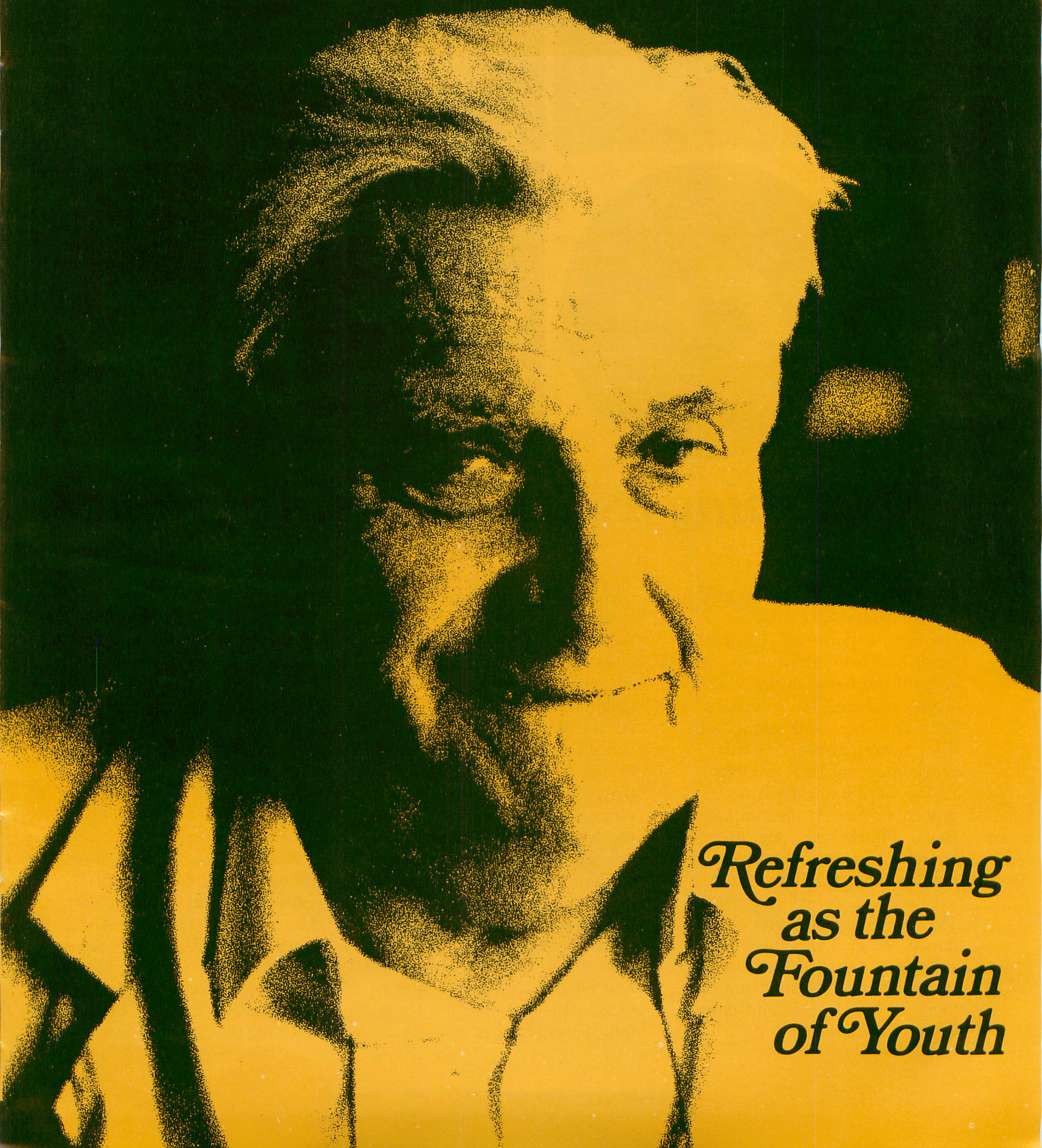


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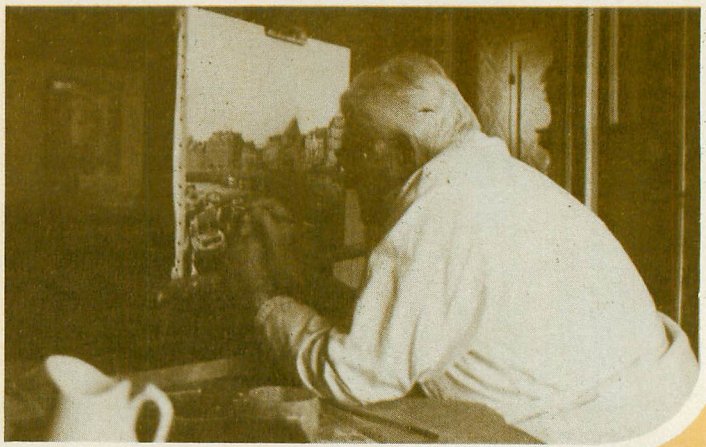
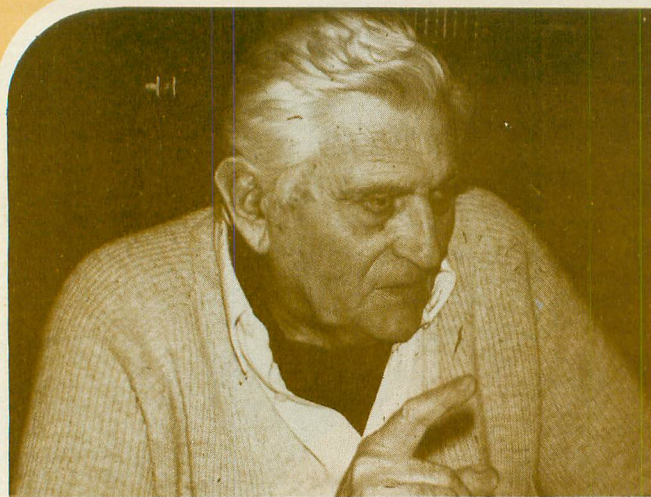
HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world



*Refreshing
as the
Fountain
of Youth*



Refreshing as the Fountain of Youth

by Edouard Michon

May 17, 1987 was special to me. It was a life-changing experience. The Holy Spirit had been at work in me without my being aware, but the "light came on." My questions were answered and, along with three other people, I openly proclaimed my faith in Christ. As we were baptized in a private swimming pool at La Baule, France, that day, the church observed our public commitment to follow Christ.

I was born on February 9, 1913, to a typically French family. When I was three years old, I was baptized Catholic by request of my parents, though they did not even attend church except for baptisms,

communion, weddings, and funerals. In other words, all they were after was a "good-conduct award" for heaven.

Out of our family of four children, three died while very young. Somehow I survived! But when I reached nine years of age my father died and I was placed in an orphanage for two years. During that time I received a strong Catholic education. I was an excellent student and even served as a choirboy. As I left the orphanage, the Mother Superior told me she was sure I would be a good "Christian" because I had been raised in the "fear of God." This bothered me for a long time. I wished someone

had talked to me of the love of God. But the world of the "good sisters" was hard and severe.

My youth was spent in better conditions in the city of La Baule. All that had happened in the orphanage and prior could have made me a vagabond, but in La Baule all those bad experiences of my childhood were taken away.

When I was 20 years of age I married—as a Catholic, of course. We had three children, the eldest of which is now 53 years of age. We didn't take our children to the Catholic church due to my previous ordeal at the orphanage, so we turned naturally toward the Protestant

church (the Reformed Church).

