

APRIL 1989

# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work through Free Will Baptists around the world

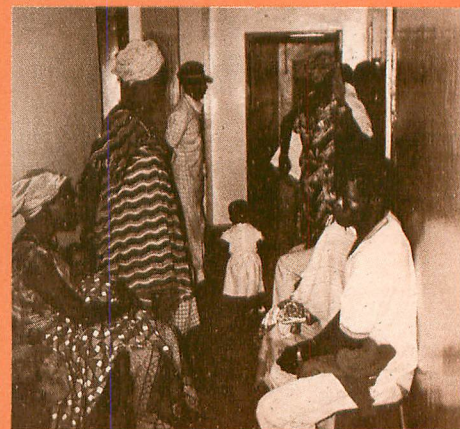


## GOD LED US!





(Clockwise) Eagleton treats child, cast is removed, and people await treatment.



# God Led Us!

by Kenneth Eagleton, Jr., M.D.

**“W**hy leave? Why quit a good job to go to Africa?” These were the questions that were hurled our way in 1984. My wife, Rejane, and I had announced to co-workers and friends in Brazil that we were going to Cote d’Ivoire, West Africa.

Both of us had good jobs. I had established a medical practice in the town of Sao Luis de Montes Belos in central Brazil, and Rejane worked in the Bank of Brazil.

We had happily participated in the establishment of a new church in an area of town with no evangelical church. The new church had just finished constructing a building and had called a pastor. Things were going well!

In light of our relative “success” everyone wanted to know why we were leaving. Rejane’s unsaved co-workers at the bank thought she was crazy to quit her job to move to Africa.

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***While we are genuinely interested in human lives, the purpose of this medical work is not purely humanitarian.***

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The only good answer we could give to all of the questions was, “Because we feel the Lord is calling us and leading us to work and minister in our Free Will Baptist medical work in Africa.”

The medical ministry in Cote d’Ivoire was launched in the early 1960s by Dr. LaVerne Miley and his wife, Lorene. The total absence of medical facilities and a people totally unreached by the gospel caused Free Will Baptists to choose Doropo as an ideal location for a hospital and clinic.

While we are genuinely interested in human lives, the purpose of this medical work is not purely humanitarian. Our primary goal is to see people turn from paganism and Islam to receive Jesus Christ as the only means of salvation. We want to see strong national Free Will Baptist churches established where these new believers can worship and grow in their faith.

Since its beginning, the



hospital has had a unique part in opening the doors for gospel witness. The unsaved have been attracted to the gospel by our Christian love and concern for them.

But the medical work has constantly faced a lack of personnel during these last 27 years. The outpatient clinic and hospital have been run most of the time by only one medical doctor with the exception of a brief period when two were on hand.

For one-third of its existence, the medical work has operated without any medical doctor present. And the work has never had an adequate nursing staff. During the second half of 1988 the hospital operated without any registered nurses. On several different occasions serious consideration has been given to closing the medical work for lack of personnel.

But the government in Cote d'Ivoire made sure the medical work continued! They clearly stated that they wanted the hospital open. The field council was informed that without the medical work things could be difficult for Free Will Baptist missionaries in the country.

With this knowledge, many of our missionaries have sacrificed to keep the hospital open. But the stress of managing such a complex work alone, with the responsibility for human lives, has taken its toll on the medical staff through the years.

I have wondered, "Is God just not calling Free Will Baptist medical and paramedical personnel into missions?" I don't believe that to be the case. But people must be informed of the needs and open to God's leadership.

I want to challenge Christians to pray for God to burden the hearts of qualified personnel to

meet these needs:

**Physicians:** With a yearly outpatient load of approximately 12,000, we need at least two physicians on the field at all times. This would mean at least three physicians overall to cover absences for furloughs, vacations, business trips, church activities, etc. Currently, I am the only medical doctor assigned to the hospital. When I leave the station on trips to take my children to school 280 miles away, or to buy medical supplies, or to go to church or missions meetings, we have no qualified medical person to cover for me.

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***For one-third of its existence, the medical work has operated without any medical doctor present.***

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No one has been found to replace us when we go on furlough in 1990. Being on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is very stressful. Furlough time is an absolute imperative if we are to have a continuing ministry.

While God has given us two prospective candidates, they will not likely be able to get to the field for another five years.

**Surgeon:** We serve the medical needs of 20-25 thousand people with no other doctors in the area. The surgical needs are even greater. The Department of Bouna (similar to a county) where we are located has 100,000 people and no surgeon. The nearest surgeon in Cote d'Ivoire is located 160 miles from Doropo over dirt roads. An emergency transfer would take three and one-half to four hours.

Nearly every day we are confronted with surgical cases.

We now have an operating room set up and could keep a surgeon busy. The day I was writing this article I received a seven-year-old boy who had a penetrating wound of the skull with a couple of bone fragments depressed into the brain. With no general surgeon nearby and no neurosurgeon in West Africa (as far as I know), I had to take the fragments out myself.

A few months ago I received a woman who had fallen off the flat-top roof of a Lobi house. She had exposed fractures of both bones in her right forearm. I explained to the family that they would have to transfer her somewhere so she could have surgery.

After talking it over among themselves, the family told me they had no money to pay a taxi to transport her. Doropo has no ambulance. They decided if I couldn't do anything for her they would take her back home. So, although I have no experience in orthopedic surgery, I did the best I could. She eventually got well.

But not all cases end so well. Several have died because we could not help them in Doropo.

**Registered nurses:**

Currently one part-time and two full-time nurses are assigned to the hospital. One of the full-time nurses is in language study in France, the other one is on furlough. The part-time nurse is in Lobi language study on the field. At least two more full-time male or single female nurses are needed.

Nurses have an important role in teaching and supervising African personnel as well as diagnosing and treating patients. Due to personnel shortages, nurses have found it necessary to assume a great deal of responsibility in order to keep

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## God Led Us!

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the outpatient clinic and hospital functioning.

**Dentist:** Only recently has the government placed a dentist in our department. He has equipment in his office but no materials to work with. He is totally helpless.

Two of our African workers have learned to pull teeth, but that is the extent of what we can do to help people with their dental problems. We need a career dentist who is willing to help with dental hygiene education as well as practice dentistry.

### Public health workers:

Many of the diseases we are treating at the hospital and clinic are preventable. Most of the diarrheas and intestinal parasites are due to untreated water and poor hygiene habits. Hundreds of children below the age of three are malnourished, not from lack of food, but due to unbalanced diets.

Many children still die from diseases that are preventable through vaccination. But not all parents have understood the importance of vaccinating their children. Medical and paramedical personnel are needed to develop and supervise public health educational programs.

