

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1996

# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Showing God at work around the world



**The Power of  
the Gospel!**





# The Power of the Gospel!

by Jeff Turnbough

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***I am not ashamed of the gospel. I've seen it work!***

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**S**usan was downstairs shouting, "Come on Jeff, we're gonna be late for rehearsal!" I was doing my best to compose myself as I went over the vows Javier had written for Rocio, his bride-to-be. I knew it would be even more difficult when I heard those powerful words actually flow from his mouth. We hadn't even gone to rehearsal, much less the ceremony, and I could not make the tears stop rolling. I knew I had to get control of my emotions, somehow.

I guess for most folks those words would just be another part of the wedding ceremony: the special singing, the presentation of the gospel, the

vows and everything else. But, as I sat in my office, those words written by Javier did something really special for me. The Lord used them to touch me very deeply in a way that I will not soon forget. Regardless of what anyone says to the contrary, this again was proof that there is **POWER** in the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Maybe I need to explain.

I had met Javier and Rocio about four years earlier. Although Javier was impressed by the change he had witnessed in his sister's life (I had led her to the Lord a couple of years before that), he was very skeptical about God and religion. In fact, he said he was

an agnostic. Even though he didn't think one could know God exists, the change in his older sister's life made him curious to know more about this God she now adored. So, he asked to talk with me. I merely offered to open my home and the Scriptures to study the gospel with him.

On the first night of the study, Javier's girlfriend, Rocio, came with him. We were surprised, but she was quick to blurt out that she was there only because Javier had this curiosity thing he had to get out of his system. Since she had nothing else to do, she had come along for the ride. We were not to get the impression she was the



slightest bit interested in the gospel. Javier declared she had created her own form of religion, and she was a member of the communist party (which evidently made her incompatible with Christianity).

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***We studied one night every weekend from about 7:00 p.m. until around midnight.***

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I informed the couple, as I normally do when offering Bible studies of this nature, that I am not capable of changing anyone. I told them my honest and sincere desire was to help people clearly understand the gospel message of Jesus Christ. We would study the gospel of John, and the rest was up to God and them. That seemed to be a fair enough proposition to them. So, we began.

The journey lasted a couple of years. We studied one night every weekend from about 7:00 p.m. until around midnight or after. We went through many frustrating nights. At times I thought these people would never give their lives to Jesus Christ. They didn't believe in God, nor in His Son Jesus Christ. They had no confidence in the Scriptures, and they had their lives totally programmed by and for self interests. The very idea of "giving their lives" to Christ evidently was offensive to them. The thought of having some type of norm or absolutes outside of themselves, such as the Bible, to guide them or "tell them what to do" was foolish to them. They certainly didn't ever want to give up their individual ambitions and attempt to please

anyone else, not even one another!

Something I would see as selfishness, Javier and Rocio saw as rational, logical and only right. After all, they had studied and worked for so many years to develop themselves and their individual careers. Although they were dating, they weren't too thrilled at the idea of giving themselves to one another, committing themselves to faithfulness, nor to actually trying to fulfill one another's needs.

Then, it happened! I'll never forget it. It was the last weekend in November, two long years after we had started.

When we study the Scriptures with someone, I've found that an open, honest talk with the Lord in prayer is not offensive. Actually, it seems to be a very positive time for seekers. Once the gospel has clearly been presented (usually by about chapter 3), I always open the prayer time in case they want to respond to what God has clearly stated in His Word.

On that November evening, we got down to the prayer time, and in a very unorthodox but very sincere way, Javier began to speak to the Lord. It was even more difficult for him that night because another couple was visiting the study. But it made no difference to him. He was ready to give his life to Christ, and he did!

The very next weekend, without anyone saying anything, we got around to prayertime. Javier prayed again, and as soon as he said "Amen," Rocio began to pray. I have never heard a more sincere prayer in my life. I remember she even

laughed when she said "Lord, I'm sure you and everyone here probably think I am the last person who would ever say this, but . . ." and she confessed her sin and need of the Savior!

I know Christ really came into their lives! And it was all a result of obeying the simple terms of the gospel. The gospel is the power of God to change people's lives! It would certainly be flattering to say or think that I did this, but both God and I know it isn't true. I could never change hard-hearted people. Only the Word of the Lord is powerful enough to enter people's hearts and lives and change them.

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***I baptized both of them before the largest crowd of unsaved people we've ever had at a baptism.***

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As I sat there in my office reading the vows Javier had written, all the glory, honor and credit went to the Lord Jesus Christ who deserves it. I wept, not due to an emotional church service or a big evangelistic campaign, but because the Spirit of the Lord used some words on a piece of paper to impact my heart and life.

Javier and Rocio completed the study of John. Then they did a year of discipleship, studied the book of Romans, and just this last year, they finished up two years of studying Systematic Theology. Steve Reeves and I baptized both of them before the largest crowd of unsaved people we've ever had at a baptism (all their friends and family).

*Continued on page 4* →



→Continued from page 3

In preparation for the wedding, we studied what the Scriptures have to say about matrimony and the family. At last, it was time to perform their marriage.

Of the many weddings in which we've participated, this one had the largest number in attendance. The Spirit of God was in that place, and I'm sure most everyone felt His presence. I was quick to announce that I did not write the vows. I explained that they came from Javier's heart:

***"I, Javier Roa, before my friends, my family, my brothers and sisters in Christ, and before God, do promise to you, Rocio, to love you as Christ loved His Church. I promise to attempt to make you happy and to fulfill your needs as a wife, as a woman, and as a mother. I promise to be by your side to protect you, to help you, and to comfort you. I promise to be faithful to you, attentive as a husband and wise as head of our family. I promise to have the Word of God present in our lives and to maintain Christ as the center and union of our marriage.***

***"I promise, Rocio, that I most desire you to truly feel loved until death separates us or the Lord comes to take us home."***

Once again I can say, "The gospel did that!" Like the Apostle Paul, I am not ashamed of the gospel, because I've seen it work!

Jeff Turnbough and his wife, Susan, have served as missionaries in a suburb of Madrid, Spain, since 1982. They are currently home on furlough.

# A MISSIONS HEART

by Elizabeth Charles Gomes

***We can develop  
a heart for missions  
in our children!***



**H**ow can we teach a child to open his or her heart to missions? Some Christians have doubts as to what God has for their own lives. They think missions is something for super-spiritual people with an adventuresome spirit! But if we wish to give our children a missionary heart, we must develop one in ourselves according to God's Word.

What is the mission of the Church? Not just locally, but Christ's Church in all the world? In Matthew 28:19, 20 Jesus commissioned His disciples: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you . . ." The verb tense is continuous: "GOING to all nations," a process which occurs while we are living, walking and doing. That means while, wherever and to whatever situation we

are going, we are to MAKE DISCIPLES.

