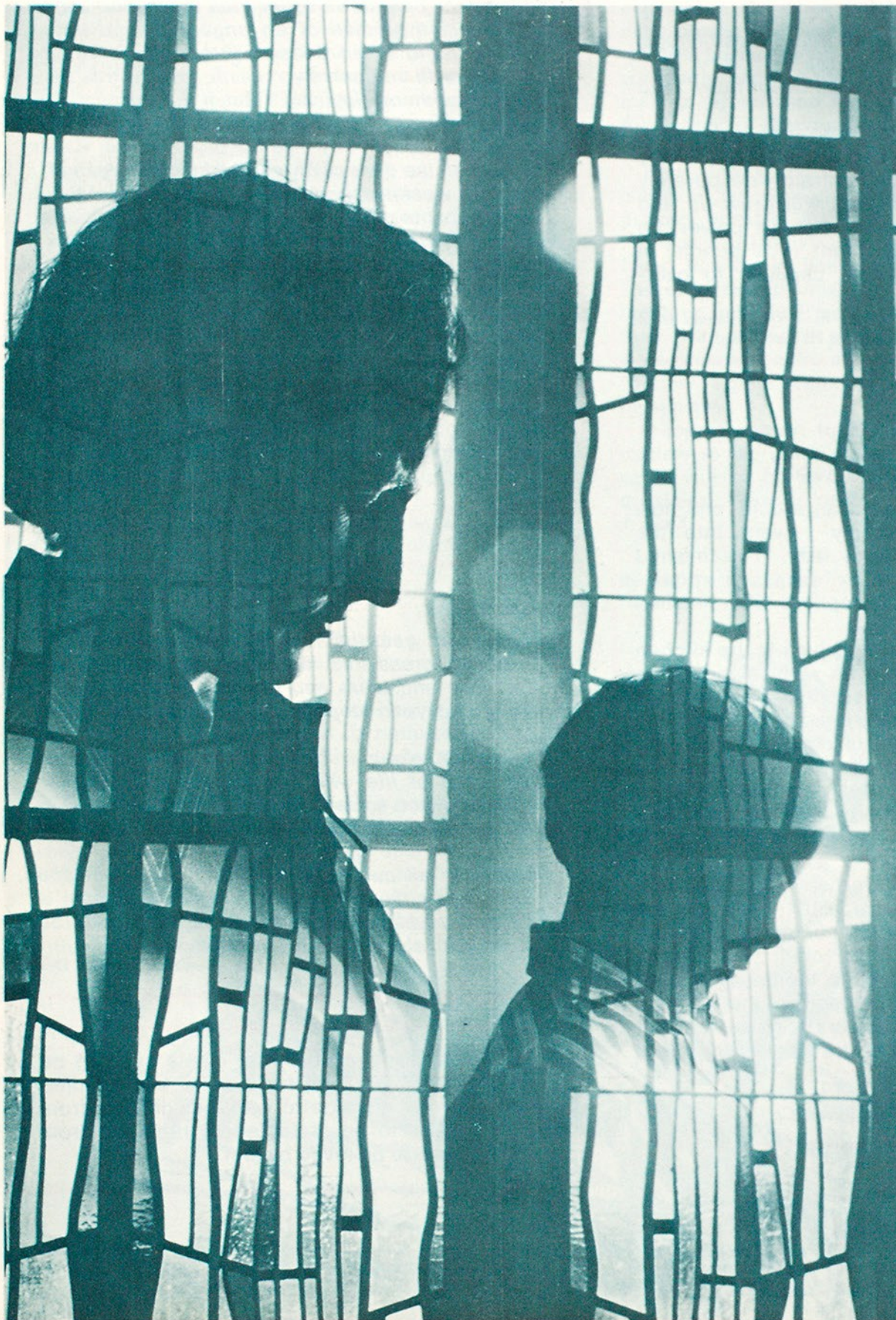


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'Honor thy mother'

EXODUS 20:12

Afraid of a baby

When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled" (Matthew 2:3).

Afraid of a baby! What a delightfully mad paradox!

Such fear seems strange at first look, but it is pervasive and prevailing. It still exists. Every dictator and demagogue is afraid—desperately afraid. He fears that babies will grow up and challenge him. No matter what his power, he knows that a helpless infant is a bundle of possibilities, with potential capacity to overthrow empires.

—WEBB B. GARRISON in *Sermon Seeds from the Gospels* (Fleming H. Revell Co.)

The study and the stove

I had been typing away at an article, and now it was completed. Exultingly I went into the kitchen and announced to my lady, "I've finished my piece."

Just as triumphantly she replied, "I've finished my pie!"

Now pieces in the study and pies in the kitchen go together. Creative folk who write manuscripts sometimes look down on culinary artists who fix meals. And cooks sometimes poke fun at dreamers who can frame an essay but cannot fry an egg.

But whether poems or pies, the Cult of the Study and the Cult of the Stove need each other. Pieces would soon languish if there were no pies. And life is more than food—Man does not live by bread alone.

There need be no warfare between the School of Martha and the School of Mary. Mary was the meditative sort. I'll venture she could have written some good articles on those chats with Jesus. But things would have been top-heavy around Bethany if Martha had not been in the kitchen.

The kitchen almost got Martha down at least once; but if all Marthas left the kitchen for good, we would all be down!

—VANCE HAVNER in *Rest for the Weary* (Fleming H. Revell Co.)

My mother

*She carried me under her heart;
Loved me before I was born;
Took God's hand in hers and walked through the
Valley of Shadows that I might live;
Bathed me when I was helpless;
Clothed me when I was naked;
Gave me warm milk from her own body when I
was hungry;
Rocked me to sleep when I was weary;
Pillowed me on pillows softer than down, and sang
to me in the voice of an angel;
Held my hand when I learned to walk;
Suffered with my sorrow;
Laughed with my joy;
Glowed with my triumph; and while I knelt at her
side, she taught my lips to pray.
Through all the days of my youth she gave strength
for my weakness, courage for my despair,
and hope to fill my hopeless heart;
Was loyal when others failed;
Was true when tried by fire;
Was my friend when other friends were gone;
Prayed for me through all the days, when flooded
with sunshine or saddened by shadows;
Loved me when I was unlovely, and led me into
man's estate to walk triumphant on the King's
Highway and play a manly part.
Though we lay down our lives for her, we can never
pay the debt we owe to a Christian mother.*

—Author Unknown

Of age

*Today my guardianship for you is ended.
I cannot cross this last forbidden span;
But love and tears and prayers together blended
To guide your steps from babyhood to man.*

*You walk alone with God from this day forward
To make of life whatever be His will,
Provided you surrender to His guidance,
Allowing love of God your heart to fill.*

*I cherish all our days, both high and homespun,
The happy days that blot out every other;
I bow my head to thank God you were born, Son;
It is a lovely thing—to be your mother!*

—EDNA MORRIS DEVIN

Woman was not taken from man's head to be ruled by him, nor from his feet to be trampled upon, but from his side to walk beside him, from under his arm to be protected by him, and from near his heart to be loved by him.

Why I wanted to live

FOR SEVERAL MONTHS I had been seriously ill. Now that the crisis had passed, I was overwhelmed by the list of things I had to do, and was tired all the time.

One Sunday morning my husband took the children to church and I stayed home with a headache. Frustration and irritability ballooned inside me as I surveyed the household chaos.

Last night's dishes were still in the sink; yesterday's play clothes and the night's pajamas were strewn over dressers, chairs, and floor; beds were unmade! A month's accumulation of smudges on walls, windows, and woodwork stood out plainly in the early sunlight.

Perhaps if I worked hard the next two hours to put the house in order, I would be in a more pleasant mood when my family returned. However, I realized that the frustration, tension, and household chaos were not merely today's problems. They were problems that would continue until I had regained the strength to manage my work and family more efficiently.

Sundays are not for work, but worship, I thought as I crawled into bed with my Bible.

"Well, Lord, here I am again. Nervous, upset, and irritable." I said it aloud.

Why? It was not a voice, but a thought so strong and impromptu that it seemed to come from outside myself.

"Because of the house! Just look what a mess it is! I just cannot keep up with the clutter and smudges of two preschool children. I can hardly keep up when I'm well. I certainly can't do it now," I said.

When you were so ill you thought you might die, why did you pray to live? came the impromptu thought again.

The answer to that was simple. During the weeks that my heart had pounded out its rapid tempo against my chest, I knew exactly why I wanted to live. I had three main reasons.

- (1) To teach my children and give them secure childhoods, ones full of warm, happy memories that would undergird them throughout their lives.
- (2) To repay my husband for the love and concern he had lavished on me during my illness.
- (3) To develop the potential God had placed within me—to fulfill the hopes of years and use

my talents in Christian service.

If keeping a clean house is not one of your reasons for living, then why is it so important now?

A strong thought imposed itself again: *Don't let tension over trivials choke out the vital issues of your life.*

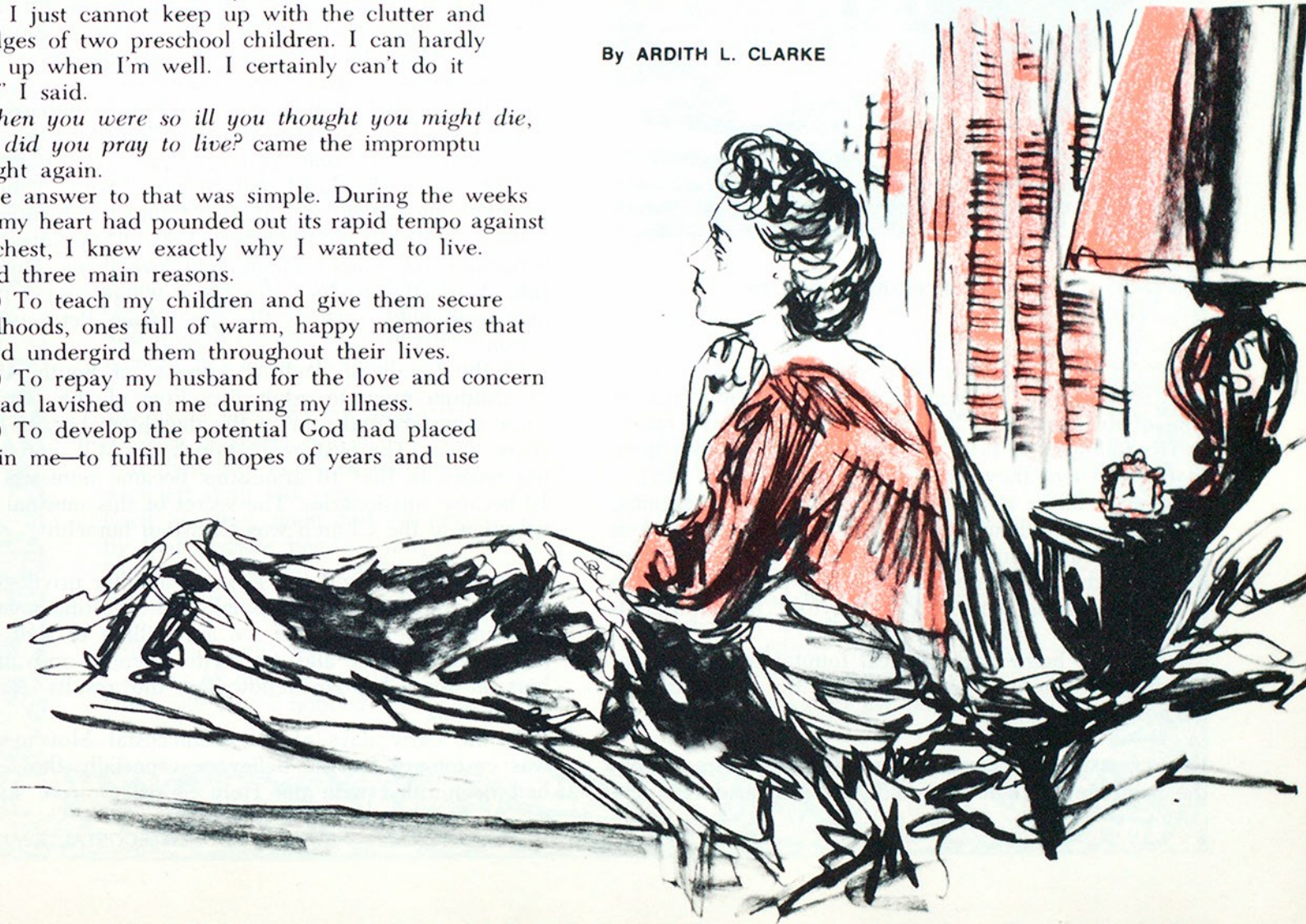
Suddenly everything fell into place. A clean, neat house, though a worthwhile goal, was secondary, not primary. Tidiness was not worth giving my children memories of a mother who nagged constantly because things were out of place, or making my husband feel guilty because of my frustration, or denying myself the privilege of developing my latent talents for serving God.

How close I had come to letting the secondary chores of homemaking obscure—even defeat—my primary purposes for living!

When my family came home from church, they found that things had changed. Not the house! No! Dishes were still unwashed and beds unmade. I, however, refreshed from my hour of worship, greeted them with a sincere smile. The headache was gone. I was relaxed, more able to cheerfully tackle my "duties." Things were again in their proper perspective.

I hope that next time I get bound up in trivial matters to the point of nervous irritability, I again will be brought up short with the probing questions, *What is really important? Why do I live?*

By ARDITH L. CLARKE



Evangelism begins at home



Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts

By RUTH STEELBERG CARTER

SOMEONE SAID that "the only religion that is any good is homemade religion," and this is true of evangelism. When the Lord Jesus gave orders to His followers to bear witness for Him, He told them to begin where they were—at Jerusalem (Acts 1:8).

Home is like a river. Though small in the beginning, its influence swells until it is a mighty force for good or evil. The evangelism that begins in the home multiplies like seed that is planted in the earth and brings forth a harvest—maybe thirtyfold, or sixtyfold, or a hundredfold.

Surely the home is the logical fountainhead of evangelism, the source of earnest efforts for the spread of the gospel.

EVANGELISM IN THE HOME was taught in Israel from the beginning. When God told Moses to lead His peo-

ple out of Egypt and gave him commandments, statutes, and ordinances, He made it very clear that the home was to be the chief center of training (Deuteronomy 6:4-9). The ancient Hebrews had the most compact and stable family life as a result of the ethical and religious ideas promoted in their family life. The weakness of any nation has been the failure to hold the children to the vision that called that nation into being.

What do your family, neighbors, and friends see in your house? Do they see only the furnishings and food and routine attached to the necessities of life, or do they see a spiritual quality of living? Do they see love and understanding shown by each member of the family toward the others? Do they see godly principles exemplified in the lives of the members?

Is there the custom of gathering around the Bible and reading it together, then kneeling in a circle of prayer? Or is the family constantly gathered in front of a TV set? Is there a discipline that causes each one to take care of his responsibilities, including household chores and school work, or does each one do as he pleases without regard to the feelings of others?

Fathers, you have many golden opportunities while the children are small. They look up to you for counsel and companionship. They copy your actions and attitudes. Once they are grown you will never have the same influence over them, so use it well.

Mothers, what a ministry you have! Perhaps you have wished to be a missionary. You don't have to leave home to be one. You can train your boys and girls to know the Lord and to serve Him. Think of Timothy, who owed his Christian training to his mother, Eunice, and his grandmother, Lois. They loved the Scriptures and taught Timothy to love them. Think of John Mark, the product of a home where prayer meetings were held, such as the time when Peter was in prison.

