

CO-LABORER

APRIL • MAY • JUNE • 1965

**SOLVING
FAMILY
PROBLEMS**



THE PROOF OF ONE'S LOVE

MISSIONS IN ACTION

HOW TO TEACH MISSIONS TO CHILDREN

EDITORIAL



"An *inclosed island* of church real estate!"
"Chetty Christianity detached from the mainstream
of life instead of in it!"

"A *cloistered exercise* of the pious."

These are some of the accusations hurled at the church today. Dr. Samuel Miller, dean of Harvard Divinity School says, "The church has become almost as monastic as the orders in the Middle Ages." The early monks withdrew from the world and isolated themselves in evangelical cloisters, disregarding their responsibility to "go into all the world and preach the gospel." Is it not true the church today focuses chiefly on those *inside its own congregation* and has largely lost touch with the world? Christians, victims of a fast-pace age, rush madly from one thing to another so involved in our own church programs that we have little time, strength, or desire to leave the shelter of our *island* and bring a soul to Christ.

Witnessing is not an easy task! It is difficult to overcome the attitude of unconcern for others which characterizes most of us. To win the lost means we must "go and find them," go where they live, cultivate their friendship, and spend time with them. Few have become Christian without the loving testimony of someone who cared enough to seek them out and point the way to God. Did not someone witness to you? In our communities there are many unsaved people who need the ministry of soul-winning visitation. We are obligated and privileged to find them and win them to the Lord. In so doing, we will fill our churches with new believers and our hearts with the joy of the Lord.

Burying ourselves in our churches, maintaining a frantic schedule of Christian activity, but evading our responsibility to win the lost will not please our Lord who said, "Go . . . and make disciples."



SUMMER CAMPS ARE ~~NOT~~ FOR ADULTS

by MAUDE COFFEY
WNAC President

HAVE you ever wished you were young again so you could attend camp? Time doesn't have to turn back in its flight for you to have an opportunity to go to camp. Auxiliary groups are conducting summer camps and finding them very profitable. Your local, district, or state auxiliary can do likewise.

If you are wondering how to go about it, here are some suggestions:

- Select a camp director and a committee to work with her. Your president could serve as director. The director should plan the activities with the purpose of the camp clearly in mind: inspiration, information, and relaxation.

Do not expect easy sailing or an overflow of campers. The benefits, however, are high and very rewarding for those who do attend.

- It is essential to plan early. Select a camp site. If no camp is available, a church could be used as a retreat and those attending could stay in local members' homes.

- Select a theme for the camp and a theme song. Choose the course to be taught, and contact the teachers early. Use courses pertaining to the auxiliary work. *Warning! Don't overload your schedule!* We suggest that the main emphasis be missions—with the evening service consisting of missions films and messages.

- Special features could be prayer time and the chapel hour, using different leaders for each session. Fun time must be included in the schedule with special outings being planned.

- Set the cost of the camp. This will be determined by the camp site being used, cost of food, kitchen help, the number of days spent at camp, and any honorariums or expenses for special speakers or teachers.

Camp involves hard work, preparation, much prayer, and dependence upon the Lord. Start early, and advertise extensively. (For further help, contact Mrs. Rufus Coffey at WNAC office.)

CO-LABORER

Volume V, Number 2, Second Quarter, 1965

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Readers Write

To the editor:

Our auxiliary members do enjoy the programs and extra articles. I want to express my appreciation for the article by Colleen Townsend Evans . . .

Mrs. Jim McClain
Reyno, Arkansas

To the editor:

We thought other auxiliaries might like to know we are saving General Mills Coupons for the Provision Closet for our missionaries.

Mrs. Betty Weir
Toledo, Ohio

To the editor:

I received \$4.20 from the headquarters and wish to thank you for it. I am very grateful to all my donors who give that I might have the necessary things of life.

Miss Bessie Yeley
Portsmouth, Ohio

To the editor:

After a considerable delay, once again we are finding time to write you and thank you for your gifts to our account. Although our letters may be few and far between, we rarely, if every, miss a day praying for you through whom the Lord is supplying our financial needs. Not only are we grateful for your material gifts, but also we appreciate your prayers for us and the work here . . .

LaVerne D. Miley, M. D.

To the editor:

The South Carolina Woman's Auxiliary held its annual convention October 10, 1964, at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg. Rev. and Mrs. Carlisle Hanna were guest speakers. The program theme was "Ready." A goal of \$3,000.00 was set to complete the

Hanna Jeep Project. The remainder will be applied to the Brazil Institute project.

Mrs. Charles Robertson
Spartanburg, South Carolina

To the editor:

While studying my auxiliary lesson for September, I was amazed at the frankness of Mrs. Eunice Edwards, especially the fourth topic: "Where Should I Place My Tithe?" Yes, I believe in tithing. It is a commandment of God. Also, the church is supported by our tithes and offerings. However, there are a few points in the topic that I would like to express my opinion on.

First, she seems to feel that people who feel led to give tithes elsewhere other than the church are "simply setting themselves up to be . . . gods." . . . As God does not lead all . . . people into the same place or the same field of work, I feel that He may also lead some of us to place our tithes elsewhere occasionally for His particular reasons.

. . . In topic five she writes, "I do not mean for you to place your tithe into the auxiliary treasury." I feel that if this was where I thought my money could be utilized best for the glory of God, that is where He would want it . . .

Mrs. Ruby A. Wampler
Grandview, Missouri

To the editor:

I would like to tell you how much we have enjoyed the *Co-Laborer*. It seems to get better every time.

Mrs. Lunda Wood
Tulsa, Oklahoma

To the editor:

The programs in these new *Co-Laborers* are especially good. Our auxiliary also enjoys reading all the extra articles in these books.

Mrs. Robert Almond
Ft. Smith, Arkansas

To the editor:

The cookbook I recently ordered was met with much enthusiasm by those who have seen it. The quality of the material and contents are so much more than I had anticipated. . . . Too bad all women in the auxiliaries throughout the country

can't see a copy of this cookbook. . . . May the Lord bless in this endeavor of WNAC to increase the Student Loan Fund.

Mrs. Martha N. Langford
Lawton, Oklahoma

To the editor:

Our ladies enjoy the new literature. . . . The St. Francois County Woman's Auxiliary elected officers for the coming year: Norma Williams, president; Joyce Webb, vice-president; Jean Blakeley, secretary-treasurer; Jerry Wilfong, program chairman; Wanda Ragsdale, youth chairman; Ava Hellard, study course chairman; and Marion Wilson, personal service chairman. Also, a two-night study of the book, *The Larger Stewardship*, was conducted by Mrs. Eunice Edwards.

