

THE PENTECOSTAL evangel

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

OCTOBER 14, 1973 / TEN CENTS



'Live peaceably with all men.'

ROMANS 12:18

What they both liked

When our transcontinental bus started east from California, we couldn't help but notice the noisy servicemen seated in the rear. Recently discharged from duty in Asia, they were now recovering from a celebration they had had when they landed in the good old USA.

As the hours passed, they quieted—that is, all but one. He talked incessantly.

Some of the passengers were concerned when he decided to move up front. But his conduct was excellent, and we concluded his talkativeness was his way of unwinding after months of combat tension.

After wandering from topic to topic he finally came to the subject of his family—especially his wife. Something he said about their musical tastes—how she liked one style and he another—caught my ear.

On an impulse I asked, "When that is the case, what do you do?"

His answer was a bit of a surprise: "Well, you know, *we just choose what we both like.*"

Although almost 25 years have elapsed since I heard those uncomplicated words of wisdom, I have never forgotten them.

Certainly life has a way of bringing out many petty differences. Even nonessential notions, opinions, and preferences have a way of ballooning out of proportion to their importance and building up mountain-high frustrations that often end tragically.

Yet when the parties involved can be persuaded to lay aside their individual likes and dislikes and together seek a point of common interest, what happy harmony results.

Laying aside nonessentials harmonizes well with the basic formula for Christian courtesy: "In honor preferring one another" (Romans 12:10). Or as *Today's English Version* puts it: "Be eager to show respect for one another."

As for a mutual interest, God's people have the greatest—their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Surely that should help us live in harmony with one another.

—F. HELEN JARVIS

A love-touched heart

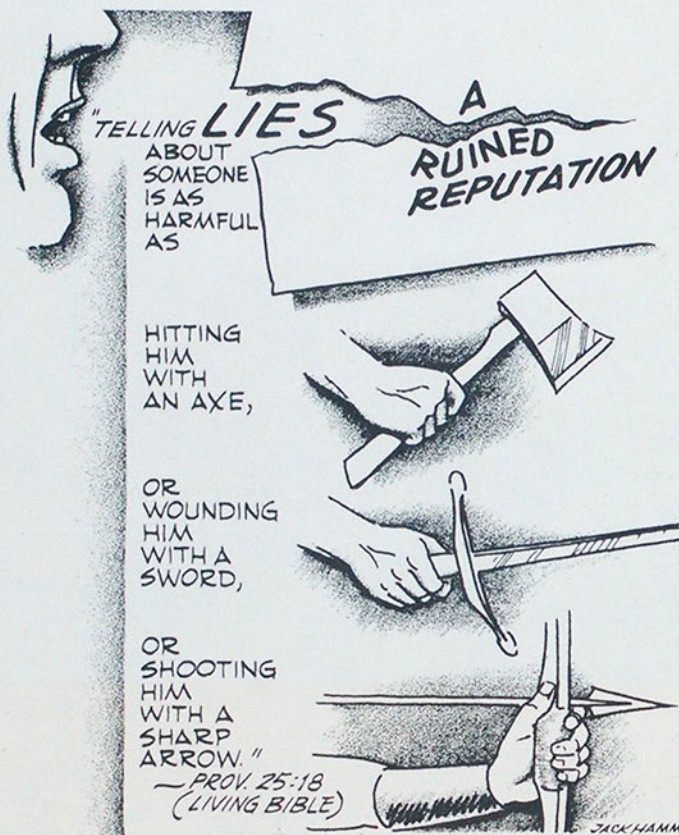
If we but knew the heavy cross
Our brother bears,
The crushing burden that he now
So bravely shares;
We would speak kindly with
A love-touched tongue,
And give to him the song
We left unsung.

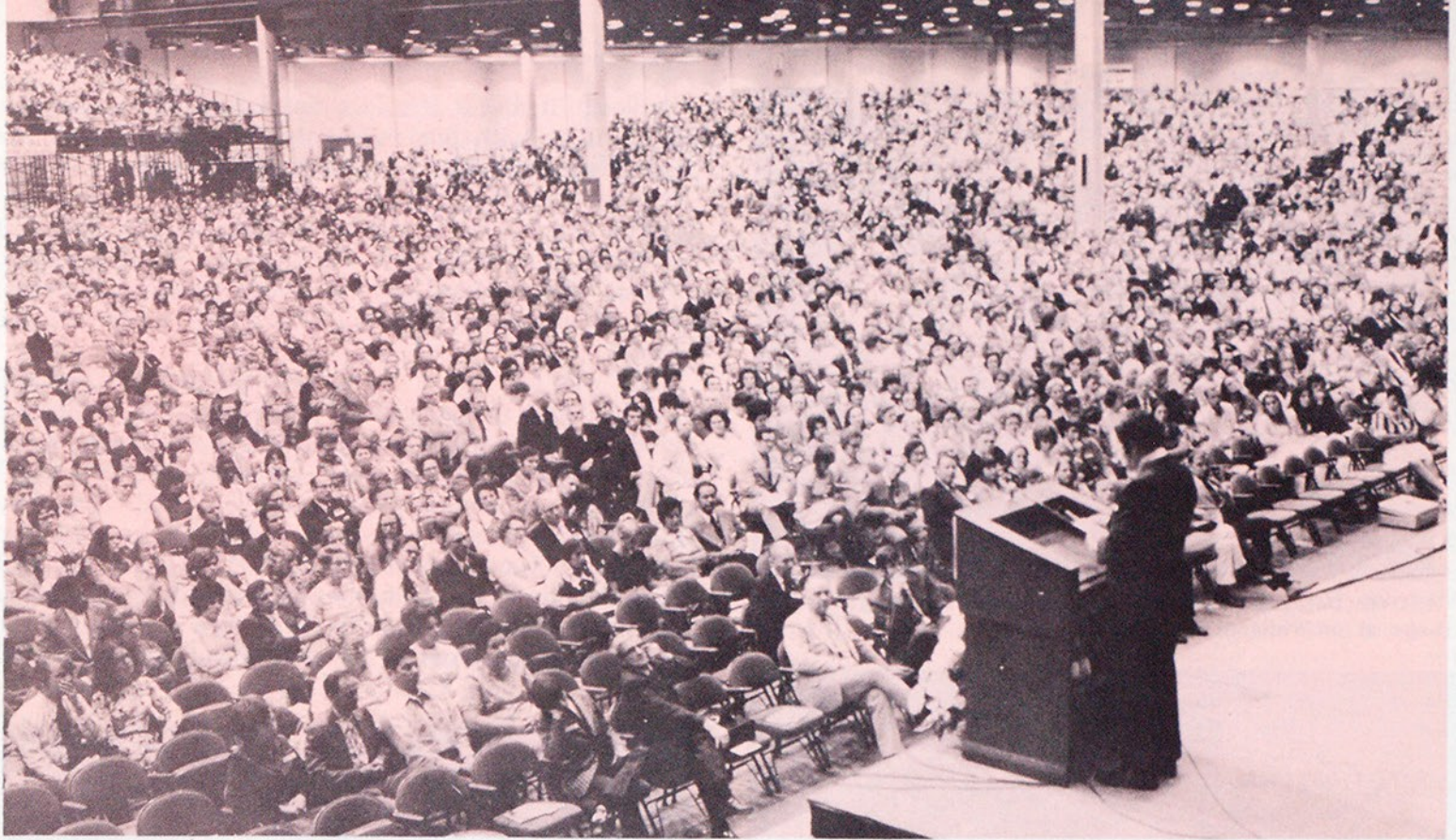
If we but knew the struggle long,
And hard, and keen,
That crushes nigh to breaking
Heart and brain;
We would have prayed for them
With Christlike love—
Encircled close the bleeding heart
Yearning for God.

God give us keener eyes to see—
Hearts that shall feel
The weight of one another's woe
In measure real.
And as to us He comfort gives
Abundantly,
So may that grace flow out to other hearts
Eternally.

—ALICE REYNOLDS FLOWER

In A Day Of Verbal Assassination





Charles Crabtree preaching at the Friday night "Call to America" rally at the 35th General Council (photo by Phil Stovall)

CALLING AMERICA TO CHRIST

General Council Sermon by CHARLES CRABTREE / Pastor, First Assembly, Des Moines, Iowa

WE HAVE NOT GATHERED HERE tonight to diagnose diseases but to proclaim a remedy. All the crises in our land can be traced to one source. This nation is in the grip of a spiritual crisis—all other problems are merely by-products of our broken negotiations with the living God.

Because America's crisis is spiritual, only spiritual people have the answer, then spiritual people have the responsibility. And because we are Holy Ghost people, then we cannot excuse ourselves.

The age-old question of a heathen king still rings out as the ultimate challenge to any nation facing a crisis. As the young Joseph stood before him, Pharaoh cried aloud, "Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?"

The greatest thrill of all is to know that the same Spirit that rested on Jesus of Nazareth still makes His ministers flames of fire. He said: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord" (Luke 4:18,19).

Picture that scene in an ancient Jewish synagogue. To all appearances the man who took the Book was a lowly peasant, Joseph's son, a carpenter's apprentice, a local boy. But what He announced made hell tremble: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me."

This announcement is still a threat to the devil.

A HOLY GHOST MANDATE

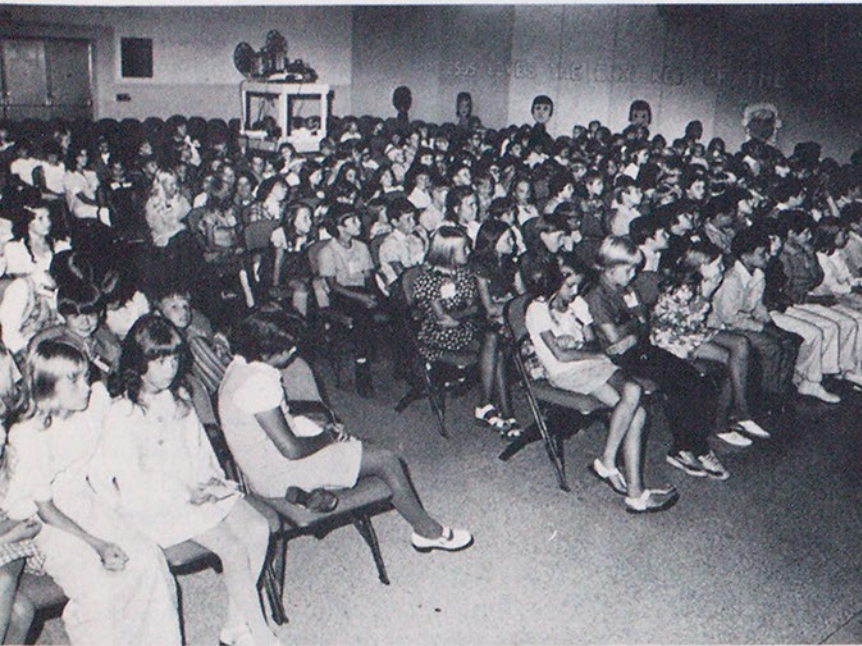
The Spirit that rested upon Jesus was a *Spirit of acceptance*. When the heavens opened and the Holy Spirit like a dove descended, the voice of God spoke, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." What a joy that must have been to the Saviour as He started His earthly ministry. There must have been times when He felt alone; but when the night was the darkest and the road the longest, He remembered when the Spirit of God descended and the Father put His stamp of acceptance on the ministry of His Son.

Hundreds of people here have experienced the thrill of being accepted by God—the Spirit of God descended and bore witness with our spirits that we were children of God.

I am now a son of God and a joint-heir with Jesus Christ. The world may not accept it, and the devil may



ABOVE: Delegates earnestly seek the Lord following the message at an evening Council rally.



ABOVE: Convention song leader was Lester G. Binkley, pastor of the Assembly of God, Tigard, Oregon. BELOW: The admonition, "Pray one for another," was followed frequently.



ABOVE: Exciting services for children were conducted by Bob and Beth Davis. "Uncle Bob," as he was known to the children, is shown ministering in the lower photo. Care for younger children at Council was provided under the direction of Mrs. Florence Miller. Mrs. Miller and the Davises are from the Miami area.



BELOW: The admonition, "Pray one for another," was followed frequently.

within us a Spirit that overcomes the world.

Not only did Jesus face the wilderness, but He also faced the battle of the *flesh*. The Bible tells me He was hungry. He was tempted to move from the realm of the Spirit to the realm of the flesh to satisfy bodily lusts. But He overcame.

The same test faces us. We can walk in the flesh or live in the Spirit. Often we are tempted to do those things in the flesh that can only be accomplished by the power of the Spirit.

Many are learning that the infilling of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of tongues is a potential and not an end in itself, that speaking with other tongues is the evidence of an experience but not the evidence of a Spirit-filled life. Jesus had a wonderful experience in the River Jordan, but He still had to face the world and the flesh in the power of the Spirit.

Then Jesus had to meet the *devil*. The Spirit led Him into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.

Was Jesus tempted because He was bad? No. He was tempted because He was important. If you aren't important enough to be tempted of the devil, you must not be much of a threat to the enemy.

How did Jesus defeat the devil? The same way we overcome—by the Word of God. I liked what one old saint of God used to do when the devil came around. He'd reach for his Bible and say, "Get thee behind me, Satan, or I'll look it up."

I like to note that Jesus came out of the wilderness in a *Spirit of power* and not of discouragement. He came out of the wilderness in the Spirit to accomplish the supernatural, to do the impossible.

There is a power within us that is greater than all the powers of this world. It is absolutely impossible for me to press a barbell weighing 300 pounds, but if by some formula I could get a champion weight lifter inside me, I could stand before you and with the greatest of ease press 300 pounds. But would it be my strength? No, it would be the strong man inside me.

That is exactly what has happened to the Spirit-filled child of God, for "greater is He that is within you than he that is in the world."

HOLY GHOST MINISTRY

When Jesus came out of the wilderness in the power of the Holy Ghost, He did not come into this world to be self-centered about spiritual life. Jesus was not full of the Spirit's power for Himself, or the Father would have taken Him back to heaven; but Jesus was filled with the power of the Spirit for a Holy Ghost ministry. He said: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me . . . to *heal* the brokenhearted."

Look across America tonight and you will observe brokenness—broken relationships, broken hearts, broken bodies—but the Spirit of the Lord is upon us and has anointed us to make men whole.

Our calling is not to inspect the pieces and analyze what has gone wrong, but to proclaim. "Wilt thou be made whole?" Accept the tragedy as a fact but proclaim health by faith in the Son of God.

I am a great believer in the divine healing ministry, not just for the physically ill but for the mentally ill, those with broken hearts, the source of psychosomatic diseases. The Spirit of God is a Spirit of healing.

I am aware of the stigma attached to the healing ministry. I am also very much aware of the history surrounding its misuse. I know that religious charlatans have lined their pockets by preying on human misery. I also know that they are not going to answer to me; they are soon to stand before God and give account to Him.

But just because a few people have done wrong in the sight of God, I am not going to withhold the remedy of God's healing power from the sick and afflicted and the brokenhearted. Someday I too will stand before God and give account of my ministry.

Sometimes I think our fear of failure and fear of criticism in this area borders on paranoia, but I defy the devil to discourage me. I am going to lay hands on the sick and the broken. May God restore faith in the ministry of the miraculous in our generation. Do you want to call America to Christ? Then call attention back to the Healer. Let a ministry of healing power break out afresh in our denomination—and soon new churches will spring up all over this country.

Jesus lived and moved in the miraculous. He believed in divine healing. How much more should His people just before His coming be His arm extended, reaching out to the oppressed in healing.

A mentally disturbed woman came to the altar. Brokenhearted, she turned to the woman kneeling close to her and said, "I can't touch God; I can't feel Him anymore. If I could just feel Him touch me again, I would be so happy."

