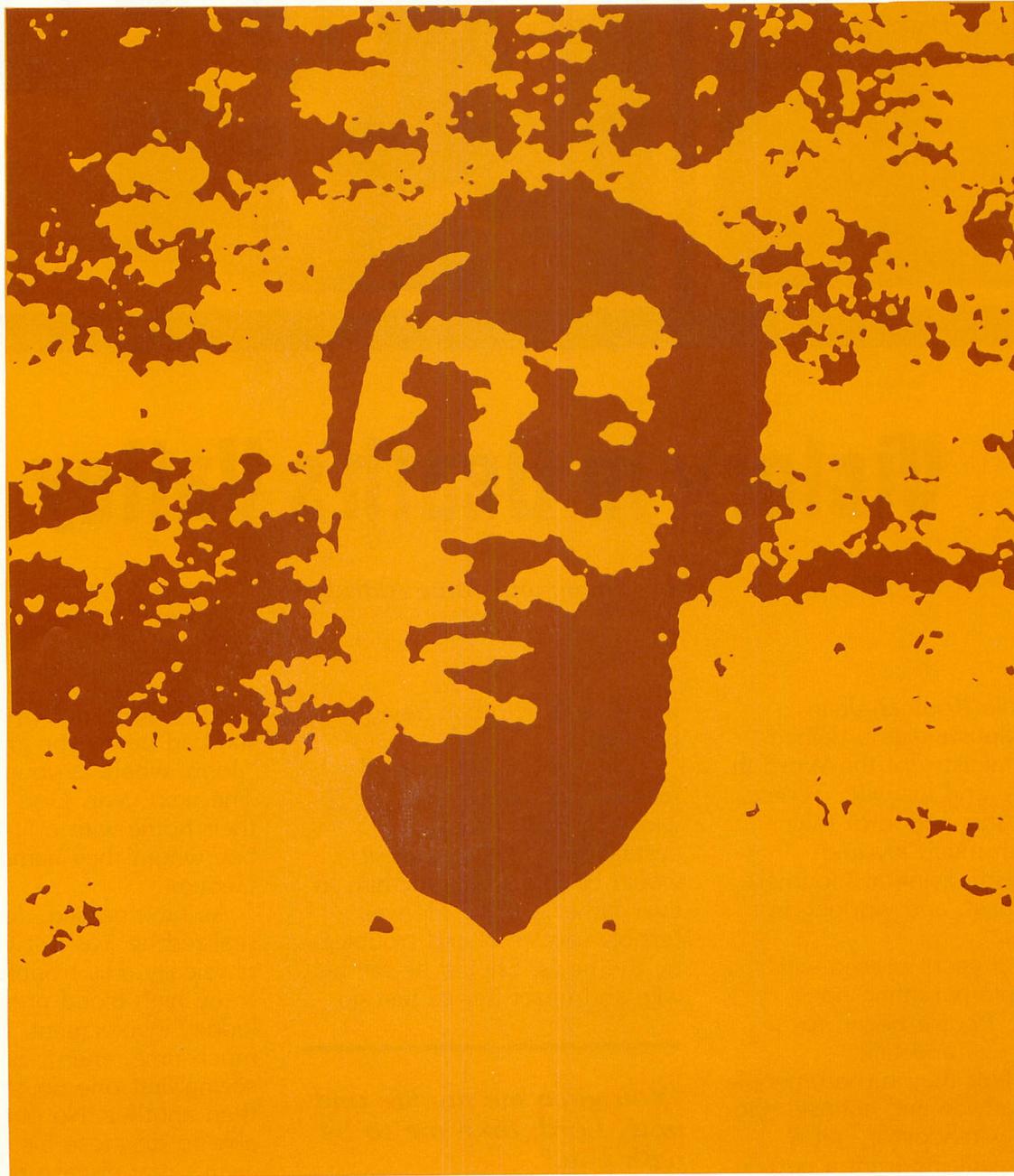


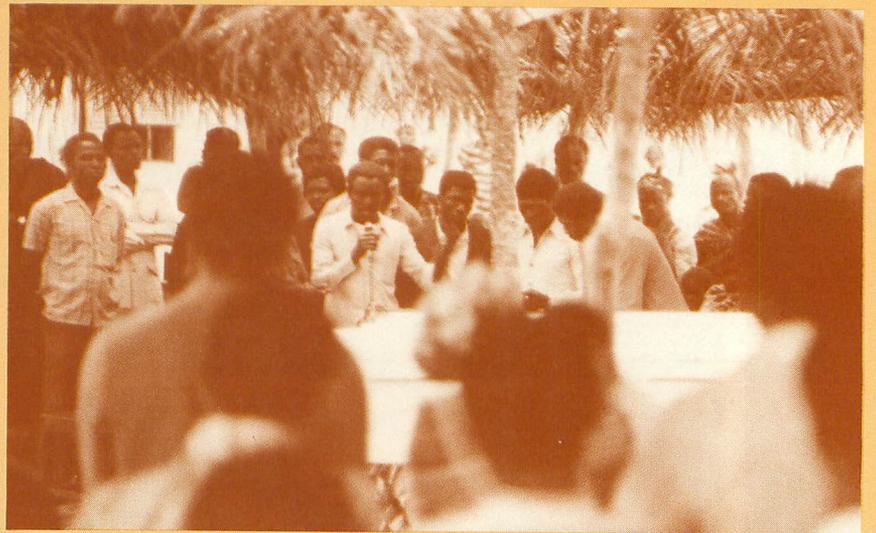
HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1984



Victory in Death's Valley



Victory in Death's Valley

by Jimmy and Janie Aldridge

Kouadio Kouman Jean Baptiste was ordained for the ministry of the Word in 1977. He and his wife, Teresa, entered this period of their lives with much joy and enthusiasm, living at Goumere, Ivory Coast, and working in that area.

Several years passed with the couple parenting no children. People began to wonder . . . and talk. Everywhere they turned, people offered advice and counsel: Go see this witchdoctor, get a certain medicine from a certain marabout, try this healer, offer such and such sacrifice, and ad infinitum. They were harrassed and subjected to intense pressure because nothing is

worse in Africa than being childless.

Jean went to see several medical doctors. Finally, he was told that because of certain body deficiencies, it would be impossible for him to ever father a child. He was terribly saddened and troubled by the news. Should he tell his wife and upset her or just go

"You gave me my life and now, Lord, take me to be with you."

on living and hoping?

When he arrived home he decided to tell Teresa—a very

hard thing to do! Upon hearing the bad news, she chided, "John, where is your faith?" The next year, God blessed their home with a fine baby boy whom they named Gedeon.

As time passed, Jean realized he was not well physically. His trouble seemed to be high blood pressure with kidney involvement. He spent much time, energy and money seeing first one doctor and then another. No one seemed able to diagnose his case. Jean's real disease remained elusive and hidden. Over the years he continued to weaken. The problem haunted and frustrated him. In spite of this he carried on his ministry as

best he could as pastor of the Goumere church.

In April of 1983, traveling north to Bouna to help in an evangelistic campaign, he stopped off in Bondoukou. In conversation with a friend, he confided that he had about decided to give up the ministry, since he was no longer able to carry on as he should. He would return to his home village to die. Nevertheless, he continued on to Bouna to help in the campaign.

