

## CAN I GET THERE FROM HERE?

**Who Is Called?**

**What Is a Call?**

**Who Is Qualified?**

- (1) Spiritually Committed
- (2) Physically Healthy
- (3) Psychologically Well Balanced
- (4) Educationally Prepared
- (5) Marital Status Acceptable



# CAN I GET THERE FROM HERE?\*

by Jimmy Aldridge  
Revised by Don Robirds

## Part I

### The Missionary Call

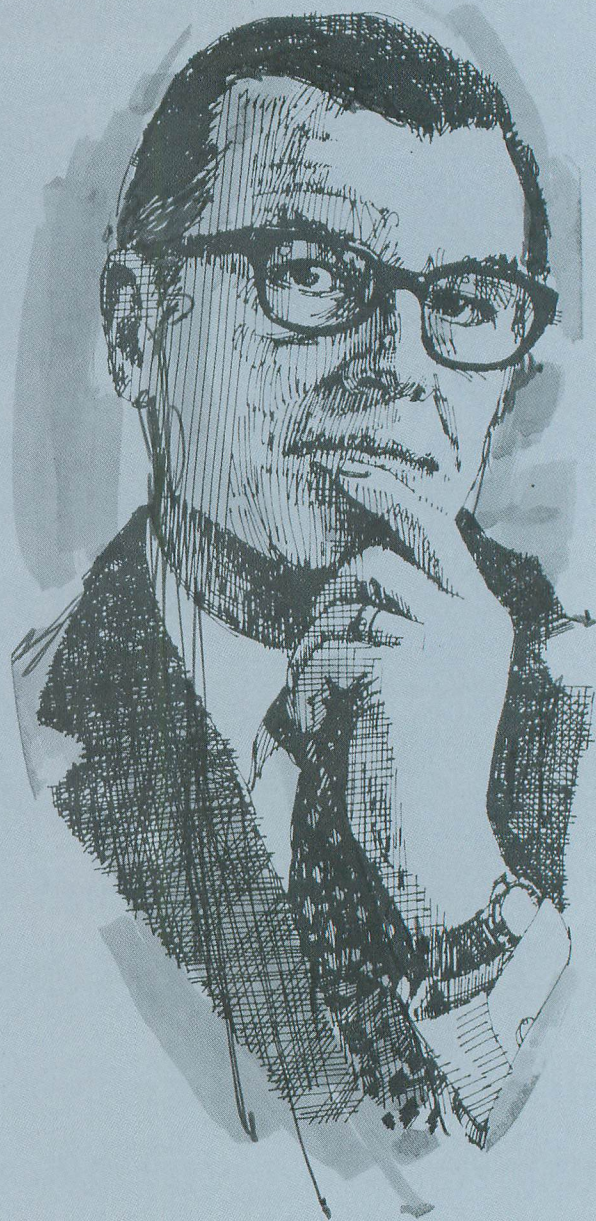
**C**onfusion exists today about the call to missionary service. This is understandable since an unabridged dictionary gives 34 usages and meanings for the word "call."

As a transitive verb *call* means "to select or appoint for a specific office, duty, or employment." This is what God has already done for all Christians. All of us are called to God for salvation (Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Timothy 2:4), to purity of life (Ephesians 1:4,5), to bear fruit (John 15:18), and to world-wide evangelism (Matthew 28:18-20). All Christians share in the task of the Great Commission by virtue of being a part of the Body of Christ. Paul makes this clear in Romans 10:14,15 when he shows that some members of the Body are to go and preach while others are to send them.

A second use of the word "call" must be considered. As a noun, *call* means "a religious duty or vocation regarded as divinely inspired." Every Christian has received a commission to world-wide evangelism. But some individuals are specifically chosen by God as cross-cultural ministers to physically go to foreign countries as the "sent ones" to preach to those who have not yet heard.

God's will is found through two basic elements: (1) that already revealed in the Scriptures, and (2) that which may vary for each of us but which becomes clear through prayer, knowledge of needs, circumstances, and the counsel of Christian friends.

The statement has been made, "He who has a command needs no call." Although partially true, this may be misleading. God's command is "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Obviously, we cannot individually preach to every creature.



Consequently, we each need a specific place and ministry under direction of the Holy Spirit whereby the Body is collectively enabled to preach to every creature.

God faithfully matches workers, abilities, gifts, personalities, etc. with the needs world-wide. In the light of the great needs abroad, the command to "go" must be given priority, and every child of God should ponder seriously its meaning as viewed from God's perspective.

In Matthew 28:19,20, the emphasis is on "making disciples," and this is to be done among "all nations." It is also to be done by those whom God has equipped or is equipping for such a cross-cultural ministry.

Some erroneously think they must wait for an earthquake or blinding light from heaven to



receive a *call*. God can and sometimes does use these things to get the attention of those not walking closely enough to hear His voice; however, these things in themselves do not constitute a *call*.

*The call is that abiding conviction that God puts in the soul of an individual which compels him or her to go personally. It is that voice in the conscience that keeps prodding and saying, "I want you to go." Someone has suggested, "It is a breath of God upon the spirit and the spirit of man feels, understands, knows, and responds." It is indeed, God's highest compliment.*

Before the *call* can be communicated to us, we must be individually committed to Christ. We must "volunteer." That is, we must surrender to Him all we are and all we have. And we must be ready to do His will before we can expect Him to show us what to do. Isaiah saw the Lord and offered himself for service before God called him (Isaiah 6:8). It will be the same with us.

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### ***God will show you where He wants you when both He and you are ready.***

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The Lord uses different ways to speak to hearts. Some receive their first concern simply from a study of God's Word. Others are influenced by contacts with Christian friends, missionaries, pastors, etc. Statistical reports, pictures, magazine articles, films, or other media showing the intense human need may speak to still more. Missions conferences and retreats are especially influential upon many lives.

God has already said, "Go!" Now each of us becomes responsible to discover world needs through any or all of the above means. As you make the effort to learn what these world needs are, God may use one or more of these to direct you in finding His will for your life.