In the family of Andrew Murray, of South Africa, 11 children grew to adult life. Five of the sons became ministers and four of the daughters became ministers' wives. The next generation had a still more striking record in that 10 grandsons became ministers and 13 became missionaries. The secret of this unusual contribution to the Church was Christian homelife.

EVANGELISM THROUGH THE HOME is another privilege we have. More and more homemakers are getting involved in home Bible studies. If we are willing to share our home with others and to invite friends, and neighbors in for Christian fellowship, the results can be far-reaching.

In the early days of this Pentecostal Movement it was customary for the believers, especially those who had been filled with the Holy Spirit, to have such a

burden for friends and neighbors that they would invite them to their homes for "cottage meetings." It is good to see this custom being revived today. It is very scriptural—in Acts 5:42 we read how "daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." They were continually "breaking bread from house to house" (Acts 2:46).

It was in a cottage meeting in our home, when I was a small child, I had my first real experience with God. I can still remember the spot where I wept before God and asked Him to help me overcome a tendency to cry so easily. He heard that five-year-old child and I remember He helped me not to cry for a whole week. Do we give our children today opportunity for such experiences?

Some people open their homes to young people for after-church meetings. Who can tell the influence upon lives through this avenue of evangelism! Others gather the children of the neighborhood in for a "Happy Hour Club," and boys and girls find Christ as their personal Saviour.


EVANGELISM FROM THE HOME will be the natural result if there is evangelism in the home and through the

home. A life-giving stream may flow from the home in the lives of souls born again. Who knows how far that stream may reach?

George Fox said, "Every Quaker should make himself felt for ten miles around."

Every born-again person, whose heart is filled with the love of Christ, can evangelize in the homes of others, especially where there are needs, by being a witness to tell what the gospel has accomplished in his own life. He can knock on doors and share with other families the gospel blessings that have sanctified his own home-life.

When evangelism dies in the home, evangelism dies in the church. And when the church ceases to evangelize, the nation is doomed. But —

"So long as there are homes where lamps
are lit, and prayer is raised:
So long as God is honored
and His written Word is praised:
Although a people falter through the dark,
and nations grope:
With God Himself back of these little homes,
we have sure hope." 

HER ELBOWS ON MY BED

I was but a youth and thoughtless,
As all youths are apt to be;
Though I had a Christian mother
Who had taught me carefully.
Came a time when sinful pleasure
Of the world brought its allure,
And I no more sought the guidance
Of her love so good and pure.

But Mother would not yield her boy
To Satan's sinful sway,
And though I spurned her counsel
She knew a better way.
No more she tried to caution
Of ways she knew were vain,
And though I guessed her heartache
I could not know its pain.

She made my room an altar,
A place of secret prayer,
And there she took her burden
And left it in His care.
Each morning, noon and evening
By that bedside bending low,
She sought the aid of Him who
Best can feel a mother's woe.

Still I went my way unheeding,
Careless of the life I led,
Until one day I noticed

Prints of elbows on my bed,
Then I saw that she had been there
Praying for her wayward boy,
Who for love of worldly pleasure
Would her peace of mind destroy.

While I wrestled with my conscience
Mother wrestled still in prayer,
Till that little room seemed hallowed
Because oft she met Him there.
With her God she held the fortress,
And though not a word she said,
My stubborn heart was broken
By those imprints on my bed.

Long the conflict raged within me,
Sin against my mother's prayer.
Sin must yield, for Mother never,
While she daily met Him there.
And her constant love and patience
Were like coals upon my head,
Together with the imprints
Of her elbows on my bed.

A mother's love and God's love
Are a combination rare,
And one that can't be beaten
If it's sealed by earnest prayer.
And so at last the fight was won,
And I to Christ was led;
My mother won the victory
By her elbows on my bed.

—Author unknown

I PROPOSE TEN COMMANDMENTS for parents—commandments which are based on the Bible and which dig down to the core of knowledge about family life.

I. THOU SHALT START WITH THYSELF

The parent who attempts to train children to have good manners but has none himself is fighting a losing battle.

A boy in a first grade class called a girl a bad name. When corrected by the teacher, he seemed puzzled and said, "But my mother says it all the time."

Children don't learn merely by being told; they learn by seeing. Children are able to detect shame and insincerity. We must set our children a consistent example.

II. THOU SHALT BE MORE CONCERNED ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS THAN RULES

Law is not the last word about life. Jesus said laws are based on what is good for man. If the law does not help man grow into the fullness of God's intention for him, the law is inadequate and should be adjusted. So with family rules.

Parents need to be more concerned with building

Ten commandments for parents

By MICHAEL DAVES

healthy relationships between themselves and their children. If the child knows he is loved and respected as a person, he is less likely to rebel against ethical standards. The child who is unsure of being loved most often breaks the rules because he is alienated and angry.

III. THOU SHALT IMPART THE FAITH

Parents have the basic responsibility for religious education. No one else.

A humorist once said, "An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy." The church can only assist parents, not replace them. No amount of Bible teaching in the church school can substitute for Bible study at home. The same is true of prayer and worship. The Christian faith must be lived at home. The Scriptures teach, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6).

IV. THOU SHALT LEARN TO LISTEN

Listening is a real art. We always find it easier to talk. Listening to another person means acknowledging his worth as a person, respecting him, and trying to understand his viewpoint. We know another person only as we listen to him.

A common complaint of teen-agers is, "My parents never listen to me." Through the dynamic of "listening love," the generation gap between parents and children can often be bridged.

V. THOU SHALT SPEND TIME WITH THY CHILDREN

Even ministers sometimes get so busy they neglect their own families. Once a minister's wife dropped a visitor's card in the offering plate requesting a visit from the minister! In our go-go culture, it is increasingly difficult to stop and enjoy some homelife. But we must find a way.

Children need their parents to play with them, read to them, take them on trips and hikes. Years pass quickly, and opportunities for family fellowship soon pass into yesterday. We need to seize the opportunities to spend time together.

VI. THOU SHALT ACKNOWLEDGE THY FAULTS AS A PARENT

We can never do all that is needed either for ourselves or our children. The family is dependent on God's grace for its life. Parents who refuse to admit their failures and shortcomings end by blaming both their children and themselves for their inadequacies.

Dr. Reuel L. Howe tells of a parents' study group that had come to terms with the truth that their children needed more love than they were able to give. They faced their inadequacies and, miracle of miracles, family life improved.

VII. THOU SHALT KEEP A SENSE OF HUMOR

A family was watching a skit on television. The parents started laughing. Their three-year-old son, of course, did not understand the skit's humor but thought their laughing was funny, so he started laughing. Soon they were laughing at his laughing.

Most of us take ourselves too seriously. We need to learn to laugh at ourselves. Laughter releases pent-up despair and relieves hostility.

It has been rightly said, "To everything there is a season . . . a time to laugh . . ." (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 4).

VIII. THOU SHALT TREAT THY CHILDREN EQUALLY

A child is a unique gift from God. There is no other

child like your firstborn, or second, or third. Each has his own individual personality—extravert, introvert, brilliant, or otherwise.

One child should not be compared to another. He should be loved for what he is—not what you want him to become. A good parent loves in spite of imperfection. Over each child we should pray: “Thank you, Creator God, for this, your special gift.” The Bible reminds, “Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord” (Psalm 127:3).

IX. THOU SHALT USE DISCIPLINE

An astute observer of the American family has said that we are a child-centered culture. Instead of parents disciplining their children, children discipline their parents!

Discipline may include punishment, but we should not think of it as primarily negative. Discipline is providing a structure for growing up which includes protection and guidance. It is “yes-saying” (approval of constructive behavior) as well as “no-saying” (disapproval of destructive behavior). Children want our approval. Let us try to give it to them.

Discipline is closely related to love and acceptance. Parents who do not provide a disciplined structure do not really love their children. The Bible says, “He

that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes” (Proverbs 13:24).

X. THOU SHALT KNOW WHEN TO LET GO

This is the last commandment, but not the least in importance. As parents we naturally want to feel needed as long as possible. This desire tempts us to overprotect our children.

Being tied to mother’s apron strings is like having a noose around your neck. Wise parents accept their changing role by recognizing their children’s need to be freed from emotional dependency on them.

This completes my proposed ten commandments for parents. They are offered in gratitude for mothers and fathers of every generation who have kept faith with their children by equipping them for responsible living.

However, there is one commandment above all commandments. In Matthew 22:37, 38 Jesus says, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment.”

Such love is possible only through a personal relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ.

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A word from the general superintendent

T. F. ZIMMERMAN



Pentecostal balance

WHEN SOME PEOPLE are asked concerning Pentecostal distinctives they speak primarily of the gifts of the Spirit, the fruit of the Spirit, bold witnessing, and fervent praying. While these qualities are or should be evident among all Pentecostals, there is another very important quality which is sometimes overlooked. This is the priority given to the Word of God.

Following the first outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost there was a wholesome balance between personal experience and Bible doctrine. Luke wrote concerning the first converts, “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers” (Acts 2:42). Doctrine was not looked upon as an unimportant adjunct of the Pentecostal life. “They were constantly attending the teaching of the apostles” (Acts 2:42, Worrel’s Translation), and we must ever do the same.

When God moves supernaturally in the lives of His people, it is to be expected that Satan will try to in-

troduce confusion. God promised to pour out His Spirit in the last days (Acts 2:17-21), and He is doing it more and more. We should expect a mightier visitation of the power of God than the world has ever seen. But the Bible also indicates that teachers of false doctrines will abound in the last days (1 Timothy 4:1). This means we must be on guard against unscriptural teaching and activity.

The only way believers will ever be able to distinguish between the true and the false is to study the Word of God and evaluate everything by that Word. Every doctrine, every prophetic utterance, every message in tongues and interpretation, every relationship and activity must be measured by the Scriptures.

Two extreme responses can develop as a result of any move of God. There can be a dry orthodoxy which knows nothing of the atmosphere of a New Testament gathering of believers, or there can be a fanaticism which knows nothing of Biblical order. In Paul’s day there were attitudes toward speaking in tongues which provide an example of overemphasis to one extreme and the other.

There were some who wanted to forbid speaking in tongues. To them Paul said, “Forbid not to speak with tongues” (1 Corinthians 14:39). There were others who apparently wanted to give speaking in tongues priority over everything else. To them Paul said, “Let it be by two, or at the most by three” (1 Corinthians 14:27), and, “Let all things be done decently and in order” (1 Corinthians 14:40).

Scripture makes it clear that we don’t have to choose between a lifeless orthodoxy or spiritual fanaticism. Biblical doctrine makes possible a vital and meaningful experience for every child of God. Believers who want a New Testament experience should covet a keen sensitivity to the Holy Spirit and a commensurate understanding of the Word of God. This is Pentecostal balance.

Where have I failed?

By **DON MALLOUGH**
Pastor, First Assembly, Kelso, Washington

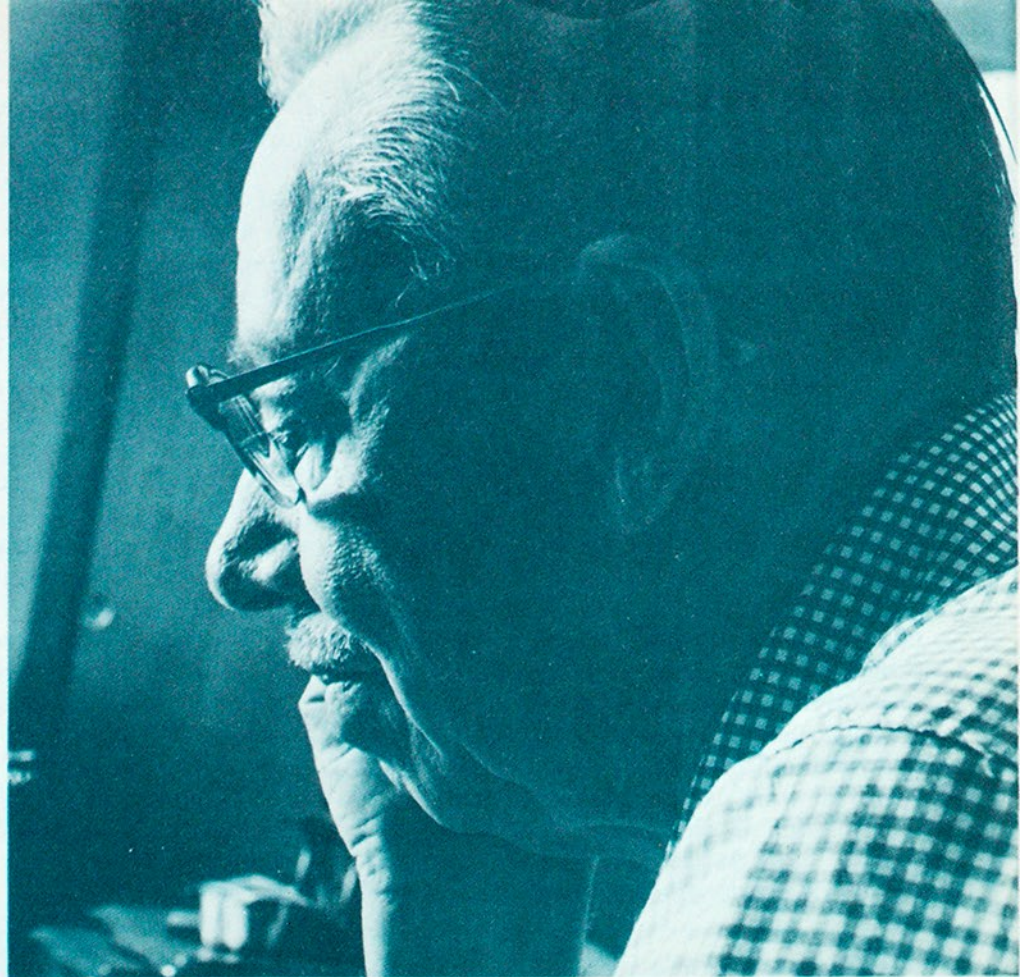


Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts

THE EXPERIENCE WAS ONE that is common for pastors. A little widowed mother came and sobbed out the burden of her heart. Her son was lost to the Lord and to the church, and the very thought of it crushed her to tears.

The pattern was typical of so many cases. The boy seemingly had every advantage. He was born into a Christian home, given sound Bible training from birth, and covered with prayer to the saturation point. Yet in his midteens he forsook it all and went the way of a prodigal. Now his distressed mother had given vent to her deepest feelings and plaintively lamented, "Pastor, where have I failed?"

Men often utter that same pathetic cry of inquiry, including fathers—and even ministers. Sometimes it has come from pastors engulfed in discouragement, or from defeated persons wallowing in the slough of despondency, but mostly from the lips of parents. What person would not be deeply moved at such a time? Whose heart would not feel some of the inner anguish of such a troubled soul in search for an answer?

What could I, as a pastor, say at such a time? Should I concede that she had indeed failed? She had assumed it to be true. Should I side with her, or contradict her? Was this the time to answer her question by pointing out her flaws or mistakes in the rearing of her son?

Before trying to answer these questions, let us look elsewhere. Any one of us can lay claim to failure if we have a mind to do so. What we look for we generally find. We can punish ourselves until our lives are completely poisoned and soured by the obsession of failure.

Even Jesus, the only perfect person who ever lived, could have singled out instances in His life and brooded

over them to His detriment and harm, but He did not do so.