In the beginning, we experienced some real joy. We discovered the gospel of Christ and our children received a religious education in the church at La Baule.

I was a self-employed painter and had it easy financially, so we participated monetarily in our church. But about that time, my wife's health—already precarious—started worsening. A good, honest, Christian man in the church held the position as director of Naval Constructions at St. Nazaire. He offered me a job in his department. Evidently this man was inspired by the Lord as he knew of my wife's sickness. With this job I had good medical coverage which I lacked as a self-employed worker.

When we are together in prayer and singing, it is "like taking a bath in the fountain of youth."

In 1949 I took the job of chief painter in the Atlantic shipyards at St. Nazaire. We moved from La Baule and three months later I was promoted to foreman. My wife died in 1951 following 17 years of marriage. I was alone in St. Nazaire with three children. It was not easy! And then, praise the Lord, He gave me the person who later would become my wife.

Paule was a nice young lady from a Protestant family. She asked me to marry her and after some hesitation and heart-searching because of our age difference—19 years—I finally understood that it was the Lord's choice. We were married in a wooden barracks that was being used for the church.

Our church attendance at the Evangelical Popular Mission had slowly gone down. It seemed that the pastors there were being led astray into political and social attitudes that were far from Christian worship.

More and more we felt like strangers to the ideas and thinking of the church. The congregation was losing more and more people. Thus, the Reformed Church of St. Nazaire practically disappeared. It didn't even have a pastor. This continued for years.

At 63 years of age I retired from my job. During those years I had been unable to share the joys and worries of the church that I had abandoned. Then, several years ago our daughter Claire told us that she had met a nice pastor who had spoken to her because he had recognized her Protestant cross necklace. "He is American," she said. We wondered if he was coming to restart the "Brotherhood" of the Reformed Church.

My wife became very ill but the Lord intervened. When she was well, I became ill. That was about a year ago. I prayed to the Lord with all my soul that He would give me a little longer to live. My job wasn't over yet. The Lord answered my prayers as He had done for my wife.

As I lay sick in the hospital, Jerry Gibbs and Tom McCullough, accompanied by their wives, came to visit me. It was wonderful. God had sent them. I told the Lord that when I left the hospital, I would sing His praises with them in the church. And it happened. When I was finally discharged, I was walking on crutches. Now, I walk with a cane sometimes. But with the help of the pastors

we were led to the Free Will Baptist church where we have sung His praises. Praise the Lord! We rediscovered the right path.

When we talk about Baptists, we infer "baptism"—a conscious baptism. Our pastors made us aware of this, but we didn't see the necessity. And we refused to do this just to please them. That would mean nothing!

We are determined to build a church building so our church may Grow.

One day a Christian brother, Rino, was baptized. "Let's go see it," I said. I was curious. Standing in the church before we left, Therese, a lady who attends regularly, asked me if I had been baptized. I hesitated and said no, except my Catholic baptism. And I told her I had no notion to be baptized. Then I asked her, "Is it really important to the Lord?" She responded, "I don't know; I don't think so."

We started toward the ocean—the baptistry. It was cold and cloudy that day. I was standing on the wall above the beach and for some reason I moved down in the sand next to Rino. Suddenly, the sky cleared off, the sun shone, and it became warm. Rino was baptized.

I felt a warmth in my heart. I wanted to be baptized as he was. This idea of baptism had been planted in my head. I asked missionary Patsy Vanhook and Germaine, a faithful member since the church first started, to pray and ask the Lord to help me understand. I thought to myself, "Since the

Continued on page 4 →

→Continued from page 3

Lord is with me now, He will show me the way."

The answer was not long in coming. I had thought about it a lot in my meditations, and in my mind I could see John the Baptist in the river, the Lord coming over to him, and John saying, "There cometh one mightier than I. . . . I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost" (Mark 1:7a and 8).

Suddenly it hit me as if the Lord were saying, "You ask yourself the question and you give yourself the answer. Don't you see? Like John the Baptist, let your pastors baptize you with water and I will baptize you with the Spirit." Even though I had received the Holy Spirit at conversion, I understood it to mean that He would bless me. The light was on! No more questions!

I prayed to the Lord that He would give me a little longer to live. The Lord answered my prayers.

I shared this with Therese on the next Sunday, assured that the baptism would take place. I would proclaim my faith to the church, but this time I would be conscious of what I was doing. So, I was baptized along with three other people that day in May.

Now we are seeing our family moved by God's Spirit to come to church. But that's not all! The joy that overflows from our hearts must be shared with others. When we are together in prayer and singing, it is "like taking a bath in the fountain of youth."

We ask the Lord to allow our

American pastors to remain here, for their job is far from over. Evangelism in St. Nazaire is difficult, as the city is full of skeptics. They've customarily heard of God, Jesus, and the virgin Mary, but they are Catholics who never go to church. In addition to these, a few lost Protestants with shattered faith may be found.

But in this part of France even if all the people wanted to worship, their culture would never allow them to venture into a remodeled storefront building such as we use for worship. In their minds the Word of God could not be proclaimed in such a place as this. It is the type of building where sects might meet. It does not look like a church!

To the Frenchman, a church is a place where the gospel is preached not only in word, but by the walls, its cross, its steeple, etc. It is a place with an appearance worthy of the spread of the gospel.

It is true that our little storefront is not pretty, but we are happy together. However, because of the circumstances I just mentioned, we are determined to build a church building so our church may grow.

In spite of the building, attendance has been over capacity quite often recently. We no longer want our pastors to give this impression: "If anyone else comes, we don't know where we will put them." By God's grace we will build soon!

So we are committing it all to the Lord: "Lord, keep us in Your hand."

Edouard Michon is a 74-year-old artist in the Free Will Baptist church at St. Nazaire, France. Tom and Patty McCullough are in charge of the church while Jerry and Barbara Gibbs are on furlough.

"The most important part of my denominational work was with foreign missions," said I. J. BLACKWELDER, who was the first secretary-treasurer for foreign missions under the newly formed National Association of Free Will Baptists.

"We received the first foreign missions offering during the 1930 session of the old Central Conference at Vernon, Ala. They named me foreign missions director and handed me the \$28 offering," Blackwelder declared.

Blackwelder is remembered as one of the chief instruments in getting pioneer missionary Laura Belle Barnard to go to India under Free Will Baptists.

Isaac Joshua Blackwelder served 54 years in the ministry and pastored 24 different churches during his lifetime, beginning in 1926. He was a lifelong supporter of foreign missions and a credit to his denomination. He died in Gainesville, Fla., on May 9, 1980, at the age of 83 years. His wife, Etta Lela, died in November of 1984.

Blackwelder is remembered as one of the chief instruments in getting pioneer missionary Laura Belle Barnard to go to India under the auspices of Free Will Baptists. He challenged the quarterly meeting: "See this young woman under the call of God on her way to the mission field. She has prepared herself and now is having to look to

They Paved The Way

Missionary Who's Who



Bill and Joy Jones



I. J. Blackwelder

other than her own people to get her to the field."

Laura Belle sailed for India in June of 1935 and became the first missionary to be sent out under the National Association of Free Will Baptists. I. J. had been largely responsible for launching the current program of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions.

Mr. Blackwelder was also highly influential in the history of the denomination: "In 1934 I went with Brother Blackwelder to attend the Cooperative General Association in Oklahoma," wrote the late John L. Welch of Nashville, Tenn. "We were both delegates from the General Conference sent for the purpose of getting the two groups together. Thanks to Brother Blackwelder, we succeeded, and in 1935 the National Association was formed."