Zealous young people should take caution to avoid yielding to false experiences. Emotional experiences have caused many to imagine that they were indued with power from above when in reality their lives and their service rendered indicated no such anointing.

One should also be alert to another trick of Satan. "People won't listen to you here," he

says. "Why don't you go overseas where they will listen to you?" But going overseas will not change the situation. One doesn't become a missionary by going abroad. If you aren't a successful Christian, worker, and soulwinner at home, your trip to the regions beyond won't change you!

If God is choosing you for foreign missions service, you can expect your closest Christian friends to be made aware of God's hand on your life. They will also participate in fulfilling His calling (Acts 13:2,3). God is not interested in keeping us ignorant; rather, He wants us to be filled with the knowledge of His will (Colossians 1:9). This being "filled" seems to be of such a nature that it appears to overflow to Christians closest to the one being called. Consequently, these Christian friends also become assured of God's special calling to that individual life. On the other hand, if one's life does not demonstrate a genuine walk with the Lord (Romans 12:1,2) this assurance will not be manifest.

Another common mistake in the opposite direction should also be avoided: Don't think that your DESIRE to do something is assurance that it can't be God's will. The Psalmist declares, "Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him and he shall bring it to pass" (Psalm 37:4,5). Desiring to fulfill a biblical command is not wrong!

Still, while God's will is "perfect," it is not always a path of ease, a bed of roses nor the absence of difficulties. So, these "bumps" in your road do not conclude that you are not called.

A call to service also includes a call to necessary preparation. So, start your training now. Learn to be a soulwinner. Yield your life fully to God and get to know your Bible through diligent, daily study. Learn to be an effective member of your local church. Read missionary magazines, study missionary biographies, and learn to cook, camp, make things, repair things, etc. These will help you wherever you serve.

Many have received the call for special service during their teenage years. If you are young, don't feel "pushed" to announce a "call" immediately to the public. God uses many "apparent calls" to get our eyes turned in the

*Continued on page 4 →*



→Continued from page 3

right direction. Make certain you know God's will for you, then make preparations to carry it out. *Seek counsel* from missionaries and others in whom you can confide. Don't worry about the "where" at this point. God will show you where He wants you when both He and you are ready. He won't send you to do a job for which you are not prepared.

### Prerequisites for Service

Qualifications for missionary service involve five basic areas of life: (1) spiritual, (2) physical, (3) psychological, (4) educational, and (5) marital.

**Spiritually**, a missionary applicant must have experienced regeneration and this must be visibly evident. The Board of Foreign Missions will not accept applicants who have not followed the Lord in baptism and who are not affiliated with a Free Will Baptist church. (Some exceptions may be made when evident needs can be fulfilled by committed Christians other than Free Will Baptists, but this is done through the associate missionary program.) An applicant must believe in the doctrinal position of the denomination, must agree to teach this in his ministry, and must observe the ordinances as outlined in *A TREATISE OF THE FAITH AND PRACTICES OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS*.

Spiritual maturity is absolutely necessary for one to be a missionary. Victory and consistency in life and character are essential. One's reputation must be above reproach in every way and the fruits of the Spirit must be evident in the life. An individual must allow God to solve problems in his life before he can be used to help others. Assurance of God's "call" will be that "abiding conviction" that will carry one through difficult battles with Satan on a foreign field.

**Physically**, an applicant must show a strong, healthy constitution. The life of a missionary is many times very rigorous and physically demanding. Most foreign countries do not enjoy the high level of medical service available in the United States. For this reason a thorough physical examination is required for both missionaries and children prior to acceptance by the mission board.

A missionary candidate must display **emotional stability** and must undergo tests for

**psychological balance** and **aptitude**. Since missionaries constantly meet changing situations, it takes an emotionally well-adjusted person to get along. How do you react to authority? to correction? to criticism? to injustice? etc. Learn self-control, patience, understanding, etc.

**Marital status** is very important. Married applicants must have similar convictions and dedication regarding missionary service. Financial and domestic responsibilities must be no greater than can be assumed without unbearable strain. Both husband and wife, as well as single applicants, must be physically and spiritually qualified. No divorcee will be considered by the Free Will Baptist Board of Foreign Missions.

**Educational requirements** for male or single candidates include graduation from high school or its equivalent and a bachelor degree from an acceptable institution. In some cases, proficiency in a field such as nursing, education, agriculture, medicine, or similar professions might meet the basic requirements by the board. Candidates, including missionary wives, are required to obtain 30 hours of biblical and theological studies and 18 hours of missions. Studies should include a course in evangelism, church history, and cultural anthropology. A missionary wife is required to have two years of study at a Free Will Baptist college or other institution acceptable to the board.

The school of experience is recognized to be an extremely valuable part of one's training. For this reason, most candidates are required to have no less than two years of pastoral or practical Christian experience.

It is essential that a missionary have a good knowledge of the area and people to whom he proposes to minister. Each candidate will be required to make a study of his proposed area and prepare a written paper covering political, cultural, geographical, governmental, and social background.

A special list of books is prepared indicating required reading for all candidates, and a report must be given on each book prior to departure for the field. This list is available upon request from the foreign missions office.

### Continued in January-February Heartbeat "Steps to the Field"

\*This was formerly published in booklet form under the title, "Who Is Called?" Jimmy Aldridge is a veteran missionary serving as field chairman in the Ivory Coast of West Africa.



# The Kind of Missionaries We Want

by  
A. B. Simpson

**W**e want men and women who are thoroughly converted and know it.

We want men and women who are fully consecrated to God, sanctified by the blood of Jesus Christ and filled with the Holy Spirit, so saved from themselves that they are at leisure to work for others.

We want men and women who are burning with the love of souls and are longing to lead men and women to Christ.

We want men and women who have already begun to work for Christ and have led many souls to the Savior. One of the first questions asked a missionary candidate is, "How many have you led to Christ since you were saved?" The best place to begin foreign missionary work is at home. A man went away from meeting the board the other day disappointed at not being able to answer this question satisfactorily, but he was determined it should not happen again. The next Sunday God gave him three souls.