During the time at Bouna, Jean became very ill. Our missionaries did lab work on him at the dispensary at Doropo. Sherwood Lee tentatively diagnosed his condition to be kidney failure. They decided to take him on to another mission hospital to confirm the diagnosis. There the doctors told Jean that the chronic kidney failure was advanced. They indicated he had only a short time to live, 18 months to two years at most. So, he finally knew!

Jean accepted the news with courage and confidence in the Lord, and with a certain sense of relief. Upon returning to Goumere, Christians came from many villages to see him. They were amazed at how calm he was, even cheerful! Quiet acceptance. No panic! This is unheard of in Africa when death is imminent.

A government doctor in Bondoukou, upon learning of Jean's condition, mentioned the possibility of a dialysis machine at Abidjan that might help him. Informed about this, Jean consulted with brother Christians and decided to go see if there could be any help available at Abidjan, the capital. Before leaving, the Christians

at Bondoukou assured Jean that if anything happened to him they would take care of Teresa and Gedeon. She accompanied Jean to Abidjan; Gedeon stayed with Pastor Victor in Bondoukou.

During the next four months, Jean was put on the dialysis machine three times a week. But his physical condition steadily deteriorated. Christians everywhere prayed.

“Don't cry for Jean! Cry for yourselves and prepare for the day God calls you into His presence!”

At the annual church convention, the churches decided to assume responsibility for the family's material needs. Money was sent by all the groups of Christians. Missionaries and friends in the U.S. sent funds. Jean and Teresa were overwhelmed by the love and concern expressed by everyone. In the midst of trouble, they saw the goodness and mercy of God and recognized His loving care for them.

We visited Jean often at Abidjan in spite of the 600-mile round trip. He weakened rapidly, dropping into a semi-comatose state. The Christians sent someone to be with his faithful wife Teresa at all times so she would not be alone in caring for him.

The doctors were very impressed with this young Christian couple and did everything they could to help.

Finally, the day came when a nurse mentioned to Teresa that it looked like it was useless to keep Jean there any longer. She too sensed that Jean was losing strength fast.

On August 15, Teresa telephoned us and asked the Christian brothers to help her make the decision if Jean should be brought home to die. “I can't make this decision by myself,” she said. Immediately we made preparations to go to Abidjan along with Pastor Victor to help Teresa with this difficult decision. Everyone upcountry was of the opinion he should be brought home. This is a common practice in Africa.

When Victor got to the hospital, he and Teresa talked with Jean about coming home. Jean was in a semi-comatose state and was suffering from a hearing impairment. They were finally able to communicate to him what the medical workers had told them and asked him what he thought. He hesitated, then after reflexion, agreed courageously that it was better to return to Bondoukou and die among his friends.

The doctors were notified of the decision and began helping us make the necessary arrangements for Jean's release and transfer: an ambulance with medics for the 15-mile trip to the airport, plane reservations, tickets, special permission to transport a sick person on a stretcher, accompanying doctor, health certificate, etc.

That night we went to the hospital. Jean was too weak to talk or keep his eyes open. Before we left, Teresa asked Jean if he wanted to pray.

Continued on page 4 →

→Continued from page 3

"Why do you ask me that now: you've been praying for me?" And he closed his eyes again. Nothing more was said to that effect.

Over the years he continued to weaken. The problem haunted and frustrated him.

While we waited near Jean's bed, he suddenly raised up and said, "Let us pray." In a strong voice that took exertion and concentration on his part, he prayed, "Lord, Giver of Life, you give life and you take life. You gave me my life and now, Lord, take me to be with you. In the name of our Savior, amen."

God's Spirit hovered over us in that room. In our sorrow, we wept tears of gratitude and praise. Jean's faith was strong in his last hours.

According to arrangements we transferred Jean by plane to Bondoukou, and a young doctor offered to accompany him. A group of about 40 Christians and missionaries met the plane at Bondoukou and an ambulance took the ailing young preacher to the church parsonage. Teresa was overcome by the loving concern of everyone for them. Now there were many shoulders to carry the burden; she was no longer alone.

A powerful heart stimulant had revived Jean enough for him to recognize his six-year-old son as well as many others. He was able even to say a few words to some.

The accompanying doctor said goodbye the next day. He had been intrigued by Jean and Teresa's testimony and courage. Now, the doctor was surrounded by loving, caring Christians who showed him they knew how to die as well as live. He was touched by our words and gifts, especially a New Testament. He promised to get in contact with us later.

During the next 36 hours, the Christians worked together caring for Jean, taking care of details for the funeral and surrounding Teresa with their love. But death tightened its grip and Jean's spirit was released from pain and suffering at 1:20 a.m., August 20, 1983.

We organized into committees responsible for funeral details. A nurse helped prepare the body for burial. Transportation was secured for 65 people who went from Bondoukou to accompany the body to Taoudi, Jean's home village, for burial. We stayed behind to bring Pastor Koffi David who had difficulty getting from Bouna to Bondoukou.

It was already dark when we arrived at Taoudi. The Christians there had done a fantastic job of organizing to receive some 250 visitors who were arriving from all our churches. We were taken to our lodgings and a hot meal was brought to us shortly.

The first service began about 9:00 p.m. It lasted until about 6:30 the next morning. Five messages were preached by five different preachers. Singing filled the time between the messages. Several hundred people participated. An estimated 200 stayed awake all night. Shortly after daylight, we

stopped for breakfast and a bath. How refreshing!

At 8:30 we started again. People were still arriving from Agnibilekrou, Goumere, Doropo, etc. After singing, I (Jimmy) preached to the crowd of at least 1,000 people. Most were unbelievers! I asked them to raise their hand if they had ever heard Jean explain the gospel at least once. Hundreds of hands went up. I told them that what he had preached was God's message to man. "You'll be judged by those words," I warned. I invited them to repent of their sins and believe on Jean's Savior. Many were touched.

They were amazed at how calm he was, even cheerful! This is unheard of in Africa when death is imminent.

Pastor Victor preached again. He reminded the crowd that Jean was not killed by evil spirits, but called home to his eternal rest by a loving Father.

We had both preached while standing behind Jean's casket. The air was electrified by God's presence. Five people later repented. We challenged others to follow Jean's example of laying down their lives in service for God to their people.

After this service, loving hands lifted the casket and placed it in the pickup truck for the cortege to the burial site. Christians followed the truck singing hymns. Then came family and friends from the village. Several hundred made the trip to the burial site.

Normally, women in the

Ivory Coast do not participate in this. But since it was a Christian burial, many, including unbelievers, were present at the grave.

Pastor Victor told of God's faithfulness to Jean, and pointed out the faithful woman God had given him as his wife. Victor had seen her leave her home and for four months wait on Jean hand and foot, day and night. Jean had said to her one day at the hospital, "I didn't know you loved me so much."

In pagan culture, when a man becomes incapacitated, the woman usually takes him back to his family and the family cares for him until he dies. Few of the people present, whether Christian or pagan, had ever heard of an African woman showing Teresa's kind of devotion to her husband.

"She kept her vow," Victor said, " 'til death do us part!' She is no longer married for her husband is gone. She is no longer bound to the body that we are burying here today. She will never again be married to Jean, neither here on earth, nor in heaven. The marriage relationship is valid only on earth and death brings it to an irreversible end." The crowd listened in stunned silence.