Mrs. Jean Blakeley
Flat River, Missouri

To the editor:

The ladies of the Second Free Will Baptist Church have especially enjoyed this issue of *Co-Laborer*.

The program, "Able to Teach Others," brought a special blessing to our hearts. Our auxiliary is growing and God has really blessed us.

Mrs. Mary Harmon
Ashland, Kentucky

To the editor:

We send greetings from South Florida and trust each one will join us in prayer for a great year for the Lord in our auxiliary. We look back on last year with some satisfaction in having had a part in sending two couples to full-time missionary services.

Mrs. Barbara Thayer
Miami, Florida

To the editor:

. . . We appreciate so much the gift to our account during the month of September, and we were so thankful to be able to get the things we needed from the provision closet.

Bill and Joy Jones
Missionaries on furlough
from Africa

To the editor:

. . . You'll never know what a blessing and encouragement the lovely package and all its contents were to me. They came at a special time that I needed encouragement . . .

Mrs. Ethel Whaley
Missionary to Alaska

Note: The contents of the package were obtained from the provision closet. Ed.



Secretaries and Treasurers

SWING INTO ACTION NOW

State recording secretaries and state treasurers should send in their annual reports and dues *before* the first of July if they wish them included in the report to the national convention.

Send treasurer's report and dues to:

Mrs. Cleo Pursell
3801 Richland Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee

Send secretary's report to:

Mrs. Wanda Rogers
Box 464
Mountain Grove, Missouri



The Bread of Life never becomes stale

"I was hungry and ye fed me not . . ."

AMERICA takes pride in the fact that her Armed Forces are the best fed in the world! Yet, we are failing to provide them with the Bread of Life which is much more important than temporal food. Due to insufficient funds, *less than half the requests for Scriptures* from men and women in our Armed Forces were supplied last year.

A few years ago the former Chief of Chaplains of the U. S. Army, Ivan Bennett, estimated that it would take \$400,000 annually to give chaplains in all services adequate Scriptures. In a recent letter, Carl W. Larson of the American Bible Society stated that the most they have been able to allocate for this great missionary endeavor has been \$175,000. This figure translated into Scripture means 802,855 volumes. These are provided free of charge and postage paid by the Society.

ARE WE CREATING A **STARVATION DIET?**

by Cleo W. Pursell



The Society needs \$400,000 annually to give chaplains an adequate supply of Scriptures

Mr. Larson continued, "The chaplains are very grateful for the Scriptures received. They constantly remind us how Scriptures are used both at home and abroad by the servicemen and their families."

Job said, "I have esteemed the Words of his mouth more than my necessary food." The Bread of Life satisfies where ordinary bread cannot. Our deepest needs are not met by the contents of a baker's van. When we are bruised and broken by the problems and frustrations of life, when things go wrong and circumstances become unbearable, and when we need forgiveness for sin, we must have something more than physical

bread to sustain us. We need the strength and consolation found only in the Living Bread.

If you or your auxiliary can help in this ministry of supplying the Living

Bread to one of the greatest mission fields in the world, the spiritually hungry in our Armed Forces, please send your gifts to WNAC earmarked "Bibles for Armed Forces."

1965 PERSONAL SERVICE CALENDAR

by Barbara Zoellers
WNAC Personal Service Chairman

JANUARY

Remember a Bible College student with cards, letters, packages, or an offering.

FEBRUARY

Fix Valentines and take them to shut-ins and hospitals.

MARCH

Give Bibles to the children in your Sunday School who do not have one and distribute tracts.

APRIL

Take an Easter basket to a needy family.

MAY

Do something for your summer camp or send a child to camp.

JUNE

Work in some capacity in Vacation Bible School.

JULY

Remember a superannuated minister.

AUGUST

Start a church library or contribute to the one already established in your church.

SEPTEMBER

Collect coupons for orphanages.

OCTOBER

Have a fellowship prayer meeting.

NOVEMBER

Send gifts to the Missionary Provision Closet.

DECEMBER

Give toys and baskets to a needy family at Christmas.



*Many of today's
family problems would
not be problems
if our children had
proper spiritual
insight*

by Clara Picirilli

SOLVING FAMILY PROBLEMS

IN THE past few years much has been said about home life with reference to juvenile and parental delinquency. Delinquency statistics have rapidly been on the upward trend by the thousands. Where does the problem lie? To what do we contribute this factor? Is it due entirely to the fact that proper discipline has not been practiced? I think not. I believe the greatest need is spiritual guidance.

The God-given privilege of family training is a great task with great rewards—provided we continually follow the leadership of God. We have been admonished to train up our children in His way. No greater responsibility or

privilege is given us parents than leading our children to Christ and giving them spiritual instruction. Many of today's family problems would not be problems if our children had proper spiritual insight.

In this day of living at such rapid pace, it is easy to become so engrossed in other things that we fail to have time for our children. There should be times of counsel and encouragement for each one, and we should never be too busy to listen to their problems. Numerous insignificant things to the grown-up mind are items of real concern to youngsters. Biblical applications, tactfully and prayerfully given, can be very helpful in

solving children's problems as well as leading them into a closer walk with God.

Patience in listening to our children's problems at the time when they are outstanding in the child's mind is also important. It might be more convenient for us to "put off" the child until we have finished a meal or until a television program is over, but we should be careful that we do not give the impression we cannot spare the time to listen and offer our help. Children have a certain sense about them that can detect when we are not truly interested in them or concerned about their affairs.

Of course, discipline has a very definite place in each child's life. Children expect to be disciplined. They *want* us to demand their respect. When the normal child resorts to temper tantrums and other unbecoming acts, he usually isn't doing it just to be "bad." Psychologists tell us that unconsciously the child is making a bid for attention, or perhaps using a "magic formula" for getting his own way (especially if he has experienced victory by this method in the past). The time and place for stopping these demonstrations is on the spot.

Many people today take a dim view of spanking a child; however, I am a firm believer in the statement that we spoil the child by sparing the rod. Punishment should not be put off; no good can be accomplished by waiting until tomorrow or "until daddy gets home." A much more effective result will be experienced if punishment is given at the time of misbehavior. Some experts say that problems of discipline are at a minimum when we consistently and lovingly discipline as it becomes necessary.