## HEARTBEAT

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### Short term personnel:

Perhaps the reader doesn't feel God is calling him or her into a career of missionary service. If someone has the skills and would like to put them to work on the mission field for a short time, this is possible. A short-term missionary assignment might be just the thing. Even a month, the summer, or a year could be a tremendous service and challenge. A short-term (three months or longer) lab technologist or lab technician is greatly needed. He or she could upgrade and expand the lab and give further training to our African lab technicians.

Some might wonder why the hospital doesn't just hire African doctors, nurses, dentists, and other paramedical personnel. This is the ultimate goal, but Christian professionals are not available now.

### ***We serve the medical needs of 20-25 thousand people with no other doctors in the area.***

The hospital will still continue to depend on missionary staff for many years to come. Fourteen Africans are currently employed. These work as nurses' aids or midwives. None of these have formal training. They have all been taught by the missionary medical staff.

Will Christians continue to allow these needs to go unmet at the risk of hampering the entire ministry in Cote d'Ivoire? Or will this burden on my heart be felt by others as well? God's blessings await those who will obey His voice and follow His leading!

Dr. Kenneth Eagleton, Jr., and his wife, Rejane, are associate missionaries serving at the medical facility in Doropo, Ivory Coast.

One day while we were holding a service in Boyfo, in the country of Benin, one of our Bible school students suddenly ran into the church. "Baba, my father has put a curse on me," Biyo cried to me, "and he wants to kill me!" Then Biyo fainted from fear in front of the whole congregation.

We knelt and laid hands on Biyo and prayed that Christ would deliver him from his fear. When Biyo revived he said, "My family is very angry that I have been called to be a Christian preacher!" Then he fainted again. This happened three times, and we spent more than an hour praying for Biyo.

After the service Biyo refused to go home. "You ought to go home, Biyo," I suggested.

### ***Tinni finally got up courage to do something that few in her tribe had ever dared before.***

His eyes grew wide with fear. "No, Baba," he protested. "You know my father is a witch doctor. He has killed chickens and animals and placed them around my house to put the curse on me!"

Since fear kills many people in Africa, I took Biyo home with me for the night. I knew that as a young Christian, he needed my help and encouragement.

Biyo's wife and two children were visiting with relatives in another village at that time, and



# Victory Over Fear

by Jim Brock  
as told to Muriel Larson

we went to bring them home the next day. "Remember, Biyo," I kept saying, "God's power is greater than Satan's power, and God will protect you. For a testimony to the Lord you must go home and stay there and show that God is stronger than the devil!"

## Illness Strikes

As I was driving away after bringing Biyo and his family home, he came running to me, shouting, "Baba, Baba, stop! My father is very sick. Would you take him to the dispensary?"

"Why should I help this man who has tried to kill his own son?" I thought. But since I am a Christian, I went to get him anyway.

Other witch doctors were trying to revive Nuhu, but to no avail. I was amazed as I looked at this man who had been in perfect health just the day before he had laid the curse on his son!

"He looks as if he is dying," I said. "You had better let me take Nuhu to the dispensary." At first the witch doctors didn't want me to do that, but finally they admitted that Nuhu did appear to be in very serious condition. Biyo and I took Nuhu to the dispensary, and I stayed with Biyo until his father died

that evening. After Nuhu was buried, Biyo and I returned to our village.

## Results

The word spread around the village like wildfire: "Nuhu, the witch doctor, died because he laid a curse on his Christian son. Biyo's God has great power, because Biyo went home and stayed there in spite of the curse, and nothing happened to him. It happened to his father instead!"

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***"Baba, my father has put a curse on me, and he wants to kill me."***

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Many people in that area started coming to church then to find out what the Christians had that helped them to overcome fear, and they came to know Christ as their Savior.

Several days after Nuhu died, the parents of Tinni, Biyo's wife, came and took her two infants away from her because they learned that she was a Christian. When Tinni came to us, she was hysterical with grief. "Gather the Christians together, and tell them what has happened so they can pray!" she pleaded. So I did.

"Your parents have no right to your children, Tinni," I said afterwards. "They are yours!"

"Our custom is that parents can take children any time they want," she answered.

## God's Way

I opened my Bible and showed her that God had a custom, too: It is the parents' responsibility to train up their children in the way they should go—in God's way—and we must follow God's custom when we become Christians.

Others also spoke to Tinni, urging her to go get her children back. In her culture, the husband could not do that; only the wife could. Now Tinni was being called on to show courage for her Lord.

After praying for several days, Tinni finally got up the courage to do something that few in her tribe had ever dared before. She went to her parents' home, walked in and picked up her children, and walked out. They were so astonished that they didn't even try to stop her.

This courageous act of Tinni's brought another real testimony to the church, as well as to the lost in the village. It strengthened Tinni's determination to live for the Lord, to learn how to read, and to follow her Lord. This prepared her to be a fine preacher's wife, a fit mate for a courageous man like Biyo.

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Muriel Larson is a free-lance writer, author, composer, and child evangelist from Greenville, S.C.



**"D**ear Jesus, Bless the Africans in Japan. Thank you for our food. Amen." That was my three-year-old son's prayer at breakfast one morning. In reality we were praying for missionaries in France. His usual prayer was, "Bless the Gibbs." Or at least, "Bless the missionaries in France."

Each morning we pick a prayer card\* and pray for that missionary family through the day. This way we eventually pray for all our Free Will Baptist missionaries on foreign soil.

I have the cards arranged according to country. Thus we pray for the missionaries in Africa, then move to Brazil, and so on. Because we have the most missionaries in Africa, it takes longer to pray for them. I guess that's why Africa stuck in Luke's mind that day.

As for Japan, his Uncle Paul (Creech) was there on a short-term assignment at the time. So he had heard a lot about that place also.

Luke's mistake was hilarious to us. I'm sure I'll never forget the incident. I believe God understood the intent of his heart, so I didn't bother to correct him. Besides, probably one or two Africans do live in Japan, don't you think?

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***Missions comes to life when someone you love is personally involved.***

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Even though it may be difficult, I believe it is very important to teach our children about missions. And the sooner we start, the better. Their sleeping through the missions services at church once a year is not enough! It will probably just immunize them and prevent them from becoming involved in missions later.

I'm not advocating keeping the children home from the missions conference. By all means, we should take them. But we must not stop there.

Praying for one missionary family a day is a great way to start promoting missions in the home. The names and faces of the missionaries become implanted in the computer/brain and can be brought back up for future reference.

I was delighted when my daughter recognized Dave Franks in a large crowd at the Bible college graduation in Nashville. She had no previous contact with him except our prayer cards.

Whenever possible I give personal information about the missionary we are praying for. Alice Smith and I were in college together. That made her very special to Luke.