Then Victor introduced Teresa. We were all shocked. Everyone strained to hear her voice. She spoke calmly, with deep emotion: "Marriage isn't a permanent way of life. One partner is taken and the other left. Rarely does God call them both at the same time. Prepare yourself now for this separation. Death is not an unusual thing. All of us will experience it. Don't be

surprised when it happens and say, 'Why did God let this happen to me?' Trust the Lord now and every day. Then, when you walk in the valley of death, you'll not be unusually disturbed. I only did what I could for the man I loved. Do the same for your partner while you can. Thank you all for your help and love to us."

Grown men and women wept openly and unashamedly.

Death tightened its grip and Jean was released from pain and suffering.

Victor said, "Don't cry for Jean! He is now at peace. He has received his reward and is in eternal bliss. Cry for yourselves and prepare for the day God calls you into His presence! Repent of your sins if you ever expect to see Jean again!"

With that, the casket was lowered into the concrete grave and the cement slab was slid into place. Jean's body will wait there for the resurrection promised by the Lord.

Back in the village, one villager remarked: "We thought Jean was a vagabond. We didn't know he was loved and respected until we saw how the Christians cared for him during his illness and how they buried him."

Another said, "Jean tried many times to convince me to be a believer. Now he is gone and I am still not a believer."

The family was pleasantly shocked and relieved when the Christians assumed total

responsibility for the funeral expense. Then, another pagan custom was stopped short! Normally, the widow wears only a short loin cloth for a period varying from three months to three years according to the village. She has to cry twice daily, morning and evening. She becomes the slave of the departed husband's family during this time, working in their fields. Also, she prepares meals and takes them to the tomb for the spirit of the departed.

In order to spare Teresa all these customs, the church assumed complete responsibility for her, including all living expenses. All of our local Free Will Baptist churches have been contributing to a special account set up for this purpose.

In retrospect, God's working in the life and death of Jean Baptiste has shown both Christians and pagans His sustaining grace. What He intends to bring about in the days ahead as a result of these circumstances only He knows. But we are sure that this will all resound to His glory and the Ivory Coast church will undoubtedly reap the benefits. □

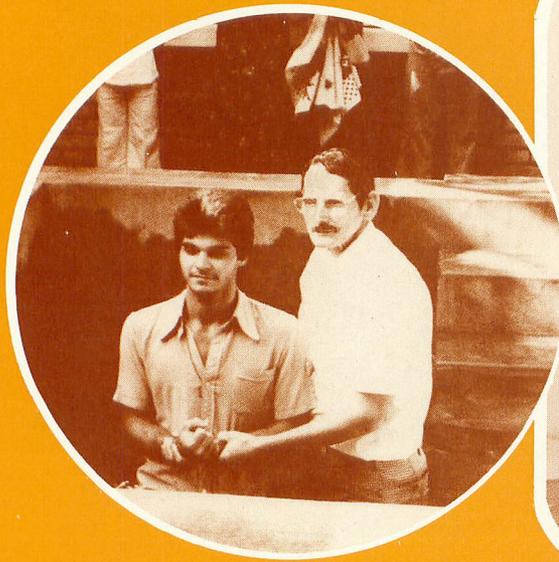
HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

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DESTINATION: BOLIVIA!

by Ken Eagleton



A cloudless sky graced the morning of September 28, 1983 in Araras, Sao Paulo, Brazil. The 68-degree temperature invigorated us as the Cessna 206 Stationaire began to taxi off the green grass apron in front of the hangar.

It was 8:06 a.m. and CP-1436 would be taking off in just four more minutes. A light breeze blew across the runway but I doubted it would have any appreciable effect on the plane as it took off from the dirt runway of the local airport.

That plane, destined for Bolivia, carried equipment and tools to be used to service the plane in its missionary aviation ministry. Also aboard that plane were two Christian pilots. And both had been saved in the Araras Free Will Baptist Church.

Aboard the plane were two Christian pilots. Both were saved in the Araras FWB Church.

Lelis Fachini was to go as pilot-observer, as he explained to me. His father was the first Free Will Baptist convert in Araras, and his family was among the charter members when the church was organized in 1965. I had been privileged to teach Lelis in our Bible Institute in Jaboticabal in 1967.

In the intervening years Lelis had become the first Brazilian missionary pilot with Asas de Socorro (Wings of Help), the Brazilian branch of Mission Aviation Fellowship. He presently serves as their flight

instructor. He had prepared the other young man Waldemar Travitzki, Junior, for this hour. And he would spend the next two weeks helping Waldemar set up his base of operations in Bolivia. He would also check out flight routes and landing strips.

Travitzki was to be in command of the plane. Junior and his two brothers were saved at our Free Will Baptist youth camp in Jaboticabal. His father and mother were saved at our church.

The parents were greatly influenced in their decision by the change in the lives of their children, especially Junior. During camp in January, 1979, Junior felt called to be a missionary pilot, but his father, not yet saved, wanted him to get into an industrial engineering school. So, he would not consent to Junior's going into full-time Christian service. Since Junior needed three years of Bible training, as well as his technical training, to get in the missions program he wanted, I began Bible classes for him at church. We also set up a prayer chain for his father's conversion and consent. We were to wait a year for his consent and yet another two months for his conversion.

Junior spent many hours studying and getting practical training in the shop as an aviation mechanic. Then he took more years of Bible training, and passed certification and tests for private and commercial pilot's licenses and instructor's rating. Finally Junior was accepted as a missionary pilot with Asas de Socorro on June 12, 1983. I

was proud that day with his father and mother in that service. I was also proud to be a part of the ministers who laid their hands on Junior for missionary service.

I choked back tears as "goose bumps" rose on my arms.

Now, they were at the end of the runway—the two of them—making final flight checks. Suddenly, the motor roared in response to a full throttle and the plane rapidly gained momentum, then was airborne.

As the Cessna passed by the small band of Christian loved ones—pastors, family members and friends—gathered to bid the young men farewell, a big lump swelled up in my throat. I choked back the tears as "goose bumps" rose on my arms. I was grateful to God for that precious occasion. I stood with the others for long minutes as we watched the plane circle the field, make its last pass over the runway and disappear on the horizon, bearing precious seed to the regions beyond.

Now, I felt assured Indians of the Aymore tribe would get to hear the gospel. The missionary pilot would be available to take the workers to their field of ministry. And the Lord had permitted me to have a part in it all.□

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.

CAN I GET THERE FROM HERE?*

by Jimmy Aldridge
Revised by Don Robirds

Part II

The call and prerequisites for missionary service were discussed at length in the November 1983 *Heartbeat*. Now, note the procedure to follow in order to get to the mission field.