From a very early age we begin including our children in our family devotions (and certainly we should). But I believe an area of neglect is the lack of teaching and encouraging our children to have their own *private* times of devotions and communion with God. Prayer is a vital part of every victorious Chris-

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Mrs. Picirilli is the mother of five girls: Jean, Jane, June, Joy, and Jill. Her husband, Dr. Robert Picirilli, is Registrar of Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee. Mrs. Picirilli is secretary to WNAC's Executive Secre-

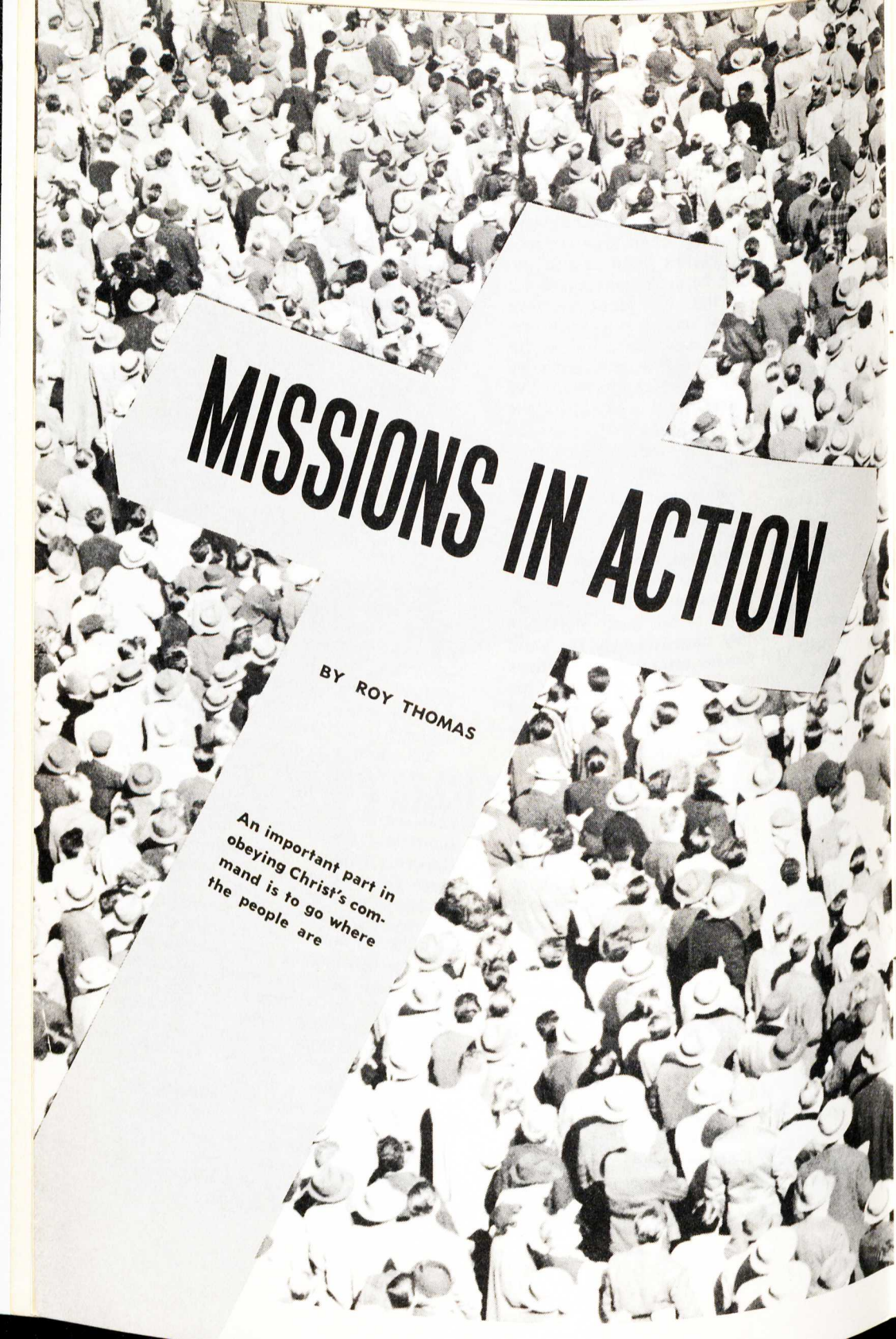
tian life. Some of my sweetest experiences with the Lord have come during my times of private Bible study and prayer.

If perchance there is a reader who does not now have a time of family devotions, I suggest you begin a family altar in your home today. Many family problems dissolve into nothingness by sharing together prayer requests, praise items, definite answers to prayer, and the wonderful fellowship with our Lord.

We adults also have problems—many of which seem to us unsurmountable. I suppose to God these seem as insignificant as our children's little problems sometimes seem to us; however, our Heavenly Father stands willing for us to place every problem and care on Him. He is not only willing but always ready and waiting. What wonderful assurance!

While we serve God and fully trust in Him, He will help us as we seek to solve our family problems, guide us as we shine forth as witnesses for Him, and use us as we take advantage of every moment (in making it count for Him).

*He's using me now—this moment,
And whether I go or stand
Perhaps by a plan accomplished,
Perhaps when He stays my hand,
Perhaps by a word in season,
Perhaps by a silent prayer;
In ways that I know and know not,
His labor of love I share.*



MISSIONS IN ACTION

BY ROY THOMAS

An important part in
obeying Christ's com-
mand is to go where
the people are

The word "missions" is a modern term which we have given to the Great Commission. It simply means obedience to Christ's great command to evangelize the world—to preach the gospel to every creature and bring them to a saving knowledge of Christ.

In Acts 1:8 Jesus told the disciples what their mission was. They were to be witnesses both in Jerusalem, in all Judea, in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

They were to be witnesses in Jerusalem. When these words were spoken, the disciples stood with Jesus on the Mount of Olives, a hill just outside the city of Jerusalem. To begin at Jerusalem was emphasized by Jesus in Luke 24:47 when He said, "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." To witness in Jerusalem was their starting place in obeying His command to evangelize the world. He was simply saying, "This is the place to start. Start here!"