A few moments later this woman broke through to God with great rejoicing, saying over and over again, "He touched me; He touched me." Then she realized that the woman who had been close to her had come to her and had laid her hand upon her. A bit disappointed she said, "Oh, it's you; I thought it was God who had touched me."

The woman said, "He did; He just used the closest member of His body."

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me" to bring the "*recovering* of sight to the blind." A ministry of restoration.

The Bible tells us that "they that sat in darkness have seen a great light," and that light was the life of Christ. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory.

This is our ministry—to robe the Word in flesh; for *we are* living epistles, known and read of all men.

If we are to call America to Christ, they must see Christ in us. The thrilling truth is that all of them have the potential of seeing—all they need is for the light to come on.

Jesus opened spiritual eyes, and this is our ministry as well. When Peter declared, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," Jesus said, "Flesh and blood hath not revealed it." It was a work of the Spirit.

"If I be lifted up," said the Master, "I will draw all men." Our ministry is not just healing but it is lifting Jesus up, letting our good works so shine before men that they shall see the light.

Jesus also came in a ministry of *liberation*: "To set at liberty them that are bruised."

This word *bruised* is very interesting. It came out of
(Continued on page 21)

New spiritual vitality encouraged

THE SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMITTEE wishes to commend the general superintendent and our headquarters leaders for their continued emphasis on a vital spiritual life and their concern for the Movement. This emphasis is evidenced by the 1974 theme, "Ready Always," which was presented to the committee by C. W. Denton, coordinator of Spiritual Life—Evangelism.

We turned the corner in 1968 with a five-year Program of Advance launched at the Council on Evangelism (St. Louis) and reemphasized at the Council on Spiritual Life (Minneapolis) in 1972. One result of this outreach is seen by the largest growth of church membership in approximately 20 years. We have also seen a new spiritual vitality.

Now a new challenge is before us to utilize the total resources of personnel and material to fulfill the purpose for which God raised up the Assemblies of God movement.

We recommend that we take advantage of the opportunities before us:

The National Leadership Institute in Hot Springs, Arkansas, December 3-6, 1973.

A Week of Prayer, January 6-13, 1974, thanking the Lord in the words of 1 Samuel 7:12, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." This will be a time to look back, a time to look ahead.

The Pentecost Crusade, observing our 60th anniversary on Pentecost Sunday, June 2, 1974.

The Council on the Holy Spirit in Kansas City, Missouri, August 14-16, 1974.

The committee makes the following observations concerning our Fellowship:

There is need for our total church leadership to be made aware of their spiritual priorities.

In our relationship to what God is doing today, there is a need to reemphasize the declaration presented at the Council on Spiritual Life by the Charismatic Study Committee, as follows:

"There is thrilling evidence that God is moving mightily by His Spirit through all the earth. The winds of the Spirit are blowing freely outside the normally recognized Pentecostal bodies. This is the time of a greater fulfillment of Joel's prophecy. Thousands of people have prayed for years that this would come to pass. The coming of the Holy Spirit upon so many and in such a broad sweep of the church world is God's way of counteracting the liberalism, secularism, humanism, and occultism that plagues our present-day society. Marks of the genuine moving of the Holy Spirit include the following:

"1. Emphasis on worship in spirit and truth of Almighty God.

"2. Recognition of the person of Christ—His deity, His incarnation, and His redemptive work.

"3. Recognition of the authority of, and a hunger for, the Word of God.

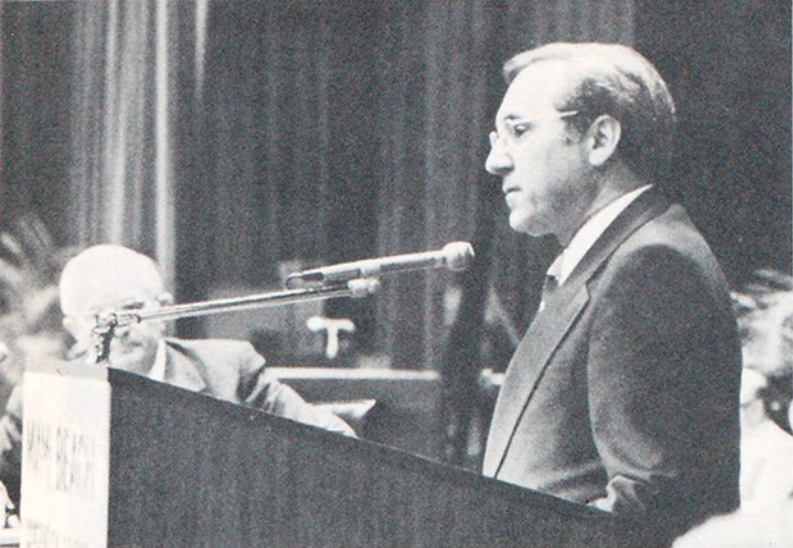
Photos by John Morar and Phil Stovall



James Griggs (right), chairman of the tellers committee, gives voting results to Melvin Snyder to display on the Vu-Graph.



Left to right: Gwen Jones, "Advance" editor; R. C. Cunningham, "Evangel" editor; Elva Hoover, Office of Information assistant.



Chairman Richard Dortch presents the report of the Spiritual Life Committee, a report adopted without a dissenting vote.

"4. Emphasis on the person and work of the Holy Spirit.

"5. Emphasis on the second coming of Christ.

"6. Emphasis on prayer for the sick.

"7. Emphasis on sharing Christ in witnessing and evangelism.

"The Assemblies of God wishes to identify with what God is doing in the world today. We recognize that no existing organization fully represents the body of Christ. Neither do we believe that for all true Christians—whether Pentecostal in doctrine or not—to align themselves with an existing organization or a new one will bring the unity of the Spirit. We do believe in the institution of the Church. We trust the Holy Spirit to bring the members of Christ's body into a true unity of the Spirit. If there is yet a truth to be revealed to the Church, it is the essential unity of the body of Christ, which transcends but does not destroy existing organizational bounds.

"The Assemblies of God does not place approval on

that which is manifestly not scriptural in doctrine or conduct; but neither do we categorically condemn everything that does not totally or immediately conform to our standards. No genuine spiritual movement in Church history has been completely free of problems or above criticism. The Pentecostal Movement of this century has experienced its problems relating both to doctrine and conduct. Spiritual maturity leads to a balanced life which will bear the fruit of the Spirit while displaying the gifts of the Spirit.

"We place our trust in God to bring His plan about as He pleases in His sovereign will. It is important that we find our way to a sound scriptural path, avoiding the extremes of an ecumenism that compromises scriptural principles and an exclusivism that excludes true Christians."

The Committee further recommends participation in evangelism, both personal and church; and reemphasis on an openness to Pentecostal worship with all the accompanying Biblical characteristics.

We call our Fellowship, ministers and laymen, to be diligent in personal life and conduct, always striving to reflect the nature of Christ, and discouraging the pursuits of inordinate materialism and all forms of professionalism.

Let us answer this call in the spirit of the Bible with a love and concern for "the man." Even as Jesus said, "I came not to be ministered unto but to minister," may we never lose sight of the individual. As the theme of this General Council declares a calling of our world to Christ, we reaffirm our Pentecostal concern for each individual throughout the world, that they may know Christ in His fullness.

—SPIRITUAL LIFE COMMITTEE

RICHARD DORTCH, Chairman
 CHARLES DENTON, DAVID W. FLOWER, CHARLES E. HACKETT, G. F. LEWIS, D. H. McLAUGHLIN, MURRAY McLEES, KERMIT RENEAU, WILLIAM N. SACHS, LOREN WOOTEN, THOMAS F. ZIMMERMAN



Delegates became engrossed in printed reports and discussion so they could vote intelligently on the issues before the Council.



Lines at the floor microphones were common as delegates waited for the opportunity to express their viewpoints.



Photo by Phil Stovall

It's like seeing the Grand Canyon—

Increasing in the knowledge of God

By **GEORGE HOLMES**

Instructor, Trinity Bible Institute, Ellendale, North Dakota

A PHRASE I'd like to bring into focus is found in Colossians 1:10: "Increasing in the knowledge of God." Or as J. B. Phillips put it, "That your knowledge of God may grow yet deeper."

One time my wife and I were returning to San Francisco by air from London. It was a beautiful, clear day. At one point the pilot said, "We are now passing over the Grand Canyon." Well, we had never seen the Grand Canyon, and so we looked out of the window. We saw, first of all, those familiar piles, like piles of brown sugar, and then there was that darker gash a little way from them. And from 37,000 feet that little dark gash was the Grand Canyon.

So when we got home we said, "Well, what do you think—we've seen the Grand Canyon!" And it was true—we had seen it. It looked like a thumb smudge, but we had seen it. I could say I had some knowledge of the Grand Canyon; however, it was very superficial.

Some time later some friends of ours visited that famous spot. They came back and told us they drove in their car to about 100 miles from the Grand Canyon. Then they got into a little plane and made a trip over the canyon. Twisting and turning and zooming in, they were able to see it fairly closely. When they got back, they showed us their pictures and told us all about it. Now our knowledge of the Grand Canyon had increased.

Then one day we left California to drive to the Mid-

This illustration is excerpted from Brother Holmes' Monday morning devotional at the General Council in Miami Beach. Because of the press of business, Brother Holmes was asked to give only the highlights of his Bible study on the Book of Colossians. He is preparing an article for a future issue of the *Evangel* which will encompass more of what he had planned to say in his Council sermon.

west for a period of ministry. We decided to visit the Grand Canyon for ourselves. We arrived at that scenic area, parked our car, and began to walk. But we didn't walk very far. In the glare of the afternoon we gazed in wonder at those deep gashes in the earth's crust and the river at the bottom that was responsible for so much of that. It took our breath away.

At sundown all began to get quieter, and we were entranced by the diverse coloration provided by the slanting rays of the sun. It was glorious. Next morning fresh delights were ours as we saw the rim under a mantle of snow.

We left the Grand Canyon feeling that our knowledge of it had increased yet more. We knew it better still, and we might have stopped there—we might have said, "Yes, we've been to the Grand Canyon. We know it. It's glorious! It's wonderful!"

And that, I think, is how some of us are about God. We feel we know all about God. We've got Him pigeon-holed. As long as He acts in accordance with all that we think, we keep in touch with Him.

But wait a minute! One day in the *National Geographic* I met a man who had climbed down into the depths of the Grand Canyon. After graphically describing his descent and all the marvel of those strata-formed rocks, he said:

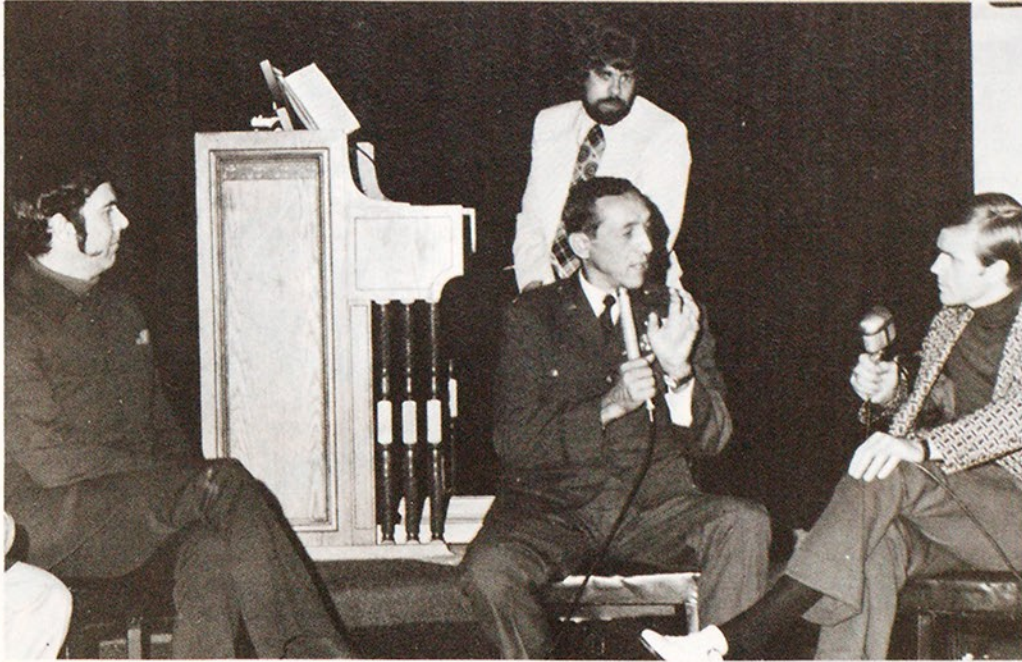
"I stepped out of time and space. The canyon soars around you, and you walk on and on without a line of it changing or your objective getting any nearer. Your legs float you through an endless spectacle that seems to have neither beginning nor end. What startles you and then comforts you is that you are absolutely alone.

"I was climbing down through two billion years of the history of our planet. My footprints stirred the dust of vanished deserts. My boots crunched the tiny skeletons of creatures that lived in seas long gone."

There was a pause in the writing here, and then he came up with this: "It gives a man some measure of eternity."

After thinking of the Grand Canyon and these ways of discovering it and getting a deeper knowledge of it, I turn to my knowledge of God and I hear this prayer of the apostle Paul, "That your knowledge of God may grow yet deeper." How much have I discovered about God? How much have you discovered of Him?

A. W. Tozer called this the pursuit of God. Summed



Youth activities at the General Council included interviews with persons such as Vietnam POW Col. Robbie Risner (center) and Ringmaster Austin Miles (left.) Conducting the interview is Evangelist Len Mink. Avon Ojala from New Zealand is at the organ.



Bringing greetings was Elijah Namyela, general superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Ghana, West Africa.



Eduardo Ríos, national superintendent of the Assemblies of God in Peru, spoke briefly. Interpreting was Missionary Monroe Grams.



James Montgomery, general secretary of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, was one of several representatives of sister Pentecostal groups who brought greetings in the opening session of the General Council in Miami Beach.

up in a few words, maturity is increasing in the knowledge of God.

This morning I'm glad I've embarked upon a voyage of discovery that's far more wonderful than going down into the Grand Canyon. In this avid desire to know God you step out of time into space, into eternity. The presence of God soars around you. You move and live and have your being in His eternal love and grace.

You go on and on without getting closer to the end of Him because He is without beginning and without end.

You are with Him alone, although you know that there are others, perhaps millions, who are alone with Him too.