We want men and women who can live simply, endure

hardship, deny themselves, put up with every discomfort, who are not particular about their outfits, who do not want things "just so" for their wardrobe, who are willing to go to the heathen just as they are getting on at home, if necessary; who do not need two or three trunks and a great amount of baggage; who can travel with a knapsack like a soldier and sleep in their boots, and will not grumble about it either, but enjoy it for Christ's sake; who have got over the romance and novelty of travel and are going to heathen lands for one thing only, and that is to win souls for Christ, to please Him and hasten His coming.

We want men and women who are easy to get along with; who have died to self and self-will; who can keep sweet and can submit themselves to their superintendents until they have learned the language and become qualified to be leaders; who can keep rank as David's soldiers; who are adjustable, good-natured, ready to meet persecution and insult without getting angry, and can live the

gospel of Christ among the heathen even as the Master did.

We want men and women who are strong, vigorous, rugged, and healthy; or at least have such a hold of the Lord for their bodies that they are not afraid of climate, hard work, inclemency of the weather, and physical pressure; who now are having victories in their bodies and are able to stand exposure and hardship and do real work for God.

We want men and women who know the Lord so well they can have His joy under all circumstances; who will not be afraid of loneliness nor privation; who ask no greater recompense than the privilege of serving and pleasing Him, and who go out not wanting sympathy, but rejoicing in the name of missionary and the privilege of enduring suffering and even shame for the name of Him who died for them.

We want men and women who have such a distinct call to the mission field that they cannot stay back, and that even if we do not send them they will go somehow.

Lord, send us a thousand such men and women.

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*The Alliance Witness* originally published April 1, 1892.

## HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Vol. 23, No. 9

November 1983

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*Heartbeat* (USPS 239-202) is published monthly except bimonthly in January-February and July-August by the Board of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, 1134 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville, Tenn. 37217. Second-class postage paid at Nashville, Tenn. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Heartbeat*, Box 1088, Nashville, Tenn. 37202.



# THE 'UNCLOSED' DOOR!



by Ken Eagleton

**W**ho says Brazil's doors are closed to missionaries?

During the decade between 1959 and 1970, literally hundreds of evangelical missionaries entered Brazil to preach and teach the gospel of Jesus Christ. Numerous missionaries representing other religious groups entered during that time, also.

Brazil's doors were wide open for religious activity. Free

Will Baptists also caught a vision of those open doors. Eleven FWB families and three single women paraded over those South American thresholds between 1958 and 1970.

Then, something else came to light! Parallel to the religious activity, an influx of other foreigners and refugees poured into the vast country. Fleeing political persecution and seeking liberty of life and the

pursuit of happiness, they scattered throughout the Republic which occupies about one-half of the land area of South America.

News agencies reported alleged accounts of an organized infiltration by persons sympathetic to social upheaval and overthrow of the government. At the same time in the middle 1970's, with the downturn in world economy, Brazil began to feel the impact of a reduced labor market and a tightened job situation.

Under those circumstances, the government officials felt it necessary to control immigration. After delayed consideration, they passed a new Foreigners' Law. In some circles that action appeared to be directed against religious freedom, but I do not believe that to be the case.

The law was comprehensive and restricted immigration of any class of people for any purpose. However, soon after its enactment, studies were initiated to mollify the consequences of that law. The results of those studies are partly expressed in a presidential decree as reported in the November, 1982 issue of a Missionary Information Bureau publication we missionaries received:

"Presidential Decree No. 86.715 of December 10, 1981, which regulated the New Foreigners, Law No. 6815 of August 19, 1980, makes provisions for missionaries to transfer from temporary visas to permanent visas after two years' residency in Brazil."

The presidential decree gave assurance that foreigners could enter and remain in the



country on a permanent basis. Some new missionaries have already arrived in Brazil under the present law, and papers on others desiring to come are being processed without undue delay.

In the last 12 years only four Free Will Baptist families have come to Brazil. During this same period of time six families have left the country. And yet, the need for missionaries here is greater than ever.

This year, 1983, marks the 25th anniversary of Free Will Baptists in Brazil and many changes have taken place since the work was first started. The number of people who live here and need to hear the gospel has increased greatly. In fact, the population has more than doubled since 1958 when Dave Franks landed in Sao Paulo, capital city of Sao Paulo state. Brazil had 58 million inhabitants at that time. Now the South American giant claims over 120 million inhabitants. The city of Sao Paulo has grown from about two million to over 12 million. The interior hinterlands have been opened to new roads and highways. New cities and large population areas that did not exist 25 years ago have sprung up.

Changes have also occurred in the fields of communication and transportation. These have greatly eased our job and increased our efficiency. For example, long distance telephone calls, when possible at all, used to take several hours to complete and then often it was almost impossible to hear the conversation. Now, satellites and microwaves make possible direct dialing to most any place in the world.

Brazil is rapidly becoming the

third largest automobile manufacturing country in the world. And it is the largest producer of alternative-fuel cars, like the 100 percent alcohol-burning car we use.

Most of us can now do our banking without traveling long distances and spending one or two days each month just to convert dollars to the local currency. Telex, telephone, and bank courier cars can all do our traveling for us. Evangelical radio programs have now become common and even some evangelical television programs exist on national networks.

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### *Some new missionaries have already arrived in Brazil under the present law.*

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Educational attainments have also changed. Several years ago one who had completed the eighth grade was considered reasonably well educated. Rarely were we personally acquainted with someone who had a college degree. Now, in the church in Araras where we work, eight people are college graduates, out of a membership of 80 persons. Another 12 are presently in college, one is in a Bible institute, and yet another has finished his training as a missionary jungle pilot. A retired grade school teacher-principal, and a first-grade teacher are also included in this congregation.

In spite of the economic downturn in the past few years, the Brazilian standard of living has generally improved. Triple-digit inflation—about 120 percent during the past 12

months—over the past three years has taken its toll on the purchasing power of the family.