He could have said, "Where did I fail in not winning Judas?" Couldn't that be counted as a failure? Had He brooded over that matter, would it have helped Judas or anyone else? No. He would have hatched nothing but misery for Himself. In John 17 He took the opposite approach: He thanked His Father that only Judas was lost. He rejoiced in that the 11 disciples were kept. He knew that there were extenuating circumstances in the case of Judas and that his loss could not be laid at His door.

Another example: He might have said, "Where did I fail in losing the rich young ruler?" Had any more likely prospect for discipleship ever come to Christ? He came with a strong desire to have eternal life, and came asking questions. Men of that type should be easy to win, and yet this ruler eluded the Saviour's grasp. He turned and deliberately walked away.

What had Jesus done to contribute to that young man's failure? Absolutely nothing. It was not a deficiency in Christ's message or method, but the young man's love for earthly possessions, that caused him to depart. What folly to brood over failure under such circumstances!

Let me put another sentence on the lips of Jesus and have Him say, "Where did I fail in reaching the town of Nazareth?" It certainly looked as if He had failed, but was it actually so? Three quotations from the Gospels rather succinctly tell of His relationship with His hometown. The first states, "And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit" (Luke 4:14). The second tells of the lack of results: "And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few folk, and healed them" (Mark 6:5).

Finally, the reason is given: "And he did not many mighty works there *because of their unbelief*" (Matthew 13:15).

Jesus made two ministry trips to Nazareth and had very limited results. He preached, and the Spirit of God was manifest, but yet He appeared to be a failure there. Some sensitive ministers would have shouldered all the blame for the lack of results, but Jesus knew He hadn't failed. The cause was not in Him but elsewhere. Their unbelief was to blame. We must always recognize that there are other factors involved in results besides our efforts. In the case of Nazareth prejudice, bigotry, pride, and sin all combined in a massive unbelief that made it impossible for even the Son of God to reach the people.

Who can judge as to what is failure? Things are not always what they appear to be. Multiple and varied factors enter into both success and failure. Hence it is folly to claim credit for success, or to lash ourselves for failure. Besides, we cannot see the final outcome. What seems to be utter failure may ultimately be transformed into glorious success.

There is one definite way to become a failure, and that is to look for some area in your life where it seems you have failed. Then brood over it, talk about it, wallow in self-pity and try to get people to sympathize with you. This method is guaranteed not only to make you a failure but to make you utterly miserable.

Have you forgotten Jacob's experience of self-pity (Genesis 42)? It surely seemed that circumstances had ganged up on him. There had been three funerals in the family—Deborah, the servant; Rachel, his wife; and Isaac, his father. Now his son Joseph was gone and was presumed dead; Simeon was detained; and Benjamin's life threatened. There was dissension in the family and grievous famine in the land. His strength was failing and poignant grief, almost beyond expression, welled up within. He blurted out, "All these things are against me."

But a short time later the true facts were revealed. Joseph was alive and exalted—and all those crushing circumstances were a part of God's direction in his life (Genesis 45:8). His experience demonstrates a Biblical principle: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

Too often we talk more of trouble than the truth would warrant. We search for minute failure and worry as if we had discovered a new planet that is about to crash into the earth. We become obsessed with failure and lose all the victory God has provided for us.

That little mother who sobbed, "Where have I

failed?" had forgotten two glorious facts. The first is that *when God is involved anything can happen*. The other is that *the final chapter hasn't been written yet*.

We should not jump to a conclusion when we've only reached the middle of the book. God can change the situation so suddenly! Quicker than any one of us could dream, that little mother's son became sick of his sin and surrendered to the Saviour. The change was dramatic. Today that young man is putting the final touches on his education in anticipation of entering the ministry.

Was that mother a failure when she assumed she was? If so, what changed her into a success in just a matter of months? The change was not her doing but God's. She had put 16 years of training into the life of her son. She could not save him; that was God's responsibility, and He did it.

In God's plan there will come a final day of reckoning. Until that time we are admonished not to judge—not even to judge ourselves. We are unqualified as judges. We do not have all the facts. The story is not yet finished. Let us believe what we say about faithfulness and avoid the failure complex.

Success is not the criterion by which God will reward His servants. He will not say, "Here's a crown for you because every one of your children was saved." He will not say, "You had the biggest Sunday school and here, too, you will rank at the very top." Nor will He say, "Welcome, thou greatest of the evangelists. You had more souls saved than any other, sit on My right hand." No. What He will say is, "Well done, thou good and *faithful* servant . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord" (Matthew 25:21).

Who can say that a mother has failed when she has been faithful? Who can say that a missionary is a failure when he has worked hard and long in one of the most unresponsive fields in the world? Who can say that a pastor has failed when he has broken his health shepherding a small flock that no one else seemed to want? Surely God won't do so. Neither will those who know God's basis of recognition—faithfulness. But the devil will, and he will do his best to make the individual believe it.

The next time you are tempted to think you are a failure, don't take it lying down. Don't let the charge go unchallenged. It won't be God and it won't be your godly friends speaking. It could be the devil and his emissaries but remember he is a liar, as are his henchmen. If the accusing voice is your own, then deal with that fellow immediately.

When someone says you have failed, give a quick retort, "Who says so?"

SCRIPTURES TO LIVE BY

... for May 13-19

Theme Verse: "Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh" (James 5:8).

PATIENCE PAYS

Sunday—Psalm 40:1-17

Monday—Job 1:1-22

Tuesday—Luke 2:25-35

Wednesday—Luke 21:10-19

Thursday—Hebrews 6:13-19

Friday—James 5:7-12

Saturday—2 Peter 1:1-11





Photo by Bob Taylor

I prayed to be a mother

By ELSIE M. ISENSEE

IF YOU HAD GROWN UP the first 16 years of your life, as I did, knowing nothing but cruelty, hatred, and inhuman treatment from your own mother; if you had been the victim daily of such expressions as, "I hate you and I've hated you since the moment you were born!" and, "If it were not for sending my soul to hell, I would kill you!" you might easily come to despise the word mother.

Yet God in His love and mercy planted within my heart a deep desire—my daily prayer: "O Lord, let me get married and have at least one child to whom I can give the mother's love my own heart has always longed for."

In God's own time I was married, and my husband and I left to serve as missionaries in South America. We eagerly anticipated raising a family. To our disappointment I was told by physicians that due to certain physical complications I would probably never be able to give birth to a child.

My husband and I prayed earnestly and in due time I knew the joy of folding to my breast a beautiful baby boy, Kenneth Eugene.

Encouraged by this answer to prayer we dared be-

sech God to bless our home with a baby girl. Four years later Marguerite Ethel was born.

When Kenneth was four, some older boys, sent by those who opposed our missionary work, beat him up and left him for dead. Five Peruvian doctors held consultations, and their verdict was that our son would not live through the night. He had sustained a severe brain contusion. The doctors told us later they were afraid that if he did live, he would be mentally deranged.

As I sat by his bedside throughout that seemingly endless night, I kept reminding the Lord that He had given us our son as a direct answer to prayer. I pleaded for another miracle so that Kenneth's life would be spared.

For five days and nights I sat beside his hospital bed around the clock except for brief visits home to bathe our infant daughter and prepare her clothes and formula.

Kenneth recovered. One by one the doctors told me, "Mrs. Isensee, this is nothing but a miracle from the hand of God. We did everything we could for your little son, but he was too far gone for us to save. Only God has done this for you."

One month later my husband was on a mission in the High Andes of Northern Peru. He was instantly killed when the truck in which he was a passenger went over the precipice, and was buried before I knew he was dead.

I found myself alone with two little ones to raise. How vivid is the memory of standing beside the crib of my baby and crying, "Why, Lord? Why, when we had prayed so hard and so long for her—and then to be left to raise her and her brother alone?"

I picked her up, and she looked at me so helplessly. I knew how completely dependent she was on me. I held her close and thanked God for her. I remembered how I had pleaded with God to give me a child to whom I could give the mother's love my own heart had always longed for. Now these children would need that love more than ever.

Two weeks later when Margie had a severe ear infection, I took her for medical attention to the clinic where she was born. The head doctor and his wife were American missionaries who had no children. They asked me to let them adopt my infant daughter, assuring me that Margie would lack no love nor attention.

I knew they meant only to do me a favor. But not for one brief moment would my mother heart consider giving her up. I could only thank them for their intended kindness and remind them of our heavenly Father's promise to care for widows and orphans.

Shortly after this I returned to the United States with my two children. I expressed my desire to continue in active foreign missions duty. Six months later I was asked to go to Mexico to fill an urgent need on the teaching staff of our mission's Bible institute.

My overseers suggested I might like to leave my two little ones in our children's home in Arkansas where they would receive excellent care. I understood their motive was distinctly one of kindness, but my response was that although God had called me to be a missionary, He had also called me to be a mother—and I felt my children were my first responsibility. I have always been grateful for the overseers' human sensitivity as

they assured me I had their permission to keep my children with me.

In many ways it might have been easier for the children and for me had I accepted the offer. Yet I felt the risk of estrangement was too great and they would wonder if Mommy really loved them.

Of course, it was a heavy task. For instance, when we left Mexico to return to Peru for further missionary service there, Margie was five. She became seriously ill. We discovered she was afflicted with rheumatic fever. She had an infection in her bloodstream which the doctors termed streptococcus viridans. They described it as the most deadly infection possible. Through endless months of constant vigil I watched her little body waste away. Again I could only remind the Lord that she was born in answer to much prayer.

The doctors told me her heart was so severely damaged she could only live for a few weeks or months, and if she were to live, she could never resume a normal life. But once again there was cause for much rejoicing when God reached down and restored Margie to perfect health.

Through all the problems and difficulties God has been with us, sustaining and helping. Today Kenneth has a responsible position as railroad dispatcher, is married to a sweet wife and has two darling little girls. Margie has graduated from college and is completing her first year as an elementary schoolteacher, loving every minute of it as she inspires her pupils with her own high ideals.

Now that they are able to stand on their own feet and offer their personal contributions to society, my role is changing. I am not as needed (which is as it should be) but one unchanging fact remains to warm my heart—I know that I am loved and appreciated. What more could any mother ask?

Yet I pause a moment to listen. It seems that I hear someone say, "Elsie, now that you have experienced the role of motherhood with its mingled joys and sorrows, its heartaches and pleasures, its responsibilities and involvements, if you could start all over again, would you still pray to be a mother?"

My unhesitating reply is, "You had better believe it!"

Bible University

By **J. S. EASTMAN**
Mt. Carmel, Illinois

THE BIBLE is similar to a university in that it provides a spiritual education in Christian perspectives.

Genesis is the Medical Department where the embryo of life is developed, the virus of sin produced, the vaccine of faith discovered, and the first anesthesia used.

Exodus is the Department of Sociology on ancient Hebrew culture.

Leviticus is the Law Department, and Deuteronomy is a crash course in Law School.

Numbers is a study of God's underground railroad and a geographic survey of the Sinai Peninsula.

Joshua is the West Point where the ROTCs are graduated.

Judges is a study in political science on how to keep a nation morally pure.

Ruth wins the Pulitzer Prize for the best short story on love.

Samuel, Kings, and Chronicles are the History Department, telling of the rise and fall of the Israeli Empire.

Ezra and Nehemiah form the Exploration and Excavation Department of the university.

Esther is a study in dramatics, depicting a nation's deliverance.

Job is the Department of Journalism and offers a study in Philosophy.

Psalms is the Department of Music where instruments are tuned to perfection for praise.

Proverbs is the chapel on the campus.

Ecclesiastes is human philosophy at its best.

The Song of Solomon is the botanical garden where graduates are united in marriage.

Isaiah to Malachi comprise the observatory of astronomy—where 16 telescopes are focused on the Bright and Morning Star.

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are the Editorial Department where students learn about the headlines of the centuries.

Acts is a crash course in church history.

Romans is the Department of Archives in Christian theology.

Corinthians is a course in apologetics.

Galatians is a simulated court trial where two attorneys, Law and Grace, argue it out.

Ephesians and Philippians are a course in design and engineering for blueprinting character and conduct.

Colossians gives us an interview with the President of the university. His preeminence is everywhere.

Thessalonians is a course in etiquette—on how to greet the King when He returns.

Timothy is a ministers seminar in the Department of Divinity.

Titus is a beauty course on divine cosmetics.

Philemon is a demonstration course on public relations and psychology.

Hebrews is a course on photography, capturing portraits from the Old Testament.

James is a practical assignment to be carried out.

Peter is a course on physics, showing how the world may be blown apart.

John is the spiritual lapidary course for all students.

Jude gives a short course on the history of apostasy.

Revelation is a stereophonic preview of the world's last Saturday night.

Concern and commitment

Sunday School Lesson for May 20, 1973

Ruth 1:6-19

By J. BASHFORD BISHOP / Southern-Eastern Bible College
Assistant Professor of Bible and Religion

THE BEAUTIFUL STORY OF RUTH—a story of fidelity, purity, and devotion—took place “in the days when the judges ruled”; that is, in a time of universal lawlessness, unspeakable immorality, and ruthless violence. Ruth forever reminds us that God’s grace and power are sufficient to keep one godly in the worst of times.

NAOMI’S SORROWS

The names of the characters in this story are significant. (See vv. 1-5.) Elimelech, whose name meant “my God is king,” belied his name in that he failed to trust God in a time of need and went to dwell in a heathen land. To his sons he gave names which mean *sick* and *pinning*. These names reflect the spiritual loss and emptiness which resulted from their leaving Bethlehem-judah, *the house of bread and praise*, to live in worldly Moab.

Although Naomi’s name meant *pleasant*, she experienced nothing which her name implied. Her husband died. Both of her sons violated God’s revealed will and married Moabitish girls. Soon they too died, leaving their mother destitute and their wives widows.

NAOMI’S EXHORTATION

Hearing prosperity had returned to Judah and having no ties to hold her in Moab, Naomi prepared to return to her own land. She urged her daughters-in-law to remain in Moab (vv. 6-9, 11-13), and pointed out the difficulties which would confront them in Judah: (1) they belonged to an accursed race, hated by the people of Judah; (2) they were Gentiles so their chances of marrying were small.

ORPAH’S CHOICE

“And they lifted up their voice, and wept again: and Orpah kissed her mother-in-law” (v. 14). Twice the three women wept together. Though Orpah wept, nevertheless she kissed her mother-in-law good-bye and returned to Moab. Here we have a lesson on the place of emotion. Orpah’s emotions were stirred, but not sufficiently to move her to noble action. By contrast, Ruth’s emotions were deep enough to affect her life and will. She “clave” to Naomi.

There is a religion which is practically without emotion. It is worth very little. How can one love God with all his heart without being emotionally stirred?

Then there is a religion which is practically all emotion and lacks depth and endurance.

The best religion is a combination of emotion and purpose, a religion in which the emotions serve to move the Christian to godly action.

RUTH’S DECISION

Ruth’s words are among the most beautiful found in the Bible or any literature:

1. The *motives* of her decision were the purest and highest. Her decision was complete, without reservation, unselfish, and showed her devotion both to Naomi and to Naomi’s God.

2. The *tests* of her decision were as follows:

(a) She was tested by her mother-in-law’s poverty and sorrow which she too would have to bear. If our decision to follow Christ is made with the willingness to bear a cross for Christ and share the afflictions of God’s people, then the decision is true and real.

(b) She was tested by a plain admonition to count the cost. (Compare Luke 14:25-33.)

(c) She was tested by apparent coldness on the part of one she loved. It seemed Naomi was not anxious to have her company. It is a real trial to young people when they are discouraged in their godly decision by Christian people whom they love and respect. Yet, as it was with Ruth, such apparent discouragements may add fuel to their zeal.