Now they were not in Jerusalem when Jesus gave this command. Why didn't He say, "Begin on the Mount of Olives"? The answer is obvious. There were no people there. The people were in the large city of Jerusalem. This is an important part in obeying Christ's command. *We must go where the people are.* As Free Will Baptists, many of us have missed Jesus' point here. We go to the city to work, to attend school, to buy our provisions, but we put our churches in the country where there is very little evangelistic opportunity.

Jesus was a city preacher! In Mark 1:33 all the city was gathered together to Him. He only went out of the city when the crowds were so great that the town would not hold them.

Mr. Billy Melvin, Executive-Secretary of our National Association, reports that

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Rev. Thomas was our first home missionary to Denver, Colorado in 1961. His church, now self-supporting, has begun another church in that city.

our denomination is growing very little numerically. This could be the reason: too many of us stand on the Mount of Olives gazing up into heaven while our people are moving to "Jerusalem" where we do not have a church. We then lose them to another denomination . . . or to the devil. We need to see "Jerusalem" in the Great Commission.

Jesus not only commanded the disciples to witness in Jerusalem, but also in all Judea. The length and breadth of Palestine were to be covered with the gospel. We need to recognize this also as Jesus' command. Our country is included in the Great Commission. It is the "all Judea" to us in Acts 1:8.

I have heard people say, "I believe in foreign missions, but not home missions." What is actually being said is, "I recognize the uttermost part of the earth as being our responsibility, but Jerusalem and all Judea are not." I am glad that everyone does not hold this opinion. I was converted in a mission church in Idaho, the only one in the state at that time. My wife was converted in a mission church in New Mexico, the only one in the state at that time. Had some Free Will Baptists not recognized that "all Judea" is in the Great Commission, neither of us would be a Christian.

On the other hand, some people say, "I believe in home missions, but not foreign missions." We must not forget that at the same time Jesus commanded the evangelization of Jerusalem and all Judea. He also included Samaria and the uttermost part of the earth. Jesus' methods cannot be improved upon. He gave this commandment because it is the only way the world can be evangelized.

ON THE MOVE

The first foreign missionaries were not sent out by the church at Jerusalem, but the church at Antioch. They were Barnabas and Saul (Acts 13:2). Barnabas was a farmer from Cyprus (Acts 4:36, 37), and Paul had come to Antioch from Tarsus (Acts 11:25, 26). According to Acts 13:1, there were also four other preachers in the church at Antioch. This was a marvelous church which became the missionary headquarters for the early church. It was started in the same manner in which most of our home mission churches today are begun. The people moved from Jerusalem, and the apostles sent Barnabas out to organize the church.

Our people are moving out of the country and the south to metropolitan areas of the west, and our preachers remain behind. We need to pray that our well-qualified men will catch a vision of our metropolitan cities and move accordingly. There are cities all over our country with a nucleus of Free Will Baptist families where a strong missionary church could be built in a short time if only someone would go! With missionaries called out of these churches, and the money to send them out coming from the same churches, think what could be done "unto the uttermost part of the earth!"

WOMEN'S PART

You may be asking, "What can women do?" A missionary candidate once summarized the missionary cause in three

brief statements. "In order to carry on mission work," he said, "there must be those who *go*, those who *let go*, and those who *help go*." Many women have heard the call to *go* as missionaries, teachers, nurses, and pastors' wives; others have *let go* as they have given their sons and daughters to bear the glorious message; untold thousands have *helped go* by their prayers and gifts.

God has intrusted Christian women with a power by which they can aid the work of our missionaries and bring strength, comfort, and guidance into their lives. They can *pray* for them. Pray the Lord of harvest to "send forth laborers" into our unreached cities which are so essential to the evangelization of the world.

The missionary enterprise halts and stumbles for lack of sacrificial giving. Less than one third of the members of the average church are contributing to missions. Let us not think merely of what others are doing. Instead, let each one ask herself, "What am *I* doing with the money God has put into *my* hands?"

Free Will Baptist Second Quarter Calendar

April

Foreign Missions Month
Bible Conference, 5-8

May

Christian Home Month
National Family Week, 2-8
Chaplain's and Servicemen's
Sunday, 23
C.T.S. Month

June

Vacation Bible Schools
Superannuation Sunday, 20



HAVE YOU HEARD ?

The 30th session of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention meets July 12-13, 1965, in Raleigh, North Carolina. Hotel Sir Walter has been selected as headquarters for the convention.

By paying a representation fee of \$3.00 your local auxiliary may send a delegate to this convention. This is the second year "each local auxiliary in good standing with its representing higher body, (district or state)" has had the privilege of sending a delegate. Give the representation fee to the lady whom you select to represent your auxiliary at this convention, and she will pay the fee when she registers at the registration booth.

Have you mailed your annual fees? "Ten cents (10¢) per active member shall be paid yearly to the Woman's National Auxiliary by the state conventions for membership and convention representation fees" (Article VI—By-laws).

Plan now to attend this year's convention. Enjoy the rich spiritual experience that awaits you as you gather with Free Will Baptists from across the nation.

Watch for an announcement next quarter concerning the WNAC DINNER!



RECORDS

John W. Peterson Silver Strings (Zondervan, ZLP-649). Features some of John Peterson's favorites among his recent gospel songs. He is revealed in this album as being adept on the electric steel guitar with "Down From His Glory", "The Lord Is My Shepherd", "The Old Rugged Cross" and others.

The Darol Rice Silver Saxophones Play the Golden Hymns (RCA Victor, LPM-2929). In this album you will enjoy something really different in the sound of sacred recordings. Hear the familiar, old-time songs (*In the Garden, Whispering Hope, Just a Closer Walk with Thee*, and others just as well-loved) in the appealing tones of the Silver Saxophones.

Happytime Songs for Children (Zondervan, ZLP-642). This is a favorite in our home with our four-year-old. She sings right along on *Why Worry When You Can Pray?, Only A Boy Named David, 'Tis Simple As Can Be, Alphabet Chorus*, and others. It's sure to be a hit with your boys and girls, too.

BOOKS

Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan (Good News; 64 pp; \$.50). Here is a picture of the experiences of Christians of all times written in modern English.

Glad Moments With God by Martin P. Simon (Zondervan; \$3.95). Every member of the family will find eternal truths in this volume of lasting value—each one well worth putting into practice in daily living. This family book of daily devotions is sure to provide spiritual values needed in your family.

The High Cost of Holy Living by Dwight H. Small (Revell; 189 pp; \$3.50). This book gives a clear call to return to the New Testament standard of holiness, the life disciplined for discipleship.