For parents and teachers, the first disciples are their children. Christian parents have a missionary task which begins at home. They are challenged to make disciples of the children who were entrusted to them—on loan—by the Lord of the Harvest.

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***The first time I  
"witnessed" to a  
neighbor, I was under  
four.***

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We are all witnesses—either of Christ and His redeeming grace, or else witnesses of the chaos and emptiness of a life without God. Each person is either a missionary or a mission field. If we understand this, we will begin testifying wherever we are and with whomever we have contact. But we will not restrict ourselves to our own "Jerusalem" of local missions:



"all Judea, . . . Samaria, and . . . the uttermost part of the earth" will be touched by our testimony.

## A Missionary Spirit

Children imitate us and learn from us—especially what they observe in our day-by-day living. They will see missions as an integral part of Christian life if they see that we do not live alienated from the Great Commission. They will learn to submit to the Lord's authority if they see we are submissive to His will, thirsty for learning and obedient to His Word.

Missionary parents (humanly or spiritually) give birth to missionary children. That doesn't mean every child of Christian parents will have to choose a foreign mission field. But we will develop in the children we teach a taste for sharing and practicing the Word of God. This doesn't make narrow-minded kids. On the contrary, it sensitizes their minds for a wider and deeper knowledge of the world in which they live.

The first time I "witnessed" to a neighbor, I was under four. I took my Bible to her house, sang, prayed, told the story of Jesus and invited her to receive Him as Savior. This lady went to my mother and really was converted. Someone might say that children only act as "parrots" repeating what they heard from parents; however, the redeeming and sanctifying work is done by the Father through the Spirit, who gave all authority to the Son. A shoeshine boy evangelized by a five-year-old is today a minister in Northeastern Brazil. Children who love mission work when

little will continue to mature in this love if we have a commitment to the truth of God's Word.

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## *Children imitate us and learn from us—especially what they observe.*

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Missions also means going to another ethnic and cultural group, so that all can hear the Good News. In the first century, the disciples might have remained in Jerusalem if they hadn't been persecuted by their own people and by the Roman dominators. But they were dispersed, and wherever they went they preached the gospel, turning the world upside down!

## The Missionary Child

With eyes open to the world God made, a heart sensitive to the needs of those who don't know the Truth and general knowledge honed by a missionary challenge, both children and adults will be more complete persons. A missionary's little boy knew what it was to ride an airplane, fish with a spear in the river, speak English, Portuguese and Kaiapo with the same ease. He also knew which language to speak to which person and how to communicate to other States through the ham radio in case of emergency. An underprivileged, suffering child? No, a highly privileged kid!

Even when missionaries go through sufferings and deprivation, it can mean blessings in the lives of their children. Sometimes a missionary finds honor, hosted in places of luxury, with special

presents. At other times, he shares his last resources with someone who needs them more without knowing from where his next help will come. His children will see this and gain stability and trust.

Whether living in New York City or on a farm in Nebraska, whether in the Amazon or the city of São Paulo, in Italy, China or Zaire, a missionary lives in the world God created and among people for whom Christ died. He or she learns more about the incarnation by becoming one with the people in order to take to them the counter-culture of God's Kingdom.

We can teach our children that foreign missions has nothing to do with the adventures of Indiana Jones, though it is the most exciting lifestyle one can have. Whether earning reasonable salaries, owning vast lands and riches or having to depend daily on the Lord for support, the great adventure is in serving the King of Kings—whether in Brazil or Timbuktu!

Elizabeth Charles Gomes is a freelance writer. She and her pastor husband live and serve in the city of Brasilia, capital of Brazil. Both are involved in a writing and teaching ministry as well as missions and evangelism.

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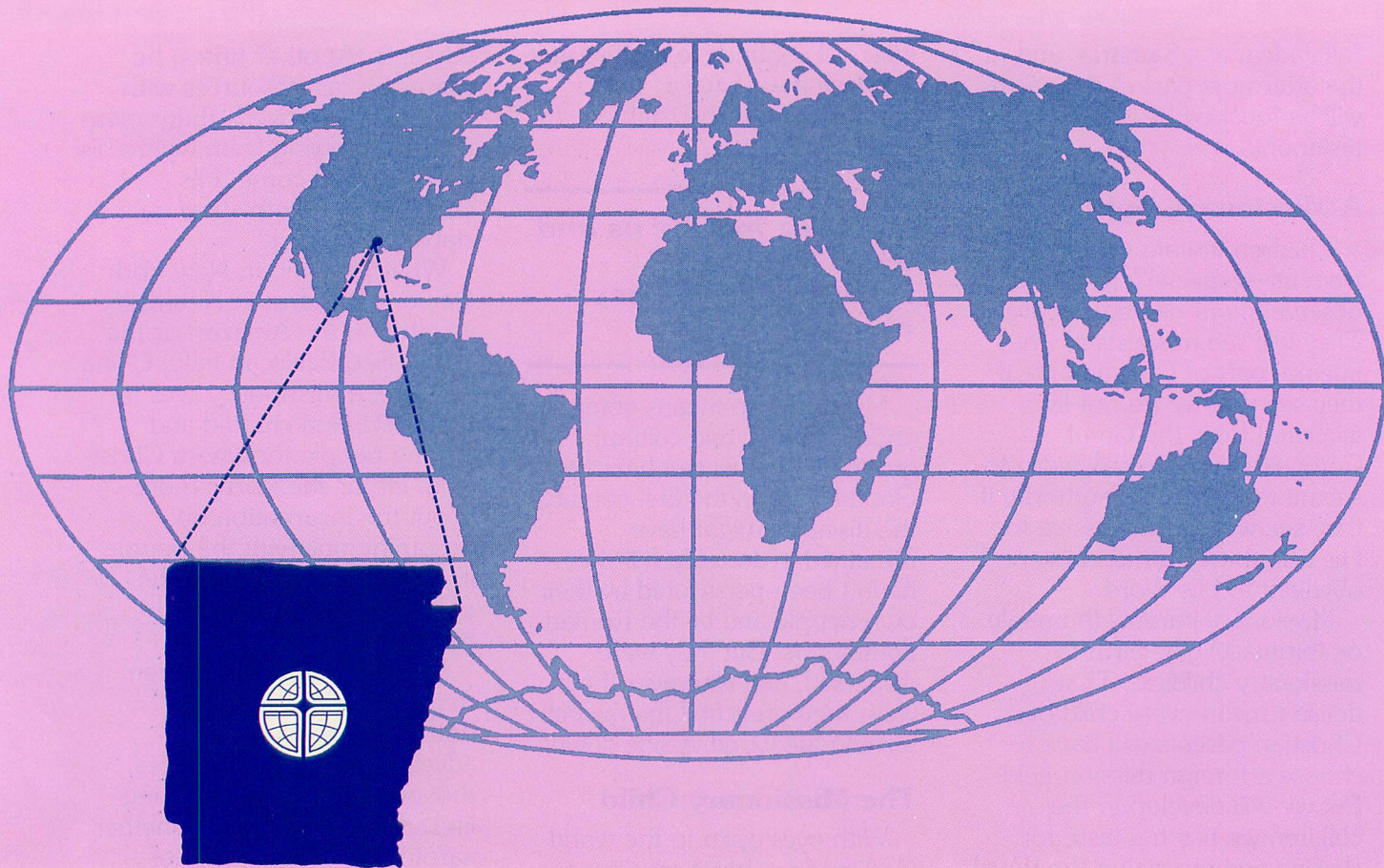
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# THE **A.C.T.S.** 1:8 **PLAN**

*by Doug Little*

## **ARKANSAS COMMITTS FOR TOTAL SUPPORT**

**T**he air in the tabernacle at Camp Beaverfork was electrified with anticipation as they called for the vote. Delegates stood unanimously in favor of the recommendation, and the enthusiasm spilled over into tears and shouts of joy.