(d) Ruth was tested by the drawing back of her sister-in-law. We are greatly influenced by what others do, yet we ought to make our decisions as individuals.

(e) Ruth was tested by the imperfections of God’s people. “Thy people shall be my people.” The Israelites had their faults, but this did not deter Ruth from casting her lot with them.

OUR CHOICES

Ruth made *five* choices which must be made by all who wish to make heaven their home: (1) They must choose the Christian’s God. (2) They must choose the Christian’s path. (3) They must choose the Christian’s habitation. (4) They must choose Christian associates. (5) They must choose to die like a Christian.

SHOULD THERE BE ANY HESITATION?





A providential rendezvous

By JOHN DAVID VANLEY / Pastor, Assembly of God, Tribune, Kansas

I STOOD ONE WARM AUTUMN NIGHT under a dim, Interstate highway light at a country crossing trying to thumb a ride. Cars streaked past me, none stopping.

I was 60 miles from Central Bible College in Springfield, Missouri, where I was a student. I thought it would take only a short time to hitchhike to Oklahoma a few hundred miles away to receive ministerial credentials and then return. But I was wrong.

For more than four hours I stood at that intersection. It was nearly midnight, and I had classes to attend the following morning. But traffic was scarce. And the longer I waited, the more impatient and angry I became. "O God," I grumbled aloud, "why doesn't somebody stop?"

Then God spoke to my soul. And I knelt at that deserted highway and confessed: "Lord, I'm sorry for getting upset by this delay. If I am here for a purpose, please help me to understand and accept it."

Minutes later a dilapidated, two-toned, green Chevrolet rumbled to a stop in front of me. I opened the door, stuffed my suitcase behind the seat and climbed in.

The old rattletrap could not be hurried. Slowly it coughed and sputtered along, but I was grateful for the lift.

The driver was a friendly, middle-aged fellow en route to his home near Springfield. When I told him that I was a Christian (as I told everyone I rode with) his eyes widened and his face broke into a broad smile.

"My name is Bill," he said, "and I'm a truck driver. A few moments ago I returned from a three-day run and parked my rig." Then eagerly pulling a New Testament from his khaki shirt pocket, he handed it to me and continued talking. "Two weeks ago someone gave this to me and I've nearly read it through. I want to know Christ personally, and I've been praying that God would send someone to help me."

I was that someone! God had kept me stranded on that Interstate for a providential rendezvous with this trucker. He needed to be introduced to the Saviour, and God had sent me to him.

While the car chugged over the miles, I read to him from his Testament. Of all the scriptures, the most convincing for Bill was First John, chapter 1, verse 9: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Bill said he was fed up with his sinful way of living and wanted a new beginning.

Two hours later, he wheeled his battered car into a space on the CBC campus parking lot. And with the motor still churning, Bill leaned over the steering

wheel, closed his eyes, and wept. "God," he prayed, "be merciful to me a sinner."

Afterwards, I picked up my luggage and stepped out. But before we parted, Bill clasped my hand, and together we lifted our voices in hearty praise to his newly-found Friend.

God sent His only Son into the world "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). And Christ said of Himself: "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

I am glad that word "they" included Bill and me. It counts you in too.

Jesus is always looking for individuals who are tired of sin and who want to be free from it. He once noticed a friendless Samaritan woman at Jacob's well and gave her new hope. He saw Zacchaeus perched in a tree and gave him the salvation he was longing for.

You too may have a personal rendezvous with the Master. Whatever your need may be, He can supply it. Tell him your problem. Believe, and He will help you.

MISSING SIGNPOSTS

A WOMAN WAS DRIVING on a country road near a small town. Suddenly, without warning, the road ended. The sign which should have told her she was on a dead-end road was missing. Her car hit the embankment and overturned. She hovered between life and death for several days—all because a signpost was not there.

Signposts. We see them continually along the highways. Some indicate we are approaching a dangerous curve. Others tell us to stop, or slow down. They are there for our good. We need them.

We Christians are called to be signposts. God told Ezekiel, "Thou shalt be a sign unto them; and they shall know that I am the Lord" (Ezekiel 24:27).

Unbelievers may have no other signposts than the Christian people they meet, for they seldom read the Bible or attend church.

How about it? Are you a signpost for Christ? Or do you wander from your post of duty, forgetting that one of your main tasks here is to help lead others to the right road? For lack of a signpost a sinner may take the wrong turn, or crash at a dead-end street.

Signposts may be ignored—but at least they are there, doing the job they were intended to do. Can the same be said of us?

—MARGIE NORTH

A visit with

Mama Mboma

By MELBA ULMAN / *Missionary to Tanzania*

IT WAS AN IMPORTANT event when Mary Beggs relayed the message to me. Mama Mboma, one of the Women's Missionary Council leaders, had invited us to lunch on Thursday.

My husband and I had arrived in Tanzania only five months before as first-term missionaries. Everything was exciting, but a little scary. Language school was still ahead of us.

Meanwhile, we were working in the Bible school at Mbeya. Fellow workers Mary and Jimmy Beggs were invaluable in helping us adjust to our new life.

Now the invitation had come from Mama Mboma. She had told Mary, "Mama Beggs, I have been your friend for seven years; I want to be Mama Ulman's friend too." How my heart warmed when I heard those words! That meant I was being accepted by our church women. More than anything I longed for friends in this strange country.

But doubts came too. Mama Mboma spoke Swahili. Could I ever converse with her?

The day finally arrived. Many times I had sung, "I'll go where You want me to go, dear Lord," but now I was reluctant. However, Mary encouraged me, and with our children, we started out.

Mary drove down the main road until we had passed the local secondary school, then turned right on a small dirt road. Banana trees and other thick tropical vegetation bordered the road. It was like driving through a dark green corridor. Everything was so different! Having been transplanted from the American culture for such a short time, I was quite apprehensive. "Here is Mama Mboma's house," Mary said.

Mama Mboma came out to greet us. Her smile informed me that she knew and loved the same Saviour I did. In that split-second as I looked at her radiant smile, I was proud to be a part of the Assemblies of God missions outreach. Watching every procedure, I observed Mary's warmth and love as she presented a gift to Mama Mboma.

Shortly, Mama Mboma brought out a delectable dish of chicken and rice. I found myself eating far more than I had anticipated. Roger, my uninhibited nine-year-old, helped himself to four large servings. I was embarrassed, but it was apparent that our hostess was delighted.

Although Mary and Mama Mboma conversed in Swahili, I was not left out; Mary readily interpreted for me. However, I felt an intense desire to speak Swahili fluently too.

Soon it was time to say good-bye. As we walked out of the yard, Mary indicated that three families of Assemblies of God Christians lived close by. So for the next hour we smiled, shook hands, and Mary chatted amiably with them.

Traveling toward home, Mary expressed her happiness. "Melba, isn't Mama Mboma wonderful?" she said. I did not hesitate to agree.

A few weeks later Jimmy and Mary announced that they were being assigned to Kenya to help begin an Assemblies of God outreach there. Consequently, Don and I were asked to become directors of the Mbeya Bible School.

We were thrilled with this first assignment, but realized we would miss Jimmy and Mary very much. They had been so patient with us in the beginning of our life in Africa. We would miss their comradeship and advice.

After language school was completed, we returned to Mbeya to assume our duties. One day soon after our return, Bwana Mboma brought me the message that Mama Mboma had invited me to come for lunch on Saturday. Thrilled, I accepted the invitation; but after Bwana left, the doubts began. Would I be able to converse with Mama Mboma? Mary wouldn't be there to help me this time. Would Mama Mboma be able to understand my faltering Swahili?

Saturday came. Roger and I drove to Mama's house. She met us with the same smile and extended her hands to mine. The warmth of her love enfolded me. She graciously thanked me for the gift I had brought and welcomed us into her home.

I told her that Roger remembered eating in her home before and had begged to come again. She looked so pleased as she placed before us a meal of chicken, rice, and peas, prepared the African way over an open fire. How delicious it was!

We talked as we ate. Mama Mboma was careful to speak each word slowly and clearly so I could understand her. I was enjoying my visit immensely when I realized that for two hours I had been using Swahili exclusively. Mama Mboma's kindness had helped me bridge the cultural differences, and my efforts to speak her language had cemented our friendship.

Driving home, I sang again, "I'll go where You want me to go, dear Lord." My heart was lifted in praise. God's call placed upon my life while I was a teen-ager was coming to fruition. I knew that life in Africa would undoubtedly include some dark days, but I had just enjoyed one made bright by a visit to Mama Mboma's.

Special Offerings for FOREIGN MISSIONS

may be sent to

Assemblies of God, Foreign Missions Dept.
1445 Boonville Ave., Springfield, Mo. 65802

WHAT ARE THE MAJOR WORRIES of the man on the street? Taxes? Crime? War?

According to a Yale psychiatrist, the worries which lead to despondency are much more personal. Dr. Eugene Paykel asked 373 people to rate the events that would upset them most. Heading the list were: the death of a loved one; going to jail; an unfaithful spouse; financial difficulty; separation; divorce; unwanted pregnancy; and major illness.

Perhaps your heart is aching and you say: "What can I do with this burden?" The Bible gives a three part answer.

Psalm 55:22 tells us, "Cast your burden on the Lord and He will sustain you." Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ." And Galatians 6:5 says, "Each man must bear his own burden."

Three apparently contradictory statements! Yet taken together they add up beautifully to God's prescription for a burdened heart.

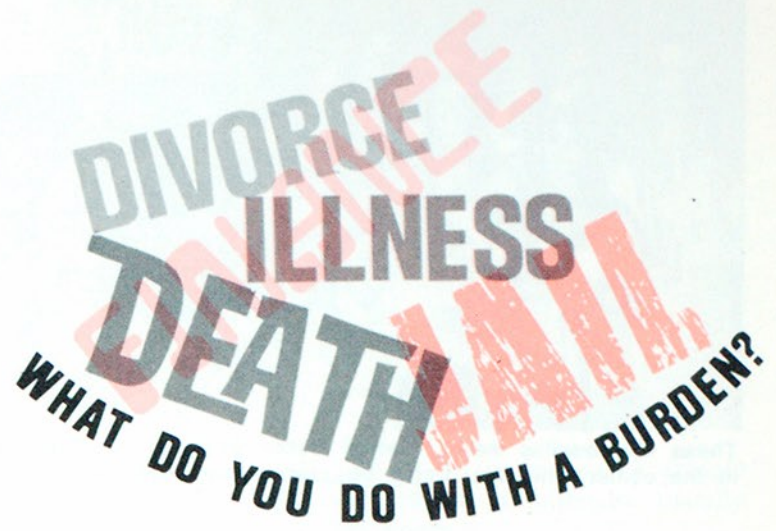
First, there is the principle of *divine dependability*. Psalm 55 was written by a man who was crushed by life. Out of trouble, betrayal, a broken heart, the Psalmist turned to God and said, "Give your burdens to the Lord. He will carry them." God cares. Turn your burden over to Him and leave it there.

The second principle is that of *mutual charity*. Some people so overspiritualize everything they believe that "if you have the Lord you don't need anyone else." They overlook the fact that often the way God carries our burdens is through other people! We carry out that law of love as we bear each other's burdens.

But we can't *bear* one another's burdens unless we *know* one another's burdens. Too little sharing of this kind takes place among Christians. Sometimes our churches are so impersonal that people come, sit through a service or class and never have a place where they can unburden their hearts. We've also tried to hide the fact that Christians have problems. We need to be honest enough to tell a brother or sister. James says, "Confess your sins one to another and pray for one another" (James 5:16). Perhaps you're carrying around a burden that you haven't shared with someone else. How can they help unless you share?

However, we can't merely socialize our problems away by loading them on others, any more than we can spiritualize them away by putting them on God. Some people run constantly from one preacher or counselor to another because they are unwilling to face up to their own problem. That is why the Scripture lays down a third principle: *personal responsibility*. "Each man shall bear his own burden."

When Paul says, "Bear one another's burdens," he



By LEIGHTON FORD

uses a word that means the staggering load that is too heavy for any one person to carry. But here he uses a different word which means "every man shall shoulder his own pack." That is, each of us has a personal share of responsibility that we must not shirk.

Often God allows us to have burdens to exercise our faith. People who run from problems—who try to fill the valleys of their lives with drugs, for example—are really missing a blessing. Faith grows under pressure, in disappointment, trial and difficulty, far more than when things are comfortable.

Perhaps you're thinking as you read: it's easy for you to talk like this; you don't have to carry my burden. And, of course, you're right. But I know someone who does understand; His name is Jesus Christ. He knew what it was to be despised, rejected, deserted by His friends. He knows how to bear a burden, for He prayed alone in agony in a garden before they crucified Him. "It was our grief He bore, our sorrows that weighed Him down. For He died in our place" (Isaiah 53:4). Jesus promises, "Come unto me all who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

Today, trust your burden to your heavenly Father to carry. Give to Him your burden of guilt, for His forgiveness; your burden of worry, for His peace. And He will sustain you by the power of His Spirit; by the love of His people; and by the strength you need to live one day at a time.

Cast your burden on the Lord and you will find, as a great Christian once said, that your burden will become as wings to a bird.

—Condensation of an address on the *Hour of Decision* radio broadcast.

AT HIS COMMAND

The gentle hand of God I feel
Upon my shoulder laid,
And from the stillness
Tones both strong and kind repeat,
"Peace be still, my child,
Peace be still."
Then like the calm

That settles over stormy sea,
At His command
All my fears are silenced.
The twilight deepens into night.
Relieved and peaceful now, I sleep,
And when the morning dawns,
Refreshed, I face it with a song.

—DOROTHY M. DAW



These Missionettes were crowned Honor Stars at the Tennessee District Council. Mrs. J. L. Schaffer is in the center, and Mrs. Doyle Burgess in the front row, right.

The excitement of Missionettes

By CHARLOTTE SCHUMITSCH

GIRLS ARE MUCH THE SAME the world around. The thought of a retreat, convention, or Honor Star crowning service always generates excitement. Pictures on these two pages bear this out.

Of course, we must not forget the leaders who are responsible for planning and carrying out special events—some 9,000 Missionettes sponsors, plus cosponsors, sectional representatives, and district directors. These dedicated women deserve praise for the many hours they give to Missionettes. Their interest is to see girls won to the Lord and mature into strong Christians and effective witnesses.

Missionettes has grown at a steady pace since the program began in 1956. Clubs have been organized at the rate of more than one a day, with the rate

Carol Mooney of First Assembly in Chattanooga, Tennessee, was selected Missionettes queen. Selection was based on a test covering the achievement program. Queens of the years 1970-72 are standing with Mrs. Doyle Burgess. Left to right: Penny Williams, Cande Williams, and Lanis Karnes.



increasing to more than three a day during the past two years. In fact, 1972 saw the fastest increase with over 1,200 new clubs organized. (This includes Daisies, ages 5-6; Prims, 7-8; Juniors, 9-11; and Seniors, 12-15.)

A district WMC president who is particularly enthused over Missionettes is Mrs. J. L. Schaffer of Tennessee. Her district leads all others, having 92 Honor Stars. Working closely with Mrs. Schaffer is Mrs. Doyle Burgess, district Missionettes director.

The Tennessee District Council in February is one that will long be remembered. It was there that 25 girls were crowned Honor Stars, breaking all previous records for the number of girls crowned at one time.

Each of these girls spent hundreds of hours working on the Stairway to the Stars achievement program. Reading the entire Bible is in itself an accomplishment, and this is just one of the many facets of the program.