Steps to the Field

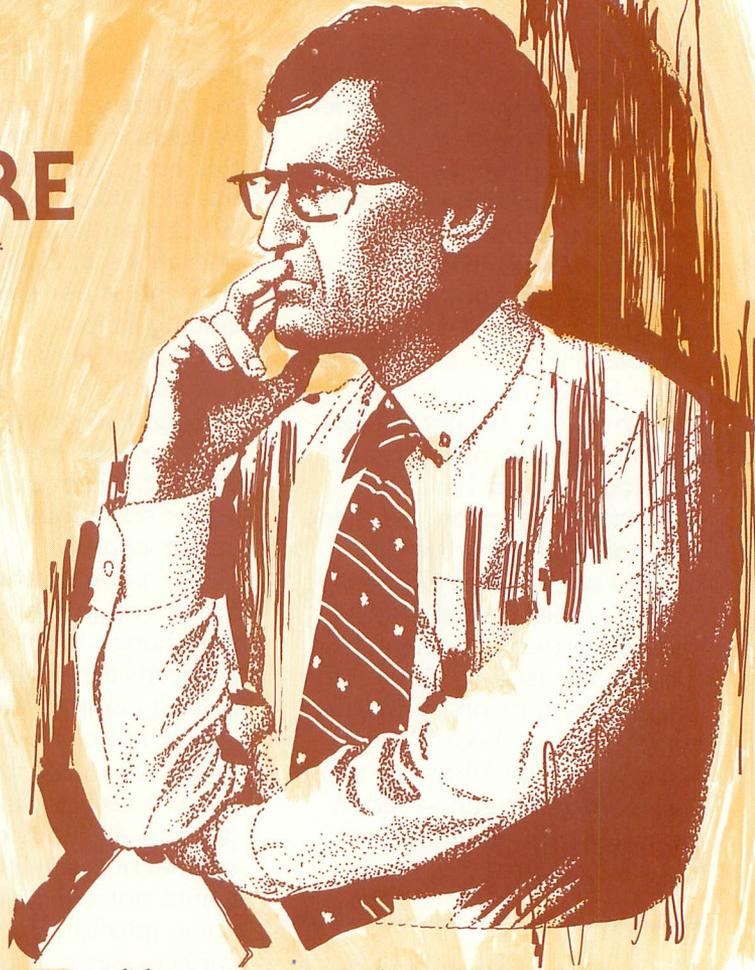
Step one. Whenever you are reasonably sure of the call to foreign missions service, you should evaluate your personal qualifications for service and contact the Department of Foreign Missions. Let them know of your interest and seek their advice on how to proceed toward fulfilling God's plan for your life.

Counsel will be given regarding your educational requirements and a time will be suggested for you to fill out an initial information form. Once this information form is submitted, you are brought into a tentative relationship with the foreign missions department for prayer, counsel, and board planning. As you maintain intermittent contact, the general director will advise you as to the feasibility of pursuing appointment.

While you are training at college, you should consider participating in the summer missionary program. A personal visit to the foreign missions office could provide valuable help in understanding God's plan for your life.

Step two. When you have completed your educational requirements and have at least begun your practical experience, you should proceed toward formal application. This involves a personal appointment and interview with the general director. Upon his recommendation, you should submit a preliminary application.

A psychological stability and aptitude test is administered in the home office at the time of interview with the general director. References which you have submitted as the prospective



candidate are processed. A preliminary medical examination for you and your family are next on the agenda and medical forms are supplied by the office.

Step three. When the preliminary application, psychological evaluation, medical examination, and references are in, they are reviewed by the candidate committee of the Board of Foreign Missions. Upon favorable action of the committee, you will then be referred to as a candidate and will be asked to make final application.

Final application involves filling out a detailed information form and completing a more extensive medical examination of the entire family. A personal interview with the candidate committee will be arranged if this information appears favorable. On the basis of this interview, the final application, and the medical reports, the committee makes its recommendation to the board.

Step four. In the light of its findings from these reports, etc., the committee will recommend missionary internship training, some

other program that will best meet your situation, and/or the Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions orientation program.

Step five. After a favorable review of the former reports along with the orientation reports, foreign mission staff member reports, and self-evaluation report forms, the candidate committee will recommend your appointment by the board.

Step six. The board will then take action on these recommendations in one of three ways: (1) if the board deems you unqualified for appointment, it will reject your final application; (2) if you are deemed to be basically qualified with some reservations or if the present field needs do not fit your capabilities, your application may be continued on an active status with the recommendations for remedial action and a time will be set for reconsideration; (3) if you are considered qualified and fitted for such needs as are evidenced on the field, you will be approved for service on a particular field as indicated through consultation with the field council.

Step seven. Upon final appointment, you will be required to attend a scheduled formal orientation session of no less than one week. Deputation to raise necessary finances will then begin. In consultation with the general director, the time for formal commissioning will be tentatively set. Prior to this official commissioning, your standing will be reviewed. Provided no unfavorable reports arise, you will be recommended for commissioning. The commissioning will include the signing of a statement of faith and the commitment to service.

Going to the Field

Free Will Baptist foreign missionaries receive their support from the people and churches of the denomination through a missions account. After appointment to missionary service, you will visit churches to share your burden for your ministry abroad and the challenge you feel for the particular country where you will serve. As God touches their hearts, they will respond with financial support and they will enter a ministry of intercessory prayer for you. This establishes a beautiful relationship between the "sent one" and the "sending ones." The Body of Christ is thus fulfilling its task.

The field of service will be finally determined

in consideration of your preference as you discern God's will and according to the needs for additional personnel on the particular fields. No missionary will be sent to any field where we have missionaries without a request from the field council. And your qualifications and abilities will have to be commensurate with these needs.

Once you reach the field, a special committee from the field council will give direction regarding language acquisition. A minimum of one year in full-time language study is required where English is not the official language.

After you complete language school, the language acquisition committee will give you direction regarding acquiring greater proficiency in that language. An orientation committee will also help you adjust to living and ministering in your new cross-cultural setting. The first term, in most cases, might be considered a period of internship, orientation, and adjustment.

Normal terms of service abroad range from three to five years with the board being the final authority for determining such terms. Terms are determined on the basis of area of service, missionary needs, and the arrangement of replacement personnel for furloughing missionaries. During your furlough (usually one year) you will review with the "sending ones" what God is doing on your field of service and renew your support base for a subsequent term of service.

For many, effectiveness is not obtained until late in the first term or in the second term. But even then, the board has noted that those who have met all of the basic qualifications tend to be the most fruitful and steadfast missionaries.

While serving on the foreign field, your needs will be supplied from your base support. These include your personal allowance, housing, transportation, medical, educational, and ministry allowances. Detailed information concerning these basic provisions may be obtained by consulting the Free Will Baptist foreign missions staff.

If God is speaking to you concerning missionary service, the foreign missions staff stands ready to give you advice or counsel. Write to: General Director, Department of Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202. □

*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.