The Arkansas Association of Free Will Baptists had just adopted a comprehensive new plan of support for Arkansas-

based foreign missionaries! That decision in August of 1995 ushered in a new day for missionaries, churches, district associations and individual Free Will Baptists. The new program is known as the A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan. It employs the acronym, "**A**rkansas **C**ommitted for **T**otal **S**upport," plus the scriptural mandate for missions from the first chapter of Acts.

### **What is the A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan?**

This plan is designed to provide support for foreign missionaries from Arkansas as a whole rather than individually. Free Will Baptists in Arkansas can cooperate toward a common goal and accomplish together what none could do alone. Potentially, the A.C.T.S.



1:8 Plan could transform the entire denomination's thinking about foreign missions support.

Once the plan is fully implemented, missionaries from Arkansas will get to the foreign field more quickly, more economically and more refreshed for the work. This new plan focuses on missions more than individual missionaries, but it also promotes strong personal ties between missionaries and churches throughout the state.

### ***How does the A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan work?***

To qualify for support through the A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan, foreign missionaries must meet the following criteria: **(1)** They must be appointed by and be in good standing with the Board of Foreign Missions of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. **(2)** They must have strong residency ties to Arkansas Free Will Baptists.

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### ***The A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan could transform the entire denomination's thinking about foreign missions support.***

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Where a single missionary and/or both husband and wife are from Arkansas, the state is committed to underwrite the entire annual missionary budget. When only the husband or the wife is from Arkansas, the A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan calls for 50 percent of their annual missionary budget to be covered. For a missionary couple that receives strong support from a third state, 25

percent of their missionary budget will be underwritten.

According to these provisions, the following missionaries are scheduled to receive support from the A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan in these proportions:

Bobby and Sue Aycock .....	25%
Dale and Sandra Bishop .....	50%
Eddie and LaRhonda Bowerman .....	100%
Stan and Brenda Bunch .....	50%
Earnie and Jean Deeds .....	50%
Donnie and Ruth McDonald .....	25%
Patsy Vanhook .....	100%
Terry and JaNelda Walker .....	50%

The Bowermans, Walkers and Patsy Vanhook will receive their full share in 1996 while the other percentages will be phased in over a five-year period. The Bowermans and Walkers are newly appointed and need to go to the field in 1996, while Patsy is dependent on Arkansas for her total support. For 1996, the other Arkansas missionaries will be supported at 55 percent of their total monetary needs. Each year that amount will gradually increase until the year 2000, when all Arkansas missionaries are fully supported as outlined.

The A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan calls for \$180,000 during 1996. The amount will vary from year to year according to actual missionary budgets approved by the Board of Foreign Missions and the National Association. The percentage allotments for A.C.T.S. 1:8 will be approved for each new calendar year by the Arkansas State Association.

Between the State Association and the beginning of the new year, the A.C.T.S. 1:8 Task Force will promote the plan and solicit support for the upcoming

year. Churches, district associations, WNAC local and district units, Master's Men, youth groups and individuals will be contacted. An annual target date for reporting commitments to the state office will allow the task force time to be sure adequate support is raised before the beginning of the new year.

Each year, the total amount needed will be divided into 1,000 shares. For 1996, one share will equal \$180 (\$15 per month). Individual church members are being encouraged to adopt a share, and churches are being encouraged to assume several shares. District associations, WNAC and Master's Men groups also are being asked to include the A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan in their district fund projects.

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### ***By mid-November 450 shares had been committed from just over 20 of the more than 200 churches in the state.***

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November 15, 1995, marked the target date for 1996 commitments to be reported to the State Office. By mid-November 450 shares had been committed from just over 20 of the more than 200 churches in the state.

### ***What will this plan accomplish?***

**1. It will speed new missionaries to their field of service.** In recent years, newly assigned missionaries have

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taken nearly two years to raise their needed support. Now Eddie and LaRhonda Bowerman, for example, can move ahead with their plans to leave for Panama. They know Arkansas Free Will Baptists are committed to provide their support. Their services can focus on their future ministry, and they can concentrate on developing prayer support. They can promote the A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan as a whole, rather than individual faith promises.

**2. It will change the focus of furlough time.** Many of us have grieved over the excessive travel and exhausting demands on furloughing missionaries. Families suffer when the dad is on the road much of the time. Rest, study and reacquaintance time with family and friends takes a back seat to the urgency of raising funds.

Arkansas missionaries can now look forward to coming home for furlough, knowing their support is stable. Deputational services, mostly in Arkansas, can emphasize ministry reports and prayer requests rather than account needs.

**3. It will minimize time away from the foreign field.** Our mission works overseas need the stability of missionary leadership. While furloughs are necessary, the trend in recent years has been toward extended furlough time because financial support was inadequate. Some missionaries have even been called home mid-term because of plummeting support levels. The A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan allows Arkansas foreign missionaries to stay on the field without

interruption and return to the mission field after furlough on schedule. And they can return fresh and ready to resume the work to which God called them.