Mrs. Schaffer was so moved by the service that she is now working on the achievement program herself and has challenged her sponsors to do the same. The response has been overwhelming. The next Tennessee District Council will see Mrs. Schaffer and many sponsors and other leaders crowned along with the girls who complete the *Stairway* climb.

During the council Missionettes winners were announced in competition in the fields of art, poetry,



MISSIONETTES WEEK


May 13-20

Again this year thousands of Missionettes will participate in special activities during Missionettes Week. *Discover* is the theme being used to focus attention on the program and its outreach ministry.

Missionettes Week, which begins on Mother's Day, is a good time to become acquainted with mothers of all Missionettes, especially those who have no other tie with the local church.

A special program planning guide and poster for Missionettes Week will be found in the May issue of *Advance* magazine. The material has been prepared so that the club may use it, regardless of size or age level.

composition, music, and sewing. Lovely layettes to be presented to home and foreign missionaries were also on display.

To be a Missionettes sponsor is to accept a challenge. It is gratifying to know there are thousands of women around the world who are accepting this challenge and reaping results. 



ABOVE: Photo depicts the eight steps of the achievement program in Guatemala. The first letters of the names of the Bible women spell "Estrella," which means star in Spanish. BELOW: More than 130 Missionettes and counselors attended the first Missionettes camp at the Assemblies of God Bible school in Lima, Peru. Mrs. Rosalyn Mock is the national director.



Miriam award to Pamela

By SUZY MURPHY



Pamela Stokes

PAMELA STOKES is a winner. A fragile 15-year-old, her dark eyes reflect an intensity usually missing in the eyes of her peers.

As a victim of rheumatoid arthritis, Pam is in constant pain, but she is not a victim of self-pity.

Last December 30 Mrs. J. B. Cherry, pastor's wife of First Assembly, Raceland, Louisiana, had arranged for a lovely service with special decorations and special invitations to several churches in the area. All of this was to honor Pam who was to receive the Missionettes Miriam Award.

At the appropriate hour Pam was to be brought to the church in a wheelchair. However, the pain of moving her from her bed was so intense that she nearly passed out. Then the service was rescheduled to be held in her home.

During the service Prims and older Missionettes, dressed in uniform, gave salutes to the Christian and American flags and testified. The girls also sang *Through It All* (I've learned to trust in Jesus). There was Scripture reading and finally the Miriam Award was presented by Mrs. L. O. Waldon, Louisiana District WMC president.

On the award were engraved these words, "For Outstanding Courage." The award which is named after Miriam of the Old Testament consists of a letter of citation from the Women's Missionary Council Department and an engraved 14k gold medal attached to a gold chain.

Pam was first stricken with arthritis when she was seven. However, she eventually recovered. Neither her two younger sisters nor her older brother suffer from the ailment.

Shortly thereafter, she became involved with the Missionettes and embarked on the achievement program known as *Stairway to the Stars* which consists primarily of Bible study. Pam was required at various intervals to do household chores such as baking and washing dishes to earn points.

She was stricken a second time two years ago. It has been a long, tedious road on the way to recovery, and it is not over yet. Her life is a 24-hour, 365-day routine, which consists of physical therapy, exercises, whirlpool baths, and schoolwork. She is a tenth grade honor student tutored at home.

She takes special pride in her arts and crafts works which she sells. Her goals for the future are "to get well, go to Bible school, and then major in music."

Pamela Stokes is indeed an inspirational modern-day example of the proverbial virtues of fortitude and courage.

—Houma (La.) *Daily Courier*

The sounding of a new day



By **RAY GANNON**

Director of Beth Emmanuel Fellowship
North Hollywood, California

And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. Luke 21:24

THIS IS PROBABLY the most exciting time in history to be alive! Since the recapturing of the Old City of Jerusalem by the Israelis in June 1967, we have been experiencing an overlapping of the climax of the "time of the Gentiles" and the *sounding of a new day* for the Jewish people.

Jewish communities throughout the world are becoming increasingly aware of Jesus, and literally thousands of Jews have come to believe in Him as Messiah, Saviour, and Lord.

This tremendous spiritual awakening among the Jews is especially significant in Southern California. The June 12, 1972, issue of *Time* magazine stated, "UCLA (University of California, Los Angeles) campus Rabbi Shlomo Cunin estimates that young Jews are converting to Christianity at the rate of 6,000 to 7,000 a year."

After graduating from Bethany Bible College, Santa Cruz, in 1970 my wife Kassiani and I came to Los Angeles to begin our work among the some 500,000 Jews living in the Greater Los Angeles area. At first, the ministry progressed very slowly, but for the last 15 months our number has grown by leaps and bounds. Dozens of Jewish people have accepted Jesus as their Messiah.

We have found that the most effective way for us to reach out to the Jewish community is through home Bible studies. While reluctant to attend public church services, Jewish people are not inhibited to fellowship in a home atmosphere.

Thus far we have established these weekly meetings in the southern part of the San Fernando Valley, Beverly Hills, Covina, and Culver City. We plan to establish a number of such home meetings across Southern California wherever we can find solid Jewish representation, hoping to operate 10 by the end of this year. Our Thursday evening meeting in Beverly Hills currently averages 25 present each week.

More than six months ago a Jewish lady named Ina Golden heard about our Beverly Hills meetings. Hav-



Israel Information Services photo

ing become disillusioned with the occult and metaphysics after 27 weeks of indulging in them, and having failed to find fulfillment in Judaism years earlier, she was hungering for the Lord.

Ina knew instinctively at the conclusion of our Scripture study that this was where she belonged. At the appropriate moment, she stepped into the middle of our prayer circle and said, "Pray for me, that God will fill this empty vessel with new wine." The Spirit of God touched Ina that night.

Two days later she came into my office and received Jesus as her Messiah—verbally renouncing her occult past. Ina has been a faithful witness for the Lord ever since. Four weeks ago Ina called me and was simply ecstatic. She had just led another Jew to Jesus.

Although it is necessary presently to give only her initials, I want to share Mrs. F. B.'s story with you. Even though it meant missing synagogue choir practice, F. B. came to our Tuesday evening Bible study in the Valley one week. She recognized we were declaring God's truth. F. B. took a *leave of absence* from the choir and began joining us regularly. Recently she came into Beth Emanuel's office and gave her heart to the Lord.

In one of our recent home meetings in Beverly Hills, we were able to use a backyard swimming pool for a baptismal service. As nearly 30 Jewish people praised and worshiped the Lord around the pool's edge, we had the privilege of baptizing several new Jewish believers.

One of those who was baptized sent me a note a few days later. The note read: "It is difficult for me to put into words my feelings for your ministry. My being baptized was beautiful, and I now feel I have been *buried and resurrected* with our Lord. I am one of His children. Thanks to you for making Him known to me, and thanks to Jesus for coming into my life."

We always look forward to Jewish holidays such as Chanukah and Passover because of the fine turnout we can expect at our services. At Passover and Chanukah in 1972 more than 80 persons, including some Israelis, showed up for each service. In each meeting we exalted Jesus as the "Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world."

Because Jesus is having such a tremendous impact upon the Jewish community everywhere, there is much hostility arising from Jewish religious leaders. What is particularly disturbing to these religious leaders is that those Jews receiving Christ as their Messiah are affirming their Jewishness, claiming Jesus has made them more Jewish than they ever could have been without Him.

Many articles are appearing in magazines and newspapers describing the Jewish revival and the Jewish *establishment's* resistance to it. Jewish religious leaders are bewildered as they observe the work of God's Spirit. Jewish people of every age, economic background, and social status are reaching out and touching the *hem of His garment*. Jesus is affecting His Chosen People in a major way.

Now is the time for evangelicals to put their hands to the task of winning Jewish people to Christ. The Holy Spirit is working, and we as believers must cooperate with Him in restoring the Jews to the God of Israel.



Jesus — my Messiah

By DELORES HERNE



HAVING BEEN RAISED in an upper middle class Jewish home in West Los Angeles and Beverly Hills, I received most of the material and financial blessings this world can offer. I was not particularly religious, but did attend the synagogue until I was 15 years old, and appreciated Judaism.

I attended college and traveled extensively throughout Europe three times.

When I left home to travel, I had a desire to find peace of mind and hoped that life would finally find me. I thought Europe would fill my need to succeed in my relationships with people and my ambition to find a satisfying and creative occupation in which to express myself.

In each situation it seemed as if someone else, not I, was planning things. I studied French in Paris, worked as a waitress in Switzerland for the experience, and then became a secretary in London. All the while within I hungered to find some meaning and purpose in my life.

Upon arriving in Israel, I felt a great desire to buy a Bible which I now know was God's direction at that moment. As I read the Old Testament, I discovered that the God of my heritage was a miracle-working God in His parting of the Red Sea for the Children of Israel—and I believed!

Several months later while I was in Switzerland, my parents wrote that they had become "completed Jews" by accepting Jesus the Messiah as their Lord and Saviour. I was shocked but happy for their newfound peace.

On coming home, I felt within myself an emptiness and hopelessness at having failed to achieve my goal. Jesus soon met my need, as He said, "Blessed are ye that hunger now; for ye shall be filled" (Luke 6:21). At the Inter-Church Day of Renewal in Los Angeles (a charismatic meeting designed to encourage people of the historic churches to be filled with the Holy Spirit) on October 2, 1971, I accepted Jesus as my Messiah, my Lord and Saviour, and I received the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Since that day I have been a new person. I have been able to share my experience with Jewish people in Dallas, Toronto, New York, London, Amsterdam, and Jerusalem. My sister has accepted Christ, and I am trusting God to answer prayer for other relatives and friends to find the same peace I have experienced in coming to my Messiah.

Editor's note: Ray Gannon, director of Beth Emmanuel Fellowship in North Hollywood, says that Delores Herne regularly attends an Assemblies of God church when in Los Angeles, cooperates with Beth Emmanuel Fellowship, and continues to witness enthusiastically to Jewish people.

Why I believe in radio

By JACK E. RISNER / *Revivaltime Stations Director*

PICK AN AGE GROUP, any age group except the very youngest, and you will find radio reaches those people better than any other medium.

When I say better, I mean two things: reaching more people, and reaching them with less cost. Later in this article I will give data to back up this claim.

But first, I'd like to give you common sense reasons for the tremendous power of radio.

Radio is really a term that applies to as wide a variety of programming as exists in the world of communications. Actually radio is many media.

There's music radio—at least 10 kinds. Some stations specialize in country music, others in classical—still others in the several types of music in between. There's sports radio. News radio. Talk radio. And combination radio, with all or some of the above. In heavily populated areas, each of these types of radio could be broken down still further.

One of the specialized kinds of radio of recent years is religious radio—stations whose format consists almost entirely of gospel music and preaching.

The idea behind these various formats is for each station to reach a select portion of the potential audience. People choose to listen to a station because its programming fits their life-style. Businessmen who use radio to get their message to the public can now zero in on specific kinds of people by age, interest, musical taste, and so forth.

In answer to the general question, "Who listens to radio?" consider these facts gathered by the Radio Advertising Bureau. During any week, 96 percent of all Americans over the age of 12 listen to radio. Among men the percentage runs from 93 percent of those past the age of 50 up to 96 percent in the 35-49 bracket. In women it goes from 91 percent among those past 50 to 99 percent in the 18-34 age group. Teens listening to radio during the week hit the percentile of 99.3.

That gives you an idea of how many Americans radio reaches during each week. But how many are reached on a single day? Taking it by job groupings, here's how it looks: working women—82 percent listen to radio in one normal weekday; professional and managerial people—87 percent per day; homemakers—87 percent.

Merchants know that radio is the least expensive form of advertising—in terms of impact per dollar. And radio can pack a big wallop. The business world has learned how to use that wallop for profit.

A certain brand of wine increased sales by 77 percent because of an all-radio campaign.

A brand of sausage became a household word through radio.



"Revivaltime" Stations Director Jack Risner uses a map to pinpoint the 531 stations currently carrying the Assemblies of God radio broadcast in the 50 states. "Revivaltime" is also released through the facilities of 97 stations overseas.

A flavoring product reversed a decline and won back its place in sales with radio.

Jesus said it: "The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light" (Luke 16:8). Jesus is telling us that there are some things the church can learn from the business world.

One important lesson the business world offers is that radio is an effective way to get your message across.

That's why I'm completely sold on radio evangelism. And the Assemblies of God broadcast *Revivaltime* has proved itself as one of the most effective gospel broadcasts on the air.

Managers of rock stations as well as religious stations appreciate the high quality of the broadcast—its technical excellence cannot be challenged. Not only is *Revivaltime* electronically first-rate and musically superb, its speaker C. M. Ward ranks among the best radio preachers of all time.

Testimonies of lives transformed through *Revivaltime* frequently appear in the pages of this magazine. They represent but a small sampling of the hundreds of letters received every day at *Revivaltime's* office—more than 100,000 each year!

Yes, I'm sold on radio. And I've dedicated myself to getting *Revivaltime* on every station possible. My prayer is that others will catch sight of the vast potential God has placed within our grasp.

THE OTHER DAY I watched a little flock of birds circling overhead in geometrical formation. What an achievement, I thought, to be able to soar so effortlessly.

At a recognized signal, the birds dived gracefully as if to land on the brown earth; but, veering upward a little, they began to settle on the telephone wires instead.

I thought, *They have paused for rest and council during their long flight.* They reminded me of people assembling for a church service.

In a few seconds their bodies and wings were at rest. That is, for most of them. But a few were restless.

I watched those others who seemed reluctant to stop. They wheeled impatiently above the rest as if to say, "Come on, why stop here? Let's get going." But the more experienced travelers ignored them.

Then this rather volatile group broke up and each bird descended by itself. There was a feverish fluttering as these latecomers tried to find seats in the council. A bird would hover over an unoccupied space of wire, grip it, shake and shuffle, and then flit away. But only as far as another space, where it would repeat its fussy landing operation.

I was not sure if the council meeting had begun as yet, but I could imagine this twittering and hovering might be disturbing to the rest. I thought of the chronic latecomers, the slow-settlers, the people-watchers, the magazine-scanners we sometimes have in church.

At last, only four up-and-downers were left. I was



Parable of the birds

By GEORGE HOLMES

intrigued to see if they would ever settle and confer. They surely needed to.

And they did. The good-natured majority took them in.

I suppose telephone lines make a good resting place for birds, but the wires have a more important purpose. They carry many voices, and often convey valuable information. But the birds are not listening.

When you attend services in God's house, do you just sit, or are you listening? Are you tuned in to receive the inner message for your mind and spirit?

Do you hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church?

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12



17

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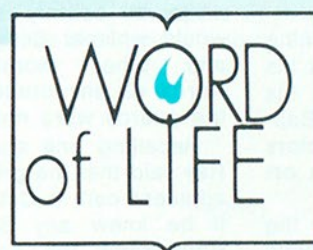
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Teen Student
Teentivity
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HI-TEEN COURSE (ages 15-17)

Hi-Teen Teacher
Hi-Teen Student
Hi-Teen Visuals
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NEWS OF OUR TIMES



Former prisoners of war, Navy Captains Harry T. Jenkins, James B. Stockdale, and Howard E. Rutledge (l. to r.) discuss the spiritual side of life in a North Vietnamese prison camp. During their session with a group of chaplains at San Diego the three, who all spent more than seven years as POWs, agreed there was no doubt in their minds that individual belief in God had sustained them during prison life. (RNS photo)

POWs created 'living Bible' from memory, pilot says

CONROE, TEX.—When Capt. James E. Ray and other American prisoners of war held captive in Vietnam were permitted to live in groups rather than solitary confinement, one of their major activities was the creation of "a living Bible."