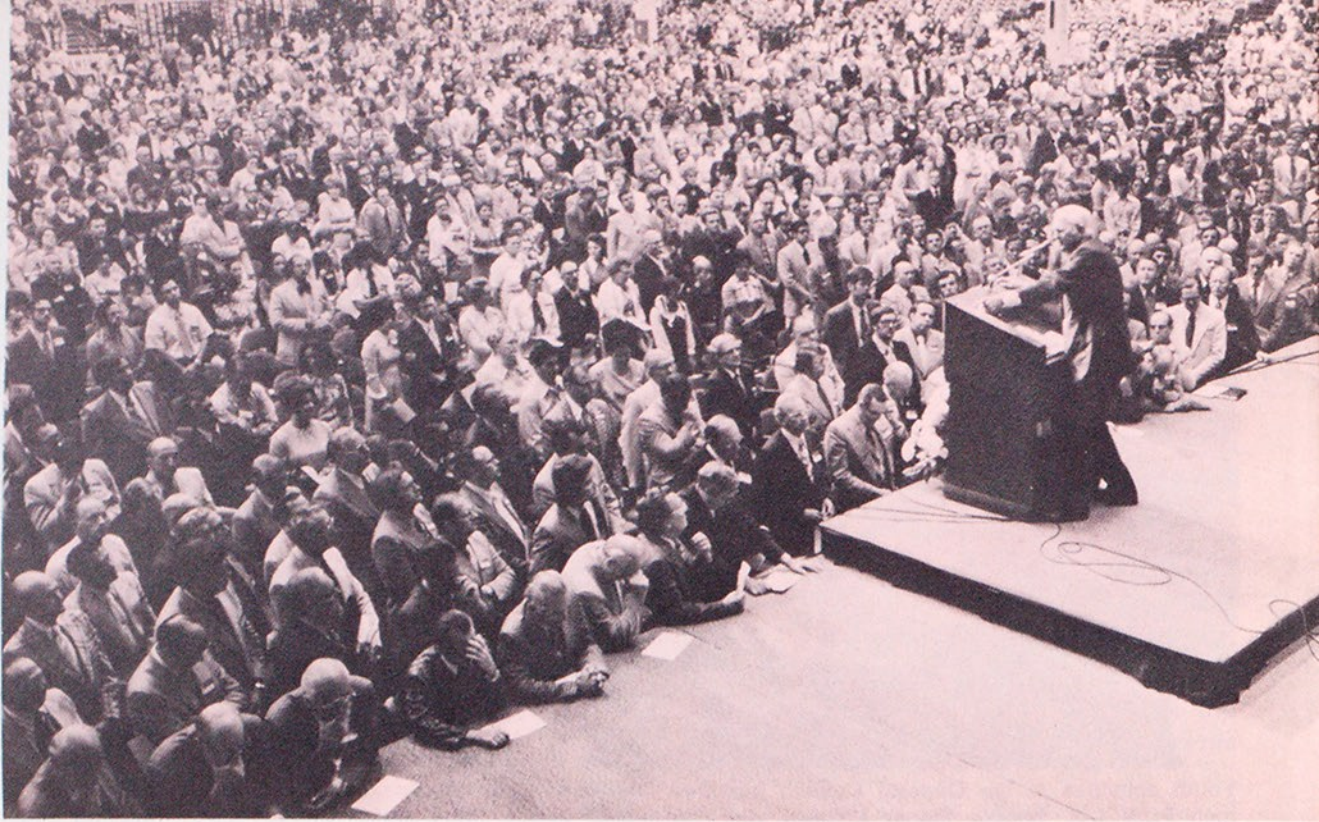
You are amazed, overcome, overawed, yet lured on because you know this is reality—this is God.

This is what I want. I want to know Him. I want my knowledge of Him to increase—to grow yet deeper. That is my prayer.



Bethel Assembly, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, attracted attention outside Convention Hall with this British double-decker bus.

General Superintendent T. F. Zimmerman challenges individuals at the General Council to commit themselves to the task of reaching America with the gospel.



A call to AMERICA

By JOE D. WILMOTH / *Home Missions Editorial Assistant*

HUNDREDS OF MINISTERS and laymen made a declaration of commitment to personal involvement in "A Call to America" climaxing the Friday night service at General Council.

Everyone in the service received an envelope which he was asked not to open until given instructions. At the close of the message by Charles Crabtree, pastor of First Assembly in Des Moines, Iowa (see page 3), General Superintendent Thomas F. Zimmerman asked each person to open his envelope and remove the Declaration of Commitment. Brother Zimmerman read the declaration and asked individuals to pledge their service, talents, and ministry during the coming year to evangelizing the United States.

He then presented the challenge as the culmination of the five-year Plan of Advance, which had as its goal

the utilization of every resource of the Movement to evangelize America. "People represent the key whereby the job can be done," Brother Zimmerman stated. "We are here to do business for God. We are here to face up to our responsibility. There is a role for you to fill."

Beginning with district superintendents, people stood to their feet and marched to the front of the auditorium, a mighty army dedicated to the task of reaching America with the gospel. The signed declarations were brought forward as a symbol of commitment. The national Division of Home Missions tabulated the commitments and forwarded the results to the district superintendents for their use.

Earlier in the service Theodore E. Gannon, national director of Home Missions, had introduced the members of the national Home Missions Board, which was

LEFT: R. E. Book tells how First Assembly in Albany, Oregon, established four new churches since 1969. RIGHT: Glen Bonds explains the procedure for getting literature for new churches through ELA. (Photos by Phil Stovall)



called for at the Kansas City General Council. David Flower, Richard Dortch, Marshall Calloway, Robert Pirtle, and Elmer Kirschman were reappointed to two-year terms. Continuing members of the board are Brother Gannon, N. D. Davidson, Clifford L. Hobson, Kermit Reneau, Earl Blythe, Don Cox, and T. F. Zimmerman.

Brother Gannon also recognized the home missionaries of the various areas of Special Ministries who were present. He commented, "The General Council of the Assemblies of God began with a home missions program. Everything else we have is an outgrowth of that beginning."

Three new publications were introduced to the audience. Copies of the two new promotional magazines, *Reach Out* for New Church Evangelism and *Christ for All* for Special Ministries, were distributed after the service. Brother Gannon also introduced the deaf Sunday school quarterly, which will be in print very soon.

The Home Missions Leadership Conference held immediately before General Council emphasized New Church Evangelism and also gave attention to areas of Special Ministries. Brother Gannon stressed that the purpose of the seminar was to make district leaders aware of help they can receive from the national Division of Home Missions. District superintendents and home missions directors attended the seminar.

E. R. Anderson, superintendent of the North Texas District, spoke on the topic, "Divide and Grow."

"Splits and divisions are not the will of God," Brother Anderson said, "but the Lord doesn't write us off when we make a mistake. We can use every situation to bring glory to God." The North Texas District has a goal of establishing 200 new churches.

Glen Bonds, national Men's Department secretary, told the leaders how their districts could receive help from Evangelism Literature for America in starting new churches. Brother Bonds asked the directors to make specific requests for projects in their districts. Money contributed toward those projects will be used by ELA to buy literature for that specific area.

The last presentation was an informative and inspirational testimony by R. E. Book, pastor of First Assembly in Albany, Oregon. Brother Book described how his congregation had sponsored four thriving churches since 1969 and still had experienced phenomenal growth.



Paul Markstrom, speaking at the Home Missions seminar, encouraged people to become involved in prison ministry.

Brother Book said his church has learned to operate on the principle, "Give and it shall be given unto you," whether it means dollars or people. He added, "The giving of people is the most painful. But you don't give them; you really keep them." First Assembly has plans to plant another church.

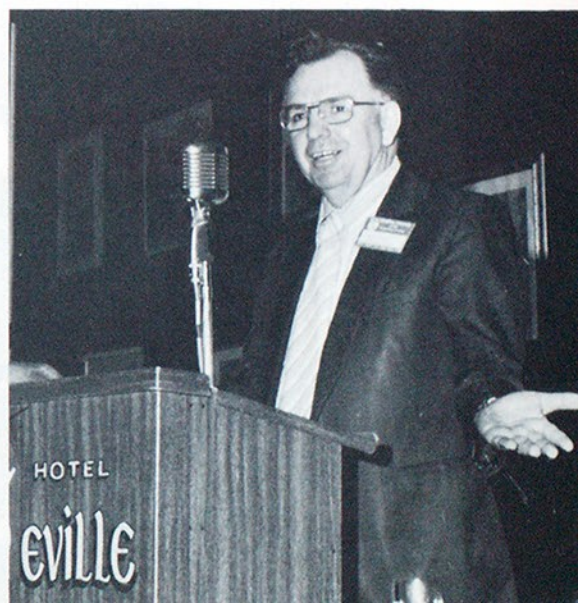
Other speakers on the seminar program were Paul R. Markstrom, national prison chaplain, and Frank M. Reynolds, national field representative for Teen Challenge ministries.

Brother Markstrom discussed the opportunities for ministry behind prison bars. He also encouraged local churches to work closely with his office and always to work through the prison chaplain. "Don't preach on the prodigal son or the woman at the well," Brother Markstrom advised. "Just tell inmates that Christ loves them."

Brother Reynolds, who assumed his new position earlier this year, described his role as a "facilitator, not a dictator." He emphasized that the availability of facilities should not be the thrust for opening a new Teen Challenge center. Major considerations must be obtaining a staff and operating expenses. Brother Reynolds also commented, "We would like to see local churches assume many of the responsibilities Teen Challenge now has."

An informative question-and-answer session followed in which district directors not only had some of their questions answered but also offered helpful suggestions.

LEFT: E. R. Anderson spoke at the seminar on "Divide and Grow." T. E. Gannon is seated at the left. RIGHT: Frank M. Reynolds explains his work as field representative for Teen Challenge. (Photos by Phil Stovall)



"One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, saith unto him, There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves, and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?" (John 6:8,9)

THE STORY BEGINS at twilight in Galilee. The lower end of the sea is being touched by the purple shadows of the Syrian hills. Jesus has been ministering to the crowd all day. Now He says to His disciples, "Let's cross the sea to the Syrian side for some rest and a repast."

But it was not to be. Those starved and famished souls had received a morsel of the bread of life, and they wouldn't leave Jesus alone. They crossed by the ancient fords of Jordan, and when the little bark containing Jesus and His disciples made anchorage, the famished crowd was there.

Jesus, perceiving their hunger and their need, said to one of his disciples. "What can we do to feed these people?" This question was asked first of Philip because he was a native of this area and should know more about the available resources than any of the Twelve. But his answer was one of complete despair.

He said, "Lord, if a man worked for six months and took all of his wages (two hundred pennyworth) and if he could find food to buy, he still could not pay for enough food to feed this mob."

But then Andrew came along. And Andrew said, "Master, I've been looking and I have found a little boy with these resources. He has five small loaves and two fishes."

Look at the diminutive form used in describing these resources—a *little* boy with some *small* loaves and *two* fishes.

John records that these were barley loaves, and barley was the cheapest grain available at that time. It was normally used for animal food. Fish was the commonest food of the common people of Galilee. These small resources were all Jesus had. Thank God, this was all that was necessary for the Master.

FIRST LET'S LOOK at the dimension of the challenge. Matthew says, "And Jesus saw a great multitude." Mark says, "And the Lord saw much people." Both say, "He was moved with compassion."

Worldwide population trends are staggering. When Jesus looked upon this multitude, the then-known world was populated by only 300 million people. It was a millennium and a half later, the year our forefathers landed at Plymouth Rock, before the number of world inhabitants reached half a billion. Another two centuries, and the first billion was reached.

Then, caught in the trap of his own productivity, man doubled his number in the next hundred years and by 1930 reached the astounding figure of two billion. From the depression until the first moon shot, we gained another billion, and the following 10 years produced another. By the year 2000, unless something happens, world population will have reached the staggering figure of 6½ billion people!

We are in a birthquake of unprecedented proportion. Every day we add to our world a city the size of



Photo by John Morar

A sermon preached at the Sunday afternoon missions rally

WHAT ARE THEY

Flint, Michigan. And every week we add a city the size of Houston, Texas.

There are two prevailing attitudes about these masses. Like the disciples we can say, "Send them away." But Jesus said, "Feed them." We cannot escape the presence of these famished people anymore than Jesus could.

LET'S LOOK NOW at the dilemma of this challenge. Where shall they go to buy bread?

Do you know that the greatest single common denominator of our time is spiritual hunger? This is the greatest hour for reaping the world has ever known. The world is spiritually hungry, and we say, "Send them away that they might buy bread for themselves." We have been doing this, and they have been going.

European and American young people by the thousands make their way through the Middle East and out to Southeast Asia where the sun is warm and the living is cheap and drugs flow like a river. Millions of peace-seeking people are now turning to pot, mysticism, and commercialized gurus. They've gone to the desert to buy bread and haven't found it.

We live in a moment when 28 percent of the world's population is estimated to be nominally Christian. The fact of the matter is there are now two dozen nations with 32 percent of the world's population that are less than one percent Christian. The Assemblies of God has missionaries in six of those nations. There are 56 other nations in the world that are less than 10 percent Christian, and we are in 24 of these nations. You see, this is a great challenge, and sometimes we are prone to say, "What are these among so many?"

I would be the most disillusioned man in the world with this dilemma if I did not know there is a great Ally in world evangelism. The miracle-working Master stands to multiply the meager resources.



Photo by Phil Stovall

The missions rally began with a march of missionaries in costume (above left) and concluded with a time of commitment.

at the General Council in Miami Beach.

AMONG SO MANY?

By J. PHILIP HOGAN

Executive Director of Foreign Missions

He has done this in Bolivia, a little country in Latin America that has been labored in and prayed over by faithful people. Yet it has been one of the slowest harvest fields in Latin America.

In 1967-68 we had 67 churches in Bolivia, every one of them dug out of hard rock by hard-working, praying people. Then in 1968 a plan to have every church start a church was promoted. Don't tell me that God doesn't anoint programs. By the end of that year, they had 100 churches. By the end of 1972, thank God, they had 205 churches registered with the government and 41 new ones ready to come in.

A young man from that country came to Los Angeles as a student. He went to observe the ministry of Kathryn Kuhlman and was touched by the miracle power. He went again, but he was too late and couldn't get into the auditorium. Seeing hundreds outside who couldn't get in, he started preaching to them. And the same things happened outside that happened inside!

This young man, with no training in the ministry whatsoever, went back to Bolivia with this power.

Things began to happen. The greatest crowds that have ever been assembled for any reason on any occasion by anybody in Bolivia began to come. In a few weeks all Bibles were sold out. This revival reached the common people, spread into the middle and upper classes, including the President's family. Today our missionaries in Bolivia are in clover knee-deep because of the Holy Ghost.

We have missionaries working in Beirut, that great commercial, economic, cultural, and educational head of the Muslim world. Anybody who knows missions knows that Islam has been the impenetrable fortress against which no one has ever succeeded. *God has now penetrated Islam!* On the campuses of Beirut, scores of Muslims have been won to Jesus Christ and baptized in His name.

In the Arab world we have 350,000 students studying the Bible with International Correspondence Institute courses. Some are in impenetrable places such as Sudan and Iraq, because the Master blessed the resources. Thank God, there is a divine plan that takes away the

J. Philip Hogan preaching

Platform guests at the General Council missions rally.

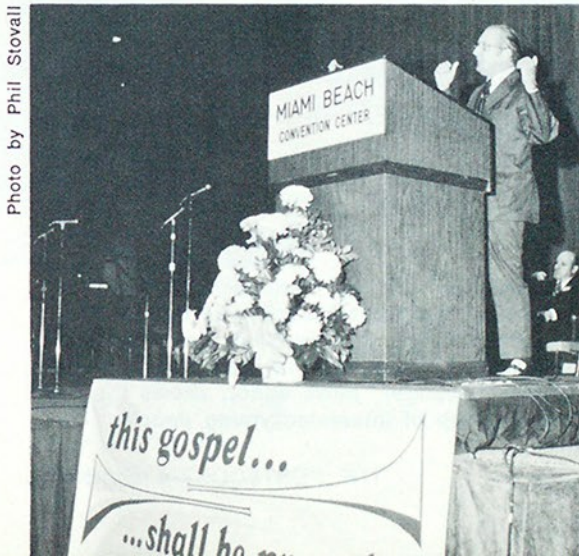


Photo by Phil Stovall



Photo by John Morar

despair of the dilemma and makes it possible to reach the world for Jesus Christ today.

WHAT WE NEED at this point are men and women who will distribute the blessing. The multitude is there, and they are hungry, more hungry than you can ever imagine.

Today we can get all the prospective missionaries we want who say, "I want to touch my toe in the water to see if I like it." This gospel was not planted in 91 countries of the world by people like that. It was presented, prayed over, plowed under by people who burned their bridges behind them and went to lands afar when it wasn't nearly as easy as it is today to tell men of the love of Jesus Christ.

Somebody has said, "Well, Brother Hogan, you've got all this mass communication. Isn't it a push-button war now?" No, it is not! We need *men* who will go, identify themselves with the culture, learn the language, turn their back on Americana, and stay long enough to birth by prayer the church of Jesus Christ in these lands.