When BILL and JOY JONES left the United States in April of 1959, it was after only six

weeks of deputational services. They went to Paris, France, for language study and on to the Ivory Coast in January of 1960.

As a youth, Bill had been burdened with the lost condition of mankind. While at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn., he heard someone speak on the need in France. Then, other missionary speakers challenged him with the realization that "the field is the world." Finally, he came to assurance that "God wanted me on the foreign field."

Bill translated approximately one-third of the New Testament into Agni.

After arriving in the Ivory Coast, Bill and Joy moved to Koun where Bill began studying the Agni language and started translating the Scriptures. In addition to this, the couple was involved in village evangelism

and the starting of a Bible institute. Bill translated approximately one-third of the New Testament into Agni before he and Joy returned to the United States in 1969 due to Joy's health needs.

Jones taught at Oklahoma Bible College (now Hillsdale) in Moore, Okla., in 1969-70 then joined the foreign missions staff as editor of *Heartbeat* in 1970-71. In 1971 he was appointed president of Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College and continued there until 1979.

Bill assumed the pastorate of Calvary FWB Church in Norman, Okla., in 1979. He served there until 1982 when he became pastor of Fellowship FWB Church in Bryan, Tex. He ministers there at the present.

In addition to his missionary experience, Bill got experience on the Board of Foreign Missions when he was elected in 1980. He now serves as chairman of the board and has contributed a great deal toward the growth and development of the foreign missions program around the world.

Bill and Joy have one son, Steve, aged 18.

HEARTBEAT
of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

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October 1987

Editor: Don Robirds
Editorial Assistant: Carole Ragan
Artist: Jim Johnson

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"I'll go!" I exclaimed. Pastor David Thomas had just requested someone to accompany him to a meeting in the South Georgia Association. I really sought the Lord about the situation and felt His leading me to volunteer.

The meeting related to the Advance Celebration of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions. I had heard about the Advance

program but didn't really understand what it was all about.

At the meeting we were introduced to the goals of the Advance Celebration, and we received sample materials. I knew in my heart God could use this program to touch Glennville Free Will Baptist Church for foreign missions.

When back in Glennville, we

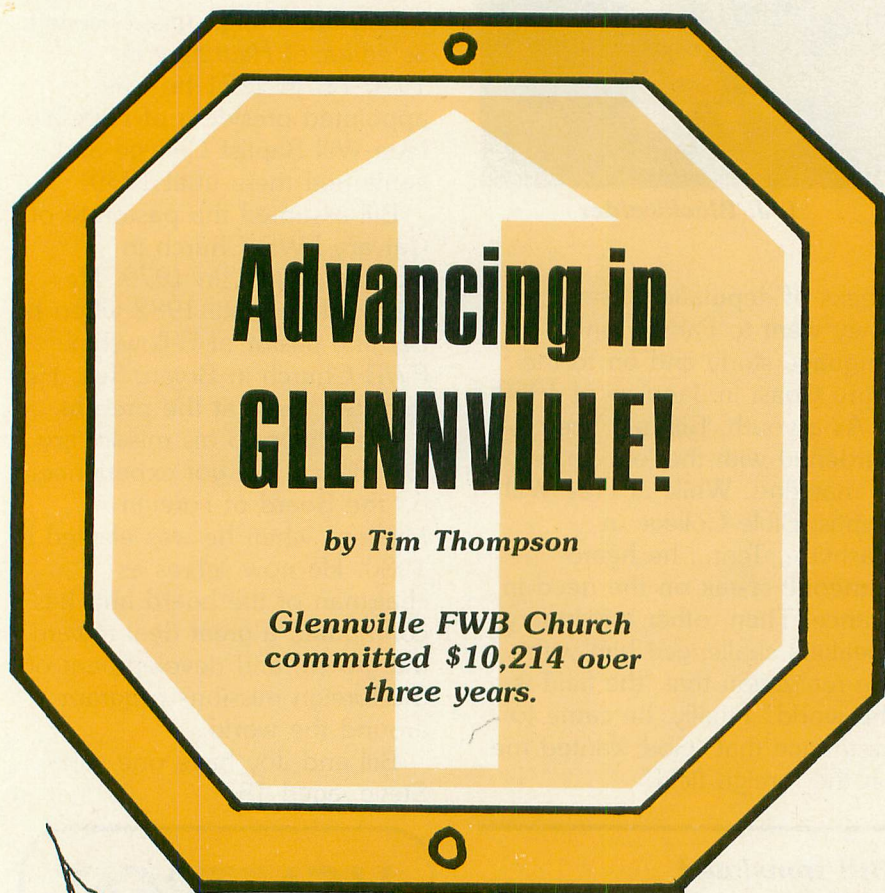
prayerfully selected the team captains and other Advance leaders. Then, approximately two weeks before the Celebration was to begin, we started to promote it in all services. We gradually increased the information flow and heightened the anticipation.

We kicked off the instructional part of the Celebration on July 6 as we distributed the Advance Celebration brochure and the prayer tent. The next Sunday, Praise Sunday, the church folks received a Celebrating Together booklet, and Brother Thomas preached on missions during the morning service.

I knew in my heart that God could use this program to touch Glennville FWB Church for foreign missions.

During each of the next four weeks the people received a leaflet describing the four purposes for which the Advance money would be used: providing tools for evangelism, training national leaders, building church buildings, and sending out new missionaries. During the same period of time our teen-through-adult Sunday school teachers spent one or two lessons dealing with the biblical foundation of the Advance program.

After several weeks of promoting and teaching concerning foreign missions, the week for home visits was rapidly



approaching. On the Wednesday night prior to the week of home visits, I trained the team captains and leaders on how to handle their visits and how to answer questions. All the team visitors were very cooperative and excited about the prospects of what God was going to do in our church.

The week of visits finally arrived and every family in the church received a personal visit and a challenge concerning their response to world missions. This was no small task since it was also vacation Bible school week. But instead of hindering the Advance Celebration, VBS seemed to stir more excitement and, I believe, contributed to its overall success.

Reports began trickling in and the total amount pledged started to rise on our Advance thermometer. When Victory Sunday finally arrived on

August 17, the total pledged for the Advance Celebration surprised almost everyone. Our church had committed \$10,214 over the next three years. Praise the Lord for His ability to stir the hearts of His people!

The total pledged for the Advance Celebration surprised almost everyone. Our church had committed \$10,214 over the next three years.

As I look back, I believe three specific things contributed to the church's response.

First, as the material suggested, we emphasized opportunities rather than needs. The opportunities for evangelism on our mission fields are abundant as well as the opportunity for us at Glennville

to become a part of God's work around the world.

Second, throughout the Celebration people were challenged with the biblical demands of equal sacrifice for all of God's children but not necessarily equal giving. Everyone was encouraged to give sacrificially.

Third, and perhaps the one "secret" to our success, everyone in the church received a personal visit. This made all the difference in the world.

Glennville Free Will Baptist Church is changed because of what God did here last summer. How can we remain the same when we have been touched by a world that's crying for hope? After all, we know the source of their longings—Jesus Christ.

Tim Thompson, principal of Glennville Christian Academy in Glennville, Ga., served as local church chairman for the Advance Celebration in the Glennville FWB Church.