Most of our Free Will Baptist churches are still relatively new. Some still don't have their own property or church building. None has its own national pastor. Though some could begin paying their own pastors, men are unavailable.

The greatest need seems to be a Bible college and training program of their own for the preparation of national workers. That will require mission cooperation with the national association of churches. They will need missionary teachers to work with the national church to train these workers.

To meet the present and future needs of our Free Will Baptist ministry in Brazil, some changes will have to be made. A renewed vision of open doors in Brazil is needed. Brazil is NOT closed to the gospel! It is not closed to missionary work, nor is it closed to missionaries. The presidential decree makes that clear.

More people must believe that we can still make an impact for Christ on Brazil. They must support missionaries who want to come here to minister. And we need more young people to present themselves to the Lord first, and then to the Board of Foreign Missions to serve Christ in Brazil. Yes, we need young people who are trained and dedicated to the task of reaching a changing, but lost, country and world.□

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Ken Eagleton, veteran missionary to Brazil, is laboring in the city of Araras. He and his wife were the second FWB missionaries to enter the country.



**M**issionaries to Micronesia, Dennis and Jean Jester, were about ready to give up and go home. They had been working on the island of Majuro for a little more than a year. Now, after they had gone through trial after trial, it seemed as if the terminal affliction had fallen. Jean was desperately ill.

Hospital facilities on the island were poor; medicines often ran out. The closest thing they had to a doctor was "Doctor John," a Micronesian who knew quite a bit about medicine. But while Jean was in the hospital, a Canadian doctor came to the island. After examining her, he said to Dennis, "She is getting weaker and weaker because she can't retain food. If she continues on like this much longer, both she and the child she is expecting will die. Let me perform an abortion."

Dennis looked at his wife. She shook her head emphatically. "No, we feel God wants us to have this child," Dennis answered, "and if so, He will surely make it possible."

"Well, I think you're making a serious mistake in judgment," said the doctor. "If you change your minds, let me know. In any event, she certainly needs better care than she can get here on the island."

After the doctor left, Jean said with tears in her eyes,

"Let's go home, Dennis!"

Dennis looked at his thin, wan wife, and a lump came to his throat. "You're too weak to travel back to the States, Honey," he said. "Let's hold on a few more days and see what God will have us do. Let's trust in the Lord to answer prayer."

Dennis knew that Christians back in the States were praying, as well as the new Christians on Majuro. He had sent home an emergency prayer letter, the latest of several he had sent in recent months. "Pray for us," he had written. "We may have to give up the work here because of Jean's condition."

Dennis stopped in the hall after he left his wife. "Oh, Lord, spare her life and the baby's," he prayed. "Help her to start retaining food so that we can stay here and continue reaching souls for Christ!"

Already a number of people on Majuro had trusted Christ as their Savior, and their lives had been transformed. Dennis had started a small church which met in a room at the local hotel. The new Christians were on fire for the Lord and were bringing others in. They were looking forward to building a church. Dennis certainly didn't want to leave the work now.

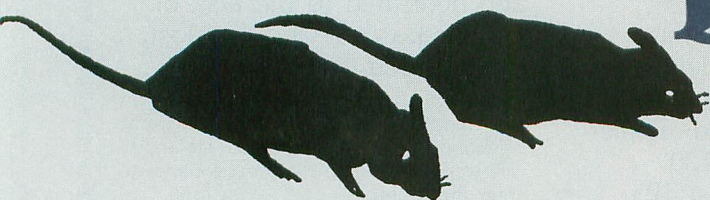
After leaving his wife, however, he went to the airline office to make

arrangements for a flight to Hawaii. Reservations had to be made in advance. A plane would be leaving in several days. Dennis felt very depressed as he headed home. Poor Jean—she had already been through so much!

"People try to spiritualize missionaries," Dennis told me, "as if we are like gods, not given to discouragements or imperfections like other people. But we're just humans, sinners saved by grace. When missionaries get out on the field, they find that any problems they have had before are magnified. Culture shock hits them; living conditions are often primitive and much harder than back in the States; language often presents a problem; missionaries and their children are subject to life-threatening situations that were unknown in the world they came from."

The Jesters and their three children lived in one room in a motel for five months after they arrived on Majuro. Fish, breadfruit, bananas, rice, papayas and canned goods became the mainstays in the Jesters' new way of eating. The price of imported fresh vegetables was prohibitive.

After five months the Jesters had moved into a beach house. It was good to have more than one room for their family of five, but now they faced other



# 'Lord, Do You Still Remember Me?'

by Muriel Larson



problems. Jean screamed the first time she saw a gecko scurry across the floor toward her. But after she realized how the geckos ate the bugs, she almost became thankful for the plentiful creatures.

"Some of the roaches were so big that they sprang the rat traps that were set," Dennis says. "And the rats were as big as large kittens, but certainly not so lovable!"

One night a big rat jumped into bed with Dennis and bit through his big toe. Another night a rat got into bed with Jean, and she screamed. Dennis ran up the stairs and helped his wife out of the room. Then he got Jerry Garganus, a new missionary on the island, to help him get the rat. Dennis went after the rodent with a broom, and Jerry ran swinging a machete.

"Sometimes I thought he was going to get me with that thing," shared Dennis, with a twinkle in his eye, "but he finally got the rat!"

The Jesters checked several times each night on their children. Sometimes Dennis found a rat in bed with them. He believes that the Lord awoke him so that he could protect his children. They were never bitten.

"We learned to base our joy not on the circumstances of life, but in our Savior," Dennis related.

The Jesters had running water in their house, but it had to be boiled 20 minutes before using, in order to kill the amoebas. Also, periodic droughts occur in Micronesia for about four months, and salty well water may be available for only an hour or

two a day during that time.

After the Jesters had been on Majuro for eight months, their youngest child, Stephen James, became very ill. Diarrhea quickly dehydrated the two-year-old; he had amoebic dysentery. Jean stayed in the hospital with her little one, sleeping on a straw mat on the floor like the other mothers in the children's ward.