Missionaries Serving and Where They Serve

BRAZIL, SOUTH AMERICA

Louis and Florine Coscia	Tommy and Nancy Hughes
Jim and Karen Cowart	John and Kay Metcalf*
Earnie and Jean Deeds	Jim and Susan Moser***
Ken and Marvis Eagleton	Bobby and Geneva Poole
Terry and Jamie Eagleton* **	Jim and Vicki Sturgill
Dave and Pat Franks	

FRANCE, EUROPE

Cathy Crawford*	John and Pansy Murray
Allan and LaRue Crowson	Steve and Becky Riggs*
Jerry and Barbara Gibbs	Charolette Tallent
Tom and Patty McCullough***	Dennis and Carol Teague*
Lynn and Ramona Miley	Patsy Vanhook

NORTH INDIA

Carlisle and Marie Hanna

IVORY COAST, WEST AFRICA

Jimmy and Janie Aldridge***	Clint and Lynette Morgan
Elaine Allen***	Darrel and Lila Nichols*
Robert and Judy Bryan***	Eddie and Sandra Payne
Mike and Deleen Cousineau***	Jerry and Carol Pinkerton
Mark and Donna Daniel*	Norman and Bessie Richards
Patrick and Susan Dickens	Alice Faye Smith
Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson	Dawn Sweeney*
David and Sharon Filkins*	Robert and Pam West* **
Neil and Sheila Gilliland	Arlita Wode
Sherwood and Vada Lee	

JAPAN

Ken and Judy Bailey*	Fred and Evelyn Hersey
Jerry and Janice Banks	Jim and Olena McLain
Dale and Sandra Bishop	Judy Smith
Mirial Gainer**	

PANAMA, CENTRAL AMERICA

Stan and Brenda Bunch*	Steve and Judy Lytle
Larry and Priscilla Inscoc***	

SPAIN, EUROPE

Ron and Linda Callaway	Lonnie and Anita Sparks
Lynn Midgett*	Jeff and Susan Turnbough
Dennis and Trena Owen***	

URUGUAY, SOUTH AMERICA

Molly Barker***	Walter and Marcia Ellison
Rick and Linda Bowling*	Paul and Amy Robinson

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

Special Gifts to Missions

These people gave special gifts to foreign missions in November in memory of friends or loved ones:

Donor	In Memory of
Jewell Sexton Chapmansboro, Tenn.	James A. Webb
Mr. and Mrs. Jarman Goodman Chapmansboro, Tenn.	James A. Webb
White Hill FWB Teens Upora, Miss.	Bodie Eubanks

Clip and Mail Coupon

Memorial Gift to Foreign Missions

Amount \$ _____ Date _____
 Given in memory/honor of _____
 Given by: Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Please send memorial/honorary card to:
 Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

HEARTLINE

Nineteen hundred and eighty-four is opening new opportunities and challenges to the church.

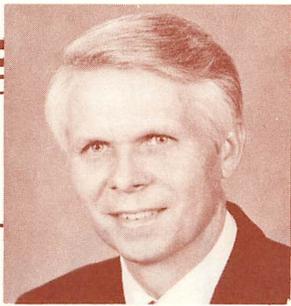
However, sometimes we feel like an unprepared quarterback without a game plan. He spends most of his time trying to elude the outstretched hands of the rushing defense. The rush of routine responsibilities and unexpected problems seem to constantly throw us for a loss.

Many Christian leaders have found goal-setting to be a valuable exercise. By setting a goal we express our faith in the God of the future. We build our life on a hope. A goal often prompts us to pray harder and believe God for greater things. Goals keep us on course. They help prevent us from wasting time and energy. They help us arrange our priorities. Goals give us a yardstick by which to measure progress.

I hope your church has already set goals for 1984. If not, perhaps you can spark some interest in getting some goals written down and publicized. And be sure to include world missions in your list. Obeying the great commission should be a top priority for every church. Passages such as Matthew 28:19,20 and Acts 1:8 form a solid foundation for such goals. I suggest you begin with missionary education in the local church. Every leader wants to see people develop a deeper burden for the lost. He desires a greater awareness of what God is doing in the world. To accomplish this, some pastors set a goal to preach on missions periodically.

Pastor Bob Trimble of Friendship Free Will Baptist Church in Flint, Mich. and member of our foreign missions board said, "I propose to preach on missions often (about once a month) and keep our missionary program in focus at all times."

Goal setting can be a very important part of planning for a missionary conference. Some areas, such as the Pamlico Association of North Carolina, set specific goals for the conference. Each church will project an amount which they



R. Eugene Waddell
Associate Director

hope to raise in cash offerings toward participant and conference expenses. Some areas also project a faith-promise goal for each church. It is cause for celebration when pastors gather at the conclusion to share goals attained.

Concerning one of his goals for the First Free Will Baptist Church of Amory, Miss., Pastor Eddie Vincent says, "As pastor, I have set a goal in our church to help our families see the need to adopt a missionary family and support them on a monthly basis. We are trying to center our attention on regional support."

Another vital mark for which we should aim is found in the challenge of our Lord: "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest" Matthew 9:38. Although we cannot call missionaries, we can pray for them to be called and provide a climate where young people are exposed to the needs of a world without Christ. Perhaps one goal could be to provide at least one opportunity for the young people of your church to hear and interact with a missionary.

Many would agree with Pastor Dennis Wiggs from the Heritage church, Williamsburg, Va., who says one of his goals is "seeing God call young people out of our church to the mission field. I desire to lay my hands on the heads of as many young people as possible in dedicating them to some specific missionary service."

In setting missionary goals, let me make a few observations. Approach the task prayerfully. Proverbs 3:6 offers good advice at this point: "In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths."

Involve other key leaders in the church in the goal-setting process. To succeed, it is essential that the membership of the church adopt the goals as their own and not simply see them as "the pastor's goals."

Finally, when goals are set, keep reminding everyone involved that success comes from the Lord. Give Him the option of making a mid-course correction if our goals are not satisfactory to Him.

Financial Summary Through November 30

Substance

Contributions in Nov.	\$ 194,324.42
Total contributions through Nov.	2,139,276.93
Total disbursements	1,999,644.25
Projected receipts	2,325,582.44
Total 1983 Budget	\$2,527,807.00

Shortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Bishop	\$ 3,417.21	McCullough	3,601.20
Cousineau	473.90	Webb	12,779.65
Hersey	2,556.21		
Total			\$22,828.17