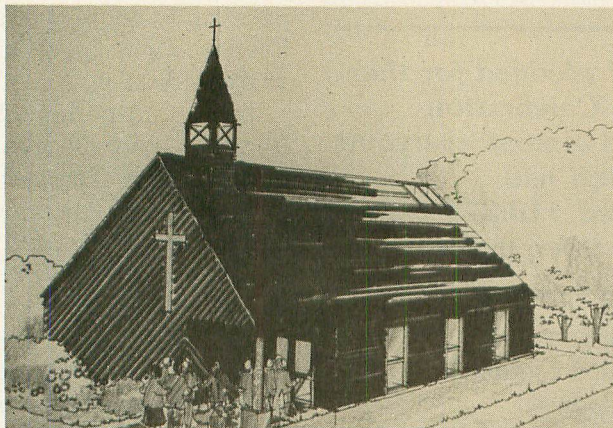
Pastor David Thomas (left) stands with Advance Coordinator Tim Thompson.



Advance Celebration home visiting team members are (left to right) Pastor David Thomas, Jimmy Rockmore, Brad Patrick, Donnie Barger, Laura Belle Barnard, Gerald Waters, Tim Thompson, Joey Waters, and Jake Hoeksema.

...Update

by Jimmy Aldridge
Advance Coordinator



This is the artist's concept of the proposed church building at St. Nazaire, France.

It is a joyous thing to see God at work!

The Lord promises a harvest to those who sow in tears (Psalm 126:5). He also promises we shall reap if we do not faint (Galatians 6:9).

After years of labor in St. Nazaire, France, our missionaries are now reaping a harvest of souls. They even face the wonderful problem of having outgrown their rented storefront building.

And the people have a mind to work. They are burdened for lost family members and friends. They are also saving all the francs they can to build a building.

God has already permitted the church group to buy what appears to them as the most choice piece of property in the city for their church building. God worked it out. The city leaders had already turned down 20 would-be buyers when they accepted the church's offer for this property.

Our plan is to help them through the revolving church loan fund provided from Advance gifts. A contractor has agreed to build the shell for \$55,000. The money for finishing the building is to come from the church and the work is to be done by Free Will Baptist Christians.

Presently, we need \$33,000 to complete the loan to the St. Nazaire church. The congregation will repay this money to the France church loan fund and it will be loaned to others as the opportunity arises.

Praise God, Advance gifts have now passed the \$270,000 mark!

As Free Will Baptists continue to praise the Lord by giving sacrificially, other projects will be completed. Several are currently awaiting funding.

Your faithful giving according to God's provision makes all of this possible.

THANKS.

Their noisy explosion comes from every direction. The echo bounces across the hills for miles. The guns of death make their grim announcement: another person has gone out to meet God, unprepared!

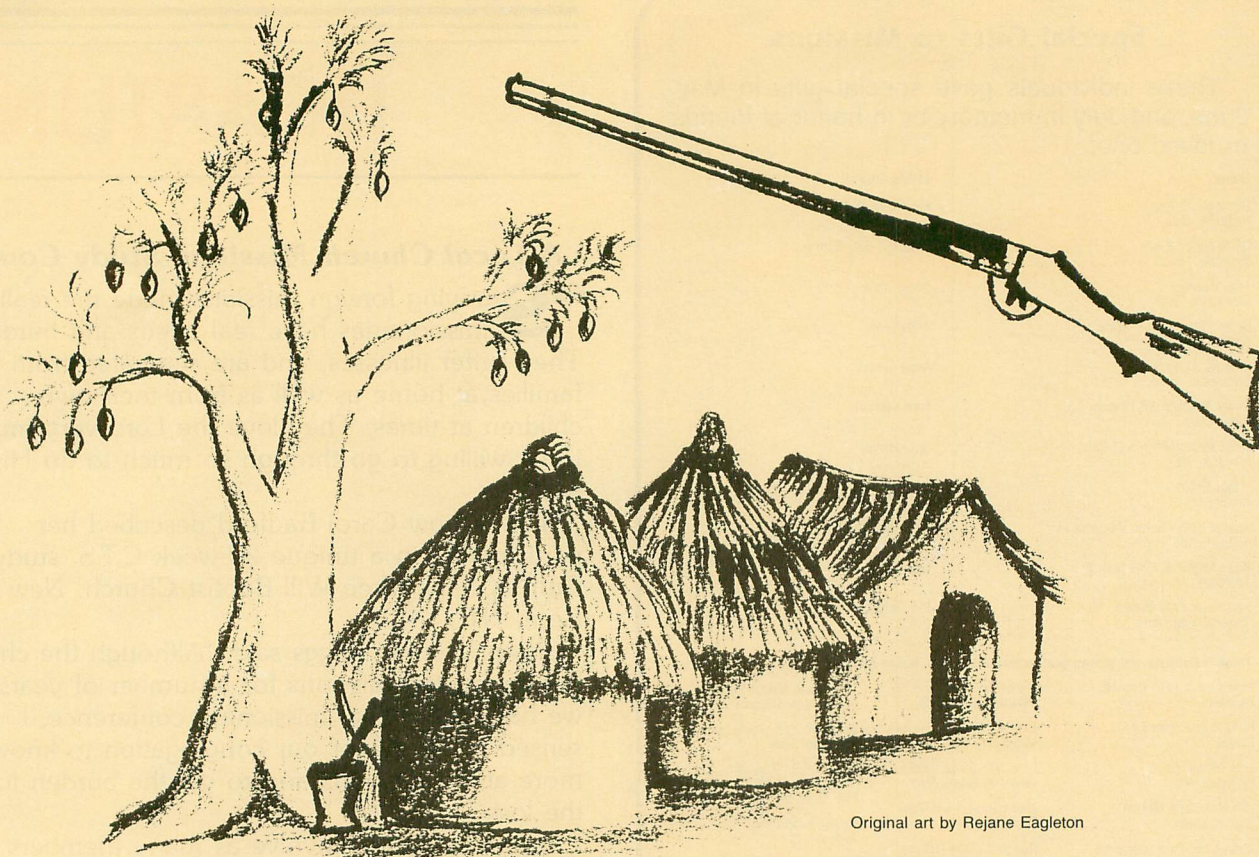
In Lobi land part of the ritual of the funeral is the firing of many huge, homemade muskets. These explosions are supposed to chase off the bad spirits that killed the person as well as announce to villages far away that death has come.

In the short time that I lived among the Lobis, I came to look upon our efforts as a battle against the guns of death. Our weapon—the gospel of life.

These explosions are supposed to chase off the bad spirits.

From infancy the Lobi child is taught all the things that go with the guns of death: unquestionable belief in the fetish, the witch doctor, the sacrifices, and the idols for various kinds of protection or power. The single factor that ties the system together is fear: fear of the unknown, fear of the unseen, and the fear of death. This fear makes the gospel of life so unbelievable.

The Lobi people are spread over a wide area. They don't live in large villages, but rather in small family units. This makes them difficult to find. They are also migratory. The family unit is in one place one week, but the next week it may be



Original art by Rejane Eagleton

GUNS OF DEATH

by Jerry Pinkerton

somewhere else.

In the years that we have had missionaries working among the Lobis, our efforts might well be compared to a termite's attack against a giant Sequoia. We have made some inroads, but we are far from bringing down the tree. The battle is immense and our efforts are minute. Apart from the medical staff that has been at Doropo, we have had seven missionaries involved in full- or part-time evangelism since 1963. Currently, we have no missionaries in the Lobi area working exclusively in

evangelism, and only one new couple is actually preparing to work with the Lobis.

The single factor that ties the system together is fear: fear of the unknown, fear of the unseen, and fear of death.