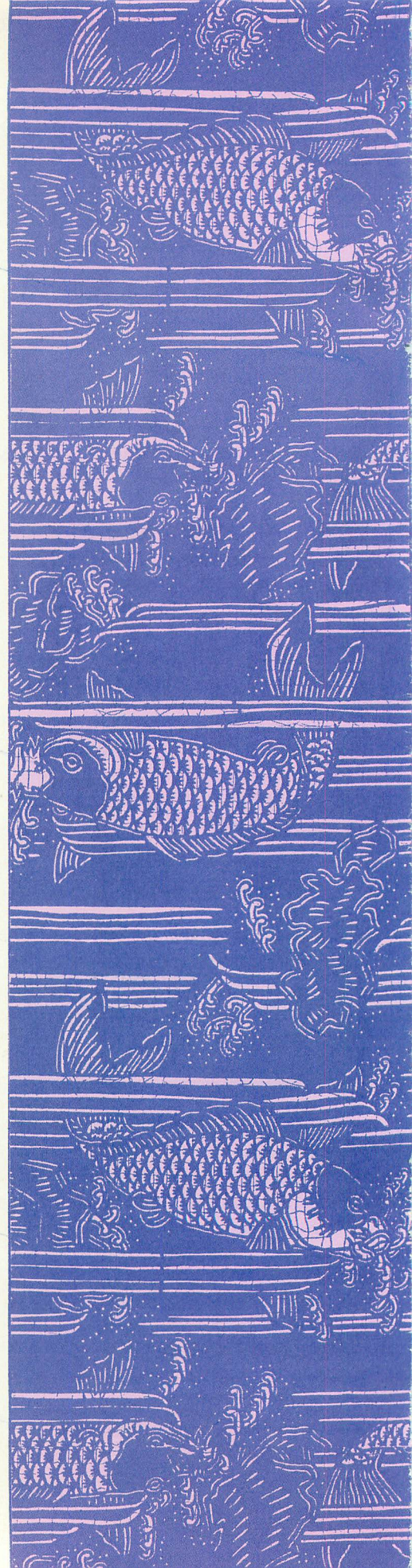
**4. It will reduce the missionary's total support needs.** Deputational work is expensive. Most missionaries find it costs at least \$1.00 to raise every \$3.00 in support. This plan will save thousands of dollars every furlough because it will reduce the extensive travel of our missionaries. In addition, each missionary must presently raise approximately 10 percent above his or her projected support needs, anticipating drastic drops after the first year he or she is overseas.

The A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan will enable missionaries from Arkansas to reduce the total support needed because the giving will remain stable throughout their term.

Free Will Baptists in Arkansas are excited about the opportunities the A.C.T.S. 1:8 Plan presents to us. The challenge is great, but so is our commitment. With God's blessing and the favor of Arkansas pastors and people, we will succeed in accomplishing an incredible feat for the glory of God and the advancement of the gospel.

Our hope is that other groups of Free Will Baptists will adopt a similar plan—or design a better one—to move our entire denomination to a new level of support for foreign missions. Arkansas is truly committed to total support. May God grant us success!

Doug Little, pastor of First FWB Church in Russellville, Ark., serves as chairman of the A.C.T.S. 1:8 Task Force.





# A FAMILY IN CHINA

by Paul Dean

**W**henever we tell people where we live, it is irresistible for them to respond, "Woowooohoooo." That's perfectly all right with us. We have been known to do the same on an occasion or two ourselves. You see, I teach English at Anhui Normal University in Wuhu (Woo-hoo), Anhui Province, People's Republic of China.

We are often asked what it is like to live in a country like China, especially as a family. My response is that it is different from America, but it has a lifestyle to which we have become quickly accustomed. We have been amazed at how soon we have returned to the routine we established during our last school year. It is actually a combination of the cultures of both China and America (mostly America).

Our days are filled with a variety of activities. My wife, Tanya, home schools Suzanne, our six-year-old daughter. Most of Tanya's mornings and early evenings are taken up by school and school-related activities. Some afternoons she tutors people in English. She also has several of my students learning how to cross-stitch. My mornings and afternoons are taken up by teaching, grading papers and preparing for class.

In the evenings, though, one would notice a significant difference in our lifestyle from the way we lived in America. Five evenings each week, our home is the gathering place for many of my students. This is

perfectly acceptable to us; in fact, we encourage it. In our sitting room, many of my students hone their English skills as they visit and talk with their foreign teacher and his family.

These special occasions allow me to become better acquainted with my students. The pupils become more than just students with adopted English names; they become our friends. We begin to share our lives with them, and they gradually share theirs with us. Opening up to foreigners is not as difficult as some Americans might think. Quite often my students open up to us and share things they might never tell another Chinese person. In time, we feel we may know them better than some of their own Chinese friends.

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## ***The differences between the two cultures stimulate a lot of curiosity.***

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Students do not have the freedom to discuss just anything during class, but this time in the evenings is theirs! We let them discuss whatever they desire. Typical conversations concern a wide range of topics from the personal to the outrageous. Often, the discussion centers on America and all its different aspects such as food, schools, politics, religion and families. This last subject is particularly interesting to them because the Chinese are a family-centered

people. This, and the fact that the typical Chinese family is quite different from its Western counterpart, leads them to ask many questions.

We become a living and vivid example of these differences. As Americans, we give our child much more freedom to act and make choices than a typical Chinese child will have even as a teenager. As a family, we relate to one another in a much more casual way than seen in the more formal relationships of Chinese family members.

The differences between the two cultures stimulate a lot of curiosity about Western families and about us personally. We gladly spend much time answering these questions and explaining the differences. In fact, this is a learning experience for us, and it gives us an opportunity to talk about subjects that are close to our hearts. We can share about our Father and how His family members relate to Him and to each other.

China is in the process of change. In just the short time that we have been in Wuhu (now over one year), we have seen many of these changes in person. We are glad to be here and to be a part of that change as we teach English. Many opportunities are open for others to come and join us. It is a chance to share in the marvelous harvest of change China is experiencing!

Paul and Tanya Dean are Free Will Baptists in their second year of teaching English with English Language Institute/China. They live in Wuhu, Anhui Province, China.





*Delegates to the meeting of the International Fellowship discuss organizational guidelines during one session in Jaboticabal, Brazil. John Poole of Brazil (left) was elected president and Ramon Sanchez of Cuba was elected vice president. Dr. Melvin Worthington, executive secretary, chaired the event.*



John Poole



Ramon Sanchez

## International Fellowship Organized in Brazil

**Brazil**—The International Fellowship of Free Will Baptist Churches was officially organized in Jaboticabal, Brazil, as representatives from nine countries met there October 16-21. Dr. Melvin Worthington, executive secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, chaired the historic meeting.

Delegates and visitors met on the property of Evangelândia, the campgrounds of the Free Will Baptist Association of Brazil, who hosted the meeting. Delegates from Brazil, Spain, Cuba, Panama and Ivory Coast spoke during the evening worship services. Representatives from Japan, North America, France and Uruguay brought the morning devotions. The meeting was highlighted by the observance of the Lord's Supper and feet washing during the concluding worship service.

The group adopted this mission statement: "The International Fellowship of Free Will Baptist Churches is a community of Bible-believing churches which seeks to unite Free Will Baptist churches around the world for the purpose of identification, communion, mutual edification and encouragement, in order to better fulfill the Great Commission of evangelism and the establishing of

churches among all peoples."

The fellowship will meet every three years with the first meeting scheduled for October 12-16, 1998. The meeting site for that session will be determined at a later date.

The money to operate the fellowship will come from each country which holds membership. The representatives adopted a budget of \$4,500. Each country is being asked to contribute \$15 per month to underwrite the budget.