We women must realize that American children are included in the "all nations" of the Great Commission, and that Vacation Bible School should be more than a "glorified kindergarten" or arts and crafts class

MANY of you are in the planning stages of Vacation Bible School work. How do you feel toward it? Do you regard it as a dismal task to be suffered through for conscience's sake, or do you regard this work as a God-sent opportunity to get results for the Lord and to help fulfill your part in the Great Commission?

An average Vacation Bible School lasts three hours a day for ten days, making a total of thirty hours. It is startling to realize that this is over half the time children spend in Sunday school for an entire year. What a golden opportunity this is! It is time we women realize that American children are included in the "all nations" of the Great Commission, and that Vacation Bible School should be more than a "glorified kindergarten" or arts and crafts class.

TEACH FOR RESULTS

The Great Commission implies explicitly that we should teach for results. The results implied are two-fold: (1) teaching for the salvation of sinners, and (2) teaching for the maturation of believers. The first is clearly illustrated by the words "baptizing them." Only believers are to be baptized, so this implies that we are to teach for resulting conversions. The second implication, that of teaching for the maturation of believers, is shown in the words "teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you." We are responsible for helping those who are saved during Bible School and those pupils who are already Christians to "grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord." Our teaching should be as a leavening agent, encouraging our students to ever reach upward and outward in praise and service.

Of course, there is no exact mathematical formula for success in Bible school teaching; however, there are some elements which I think are absolutely essential for results in Bible School. These are preparation, adequate material, and faith.

By *preparation* I mean prayer, Bible study, study, and more study! How dare we go before innocent children in ignorance because of lack of preparation, considering the eternal principles with which we are dealing! No matter what else one does, if he or she does not prepare for the class the only result will be failure.

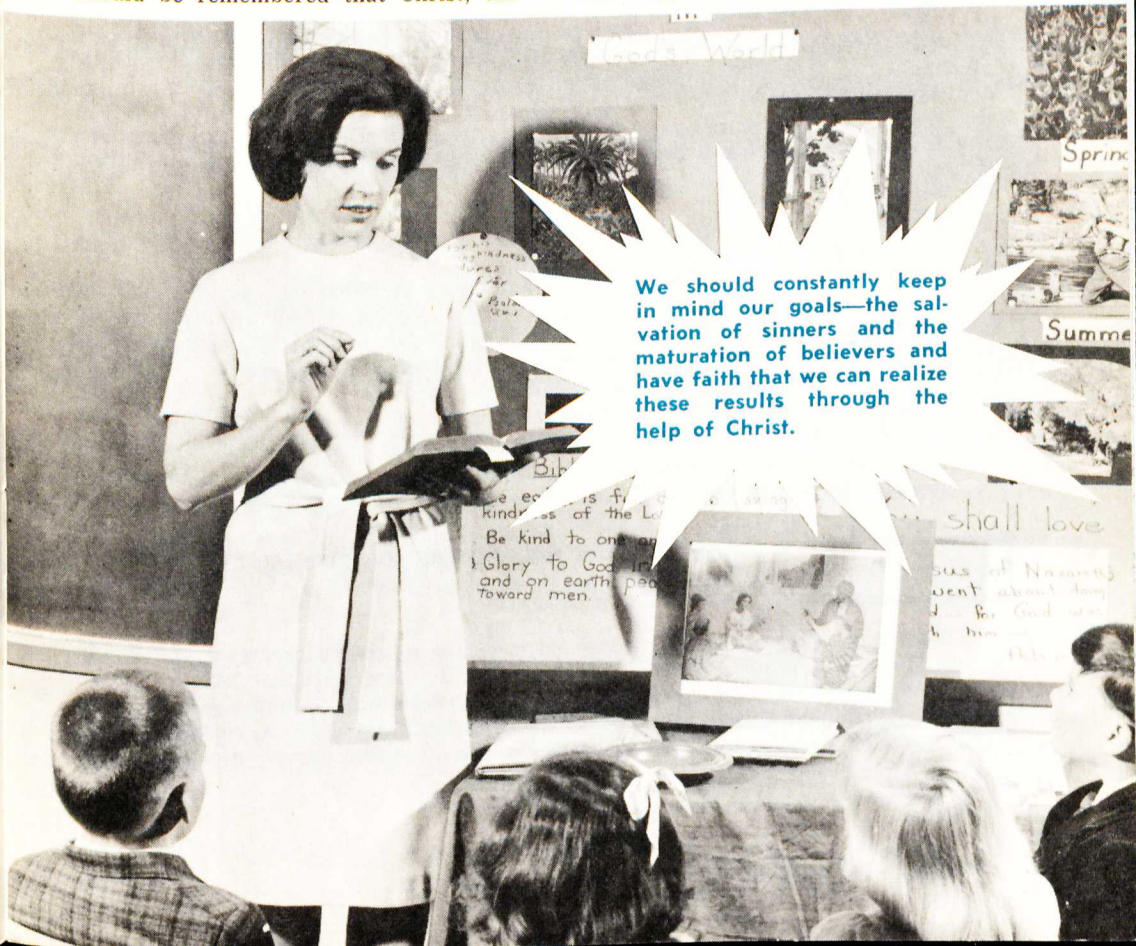
The second ingredient for successful teaching is *adequate material*. This need not be elaborate, and it may be home-made, but it is a known fact that people, especially children, understand and respond more readily to things they can see, hear, and touch. We should use every means at our disposal, such as visual aids (flannel art, flip cards, etc.), auditory aids, records, songs, etc., and handcrafts which will better the student's understanding of God's Word. It should be remembered that Christ, the

BY SHIRLEY THOMAS

great Master Teacher, used simple things to illustrate profound truths.

Thirdly, and perhaps of greatest importance, we should *believe* that we will have results. We should constantly keep in mind our goals—the salvation of sinners and the maturation of believers and have faith that we can realize these results through the help of Christ. Remember that the same Christ who commissioned us to teach for results also said, “And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.”

Mrs. Thomas is wife of Rev. Lloyd Thomas, Arkansas State Promotional Secretary.



We should constantly keep in mind our goals—the salvation of sinners and the maturation of believers and have faith that we can realize these results through the help of Christ.