A bulletin board at the end of our breakfast bar holds photos of Kazumi Nabeno from our church in Sapporo, Japan. She is studying at Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn. The pictures remind us to pray for her.

A foreign missions map\* of the world and our missionaries

by Ruth Creech Mullen

## AFRICANS IN JAPAN?

**The Mullen family has devotional time.**



***Luke prays for the missionaries before going to bed.***



gives a child a global view of God's work here on earth.

We entertain and keep missionaries overnight whenever possible. That contact provides some of the best exposure to missions. Recently we kept the Gibbs family when they held a service for us. I used the prayer card as a frame of reference to prepare my children for the visit. After our guests arrived, they got out our prayer card to compare the photo to the "real thing."

Laura gives up her bedroom when we have company. That also provides good memories of missions. It reminds me of days past when I gave up my bed for "Pop" Willey, Dr. Miley, John Moehlman, etc.

In my mind's eye I can still see "Pop" Willey painting a picture on an easel in our basement. I remember seeing his foot with the missing toes. I recall his telling of losing them to frostbite and how each toe is necessary for balance. That is part of my missions heritage.

I want my children to have similar memories. When a missionary comes to town, I want him to stay at my house. I relish my children hearing the missionary talk of his work in a faraway place. I want them to be curious and ask questions. I

want them to experience giving up their beds for a servant of God. I look forward to their eating with a missionary family, and I cherish the opportunity for my children to hear the missionary pray during our family devotions.

To see this become reality requires work on my part. Company messes up the routine! But the dividends are worth the effort.

This past fall Charolette Tallent spent the night with us. When we picked her up at the airport, she kissed Luke. Immediately he wiped it off in great pre-school style.

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***We entertain and keep missionaries overnight whenever possible.***

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During the drive home Charolette told of all God was doing so she could return to France. Someone had given her a plane ticket, leaving her only \$200 to raise for the trip from London to France. There was no indication that Luke even heard any of this conversation.

It was nearly bedtime when we arrived home. After family devotions, Luke dragged "Miss Charolette" down the hall into

his room. Taking a few pennies and a dime from his own bank, he gave them to her.

"Maybe this will help you buy your plane ticket."

Charolette sweetly thanked him.

Luke replied, "Now, I know it isn't enough. . . ."

"Oh, but it will help me get from London to France."

When she left and kissed him goodbye, he allowed that kiss to remain. And he cried because he wouldn't see her for so long.

You must also put your money where your mouth is if you want your kids to love missions. We chose to support the Ken Bailey family for several reasons. First, Judy and I were suite-mates in college and Tracey and Benjamin are close in age to my children.

Besides financial support, we try to make the Baileys our family project. We write to them and receive letters from Japan. Pretty picture postcards with strange stamps go up on the bulletin board. At Christmas we sent a package and the children selected gifts for Tracey and Benjamin.

When my brother and his wife spent a year in Japan, our ties to that country were strengthened. We wrote letters, exchanged tapes, and called on the phone. They visited us before and after their trip. Each of us received special gifts from that faraway place. Uncle Paul stir-fried vegetables and meat with soy sauce (served over rice) for us. And we ate it. Aunt Rhoda brewed cherry blossom tea for us. And we drank it.

Apart from going yourself, this is missionary exposure at its best. Missions comes to life when someone you love is personally involved. We must

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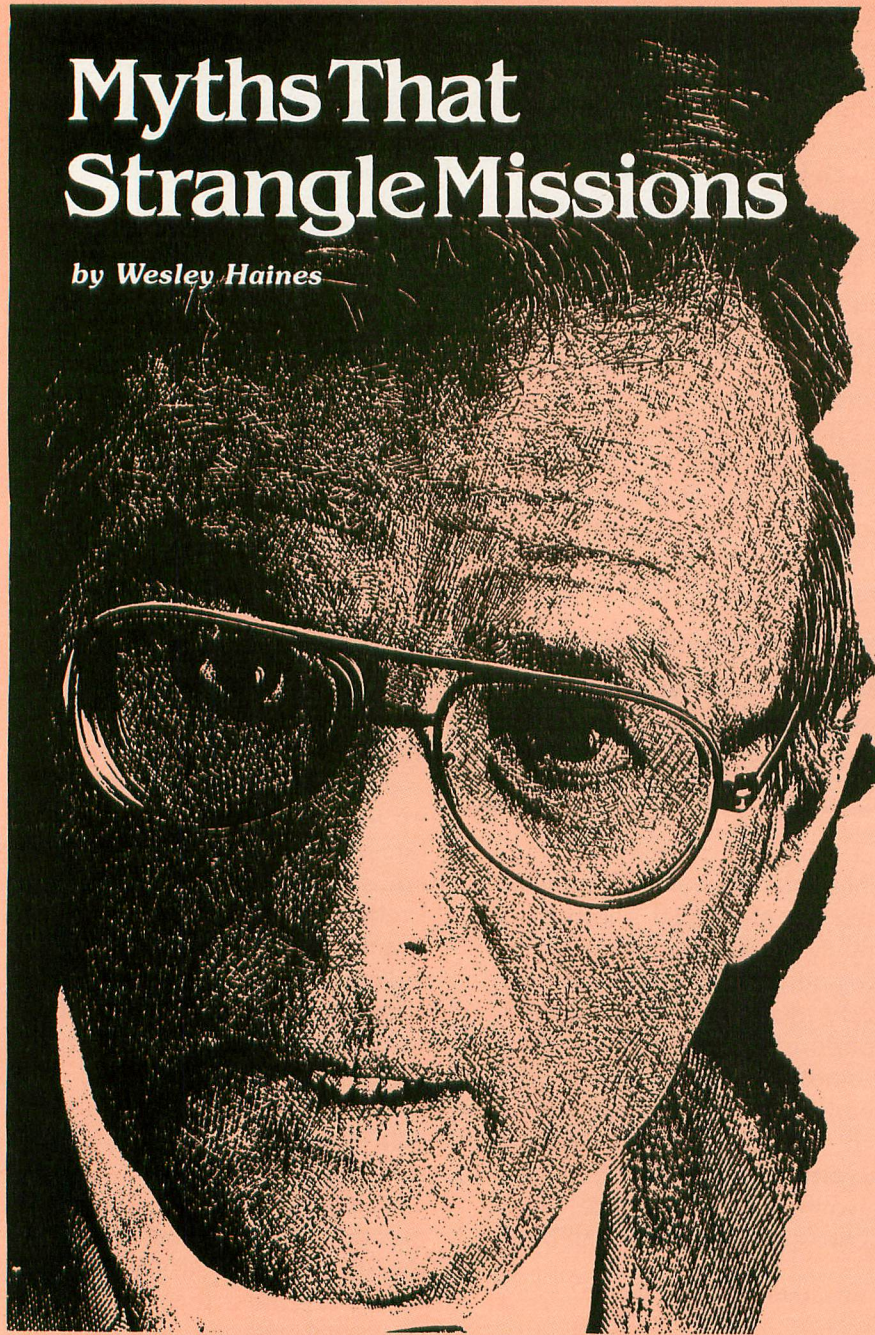
***At the breakfast bar the family selects a missionary prayer card for the day.***





# Myths That Strangle Missions

by Wesley Haines



**Three false concepts are sabotaging the missions mandate.**

**O**ur Lord was never more clear—or urgent—than when He called each of us into partnership with himself, to reach out to all who have not heard of His love.