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***"She is getting weaker and weaker. If she continues on like this much longer, both she and the child she is expecting will die."***

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One night when Dennis went into the hospital to check on his wife and child, he found Jean asleep on the floor. He knelt beside her, looking down on her weary face. "Lord, I don't know if we should continue on here. The baby is so ill. My wife is getting run down. Our two children are at home. Lord, what should I do?"

Another time Dennis went out to the end of the island and waved his handkerchief toward the sky. "Lord, do you still remember me?" he cried softly. "Have you forgotten us on this little island?"

Then he felt the comfort of the Lord fill his heart. "The Lord assured me He had really called us and we were in His hands," Dennis recalls. "He reminded me of His promise that He would never leave nor forsake us."

The new Christians, the Garganuses, and 12-year-old Lisa Jester had helped and comforted in many ways during this difficult time. The Lord laid

His hand on Stephen, and he had recovered. But the three weeks in the hospital had taken their toll on Jean's health and it began to fail. Then when she had become pregnant, she became unable to retain any food at all. She grew weaker and weaker.

After making the plane reservations to leave Majuro, Dennis went home. Jerry Garganus could see how discouraged Dennis was, and he prayed with him. "Why don't you just wait a few more days," he said, "and see what God will do."

The following day Jean began to retain the food she ate. She became stronger each day after that. Some months later she gave birth to a fine baby boy, Jonathan. How thankful the Jesters were that they had never even considered having this precious child aborted!

Back home in the States our church and I, personally, had prayed fervently for our missionaries, the Jesters, every time we had received one of their emergency prayer letters—and at other times too. We rejoiced in the Lord to learn that they would be able to continue on with the good work they had started.

Now, four years later, almost 150 Micronesian Christians meet regularly to worship the Lord in their new church on Majuro, thanks in great measure to a missionary couple who wouldn't give up, Christians who upheld them in prayer, and our wonderful Lord who answered those prayers. □

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Muriel Larson is a free lance writer, composer and child evangelist. She has written hundreds of articles and has served in numerous ministries over the years. She lives in Greenville, S.C. —



## Missionaries Serving and Where They Serve

### BRAZIL, SOUTH AMERICA

Louis and Florine Coscia  
Jim and Karen Cowart  
*Earnie and Jean Deeds*  
Ken and Marvis Eagleton  
Terry and Jamie Eagleton\* \*\*  
Dave and Pat Franks

Tommy and Nancy Hughes  
John and Kay Metcalf\*  
Jim and Susan Moser\*\*\*  
Bobby and Geneva Poole  
Jim and Vicki Sturgill

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Jerry and Barbara Gibbs  
Tom and Patty McCullough\*\*\*  
Lynn and Ramona Miley

John and Pansy Murray  
Steve and Becky Riggs\*  
Charolette Tallent  
Patsy Vanhook  
Jerry and Janice Webb\*\*\*

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Carlisle and Marie Hanna

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Elaine Allen\*\*\*  
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Mike and Deleen Cousineau\*\*\*  
Mark and Donna Daniel\*  
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Neil and Sheila Gilliland  
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Clint and Lynette Morgan  
Darrel and Lila Nichols\*  
Eddie and Sandra Payne  
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Larry and Priscilla Inscoc\*\*\*

Steve and Judy Lytle

### SPAIN, EUROPE

Ron and Linda Callaway  
Lynn Midgett\*  
Dennis and Trena Owen

Lonnie and Anita Sparks\*\*\*  
Jeff and Susan Turnbough

### URUGUAY, SOUTH AMERICA

Molly Barker\*\*\*  
Walter and Marcia Ellison

Paul and Amy Robinson

\* New appointees \*\* Associate missionary \*\*\* On furlough

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# HEARTLINE

A young minister asked me, "How do you go about setting up a missionary program in a church which has never supported missions? Where do you begin?"

I hope the ideas I shared with him will be of some benefit to other leaders.

The starting point is the pastor. Most churches will reflect the concerns of the pastor. So, the first step for the pastor is to move missions near the top of his personal agenda.

As Rev. Woodrow Matthews, pastor of Mt. Olive Church, Guin, Ala., puts it, "The vision and burden for missions in the church will not be greater than that of the pastor."

A pastor's missionary burden will influence his prayer life, his preaching and his stewardship.

Concerning the latter, Bill Robinson, pastor of the First Church of Savannah, Ga., says, "I have always tried to set the example in giving and I feel that goes a long way in challenging the people."

Second, the leader who wants to broaden the vision of his congregation should familiarize himself with the subject of missions. It is important to read the reports of current missionary news. These can often be passed along to congregations and Sunday school classes as illustrations of scriptural truth.

Most pastors will find, "A Biblical Theology of Missions," by Dr. George Peters (Moody Press) a very helpful reference edition for sermon preparation.

Pastor Oswald Smith always encouraged

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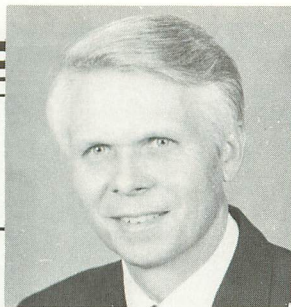
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**R. Eugene Waddell**  
Associate Director

young leaders to spend much time reading missionary biographies. "Lives of great men all remind us we can make our lives sublime and departing leave behind us footprints on the sands of time" (Henry Wadsworth Longfellow).

It is usually helpful to learn from the experience of others. If you know of a church with a successful missionary program, learn all you can from them.

Third, share your concerns with other leaders in the church. As Ben Scott of North Little Rock, Ark., says, "Sharing is the result of caring; and caring comes as a result of knowing." Obviously, unless the members of the local church catch the vision, it matters little how ambitious the pastor is. It is crucial to involve our laymen and laywomen as well as teens in planning, promoting and praying for missions.

Prayer is probably the most effective way to enlist support for a missionary program. If I pastored a church which had never supported missions and I could find one person in the church who was responsive to the great commission, I would have some special times of prayer with that individual and when another manifested a similar burden, include him. As that type of prayer circle grows, response to the great commission will also grow.