Circle

Programs

1965 WATCHWORD

"THE WORD OF GOD IS NOT BOUND"

BY BESSIE M. DEUELL

APRIL

THE WORD IS NOT BOUND BY OUR CONVICTIONS

Hymn — "Open My Eyes That I May See"

Scripture — Matthew 5:37a; Romans 14:2-23; Colossians 2:16

Except where the Bible speaks with "yea" or "nay" individual convictions may vary. Men vary in their honest convictions according to their breadth of intellect, their natural temperament, their environment, and their education—mental and experimental.

Are you sometimes critical of another person because of differences in convictions? Remember the use of verses such as John 5:24 will win the lost and draw men closer to Christ. Criticizing fingers and our own convictions being pressed upon them may drive them away.

Pray for one another that we may set our hearts and lives in order. Be thankful for individual convictions, but be oft-reminded never to thrust them upon another. Use the Word. Leave the convicting to the Holy Spirit.

The Word of God is powerful. It is not bound by what we consider right or wrong. (*Show two-edged blade.*) The Holy Spirit uses it as a two-edged Sword. (*Show blade cuts if wielded either way.*) It is admirable to have convictions. Those around us will profit if they are used properly. Many who call themselves "Christian" freely dabble in sin, and, by their daily conduct, give evidence to the fact that the establishing of firm convictions is almost a principle of past years. The Holy Spirit uses the Word to direct us in establishing convictions only as we study it.

Pray that we will be driven to the Word, and in our witness use the "yeas" and "nays"—leaving the rest to the One who knows what is right and wrong.

MAY

THE WORD IS NOT BOUND BY OUR DIFFERENCES

Hymn — "Wonderful Words of Life"

Scripture — Hebrews 13:1

People are different. Often we want people to fit into our pattern—forgetting that we differ in aptitude, temperament, personality, and training. As one studies God's Word, he realizes that the personalities of the Bible differed greatly, even as we do today. Elijah and Elisha were extremely different. Elijah was eccentric, a fiery prophet, and he lived by himself. Elisha was a quiet, sociable, gentle, diplomatic man

who lived with people. Both were used by God *in spite of these differences*. But it is good that we are different. God uses these differences to reach different classes of people.

The Word is not bound by our differences. Each Christian must let it work in his own life to bring him into closer fellowship with Christ.

Perhaps we have attempted at times to force our ideas upon someone. Simple differences of interpretation may cause disagreements. Disagreements in love will press us to the Word and to God in prayer for one another. Differences of opinion have caused brotherly love to wane, thereby causing our effectiveness to weaken.

The world is very tired of hearing about differences and disagreements among us. We need a practical, everyday demonstration of brotherly love. Have you let the brotherly love, once a burning flame, grow cold because of some differences of opinion which you refuse to accept?

Pray that brotherly love will continue and that all our differences will be bound together in love, found fit for the Master's use.

JUNE

THE WORD IS NOT BOUND BY SATAN

Hymn — "Yield Not to Temptation"

Scripture — Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus not only provided our salvation, but also a perfect example for us when we are tempted. Look at the actions of Jesus when tempted by Satan.

Can you imagine how hungry you would be after 40 days and nights without food? Satan was attempting to get Jesus to act independently without the Father.

verse 3—What a temptation for One who was hungry!

verse 6—Satan used Scripture when he asked the Son of God to cast Himself down.

verse 8—Satan offered all the kingdoms of the world if Christ would worship him.

How did our Lord deal with Satan? He defeated Satan by a means available to every Christian—the Word! The Word is available to us as a means whereby we, too, may defeat him.

Individual temptations differ somewhat, but regardless of what they may be, Christ was tempted like as we.

One temptation prevalent today among Christians is *gossip*. You may choose to call it by a name such as *news* or *information*, but if we pass to another something we have heard involving an individual, except it be for the sole purpose of good to that one, it is gossip.

We should examine our hearts and if we are so tempted, turn quickly to James 3:1-8. The tongue, more than any other member of the body, needs a guard and a guide. Both can be found in the Word.

Someone has said, "People cannot be judged by what others say about them, but they can be judged by what *they* say about others."

Even though Satan is powerful, God is all-powerful! We have His powerful Word on which to rely. His Word, if hidden in our hearts, will come to remembrance each time Satan allures us.

Let us pray for one another whatever our particular temptations may be. Battles are won by the use of the Word!

Mrs. Deuell is a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Newport News, Virginia.

HOW TO TEACH MISSIONS TO CHILDREN

MODERN modes of travel which make transportation and communication very swift have caused our world to seem small. By means of radio and television we are able to hear voices and see people of "faraway places" almost as soon as an incident has occurred. It only takes about nine hours to fly from Japan to San Francisco. This all helps to build a better understanding of our world and its people. Teaching material is available to help our children become familiar with and love the people of the world.

"It is reassuring to know that children are not born with prejudices; they acquire them. Many studies have shown that it is possible to change attitudes and to develop desirable feelings and understandings.

"The presentation of true information in an atmosphere of enthusiasm and open-minded



by Jane Johnson

inquiry stimulates healthy thinking. Children need to study together about people of the world and their need of the gospel of Christ." (*Primary Sunbeam Manual*)

When teaching missions to our children we need to keep in mind that missions starts at home. As the very small children learn to help those who are near them, they may also learn that there are people all over the world who are in need. We must help our children realize that God made the many different kinds of people, and that He wants all of them to know and love Him.

Some teaching aids that may be used with the children in CTS, Sunday school, and home are:

Books—One of the best ways to help children develop a love for books is to set a good example by reading books yourself and by reading to your children. Provide colorful picture books for them to browse through. Place these on low shelves or reading tables.

Visual aids, such as filmstrips, are excellent for Primary and Junior age children. Encyclopedia Britannica filmstrips on *Children of Japan* and *Children of China* are very good. Flat pictures may be used effectively. Place them on the wall at eye level of the children. Missionary coloring books are wonderful teaching aids. As the children color the pictures, they learn about their dress, their houses, etc.

Handcraft is always good. Children learn by doing. They learn about people of the world by doing. A Brazilian village may be made by using boxes, clay, and paints. This helps the children learn about the people of Brazil.

Personal contact is perhaps always the best way. Whenever possible, ask a visiting missionary to talk to your group.