*Come after me, He says, even to the point of forsaking*

*the very best things I have given you. I'm always going to be with you, and those lesser things I'll restore to you a hundred times over.*

With such a compelling mandate and with such abundant assurance, it has to be

disturbing to every Christian that in our world of five billion people, *two out of every three* have never been told that Jesus loves them.

It has to shake our very credibility to know that there is only one evangelical missionary for each 190,000 persons, and that the most a missionary can hope to evangelize in a lifetime is 5,000.

And it has to be obvious to the least logical among us that merely a few more prayers and a few more missionary candidates can be reliably projected to continue a mere scratching of the surface.

Suggested here are **three false concepts that are sabotaging the missions mandate**, and what to do about them in your own life. They might be thought of as three dams, each of which is enough to almost entirely blockade the missionary enterprise and prevent you from fulfilling Christ's Great Commission in your own life.

The *first* of these is **the priority of self-edification**. The sermons, the prayers, the giving, and the interest in the church are concerned with *me* and *us*. We need a better church building and meetings and sermons that make *me* more spiritual, that rescue *my* family from the evil world.

Take the church board that invited a missionary representative to help them plan a missions conference. "We had a lay-witness weekend recently," they explained, "and it was such a blessing to us, that we've decided we'd like to try a missions weekend." Not, "We're so concerned about a lost world," but, "What will it do for us?"

Or the multitude of churches who proudly affirm that they



never fail to schedule their spring and fall revivals or spiritual life series. But, "A missionary conference? Well, the calendar is already pretty well filled, I'm afraid." Are there any members of this congregation who are now missionaries? "Well, no. . . but we're doing our best to be true to the Word, you know." What "Word," one wonders, that endlessly edifies ourselves—but lets more than 100,000 souls go out into eternity each day.

There is a *second false concept*, however, that proves equally disastrous: **the priority of homeland needs.** It, too, is a preoccupation that is almost complete. Let a church plan its first missionary emphasis in years, or perhaps the first ever, and almost immediately the reaction is heard: "But missions starts at home. We don't need to look across the world. We have so many right around us who need to hear about Christ."

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***Would we be willing to exchange places with one of the two and one-half billion unreached?***

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But note this: The most unfortunate person in this country sees a church on every other corner, has access to continuous gospel preaching on the radio, and sees so much evangelistic exposure on his TV screen every Sunday morning that he has to literally wrestle with the dial to avoid coming face to face with the offers of Christ.

Contrast this with a missionary who tells of a personal survey he took on his field. Starting in the city of his mission station, he rode his

bicycle along the thronging roads and through the crowded villages, stopping over and over to inquire along the roadsides and in the shops and rice paddies: "Do you know who Jesus is? Do you recognize the name? Have you ever heard it before, even once?"

And the answer was the same, again and again: "Who? No, I don't recognize the name. I don't think He lives around here!"

Finally, after riding through some 65 miles of impacted humanity, arousing no recognition whatsoever, he found an aged man whose eyes lighted up as he exclaimed, "Yes, I remember. Almost 25 years ago a man came through this village with a pack over his back. He took out a little book and read to us. I still remember that he read about that man named Jesus!"

The *third false concept* that strangles missions is perhaps the most deceptive and devastating. There is an idea, almost universally accepted, that **personal outreach to the world is not the assignment of all of us, but only of specially called and specially trained experts.** It suggests that most of us are called only to a supportive role in missionary outreach: to sending, praying, giving.

"But I don't have a 'call' to the ends of the earth," is the familiar response. Then who is Christ talking to when He says, "Go ye . . . to every creature . . . Go, teach all nations . . . Be witnesses . . . unto the ends of the earth"? **And what would He have to say to make it any plainer?**

At best, we act like spectators standing by a lake filled with swimmers calling for help. "But I'm not a lifeguard," we answer.

"I'm not hired, or 'called,' to rescue drowning people." Yet each of us knows well enough that anyone would make his utmost effort, doing anything within his power, to rescue even one drowning swimmer—call or no call. The very desperation of the need would be call enough. **But what about men who are not merely drowning—but are eternally lost?**

Somehow we have forgotten the fact that it was the everyday people, rather than the specialists, that Christ started with. He deliberately came as a carpenter, to change His world. And then founded His Church on fishermen, and tax collectors, and everyday housewives.

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***Two out of every three have never been told that Jesus loves them.***

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And, interestingly, that was the only time in the history of the Church when it could be said, as Paul did in Colossians 1:23, "This gospel has been preached to every creature under heaven."

True enough, supportive roles have their place and are important. We are all admonished to pray fervently, send forth laborers, invest our talents. But these are always only secondary to the primary assignment of witnessing itself; they can never substitute for "being My witness" personally, unto the uttermost parts of the earth.

So it remains now to discover strategies to eliminate these paralyzing misconceptions from our lives and ministries.

For the Christian leader this strategy is suggested:

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# Myths That Strangle Missions



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First, rid yourself of the delusion that edifying is your main goal, that homeland needs are your main priority, and that most believers are called only to supportive roles. Then, in every ministry and message, draw a clear, unmistakable contrast between personal outreach to the world and these secondary interests and involvements.

Third, live with the realization that if (even by emphasis or implication) you turn people toward these secondary interests instead of toward personal outreach, you have become guilty of complicity in their failure, and in the failure of the entire missionary enterprise.

But what strategy can be offered for the everyday Christian, who inevitably exclaims: "Go? Me? Unto the ends of the earth? You can't be serious!" This is only the natural response of a nation full of Christians well-conditioned to accepting Christ's inviting "Come unto me and rest," but equally well-conditioned to rationalizing away Christ's imperative "Go ye . . . and witness!"

Is it really too preposterous to consider the possibility that every Christian should bodily go across the seas, to spend his life sharing the one thing that matters? Or, if not every Christian, at least many from every sincere fellowship of believers?

But to get it in perspective, would we be willing to exchange places with one of the two and one-half billion unreached? Then, would we settle for a miniscule few specialists scratching around on the surface of the need—with the almost total probability that we would never have the opportunity to escape eternal death?