Fourth, plan a missionary service or series of services. Invite a missionary or representative to your church. One great way to start is by having a weekend missions revival. If that is impossible, have one good, well-planned service.

If you would like further assistance in planning a service or getting your church involved, please contact me. I will be glad to assist you in the greatest challenge the church has today—making His last command our first concern.

The main thing is to start the process of missions involvement now! As Pastor Carroll Alexander of Columbia, S.C. says, "Like individually tithing, we should not wait until we can do greater things to start doing something."

## Financial Summary Through September 30

### \$ubstance

Contributions in September .....	\$ 197,649.86
Total contributions through September .....	1,769,328.46
Total disbursements through September .....	1,670,638.27
Projected receipts through September .....	1,895,855.00
Total 1983 Budget .....	<b>\$2,527,807.00</b>

### \$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Bishop .....	\$ 1,512.31	Midgett .....	\$ 500.53
Caton .....	3,239.08	Owen .....	4,149.21
Cousineau .....	2,495.05	Sparks .....	2,279.73
Crowson .....	2,606.70	Vanhook .....	1,871.99
Hersey .....	1,927.16	Webb .....	9,868.46
McCullough .....	3,954.70		
Total .....			<b>\$34,404.92</b>

## 1983 State Quotas

State	Quota 1983	Quota Thru September	Contributions Thru September
Alabama .....	\$ 159,000	\$ 119,250	\$ 93,627.96
Arizona .....	3,000	2,250	838.42
Arkansas .....	123,000	92,250	97,903.25
California .....	60,000	45,000	21,392.56
Colorado .....	4,000	3,000	1,862.47
Florida .....	70,000	52,500	49,530.58
Georgia .....	80,000	60,000	57,528.24
Hawaii .....	1,000	750	362.04
Idaho .....	1,500	1,125	390.59
Illinois .....	83,000	62,250	54,448.73
Indiana .....	21,000	15,750	15,911.76
Iowa .....	1,000	750	345.08
Kansas .....	14,000	10,500	7,702.06
Kentucky .....	66,000	49,500	43,849.70
Louisiana .....	1,000	750	10.00
Maryland .....	11,000	8,250	7,118.07
Michigan .....	110,000	82,500	70,577.39
Minnesota .....	500	375	10.00
Mississippi .....	36,000	27,000	22,963.05
Missouri .....	145,000	108,750	131,777.21
Montana .....	1,000	750	379.32
New Mexico .....	500	375	149.63
*Northeast Association .....	9,000	6,750	2,388.00
**Northwest Association .....	9,500	7,125	2,090.34
North Carolina .....	355,000	266,250	250,362.16
Ohio .....	80,000	60,000	86,916.54
Oklahoma .....	315,000	236,250	208,169.89
Pennsylvania .....	1,000	750	1,125.46
South Carolina .....	164,000	123,000	119,299.74
Tennessee .....	325,000	243,750	273,447.31
Texas .....	64,000	48,000	44,467.83
Virginia .....	98,000	73,500	53,013.85
Virgin Islands .....	1,000	750	1,206.00
West Virginia .....	89,000	66,750	50,073.16
Miscellaneous .....	23,807	17,855	1,783.56
Canada .....	2,000	1,500	1,153.22
Totals .....	<b>\$2,527,807</b>	<b>\$1,895,855</b>	<b>\$1,744,175.17</b>

\*Northeast Association  
New Hampshire, Vermont, New Jersey, Maine, Connecticut, Washington, D.C., and Massachusetts

\*\*Northwest Association  
Alaska, Oregon and Washington



# Who are you calling sub-human?

by Marjorie Zimmerman



**W**hile in the Armed Forces as a young man, our pastor Don Baker\* was sent to New Guinea. In the jungles he met for the first time, the pigmy people who had once been Papuan head-hunters.

"To me they seemed sub-human," Don relates. "I was curious, even fascinated by them and longed to communicate with them, to find out what made them tick. I tried a dialect on one of them (I had picked up a few of their words) and supplemented my attempt with sign language, but the little guy only stared uncomprehendingly.

"He seemed more like a wild animal than a human being. Then I hit upon the word that was 'Open Sesame.' I said, 'Christos? Christos?'"

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***He seemed more like an animal than a human being.***

---

"His eyes lighted up and he put both his palms together, prayer-fashion. Then he knelt and, with a stick, drew a picture of the cross in the sand. The person I had thought sub-human was a brother in Christ.

"This experience revolutionized my whole attitude toward the human family. Now, although I know my fellow men are not my brothers in Christ until they are born again into God's family and are trusting in our Savior, I realize that all are God's creation. They are made in His image and so valuable to him that He gave His life to redeem them.

"The word 'sub-human' is no longer in my vocabulary." □

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Marjorie Zimmerman is a free lance writer in Gresham, Ore. \*Don Baker is pastor of Hinson Memorial Baptist Church of Portland, Ore.





## Richards Lauds Ferguson; Churches Evidence Growth

*Ivory Coast*—Norman Richards writes from Agnibilekrou Ivory Coast: "I must commend the Fergusons for the work they did in our place. I know that if they had not come, we would have had to start at almost zero. Instead we found an active, healthy work being carried on. I must not forget Alice Smith and Arilla Wode who took an active part in the work and helped it grow."

Norman continued to express praise as he visited groups at Koun-Fao and Sapli-Koussi and found them still faithful to the Lord. "These are the two villages where I taught the leaders, and they in turn taught the people," Norman stated.

## Colombian Worker Is Held for Ransom

*Colombia*—According to Missionary News Service, negotiations are underway for the release of Russell Stendal, 27, son of missionaries Chad and Pat Standal with the All Nations Frontier Mission in San Martin, Colombia. The Stendals are from Bethany Missionary Church, Bloomington, Minn.