Officers elected to serve the fellowship include John Poole, president; Ramon Sanchez, vice-president; and Melvin Worthington, secretary/treasurer. Poole is an MK pastoring the First FWB Church in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil, and is president of the Brazil Association of FWB Churches. Sanchez is pastor at Jibacoa, Cuba, and is president of the Cuban Association.

These officers will compose the executive committee of the fellowship and will meet annually to plan the activities of the body. An office will be maintained at the National Offices building in Antioch, Tenn.

According to Dr. Worthington, the International Fellowship will serve as a center for interchange of information and a forum for discussions. This will permit (1) discussion and seeking of solutions to ethical, practical, social and doctrinal issues; (2) promotion of evangelism; and (3) development of theological training in each country.

## Bunch Cites Progress in Construction, Training

**Panama**—In November missionary Stan Bunch reported that the front of the church building in Parita, Panama, had been finished and plans were being laid to add the doors, windows and other fixtures as funds become available.

Stan also disclosed that he is teaching a group of five men an intense discipleship course. The program, "Experiencing God," is also being used by the Bunches in their own family.

## Agnibilékrou Building Foundation Is Underway

**Côte d'Ivoire**—Missionary Darrel Nichols reported in November that permits had been granted to build the new church building in Agnibilékrou, Côte d'Ivoire, and the foundation was already underway.

"Our first inspection by the local government agency resulted in high praise for the standards we have set in building our church," writes Darrel. "Laborers with picks and shovels dug ditches in the hard ground. I set the grade stakes with a form level provided by the Central Free Will Baptist Church in Muskogee, Okla."

Funds for the new church building were provided largely through the Norman Invasion project of the Arkansas Free Will Baptist youth. The Agnibilékrou church was started by missionaries Norman and Bessie Richards.

## Outdoor Campaign Held by Church in Villalba

**Spain**—The Free Will Baptist Church of Villalba, Spain, held an outdoor evangelistic campaign September 10-17 in conjunction with the Pocket Testament League. The campaign was originally scheduled to begin on September 6 but was delayed by city officials.

According to Miss Lynn Midgett, the city officials would not grant a necessary permit to hold a public assembly until the group had obtained a written permission to use a piece of private property. They were able to get the written permission to use some property on a back street, removed from the busy part of town.

"After the first couple of days, we



began to see the wisdom of God in the choice of locations," Lynn continued. "The empty lot we were using was within a block of the church." Most all who attended knew where the church was located.

"In spite of how God had worked to allow the campaign to take place," writes Miss Midgett, "those of the church and the League were somewhat discouraged. Our expectations were small; we only set out 100 chairs Sunday afternoon for the children's program thinking we would not need even half of them.

"Every chair was filled and we had to set out more," Midgett exclaimed. "That first afternoon, in spite of the continuing winter-like weather, set the trend for the entire week. No matter how many chairs we set out, we always had to get more."

Although no one was saved during the campaign, over 200 children and their parents heard a clear presentation of the gospel.

## Pastors' Conference Set for April in Russia

*Russia*—Three Free Will Baptist preachers are scheduled to participate in a pastors' conference in Chelyabinsk, Russia, April 1-5, 1996.

Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions, in cooperation with the Russian Baptists, is acting as co-sponsor of this special conference designed to help approximately 100 Russian pastors who have had little or no access to formal Bible studies.

The three ministers from the United States who have agreed to speak at the conference are James Forlines, pastor of Allen Chapel FWB Church in Batesville, Ark.; Leroy Forlines, professor at FWB Bible College in Nashville, Tenn.; and Randy Wilson, pastor of Bethany FWB Church in Broken Arrow, Okla.

## Prayer Requested for Côte d'Ivoire Preachers

*Côte d'Ivoire*—Robert Bryan, chairman of the Ivory Coast missionary field council, has requested prayer for all national preachers in Côte d'Ivoire, especially for those assuming new pastoral positions.

These from the first graduating class of the Bible institute have as-



Missionary Curt Holland baptizes one of three converts who followed the Lord in baptism on October 15 in Uberlândia, Brazil.

sumed a new pastorate: Jerome Kambou, Agnibilékrou; Samuel Ouattara, Bondoukou; and Ernest Kambou, Doropo. Other preachers from the first graduating class of the institute include Jean Francois Kossonou, Bouna; Paul Amiezi, Tanda; Francois Hien, chaplain at Doropo clinic; Robert Houessou, working with the leadership training program; and Alphonse Kouadio, Talahini.

From the second graduating class these preachers are serving in new pastorates: Jean-Pierre Hien, Kafalo; Olivier Pale, Djorbanidou; Fermin Dah, Yerekai; Desire Kambou, Saye; Roger Noufe, Tehini; Daniel Sib, Transua; and Yao Kobenan, Goumere. Nicolas Hien is assistant pastor at Bouna.

## Holland Baptizes Three at Uberlândia, Brazil

*Brazil*—Curt Holland reported baptizing three converts on October 15 in Uberlândia, Brazil. Those baptized included Rodrigo, a 16-year-old student; Organa, Rodrigo's cousin; and Fatima, the mother of two children.

Rodrigo was converted under the ministry of Jim Cowart at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Uberlândia. Organa, who is 29 years of age, was saved in May at the Second Free Will Baptist Church. Fatima was saved in January of 1994 under the ministry of Tom Hughes.

## Mini Reports from Around the Globe

*Côte d'Ivoire*—Missionary Darrel Nichols reported in October that three women had prayed to receive Christ in the village of Kangakro. One of the women burned her idols.

*Spain*—According to missionaries Dwain and Debbie Crosby in Spain, 11 students have enrolled in seminary classes which began October 28. Dwain indicated this was the largest enrollment they have registered in four years.

*Côte d'Ivoire*—Missionary Robert Bryan expressed praise recently that approximately 2,000 people had attended a dedication meeting for the new book published by the Evangelical Publishing Center in Ivory Coast. The book deals with politics and the Christian.

*Morehead City, N.C.*—Mrs. Ruby Barker, mother of missionary Molly Barker, died on Friday, October 20, after an extended illness. Funeral services were held on October 23 in Morehead City. Molly was with her mother at the time of death.

*Côte d'Ivoire*—Lloyd and Betty Plunkett reported recently from Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire, that fathers and sons from International Christian Academy planned to put a roof on a mission church at a village west of Yamoussoukro on December 23. The rest of the families at the acad-

Continued on page 12—▶



# News Update



General Director R. Eugene Waddell (left) greets Pastor Nikolai Velichko, his wife and son from Ukraine.

→ Continued from page 11

emy planned to attend services at the village church on Christmas Eve, December 24.

**Uruguay**—Two women and one boy were baptized on September 24 by missionary Dave Franks Jr. Blanca Rual and Rosita Zappitelli followed the Lord in baptism along with Nathan, the Franks' son. The baptismal service was held in a Nazarene church a little over 10 blocks from the Malvin Alto church.