Yet God, in His wisdom, has given responsibility for the Lobi people to Free Will Baptists. When the guns of death sound for a Lobi who has never heard

the gospel, we are accountable!

Where are those who will give themselves to tell the Lobis of Jesus Christ? I believe our homes and Bible colleges have those whom God is calling to this work. I am certain that in the day of judgment some Lobis will be able to say to us (see Jeremiah 8:20), "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved because you did not come to tell us about the gospel of life."

Jerry Pinkerton is a veteran missionary to Ivory Coast. He currently serves as field chairman of the Ivory Coast field council.

Special Gifts to Missions

These individuals gave special gifts in May, June, and July in memory or in honor of friends or loved ones:

Donor	In Memory of
Dr. Roger C. Reeds Nashville, Tenn.	Mrs. Ruth Hersey
Dr. Roger C. Reeds Nashville, Tenn.	Reverend Billy Morris
Alice Woolsey Greenville, Tenn.	Anna Cronk
Dr. and Mrs. Luke Ellenburg Greenville, Tenn.	Anna Cronk
Pearl W. Morgan Greenville, Tenn.	Anna Cronk
Trinity Temple FWB Church Tulsa, Okla.	Lura Gebhart
Bloss Memorial FWB Church Arlington, Va.	Oma Ramey
Arthur Norris Benton, Ill.	Florence Norris
Second FWB Church Woman's Aux. Ashland, Ky.	Frank Shuff
Bloss Memorial FWB Church Arlington, Va.	Oma Ramey
New Hope FWB Church Pleasant View, Tenn.	M.F. Felts

These individuals and groups gave in memory of Mrs. Agnes Smith:

Panamanian Field Council Panama	Halliburton Neighbors Mountain Grove, Mo.	Walter and Marcia Ellison Montevideo, Uruguay
Howard and Joan Filkins Moore, Okla.	Earl and William Owens Mansfield, Mo.	Bob and Oleda Rudy Lundquist Nashville, Tenn.
Lola Filkins Greentop, Mo.	Lynn and Verna Hurtt Mountain Grove, Mo.	Mizzpah S.S. Class of Fellowship FWB Church Flat River, Mo.
Jim and Olena McLain Greentop, Mo.	Thurman and Ann Pate Nashville, Tenn.	Reverend and Mrs. Gordon Hart Ayden, N.C.
Jimmy and Patsy Cornelius Nashville, Tenn.	Ron and Linda Callaway Knightdale, N.C.	West Va. State Association West Virginia
Lonzo and Bonnie Maxwell Mountain Grove, Mo.	Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hingst Nashville, Tenn.	Bobby and Geneva Poole Nashville, Tenn.
Mrs. Florence Vandivort and Family Houston, Mo.	Peggy Jo McElhinney Nashville, Tenn.	Jerry and Janice Moore Independence, Mo.
Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson Blaine, Ky.	James and Mitzi Munsey Weslaco, Tex.	J. E. and Jean Williams Raytown, Mo.
Ben and Janet Vandivort Mountain Grove, Mo.	Pearl Smith Family Mountain Grove, Mo.	Mrs. Vera King Chandler, Ariz.
LaVerne and Lorene Miley Nashville, Tenn.	Homer and Dixie Smith Tempe, Ariz.	Reford and Jean Wilson North Aurora, Ill.
Earl and Sue Larson Nashville, Tenn.	Paul and Diane Harrison Memphis, Tenn.	Gene and Genevieve Waddell Nashville, Tenn.
Fred and Rachel Warner Nashville, Tenn.	Randy and Kim Hill Nashville, Tenn.	Singles Group of Southern Oaks FWB Church Oklahoma City, Okla.
Mary Lindsey Cabool, Mo.	Walter and Mary Crocker Nashville, Tenn.	Galen and Barbara Dunbar Salina, Kan.
Loraine Lindsey Cabool, Mo.	Don and Billie Sexton Elizabethton, Tenn.	Ivory Coast Missionary Family Ivory Coast
Men's Bible Class of East Nashville FWB Church Nashville, Tenn.	Paul and Amy Robinson Rivera, Uruguay	Mabel Willey Bryan, Tex.
Reverend and Mrs. Wendell Walley Nashville, Tenn.	Rick and Linda Bowling Montevideo, Uruguay	Hazel Creek FWB Church Kirksville, Mo.
Dr. and Mrs. L. C. Johnson Nashville, Tenn.		

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

A Local Church Missions Study Course

"Studying foreign missions made me realize missionaries have real needs and burdens. They suffer illnesses, and are separated from their families at home as well as from their own children at times. They love the Lord very much to be willing to go through so much to do His will."

This is how Carol Radford described her participation in a unique 20-week C.T.S. study at Ruth's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, New Bern, N.C.

Pastor Dennis Wiggs said, "Although the church has supported missions for a number of years and we have an annual missionary conference, I sensed the need for our congregation to know more about missions and to get the burden for the lost."

In attempting to involve as many members as possible, Dennis began by distributing a list of Free Will Baptist mission fields. Then, he suggested that each member select one for special study. Finally, he planned a series of programs covering several mission fields and topics related to missionary outreach.

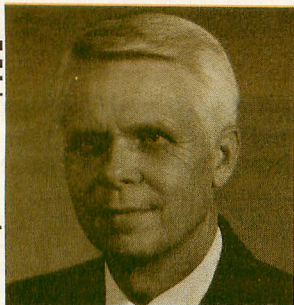
Special Events Create Interest

The class heard from Molly Barker, Vivian Waller, and me as guest speakers. They viewed filmstrips provided by the foreign missions department. These dealt with Free Will Baptist work in Spain, Panama, Ivory Coast, France, Brazil, and India. They saw "Letter to Melitino," the missionary film which was made in Cuba more than 30 years ago. They also viewed three other missionary films: "Suicide Mountain," "Yes and Goodbye," and "Dream Begun."

Most of the C.T.S. services were led by laymen and women in the church. Approximately one-third of the 48 members of the group participated by presenting the programs.

The group studied subjects such as medical missions, music on the mission field, effects of communism, cults on the mission field, and the education of missionary children.

Mrs. Patsy Pope said, "I always knew missionaries were willing to sacrifice to go to a



R. Eugene Waddell
General Director

foreign country, but didn't realize this also meant the family unity might have to be severed by a child leaving to go to school."

Personal Contacts with Missionaries

In attempting to make this study as personal as possible, Pastor Wiggs encouraged the adults to contact missionaries through letters, telephone calls, personal visits, and interviews. He reports that several accepted the challenge.

"Mrs. Linda Nesbitt called Mrs. (Amy) Robinson in Uruguay. Others called missionaries in the States. Some made visits to missionaries in the area. Telephone conversations with missionaries were recorded and played to the class," Pastor Wiggs reported.

The emphasis on individuals made a deep impression on David Horn. He said, "I think for the first time I saw the people our missionaries minister to as real people just like you and me. The presentation by Vivian Waller really spoke to me. She presented the mission field as individuals and families."

Attendance Increased 35 to 40 Percent

Pastor Wiggs mentioned two very important benefits from the study: (1) Attendance in the adult C.T.S. group increased by 35 to 40 percent; and, (2) Free Will Baptist foreign missionaries have become more than names and faces on a poster. "Our people love our missionaries personally. Now on Wednesday night I don't have to give them all the missionary requests—they share from letters they have received."

For Free Will Baptists to make a dynamic impact on our world in our generation, our local churches must become more involved in missions. This includes more than inviting a missionary to come for a service every three or four years. We need more pastors like Reverend Dennis Wiggs who will develop programs to broaden the vision of their church families. The special C.T.S. sessions at Ruth's Chapel give one good example of the local church informing and inspiring the members toward personal involvement in missions.