Songs and games are teaching aids that appeal to children. Appreciation and love for people of India may be taught by singing "Jesus Loves Me" in Hindi or Japanese. Children of Brazil play many ring games such as "Drop the Handkerchief" or "Ring Around the Roses." If

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Mrs. Johnson is the wife of our National CTS Director, Samuel Johnson, and the mother of one son, Phillip. She teaches the Primary Sunday

School Class and CTS Helpers at East Nashville Church in Nashville, Tennessee.

possible, play these games and sing them in Portuguese.

Community projects encourage children to learn how to help those about them. They also help them think about things they can do without being prompted. One group of children met at the leader's house, used a simple recipe, and made cookies for a little crippled boy. Each child had a job to do, such as picking out nuts, creaming the sugar and butter, etc. Later, reports came from various homes that, "Susan has made cookies twice for some shut-ins," and "Mary loves to help me in the kitchen." The project had succeeded because it promoted helpful habits.

Another group of children used a small plot of ground on the church property to grow their own flowers to give to sick people, to the church, and others who needed cheer. Every child had a part in the digging, choosing the seeds, pulling out the weeds, and watering the plants as they needed it. Many of these children have grown up but continue to have flower beds at home from which to send flowers to others.

City churches everywhere can take advantage of their special privilege of helping in institutions such as orphanages, old folks' homes, day nurseries, homes for the blind, hospitals, sanitariums, detention homes, and work among those of other nationalities.

Compelled to Obey

MARY EDNA COOK

Hymn: "He Lives!"

Scripture: Matthew 28:19, 20; John 20:18

Prayer: Use "Call to Prayer" requests.

Business

Program (Character study: Mary Magdalene)

INTRODUCTION

After Mary of Magdala obeyed an inner urge to go to Jesus, she felt compelled to obey His command to "Go ye!" The drastic change wrought in her life by the Master and her willingness to make a total commitment of herself to Him made her a vessel fit for the Master's use—a vessel willing to obey Him. We, as Christian women, may have the same joy in our lives today that Mary must have experienced that first Easter if we choose in our hearts to obey Him in all things.

1. COMPELLED TO GO TO CHRIST

Luke 8:2

Mary Magdalene was of the town of Magdala, located a short distance from Capernaum on the shore of Galilee. According to Jewish authorities, this town was known for its wealth and immorality.

There are those who believe that the woman caught in the act of adultery and brought to Jesus was Mary Magdalene. Others believe her to be the sinner woman who came to Simon's house where Jesus had been invited to eat. Weeping, she washed Jesus' feet with her tears, wiped them with her hair, and anointed them with ointment. Mary Magdalene might well have been either of these. One thing is certain: she needed Jesus Christ because she was possessed with seven devils.

Mary Magdalene might have been a harlot or a number of things, but regardless of her background, she was a sinner. She recognized her need of Christ and acknowledged Him as "Lord." Living in a town adjacent to the place where Jesus often came to rest, she had had opportunity to witness many miracles wrought by Him — thus, recognizing His great power. No doubt, she became aware of her need by witnessing His power. She

went to Christ, came to know Him personally, and was completely healed.

Have you been to Jesus for a demonstration of His power within your life? Too often we find ourselves in the position of the scribes and Pharisees — trying to bring others to Jesus when there are sins and lack of power within our own lives. We must go to Christ before we can go for Christ.

2. COMPELLED TO GO FOR CHRIST

Matt. 27:54-56; 61; John 20:1, 18

Soldiers were not the only ones who watched the cross. There were relatives and friends — among whom was Mary Magdalene. Standing serene and quiet, her heart was heavy with grief. She watched as Jesus paid the full price for her sins. At last when Jesus spoke a loud prayer and gave up the ghost, no one could have been more aware than Mary Magdalene of the truth spoken by the centurion: "Truly this was the Son of God!" No one there could have loved Jesus more than Mary Magdalene. It was her love for Him that compelled her to obey Him!

After the work of the cross was finished, Joseph, a rich leader who, until

now, had not been brave enough to make known his love for Jesus, asked for permission to bury Him. After he was given permission he took the body from the cross and wrapped it in linen with spices. In a small cemetery near the cross Jesus was laid in a tomb in which no person had ever been laid.

See Program Help—Page 32

It was a little late for Joseph and those who helped him to be friends of Jesus. But standing nearby was Mary Magdalene who had not been late to show her love. She had followed Jesus, and now her love for Him compelled her to watch as He was laid in the tomb.

After the Sabbath had ended women hurried to make preparations in caring for His body. And who reached the tomb first and saw that the stone had been rolled away? It was Mary Magdalene! She was astonished and frightened as she ran quickly to tell Peter and John. Hurrying back to the tomb with Mary Magdalene, they may have even suspected that her old trouble had returned and she was just imagining the tomb was empty. When they saw for themselves, they believed, but went their way again.

As Mary Magdalene continued to linger at the tomb, she began weeping. Was her last chance to show her love and gratitude to her Master gone? The angels asked her, "Woman, why weepest thou?" She answered, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him."

She turned her back on the empty tomb and heard the same question, "Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou?" Not realizing who had spoken to her, she begged if he knew where they had carried her Lord that she might go after Him. Jesus must have spoken tenderly, "Mary." She recognized His voice and must have fallen at His feet with outstretched arms to grasp Him and bathe His feet with tears of rejoicing! Again tenderly and patiently He told her

not to touch Him because He had not yet ascended to His Father. Even though she did not understand why she could not touch her Master, she accepted His words and obeyed. She then heard His command to go tell His brethren, "I ascend to my Father, and your Father, and my God, and your God."

Jesus had come to Mary first and had called her by name as she lingered at the tomb unable to give Him up. It may be that Jesus trusted her to see Him first because of her deep love and also her need to see Him. What great joy and love must have filled her heart compelling her to go with the message of her Lord! What depth of love was portrayed by Mary Magdalene! When we recognize the depth of our need for Him, He will give of Himself to us!

3. THE COMPELLING "GO YE"

Christian women today should feel compelled to go. Christ has commanded us to go just as He did Mary Magdalene.

The very heart of the woman's auxiliary is "Go ye" and yet we have made it so many other things. There are many who honestly do not understand the purpose of our work and are blindly trying. Our pastors and church leaders should teach and lead their women to a greater understanding of the true purpose of the auxiliary.

There are still others who understand with their minds but not with their hearts, and the fruits of their labor are as empty shells. Until we have an experience with Jesus that compels us through love to study, pray, give, and go, our work will remain as hypocrisy to Him.