**Moore, Okla.**—Missionaries Mike and Deleen Cousineau were scheduled to depart from the United States on December 25 to return to their ministry at the Bible institute in Bouna, Côte d'Ivoire. Deleen received her M.S. degree in counseling psychology from Southern Nazarene University on December 16.

**Japan**—Missionary Debbie Griffin has requested prayer for a Japanese family with whom she has

had contact through teaching English. The lady has asked her to have a Bible class with her. She has been studying for about two months and is praying for faith to believe. Debbie is scheduled for furlough during the summer of 1996.

**Côte d'Ivoire**—Missionaries Ernest and Elaine Holland are scheduled to arrive in the United States on December 9 to begin their regular furlough from Ivory Coast.

**Pea Ridge, Ark.**—Pastor David Watson of the Pea Ridge Free Will Baptist Church in Arkansas accompanied missionary appointee Eddie Bowerman to Panama December 1-10 to do some survey work among the Cuna Indians.

**France**—Missionaries Dr. Mark and Kathy Paschall finished their language study and tropical medicine training in France and are scheduled to arrive in Côte d'Ivoire on January 26 to begin their medical ministry at Doropo.

## Ukrainian Pastor Meets Board, Welcomes Forlines

**Antioch, Tenn.**—Pastor Nikolai Velichko of Kiev, Ukraine, met with the foreign missions staff and board December 2-4 in Nashville. Pastor Velichko, president of the Brotherhood of Autonomous Baptist Churches and Ministries of Ukraine, also met Professor and Mrs. Leroy Forlines and welcomed their upcoming ministry in Ukraine and Russia.

Accompanying the pastor were

his wife, Ludmila (Lucy) and their son, George, who acted as interpreter. The trio spent time speaking and teaching at Free Will Baptist Bible College on December 5, and Nikolai spoke in four different FWB churches in the area on Sunday and Wednesday evening.

Pastor Nikolai expressed praise that they had discovered some Baptists who agreed with the Ukrainian and Russian Baptists doctrinally. They, too, are Arminian.

The Board of Foreign Missions has voted to provide some funds to complete the seminary building in Kiev and has provided the school with a copy machine.

The Forlines are tentatively scheduled to depart for eastern Europe on January 31 and plan to return around the first of July. Mr. Forlines will be teaching theology in Kiev and Odessa in Ukraine. Dr. Fay Forlines will teach English. Places being considered for their ministry in Russia are Moscow, St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, Novosibirsk, Khabarovsk and some points in Siberia.

Velichko expressed the need for books, especially those which are Arminian in doctrine. The board agreed to provide funds for translating and publishing the book, "Biblical Systematics," by Mr. Forlines.

## Logos Evangelistic Teams Seek University Students

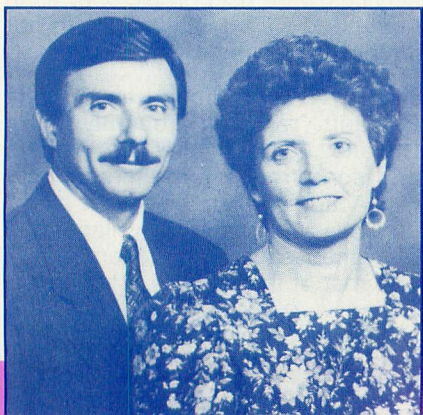
**France**—A cooperative evangelistic effort in December between missionary Charolette Tallent, local church leaders and the ship Logos was aimed primarily at reaching university students in Nantes, France.

Charolette met with advance team members and arranged two meetings on the ship for university students. The first was held December 5. She spoke on the theme "More to This Life."

Tallent had asked for a room to accommodate 20 people, but the contact man told her that she could have a room for 50. Later he told her they were giving her a room that would seat 150. The Logos general evangelistic team also invited university students for a special program on December 6.

Charolette, whose ministry has been with university students at Nantes, recently reported she has averaged 30 students in attendance

Mike and Deleen Cousineau have returned to their ministry in Côte d'Ivoire.







*Veteran missionaries Ken and Marvis Eagleton will return to Brazil in February.*

for Bible classes. Twenty-two of these are Christians. In addition to the 30 people who are attending, Charlotte noted they have 36 other contacts.

## Ken Eagleton to Fill Brazil Assignment

*Antioch, Tenn.*—Veteran missionaries Ken and Marvis Eagleton, who have been helping with a number of tasks in the foreign missions office in Antioch, Tenn., are scheduled to leave around February 8, 1996, for a special assignment in Brazil.

The Eagletons will participate in the annual family retreat in February at Evangelândia in Jaboticabal in the state of São Paulo. Ken will also be

*Pastor Bill Van Winkle (left) of Fulton FWB Church in Fulton, Miss., and Jeff Turnbough stand by a thermometer which displays the church's cash goal that was surpassed in their missionary conference.*



*Pastor Carl Callahan (right) presents a plaque to James Carrington, pastor of United FWB Church in Dickson, Tenn., for the part he played in the Don and Billie Sexton Walk-a-thon for Tennessee missionaries. Walk-a-thon workers met November 13 for a banquet in a restaurant in Johnson City, Tenn.*

preaching in some of the churches in that area.

Following the family retreat, the Eagletons plan to travel northeast with Bobby and Sue Aycock to Barbacena where Ken will be teaching extension seminary classes. He is scheduled to teach Romans, Ephesians and Daniel/Revelation for a total of 136 class hours.

In addition to the regular seminary classes, the Eagletons will help the Aycocks with visitation, preaching and seminars.

Eagleton will also be making advanced arrangements for a future trip of the TEAM (Teens Equipped and Active in Missions) ministry.

The Eagletons are going to Brazil with a significant deficit, but their ministry is vital to the development of Brazilian leaders. They urged supporters to prayerfully consider this need.

## Turnboughs Featured in Fulton Conference

*Fulton, Miss.*—Missionaries Jeff and Susan Turnbough were the featured speakers the weekend of October 20-22, 1995, during the annual missionary conference of the Fulton Free Will Baptist Church in Fulton, Miss.

According to Jeff, the cash goal for this year's conference was set at \$3,000. With a little over 70 people

present, the offering totaled \$4,656. In addition to this, the church committed \$930 in monthly support. Of the \$930 per month in faith commitments, \$250 was designated to the Turnbough account.

Pastor of the church is Bill Van Winkle. This is the fourth time the Turnboughs have been with the church.

## Master's Men Invited to Help Build Dorms

*Côte d'Ivoire*—According to missionary Mike Cousineau, an invitation has been issued for a group of men to go to the Ivory Coast and help with the construction of the new student housing for the Bible institute in Bouna. Jim Vallance, Master's Men general director, is helping to coordinate the project.

Mike says, "We are asking men to pay their own airfare, contribute a nominal fee for food and transportation inland and, if possible, raise \$1,000 each for the project."