Financial Summary

Through August 31
\$ Substance

Total income for August	\$ 228,465.42
Total income through August	1,862,730.51
Total disbursements through August	2,083,971.85
Projected income through August	2,239,266.64
Total 1987 Budget	\$3,358,900.00
Advance receipts through August	\$ 117,765.65
1987 ADVANCE Budget	\$ 160,000.00

\$ Shortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Banks	\$ 3,183.78	McCullough	\$ 7,625.71
Bishop	8,360.65	*Mayhew	17,893.16
Bryan	2,096.66	Morgan	391.75
*Combs	13,677.36	Murray	6,517.07
Cowart	181.19	Nichols	5,972.97
Crosby	10,405.69	Owen	4,137.24
Crowson	2,128.19	Payne	905.45
Ellison	9,611.04	Richards	1,839.80
Filkins	6,159.12	Smith, J.	4,125.32
Gibbs	6,354.23	Sparks	4,875.97
Gilliland	1,984.36	Sturgill	6,905.13
Hanna	14,259.04	Turnbough	417.99
Hersey	5,334.82	Wiley	3,388.34
Total			\$148,732.03

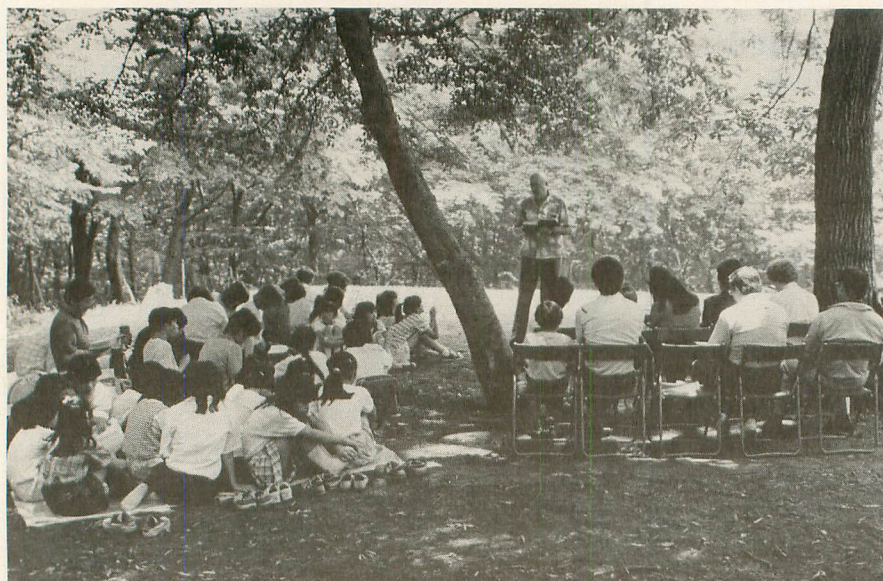
*These deficit accounts are due the following medical reimbursements from insurance: Combs, \$6,900; Mayhew, \$18,900.

State Goals—1987

State	Goal 1987	Goal Through August	Contributions Through August
Alabama	\$ 205,000	\$ 136,667	\$ 90,946.05
Arizona	5,000	3,333	1,735.00
Arkansas	175,000	116,667	93,053.61
California	57,000	38,000	30,110.31
Colorado	3,000	2,000	2,210.40
Florida	105,000	70,000	40,439.40
Georgia	120,000	80,000	88,081.50
Hawaii	2,500	1,667	1,825.00
Idaho	1,100	733	533.52
Illinois	105,000	70,000	56,588.82
Indiana	36,000	24,000	21,739.59
Iowa	2,000	1,333	550.29
Kansas	14,000	9,333	8,632.08
Kentucky	91,000	60,667	50,800.15
Louisiana	600	400	.00
Maryland	17,000	11,333	6,908.70
Michigan	140,000	93,333	72,586.33
Mississippi	72,000	48,000	27,174.32
Missouri	210,000	140,000	147,498.96
Montana	1,200	800	297.50
Nevada	1,200	800	640.00
New Mexico	600	400	115.55
*Northeast Assn.	7,500	5,000	2,137.00
**Northwest Assn.	6,000	4,000	2,790.58
North Carolina	400,000	266,667	256,271.33
Ohio	135,000	90,000	68,807.94
Oklahoma	395,000	263,333	205,470.25
Pennsylvania	2,500	1,667	516.00
South Carolina	225,000	150,000	114,360.96
Tennessee	450,000	300,000	256,278.26
Texas	95,000	63,333	58,543.32
Virginia	115,000	76,667	68,993.29
Virgin Islands	3,500	2,333	1,125.92
West Virginia	80,000	53,333	39,393.44
Miscellaneous	80,200	53,467	51,536.49
Totals	\$3,358,900	\$2,239,266	\$1,868,691.86

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

**Northwest Association
Alaska, Oregon, and Washington



Missionary Fred Hersey preaches during a special service in a park near the Iriso FWB Church in a Tokyo suburb.

Park Service Attracts 50 People Near Iriso

Japan—A special outdoor worship service was held in a local park near the Iriso church in Japan earlier this summer. According to Fred Hersey, 50 people attended with a good number of unsaved people in the audience.

"We are getting more and more contacts in our new location," writes Fred. "The move really helped the testimony of our church in town."

Family Camp, DVBS Bear Fruit in Spain

Spain—A weekend family camp was held in June by the Free Will Baptist church in Alcala de Henares, Spain. Several people made decisions for Christ.

"The Sunday following camp Senora Manuela, in her seventies, came at the first notes of the invitation hymn and dropped to her knees," write Lonnie and Anita Sparks. "She prayed fervently that God would take control of her life."

Several children were saved during the recent vacation Bible school held by the church.

Sparks requested special prayer for Gregorio Diaz, who has been called into the ministry. He will be married to Patricia Fernandez in October.

"Weddings are times of testimony, but at the same time they present difficulties for the couple," says Lonnie. "Total abstinence from liquor at

the wedding feast causes trouble with the unsaved members of the family—in this case the father of the groom. Please pray that God will touch his heart."

Islam on the Move in Western Africa

Senegal—According to a report in the *EMIS Pulse*, Islam has grown from 50 percent to 92 percent of the 6.7 million people in Senegal. Although the land is wide open to the gospel, evangelical believers number only about 1,000 and are generally scattered. WEC International has ministered there for 50 years without a significant breakthrough. Evangelism is difficult because Christians often come from groups despised by other groups.

Free Will Baptists in Ivory Coast have much of the same difficulties.

New Central Bible College Set to Open in Brazil

Brazil—In an August report from Brazil, the foreign missions office learned that a special service was held in late June to announce the opening of a new Central Bible College. The service was held in Jaboticabal where the new *Seminario Batista Livre* will be officially opened at the end of February, 1988.

William Gaino, president of the theological commission for the Brazilian Association of Free Will Baptist Churches, directed the service. Mis-

sionary Dave Franks preached the message and young people from Ribeirao Preto and Jaboticabal provided special music.

According to Franks, field chairman of the Brazil missionary field council, this program will be handled under the auspices of the Brazilian Association. They have asked missionary Jim Combs to direct the new school which will operate on the property of Evangelandia, the current camp facilities.

Bunch Reports Four Saved in Montero Work

Panama—A school teacher and three young people made professions of faith in Montero, Panama, recently. The teacher is the owner of the house where the Free Will Baptist church group is meeting.