We don't need people who just want to make a little sortie into another land so they can come back and be called international evangelists. We need people who will travel light and pray lots and preach for the little and preach for the big and stay long enough to tell the dark world the gospel of Jesus. Give us men who are willing to distribute to the masses.

Thank God! We have this kind of people. They are our veteran missionaries who have planted the gospel of Jesus Christ in 91 countries, and they're still going back. Some of them have been put out of one country by a hostile government. But they went on the next boat to some other field. They have lived among bloody wars, hurricanes, earthquakes, typhoons, epidemics—danger of every kind—and they are still going back. They're not looking for a place to quit.

We have young people like this, preparing to go out. Some of these are second, if not third, generation missionaries, raised on the mission fields, who never wanted to be anything else. They speak two or three languages. They have gone to Bible school and prepared in every way possible to be missionaries. These are brilliant young people who could go a long way in any field. But they have heard the call of the regions beyond. And they believe what Samuel Moffatt wrote: "The great world's heart is aching fiercely in the night, and God alone can heal it and God alone can give it light."

We have men who have been pioneers of the Cross for 40 years. They have lived among the darkness and desolation, raised families of fine professional young people on the mission field. These pioneers have lived among the dust, the heat, the humidity, and the insects. Some of them have lost their companions, but still they are going back. That's the kind of people who have planted this message in lands afar.

And young people with this dedication are coming. They have burned their bridges behind them and they have made a commitment to Jesus Christ.

We may look at them and say, "Oh, God, what are they among so many?" But He has chosen them and He will multiply their resources. There is a divine plan for the harvest. Our part is to keep passing out what He gives us until that wonderful day when the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord.

Photos by John Morar



ABOVE: Several hundred evangelists and their families were honored at a special reception following an evening service.



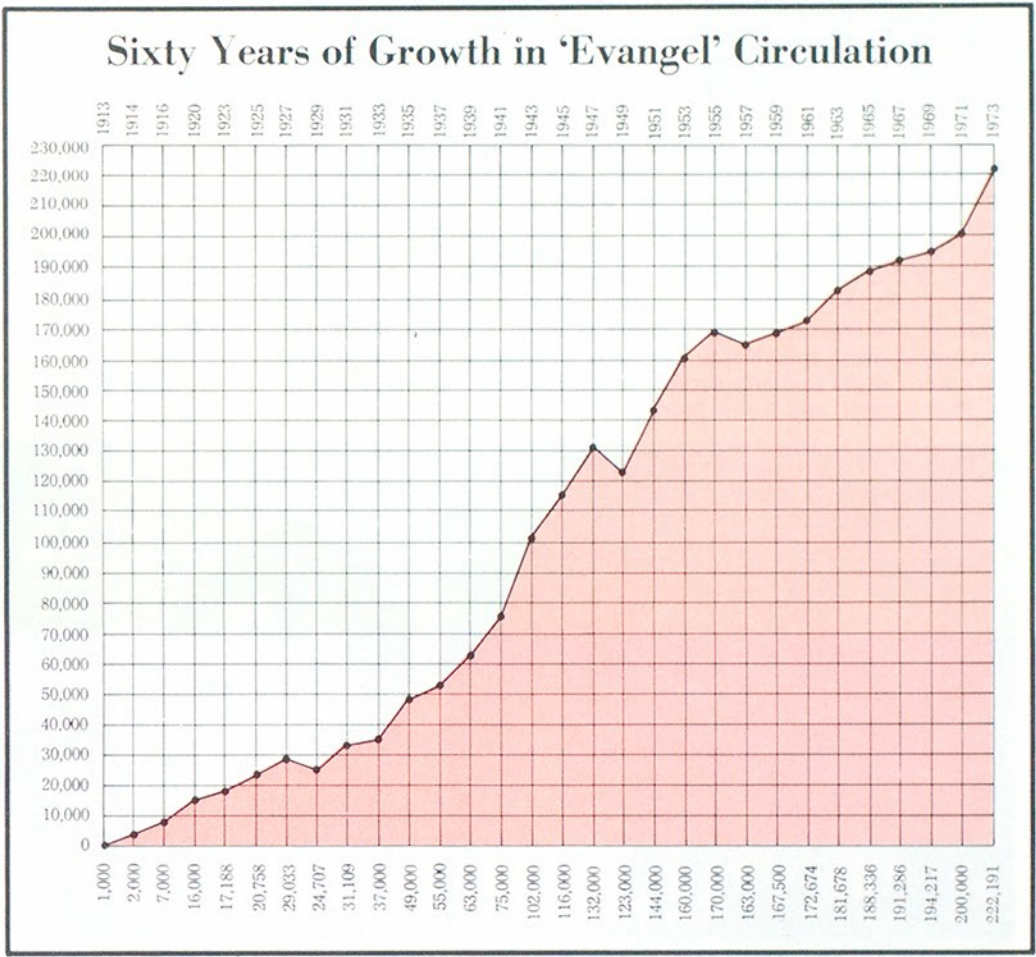
RIGHT: The 60th anniversary of "The Pentecostal Evangel" was highlighted in the Sunday afternoon Council rally by Lee Shultz, national director of the Division of Communications. Copies of the anniversary edition were distributed in the service. ABOVE: Juleen Turnage (right), "Evangel" news editor, shows the 1973 Outreach Edition to a group of interested young people.



General presbyters vote on an issue in their sessions which immediately preceded the General Council. The approximately 200-member General Presbytery is the highest policy-making board of the Assemblies of God when the General Council is not in session.



Photos by Phil Stovall
OCTOBER 14, 1973



WMC seminars and workshops set the pace for involving w

Looking to



One of the highlights of the WMC seminar was the unveiling of a portrait of Etta Calhoun, founder of WMC. Participating in the unveiling are Goldia Anderson, secretary of WMC; Shirley Whidden, South Texas District WMC secretary; Mrs. G. Q. Manley, South Texas District WMC president.

TOP LEADERS of the Women's Missionary Council of the Assemblies of God and its auxiliaries, Ys and Missionettes, met for seminars in Miami Beach, Florida, prior to the opening of the General Council. Delegates represented 41 of the 54 districts. Visitors from the Bahamas also were present.

"Looking to Tomorrow," coordinating theme of the meetings, was in keeping with the overall theme of the General Council. Study sessions and lectures were focused upon the mechanics of involving all women and girls of the church in "Calling Our World to Christ."

Goldia Anderson, departmental secretary, welcomed the group with a devotional. She concluded her remarks with, "We have the purpose of God before us—to evangelize the world. Now we need to give every person the opportunity to say 'yes' to Jesus Christ. We make a plan to do the task; we gather needed resources; then carry out the plan."

Charlotte Schumitsch, Missionettes coordinator, introduced new tapes of Prims songs to be used in club meetings and offered first copies of "Little Girls' Dreams Do Come True," a new Prims—Daisies brochure.

District leaders joined her in a presentation, "The Exciting Growth of Missionettes." The auxiliary for girls, ages 5 to 15, now numbers 9,380 clubs, with a membership of 115,000.

Mrs. Robert Goggin, Oklahoma District WMC president, showed an album of Missionettes parades, banquets, and Honor Star crownings. She stressed the importance of dignity, beauty, and correctness in this spiritual highlight in the life of a young lady. She explained methods of obtaining professional help with decorating and ceremonial procedure. Oklahoma has an impressive list of girls who have finished the Stairway to the Stars achievement program to become Honor Stars.

Mrs. Roger Culbertson, Missionettes director of Ohio,



1. Mrs. Melvin Hodges presents Goldia Anderson with a copy of "Manual para dirigentes del CMF," a recently published Latin American version of "The WMC Leader." 2. Mrs. Cy Homer addresses 500 women at the WMC luncheon. 3. Hermione Summers, Alabama, accepts award for 100 percent district reporting. 4. Zella Anthony, Indiana, receives a Bible in recognition of 20 years of service as district WMC president. 5. WMC booth at the General Council offers counsel and free literature. 6. Missionettes and Royal Rangers participate in presenting the colors at the opening service of the General Council. (Photos by Phil Stovall and John Morar)



tomorrow

By ANN AHLF

explained how leaders of that district planned and conducted a successful retreat for more than 500 juniors and seniors. She stressed the value of staff cooperation and of delegating responsibility. She told of controlled competitive sports, achievement program contests, a Bible-reading marathon, devotional meetings, and a crowning service for 15 girls at a closing banquet.

Mrs. J. L. Schaffer, Tennessee District WMC president, who has crowned 37 Honor Stars in 1973, was asked to explain the success of the Missionettes program in her state. She said, "Leadership is the key—firm, exacting sponsors who 'keep something going' all the time so that Missionettes are too busy to become bored."

Mrs. Paul Lowenberg, Kansas District WMC president, presented a paper concerning WMC stewardship. The research showed the Women's Missionary Council Department could continue to be totally self-supporting if all local groups adhered to the policy of stewardship designed for the organization at the time the national office was established.

Mrs. Ruth Crawford, Northwest District, spoke about home Bible studies as an effective means of evangelism for WMCs in 1974. She told how small neighborhood meetings had spread throughout cities to become a major arm of outreach.

Mrs. Mabel Prettyman, WMC representative, East Bay Section, Northern California—Nevada, was assigned the topic, "Successful and Interesting Rallies." She pinpointed seeking divine direction, setting goals, and planning ahead.

Silas Gaither, national director of Church Ministries, and Mrs. Wesley Hurst were guest devotional speakers.

WMCs of Alabama and Wyoming received plaques for 100 percent reporting. It was the seventh consecutive year of perfect reporting for the latter. Ohio received recognition for an "almost perfect record." The merit award is made to districts with all local WMC groups

reporting every quarter of the year.

One of the highlights of the seminar was the unveiling of a portrait of Etta Calhoun, founder of the Women's Missionary Council. The ceremony was conducted by Mrs. G. Q. Manley.

When Mrs. Manley became WMC president of South Texas, she began research on the life of Mrs. Calhoun, who organized the first WMC group in Houston, Texas, in 1925 (see *The Pentecostal Evangel*, September 16, 1973).

Presentation of a graph report of the Etta Calhoun Memorial Fund and a projection for future giving added to the event.

A panel—Charlotte Schumitsch, Ann Ahlf, Mrs. C. H. Cookman, Mrs. R. L. Brandt, and Mrs. Walter Dixon—discussed the importance of keeping missions foremost in the WMC program.

Barbara Forrest, Southern California District WMC president and main speaker for the seminar, dealt with the requirements and development of successful leadership.

On August 16 Goldia Anderson and Barbara Forrest conducted a workshop for all women. Attendance reached 175. Mrs. Anderson spoke about means of involving all women and girls in an effective outreach. Mrs. Forrest's subject was "Your Attitude Is Showing."

Climaxing WMC activities was an August 17 luncheon, where 500 women and girls heard Mrs. Cy Homer, Lakeland, Florida, emphasize the ministry of women in presenting and propagating the gospel. Incorporating the theme, "Our ministries are far-reaching like the fragrance of a rose," the speaker challenged her listeners to "smile and love, as you give what you have to the cause of Christ."

Music was provided by the Bethany College Bethanaires, Santa Cruz, California, and Missionary Riley Kaufman.

Zella Anthony, Indiana District WMC president, was awarded a Bible for 20 years of continuous, progressive leadership in the organization.

Mrs. Melvin Hodges, representing the Latin American WMCs (CMF—*Concilio Misionero Femenil*) presented Goldia Anderson with a copy of *Manual para dirigentes del CMF*, an adaptation of *The WMC Leader* in Spanish.

WMC leaders returned to their districts to put into practice things they had seen and heard—"Looking to Tomorrow."



THE FOLLY OF OPPOSING CHRIST

Sunday School Lesson for October 21, 1973

MATTHEW 21:28-42

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

THE TWO PARABLES in this lesson were spoken by Christ to answer opposition, hypocrisy, and rebellion.

OPPOSITION ILLUSTRATED (vv. 28-32)

God is the Father in the parable. The two sons represent two classes of people. The Father's command is the same to each. All men are called to become sons of the Kingdom by the new birth and to live a life of righteousness and service.

The first son represents the "publicans and the harlots"—the worst of sinners, the outcasts of society.

The first son was curt and insolent, but his con-

science was awakened. His opposition was replaced by repentance.

Without repentance and obedience there is no value in a man's admitting he is a sinner. Badness is not made goodness merely by confessing it. But God is more interested in our obedience than our origin. By the grace of God a glorious destiny may be carved out of an unspeakably low origin if a man obeys the gospel!

The second son represents the scribes and Pharisees—and all of the deceived millions who think that profession of religion is synonymous with righteousness.

The second son was polite, but his refinement could not atone for his insincerity and hypocrisy. He *said* better than he *did*; he *promised* better than he *proved*.

Other lessons may be drawn from the parable:

1. *Good intentions are futile substitutes for good actions.* A famous writer of comedies, disillusioned with life, died. He had requested that the following inscription be placed on his tombstone: "I revelled underneath the moon; I slept beneath the sun; I lived a life of *going to do*, and died with nothing done."

We do not get saved, build churches and Sunday schools, win souls, and bless others by merely intending to do so. We do it by Spirit-inspired activity!

2. *Profession without action is a Pentecostal danger.* Picture in a modern setting the son who said, "I go, sir," but went not. He stands in a consecration service with tears running down his cheeks as he sings, "I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord, o'er mountain, or plain, or sea." A few hours later when he has an opportunity to go across town to witness or help some needy person, he has an excuse for not going.

OPPOSITION PUNISHED (vv. 33-42)

1. *Human privilege* (v. 33). God, the householder, planted, provided for, prospered, and protected Israel. She was planted in a fruitful land—not in a wilderness. She was "hedged round about" by unseen angelic hosts, by a prophetic ministry and warnings. Everything necessary was done for her fruitful productivity.

So it is with Christians. They are trees of His planting (Isaiah 61:3; Psalm 1:3). They are hedged about (Job 1:10; Psalm 34:7; 2 Kings 6:13-17). They have His Word and His Spirit so they can bear fruit (John 15:8,16).

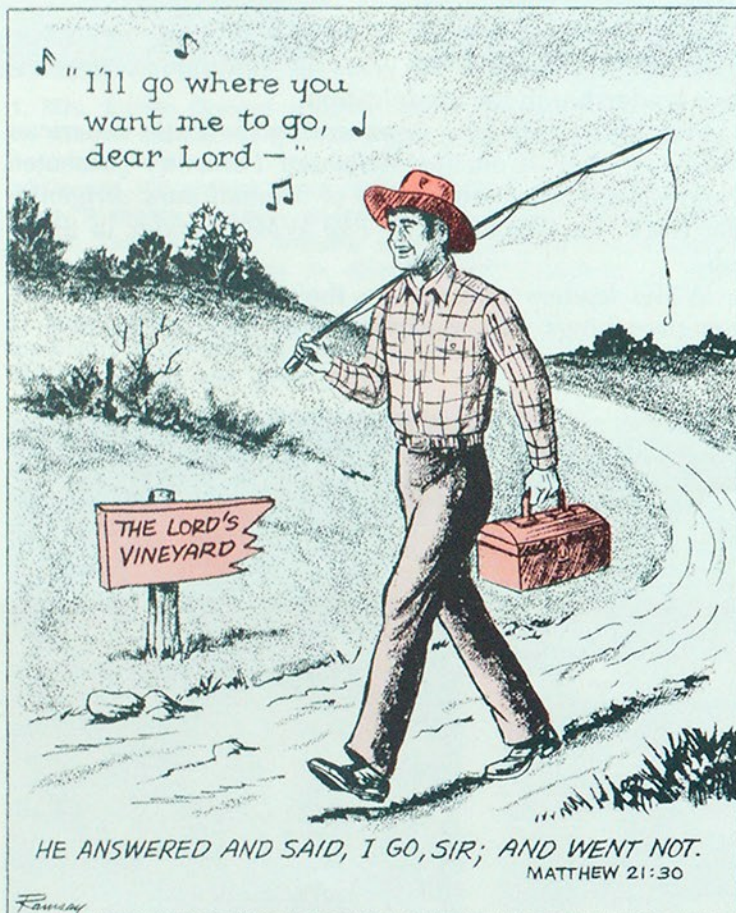
2. *Human freedom.* The servants of the husbandmen were free to come and go and to develop the vineyard as they chose.