This "living Bible" was reconstructed from verses memorized years before, mostly in Sunday school, plus occasional use of a Bible their captors would allow them to see.

"Under a lot of pressure, the Vietnamese decided to let us have a Bible one hour a week," Ray recalled. As a special project, the POWs had decided to try to copy and memorize the entire Sermon on the Mount.

"After five weeks the program fell through completely, and we didn't see the Bible again," he said. But during that time the prisoners had copied and memorized the entire Sermon on the Mount, and several other passages.

"We had our own 'living Bible' walking around the room," Ray said.

Like several other returning POWs, Ray said he felt that his faith, and the prayers of his family and church (First Baptist here), were major factors in bringing him through his ordeal.

He mentioned specifically the training he received as a child in Sunday school, vacation Bible

school, and other church functions, with their emphases on Bible study and memorization.

Saying he never realized at the time the depth of meaning of memorizing those verses, Ray stated: "In reality, the fullest depth of their meaning was not discovered until I was in prison and understood that you have to have something that is meaningful taken away to value it and appreciate it."

A prisoner for nearly seven years, Ray, like other POWs, spent the first couple of years of his imprisonment in solitary confinement.

Despite the "physical and mental duress" applied by his captors, the loneliness and depression of that solitary confinement would often disappear, he recalled.

"For some reason, I suddenly felt I wasn't alone," he remembered. "I don't know whether it was the power of prayer or an intervention by God."

Ray said the prisoners, even while in solitary confinement, would whisper Scripture verses and other morale-sustaining words of encouragement when the guards were not around.

Recalling one such instance, Ray said that the prisoner in the adjacent cell, a Catholic, asked if he knew any Bible verses. Both knew the Lord's Prayer and said it together.

After the men were allowed to meet together in large groups, the prisoners organized worship services, Sunday school groups to study Scripture, and general discussions of religion and differences between denominations.

"It was during those discussions I found that we have so many common denominators with other Christian groups that the areas where we do differ are minor," Ray observed. "And even if some of the differences are fairly important, I think the common denominator we have in Christ should be emphasized."

"Most people relied on what faith they had," Ray remembered, "and I was surprised to find that most of the men had some Christian training, even though it had oftentimes 'gone dormant.'"

In African nations

Christian faith gains with freedom

PITTSBURGH, PA.—Christianity has grown much faster in African nations that have become independent, according to an Anglican clergyman who addressed students of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

Dr. John S. Mbiti of Uganda said Christianity and traditional African religion are in accord in many places.

U.S. TERMED 'WORLDLY' AS COMMUNISTS ACCEPT ASCETIC PRINCIPLE

KETTERING, OHIO—The "ascetic principle" which has traditionally served American society has passed to the totalitarian countries, Russia and China, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen told a crowd of 1,700 at a Lenten lecture series here.

Both the church and the nation "have become worldly," he said. At the same time, the "natural morals" of the people of the Soviet Union and China have eclipsed the morals of Americans.

He noted the two major totalitarian countries are not experiencing widespread immorality, pornography, or muggings in the streets. But he added that the Chinese and the Soviets, "have picked up the cross without Christ."

Communists are not without social problems, however. One out of every four marriages in the Soviet Union goes on the rocks.

In divorce the U.S.S.R. is second only to the U.S.A. where one in three marriages fails.

The problem, according to a Soviet Youth League paper, is that young Russians plunge into wedlock unprepared for the sometimes "torturous" task awaiting them. It laid the blame on a lack of high school courses in marital relations, "puritanical taboos," and the dearth of good handbooks on marriage.

Soviets enshrine Manson, cardinal in antireligion museum in cathedral

LENINGRAD—Charles Manson and the late Cardinal Francis Spellman, who may seem to have had little in common, have been enshrined in this Soviet city as horrible examples of the effects of religion, according to a United Press International report.

Pictures of Spellman and Manson, the man convicted of the Sharon Tate murder, are among hundreds of exhibits, including gem-encrusted robes and medieval torture instruments, in the "Museum of the History of Religion and Atheism."

The museum is housed in the Kazan Cathedral, which was one of Leningrad's leading churches from 1801 until 1932.

The museum, founded in 1932, still draws large crowds. It is devoted to the idea that if churches have the right to preach, the government has the right to preach against them.

On the ground floor, beneath mosaics and frescoes of the cathedral, are hundreds of photographs and displays ridiculing religion. The glories of

space travel and the failure of Soviet cosmonauts to find God in orbit are chronicled.

Priests are shown as both foolish and cruel. Exhibits laugh at poor church attendance by Western youth, and lampoon the use of jazz in Western churches to recover these youth.

Cardinal Spellman is condemned for his blessing of U.S. troops in Vietnam. Manson is part of a new exhibit on the revival of Satanism in the West.

Downstairs, in the crypt, is a chamber of horrors. The Spanish Inquisition gets the full treatment. A heretic is shown flinching before the Inquisitors, while a mask is heated on the fire and other tools of torture—a chair of iron spikes, a metal snout, the rack—stand ready nearby.

The Kazan Cathedral was one of 462 churches which graced Leningrad in 1917. Only 17 working churches remain open today. Others have been torn down or are used for other purposes. A number have been turned into museums.

COX SAYS

Family life in trouble, but not dying

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Harvard University theologian Harvey Cox said here that the American family is facing a fight for survival. He said the forces of society and culture have fragmented the family and given it a false image of what it is and should be.

"I do not believe the family is a fading institution," Cox declared in a national seminar sponsored by the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission.

"I do not believe for one moment that the family will disappear in the secular society in future years," observed Cox, author of the book "The Secular City."

Cox pointed out that while divorce rates are climbing, the remarriage rates are increasing at an equal rate.

Modern society views the family unit in what Cox called

"the nuclear family" comprised of father, mother, and two or three children. Because families are getting smaller and more is being expected of them, the effect is like increasing the amount of electrical current and decreasing the size of an electrical fuse. It blows a circuit, he said.

In contrast to the "nuclear family" of the present, the family of the past was what Cox described as the "extended family," including father, mother, six to eight children, grandparents, and other relatives living with the unit, or nearby.

He said Americans are caught in the middle, between the "extended family" of the past and the "nuclear family" of the present, and challenged churches to come up with an alternative life-style that blends the best of both of these.



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AT A GLANCE

• • • The Assemblies of God in Great Britain and Ireland are celebrating their 50th anniversary with a Jubilee Conference this month. Thomas F. Zimmerman, general superintendent of the Assemblies of God (U.S.) will be a featured speaker at the conference.

• • • Australian clergymen and lay leaders are probing possibilities of a Key 75 thrust, similar to North America's Key 73 evangelistic outreach, for their nation in 1975.

• • • The American Bible Society printed over six million copies of Scripture for the Phase 2 Bible distribution of Key 73. Copies of *Touched by the Fire* (Luke/Acts in Today's English Version) were shipped out by the Society at the rate of 500,000 a week.

• • • The African nation of Zambia will honor the memory of famed missionary-explorer David Livingstone by issuing six commemorative stamps this month. The set marking the centenary of Livingstone's passing on May 1, 1873, includes a stamp portraying the historic meeting of Stanley and Livingstone in 1871. Other scenes include his reading to a group of African natives, exploring Victoria Falls, chasing away slave traders, and healing the sick. One shows the moola tree under which the heart of the missionary was buried.

• • • The number of skid row inhabitants across the country is declining. The total is now estimated at 500,000, about one-third less than 10 years ago. Chicago now has about 10,000 men on skid row, compared with 50,000 in 1915; New York's Bowery is down to about 6,000, compared with 75,000 in the early 1900's.

Priest says ecumenists should study Pentecostal movement

NEW YORK—The ecumenical movement should look at the whole Pentecostal movement "as one of the significant signs of a way forward on the journey to rediscovering . . . full visible unity in Christ," according to a study document released through the World Council of Churches.

A 16-page paper entitled, "Can the Pentecostal Movement Renew the Church?" was written by Father Emmanuel Sullivan, an American, in cooperation with the Committee on Unity in Prayer of the British Council of Churches.

The author surveys the Biblical and historical origins of the Pentecostal denominations and the birth and growth of modern neo-Pentecostalism.

He states that most churches—Catholic and Protestant—have adopted a "negative attitude" toward the phenomenon, or at least approached it with "caution." He also notes growing contacts between Pentecostals and the Vatican Secretariat for Christian Unity, World Council interest in the movement, and more sensitivity in mainline Protestant churches because of their Pentecostal members.

He cites four factors he discovered in a two-year study which suggest to him that ecumenists and those concerned about church renewal should hold open a "qualified" yet

positive response, as follows:

There is a widespread "feeling" among many persons that the church is "not meeting the deeper needs of the human spirit." The Pentecostal movement, while "possibly having theological deficiencies and considerable emotionalism," does appeal to persons around the world, he said.

Pentecostalism is "a prayer movement that leads Christians to appropriate works of love and service."

The New Testament faith and the Church are by nature charismatic.

The movement forces churches to face up to questions on the relation of doctrine and experience.

Jewish leader says

No daylight saving

NEW YORK—An Orthodox Jewish leader warns that year-round daylight saving time would be disastrous to religious Jews.

Rabbi Morris Sherer, executive president of Agudath Israel of America, noted that morning prayers cannot begin until one hour before sunrise, according to Jewish law.

In December and January, under daylight saving time, sunrise would be as late as 7:20, thus posing a problem for observant Jews who must be on the job before 8 or 8:30 a.m.

July 16-25, 1974

Prayer seen as vital to success of Congress on World Evangelization

LAUSANNE — Can the entire world be reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ by A.D. 2000?

"Yes," says Mrs. Billy Graham, national prayer chairman of the International Congress on World Evangelization, "if Christians will begin praying earnestly now for the Holy Spirit to move upon the congress which meets next year."

The congress will convene in this Swiss city July 16-25, 1974, and is expected to bring together some 3,000 evangelical leaders from many nations. The goal of the congress is to evangelize the world by the end of this century.

Convinced that new winds of spiritual awakening and evangelistic advance are blowing in many parts of the world and that vast numbers of people are being prepared by God's Spirit to respond to the good news of Jesus Christ, the International Congress on World Evangelization will aim at uniting Christians everywhere in bold new efforts to proclaim the gospel.

"We believe that God has called us to this Congress," say its planners, "for we are persuaded that we are living in one of history's great moments . . . that the world in its present chaos is ready for the message of Jesus Christ. By God's grace, we will not miss the moment.

We must seize the opportunity.

"We call upon all Christians—individually, as families, in prayer groups, in church congregations—to begin praying in earnest now for the congress which meets next year.

"The possibilities are endless and the need is urgent, for we are asking nothing less than that through the International Congress on World Evangelization, the Holy Spirit will arouse all believers to a new obedience to Christ in world evangelism, which will prepare for the Lord's triumphant return."

GROWTH OF CHRISTIANITY SLOWS IN JAPAN

TOKYO—The growth of Christianity in Japan has slowed considerably, according to the Japanese periodical "Christ's Weekly."

The magazine says the total number of Christians increased by 640 in 1972, the smallest gain since the 1930s. The highest annual increase (125,702) was recorded in 1968.

"Christ's Weekly" reports there are approximately 1,095,000 Christians in Japan, about one percent of the population.

There are about 5,000 Protestant churches in the country and some 119 Protestant denominations.

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EX-POW SAYS MISSIONARIES DIED BECAUSE CAPTORS DENIED THEM TREATMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A civilian who was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam for five years said here that two captured missionaries died there because their captors failed to provide medical treatment.

Michael D. Benge, 37, an employee of the Agency for International Development, estimated that he and the two missionaries were moved about 1,000 miles in all, including treks through the mountains of South Vietnam and Cambodia.

The two missionaries who died in captivity were Betty Olsen, a nurse with the Christian and Missionary Alliance, and Henry Blood, an employee of the Wycliffe Bible Translators. They had been captured at a mission station in 1968. Their deaths were officially confirmed by Hanoi last January.

At a news conference here, Mr. Benge declared that the two missionaries died because their captors refused to give them medical treatment.

Meanwhile, the fate of three other missionaries captured in 1962 remains uncertain.

Betty Mitchell, the wife of one of the three, was stunned because the name of her husband did not appear on the Viet Cong's list of prisoners of war. But she won't give up hope that her husband Archie is still alive.

She last saw him May 30, 1962, when he and two other missionaries were captured by Viet Cong guerrillas who broke into a leprosarium near the small mountain town of Ban Me Thout.

Word has been passed by villagers, she said, that Archie is alive. Mrs. Mitchell also explained she was counting on Bible promises which she ac-

cepted as a pledge from God. "I read the promise of God again, that they are prisoners of hope," she said. She and her husband went to Vietnam in 1948 as newlyweds under the auspices of the Christian and Missionary Alliance.

Good Neighbor Award refused by 'plain' people

LEBANON, PA.—For the 23rd year, the Lions Club of this eastern Pennsylvania city prepared its Good Neighbor Award, but this year the recipients refused to appear to accept it.

The award was announced for the "plain people" who helped with relief work following a devastating flood in the wake of tropical storm Agnes last June.

As many as 500 Amish and Mennonite farmers came into Lebanon to help clean up the debris in damaged houses and to prepare them for use by the families affected. Many also went to Harrisburg, Lykens, and Wilkes-Barre for similar errands of mercy.

Representatives of the plain people said they had declined to attend the Lions' affair because they did not want to be honored for doing what they considered to be their Christian responsibility.

Christian broadcasting opens TV unit in Dallas

DALLAS—KTTX-TV, channel 33, began operating as a Christian television station here in April.

It is the fourth TV station owned by the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), and the first in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

CBN's other stations are WYAH-TV, channel 27 in Norfolk-Portsmouth, Va.; WHAE-TV, channel 46 in Atlanta; and WXNE-TV, channel 25 now under construction in Boston.

In addition to these four, the network has affiliated commercial stations in Houston, Detroit, Baltimore, Charlotte, Roanoke, Hartford, Greenville, S.C., and two stations serving central California from Sacramento to Bakersfield.

CBN also owns and operates a five-station radio network in New York State and an FM affiliate in Norfolk.

IRISH CHARISMATIC CONFERENCE DRAWS 100

BENBURG—The year 1973 began with a Catholic-Protestant All Ireland Charismatic Conference here, with more than 100 delegates present.

The first such charismatic conference was held in Holywood in 1972 and attracted much attention from the news media, including an hour-long radio broadcast of the testimony of a Spirit-filled Catholic priest.

The program also featured a documentary look at the charismatic renewal in the Dublin area. In 1972, there were 12 Spirit-filled Catholics in Dublin. A year later, there are more than 300 Pentecostals in that city.

This summer a charismatic youth outreach is being planned for the seaside town of Newcastle where numerous Protestant and Catholic youths will spend their summer in organizing house ministries and conducting street witnessing.

There are presently more than 20 charismatic home prayer groups in Ulster.

Billy Graham preaches to South African group

JOHANNESBURG — Evangelist Billy Graham told the largest multiracial group ever assembled in this nation that South Africa is "finding she can no longer live isolated from the rest of the world."

"This is just one of the many changes facing Africans on every side," he said at an evangelistic rally at Wanderers Stadium here. "While fashion and styles shift and while politics and laws change, God never changes," the evangelist emphasized.

He spoke to an estimated 60,000, setting a new record for the sports arena in which the services were held.