Missionary Stan Bunch revealed that, in addition to the Montero work, the ministry in Parita is also growing. "We minister in Parita on Saturday nights and visit at least one day during the week," writes Bunch. "We recently have seen two young ladies come to the Lord. This is a very, very strong Catholic town of about 3,000 people, and we are the only evangelical group there."

The Bunches are trying to locate a house in the city of Chitre, which has a population of approximately 25,000 people. It is only about five miles from Parita.

Official Organization of Old Church Observed

Brazil—A belated report from Brazil indicated an official organization of the congregation in the city of Pirassununga, Brazil, was held on June 21. The special service was directed by Ken Eagleton, who is to assume responsibility for the church, and Dave Franks brought the message for the night.

The work was started in 1962 by Bobby Aycock but it has struggled over the years. Louis Coscia, Dave Franks, Tom Hughes, Mario Donscoi, Imilio da Guarda, and other laymen have been in charge of the work at one time or another.

During the preaching service at the organization, a demon-possessed man entered the building and started picking up furniture in front of the pulpit and grabbing the men and missionaries present. As those in the

service prayed and claimed the power of Jesus' blood, they were able to get him out of the church, but he left without being freed from demonic powers.

Hindus Seek Reconversion of Indian Christians

India—Reports from India indicate a group of Hindu fundamentalists has given the war cry, "Be a Hindu, otherwise leave India." The strong effort in the Phulbani district to reconvert Christians has caused many to "live under constant fear," according to the *India Express*.

Zealous volunteers burned 15 churches in the first four months of 1987. Latest reports indicate at least 30 churches have been burned or demolished in East and South India. Evangelists, pastors, missionaries, preachers, and Christian social workers have been openly attacked and some Roman Catholic priests have been assaulted.

Between 1961 and 1971, the Christian population increased by 150 percent while the Hindu population grew by only 16.5 percent. That trend is now reversed, according to the newspaper, which indicated the reconversion is "more often by arm twisting" than by persuasion.

Combs Move to Jaboticabal to Open New College

Brazil—Missionaries Jim and Shirley Combs have moved from Ribeirao Preto to Jaboticabal, Brazil, the site selected for the opening of the new Free Will Baptist college.

Jim and Shirley reported a family of five had moved next door to them. They took them to church and the man, woman, and a son responded to the invitation following the message. The woman commented, "Our relatives and friends warned me if I moved next to you I would become a believer. Oh, well, I have already done it now and I'm not backing out."

Jesus Film Shown to Global Audience

Nashville, Tenn.—According to a report in *The Church Around the World*, approximately 270 million people around the world have viewed the film *Jesus* since its debut seven years ago.

The people of Asia and Africa have been especially receptive and Thailand is currently very open. The film is available in 105 different languages.



VBS students of New Beckley Road FWB Church in Ashland, Ky., display their "Christmas in July" sign indicating their special project for missionaries Mark and Donna Daniel in Ivory Coast.

"Christmas in July" Honors Daniel Family

Ashland, Ky.—The vacation Bible school held during the week of July 27 at the New Buckley Road Free Will Baptist Church in Ashland, Ky., honored the Mark Daniel family in the Ivory Coast by featuring them in a "Christmas in July" event.

According to Mary Moore, missions chairman of the church, the church and the vacation Bible school joined in preparing gifts especially for the Daniel family. "We have three boxes ready to be shipped," writes Mrs. Moore. This unique effort is in addition to their regular giving of 10 percent of their offerings to missions plus a "penny drill" each Sunday.

Koinonia Church Reports Continuing Growth

Japan—"The attendance at our church here has been increasing," writes Dale Bishop regarding the Koinonia church at Nopporo, Ebetsu, Japan. "One family—mother, son, and daughter-in-law who live behind our house—has come from churches across town and from a different city. They desire to worship closer to home. The unsaved father, Mr. Hiraga, came to church on two Sundays in July. A college student, 22 years of age, has been attending every service for the past month."

One lady, Mrs. Kitano, has been attending worship and English Bible

classes for about three months, Dale reports. She has expressed a desire for prayer that she might soon believe. Her husband is a scientist and has been attending English and Bible classes.

Mini Reports from Around the Globe

Ivory Coast—Jim and Evelyn Teague, new dorm parents at Ivory Coast Academy in Bouake, Ivory Coast, arrived in Abidjan safely and went through customs with no charges.

Kingsport, Tenn.—Miss Dawn Sweeney, who just returned from France this past spring, has been granted a leave of absence in order to be refreshed emotionally and to gain nursing experience prior to going to the Ivory Coast where she will work in the medical ministry at Doropo.

Blaine, Ky.—Missionaries Ledgel and Sharon Ferguson, who recently spent a short time in Canada in refresher language study, were scheduled to depart for the Ivory Coast on September 30. They plan to work in the area of Tanda.

Uruguay—The new work at Malvin Norte in Uruguay continues to have a strong Sunday school outreach but the work with adults continues to be slow. "We are making a lot of contacts and are building relationships with many families in the area," writes Rick

Continued on page 14 →

—Continued from page 13

Bowling. The young people from Rivera have joined Bowling in opening preaching points in the center of Montevideo as well as in the area of Malvin. They are passing out over 1,500 tracts a week.

France—According to missionary Allan Crowson the church in Lorient is now meeting in their home. The group had been meeting in a hotel most of the summer.

Brazil—An August report from missionary Bobby Poole in Ribeirao Preto, Brazil, indicated the institute and Bible college in Ribeirao would have approximately 20 students. Another 10 students were expected to study in Jaboticabal. "We have had contacts with people that live in a part of town where we desire to start a work," writes Bobby. "But we have not had time to get anything going." The Pooles urge prayer as they attempt to get a new work started.

Japan—A youth camp was held at the end of July by the five churches in the Hokkaido area of Japan, according to

a report from Dale and Sandra Bishop. Approximately 70 children attended the camp and several were saved.

Spain—Steve and Linda Reeves have moved into an apartment owned by one of the men at the Mostoles church, in Spain. According to Steve, their language study has been going well. Steve preached his first message in Spanish on the last Sunday in April.

Brazil—Ken Eagleton reported 14 young people from Araras had attended youth camp at Evangelandia in Jaboticabal during July. Ten of these were unsaved but have been attending church since camp.

USSR Video Revolution Worries Authorities

Holland—A report from *The Open Doors News Service* indicated Soviet authorities were not happy with the video revolution that is sweeping the USSR. Soviet Christians have been effective in presenting the Christian message in an unprecedented way through the medium of video cassette.

Although the country's video industry is dominated primarily by illegally duplicated Western commercial films, Christian videos have found a highly receptive audience.

S. Brazil Work Reopens; Uruguay Church Gets Land

Uruguay—Writing from Rivera on the border of Uruguay and Brazil, missionary Paul Robinson affirmed that a village work in Palomas, Brazil, was reopened on August 2. This village is about 20 kilometers north of Livramento. The work there was originally started by Walter Ellison many years ago.

"We took over a small group of Uruguayan believers and through the visits of Mario Conceicao we had a nice crowd," writes Paul. "About 25 from the village attended, most of whom were adults. One of our girls had a small group of youngsters outside that afternoon, giving a Bible lesson in Portuguese. I preached in the church and Mario gave the invitation with just about all present going forward."

Paul noted that Mario is traveling to Palomas twice a month to follow up on the decisions that were made and to establish the work.

Robinson also reported that another small work in the city of Artigas, Uruguay, started several years ago by Mario, recently received as a gift a small piece of land on which to build a church. A building constructed of wood is being planned and the neighbors say they are going to build it.