## Walk-a-thon Workers Honored at Banquet

*Johnson City, Tenn.*—A special banquet was held on November 13 at Rolf's in Johnson City, Tenn., to honor workers in the annual Don and Billie Sexton Walk-a-thon for Tennessee foreign missionaries.

*Continued on page 14—*



# News Update

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Some 23 people were on hand for the event which was arranged by Pastor Carl Callahan, state coordinator for the event. The banquet preceded the Tennessee State Association which began that evening.

Former missionary Billie Sexton was present for the program but Don was unable to attend. Missionaries Walter and Marcia Ellison participated as did R. Eugene Waddell, general director of foreign missions, and his wife, Genevieve.

Plaques and special awards of recognition were given out by Callahan, who expressed appreciation

to those present for the cooperation and help in the annual fund-raising event.

Latest reports from the finance department of the foreign missions office in Antioch, Tenn., indicated \$119,148.89 had been received from the Walk-a-thon which was held in September.

## Religious Survey Gives Witness Opportunity

**Brazil**—Seven teams of two people from the Barbacena Free Will Baptist Church in Brazil participated in a house-to-house religious survey and evangelistic endeavor during the



Tina Tolbert will serve a short term at International Christian Academy at Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire.

month of September. The survey resulted in 157 interviews and 90 opportunities to share the complete plan of salvation.

According to Aycock, this was the first time some of the people of the church were involved in such a witnessing program. Bobby noted that the survey was also conducted in nearby Antonio Carlos during the month of October.

The Barbacena church took advantage of a holiday on September 7, Independence Day, and had a 12-hour period of prayer.

## Tina Tolbert Approved as Short-term Missionary

**Antioch, Tenn.**—Miss Tina Tolbert of South Haven, Mich., has been approved as a short-term missionary to teach at International Christian Academy at Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire.

Tina responded to this special need for a teacher after health problems forced Miss Tanya Hart to return to the United States in October of 1995. She will be teaching seventh and eighth grade English, Bible and elementary Physical Education.

Miss Tolbert is a 1981 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tenn. She received her M.A. in Organizational Communications from Western Michigan University at Kalamazoo in April of 1992. She founded and has been involved in a preschool and daycare ministry in conjunction with her home church, First Free Will Baptist Church of South Haven. Her father, J. D. Tolbert, is pastor.

## Special Gifts

These individuals gave special gifts in October and November in memory or in honor of friends or loved ones:

Donor	In Memory of
Shirley Umfleet Fenton, Mo.	Arthur Norris
Mrs. Harold Kelsey Kirkville, Mo.	Harold Kelsey
Joy Hall Smyrna, Tenn.	Carl Houk
Marjorie Williams Knightdale, N.C.	Annie Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Julian Palmer Garden City, Mich.	James Shingler
Bay Branch FWB Church Timmonsville, S.C.	Mrs. Leah Waddell
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Van Winkle Fulton, Miss.	Arthur Norris
Mr. & Mrs. Charlie Dixon Chocowinity, N.C.	William Dixon
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Callaway Antioch, Tenn.	Annie Williams
Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Johnson Macomb, Mich.	Margaret Symington Lois Stimpson
Ballews Chapel FWB Aux. Newport, Ark.	Iva Edwards
Annette Phillips Atlanta, Ga.	Catherine Phillips
Scott Jenkins Plymouth, N.C.	William Dixon
Norma Godwin Savannah, Ga.	Barry Godwin
<b>Donor</b>	<b>In Honor of</b>
Valley Forge FWB Church Elizabethton, Tenn.	Mr. & Mrs. Don Sexton

The following gave special gifts in memory of  
Alma Adams:

Melba Burch Rock Hill, Mo.	Glenn Underwood Hemet, Cal.
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Scott Park Hills, Mo.	

The following gave special gifts in memory of  
Rena Waddell:

Mr. & Mrs. Jim Lauthern Nashville, Tenn.	Barbara Nicholson Joelton, Tenn.
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Gragg Nashville, Tenn.	Nancy Jones Nashville, Tenn.
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Hughes Thompsonville, Ill.	Hazel Mann Warren, Ark.
Cofer's Chapel FWB Church Nashville, Tenn.	Grace Reid Nashville, Tenn.
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Van Winkle Fulton, Miss.	Mr. & Mrs. Jim McLain Greentop, Mo.
Mr. & Mrs. Garnett Reid Nashville, Tenn.	Mr. & Mrs. G. B. Trotter Nashville, Tenn.
Mary E. & Richard Griffith Madison, Tenn.	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Steele Nashville, Tenn.

The following gave special gifts in memory of  
Ruby Barker:

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Tomlinson Enterprise, Ala.	Mr. & Mrs. Paul Tackett Ashland City, Tenn.
Mr. & Mrs. Jim McLain Greentop, Mo.	First FWB Church Morehead City, N.C.
Mr. & Mrs. George Mason Oriental, N.C.	Marguerite Mansfield Morehead City, N.C.
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Mason Arapahoe, N.C.	Joyce Hewett Beaufort, N.C.
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Hall Chesterfield, Va.	Rebecca Stewart Ashland City, Tenn.
Mr. & Mrs. Aldon Fulcher Niceville, Fla.	Jewell Sexton Ashland City, Tenn.
Mr. & Mrs. John Cook Stacy, N.C.	Faye Faison Glennville, Ga.
Mr. & Mrs. Graden Barker Oriental, N.C.	Dorothy Dall Morehead City, N.C.
Annie McIntosh Morehead City, N.C.	

Clip and Mail Coupon

## Special Gifts

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 \_\_\_\_\_



Tina moved to Nashville in August of 1994 and has been teaching public speaking at Middle Tennessee State University and Nashville State Technological Institute. She has also been working part-time at Randall House Publications.

Since Miss Tolbert's appointment rose out of urgency, very little time was allotted to her for raising financial support. She was scheduled to leave for Côte d'Ivoire on December 27 with very little financial backing. Those interested in helping to send her for this special service to MKs may send gifts to Foreign Missions, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002. Gifts should be designated to "Tina Tolbert Account."

## Pinkerton Reports New Pastor at Bondoukou

*Côte d'Ivoire*—According to a recent report from missionaries Jerry and Carol Pinkerton, the Bondoukou Free Will Baptist Church in Côte d'Ivoire has called a new pastor. Pastor Samuel Ouattara, who was in the first graduating class of the Bible institute in Bouna, went to Bondoukou after pastoring a village church for the past four years.

Nina, Samuel's wife, is not from the Koulango tribe although the Bondoukou church is made up largely of Koulangos. Tribal barriers are sometimes high and difficult to cross, so Christians have been urged to pray that Madame Nina will be able to work in the church without incident. Samuel and Nina have two children.

## Gibbs Baptizes Three from St. Nazaire Church

*France*—Jerry Gibbs expressed praise recently as he reported baptizing three young adults on September 17 in St. Nazaire, France.