Graham stressed that the God who "so loved the world" loves black as well as white, red as well as yellow, rich as well as poor, educated as well as uneducated. The congregation he addressed included representatives of all the country's races and groups.

In addition to being the largest multiracial gathering ever held in the country, the rally was also the largest religious meeting ever held here.

When the evangelist gave the invitation to receive Christ, thousands walked to the platform area to indicate their profession of faith.

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GPH names first field representative

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—Paul W. Fenton, a national Sunday school representative since 1958, is the first named of three field representatives for the Marketing and Distribution Department of the Gospel Publishing House. He assumed his new duties in April.

The Fentons now reside in Portland, Oregon. Brother Fenton will serve the northwest area, which includes Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming.

In announcing Brother Fenton's appointment, William G. Eastlake, acting national director of the Division of Publication, said that appointment of field service representatives for the southwest and north central areas is pending.

Additional areas may be designated and staffed in the future as the service program develops.

Brother Eastlake said the purpose of appointing field representatives is to provide a closer contact between the Gospel Publishing House and

the more than 16,000 churches it serves. "We want to be more responsive to the needs of the churches and to provide specialized services that trained representatives can give."

The field service representatives will be available to represent the Gospel Publishing House at conventions, seminars, and other meetings; participate in district councils, institutes, and camps; and to assist in evaluation and development planning for local Sunday schools.



VBS workshop displays handcraft projects

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—Representatives of Assemblies of God churches within a 100-mile radius of Springfield participated in a vacation Bible school workshop in February at the Assemblies of God headquarters. The workshop, sponsored by the Sunday School Department, featured the 1973 VBS curriculum materials and theme, "Lift Off, a Probe into the Future." A handcraft projects display drew special interest from the 120 participants. Other features of the seminar included a space cadets choir which sang the 1973 VBS theme song, "space messages" (reports on 1973 vacation Bible schools), "flight plans" (on the curriculum), and suggestions for handcraft projects.



SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTORS MEET

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—The 1973 District Sunday School Directors' Seminar, hosted by the national Sunday School Department here in February, drew 38 district leaders to headquarters. Purpose of the yearly event is to orient new directors and to discuss and project the Sunday school ministries. During this year's seminar, the directors assisted in developing a philosophy for Assemblies of God Sunday schools. A presentation on time management by Management Advanced Research and Communication Center of World Vision International was a highlight of the meeting.

Former district leader is with Christ

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—Glenn A. Renick Sr., 78, went to be with Christ on March 8, following a lengthy illness.

Brother Renick was assistant superintendent of the West Central District for many years, and served as superintendent of that district for one year.

He pioneered First Assembly in Hannibal, Mo., and was its pastor for 37 years. He also pioneered several churches in northeast Missouri.

From 1966 to 1968, he was superintendent of the Northern Missouri District. He served as a general presbyter for a number of years.

While in Hannibal, he served for a time as Missouri department chaplain of the American Legion. A veteran of World War I, he was a lifetime member of Hannibal Post 55 of the Legion.

Brother Renick ministered for many years as an evangelist. As a result of his meetings, many churches were started in Michigan, Illinois, and Missouri. He is survived by his wife Nina and two sons, Glenn and Harry. Glenn, an Assemblies of God minister, is promotions editor for the Department of Benevolences.



New VBS record book released

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—A completely revised record book for vacation Bible school has been published by the Gospel Publishing House.

As part of the Crown Records system, the 8½-by-11-inch book provides 16 pages for pertinent data when planning and conducting VBS. It was produced in cooperation with the Child Evangelism section of the Sunday School Department.

The standardized size provides space for names, ad-

dresses, and phone numbers of all staff members and for recording dates and decisions of staff meetings.

A finance page for recording income and expenditures helps with budget planning.

Departmental records include attendance, enrollment, and number saved. Sections for follow-up prospects and commencement records contribute to the value of this volume.

The VBS Record Book is available for 50 cents.



Large crowds gathered each night during the three-week revival with Evangelist Wayne Pyzer.

Youth revival stirs Oregon community

GRANTS PASS, OREG.—“Christ Touched Grants Pass,” said the headline in the “Daily Courier” newspaper, and for many that was an understatement.

During a three-week crusade at First Assembly here with Evangelist Wayne Pyzer of McMinnville, Oreg., some 349 young adults accepted Christ as Saviour, more than 100 were baptized in the Holy Spirit, and 76 followed the Lord in water baptism.

“The whole community has been deeply affected by the change in these young people’s lives,” says Pastor Oliver E. Summers. “Certainly the high school felt the impact, for among those saved was the student body president.”

The high school newspaper interviewed several students to get their opinion on the revival.

“I think the Christian movement is fantastic! I think Jesus is the greatest. . . . He gives you a real love. I feel Christ is real; He’s the only way,” said one.

“There is nothing like it or anything that compares with it. It has changed my life and

many other kids I know,” said another.

One Saturday afternoon during the revival, approximately 200 youth “marched for Jesus” in the downtown area. The young people carried signs and

shouted the praises of God as they marched.

“One of the most beautiful things in the crusade was to watch young people from all faiths raising their hands in typical Pentecostal fashion and praising the Lord,” said Pastor Summers. “And then, in spite of the fact that many had never heard anyone speak in tongues, they began to speak fluently in another language as they worshiped.”

Brother Summers reports the young people have been encouraged to be faithful to their churches and, as a result, many churches in the city have seen their youth groups revitalized.

five refilled during the revival. The revival reached all ages, from children through adults. A 90-year-old man came back to the Lord.

A number of visitors from other denominations attended the services.

KANKAKEE, ILL.—First Assembly here recently experienced one of the greatest revivals in its history, according to Pastor Douglas Rose.

Many were saved, healed, and filled with the Holy Spirit under the ministry of Evangelist Jerry Rollins of Arlington, Tex.

HENDERSON, TEX.—First Assembly recently enjoyed a time of spiritual refreshing under the ministry of Evangelist Leo S. Gaston of Springfield, Mo.

Pastor T. E. Harris reports at least four accepted Christ, one was reclaimed, two were filled with the Holy Spirit, and

NACONA, TEX.—A spirit of revival continues following four weeks of meetings with John and Jerry Stephens at First Assembly here.

Pastor H. L. Bayless reports 20 accepted Christ and several were baptized in the Spirit. Many visitors attended.

Pastor Oliver Summers (right) and Evangelist Wayne Pyzer thank God for His blessings.



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styles, methods,
interests, idioms

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CHURCH LAUNCHES FOURTH BUILDING PROGRAM

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.—Calvary Temple Church here is preparing to build a new sanctuary to accommodate 2000. This will be the congregation's fourth building program in its six-and-one-half-year history.

The church, which was started

by Pastor M. C. Johnson, has enjoyed a phenomenal growth and currently averages 1250 in Sunday school.

The new building will be of masonry construction and will have two overflow areas for 600 people each.



This new building was dedicated by the congregation of the Assembly of God, Seward, Alaska, in January.

BRECKENRIDGE, MO.—The Assembly of God here recently enjoyed a special move of the Holy Spirit during revival meetings with Evangelist Ken Krivoh-lavek of Springfield, Mo.

Pastor G. C. Rowell reports one was saved, five reclaimed, nine baptized in the Holy Spirit, and two refilled during the services.

Several testified to being healed of various diseases, and one man was delivered from the tobacco habit. Two people exercised the gifts of utterance for the first time.

Pastor Rowell states a spirit of revival continues. In a recent service, one accepted Christ and two were reclaimed.

THAYER, MO.—Seven were saved, six baptized in the Holy Spirit, and four baptized in water during a revival at the Assembly of God here with Evangelist and Mrs. Loren Wooten.

Pastor Paul J. Young states, "A new spirit of worship and praise now fills the church as a result of this meeting."

Since a bus ministry was begun this past February, Sunday school attendance has increased by an average of 30.

ST. JOHN, KANS.—Six accepted Christ during a revival at the Assembly of God here with Evangelist and Mrs. Bill Lambertson.

Pastor Loretta Plummer reports many visitors attended the services and a spirit of revival continues in the church.

PALESTINE, TEX.—Several were saved and at least seven filled with the Holy Spirit during a revival at Glad Tidings Assembly here with Evangelist Gene Emswiler of Pasadena, Tex.

Pastor J. D. Easter reports the revival reached the entire congregation and there was a record attendance in Sunday school. The church is averaging 50 above last year's attendance.

MAPS workers give boost to Alaska assembly

SEWARD—Assemblies of God Mobilization and Placement volunteers (MAPS) gave needed assistance to the Assembly of God here in erecting its new building which was dedicated in January.

The new church contains a sanctuary to accommodate 125, and eight classrooms. The dedication service was a day of rejoicing for the congregation and the culmination of a building program which started in 1969 when George Downs came to pastor the church.

MAPS workers gave in-

valuable assistance during the building program, as did the congregation. Among the MAPS volunteers was Floyd Renfro, pastor in Ramona, Okla.

The church, which began in 1945, has shown a continual growth under the ministry of Brother Downs. Several of the Eskimos and Indians who attend the Skill Center in Seward have been attending the services.

Special services last winter with the Loyd Singleys brought rich spiritual blessing to the church, according to Brother Downs.

EVANGELISTIC EVENTS

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ala.	Brewton	Damascus	May 15-20	Jim & Donna Snyder	Verna Phillips
	Troy	A/G	May 15-20	Esther Palmer	James McHaffie
Ariz.	Ajo	A/G	May 16-27	Charley Hudspeth	Wayne Jones
	Kayenta	Navajo	May 15-19	Harold & Phyllis Powell	D. E. Suit
	Phoenix	¹ Alzona	May 13-18	Les & Sandra Merrick	E. E. Franks
Ark.	Bradley	A/G	May 2-13	Jackie & Kay Roberts	Melba Freeman
	Caddo Gap	Bethel	May 13—	Clarence Jeffcoat	Archie Francis
	Ft. Smith	New Bethel	May 16-27	Glenn Dorsey	Donald Walker
Calif.	La Palma	First	May 14-20	Knouse-Stovall Team	Harley Smith
	Loyalton	¹ A/G	May 13-18	Charles J. Senechal	Vance Reynolds
	Lynwood	Metropolitan	May 13-18	Bill & Viv Katter	William Amundson
	Modesto	S. Modesto	May 16-27	Carl & Sharon Taylor	T. W. Carlton
	Richmond	Full Gospel	May 13-27	Thomas M. Ming Jr.	Harold Steward
	Vacaville	A/G	May 9-20	J. B. & Mrs. Woolums	Bruce L. Moore
	Williams	A/G	May 13-20	Louis & LaVerne Roggow	Paul R. Roldness
Colo.	Broomfield	First	May 16-June 3	Ossie B. Jones Trio	Paul W. Thompson
	Colorado Spgs.	Evangel	May 16-20	Bob McNew	J. R. Heisch
	Glenwood Spgs.	First	May 13-27	Milo Harmon	James L. Brown
Conn.	Colchester	A/G	May 8-13	Bob Duncan	Ronald Boyer
	Guilford	Bethel	May 14-21	Joe Johnson	Daniel Mariano
	Vernon	A/G	May 15-20	Bob Duncan	Earl Pettibone
Del.	Dover	Calvary	May 13-27	Roy Evans-Wasdin	George Dashiell
Fla.	Holt	A/G	May 16-27	Whitlow Evang. Team	Aaron Gillman
	Miami	Central	May 2-13	James Brown	Rex Anspaugh
	Orlando	First	May 16-27	"Little Joe" Peterson Tm.	Crawford Railey
	Panama City	First	May 6-11	Donald T. Railey	Harmon Furr
Ill.	Mattoon	First	May 16-27	The King's Daughters	Allen Lehmann
	Sycamore	¹ Bethel	May 13-18	Christian Hild	J. H. Gwillim
Ind.	Gary	Black Oak	May 14-27	Jack & Helen Manley	M. Ray Frost
	Indianapolis	Lighthouse	May 16-20	Corbett & Miriam Berthelot	William Totman
	Indianapolis	Trinity	May 7-13	Bob & Maxine Wilkes	John Smith
	Monticello	A/G	May 13-27	Bennie Benton	David Martin
	Nappanee	County Line	May 15-20	Wm. & Irene Van Winkle	Ralph Holdeman
Iowa	Des Moines	Central	May 13-18	Mike Ferguson	D. G. Brewer
	Ottumwa	First	May 13-27	K. L. Claycomb	Robert Palmer
	Oxford Junction	A/G	May 16-27	B. P. Carroll	Gary Thomas
Kans.	Bucklin	A/G	May 19-June 3	Joe & Omena Sherrod	H. D. Mathews
	Hoisington	A/G	May 15—	Joe & Omena Sherrod	Darrell Keefover
	LeRoy	A/G	May 16-27	John Pratt Family	Richard Kindred
	Olathe	A/G	May 9-13	Burl Rogers Family	E. E. Henley
	Topeka	Glad Tidings	May 16-20	Burl Rogers Family	Jesse B. Shaw
Ky.	Ashland	A/G	May 15-20	Jack & Sharon Malone	Raymond Jacobs
	Louisville	¹ Calvary	May 14-20	Bud Alexis	B. Morris McKenzie
	Madisonville	¹ First	May 13-18	Phil Appenzeller	Stanley Kostnecki
Md.	Deale	A/G	May 15-20	Frank & Alberta Fratto	Loren Kohl
	Pasadena	A/G	May 16-27	David Lewis Family	Julian Goggin
	Rockville	First	May 16-27	Arnold & Anita Segesman	J. L. Pittman
Mich.	Ferndale	A/G	May 13-20	Doherty Evang. Team	Charles Heath

10th

SEPTEMBER 18-23, 1973

**PENTECOSTAL
WORLD
CONFERENCE
SEOUL**

LANDOVER, MD.—God blessed the Columbia Park Assembly during a recent revival with Evangelist and Mrs. Lloyd Portin.

Pastor Edwin Green reports 50 were saved and one baptized in the Spirit during the revival. Three black churches from the inner-city area of Washington, D.C., cooperated in the crusade. Each church had a night when its choir presented special music.

A highlight of the revival was when 40 young people dedicated their lives to preach the gospel if God called them to do so.

DAYTON, OHIO—A week-long spiritual life thrust with Evangelist Harold May of Akron, Ohio, was extended a second week as a genuine Pentecostal revival swept Bethel Temple here, reports Pastor Charles A. Anderson.

Believers who had been seeking the infilling of the Holy Spirit for several years were filled; others were refilled. Several found Christ as Saviour and many testified to being healed.

"Conservative estimates are

that 25 to 30 were baptized in the Spirit," Brother Anderson states. "The revival touched dozens of teens as well as older folks."

VERSAILLES, MO.—A 36-hour prayer chain, held prior to the opening of revival services at First Assembly here, was credited with much of the blessing received during a 10-day meeting with the William Van Winkles.

Pastor Rickey Coats reports the congregation brought over 250 visitors to the meeting. Brother Van Winkle's ministry was a tremendous blessing to the people. He also spoke in a local high school.

"Several weeks have passed and the community is still talking of this revival," states Brother Coats. "Reports of answered prayer are still coming."

MIDLAND CITY, ALA.—Thirteen were saved, five reclaimed, and nine baptized in the Spirit during services at Mt. Zion Assembly here with the Parker Evangelistic Party of Baxter, W. Va.

"It was one of the greatest

revivals in the history of the church," states Pastor Dorman Jenkins.

The church was packed almost every night and many people came to seek the Baptism. Two Methodist women were among those baptized in the Spirit.