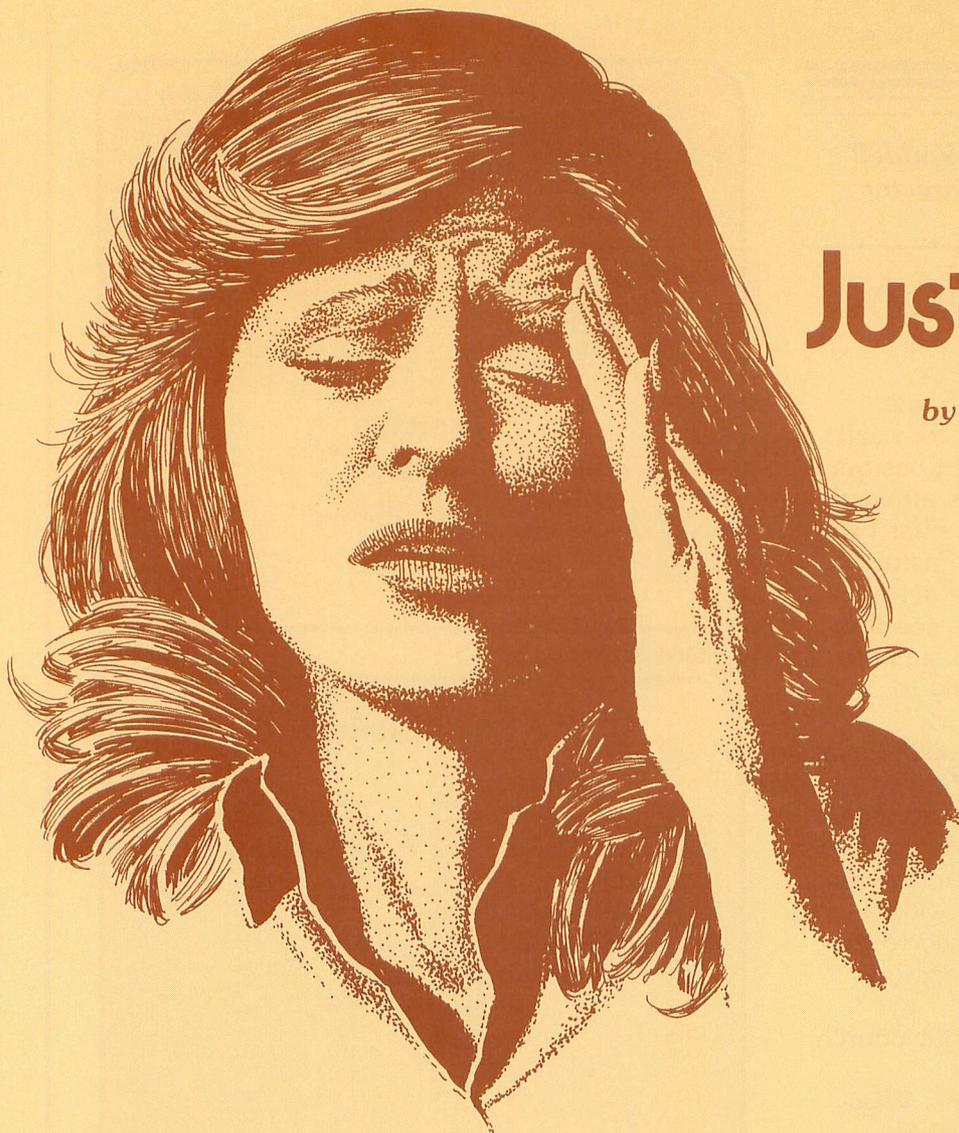
1984 Budget \$2,714,688

State Quotas

State	Receipts Through November	1983 Quota	1984 Monthly Quota	1984 Quota
Alabama	\$ 109,166.56	\$ 159,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 150,000
Arizona	1,316.77	3,000	292	3,500
Arkansas	116,534.29	123,000	12,083	145,000
California	30,298.47	60,000	4,167	50,000
Canada	1,448.93	2,000	167	2,000
Colorado	2,166.62	4,000	333	4,000
Florida	61,727.79	70,000	6,333	76,000
Georgia	71,132.50	80,000	7,500	90,000
Hawaii	362.04	1,000	84	1,000
Idaho	502.54	1,500	84	1,000
Illinois	63,343.01	83,000	7,500	90,000
Indiana	18,370.52	21,000	2,000	24,000
Iowa	550.08	1,000	42	500
Kansas	8,773.41	14,000	1,000	12,000
Kentucky	58,506.75	66,000	6,250	75,000
Louisiana	10.00	1,000	42	500
Maryland	9,341.81	11,000	1,000	12,000
Michigan	88,464.31	110,000	10,083	121,000
Minnesota	10.00	500	25	300
Mississippi	32,647.75	36,000	3,333	40,000
Missouri	155,363.47	145,000	14,583	175,000
Montana	419.32	1,000	84	1,000
New Mexico	155.36	500	42	500
*Northeast Assn.	3,513.00	9,000	584	7,000
**Northwest Assn.	2,383.34	9,500	584	7,000
North Carolina	295,003.43	355,000	29,167	350,000
Ohio	98,829.64	80,000	8,333	100,000
Oklahoma	251,051.49	315,000	29,167	350,000
Pennsylvania	1,385.84	1,000	167	2,000
South Carolina	137,903.85	164,000	15,833	190,000
Tennessee	345,062.86	325,000	30,333	364,000
Texas	54,837.61	64,000	5,833	70,000
Virginia	66,046.35	98,000	7,500	90,000
Virgin Islands	1,525.37	1,000	125	1,500
West Virginia	56,624.90	89,000	7,083	85,000
Miscellaneous	2,071.82	23,807	1,988	23,888
Totals	\$2,146,851.80	\$2,527,807	\$226,224	\$2,714,688

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

**Northwest Association
Alaska, Oregon and Washington



Just Hold On!

by Geneva Poole

had been on hand at that time. They wondered if they should have called the pastor so he could contact the lady. Then they realized they had forgotten to get her telephone number. How stupid it made them feel!

Before they could stop talking to each other about the call, the telephone rang again.

"Thank you. Thank you very much." It was the same voice! "That message was what I

The church telephone rang. Celia, the cleaning lady, knew no one else was in the church except her janitor husband since it was a Friday afternoon.

"Hello," she responded.

"Please do something to help!" blurted the voice on the other end. "I was planning to take my life when I decided to call this number. If you can't help me, I'm going to commit suicide!"

Celia was not a Christian at that time and had no way of helping.

"Just hold on!" she exclaimed. "Don't take your

life! I'll find someone to talk to you."

Leaving the receiver off the hook, she ran up the stairs calling for her husband, Benedito, who was cleaning another part of the building. Between gasps for breath, she quickly told him the story.

Immediately, he hurried down the stairs and grabbed the phone. In the short conversation that followed, he asked the woman to dial the Call-hope numbers and listen to the messages.

Later, Celia and Benedito voiced their disappointment that no one from the church

"Just hold on! Don't take your life! I'll find someone to talk to you."

needed. It helped! Thank you. Good-bye."

Many people have found an answer to a spiritual need through the Call-hope telephone ministry of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil. Many have received peace in their hearts because someone cared enough to provide the answering machines which give recorded messages of hope in Christ. □

Lorient Group Finds Building for Services

France—According to an October report from missionary Lynn Miley and short-term missionary Tim Thompson in Lorient, France, they have finally located and leased a store-front building for services. The group has been meeting in the Miley home.

The building has four rooms and a bathroom. According to Tim, they repapered the walls and were hoping to begin services in the building by December 1.

Lynn related the reluctance of the owner to rent to them for fear of their being a cult. He finally agreed to a 23-month lease with certain restrictions.

Plans were being laid to distribute 40,000 gospel tracts throughout the Lorient area before Christmas. The tracts give the new location in addition to the gospel message.

Church Building Improved; Other Property Donated

Brazil—Improvements on the church building in Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil, were reported by missionaries Earnie and Jean Deeds, who returned to Brazil in September of 1983. The pitched roof and the walls in the auditorium have been completed.

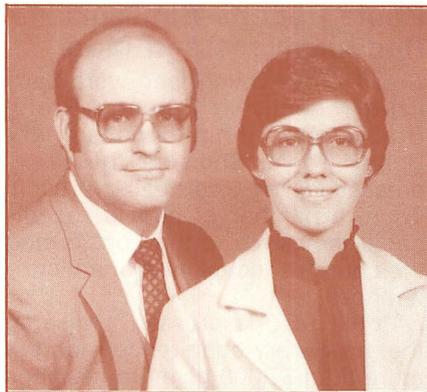
The Deeds also noted a small piece of property had been donated to the church. An elderly layman who had been trying to start a work on his own on the outer edge of Lafaiete had suffered a stroke and couldn't carry on services. Consequently, he gave the property, including a chapel, to the church.