Consider how quickly and effectively the crisis of an unreached world would be met if every believer simply and literally followed Christ's example and call, and made witnessing the number one priority, the consuming interest of his life. Every believer would be obsessed, as Jesus himself was, with witnessing either directly to, or on behalf of, the unreached. But just how to get down to the reality of personal witnessing might be the most difficult problem of all.

Perhaps the first, or basic step, is just where Christ himself put it. **"Lift up your eyes and look on the fields,"** He said. Here is the real source of the sense of urgency and the motivation needed to follow Christ even unto all the world.

Unlike Christ's day, though, when those right around Him had not heard, the fields in our time are the unreached nations beyond our saturated homeland. Yet His admonition to see the fields personally is still just as imperative. Why? Because, insulated from the tragic realities of the unreached world as we are, the probabilities are strongly against any person changing from traditional spectatorism to real, in-depth missionary involvement without personally seeing the world he is responsible for.

Today, many organizations and denominations provide unlimited opportunities for every

Christian to visit a mission field, whether for a few weeks or a few months. For as little as two weeks' vacation time, you can share in a planned mission field visit and have your heart moved with compassion.

From that moment of sharing the heartbreak of Christ for His "other sheep," the unreached ones, a person's role becomes utterly clear and compelling: You commit yourself, in the same sense that He did, to going with the Good News yourself, or witnessing to absolutely everyone whose life you can touch.

The significant point is that either way, your assignment is still to *witness* over and above your supportive roles. Here are some suggestions for beginning: First, make a list of all your friends, acquaintances, and associates—all of those whose lives you touch. Now cross off all the names of those who make reaching the unreached their consuming interest and activity.

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***The most unfortunate person in this country sees a church on every other corner.***

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Anybody left on the list? Just about everybody, right? Then you need look no farther: You have your work and ministry cut out for you. Isn't it just possible—maybe even probable—that you are the only person in the lives of those on your list who has the vision and motivation to turn them toward personal outreach?

With missions your first priority, you will find yourself naturally sharing your mission field experiences, your vision,



and your personal involvement. You will want to search out every opportunity, both in your own church and others, to tell about what you've seen and experienced. And you will find that communicating simply as "Christian to Christian" is often more effective than a missionary's speech.

But your best opportunity for a personal ministry on behalf of the unreached will be in using the original New Testament strategy of home meetings: ones that go beyond mere personal benefits such as fellowship, Bible study, and spiritual growth. Both by sharing the contagion of your own missionary interest, and also by presenting missionary speakers to friends and neighbors, you can turn your world around in a very real and decisive way.

You can see laymen become involved in mission field work projects. You can see young people become aware of career mission field opportunities, bringing their lives into focus as they follow God's call. You can see your family become involved in missions, knowing God has plans for them in missionary outreach.

And you can see neighbors invite Christ into their lives in response to your personal friendship.

Finally, then, let's try to put it all in a word. As children call out, "You're it, for tag," Christ is calling out to every follower: "You're it for missions!" Your response? To make reaching this world's unreached people your number one priority, your "magnificent obsession."

And it's not just a good idea. It's really the only option you have!

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# AFRICANS IN JAPAN?

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do all we can to include at least one missionary in our family. Then, missions becomes personal.

Former missionary Neil Gilliland spoke at our state auxiliary convention and gave three general requests:

(1) Pray for God to send out missionaries. The fields are white. Laborers are needed.

***You must also put your money where your mouth is if you want your kids to love missions.***

(2) Pray for God to send out someone from your local church as a missionary.

(3) Pray for God to send your child as a missionary.

This makes it personal and

demands real contemplation. It is hard for us to think in these terms. It is too close to our home, yours and mine. Yet, how can we do otherwise?

Maybe God will call one of my children to be a missionary. If so, I want to prepare each heart now so that he or she will say "Yes!" to God later. I want each child to be infected with a love for missions, not vaccinated against it.

Recently Luke changed his prayer to, "Bless the Michigans in Japan."

I simply said, "Amen."

Who knows? Maybe a few of those are there, too!

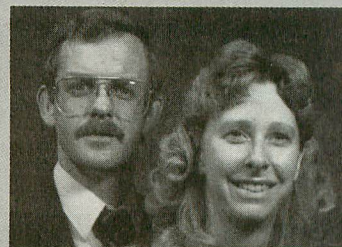
Ruth Creech Mullen is the wife of Jim Mullen, pastor of First Bible FWB Church in New Castle, Ind.

\*Prayer cards, maps, and other informational materials are free upon request from the foreign missions office.

Clip and mail

## The Doropo Hospital Needs the Huddlestons

In answer to prayer Dan and Nina Huddleston have said "Yes" to the call to serve as maintenance missionaries while the Robert Wests take a much-needed furlough. Dr. Kenneth Eagleton must have someone to maintain the property and hospital equipment as well as repair the vehicles and generator.



Dan is a graduate of Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, N.C., and has extensive training and experience in maintenance. He and his wife have recently completed the Youth With A Mission training course. They have three children. The family needs **\$8,000** in their account and **\$2,400** in monthly commitments for the year they plan to spend in Africa.

Yes, I want to help the Huddlestons serve as maintenance missionaries in Cote d'Ivoire next year. As God provides, I'll give the following amount monthly until they complete their assignment:

( ) \$20 ( ) \$30 ( ) \$40 ( ) \$50 ( ) \$\_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

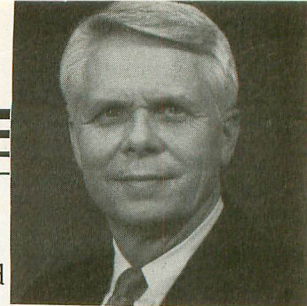
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Church \_\_\_\_\_

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

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





## How Can We Start?

In 1970 a church called a new pastor. The congregation was discouraged. They had allowed the building to deteriorate. Weeds blocked the view of the church sign which was falling down.

The new pastor accepted the challenge and faithfully preached God's Word. He suggested to the deacons that they have a missionary conference.

The idea did not meet with a warm reception. The lay leaders hardly saw the wisdom of sending the church's money overseas with such great needs at home. But, finally, the deacons reluctantly agreed.

Ten years later the missions budget in that church had grown to \$70,000. During the tenth annual missionary conference the congregation showed their appreciation to the pastor by giving him a new automobile and airline tickets for his wife and him to visit their missionaries overseas.