Russell was captured by guerrillas on August 14 and held for \$500,000 ransom. He had flown a small plane to the village of Kano Jabon and was there when guerrillas attacked. Believed to be members of the FARC, a Cuban communist group, the guerrillas captured Russell, damaged the radio of his plane, and marched him into the jungle.

The plane was brought out a week later by Russell's brother, Chaddi. The Stendals have been working in Colombia for 20 years.

## Florine Coscia Undergoes Major Surgery; Work Grows

*Brazil*—Florine Coscia was to undergo major surgery in October to remove several tumors. Louis requested special prayer on her behalf and for strength and wisdom to help him meet the demands of each day. Outcome of the surgery was not known at press time.

Coscia reported spiritual and numerical growth in the church as new converts are faithful in attendance as well as being actively involved in bringing others to church to hear the gospel.



Missionaries Jim and Karen Cowart left for Brazil on October 24 to begin their second term of service.

Louis continued to express praise that the pain has stopped in his eyes and that his sight has greatly improved.

In conclusion Coscia urged Christians to pray for a young wife who was faithfully attending services until her jealous husband told her she had to choose between him and the church. "Pray that God will change his attitude," says Louis.

## Mini Reports from Around the Globe

*Knoxville, Tenn.*—Missionaries Jim and Karen Cowart were scheduled to leave the United States to return to Brazil on October 24. They will be resuming their ministry in Jaboticabal. Doctors have indicated their youngest daughter, Camila, is improving after diagnosis of a kidney problem stemming from continual infections soon after birth.

*Ivory Coast*—Jerry Pinkerton was taken to Ferke hospital in the Ivory Coast in August for an emergency appendectomy. "I called the Conservative Baptist Hospital at Ferke and told them to expect Jerry on the afternoon flight," writes Jimmy Aldridge. "As the plane landed at Bondoukou, the front tire blew out. That meant no more plane, so we drove almost all night (500 miles) and had him there by 8:00 a.m." Surgery went well and Jerry is making rapid recovery.

*Zimbabwe*—The educational authorities in Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) changed the status of religious education from an elective to a required course soon after the country gained its independence

from Great Britain. The local Bible Society has supplied 80,000 Bibles to assist in the sudden enormous need for textbooks. Three quarters of the population are professing Christians.

*Mexico*—The recent eight-day Luis Palau Crusade in the city of Hermosillo, Mexico, has more than doubled that city's evangelical population. Five thousand each night attended the various crusade meetings, and 3,475 made public decisions for Christ. Hermosillo's population is 400,000.

*Nashville, Tenn.*—The Board of Foreign Missions is scheduled to meet November 28-December 1 in Nashville for their 1983 semi-annual session.

*Ivory Coast*—The Tri-Media Communication film crew was in the Ivory Coast in October shooting footage for a 16mm film on the life of Victor, national pastor of the Bondoukou Free Will Baptist Church. The film is scheduled for release sometime next year.

*Panama*—Steve and Judy Lytle, missionaries to Panama, expressed praise for answered prayer as they finally received a telephone in their home in Panama. It had been ordered since their arrival near the end of 1981.

*Ivory Coast*—The Ivory Coast government has made an appeal for "religious teachers" because of the evident "decline in morality" in the country. Alice Smith made this observation and reported plans to have three Bible classes in the elementary schools in Agnibilekrou this year.

## Uberlandia Church Marks Sixth Anniversary

*Brazil*—The Uberlandia Free Will Baptist Church celebrated its sixth anniversary on August 7 with 91 in Sunday school and 86 people present for the evening service, according to missionary Tom Hughes.

Two ladies were saved during the services. One of these was the mother of one of the first converts in the work.

Tom lamented the fact that the church had not been able to acquire the deed to land before their anniversary, but complications have

*Continued on page 14* →



→ Continued from page 13  
continued to hinder the land purchase.

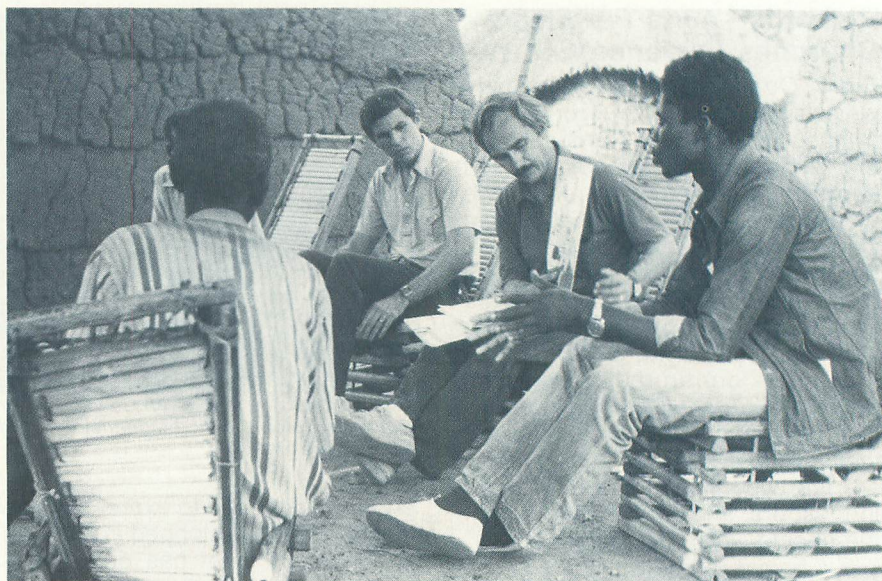
On the other hand, Hughes noted the Bible institute in the church is doing well with nine students this semester.

## Morgan Cites Village Opening, Revival Signs

*Ivory Coast*—"The Lord has opened up a village where Dr. Miley and Eddie Payne used to go," writes Clint Morgan. "Now two young men from there come nearly every Sunday to Doropo, and they want us to come out and preach in their village. We are really hoping we can see a church established there. Please pray for this village, Tsrbiela (pronounced Char-bee-l-ah)."