According to Jerry, each candidate gave a testimony of salvation during the worship service at the St. Nazaire Free Will Baptist Church. Then the group of 55 people left for the ocean to observe the baptisms. The unsaved parents of two of those baptized were present.

Gibbs urged people to pray that the testimonies given might speak to the hearts of those who are unsaved.

## Financial Summary Through November 30

### \$ubstance

Total income for October.....	\$ 372,351.20
Total income for November.....	386,531.51
Total income through November.....	3,769,006.26
Total expenditures through November.....	4,048,244.19
Projected income through November.....	4,221,409.50
Total 1995 Budget (including VISION projections).....	<b>\$4,605,174.00</b>
VISION gifts through November.....	\$ 7,334.61

### \$hortage

All of the following accounts are in the deficit:

Bailey.....	\$ 1,890.81	McFall.....	\$ 190.20
Barker.....	5,970.09	McLain.....	3,982.46
Cowart.....	19,658.18	Morgan.....	1,680.65
Crosby.....	8,000.64	Poole.....	688.24
Crowson.....	7,689.32	Richards, N.....	1,427.17
Eagleton Sr.....	11,721.24	Robinson.....	5,555.82
Ellison.....	5,665.99	Sturgill.....	4,907.80
Epps.....	163.25	Teague.....	8,000.75
Griffin.....	5,899.68	Turnbough.....	5,693.38
Hanna.....	40,791.47	Wiley.....	8,989.74
Hersey.....	5,454.87	Wilson, Volena.....	306.71
Holland, E.....	6,429.19	Special Committee.....	18,882.34
Lytle.....	2,401.28		
Total.....			<b>\$182,041.27</b>

### \$inking

The following accounts are in the black but in serious need:

Callaway.....	\$ 693.00	Holland, C.....	\$ 227.06
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## State Goals—1995

State	1995 Goal	Goal Through November	Contributions Through November	1996 Goal
Alabama.....	\$ 174,000.00	\$ 159,500.00	\$ 196,923.84	\$ 183,624.80
Arkansas.....	305,000.00	279,583.33	155,391.80	316,612.43
Arizona.....	6,400.00	5,866.67	8,369.47	6,643.67
California.....	81,000.00	74,250.00	74,424.53	84,083.96
Colorado.....	8,500.00	7,791.67	5,403.07	8,823.63
Florida.....	79,000.00	72,416.67	80,144.47	82,007.81
Georgia.....	154,000.00	141,166.67	166,170.82	159,863.33
Hawaii.....	2,700.00	2,475.00	200.00	2,802.80
Idaho.....	3,000.00	2,750.00	1,056.38	3,114.22
Illinois.....	111,000.00	101,750.00	124,854.18	117,226.16
Indiana.....	35,000.00	32,083.33	34,859.54	36,332.57
Iowa.....	3,200.00	2,933.33	2,840.00	3,321.84
Kansas.....	14,000.00	12,833.33	6,246.44	14,533.03
Kentucky.....	82,000.00	75,166.67	54,295.73	85,122.03
Louisiana.....	1,700.00	1,558.33	2,432.44	1,764.73
Maryland.....	13,000.00	11,916.67	27,748.82	13,494.96
Michigan.....	205,000.00	187,916.67	131,969.92	207,805.08
Missouri.....	347,000.00	318,083.33	255,864.73	369,211.52
Mississippi.....	76,000.00	69,666.67	68,812.72	78,893.59
Montana.....	1,700.00	1,558.33	2,242.50	1,764.73
North Carolina.....	569,000.00	521,583.33	498,739.14	575,663.85
Nebraska.....	1,000.00	916.67	375.00	1,038.07
New Mexico.....	2,100.00	1,925.00	1,298.99	2,179.95
*Northeast Association.....	2,500.00	2,291.67	2,451.00	2,595.18
*Northwest Association.....	13,000.00	11,916.67	6,069.74	12,494.96
Ohio.....	133,000.00	121,916.67	131,692.01	138,063.78
Oklahoma.....	410,000.00	375,833.33	360,935.55	430,610.16
Pennsylvania.....	1,300.00	1,191.67	626.25	1,349.50
South Carolina.....	254,000.00	232,833.33	219,174.86	263,670.68
Tennessee.....	685,000.00	627,916.67	605,513.27	721,080.38
Texas.....	100,000.00	91,666.67	84,124.35	103,807.36
Virginia.....	121,000.00	110,916.67	103,949.07	125,606.90
Virgin Islands.....	2,400.00	2,200.00	3,039.50	2,491.38
West Virginia.....	110,000.00	100,833.33	94,258.37	115,188.09
WNAC.....	150,000.00	137,500.00	179,740.25	155,711.03
Miscellaneous.....	86,250.00	79,062.50	12,962.36	80,533.85
Totals.....	<b>\$ 4,343,750.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,981,770.83</b>	<b>\$ 3,705,201.11</b>	<b>\$ 4,509,132.00</b>

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

\*Northwest Association  
Alaska, Oregon, and Washington



# HEARTBEAT

of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions

Post Office Box 5002  
Antioch, Tennessee 37011-5002

**Board of Foreign Missions:** Joe Grizzle, chairman;  
Dean Dobbs, vice-chairman; Galen Dunbar, secretary;  
Archie Mayhew, Bill Reagan, David Shores, Bill  
Jones, Milton Worthington, James Forlines.

**Administrative Staff:** R. Eugene Waddell, general  
director; Fred Warner, director of missionary-church  
relations; Don Robirds, director of communications;  
Jimmy Aldridge, overseas secretary; Robert Conley,  
treasurer.

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

## You may not be able to travel overseas, but . . . **You Can Witness and Work in Russia!** **Here's how:**

***Help a Russian pastor go to the  
Pastors' Conference scheduled for  
April 1-5, 1996, in Chelyabinsk!***

During the 70 years of communism, Russian pastors were not allowed to get formal theological training. Today, 55 percent remain untrained. But you can help some of them receive biblical training that will equip them to win souls and preach and teach God's Word to their own people! Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions and the Russian Baptists are co-sponsoring a Pastors' Conference in April. Yet, the 100 pastors we hope to get to this conference cannot afford the costs of travel, food and lodging.



**Just \$135 will cover the costs for one pastor for the week.** As you give to help these committed servants of Christ, their witness and work become yours . . . in Russia! Pastors like Nikolai Sobolev (above with his family) become extremely effective in reaching and teaching their own people after attending a pastors' conference. Nikolai has witnessed 180 conversions in Chelyabinsk over the past two years.

**\$13,500 is needed by the end of January. Please respond now!  
No gift is too small!**

### **Pastors' Conference**

*Yes, I want to be a partner in training Russian pastors through the Pastors' Conference. I understand it will cost \$135 to send a pastor, so here's my special gift:*

☐ \$135 ☐ \$33.75 ☐ \$675 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsor 1 Sponsor 1/4 Sponsor 5

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