### Special Gifts to Missions

These individuals gave special gifts in December and January in memory or in honor of friends or loved ones:

Donor	In Memory of
Jewell Sexton Ashland City, Tenn.	Mrs. Lila Cannon
Western Piedmont Woman's Aux. Belmont, N.C.	Mrs. Myrtle Parris
Alice Smith Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa	Dr. Edwin Shepherd Samuel R. Smith
Paul and Peggy Tackett Ashland City, Tenn.	Mrs. Lila Cannon
Jimmie and Peggy LeVault Sesser, Ill.	Allene Basso
Darrell and Sarah Fulton Carol Stream, Ill.	Mary Hicks Jo Dillard
R. Eugene Waddell Nashville, Tenn.	Donald Cronk Jo Dillard Mary Hicks
Mrs. Elsie King Bellevue, Tex.	Melvin King
Rev. Howard and Anita Messer Mike Messer Mrs. Elmer Keener Asheville, N.C.	Michael Lynn Messer
Walter and Sherry Lynn Dotson Waverly, Tenn.	John Procop
Mrs. Beatrice Thomas Four Oaks, N.C.	Mrs. Junius Phillips
Temple Original FWB Church Darlington, S.C.	Rev. Henry L. Player
Peggy L. Stevens Smithfield, N.C.	James U. Lee Lenwood Collier Geraldine Phillips
Joe Whitehead Headland, Ala.	George McLain
Glenn and Betty Johnson Mt. Clemens, Mich.	Everette Brown
Wayne and Phyllis Corder Church Hill, Tenn.	Letha H. Greear
Danny and Zelma Puett Etowah, Tenn.	Lee and Girtha Parris

These individuals or groups gave in memory of Susie B. Squiers:

Mildred and Kermit Squiers Concord, N.H.	Robert and Winifred Kimball Augusta, Me.
Wayne Squiers Augusta, Me.	R. Eugene Waddell Nashville, Tenn.

These individuals or groups gave in memory of Rev. Alton "Blackie" Kirkland:

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Stell Bellevue, Tex.	Mrs. Allene Cantrell Bellevue, Tex.	Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Parr Bellevue, Tex.
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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 \_\_\_\_\_

### The World Missions Offering is one of three pillars of support for foreign missions outreach.

Although it was not a Free Will Baptist church, this example shows that God abundantly blesses an obedient, unselfish, and generous congregation. Many pastors and church leaders express a genuine desire to become more missionary-minded. They often ask us in the missions office, "How can we start?"

One response is simply, "Start by observing Foreign Missions Month. Plan to receive a generous World Missions Offering on April 30."

The World Missions Offering is one of three very important pillars of support for Free Will Baptist foreign missions outreach. Together with faith-promise gifts and support from church budgets, generous offerings on Foreign Missions Sunday can significantly help Free Will Baptists fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord.

Last year more than 100 churches observed a special foreign missions emphasis during April. They distributed literature. Some had special prayer times for our missionaries. Several churches showed video tapes reporting on our ministry in several fields. Ninety-six churches received special foreign missions offerings totaling \$33,811. Several pastors commented on the blessings of their participation and made helpful observations.

Reverend Tommy Street emphasized advanced



**R. Eugene Waddell**  
General Director

planning in his program at the Adwolfe church, Marion, Va. He launched a fund-raising effort eight weeks before Foreign Missions Sunday. The extended emphasis influenced the congregation, not only to raise \$1,207, but to allocate two percent of the church's income for the ministry of the Murrys in France! Pastor Street was especially pleased that the Murrys could be present and reported that it was a most enjoyable experience for the congregation.

Various methods were used last year. Many pastors preached on missions. Some churches designated their Wednesday night offerings to foreign missions during the month of April. At least one church gave all their offerings on Foreign Missions Sunday for world outreach! Many churches used our "April Quarters" coin folders.

Home missionary Elmer Turnbough stressed the importance of pastoral leadership. He wrote, "The key—in my opinion—the pastor must practice, preach, teach, and keep missions before his people." He further emphasized the value of using the church bulletin and bulletin boards to reinforce the announcements and challenges from his pulpit.

***God abundantly blesses an obedient, unselfish, and generous congregation.***

Foreign Missions Month is an exciting time to involve the various auxiliaries of the church. Sunday school classes can set goals and undertake projects. Youth groups can raise funds through walk-a-thons, jog-a-thons, rock-a-thons, read-a-thons, and bike-a-thons (for help in conducting these efforts, write to Don Robirds in the foreign missions office).

If 50 people in a church would agree to give the equivalent of the cost of a soft drink per day during the month of April, the congregation could send \$750 to advance the cause of Christ overseas. Those participating could use the April quarter folders to collect their coins during the month.

Free Will Baptists believe the Bible. Let's give them the opportunity to be Bible-practicing Christians, fully obeying the Great Commission.

**Financial Summary**

Through February 28

**\$ubstance**

Total income for February .....	\$ 269,409.02
Total income through February .....	504,871.97
Total disbursements through February .....	544,935.34
Projected income through February .....	546,569.00
Total 1989 Budget .....	<b>\$3,279,414.00</b>

Advance gifts through February .....	\$ 18,642.64
1988 ADVANCE Budget .....	<b>\$ 150,000.00</b>

**\$hortage**

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Combs .....	\$ 495.39	Richards .....	\$ 2,096.76
Cousineau .....	2,179.21	Smith, J. ....	5,200.78
Eagleton, Sr. ....	9,767.46	Sparks .....	4,825.89
Hersey .....	720.71	Turnbough .....	6,751.46
McCullough .....	3,390.01	West .....	2,656.88
Midgett .....	9,291.51	Wiley .....	2,607.94
Morgan .....	1,236.83	Cuba .....	148.07
Nichols .....	4,602.90	I.C. Hosp. ....	2,137.19
Payne .....	204.55	Spec. Com. ....	19,187.87
Poole .....	1,505.02	General Fund .....	2,350.77
Total .....			<b>\$81,357.20</b>

**State Goals—1989**

State	Goal 1989	Goal Through February	Contributions Through February
Alabama .....	\$ 185,000	\$ 30,833	\$ 29,170.18
Arizona .....	4,500	750	768.38
Arkansas .....	173,000	28,833	20,364.64
California .....	55,500	9,250	9,560.34
Colorado .....	3,500	583	488.00
Florida .....	85,000	14,167	8,415.54
Georgia .....	145,000	24,167	37,744.86
Hawaii .....	2,500	417	432.20
Idaho .....	750	125	142.48
Illinois .....	102,000	17,000	15,336.20
Indiana .....	38,000	6,333	3,800.03
Iowa .....	1,750	292	216.00
Kansas .....	15,000	2,500	1,445.47
Kentucky .....	88,000	14,667	11,507.97
Louisiana .....	500	83	.00
Maryland .....	15,000	2,500	2,198.08
Michigan .....	140,000	23,333	21,295.21
Mississippi .....	62,000	10,333	7,003.64
Missouri .....	240,000	40,000	36,525.29
Montana .....	1,000	167	115.00
Nevada .....	1,100	183	160.00
New Mexico .....	500	83	100.82
*Northeast Assn. ....	5,000	833	520.00
**Northwest Assn. ....	5,000	833	1,959.18
North Carolina .....	410,000	68,333	64,151.99
Ohio .....	125,000	20,833	14,169.17
Oklahoma .....	380,000	63,333	60,497.99
Pennsylvania .....	1,750	292	65.00
South Carolina .....	195,000	32,500	24,988.58
Tennessee .....	440,000	73,333	61,563.60
Texas .....	100,000	16,667	18,921.76
Virginia .....	115,000	19,167	18,312.70
Virgin Islands .....	3,000	500	1,420.00
West Virginia .....	72,500	12,083	11,360.69
Miscellaneous .....	67,564	11,261	15,150.98
Totals .....	<b>\$3,279,414</b>	<b>\$546,567</b>	<b>\$499,871.97</b>