So each of us is a free moral agent. But as in the case of the vinedressers, freedom has its limitations. We are not free to choose our heredity but we are free to develop our lives and to make the best or worst from what God has entrusted to us.

3. *Human responsibility.* The husbandman had a right to expect fruit from his vineyard (v. 34). How gracious God was to choose Israel and to miraculously provide for, protect, and deliver the nation! But He did it so that through Israel the knowledge of the true God might be spread to all nations. Yet how miserably Israel failed!

America too has been a favored nation. How rich her heritage has been—in both natural and spiritual things. And if so-called Christian America does not turn from her sin, selfishness, and rebellion against God, she will suffer as Israel did!

OUT OF STEP WITH THE MUSIC



'You're not going to sell very much gospel without a lot of



**BAD
NEWS**

COMMUNICATIONS EXPERT Marshall McLuhan ventured that observation when addressing several hundred evangelical radio-TV communicators. His comments came across with rare clarity. He argued for a gospel with some teeth in it.

"The gospel," McLuhan said, "has long been sold by the aid of very bad news, namely hell fire. And I think we're going to find that an indispensable dimension of it. Christ never failed to harp on that note."

McLuhan is right. To warn men of the serious nature of sin and its ultimate consequences is a logical and needed part of the gospel. The good news cannot be fully grasped and appreciated until one has been confronted with the bad news about sin, judgment, and hell. And according to Jesus, the future is incredibly dark for the unsaved.

In telling the story we must tell it all, like it really is, according to Jesus. It is the part of honesty and love to warn where danger exists. Today's generation needs to be told what the Bible says about hell and the awful reality of eternal punishment. The sinner should fear the judgment of God.

Don't get this wrong. We are not urging a steady diet of sulphur. No Christian can ever take delight if the wicked gets his due. The good news must be told in love. Not sadistically but seriously. The truth about damnation never stands alone. It is balanced by God's love and man's responsibility. Man is so free that he is capable of choices that can bring him to eternal death. Jesus said so.

It is only right that the unbeliever has the opportunity to hear the whole story. Yet preachers are pretty silent on this important subject. Only in the most fundamental churches does one even hear the word *hell* mentioned.

The church today is more interested in man's material welfare than with the welfare of his soul. Most of the

preaching is directed toward moral improvement rather than divine mercy and judgment. Those who dare entertain the archaic notion of damnation are classified as narrow and unenlightened—they haven't kept pace with the latest theological views.

What a preacher has to decide once and for all is who he is going to listen to: Christ and those who agree with what He taught, or modern churchmen who go by their wits rather than by God's wisdom.

It is no wonder that the church seems so weak and ineffective in the modern world. A soft and inoffensive gospel has very little appeal. People are staying away from such churches in droves. Modern man isn't fooled by high-sounding milk-and-water religious talk. It doesn't sound like what Jesus said. Not even remotely.

We know of no real soul winner who has not preached about eternal punishment. Where hell is part of the evangelistic proclamation, there is church growth and church loyalty. In these churches people appreciate what God has done because they are conscious of what the alternative for them would have been. They know what they are saved from.

If Jesus died on the cross to make life a pleasure only here on earth, then it was an awful price to pay for such a small prize. But if He gave Himself to save us from judgment and hell, then this is the best news ever. The cross really matters!

No man is so good that he can escape hell on his own merits. And no man is so bad that there is no hope for him. God's love reaches out to all. Not all men will be saved, but all can be saved if they will repent and receive the Saviour by faith.

The world is waiting to hear the good news preached plainly with urgency and compassion. And be sure to tell them what happens to those who reject it.

—MICHAEL P. HORBAN

SCRIPTURES TO LIVE BY

... for October 14-20

Theme Verse: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24).

FOLLOWING CHRIST

Sunday—2 Kings 2:1-15
Monday—Matthew 10:16-42
Tuesday—Matthew 16:21-28
Wednesday—Luke 9:57-62
Thursday—1 Timothy 6:11-16
Friday—2 Timothy 2:1-13
Saturday—James 1:19-27



2 'CURTAIN' CALLS FROM GOD

By IDA LAMB



WE WANTED TO HELP. There was a little money in our savings account which could have been used to lift our daughter and her husband out of their financial slump, but they had self-respect and treasured their independence from other people, especially parents. Dan and I prayed that God would lead us.

"Let's go over and have a talk with them," Dan said. He dropped the newspaper and leaned forward to put on his shoes.

"I don't think they will accept \$100 as a gift," I replied. "Maybe we should offer to lend it to them."

JAN AND BILL had been married for almost two years. They were young, almost too young, but both of them had jobs. With the two salaries they were able to take care of the house payments, car payments, and all of the other expenses that seem to go with married life and a new home.

"God is so good to us," Bill said as they set aside God's tithe first and then divided their income to take care of weekly and monthly bills.

"Like the Bible says, 'He careth for us,'" Jan answered simply and confidently, sharing a verse that was especially meaningful to her (1 Peter 5:7).

This became almost a habit because they were truly grateful for God's love and care.

Several months passed before the change came—suddenly, without warning. Jan fainted as she was rolling her cart down the aisle at the grocery store after work. The people at the store were so kind. The manager himself took her home.

"Lots of women faint when they are expecting a baby," Jan explained to Bill after the manager had left.

Bill set the bag of groceries on the kitchen table and put his arms around her. "Little mother," he said in awed reverence. The little matter of her fainting disappeared in the almost holy awareness of God's goodness to them.

But the fainting did not go away. The six months they had planned for Jan to continue working, so that the car would be paid for and some of the other bills taken care of, shortened into three and then into just a matter of weeks when Jan's employer found she was not physically able to continue her work. The same number of bills then had to be paid from one salary instead of two.

"Mom and Dad would help," Jan suggested timidly; but Bill stiffened.

"We are going this on our own," he replied tersely.

"Maybe I can take on some work evenings, or something."

"I meant a loan, Bill, not to go begging from them," she explained. She could see the stack of bills climbing higher and higher.

"What about the tithe money? Maybe we could wait awhile on that. God would understand, and we could catch up later," she suggested.

"Never, Jan," he said quietly. "God has blessed us so richly. We won't let Him down now." Jan knew he was right, but she had to ask anyway.

When they had taken care of everything that could be paid, they knelt in prayer. Bill voiced the thoughts of both of them.

"God, we praise Your name. You have been so good to us and we are depending on You to help us in this time of crisis. . . ." When they got up from their knees, they looked at each other with complete confidence. How God would answer, they did not know, but they were sure He would. It would take exactly \$100 to put them on an even keel financially.

AT THE SAME TIME Dan and I were just getting ready to go out the front door when the telephone rang. We were tempted to ignore it, but long years in the upholstery and drapery business had taught us otherwise.

"Mrs. Lamb?" the voice was that of a woman who had been in the shop that morning—just looking. We had checked her off in our minds as just a "window shopper," but here she was actually giving us an order for drapes to be made from material we had considered unsalable.

"Well, that is \$50 we didn't expect," I remarked to Dan as we headed for the door again. "Maybe God is trying to tell us something."

Again the telephone rang. I glanced at the clock. Nobody ever called at this late hour. Dan reached for the phone.

When he hung up the receiver, he turned to me with a grin. "I guess God is trying to tell us something."

"Well, tell me," I begged. He could be so lovably exasperating at times.

"That was an account we had written off as a bad debt. You know, the Jones account. He's sending us a check for \$50. We should get it in the morning mail!"

We had to wake Jan and Bill. They had given their problem over to the Lord and had gone to sleep.

"We can't take it," Bill said firmly, "I don't know how you knew we needed exactly \$100, but we can't let you do it. God will help us work it out somehow."

"But, it is God's money, not ours," I told them as I explained the two "curtain" calls. "He gave it to us tonight to give to you. We didn't know what you needed, but He did. We only asked Him to make it possible to help you. Won't you take it for His sake?" I ran out of breath in my eagerness to make them understand.

Bill and Jan looked at each other for a moment. Then Bill reached out his hand to shake Dan's.

"In that case, sir. . ." Bill began.

"We accept God's gift," Jan finished and threw her arms around me.

We would never have repeated it, but Jan and Bill told the whole story in prayer meeting that week. They were so grateful that God had given them strength to resist taking the tithe money for themselves—and had given them far more.

★ CALLING AMERICA ★

(Continued from page 5)

the days of early slavery and literally meant "under the whip of an enemy."

Nothing could be more descriptive of Satan's slaves than "under the whip." I have walked into psychiatric wards and seen the effects of that enemy. I've dealt with men and women held captive by a binding power, talked to housewives in mental torment, read the heart-rending stories of child beatings. There is no other answer: "An enemy hath done this."

But the Spirit of the Lord is upon us. He has anointed us for a ministry of liberation.

It is no coincidence that the liberator Moses first stood in the place of holy fire. He had tried to liberate his people by the power of the flesh and was a miserable failure. But one day he came in contact with the burning Presence.

It wasn't long until he was walking down the marble corridors of the palace into the presence of Pharaoh and saying with boldness, "Let my people go."

"Who sent you?"

"The I AM."

We Pentecostals also have stood on holy ground. We are the people of holy fire. The Spirit of the Lord is upon us and He has anointed us to walk into the strongholds of Satan and tell him, in the name of Jesus, to let the people go.

When he challenged my authority some time ago about doing this, I took the Book; I showed him my commission; I reminded him that I have the power of attorney. I'm commissioned as a duly appointed agent of the King of kings.

A HOLY GHOST MESSAGE

Jesus had a Holy Ghost message: "He hath anointed me to preach the *gospel to the poor*."

Almost any Assemblies of God Sunday school student can tell you what the word *gospel* means—it means "good news." If we are going to call this nation to Christ, we are bound to preach good news; because Christ is good news.

I believe that men must hear the bad news first—that they are estranged from God and headed for eternal separation—but this is only a background for the proclamation of a positive gospel!

The political systems of the world may be deteriorating, but I have some good news: Jesus is Lord! He outranks everybody. The church world may be shaking in their boots, but I have some good news; the Lord of the Church is still building His Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Preach good news to the poor. This news is for poor lost sinners. It is for the prodigal who has wasted his substance in riotous living. There is no good news for the pompous hypocrite or the self-satisfied church member, but there is good news for the men and women who kneel at a church altar or in the privacy of a pastor's office and say, with haunting looks of despair, "Pastor, look at the mess I've made of my life; I'm ruined."

I don't let them go on very long, because a sense of Holy Spirit power thrills my soul, and I assure them,

"We're not going to look at the mess; we're going to look at the beauty of Jesus." He has come to seek and to save that which was lost.

We have been anointed to preach *deliverance to the captive*. Men and women are held captive by their own lusts, by the devil himself, by circumstances beyond their control. But the Spirit of the Lord is upon us; He has anointed us to preach freedom.

If we are going to call America to Christ, we are going to call America to a new freedom, for whom the Son sets free is free indeed. Where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty.

God knows I am a strong believer in Holy Spirit convictions, but we should know the difference between God-given convictions and man-made traditions. If we are not projecting the uplifting thrill of holiness, we had better go over our sermon notes. If it isn't the greatest thrill and joy in the world to serve God in these days, we are not preaching the good news for this day and hour.

I have yet to see people flourish under the constant bombardment of legalism and fear. We drive men and women away when they see us living unhappily under such bondage. The greatest testimony in this world is the full and free, happy, joyful life of the true child of God.

There is good news for today. Our gospel is a gospel of broken chains and shattered fetters. He has anointed me to preach deliverance to the captive.


There is good news for tomorrow. He came to preach *the acceptable year of the Lord*. I'm preaching the best news yet—the Lord is coming!

America looks forward to a coming crisis; I look forward to a coming Christ. Americans look forward to an open grave; I look forward to an open sky. If you want to talk death, I'll talk about the resurrection.

Dr. John Hindale pastored a large denominational church on the West Coast. One day his family physician broke the news to him that he had an incurable cancer and would die in a few weeks.

On the final morning of his career Dr. Hindale rose to face his congregation. Everyone was aware of the raging cancer in his body. But his words were not of death. In essence he said, "Beloved, yesterday morning I went back for a final visit to my favorite spot on earth. It overlooks the river I have enjoyed fishing in for so many years; it is a quiet place beneath the pines. As I stood there, a bit of fear and bitterness gripped my soul; but then I felt the peace of God that passes understanding. I looked at the river and I said, 'Old river, when water no longer flows within your banks and your bed is a pile of burned cinder, I'll still be alive.' I looked at the mountains and I said, 'Old mountains, when there is no place found for you and your majestic glory topples in ashes, I'll still be alive.' I looked at the trees and I said, 'Old trees, when your branches have drooped to mother earth and your trunk is dust, I'll still be alive.'"

That's the good news I'm talking about. The Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, and the dead in Christ shall rise. It may be all over for this world, but it is just starting for us.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach"—to minister. Let's call America to Christ. It's the best news she'll ever hear. 



Matthew 18:19 provides World Prayermeeting theme

'Agree... it shall be done!'

By E. S. CALDWELL

ELEVEN MONTHS AGO more than 100,000 believers took hold together in praying for people they had never met. They did it voluntarily, with no hope of reward.

I'm talking about the World Prayermeeting last November. *Revivaltime* sponsors this special prayer event each year during the Thanksgiving season. It's a simple plan. Invitations to send in prayer requests are extended through the pages of this magazine and by means of the Assemblies of God radio broadcast. Next week's *Evangel* will carry this year's invitation. Thousands will respond.

Anybody can send in prayer requests for any need—salvation, healing, the baptism of the Holy Spirit, employment, deliverance from bad habits, or whatever else may be needed. *Revivaltime* compiles these requests into prayer lists and sends the lists to prayer groups all over the country.

Today we invite churches, WMCs, Sunday school classes, and other groups to register with *Revivaltime* as participating intercessors in the 1973 World Prayermeeting. This year we kneel together under the theme: "Agree . . . it shall be done" (Matthew 18:19).

That word *agree* (Greek, *sumphoneo*) means "to sound together, to be in accord." *The Amplified Bible* renders Matthew 18:19 this way: "Again I tell you, if two of you on earth agree (harmonize together, together make a symphony) about—anything and everything—whatever they shall ask, it will come to pass and be done for them by My Father in heaven."

That's what World Prayermeeting is—a grand symphony before the Lord.

Is it appreciated? Consider these words from grateful people who benefited last year.

Mrs. Edgar Lewis, Vulcan, Missouri:

"I asked you in November before the great prayer meeting to pray for my children. My son Bob had a back injury and couldn't work. God sure did do something for him at the time of the prayer meeting. He was healed instantly.

"I want to thank this big family who prayed and touched God for his healing."

Mrs. Helen Jackson, Watonga, Oklahoma:

"I sent in a request for my loved ones at World Prayermeeting time. I want to thank the intercessors with all my heart.

"One of the persons I asked prayer for has been saved. She is my former daughter-in-law. She is not in my family now, but she is the mother of my grandson. I thank God for saving her."

Milton D. Walter, Rapid City, South Dakota:

"I must tell you what the Lord did for me because of your World Prayermeeting. My hands and fingers have cracked open in the wintertime since I was a little boy on the farm. I can remember my mother tying them up every night. And even before the last Thanksgiving meeting they were that way.