A 73-year-old man accepted Christ. Another man bound by sin and alcohol for 46 years was saved and filled with the Spirit.

BONNE TERRE, MO.—The Assembly of God here recently had "one of the greatest revivals this church has seen in many years," according to Pastor Conway R. Huffman.

Under the ministry of Evangelist Danny Frazee, 25 were filled with the Holy Spirit and 21 accepted Christ as their Saviour. Many received healing from God for their bodies, including a woman who was healed of arthritis and filled with the Spirit on the same night.

A 74-year-old Baptist woman was filled with the Holy Spirit and healed of heart trouble. The entire church was blessed.

OLA, ARK.—The Assembly of God here has been blessed by the ministry of E. Gerald Hayes of London, Ark.

Pastor Everett Roach reports one was saved and three baptized in the Holy Spirit during the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cornerstone laying—May 22, Maranatha Manor in Maranatha Village, Springfield, Mo., 4 p.m.

Homecoming—May 20, First Assembly, Elsinore, Calif.—John C. Poteet, pastor

Homecoming—May 27, First Assembly, Kankakee, Ill. Guest speaker will be Richard Peterson, former pastor.—Doug Rose, pastor

Homecoming—May 27, First Assembly, Monticello, Ark. Guest speakers will be Cecil Janway and Raymond Thompson.—Bob M. Richmond, pastor

Homecoming—May 28, First Assembly, Childress, Tex.—J. W. Newton, pastor

	Lansing	First	May 13-27	Daniel Roehl	Richard Bishop
	Monroe	A/G	May 16-20	Bill & Naomi Hayes	Larry Kasper
	Saginaw	Bethel	May 16-27	Don & Sharon Parker	Robert Bradley
	Saginaw	Calvary	May 13-27	Larry & Gail Riley	George Hempton
Minn.	Crookston	A/G	May 13-18	Blane & Darlene Huston	James Haserodt
	Minneapolis	Crystal	May 15-20	William Caldwell	John Everett
	Moorhead	¹ A/G	May 8-13	Christian Hild	Gary Chapin
	Mountain Lake	A/G	May 13-20	Lorne & Ellen McAlister	Mylo R. Rowcliffe
Miss.	Biloxi	Central	May 13-27	Lula M. Dennis	Kenneth Broadus
	Greenville	First	May 13—	J. Howard Reynolds	J. F. Doggette
Mo.	Hannibal	² Calvary	May 2-13	Charles & Joy Blythe	Richard Trotter
	Lawson	A/G	May 17-20	Doyle & Gladness Jennings	B. R. Morris
	Liberty	First	May 15-27	Billy Frank Boren	Herschell Phillips
	Monett	A/G	Apr. 29-May 6	Stan & Judy Rule	Harry Davis
	Poplar Bluff	³ Southside	May 20-27	Charles & Joy Blythe	Charles Fuller
	Springfield	Northside	May 17-22	Bob McNew	Alvin Blackard
Nebr.	Riverton	A/G	May 14-20	Leo S. Gaston	Frank Alexander
	S. Sioux City	A/G	May 13-18	Kathleen Jennings	Robert McCown
N. H.	Lancaster	A/G	May 15-20	John Brown	Robert MacLeod
N. J.	Rockaway	First	May 17-20	Jesse Owens	Robert Harris
N. Y.	Boonville	A/G	May 13-16	Levi & Alma Storms	Frances Powell
N. C.	Highlands	A/G	May 13-20	Donald T. Railey	Claude Head
	Winston-Salem	First	May 15-20	Paul & Myrtle Hild	Carl G. Conner
Ohio	Akron	Springfield	May 15-20	Sam & Cheryl Benson	Joseph Serbin
	Conneaut	A/G	May 15-20	Jim Davis	Robert Hallquist
	Louisville	First	May 13-27	Andrews Brothers Team	Jerry M. Hall
	Medina	A/G	May 14-20	Bob & Maxine Wilkes	Herb Strahsburg
Okla.	Chickasha	First	May 13-25	Paul Rose Team	E. W. Moore
	Sand Spgs.	¹ First	May 13-18	Jennie L. Powell	Bill Weaver
	Stillwater	Calvary	May 9-20	H. A. & Ruth Strange	Edgar McElhannon
Oreg.	Bonanza	A/G	May 13-25	Dawson & Jeannette Wheeler	W. W. Geyer
	Milwaukee	First	May 6-11	Gene & Esther Fiddler	Noel Ravan
	Newberg	A/G	May 13-18	White & Whitenack Team	Curtis Myers
Pa.	Wilkes-Barre	First	May 16-20	Dave & Jan Olshevski	D. J. Paglia
S. Dak.	Britton	Gospel Tab.	May 6-20	Robert & Annette Remick	Merrill Christensen
Tex.	Cooper	First	May 7-13	Tommy Calk	Ken Jones
	Freeport	Jones Creek	May 13-18	Ken & Alice Williams	Paul Ennis
	Gainesville	First	May 13—	David Hooper	J. R. Daily
	Mesquite	First	May 13-20	Tommy Calk	Hulon Hood
	Odessa	¹ Hiway Temple	May 13-18	Bob & Mary Swope	C. L. Gillock
	Sunray	A/G	May 15—	Tommy & Esther Lance	Donald Martin
	Texarkana	Rose Hill	May 13-20	Jackie & Kay Roberts	Boyce Green
	Tyler	Calvary	May 9-20	H. A. & Ruth Strange	H. E. Smithee
	Tyler	Westside	May 13-23	David & Liz Freeman	Ted Hoke
Vt.	Richford	Calvary	May 13-18	Johnny & Karen Jones	Larry Rohm
Va.	Herndon	First	May 16-20	Garland Gospel Team	Ronald Wahlrobe
Wisc.	Black River Falls	A/G	May 13-25	The Long Team	Gordon Johnson
	Wausau	¹ Christian	May 13-18	Larry & Carolyn Campbell	Earl Henning
Canada	Toronto, Ont.	Calvary	May 8-13	Jim Davis	George Derkatch

¹ Children's Revival ² Deeper Life Crusade ³ Charismatic Conference

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A call to action--for the older Americans

WE HAVE NO WAY OF knowing how many retired people read the Evangel. It is not slanted to any particular age group; the editorial staff endeavors to serve all adults—young and old alike—to make it a “family magazine” (spiritually speaking) but we suspect it is read more thoroughly by the older members of the Pentecostal family simply because they have more time for reading.

They have more time for writing, also. For that reason we get more letters from the aged than from the young. A brother in Pennsylvania writes:

“It appears to be commonly accepted that older people will lose their hair, their sight, their hearing, their teeth, their health, and even lose their mind. God has been so good in keeping me healthy all my life that I find it hard to believe He will abandon me in old age!

“I am trusting Him to keep me active until my work is done. The other Sunday I was sitting in church and the bursitis in my shoulder began to hurt. The pain was so bad I could hardly bear the weight of my arm. I thought, ‘The Lord does not want me to be suffering like this—He wants me to be praising and worshipping.’ So I sent up a silent prayer for help, in the name of Jesus, and the pain vanished. Hallelujah!

“Arthritis tried to fasten itself on my wrist, but when I prayed the pain went away. The pain was very real, but the Lord’s healing power is real too. Praise Him! I am claiming the promise God gave to Asher, ‘As thy days, so shall thy strength be’ (Deuteronomy 33:25).”

A grandmother in Canada writes:

“I am discovering that we not only lose some things as we grow older, but we gain. In fact, we gain more

than we lose, if we know God.

“For when we are older we have more time to read the Word and pray. We draw nearer to the Lord, and understand His purposes better.

“It is true we have less physical strength. We run out of energy and can’t be as active. But we gain a wonderful freedom. The pressures relax. We have time for other people. We have a new appreciation for our friends and for the world around us.

“I haven’t stopped learning. Every day brings new experiences. I’m beginning to understand which things are really important, and life grows sweeter every day.”

Our reason for quoting these letters is that May is Senior Citizens Month. President Nixon, in issuing his proclamation, stated:

“Today more than 20 million Americans have six and a half decades or more of life behind them, and rich years of promise still before them. This distinguished generation grew up with the 20th century, and they came to the fullness of their maturity at the same time America did.”

He called for national recognition of the work these senior citizens have done in the past, but more particularly to the theme of this year’s observance, which is “Older Americans in Action.” For senior citizens still have much to give.

Let us apply this theme to our church life. The young people can’t do it alone. Every congregation needs the active participation of older men and women. There is a great part for retired people to play in advancing the work of the Lord.

—r.c.c.

THE Pentecostal **evangel**
May 13, 1973
Number 3079

Official Voice, Assemblies of God
1445 Boonville, Springfield, Mo. 65802

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Subscription Rates (Weekly)

Single subscription: U.S., its possessions, and U.S. servicemen abroad: \$4.25 a year; \$8 two years. Introductory offer: six months for \$2. Canada and PUAS countries: \$6 a year; \$11.50 two years. Foreign: \$6.75 a year; \$13 two years.

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International Edition (Monthly)

Subscribers outside the U.S. only may receive the International Edition (one copy a month) for \$1 a year, postpaid.

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WE BELIEVE . . .

. . . the Bible is the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God.

. . . there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.

. . . 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, in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule a thousand years.

. . . in the Blessed Hope—the Rapture of the Church at Christ’s coming.

. . . the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ.

. . . regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation.

. . . the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to prevailing prayer.

. . . the baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it.

. . . in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life.

. . . in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.

THE MOTHERING

WATCH HER MOTHERING. . . .

Her house nest is on my lamppost even with my window. She carefully prepared for the arrival of her young and now, at a time soon come, she readies for their leaving.

Is it easier, I wonder, for bird mothers? I watch her chirp and flutter about, but for all this outward cheerfulness, I believe she is sad. See how she peers anxiously at her teetering babes? Holding back even as she lets go.

I know so well this holding and letting go and the hurting that is surely there beneath the feathers of her tiny breast.

She mothered well, hovering protectingly, until each wetted wad of wing arched with strength enough to safely leave.

Yes, she taught them to be free of her, but how now to free herself of them?

They are eager to leave. It is right, of course, this eagerness and time for their adventuring, but even so she droops a little and her sheen is less in the bright orange sun.

She knew they would leave—with a sureness borne of her own flight from another nest when she was just as young and eager.

She cautions with last-minute chirps they do not hear. Poor little mother, delaying them the only way she can, and then for such a little.

She misses them even before they leave and knows they will not return—not really return—not ever.

They will fly past, even light at tip edge but poised always to leave again, and this is not returning. Now it is a loved, familiar place, but soon it will be a twig and thread of memory with "home" somewhere else.

They do not know this but I am sure she does. Again the lights go out of her and her chirp is more a croon of early loneliness.

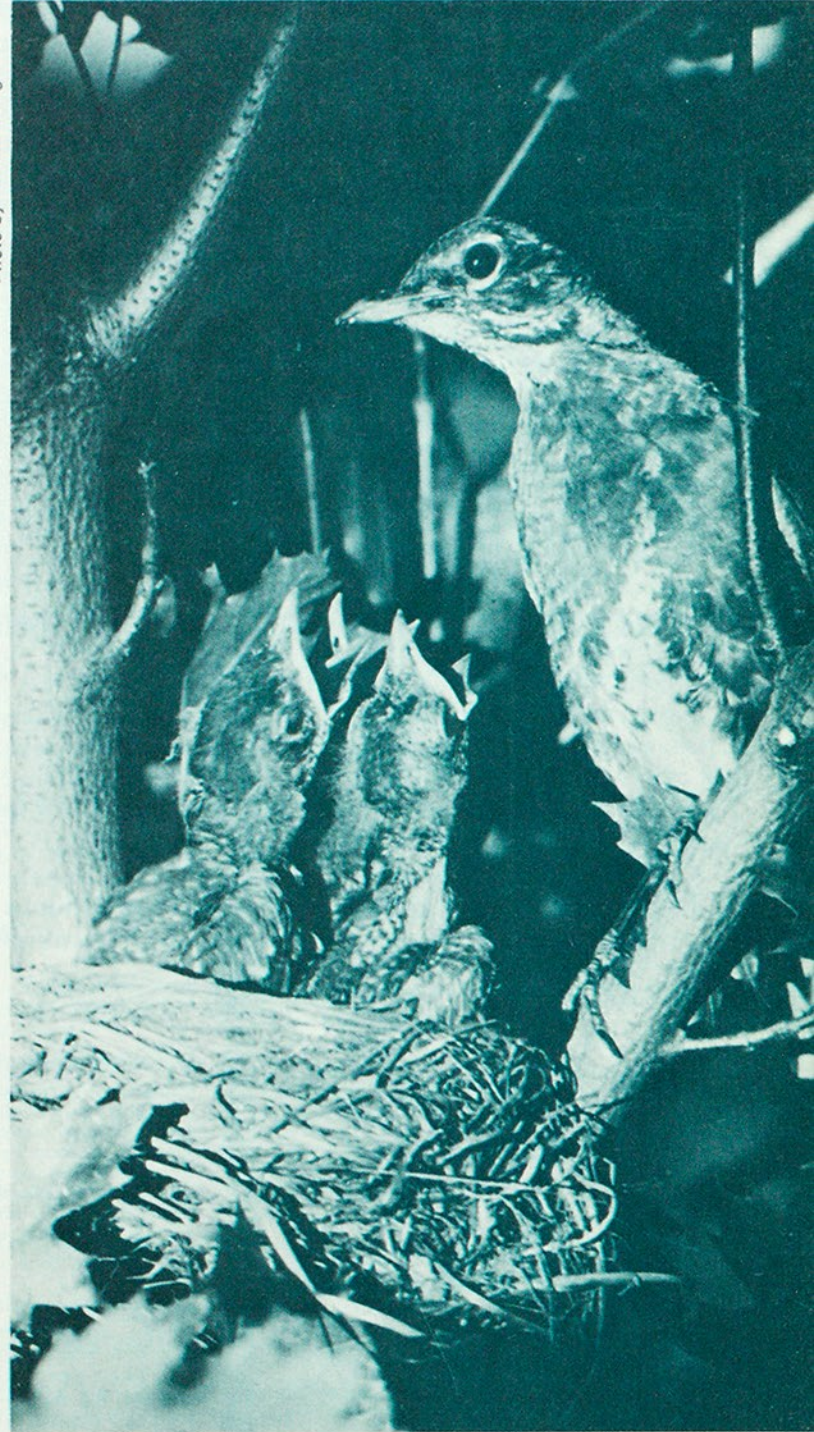
The good mother she is, she would not hold them if she could—their going is just as much a part of her life as their coming. But the latter is the harder, with greater pain than birthing.

Her young in their excitement do not see the shadow nor hear the different sound.

Her usual perky chirp is back now and busy-sounding: "Good-bye. . . . God bless. . . . Take care. . . ." These things I said, with a smile as bright as her call. Is she saying them? Mother birds being mothers after all, the words are probably the same.

Her little ones are gone. Her young, not little anymore, have flown beyond my eye to follow. She watches still, as if the air that moved to take them from her will bring them back. It does not. She turns back to the empty nest, searching for the babies near and needing, but that time is

Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts



gone and there is only dull colored thread and worn twig to remind.

Her chirp is silent. No need now for gay pretense or lifted wing. She is alone and all the loneliness can show. Soon she will wonder, as even now I wonder and all mothers must sometimes wonder, was it ever? Did it really happen? Were they ever hers—so little and warm and needing—or was it all the most perfect dream the heart could design?

—Author unknown (contributed by Mrs. Marshall Schroeder)