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

\*\*Northwest Association  
Alaska, Oregon, and Washington





Dan and Nina Huddleston will serve as associate maintenance missionaries in Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa.

## Arkansas Couple Named for Maintenance Ministry

*Nashville, Tenn.*—Dan and Nina Huddleston of Mountain Home, Ark., have been appointed as associate maintenance missionaries for the medical station in Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), West Africa. The couple was given the okay by the Board of Foreign Missions in March. They hope to depart in August to serve one year while the Robert Wests are on furlough.

Dan has extensive training and experience in institutional and vehicular maintenance. For the past year and one-half he and Nina have been studying at the Youth With a Mission training base in Elm Springs, Ark. They have three children: Sarah, age 5; Daniel, age 3; and Rachel, age five weeks.

"We feel sure God has raised up Dan and Nina to minister in Cote d'Ivoire right at this time," said R. Eugene Waddell, general director of foreign missions. "I'm very impressed by the burden and dedication they demonstrate. Their ministry is essential to the effectiveness of our medical and evangelistic team in Doropo."

The Huddlestons are members of Westside Free Will Baptist Church in Springdale, Ark., where Paul Payne is pastor.

## Dobbs, Loveless and Callaway Visit Cuba

*Cuba*—Two Free Will Baptist ministers from the United States and a missionary from Spain attended the annual Cuban National Convention of Free Will Baptists held March 10-12.

Dean Dobbs, foreign missions board member from New Bern, N.C., was joined by Ohio Promotional Secretary Alton Loveless. Missionary

Ron Callaway met the duo in Cuba and acted as translator during the services and as they visited with Cuban Christians.

Dobbs and Loveless left the United States on March 7 and returned on March 17. Callaway went to Cuba on March 5 and spent two weeks on the island.

## Turnbough Reports on Conversion in Villalba

*Spain*—According to missionary Jeff Turnbough in Villalba, Spain, a 16-year-old boy named Javier was converted in early February. "We were excited that we just sat back, prayed, and watched a young couple (whom I married last year) lead him to the Lord!" says Jeff. The young man is a brother of a member of the Villalba church.

"I've already had two follow-up lessons with him," Turnbough continued. "It's really exciting."

Jeff also revealed that Matthew, the Turnboughs' son, has been suffering from nausea off and on since January. Doctors have been treating him for a slight condition of epilepsy and latest information indicates the medication may have been too strong. Jeff and Susan were scheduled to take the boy to an ear specialist later in March. Christians have been urged to pray for Matthew.

## Heaths Optimistic About New Work in Germany

*Germany*—"Everything is falling into place concerning the work at Langerkopf," writes missionary affiliate Technical Sergeant Dennis L. Heath, who is stationed in Germany. Heath is hoping to have full chapel support since he has spoken with both the chaplain and his commander.

Dennis also wants to start a separate work in a civilian community of Ramstein Village which is approximately two miles from the largest American military base in Europe. The Heaths have located a small facility they can rent in the village if everything works out.

## Aldridges Attend Brazil Association Meeting

*Brazil*—Overseas secretary Jimmy Aldridge and his wife, Janie, were on hand for the Brazilian Association of Free Will Baptists which met February

11, 1989, with the new congregation in Ribeirao Preto.

"It was a special joy to see our Brazilian believers conducting their business, making plans, defining goals and responsibilities, and, in one case, asking forgiveness for not carrying out delegated responsibility," Jimmy stated. "Pastor Eliseu of the Araras church preached a tremendous message."

"It is a great blessing to see the steps our churches and leaders are making toward maturity," Aldridge continued. "This was evidenced by their concern to establish new works."

The Aldridges returned to the United States on March 8.

## Mini Reports from Around the Globe

*Jacksonville, N.C.*—Mr. John Rhodes, father of missionary Priscilla Inscoe, died on January 26 in Onslow Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville, N.C. Mr. Rhodes had suffered with cancer since June of 1986.

*Spain*—Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Turnbough of St. Petersburg, Fla., visited their son, Jeff, and his family in Villalba, Spain, over the Christmas season. "We spent a night with most of our missionaries and had wonderful fellowship with all of them," writes Pastor Turnbough. "We spent a total of 16 days and enjoyed every minute."

*Brazil*—Missionary Tom Hughes reported 19 conversions in the work in Uberlandia, Brazil, during 1988. Sunday school attendance for the First Free Will Baptist Church in Uberlandia increased by more than 25 percent over the previous year.

*Effingham, S.C.*—Mrs. J. D. (Mary Evelyn) Hicks, mother of missionary Geneva Poole, died on October 27 in Effingham, S.C. The *Heartbeat* staff overlooked reporting this loss earlier. Mrs. Hicks had suffered a stroke and heart attack in July of last year.

*Nashville, Tenn.*—The Board of Foreign Missions is scheduled to meet in Nashville April 24-27 for their annual session.

*Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)*—According to missionaries Jerry and Carol Pinkerton, the reading room in Bondoukou is "a beehive of activity." The reading room is open daily except Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon





"Mom" Mabel Willey (left) and Dr. Mary R. Wisehart (right) display rice trays which were presented by Fressia Diaz (center) on behalf of the Free Will Baptist women in Panama.

and from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. A young man, Silas, is constantly on hand to assist those who come to learn about God.

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Don Robirds, director of communications for foreign missions, underwent surgery on February 16 at Park View Hospital in Nashville. A neurosurgeon removed a bone spur from his neck and fused the fifth and sixth vertebrae. Robirds was suffering numbness and loss of useage in his left hand. Surgery was considered successful and Don returned home on February 20.

**Japan**—"In our last newsletter we mentioned Mr. Mitsui who had made a confession of faith," writes Ken Bailey from Japan. "Since that time, he has stopped attending church services. We desire your prayers for him and for us as we deal with him."