"But praise the Lord, He really did a miracle. It's

amazing how my hands cleared up after you prayed. The skin is normal now. I do thank the Lord for answering prayer."

Marilyn Stephens, Akron, Ohio:

"I'd like to share the miracle God performed for me during this year's prayer meeting. I had requested prayer that I would get a good Christmas job. Just a day and a half after the prayer meeting, I got a call from a major department store here telling me they had a permanent job opening for me—not just for Christmas. Praise the Lord! That's a miracle.

"Thank God for the World Prayermeeting. I want to thank every intercessor who had a part in this year's prayer meeting and believed God with me. God indeed hears and answers prayer."

Mrs. Owen Rigby, Watkinsville, Georgia:

"Last November, through the *Revivaltime* prayers, my son was healed of a gunshot wound. I praise the Lord for that miracle."

Mrs. Joe Yates, Eugene, Oregon:

"I sent our son's name to your last World Prayermeeting. On January 24, 1973, our son, David, was saved. He had been away from the Lord four years. That day he made a complete surrender, and he is really on fire for God now. We want to thank you for your prayers. God is so faithful to answer."

Annette Laney, Ariton, Alabama:

"I sent in a request last November. The prayer for me and my family has been answered. I am now off the drugs I had been taking for 16 years. I almost died twice, but God loves me and cared for me. He still has a work for me to do here. Thank you for your prayers."

Irene May, Springfield, Ohio:

"I am writing to tell you that my niece and her husband got saved. My brother-in-law also received his disability social security. I sent a request to your World Prayermeeting for these three requests. Thank God for the answer."

Mrs. W. B. Westbrook, Elba, Alabama:

"Thank you for your prayers. My request was for a young couple. They have been brought back together. I do thank God for answering."

That's merely a sampling from mailbags bulging with letters of appreciation for answered prayer.

Oh yes, the blessing of World Prayermeeting reaches thousands of people who send in requests. But that's not all. The blessings start within the groups that selflessly pray for those requests.

Pastor Clarence Rohde of First Assembly, Maywood, California, was deeply impressed with what happened in his congregation last year. He wrote the day after World Prayermeeting:

"God blessed our World Prayermeeting service in a precious way, and many people joined in prayer for the requests submitted to them. They not only prayed last night, but almost all the people took their lists home with them to continue to pray for the needs.

"I praise God for *Revivaltime* and for the fellowship of prayer that was felt at our church last night. We have a Spanish church worshiping in our buildings. They joined by taking a number of requests for their people to pray about."

OCTOBER 14, 1973

The blessings don't stop at the walls of Assemblies of God sanctuaries either. The First Baptist Church of Vancouver, Washington, enrolled in last year's day of intercession. Collean D. Sutherland tells about it:


"About two o'clock 75 people were at the church. We prayed and prayed until we were all positive God had heard all the requests.

"This one experience drew all of those 75 persons closer to Christ, and we all saw the need of having one another. Thank you for this opportunity to participate in the most essential part of Christian living, prayer."

Something wonderful always happens when you take hold of the rope of prayer with others. There's a harmony that comes from tugging together on heaven's bell cords.

As a lad in Seattle, I once visited the bell tower on the University of Washington campus. How wonderful to watch the skilled hands of the blind bellringer move across the levers attached to bellropes which sounded the bells high in the tower overhead. When he finished his tune, he spent time talking to me. But he refused my offer to ring a bell or two.

Ever after that when I heard the clarion bells tunelessly announce the noon hour, I thought to myself: *I know who's pulling the ropes.* Other people enjoyed the melodies, but I knew the man behind the bell symphony.

You can be blessed by someone else pulling on the rope of prayer for you. That's certainly true. But if you want even more blessing, take hold of the rope with others and be a part of this symphony of prayer. 

**Take hold with us—
register your church
or prayer group in**

**REVIVALTIME
WORLD PRAYERMEETING
November 18, 1973**

**To: Revivaltime World Prayermeeting
Box 70
Springfield, Mo. 65801**

We want to pray with you on November 18. Send prayer lists to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Send a plastic Bible marker for each participant in our group. Quantity needed _____

NEWS OF OUR TIMES

At Lutheran Conference on the Holy Spirit

David Wilkerson predicts era of persecution for charismatics

MINNEAPOLIS—David Wilkerson, author of "The Cross and the Switchblade," has predicted an era of persecution for all Spirit-filled Christians.

He told some 8,000 people attending the Second International Lutheran Conference on the Holy Spirit here that this was one of "five terrible calamities" included in a vision he received from the Holy Spirit. The others were:

—A worldwide recession caused by economic confusion which will bankrupt many corporations and churches.

—More frequent and intense "labor pains" of nature that will bring cosmic storms, tornadoes, floods, hurricanes, and worldwide famine.

—A flood of filth with x-rated movies shown on television and animated cartoons portraying sexual intercourse used in sex education classes.

—Rebellion in the home with children turning against their parents.

The unofficial conference was arranged by a committee headed by Norris Wogen, a Lutheran pastor in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Many of those attending were non-Lutherans.

Mr. Wilkerson said he hesitated to speak about his vision for fear he would be called a "fanatic." But he said it was the clearest vision he ever received, indicating that "God is warning mankind judgment is coming."

Along with the persecution of charismatic Christians, Mr. Wilkerson predicted the rise of a world church council composed of liberal ecumenical Protestant churches and the Catholic church.

He claimed it would be political, deeply involved in social action, and bearing the spirit of anti-Christ.

He said he saw homosexuals and lesbians welcomed into the super-church union; nude dancing in the churches, and seances

and other occult practices replacing prayer meetings.

At the same time, Mr. Wilkerson said, he saw the emergence of a "supernatural church of true believers."

He predicted persecution for Roman Catholic charismatics and said their church is "about to pull in the welcome mat to all Catholics who speak in tongues."

"Watch for the Pope to take a negative stand against the charismatic movement," he said.

He was vigorously applauded when he said he saw the day when Catholics, Lutherans, and other charismatics would have to "come out away" from their churches.

He also warned that Christ-centered radio and television programs will be "forced off the air"; that Hollywood will pro-

duce more movies like "Marjoe," which he said ridicule evangelicals; that television comedy shows will become bolder and bolder in the use of four-letter words; that churches will be taxed; that "the devil will try to undermine Christian education"; that "the Jesus revolution will go sour"; and that evangelical ministers and their wives will become targets of a gossip war.

Mr. Wilkerson said that when he received his vision, it frightened him and "kept me up night after night."

But he said the Holy Spirit had given him five words of comfort: "God has everything under control."

Spirit-filled Christians have nothing to worry about, he said. "Jesus is coming and He is getting His house in order."

Children of God drop Dallas suit

DALLAS—A 21-month-old suit filed here by the Children of God against a group of parents of members of the radical sect has been dismissed by the court at the request of the Children of God.

Judge Dee Brown Walker of the 162nd District Court dismissed the \$1.25 million libel and slander suit at the sect's request after its officials declined

to obey a court order to produce all their financial records for use as evidence.

The order also required the Children of God to produce their Dallas membership records, names and addresses of all members of the sect, and leadership charts to be used for "discovery of evidence" by the parents to support their allegations against the sect.

Attorneys pay tribute to religions

ABIDJAN, W. AFRICA—While acknowledging that all good laws are based on fundamental moral principles, attorneys have rarely given formal credit to the source of these principles—the age-old religions of the world.

That was the opinion of Charles S. Rhyne, a Washington, D.C., lawyer who heads the international conference of some 3000 lawyers, judges, and law professors which met here in August.

"All just laws basically go right back to religious principles, whether acknowledged or not, and it's important to bring out this connection," he said.

"Our whole system is based on fundamental principles of religion," Rhyne said, a point America's Declaration of Independence stresses by saying the Creator endowed man with "certain inalienable rights" that cannot be usurped by any government.

British Pentecostalist stresses ecumenicity of charismatic renewal

MIAMI BEACH—Today's charismatic renewal, with emphasis on the Holy Spirit, is "the greatest ecumenical influence since the First Century," according to the secretary of the World Pentecostal Conference.

Percy Brewster, who is also editor of "World Pentecost Magazine" and pastor of City Temple in Cardiff, Wales, gave that appraisal while in Miami for a series of meetings at Trinity Church. He was also a speaker at the 35th General Council of the Assemblies of God in Miami Beach.

He described this development as "a sovereign act of God," and explained, "It's not something that has been worked up. I don't think it is anything we've done."

One of the results of the Pentecostal emphasis, Mr. Brewster said, is that "there is such a hunger for the supernatural that it is easier today to win souls to Christ than at any time in my 40 years in the ministry."

Drinking culture found prevailing in Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS—A new study lays to rest any doubt that a drinking culture prevails in Minnesota. More than nine out of every 10 residents age 14 and older, the study indicates, are current or former drinkers.

Eight in 10 said they were currently using alcohol, at the time the survey was taken. Projecting the sample of 2,500 Minnesotans questioned in personal interviews, the researchers reckoned that 1,530,000 state residents at least 14 years old drink alcohol to varying degrees.

"We knew that it was a drinking culture," Leonard Boche, director of the Minnesota Commission on Alcohol Problems, said, "but we were surprised at the low level of teetotalers."

Outlawed, yet future of capital punishment uncertain

WASHINGTON, D.C.—One year ago the U.S. Supreme Court officially eliminated capital punishment from the United States—at least for the time being. The high court held that the uneven way death was meted out to prisoners around the country caused "cruel and unusual" punishment forbidden by the U.S. Constitution.

However, in the 12 months since, many attempts to revive capital punishment have been launched: (1) lawmakers in 17 states have written new decrees designed to meet objections raised by jurists of the Supreme Court; (2) the U.S. Congress is now considering a variety of bills aimed at overturning the Supreme Court's ruling; (3) President Nixon has called for legislation making capital punishment mandatory for certain federal crimes.

When the court gave its ruling in mid-1972 in the case of *Furman vs. Georgia* and two related cases, there was no clear consensus on record. The 5-4 vote indicated that opinions varied widely; in fact, each justice wrote a separate decision. Legal experts were not certain what the ultimate effect would be.

Mandatory death penalties, which were once on the statute books of most jurisdictions,

CHARISMATIC QUAKERS FORM GROUP IN DETROIT

DETROIT — The charismatic movement is beginning to have an impact on widely scattered groups of Quakers throughout the English-speaking world, according to a Detroit-based group of evangelical Friends.

Reports of charismatic renewal among Quakers come from the Evangelical Friends Association which operates from a storefront in the Detroit ghetto. The association, established by Friends who have experienced the baptism of the Holy Spirit, circulates a newsletter called "The Pentecostal Friend."

Carl Davidson, editor of the newsletter, says that "healing, miracles, hymnody, and ecstatic speech" are original parts of the Quaker traditions and are now being restored. He said a full picture of the charismatic movement among Friends should emerge in the fall when local annual meetings are held.

would probably result in many executions at the moment. Jack Himmelstein, director of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund's capital punishment project, estimated that if all convicted murderers were put to death, 100 times as many executions would have to take place every year as actually did occur on the average in the years 1930-67. The reason is, Himmelstein declared, that only about one of 10 convictions during that period led to a death sentence, and only about one in 10 of those sentences was actually carried out.

Popular sentiment seems to favor the death penalty as a firm answer to rising crime. A majority of Americans (57 percent) went on record as favoring the death penalty.

Western Europe, Israel, and much of Latin America doubt the deterrent aspects of capital punishment. Most countries would be prepared to eliminate the death penalty, it seems, if an appropriate substitute could be found.

School system's parents, teachers to set policy on religious holidays

FAIRFAX, VA.—Parents and teachers of students attending the 169 public schools in Fairfax County, and in some cases the students themselves, will determine whether—and how—the schools will observe religious holidays.

This policy was adopted unanimously by the Fairfax County School Board, although one board member said he expects the measure to elicit legal action against it.

The principal of each school in the 136,000-student system is directed to appoint a committee consisting of an administrator, a teacher, a parent, and a student (in case of secondary school) to "review and guide the school's thinking, planning, and implementation of educational programs relative to religion and religious holidays."

Dr. Rufus Wright, who represents the Mount Vernon District on the board, told a reporter he isn't sure that the board's action is legal. "What I'm worried about," he said, "is that some principals might see this as a sanction to celebrate Christmas even more strongly than before."

TV VIOLENCE HAS BAD EFFECT ON BEHAVIOR

NEW YORK—Violence in television dramas has a bad effect on behavior and attitudes, according to a report released here by the broadcast staff of the United Methodist Church.

A document called "Violence: Summary of Research" was prepared as part of a project dealing with alternatives to violent responses, said Nelson Price, assistant executive secretary for broadcasting of United Methodist Communications.

Conclusions on the impact of TV violence were gleaned from extensive conversations with eight experts in such fields as psychiatry and communications research.

The report noted that persons "tend to imitate the behavior and attitude models they view on television."

The report says that conflict, not violence, is what provides dramatic suspense and it is possible to present programs in which conflict is dealt with in non-violent ways.

"Conflict between persons and groups is normal in our culture," the document asserts. "It is unlikely that we can significantly lower levels of conflict. It is, however, possible to modify the way we respond to conflict."

The report concluded: "Television teaches that violence is a good way to deal with conflict. In prime time TV drama, 80 percent of the solutions show violence as a workable and acceptable solution to conflict."

NAE Sunday set for Oct. 28

WHEATON, ILL. — "Speaking the Truth in Love" will be the theme for this year's observance of NAE Sunday, which is sponsored by the National Association of Evangelicals. NAE Sunday will be Oct. 28, which is also Reformation Day.

Purposes of the special day are:

1. To remind member churches that they are a part of NAE and thereby related to some 36,000 churches in a united evangelical witness.

2. To encourage other churches to become members of NAE and receive an offering which may be used as a membership fee;

3. To inform members about the ministries of NAE.

The Assemblies of God is a charter member of NAE.

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TOUR AVAILABLE APARTMENTS

Stewardship Department gets new consultant

SPRINGFIELD, MO.—Robert E. Hughes, a financial development consultant from Santa Cruz, Calif., is now a field representative for the Stewardship Department.

His specific assignment will be to represent three Springfield colleges which are members of a newly created consortium for Assemblies of God colleges. The consortium, which all endorsed Assemblies of God colleges have been invited to join, is directed by the Stewardship Department. Under the plan, the Stewardship Department manages a complete deferred giving program for member colleges.

Mr. Hughes will represent the initial members of the consortium—the Assemblies of God Graduate School, Central Bible College, and Evangel College.

An ordained minister of the Assemblies of God, Brother Hughes has a baccalaureate degree from Bethany Bible College. He served there as director of college relations from 1969 through 1972 and more recently as director of financial development.

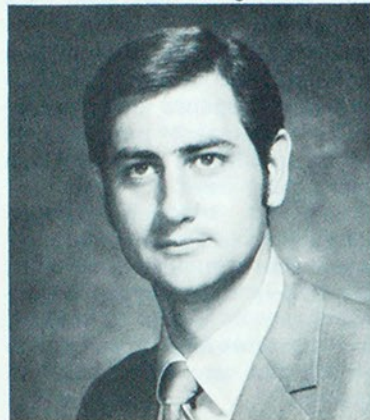
He received specialized training in deferred giving and financial development at Westmont

College, Santa Barbara, Calif., and LaSalle University, Chicago, Ill. He has participated in numerous specialized seminars on financial development for charitable institutions.

During the past year, Brother Hughes helped to establish Transplan, an organization of financial development consultants who provide planned gift support programs for charitable institutions. The organization has instituted development programs for several Assemblies of God churches.

He is married and has one son.

Robert E. Hughes



Council luncheon notes Sunday school progress

MIAMI BEACH—“The Holy Spirit is working in our Sunday schools and we are seeing exciting progress.” This was the summation of interviews with pastors at the Sunday school “picnic” luncheon held during the recent General Council.