Clint also reported the market-day ministry to be "still producing results." On September 15 one man, who had been saved the week before, brought his brother who also wanted to be saved. Morgan planned to travel to that village on the following day to preach in hopes that their village, too, might open up to the gospel.

Expressing praise that some of the men in the Doropo church are getting a vision, Clint declared: "One man said he got up one morning and while he was getting dressed, it was as if his heart would not stand still as he thought about the villages we need to preach in." Then he added, "While we were in Abidjan



Missionary Clint Morgan (second from right) presents the gospel message in a village in the Doropo area of Ivory Coast while summer missionary Jeff Gaskins observes.

taking the Gaskins to the plane, he preached and several people came crying in repentance.

"Broken hearts, humble servants, prayer, willing workers—all the ingredients for a revival," Morgan concluded.

## Turnboughs Begin Study at University of Madrid

*Spain*—Jeff and Susan Turnbough, missionaries to Spain, were scheduled to begin a new course of language study at the University of Madrid in October.

The Turnboughs reported their son, Matthew, will be attending the Evangelical Christian Academy in Madrid and Melissa, their daughter, will be staying with neighbors during the day while Jeff and Susan are in language study.

Susan Turnbough was hospitalized recently with severe kidney infection. Latest reports indicate she is much improved but people have been urged to pray for her complete recovery.

## Barnard Book to Be Published Next Year

*Nashville, Tenn.*—Tyndale House Publishers have tentatively agreed to publish the book written by Miss Laura Belle Barnard. She was the first missionary to go out under the National Association of Free Will Baptists in 1935.

Miss Barnard labored in India from 1935-1960 and has recorded highlights of her life story in that ministry. Georgia Hill, wife of Reverend Bob Hill, organized and did the condensing and rewriting of much of the book. It should be ready for release sometime next year.

Expenses for editing, rewriting, and purchase of a good quantity of the book for Free Will Baptists have been borne by the Department of Foreign Missions. Some churches and individuals have contributed to the project, but costs have been much greater than contributions.

Those wishing to help with these costs may send their gifts to "Barnard Book," Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

## Fergusons Assume Goumere Work, Village Evangelism

*Ivory Coast*—Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson, who recently moved from the Agnibilekrou area to the Goumere station, have assumed responsibility for the Goumere Free Will Baptist Church, following the death of Pastor Jean-Baptiste.

"Ledgel is preaching twice a week at the Goumere church," writes Sharon. "We are trying to go slow in deciding just what the church needs. On Sunday afternoons Ledgel and men from the church go out to a neighboring village. Last week 10 prayed to receive Christ there. We

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Walkers in the Elizabethton, Tenn. area gather in front of First FWB Church in Elizabethton for their part in the Tennessee state-wide Walk-a-thon for foreign missions.

hope to see revival. This area has had over 20 years of preaching, but the people are very hard. We feel that a turning to Christ is about to take place. Pray with us to this end."

### Tennessee Walk-a-thon Nets Over \$25,000; More Coming

*Nashville, Tenn.*—The state-wide Walk-a-thon on behalf of Tennessee foreign missionaries was held on September 10 in many areas of Tennessee. It was followed by a day of prayer and fasting on September 11. Net monetary results, at last report, came to over \$25,000 with more areas to report and at least two areas to hold their Walk-a-thon.

According to Tennessee State Foreign Mission Board Chairman Don Sexton, churches in the East Tennessee area of Elizabethton, Kingsport, Church Hill, and Bristol turned in over \$13,650 with some pledges yet to be collected.

The Greenville area had not reported. Wallace Hayes, coordinator for Middle and West Tennessee, reported over \$5,000 received in the Nashville area, and approximately \$1,000 from the Columbia area. The Ashland City area in Middle Tennessee and the Erwin area in East Tennessee were scheduled to walk on October 22.

In the Church Hill area of East Tennessee, top money raiser was 77-year-old Mrs. Elkins, who raised

\$400 for her walk. Mr. Howell Lyons took top honors for his walking effort in the Elizabethton area and received a trophy. Other participants also received trophies for their efforts.

Students at Free Will Baptist Bible College raised over \$2,700 during the Walk-a-thon.

Pastors and area coordinators reported times of blessing and challenge during the special event. Some walkers were given special opportunities to witness along the route and some observers were saved as a result of the special efforts.

Those involved in planning and promoting the special activities expressed gratitude to those who participated and indicated the goal of \$50,000 was still within reach.

### Agnibilekrou Church Holds Its First VBS

*Ivory Coast*—According to a report from missionary Alice Smith, the Agnibilekrou Free Will Baptist Church had its first vacation Bible school September 26-30 with an average attendance of 65. The theme for their VBS centered around "The Life of Christ."

Twenty children prayed to receive Christ as Savior and at least ten others expressed interest in being saved.

The largest attendance came on Wednesday when 84 people were

on hand. Bessie Richards, Arilla Wode, and Alice taught the three classes. Ten African Christians and Norman Richards served as helpers.

### Armenian Terrorists Cause Problems in Turkey

*Turkey*—Activities of Armenian terrorists in Turkey have created problems for the gospel in that country. According to Missionary News Service, most Turks consider Christian activities to be part of Armenian conspiracy.

Terrorist attacks on Turkish diplomats have a negative impact on the open-mindedness of people to the gospel. The Armenian threats hardened the attitudes of the government to all evangelical activity. Already, signs have become evident of some moves to prevent legal activities by local believers from continuing.

One such activity included Christian book sales. More than 1,000 books were sold last summer.



## Seventh Annual Writers' Contest

**Sponsored By  
Randall House Publications**

### Seven Categories

- |                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| 1—Exegesis/Sermon | 4—Tract     |
| 2—Short Story     | 5—Play/Skit |
| 3—Poetry          | 6—Book      |
| 7—Art/Visual      |             |

**Entry Deadline**—March 15,  
1984

**Registration Fee**—\$10.00

### Awards

#### Write For Rules Of Entry To:

Rev. Harrold D. Harrison, Writers' Contest Director, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, Tennessee 37217



# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

P.O. Box 1088  
Nashville, TN 37202

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