Eagleton Gets Good Report, Laments Economy

Brazil—Missionary Ken Eagleton reports from Araras, Brazil, that results from his recent cardiology exams were positive. Ken underwent by-pass surgery in the United States in October of 1986.

Sounding a different note, Ken lamented the current economic instability in Brazil, declaring it has drastically affected youth camps. Only 11 juniors attended camp in July. As a result, associational leaders met and took action to reduce prices for the senior camp. They were expecting a good number of campers during that week.

Eagleton expressed praise that tithes and offerings in the church con-

—Clip and mail—

YEN VS. DOLLAR BISHOP ACCOUNT NEEDS \$2,200 MORE IN MONTHLY SUPPORT

Though several churches and individuals have responded to help the rapidly sinking account of Dale and Sandra Bishop in Japan, they urgently need \$2,200 in additional monthly support. The extra expenses of opening a new work in northern Japan and the falling dollar against the Japanese yen have joined to plunge the Bishop account into the red.

Board policy states that missionaries whose accounts go beyond \$8,000 in the deficit may be asked to return to the United States to raise needed funds. Please help Dale and Sandra avoid this necessity. Just fill in the information below, clip and send it with your commitment today!



_____ Yes, I want to help Dale and Sandra Bishop remain on the field where they are urgently needed. As God provides, I will give the following amount monthly:

_____ Enclosed is my check for \$_____.

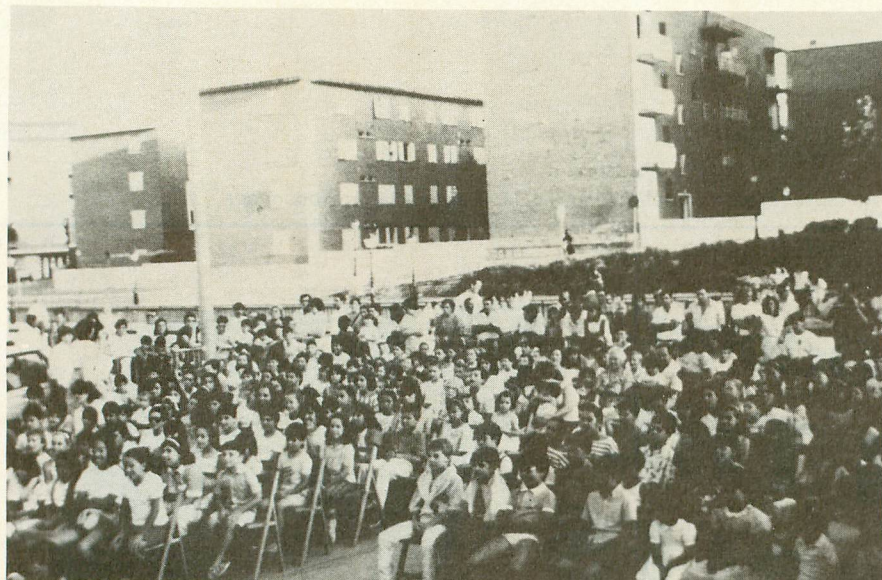
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Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Church _____

I will send this (Check one) ☐ through the church ☐ direct.

Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202



Hundreds of children listen to the special presentation of the gospel by FWB missionaries in a park at Villalba, Spain.

tinue to hold up well in spite of the runaway inflation. The church received over \$1,288 in June and had received over \$1,000 for the first two Sundays in July. Of that total, \$481.43 went to missions and another \$109.24 was sent to help Benedito, a student from Araras who is in the United States to attend Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Mission Boards and Missionaries Increase

Nashville, Tenn.—According to a report in *The Church Around the World*, the number of North American mission boards has jumped 86 percent since 1968. The number rose from 441 to 764, making a jump of 353 new mission societies in less than two decades.

E. Payne Goes to I. C. to Help in Institute

Ivory Coast—Missionary Eddie Payne, who has been unable to return to the mission field on a permanent basis due to health complications, left for Ivory Coast, West Africa, on September 17. He will help in launching the first year of the Bible institute program at Bouna. Mike Cousineau and Clint Morgan are completing the details for the program and requested Payne's assistance.

Sandra, Eddie's wife, did not accompany him. Eddie is expected to

return to the United States on December 7.

Payne will be doing some video filming and some work with the cassette ministry in addition to his ministry at the Bible institute.

Over 500 Nightly Hear Gospel at Park in Spain

Spain—A city-wide evangelistic campaign was launched on August 3 in Villalba, Spain, and continued through the entire month of August. Over 500 adults heard the gospel each evening in a city park, according to Jeff Turnbough.

The campaign started out with a door-to-door distribution of invitations in the mornings, then at 8:00 o'clock in the evening a program was presented to children in a city park. Attendance at the children's meeting was estimated to be between 400 and 600 each evening.

"We sang, taught Bible verses, told Bible stories, etc., then at 10:00 p.m. we showed a Christian film, sang, shared testimonies, and gave a short gospel message," says Turnbough. "Our attendance was from 500 to 700 adults each night!"

After each service the missionaries had an opportunity to talk one-on-one with many people. Jeff noted that most people did not understand enough of the Scriptures to make a biblical decision for Christ. "So, we challenged them to study God's Word with us, using Romans 10:17."

The second phase of the campaign involved getting as many of the people as possible from the park to the church. There, they made a more intense effort to explain the Scriptures and preach the gospel.

The third phase of the campaign led to follow-up. Every day for one week was dedicated to this effort. The latest reports indicated seven adult men from the Villalba area had made decisions for Christ on the last night of the campaign. Several unsaved couples who did not make decisions indicated they wanted Bible studies.

The Turnboughs urged Christians to pray for those who made decisions and for the work in Villalba since Satan has launched several attacks during the time of the campaign.

Church Leader Calls for Missionaries to Austria

Austria—While some 400 missionaries are listed as serving in Austria, Mr. George Murray, director of Bible Christian Union, says most of these work behind the Iron Curtain using Vienna as a base.

Murray declared, "Austrians are not particularly receptive to the gospel." The work there is so difficult that it has been called "the graveyard of missions in Western Europe."

Nearly all Austrians (96 percent) are affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church.

Call Missions Hotline

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HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

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SPECIAL OFFER extended through October! **TOUCHING THE UNTOUCHABLES**

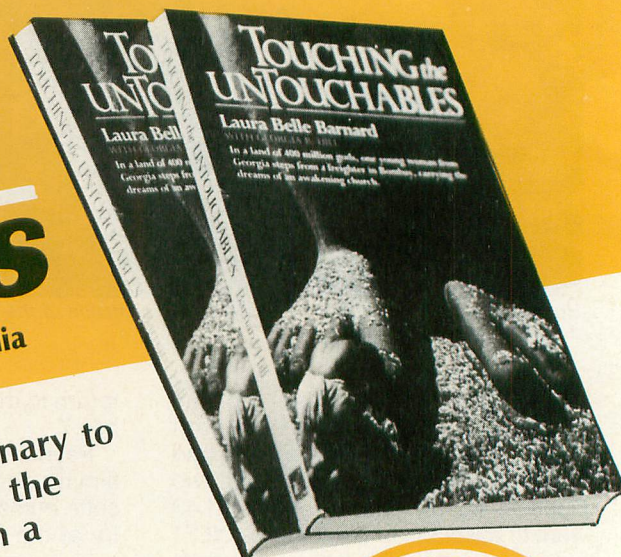
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