There were 142 present for the luncheon held at the DiLido Hotel on Saturday, Aug. 18. William E. Kirschke, secretary of the Sunday School Department, interviewed two pastors. He was assisted by Mel DeVries, Sunday School Department representative, and Paul Fenton, area representative in the Northwest.

Hal C. Noah, pastor of Oak Cliff Assembly, Dallas, Tex., reported concerning the single adults class of Dallas. He and

Sam Monzingo, teacher of the class, reported growth from 24 to 250 in the first year of this Sunday school venture. The spiritual results have been most rewarding, Pastor Noah reported.

Denny Davis, pastor of Central Assembly, Salem, Oreg., reported growth and development throughout his Sunday school. Particular mention was made of the ministry to high school and college youth. Central Assembly ranks 42nd in the nation for Sunday school average attendance.

Musical presentations, decorations, and other arrangements for the luncheon were provided by Trinity Church, North Miami, Fla. Ernie Eskelin is the pastor.



WITH CHRIST

Elwayne L. Clement, 61, Bishop, Calif.; on Aug. 6, 1973.

Brother Clement was a member of the Southern California District. He founded the Neighborhood Church in Bishop and pastored it until 1960. At his death, he was mayor of the city. He is survived by his wife Velma and three children.

James J. Mitchell, 52, Dansville, N.Y.; on July 4, 1973.

Brother Mitchell, a member of the New York District, served the Lord as assistant pastor and evangelist. He is survived by his wife Stella and two children.

4 books on Divine Healing

BY LILIAN B. YEOMANS, M.D.

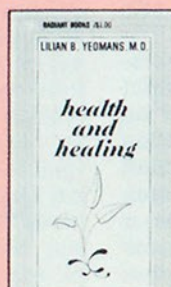
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CHURCH NOTES PROGRESS IN PAST THREE YEARS

HIGGINSVILLE, MO. — Three years ago in June, 10 people were present for Pastor John A. Hansen's first service in the local Assembly of God. In recent months attendance has been averaging 82, with a high of 101 two different occasions.

Progress was slow at first, and at the end of the pastor's first year, attendance was averaging around 31. "During this first year, we started a ministry with the Higginsville State School and Hospital. This is a home for mentally retarded children," Pastor Hansen explains. The church brings about 12 of these children to services each Sunday.

"We feel that through this ministry God has given the church a special blessing," says Brother Hansen. "We have seen God move among these children."

The second year's average increased slightly to 37. Then in the fall of 1972, God began to move among the people and without any special program or appeal, the congregation began to grow. By October it was averaging in the 60s.

Last March, 10 new members joined the church and attendance reached a high of 101 for the first time. Also in March the CA group, which averages about 30, went to the sectional CA Rally and brought home the attendance banner—a first for the church.

Brother Hansen reports that God is richly blessing the people. Since the first of the year, 17 have been saved.

Pays debt in 10 years

New York church burns mortgage

BATAVIA, N.Y.—On June 24 the congregation of the local Assembly burned three mortgages. In just a little more than 10 years, the congregation paid off the notes on its building and property including a piece of real estate acquired two years ago.

Pastor Ralph Mugford states, "The Lord has been blessing our services and we feel we are in the midst of a revival." People have accepted Christ as Saviour almost every Sunday over the past year.

John Brown, former pastor, was present for the mortgage-burning service.

MUSE, OKLA.—Pastor Oddis Farris of the Assembly of God reports a year of victory and progress in the church.

God's blessings have been evidenced especially through the growth of the youth group and many of the young people are now witnessing for the Lord as never before.

In the past year, the Sunday school attendance average has increased from 50 to 80 with a record attendance of 104 on a recent Sunday.

CEDAR RUN, N.J.—There was a record weeknight attendance of 204 during a youth revival at the Assembly of God here with Jesse Owens, CA president of the New Jersey District.

"The Lord helped us to reach many young people during the eight-day crusade," states Pastor James Occhipinti. Fourteen were saved.

TOPEKA, KANS.—Some 148 children accepted Christ as Saviour during a recent kids crusade at Glad Tidings Assembly with the James Hull team.

Pastor Jesse Shaw reports that during the Sunday night service adults and youth responded to the message and one was saved, one filled with the Holy Spirit. Several testified to receiving special help from the Lord.

WILSON, WIS.—Thirty-six were saved and 10 reclaimed during a revival at the Community Assembly here with Evangelist Tom Calk of Lone Oak, Tex.

Pastor John Bontrager reports the altars were filled each night with people accepting Christ and others rededicating their lives to the Lord.

Community Assembly has enjoyed considerable growth in the past few months. When Brother Bontrager accepted the pastorate a year and a half ago, the congregation was averaging 22. "We have started a systematic visitation program which is complemented by our busing program and the congregation is now running in the 70s," the pastor states.

The church is in the process of purchasing property.

HOUSTON, TEX.—Pastor Billy Sanders of Shady Oaks Assembly reports 34 were saved during a recent revival with Evangelist Loyd Bates of Houston.

Attendance was good, and the church is now following up many new prospects with a visitation program.

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GREENSBURG, IND.—First Assembly here was mightily blessed of God during three weeks of revival with Evangelist Danny Frazee of New Albany, Ind.

Nine accepted Christ as Saviour and 14 were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Pastor J. P. Friend states, "The presence of the Lord was real in each service and many people received healing and miracles in their lives."

MOULTRIE, GA.—First Assembly here recently was blessed during seven weeks of revival with Evangelist E. L. Terry of Irving, Tex.

More than 20 people were saved and several filled with the Holy Spirit. Pastor James H. Smith reports many needs have been met among the people, both spiritually and physically.

First Assembly recently completed a new \$100,000 sanctuary and attendance has increased. There are a large number of visitors in every service.

FLORA, ILL.—A recent revival at the Assembly of God here resulted in an abundance of blessings. Dale Everett of Niagara Falls, N.Y., was the evangelist.

During two weeks of meet-

ings, 25 persons accepted Christ as Saviour and many testified to receiving healing for their bodies.

Pastor G. L. Royer reports the services were well attended by persons of many denominations. One Methodist pastor brought his midweek congregation to the revival.

"Even financial miracles occurred as a special offering was received and central air conditioning was installed in the church during the revival," states Brother Royer.

BEAUMONT, TEX. — Approximately 50 couples from the Cathedral in the Pines here were enriched by the teaching ministry of Richard Dobbins of

Akron, Ohio, during a family counseling seminar.

Entitled, "Successful Relationships—How to Live Together and Like It," the seminar covered topics such as "One World—Two Views," "Coping With the Big Problem Areas of Marriage," "Entering Your Child's World," "Exploding the Generation Gap," and "Building Better Family Communications."

Dr. Dobbins also conducted the church's annual teachers training program with 79 workers and prospective workers present. Delmar M. Dabney is pastor of the church.

KENOSHA, WIS.—First Assembly here recently experienced three victorious weeks of re-

vival with the Musical Vanns. Attendance was excellent with more than 300 present on week nights, and 600 on Sunday.

Pastor John W. Thompson says more than 100 people accepted Christ as Saviour, 15 were baptized in the Holy Spirit, and 31 were baptized in water the closing night of the revival. Many also testified to being healed.

BELLE, MO.—Three were saved and one baptized in the Holy Spirit during a revival at Evangel Temple here. Robert Bettis was the evangelist.

Pastor A. C. Perkins reports some testified to receiving healing and many in the congregation were refreshed spiritually.

EVANGELISTIC EVENTS

STATE	CITY	ASSEMBLY	DATE	EVANGELIST	PASTOR
Ark.	Little Rock	Evangel	Oct. 8-21	Doherty Evang. Team	David Wiggins
	Little Rock	Southwest	Oct. 14-21	Gene Emswiler	Lester Burton
	Malvern	N. Malvern	Oct. 14—	Hazel Burns	Lyndale Harberson
	N. Little Rock	Conway Pike	Oct. 10—	Carlos & Kayte Welch	Paul Graves
	Smackover	First	Oct. 14-19	Tom & Polly Walker	W. N. Harris
Calif.	Sugar Grove	A/G	Oct. 17-28	Roger & Colleen Ortlieb	Jerry Schlinker
	Fullerton	First	Oct. 3-7	Larry & Myrna Franks	Lloyd Cagle
	Hamilton AFB	Base Chapel	Oct. 14-18	Lynn & Becky Wickstrom	B. Schumacher, Chap.
	Jackson	Bethel	Oct. 14-19	Irene Abrahamson	David Garrison
	Salinas	Calvary	Oct. 9-14	Bob McNew	Ray Oliver
Colo.	Turlock	¹ Bethel	Oct. 14-19	Christian Hild	Robert Carrington
	Ventura	¹ First	Oct. 7-12	Christian Hild	Harris Lidstrand
	Watsonville	Pajaro	Oct. 16-21	Bob McNew	Edward Klinsky
	Boulder	First	Oct. 15-19	Aletha Mendenhall	Claude Spilman
	Walden	A/G	Oct. 7—	Steven Ford	Thomas Kellogg
Del.	Dover	Calvary	Sept. 25-Oct. 7	Corbett & Miriam Berthelot	George Dashiell
	Minquadale	A/G	Oct. 9-21	Corbett & Miriam Berthelot	Harry Lamb



The first STL Day poster repeated the words Speed-the-Light over and over against a dark background. That was in 1947. The miracle of Speed-the-Light has been repeated again and again through the years. Yet the simple facts of world need leave us one option: More than ever! Support this great youth ministry with your generous offering on—

SPEED-the-LIGHT DAY 10/21/73

Fla.	Wilmington	First	Oct. 16-28	David & Mary Dean	Asa Martin
	Bradenton	First	Oct. 2-7	Fairfield Evang. Party	John A. Cooper
	Ft. Lauderdale	Evangel	Oct. 20-27	H. A. Christopher	James Kautz
	Merritt Island	A/G	Oct. 21-28	Stefan Gulyas	James Kimbrel
Ga.	Americus	First	Oct. 10-14	Fairfield Evang. Party	Arnold Lastinger
	Atlanta	Mapleton	Oct. 17-21	Fairfield Evang. Party	Donald Taylor
Ill.	Alton	E. Alton	Oct. 8-21	Curtis & Mrs. Barfield	I. T. Beard
	Du Quoin	Faith	Oct. 14-21	Gordon C. Hofer	Randy Stoecker
	Galesburg	Calvary	Oct. 14-28	F. R. McAdams Team	C. R. DePrenger
	La Grange	Calvary Temple	Oct. 21-28	B. R. Minton	E. D. Howe
	Nashville	Friendly	Oct. 14-21	King's Daughters	Jim Van Huss
	Quincy	Faith	Oct. 14-17	Steve Callery	Vernon Amsler
	Rock Island	Bethel	Oct. 7-21	Ossie Jones	C. Dale Edwards
Ind.	Waukegan	¹ Calvary Temple	Oct. 15-19	Larry & Carolyn Campbell	Darwin Heuser
	Brazil	A/G	Oct. 17-28	I. D. Rayborn	Gerald W. Dewlen
	Elkhart	Bethel	Oct. 15-20	Phil Appenzeller	G. A. Uldin
	Evansville	First	Oct. 10—	Steve Callery	J. Don Carroll
	Hammond	First	Oct. 17-28	Arnold & Anita Segesman	Walter Hanneman
	Indianapolis	Abundant Life	Oct. 14-21	John Jacob	T. L. Vibbert
	Kokomo	¹ First	Oct. 15-19	Gene & Esther Fiddler	Paul Enochs
	Morgantown	Glad Tidings	Oct. 16-21	Bill & Phyllis Russell	Gene McClain
Iowa	Des Moines	Berean	Oct. 7-14	Kenneth D. Baker	David Houghton
	Des Moines	Central	Oct. 16-28	Lloyd & Carol Portin	David Bremer
Kans.	Stockton	A/G	Oct. 15-21	James Hull	James Smith
	Ulysses	First	Oct. 17-28	John Pratt Family	Mack Cantwell
Ky.	Owensboro	Calvary Temple	Oct. 3-14	Bruce Burklow	Larry Orr
La.	Baton Rouge	Central	Oct. 17-28	Doug Wead	Ronald Wood
	Hodge	First	Oct. 14-21	Loyd & Patsy Singley	D. E. Stroud
Maine	Caribou	A/G	Oct. 17-21	Bob Lundstrom	Harold Beesley
Md.	Frostburg	A/G	Oct. 16-21	Wm. & Irene Van Winkle	N. E. Haupt
	Hancock	Full Gospel	Oct. 10-21	Mike & Bernadine Garland	Conrad Schaefer
Mich.	Berkley	A/G	Oct. 16-28	Daniel D. Roehl	Clarence Hanson
Minn.	Minneapolis	Peoples Church	Oct. 14-19	Kathleen Jennings	Douglas Henderson
	St. Paul	Roseville	Oct. 12-14	David & Mrs. Wilcox	Donald Filbeck
Miss.	Hurley	Magnolia Spgs.	Oct. 14-28	Andrews Brothers Team	W. Grady Mizelle
	McComb	First	Sept. 30-Oct. 14	Nettie Parham	G. E. Harden
Mo.	Bethany	A/G	Oct. 14-19	Whitenack-White Team	A. R. Barron
	Caruthersville	First	Oct. 17-21	Marvin Launius Family	John Bell
	Elvins	A/G	Oct. 9-21	Samuel & Patricia Calk	J. W. Miller
	Glidewell	Chapel	Sept. 30-Oct. 4	David Montgomery	R. R. Thompson
	House Springs	Faith	Oct. 17-28	Leo S. Gaston	Elbert Mason
	Houston	¹ A/G	Oct. 14-19	Charles J. Aaron	Dewel Smith
	St. Louis	Bethel Temple	Oct. 16-28	Billy Frank Boren	Gordon Zercher
	St. Louis	Riverview	Oct. 1-7	Curtis & Mrs. Barfield	J. L. Borth
Nev.	Carson City	Capital	Oct. 9—	Joe & Omena Sherrod	James Carlton
N. H.	Canaan	² A/G	Oct. 14-19	Victor Etienne	Norman E. Pyle
N. J.	Newark	Bethel	Oct. 14-17	Levi & Alma Storms	Albert Earle
	Penns Grove	First	Oct. 7-19	Al & Bev Weesner	Kenneth Choffet
N. Y.	Boonville	² A/G	Sept. 23-Oct. 5	Victor Etienne	Francis Powell
	Buffalo	Riverside	Oct. 16-21	William Caldwell	Joseph Sutera
	Elmira Heights	² Glad Tidings	Oct. 7-12	Victor Etienne	Eddie Lowmaster
	Flushing	Free Gospel	Oct. 18-21	Levi & Alma Storms	Gunnar Jacobsen
	Jamestown	Calvary	Oct. 7-14	Bob Duncan	Norman Farrington
	Staten Island	Calvary	Oct. 14-21	Aimee Cortese	R. E. Fogel
	Utica	First	Oct. 17—	Harold May Jr.	Louis Lisi
	Watertown	A/G	Oct. 7-21	E. J. Klaus	Ira Elliott
N. C.	Willard	Penderlea	Oct. 7-21	H. A. & Ruth Strange	Raymond Tidwell
N. Dak.	Dickinson	First	Oct. 16-28	Paul & Ilene Anderson	Joseph Syverson
	Fargo	¹ First	Oct. 16-21	Paul & Myrtle Hild	Daniel Rothwell
	McClusky	A/G	Oct. 9-21	New Life Crusaders	Edward Lenz
Ohio	Newcomerstown	A/G	Oct. 16-21	Esther Palmer	Fred Schmidt
Okla.	Arkoma	A/G	Oct. 16-24	Jerry & Kelly Morgan	Walter Swaim
	Coweta	¹ A/G	Oct. 15-21	Karen S. King	Paul H. Holmes
	Durant	First	Oct. 10-21	David & Liz Freeman	Earl Kelly
	Guyton	First	Oct. 17-28	Dave E. Laughlin Family	S. Dwaine Dodd
	Oklahoma City	Glad Tidings	Oct. 7-21	Billy Nickell	Archie Winkle
	Tulsa	Bethel Temple	Oct. 17-31	Bill & Viv Katter	Vern McNally
Oreg.	Aloha	¹ A/G	Oct. 21-26	L. O. & Mrs. Triplett	John H. Fuiten
	Hood River	A/G	Oct. 3-14	Ernie Rogers	W. A. Gamlen
	Siletz	Gospel Tab.	Oct. 14-19	Paul & Ona Seaton	Roy Wood
Pa.	Kantner	A/G	Oct. 17-28	Basell-Brown Team	Robert McDonald
	Littlestown	Bethel	Oct. 17-28	Dave Daniels	S. A. Garrett
	Manada Gap	Full Gospel	Oct. 3-7	Dave & Jan Olshevski	John Landis
	Meadville	A/G	Oct. 17-21	J. Anthony & Arlene Silva	Edwin Antin
	Moosic	¹ Full Gospel	Oct. 15-19	Gene & Judy McKinney	James Mugford
	Newport	A/G	Oct. 7-21	Edward T. Wines	Harry Vaughn
S. C.	Columbia	First	Oct. 17-28	K. L. Claycomb	J. C. Hunnicutt
S. Dak.	Rapid City	First	Oct. 14-28	Bob & Elizabeth Abbott	R. W. Masters
Tenn.	Clarksville	First	Oct. 17-28	Jeremiah Hanley	Billy Jones
Tex.	Amarillo	First	Oct. 14—	Marcus Alexander	Robert Slaton
	Belton	First	Oct. 1-7	Tommy Calk	Joe Heflin
	Carthage	First	Oct. 7-19	Carl & Sharon Taylor	D. D. Ferguson
	Combes	Faith	Oct. 17-28	Jim & LaDonna Duck	R. L. Bowen
	El Paso	First	Oct. 14—	Larry Maddux Family	Wm. F. Hageman
	Falfurrias	First	Oct. 3-14	Jim & LaDonna Duck	Jesse Sellers
	Ft. Worth	Boulevard	Oct. 7-12	Mike Evans	Jerry Groom
	Lavon	A/G	Oct. 7—	L. L. Ammons	Hubert Ratliff
	Mansfield	First	Oct. 13-21	Joe McCutchen	C. C. Peugh
	Port Neches	Magnolia	Oct. 7-19	Bob Potter	J. W. Grisbee
	Sweeny	A/G	Oct. 17-28	Ken & Alice Williams	Garland Baker
	Texarkana	Rose Hill	Oct. 10-21	Tommy Calk	Boyce Green
Utah	Salt Lake City	¹ First	Oct. 14-19	Ed & Sonja Corbin	Peter Pilot
Va.	Smithfield	First	Oct. 16-28	Frank G. Sharp	Robert Klier
Wash.	Auburn	Calvary Temple	Oct. 14-21	Arne Vick	David Tonn
	Kittitas	¹ A/G	Oct. 14-19	L. O. & Mrs. Triplett	Harold Johnson
	Omak	¹ A/G	Oct. 14-18	Charles J. Senechal	Wilford Frazier
W. Va.	Clarksburg	Stealey	Oct. 17-28	The Carter Family	Russell Harvey
	Dry Fork	Zion	Oct. 21-Nov. 4	Eddie & Estella Hare	George W. Davis
Canada	Kitimat, B.C.	Pentecostal	Oct. 16-21	Lanny Mempa	L. L. Clary
	St. Thomas, Ont.	Pentecostal	Oct. 17-28	Dave & Jan Olshevski	Gordon Richmond