While the building improvements and the new property brought satisfaction, Earnie expressed concern for the weakened general spiritual condition of the church group.

Morgan Cites Plans for Evangelistic Push

Ivory Coast—Missionary Clint Morgan revealed plans in November to begin a special "evangelistic push" in the Doropo area following special classes he has been teaching on fundamentals of the faith and guidelines for a Christian funeral.

According to Morgan, he plans to prepare four teams of Christian wit-



Jerry and Janice Banks left for Japan on December 27 to begin their third term of service.

nesses. One team will be responsible for each road to go from village to village with the gospel. Clint's goal is to see at least one church established along each of these four roads.

In addition to teaching the classes, Clint has been involved in counseling. "I really feel inadequate in that area," says Morgan, "but it is the area that had been most demanding this term. Please pray that God will give special wisdom as we try to deal with these problems."

Susan Turnbough's Health Improved but Not Sure

Spain—In a brief letter in November, Jeff Turnbough indicated his wife Susan had improved somewhat from her kidney infection. Doctors attributed the infection to several unrelated things happening at the same time.

Jeff indicated further tests were to be made but doctors hoped the pain would go away and the blood pressure would soon go down.

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Nashville, Tenn.—Becky Robinson Holland and her son, Paul, left Nashville on November 17 for Uruguay to visit her parents, missionaries Paul and Amy Robinson. They were scheduled to return to the U.S. on December 17.

Japan—Mr. Kurosaki, acting pastor of Abashiri Free Will Baptist Church on the island of Hokkaido, was scheduled to be ordained at the yearly Hokkaido FWB Association meeting in January. Kurosaki is

working as an evangelist in addition to pastoring the Abashiri church.

Brazil—Ken and Marvis Eagleton have scheduled a short furlough from Brazil to begin around the first of April.

Panama—"October was the best month, attendance wise, that we've ever had in Betania," writes missionary Steve Lytle from the Panama City suburb in Panama. "We averaged 57.8 for preaching service and a full house every Sunday night."

Uruguay—A "houseful" was on hand October 30 for the inauguration service of the new building opened for church services in Montevideo, Uruguay. A ham radio report indicated some 119 people were present for the occasion.

Brazil—Missionary Dave Franks baptized two people on October 30 in Barbacena, Brazil.

Timmons ville, S.C.—Ronnie Joe Lee, 48-year-old brother of missionary Sherwood Lee, died on Friday, November 25 in Timmons ville, S.C. after an extended illness. Funeral services were held on November 26.

Nashville, Tenn.—Mark Riggs of Russellville, Ala. has been appointed to short-term missionary service with the Lonnie Sparks family in Spain. Mark will be enrolled in the University of Madrid and will work with students in conjunction with the Alcala Free Will Baptist Church. Lonnie and Anita Sparks have been on short furlough but will be back at the church this month.

Spain—The young people of the Alcala de Henares Free Will Baptist
Continued on page 14 →

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—>Continued from page 13

Church in Spain presented a Christmas play for the new group at Mostoles on December 18. On December 25 they presented the same program for the Alcalá church. A few children from the Mostoles congregation also participated in the program.

India—Donald Hanna and his wife, Milly, were scheduled to spend December and January in India as Don was to serve in a Christian hospital in western India. They planned to spend some time in Sonapurhat with Don's parents, missionaries Carlisle and Marie Hanna.

Japan—Miss Judy Smith underwent an appendectomy on Friday, December 2, in Sapporo, Japan. At last report she was "doing fine," but she spent several days in the hospital.

Nashville, Tenn.—According to Don Robirds, director of communications for foreign missions, production of two new film programs has begun. A new 35mm filmstrip on the field of Spain and a 35mm slide program on Uruguay should be available in the spring of 1984.

Ivory Coast—Jonathan and Nancy Burmeister, Wycliffe Bible translators in the Ivory Coast, have most of the Agni New Testament in draft form but much revision work remains. This work could greatly aid FWB missionaries working in the area of Agnibilekrou.



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Poole Reports Baptisms, Rededications and More

Brazil—Four young men were baptized recently in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, according to missionary Bobby Poole. Some of these expressed feeling God's call to preach. Then, a number of people rededicated their lives to the Lord during the church's recent missionary conference.

Poole also expressed praise at the missionary conference report of more than \$2,000 given to missions during the first nine months of 1983.

Bobby and Geneva plan to return to the United States near the end of March to begin a short furlough.

Dickens Family Now Settled in Bondoukou

Ivory Coast—Patrick and Susan Dickens have made another move, this time from the Goumère station to Bondoukou. They are occupying the house formerly rented by Jimmy and Janie Aldridge, now on furlough. The Dickens will be involved in the established works in the area and hope to reach out to new villages.

According to a November report from Patrick, Susan has suffered her first attack of malaria since being in the Ivory Coast. He urged Christians to pray for her health and that of all the missionaries.

Missionary Appointments Mark Board Meeting

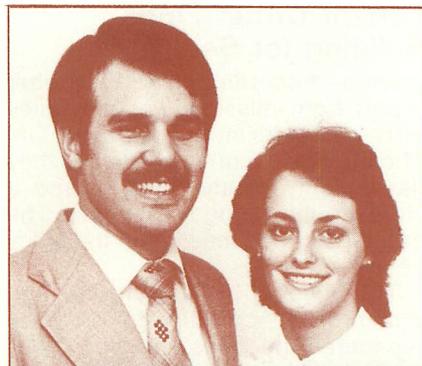
Nashville, Tenn.—Three regular missionary families and 16 summer missionaries were appointed at the semiannual session of the Board of Foreign Missions November 28-30 in Nashville.

Other action taken by the board included interviews with candidates as well as an interview with pioneer missionary Laura Belle Barnard regarding her recent trip to India.

These candidates were appointed to full missionary status:

David and Sharon Filkins of Missouri and Oklahoma were appointed to Ivory Coast. Missionary internship training, linguistic training and deputational arrangements are to be worked out with the foreign missions staff.

Dennis and Carol Teague of Illinois and Oklahoma were reappointed to France pending Carol's fulfillment



David and Sharon Filkins (top) were appointed to missionary service in the field of Ivory Coast, and Rick and Linda Bowling (bottom) were appointed to service in Uruguay.

of certain studies, the satisfactory completion of physical exams, and the processing of final papers. They served in France from 1975 through 1978. Dennis is completing studies in southern California.

Rick and Linda Bowling were appointed to the field of Uruguay. They are both from Alabama.

Sixteen summer missionaries were appointed:

Brazil—Glenda Humbles of New Mexico is to serve with the Jim Cowarts in Jaboticabal, Marsha Howell of North Carolina will be with Dave and Pat Franks in Belo Horizonte, Donna Langston of North Carolina is assigned to the Earnie Deeds family in Conselheiro Lafaiete, and Jonathan Powell of Texas and Jeff Hart of North Carolina will both serve with Jim and Vicki Sturgill in Campinas.