**Brazil**—Due to the rampant inflation in Brazil, the government has dropped three zeros from their currency, the Cruzado. They have labeled the new currency the New Cruzado. Along with the new money came a price freeze which is already causing items to disappear from the marketplace.

**France**—Jalayn Martens, Glenna Leatherbury, and Ron and Linda Moore will be concluding language study at Albertville, France, in June. They all plan to attend Summer Institute of Linguistics during the summer and proceed to Cote d'Ivoire in September.

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Missionary Marvis Eagleton underwent an arteriogram on January 20 due to chest pains. Doctors finally decided her problem was with her gallbladder. She had surgery on February 2 to remove the gallbladder and at latest report was recovering normally.

## Panama Women Unite in Service and Love

**Panama**—Women from the Free Will Baptist churches in Panama gathered at Santa Clara Baptist Camp on March 3 for the first national women's retreat. Eighty-three women attended the event.

The theme for the retreat was "United in Service and Love." "Mom" Mabel Willey presented Bible studies on love while Dr. Mary R. Wisehart, secretary-treasurer of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention, spoke on unity in service and women in missions.

According to Dr. Wisehart, "The women demonstrated a willingness to take a servant's place by doing their share in the kitchen."

At the business meeting the women voted resoundingly to have another retreat in 1990.

"In spite of the economic situation in the country, Free Will Baptist churches in Panama seem to be healthy and growing," concluded Miss Wisehart.

## Eagleton Cites Recent Effects of Medical Work

**Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)**—According to Dr. Kenneth Eagleton in Doropo, Cote d'Ivoire, a young couple from Tehini came to the hospital in Doropo where the wife was treated for acute anemia and given a blood transfusion. "After two days in the hospital she went home feeling much better," says Kenneth. "Her husband was so impressed by the hospital and the Christians that he went to midweek services at our church in Tehini and got saved. The next Sunday he came back to church and asked to enroll in a Bible correspondence course."

Eagleton continued, "That same Sunday, three other adults came to

the church in Tehini wanting to abandon the fetish and to become Christians. After church I spent time explaining to them what it meant to be a Christian and how they could be saved. All three prayed to accept the Lord into their hearts."

Dr. Kenneth noted that the month of January was a busy month at the hospital. One thousand eighteen patients were attended, 69 were admitted to the hospital, and 24 babies were delivered. Vaccine was administered to 982 people. Eight cases of meningitis were treated during the month.

## Annual Conference in India "Biggest Ever"

**India**—"We had more people than ever for any conference," writes Carlisle Hanna from North India regarding the annual conference for Free Will Baptists held February 15-19.

"The church income was the best ever and the greatest number followed in obedience to the door of our church," Carlisle continued. "Our number increased by 89 in the past conference year."

Reverend Subodh Sahu was the special speaker for the conference.

## Bunches Request Prayer as They Begin Furlough

**Panama**—As Stan and Brenda Bunch were preparing to leave Panama for furlough, they requested prayer for Raul and his family. "Raul has completed his seven Bible lessons but has not been faithful to the church," says Stan. "His family does not attend now."

Bunch noted that the church in Las Tablas was having difficulty in meeting their payments as members are not tithing due to the monetary crisis in the country. He urged people to pray for the church.

## Barnard Book Read Over BBN Radio Network

**Chesapeake, Va.**—The Bible Broadcasting Network based in Chesapeake, Va., has been featuring "Touching the Untouchables" by Laura Belle Barnard on their program called Christian Classics. The program is aired three times a day Monday through Friday: at 4:45 a.m., at 12:15 p.m., and again at 10:30 p.m. All times are given in Eastern Standard Time.



# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Post Office Box 1088

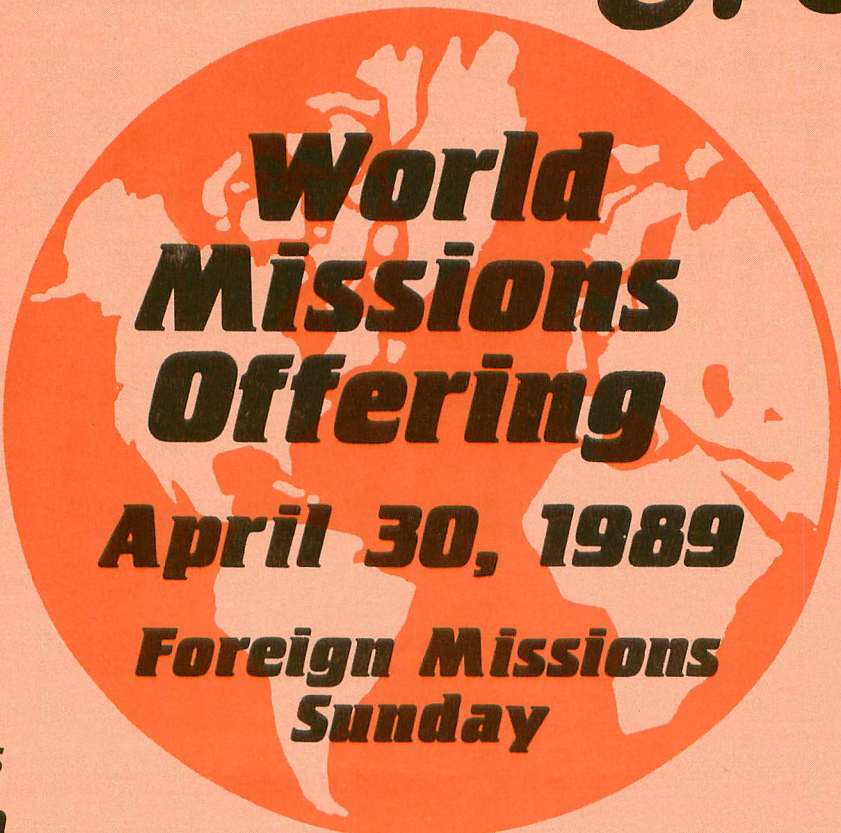
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

**BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS:** Bill Jones, chairman; Norwood Gibson, vice-chairman; Galen Dunbar, secretary; Dan Cronk, Bob Trimble, Joe Grizzle, Dean Dobbs, Archie Mayhew, Bill Reagan.

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:** R. Eugene Waddell, general director; Fred Warner, director of missionary-church relations; Don Robirds, director of communications; Earl Larson, treasurer-administrative assistant; Jimmy Aldridge, overseas secretary-advance coordinator.

*Please clip and send this label with all correspondence.*

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to World Missions...  
It Pays!*



## **World Missions Offering**

**April 30, 1989**

**Foreign Missions  
Sunday**

**April is  
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Month**

**A month-long emphasis will help  
you reach out to a lost world!**



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