¹ Children's Revival

² Youth Crusade

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

EVANSVILLE, IND.—West Side Assembly here was recently blessed by the ministry of I. D. Rayborn of Yates Center, Kans.

During the meeting, six were saved and one baptized in the Holy Spirit, Pastor John C. Pastore reports.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

50th anniversary—Bethany Temple, Everett, Wash.; Nov. 1-4. Former pastors will be guest speakers.—Eugene A. Born, pastor

38th anniversary—First Assembly, Daytona Beach, Fla., Oct. 28. District officials will be special guests.—Charles R. McClure, pastor

Homecoming—Assembly of God, Morgantown, Ind., Oct. 14. Guest speaker will be Johnny Garrison.—Gene McClain, pastor

50th anniversary—Full Gospel Church, Neptune, N.J., Oct. 20, homecoming banquet; Oct. 27, O. L. Harrup will be guest speaker; Oct. 28 Brother and Sister Irving Meier will be honored.—Al Wallace, pastor

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TESTIMONIES OF HEALING

OUR BABY—A GIFT FROM GOD

WE SERVE A MIRACLE-WORKING CHRIST! I know this to be so from personal experience.

Eight years ago, after we had undergone many tests, the doctors told my husband and me it would be impossible for us to have children. We felt led then to apply for adoption. Nine months later we adopted 10-day-old Ruth and after another 20 months we adopted Paul, age eight days. What joy they have brought to our home and ministry!

Then we faced a series of physical trials. I had to undergo surgery for the removal of a ruptured ovary. We really felt let down as we believe Christ is our Healer. Also, the surgery seemed to end any hopes we had for ever having a child of our own.

But, praise the Lord, a year and a half after surgery, God allowed me to conceive.

Then when I was in the fifth month of pregnancy, we moved from the Southern Idaho District to take a pastorate in Minnesota. How tempted we were to stay where we were; but the call of God was strong, so we moved to our present church.

Less than a week after moving, I became very ill and was immediately hospitalized. Once again I faced surgery—this time for the removal of my gallbladder. Of

course, we were quite concerned that I might have a premature delivery or lose the baby completely.

Again God helped me, and I got along better than anyone could have expected. I left the hospital in seven days. After two weeks at home I was able to do all my own housework and to care for my family.

On September 11, 1972, God gave us a baby girl weighing over 9 pounds. How thankful we are for such a healthy baby.

It has truly been a walk of faith for us, but we know God is "able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us" (Ephesians 3:20). Our baby Susan is a constant reminder to us of God's mercy and graciousness.—Mrs. Don Shover, Red Wing, Minn.

(Endorsed by Pastor Don Shover, Assembly of God, Red Wing, Minn.)

HEALED OF ARTHRITIS

I KNOW FROM EXPERIENCE that Jesus still heals today as He did when He walked on this earth.

I had arthritis in both feet, especially in the bottom of my heels. When I stood, it seemed like I was standing on thorns.

In January 1972 our church had a revival with Evangelist Ken Krivohlavek. I went forward and he prayed for me. My left foot was healed, but my right foot was still very sore. Brother Krivohlavek returned to our church for a meeting in March 1973. I attended his meetings and one night when I was praying with others, God healed my right foot. I thank Him for His healing power.—Mrs. Yvonne Parks, Marion, Ill.

(Endorsed by Pastor Richard W. Hart, Assembly of God, Marion, Ill.)

DELIVERED FROM ADDICTION TO MEDICATION

TWELVE YEARS AGO I had a back injury which resulted in three operations on my back. I underwent considerable pain, so the doctor prescribed narcotics to relieve me.

After 10 years of this medication, I was hooked. Then two Spirit-filled women came to the house and prayed for my complete deliverance from narcotics. The power of Jesus Christ was equal to my need. The desire for this drug was completely eliminated, and I was free at long last.

The Lord also delivered me from tobacco. It wasn't that I had a lot of faith, a strong will, or that I was God's favorite. But I recognized my sonship with Jesus Christ, and I completely surrendered to God. I took my tobacco habit to the Cross and left it there. That happened 20 years ago—and I never once had the desire for cigarettes again.

The Lord made 1 Corinthians 3:16,17 real to me. I saw that we cannot retain these habits in our lives and still bring glory to the name of Jesus. Thank God, I am able to testify that a born-again believer can be free from the curse of tobacco in all forms, and he can also be delivered from addiction to medication.—Harry N. Forseen, Parkville, Minn.

(Endorsed by Pastor Dwight Fearing, Assembly of God, Virginia, Minn.)



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Oh, to be filled with God!

IN CONNECTION WITH THE 60th anniversary of the *Evangel* we have been reading some back issues, and our hearts have been richly blessed. Memory takes us back to earlier days and we recall with nostalgia the many precious hours we would spend in prayer, tarrying before the Lord.

As we would wait in His holy presence around the church altar—or perhaps in a prayer room, or at a cottage prayer meeting—we learned the inexpressible joy of worshiping in the Spirit. Our hearts flowed out in love to our Lord Jesus, and we praised Him—with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in our hearts to the Lord.

One of the songs we used to sing so reverently was:

*Filled with God; yes, filled with God;
Pardoned and cleansed and filled with God.*

We seldom hear it now. Other good songs have taken its place—but that song expressed an idea that was very precious to us. It was the awesome fact that our human temples could be filled with God.

The gifts of the Spirit were manifested freely in those days. We welcomed them and encouraged their operation but the gifts were not nearly as important to us as the solemn wonder of being filled with God. Messages in the Spirit were not uncommon. We would listen reverently as God spoke to us through tongues and interpretation, or through a gift of prophecy, but what satisfied us was not the spiritual gift as much as the One of whom the Spirit spoke.

We contemplated the holiness of God and revelled in His love. We drank His presence into our lives. We exposed our souls to the Lord, as one might open the

shutter of a camera for a time exposure, to let the divine image fall upon us. We tarried until we were emptied of self and filled with God.

What does it mean to be filled with God? We know what it means for a person to be filled with fear, don't we—or filled with envy, or anger! It means that all his faculties are dominated by these stormy passions. It means that these strong forces urge him to actions which express the spirit that has gained control of him.

Here, then, is the real glory of Pentecost. God the Holy Ghost comes into the lives and bodies of men and women to such an extent that they are filled with His presence. The Divine Spirit dominates every faculty, controls every power, and uses every energy as He wishes. The Lord suddenly comes and fills His temple! Human beings become temples of God—think of it!

Willingly and gladly would we be His dwellingplace. We are not content that He should reside in the soul: we desire that the whole house be filled with His glory, as on that memorable day when Solomon dedicated the man-made temple to God and His glory filled every part. Our prayer is that He may enter and fill our human bodies as on the Day of Pentecost when the early disciples dedicated their living temples to Him.

"Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost . . . and ye are not your own." Not your own, for you have been purchased, "bought with a price." Not your own, for you belong to God and He is in occupancy—"the Spirit of God dwelleth in you."

May we learn again the unutterable wonder of being filled with God. Pardoned and cleansed and filled with God. Emptied of self and filled with God. —r.c.c.

THE PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

October 14, 1973

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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.

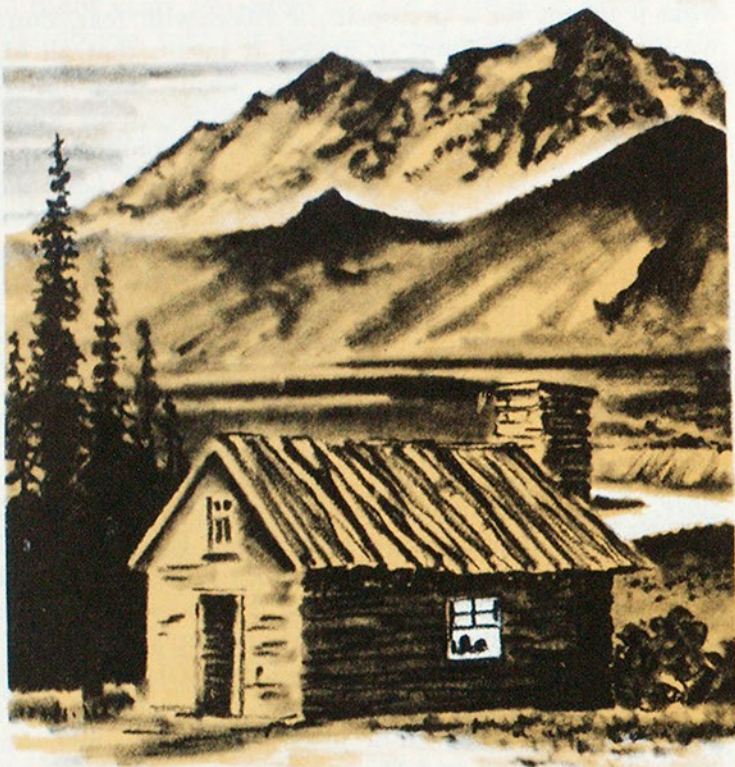
. . . the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer.

. . . 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.

Just ordinary?



By ELVA J. HOOVER

TO ALL APPEARANCES the service in the little mountain schoolhouse on Crooked Creek that night was going to be ordinary in every way.

It was a typical fall evening as we walked the three miles of rough mountain road to be in the service. Friends with their lanterns joined us along the way till there was quite a crowd by the time we entered the building.

It was lighted with gasoline pressure lamps, and we squeezed into seats behind crude desks a little small for us—but mothers found the desks made to order for sleeping babies.

One man who had had too much moonshine before coming laid his head over on the desk in front of him and snored peacefully throughout the service.

Outdoors an occasional pistol shot rang out, and loud young laughter punctuated the stillness. It was all very ordinary for Crooked Creek, including the song service and even the sermon. Except that the sermon was preached by a middle-aged man who had left the mountains and gone elsewhere to preach years before. Now he was home for a while and had announced this meeting.

The sermon over, he began the altar call. The drunk man snored on while we sang, "Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling." But the Spirit of God was present in mighty convicting power. Christians felt unusually burdened

to pray as the preacher left the platform to speak to someone at the rear of the schoolhouse.

The singing lagged, as it often does without a leader, and we could not help overhearing the earnest tones of the preacher's pleading with a man who was obviously an old friend. I turned to see the object of his concern and recognized a well-known moonshiner. From that point on the service ceased to be ordinary for me.

I knew Jim was seldom in the church, and this was one of his few opportunities to hear the gospel. The minister seemed to forget that anyone else was present. He begged his friend with tears to give his heart to God that night. He reminded him of the days when as boys they had roamed the hills together and then had parted ways. Now they were together again, one saved, the other lost.

God dealt with that hardened moonshiner till he too was obviously moved. Christians prayed earnestly and forgot to sing anymore. Even the unsaved sensed the solemnity of the moment, and a feeling of relief went through the whole congregation as Jim moved to the front of the building toward the improvised altar.

However, none of us anticipated his next action. Instead of kneeling, he reached deliberately for his billfold, and after placing a \$5 bill on the open Bible which had been put there for the offering, he turned to his friend. "I can't do it," he said resolutely, and walked out of the building.

That was the last church service Jim attended. A few weeks later our county paper carried the story of his death. He had been slugged and robbed while intoxicated and had died of exposure.

Naturally when I heard it, my mind went back to the service that had seemed so ordinary at first. Maybe that's the reason I can't really consider any gospel service as ordinary anymore.

Whether it is in a schoolhouse, tent, brush arbor, or in a beautiful church building, and no matter how ordinary it may seem, I keep remembering that for someone the service may be his last. And viewed from eternity, it may not look ordinary at all.

If Jim had known eternity was so close, I think he would have acted differently. But it seemed so ordinary he didn't recognize it.

Your last opportunity to accept Christ may also seem to you to be a very ordinary one—a Sunday evening service, a word from a friend, or even this very ordinary story. Maybe it will be the familiar voice of Christ, waiting outside your heart's door, calling once more, "Son, give me thine heart."

But in eternity you'd give a million worlds for just one ordinary opportunity to be saved.

Christ says, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me" (Revelation 3:20).

Will you accept Him today?