France—Scott McPeak of Virginia and Craig Mills of Missouri will serve with the Jerry Gibbs family in St. Nazaire, Walter Clinton of Mississippi and Randy Hill of Virginia will be with the John Murrays in Nantes, and Susan Keesling and Rebecca Nicholson both of Missouri are as-



Dennis and Carol Teague were re-appointed to missionary service in France.

signed to Miss Charolette Tallent in Lorient.

Ivory Coast—Cynthia Bell of California and Cindy Reynolds of Oklahoma will be serving with Eddie and Sandra Payne in Bouna while Darlene Corey of North Carolina and Terri Greene of Georgia are to serve with Alice Smith and Arilla Wode in Agnibilekrou.

Spain—Tom Bush of Oklahoma will serve with Ron Callaway in Mostoles.

In other action, the board accepted the resignation of Jerry and Janice Webb after two terms of service in France. They served one term in the area of Nantes and the second in the area of Lorient where Lynn and Ramona Miley and Miss Charolette Tallent are now working.

The board noted a new date for their annual session in 1984: April 23-26.

A motion was approved to send board member Bill Fulcher and Associate Director Eugene Waddell to the annual Cuban Association meeting in 1984. They also voted to give \$5,000 toward remodeling and reconstruction of the buildings of the Cedars of Lebanon Bible Institute in Cuba. This is to be given in honor of the Thomas H. Willeys who pioneered the work in Cuba.

Hughes Injured in Fall; Condition Better

Brazil—Missionary Tommy Hughes slipped and fell on Friday, November 11, while trying to catch an umbrella taken by the wind. Hughes suffered a concussion and a three-and-one-half inch gash on the head.

According to Nancy Hughes, Tommy was taken to the medical school hospital where he was treated and examined by a brain specialist. X-rays showed no frac-

tures but Tom suffered some temporary loss of memory. By Sunday, November 13, his memory was fine and he seemed "like himself."

Bishop and Abe Start New Convert Classes

Japan—A new convert class for those professing Christian faith was developed recently by Dale Bishop and Pastor Ben Abe of the Higashi Tsukisamu church on the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido.

According to Bishop, they have experienced an increase in attendance at the church recently and people seem to be awakening to their need of Jesus Christ.

Terry Eagleton Already Active in Araras Church

Brazil—Since arriving in Brazil in September of 1983, Brazilian-born associate missionary Terry Eagleton has already become active in the Araras Free Will Baptist Church. He is teaching in the Saturday night youth Bible study and has started several new convert classes.

Terry's wife, Jamie, has begun studying the Portuguese language by private tutor and is planning to enter formal language school in Campinas, Brazil, in January.

Callaway Shows Films, Reports Attendance Up

Spain—Missionary Ron Callaway reports increased attendance at the new work in Mostoles, Spain, as he has shown films on Sunday evenings.

"The last two Sundays we've had over 20 in attendance," says Callaway. And they had over 30 attending the Sunday evening film showings.

Ron requested special prayer for the families of Enrique and Tomas. They continue to attend and Callaway feels "they are close to salvation."

Aldridge Home; Doctors Order Rest, Medication

Jasper, Ala.—Ivory Coast missionary Jimmy Aldridge, home in Jasper, Ala. on early furlough due to health complications, is taking tetracycline and has been ordered to get plenty of rest. Doctors believe much of his problem stems from malaria, viral

encephalitis, and an undiagnosed tropical fever.

Jimmy and his wife, Janie, arrived in the United States on November 11 and spent several days in New York while Jimmy underwent numerous tests. He is under the care of New York Dr. John Frame, specialist in tropical diseases, and is expected to be under his supervision for some time.

General Director Smith to Minister in Brazil

Nashville, Tenn.—Rolla D. Smith, general director of foreign missions, is scheduled to leave on January 11 for Brazil and Uruguay. Rolla will be with the Walter Ellisons in Montevideo, Uruguay, January 11-15, then he will spend a few days with the Paul Robinsons at Rivera.

Smith will go from Rivera on to Brazil for the field council meeting in Jaboticabal.

The general director will be sharing information from the board and helping the field council determine future action toward their program of training national workers. He will also be ministering to the group during their session.

The FWB church in Araras has requested Rolla to speak in a three- or four-day missionary conference. And he hopes to visit and minister in each missionary home prior to his return to the United States on February 10.

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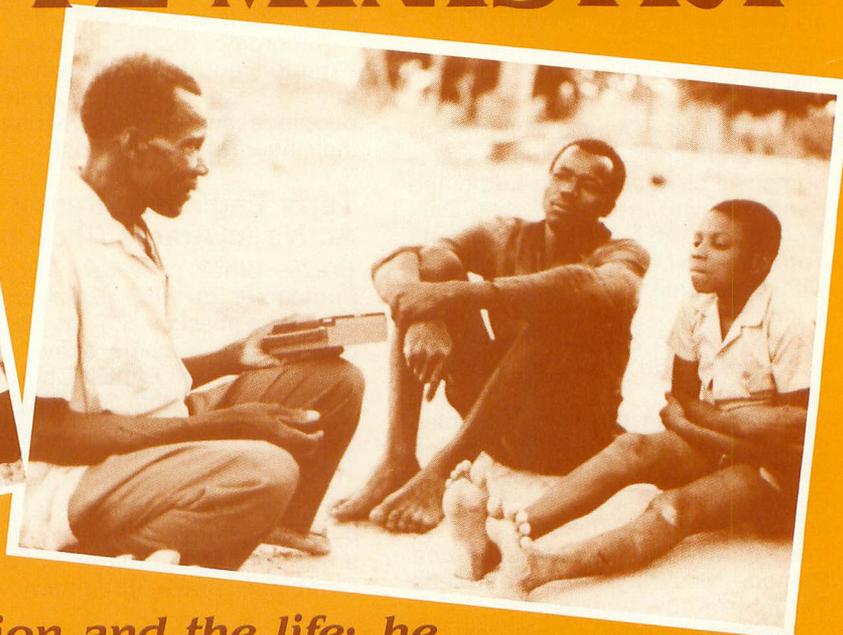
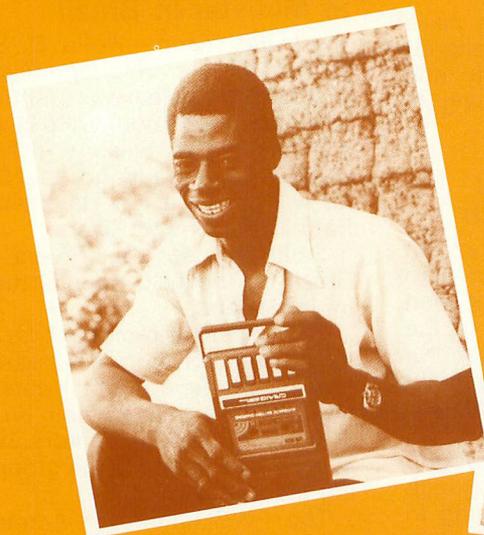
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Board of Foreign Missions: Bill Jones, chairman; Bob Trimble, vice-chairman; Jim Walker, secretary; Fred Warner, Dan Cronk, J. Reford Wilson, Bill Fulcher, Joe Ange, Norwood Gibson.

Administrative Staff: Rolla D. Smith, general director; R. Eugene Waddell, associate director; Don Robirds, director of communications; Earl Larson, treasurer-administrative assistant.

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