Take a good look at Calvary. Look until you see and feel the price paid for your salvation. The price was too high for so many to still be lost in sin. May the look at Calvary give depth to our gratitude and strength to our "Go ye" understanding.

Mrs. Cook is an officer in the S.E. Alabama District Auxiliary Convention.

The Proof of One's Love Is in His Deeds

by LORA SHUTES

Many of us Free Will Baptists have failed to manifest our love and concern for those who have ministered to us in spiritual matters: our aged and disabled ministers

CHRISTIANITY is a religion of love. Its Head and Founder, the Lord Jesus

Christ, so loved that He gave His life to redeem fallen humanity from sin and hell (1 John 3:14-18). His short life on earth was filled with deeds of loving kindness. His great heart of love was moved with compassion as He looked on the multitudes (individuals, too) and saw their spiritual and physical needs.

Christianity in practice is love with legs on it such as is described by Paul in 1 Corinthians 13. Love is the earmark of Christianity. "By this shall all men know you are my disciples, *if you have love one to another*," said Jesus. One way we can be assured of our salvation is by the love that we have in our hearts for our fellow Christians.

The love of Christ in our hearts will cause us to have compassion for others. It will open our eyes to the needs of our brethren and will move us to do something about these needs. Paul declared, "The love of Christ constraineth me." This love should be the compelling power in the Christian's heart and life that moves him to action.

Do all men know you are a follower of Christ because of the love you manifest for your brother? I'm afraid most of us have given room for the world to doubt our Christianity because we have failed in our love to one another.

Many of us Free Will Baptists have failed to manifest our love and concern for the brethren and especially those brethren who have ministered to us in spiritual matters: our aged and disabled ministers.

If there is anyone who is worthy of our love and concern, it is those who have ministered to us in spiritual matters, those who have been concerned about our souls and have ministered the Word of God in leading us to Christ, and those who have nourished us with Spiritual food that we might grow up in Christ. These men are precious in God's sight and are worthy of our honor, respect, and love.

What have we done to show our love and appreciation to God for these faithful servants of His? Too often we have ignored them. We have shut our "bowels of compassion" from them (1 John 3:17). We gladly accepted sacrificial service to us when they were able to minister to us in spiritual things, but we have failed to "communicate unto them in all good things" (Galatians 6:6).

In many instances we have sent them to the State and County Welfare Boards for care. I speak this to our shame! The ministers of the gospel should be men of dignity, and we should help them to be men of dignity by supporting them with our material means while they are ministering to us, and then provide for their support when they become disabled.

Free Will Baptists have long neglected to provide for their aged and disabled ministers. In spite of this neglect, God has burdened the hearts of some of our people about this lack of love for the brethren. They have endeavored to do something about it by establishing a superannuation program.

The National Superannuation Board has a very dignified retirement plan for our ministers, missionaries, and full-time

BE SURE TO MAKE A GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION IN YOUR CHURCH JUNE 20, 1965 FOR SUPERANNUATION. ENCOURAGE YOUR CHURCH LEADERS TO MAKE A CONCERTED EFFORT TO RAISE AT LEAST \$20.00 FOR OUR RETIRED MINISTERS ON THIS DATE. SEND YOUR OFFERINGS TO:

**SUPERANNUATION BOARD
408 4th Street
CORDOVA, ALABAMA**

Christian workers. The churches can help their ministers retire with dignity by supporting this program and by seeing that their pastors become a part of this retirement plan. The great majority of our people must be made to see and feel the need for such a program before the Superannuation Board can help the ministers as they desire to.

This is a ministry of love. Is your Christianity that of love or that of word and tongue? "My little children, let us love in deed and in truth."

Mrs. Shutes is secretary-bookkeeper for the Free Will Baptist Superannuation Board.



COOK



DEUELL

THIS QUARTER'S WRITERS

GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGMENT IS GIVEN OUR FOUR PROGRAM WRITERS THIS QUARTER. THOSE CONTRIBUTING THE MONTHLY PROGRAM MATERIAL USED THE YEAR'S THEME: "COMPEL THEM TO COME IN." THE CIRCLE PROGRAMS ARE BASED ON OUR WNAC WATCHWORD: "THE WORD OF GOD IS NOT BOUND." YOU MAY WISH TO CONSULT THE PROGRAM HELPS ON PAGE 32 WHEN PREPARING THE MONTHLY PROGRAMS. THE CIRCLE PROGRAMS MAY ALSO BE USED AS DEVOTIONALS IN VARIOUS ADULT GROUPS IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH.



PERRY



WADE

Compelling Love

BY MARY PERRY

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:14-20

Hymn: "My Jesus, I Love Thee"

Prayer: Use "Call to Prayer" requests.

Business

Program (Character study: Hannah)

INTRODUCTION

The world around us seems to grow more wicked every day. We see the need for more love and compassion — especially toward those who are lost in sin. The Lord needs dedicated men and women in all walks of life. As our children are trained, they need to be made aware that God must be recognized in all professions of life.

Samuel, the son of Hannah, was a dedicated leader of Israel. In the first two chapters of 1 Samuel, Hannah is accorded all credit for the dedication of her son's life to the service of the Lord. She knew how to love her child and yet not be possessive. Samuel's well-deserved fame does not cast a shadow upon the greatness of Hannah. Her great faith and character will be seen in the following story of Samuel's life.

1. LOVE'S REACTION TO

HARASSMENT

It was yearly sacrifice time and once more Elkanah prepared to take his family from their home in Ramah to the temple at Shiloh to worship the Lord and bring Him offerings.

Elkanah had two wives — Hannah, who was childless, and Peninnah, who had sons and daughters. Peninnah was jealous of Hannah because Elkanah loved his childless wife very much. Her criticism and ridicule seemed to have been saved for the journey to the temple. This trip should have been a happy event, but Peninnah's taunts took the joy out of it, and Hannah became very upset during the trip.

Elkanah gave Hannah a worthy portion, as usual, on offering day. Knowing this, Peninnah used the occasion to harass Hannah until, at feast time, she was too upset to eat and could only sit and weep. Elkanah tried to comfort her in her distress. He asked, "Am I not better to thee than ten sons?" But Hannah just re-

mained silent. After everyone except Hannah had eaten and drunk to his fill, she slipped away, unnoticed by the crowd, to the temple to pray.

Today it does not take very much criticism and ridicule for a Christian to become discouraged and quit. If we, like Hannah, could have faith in God regardless of the storms of life, then we could see more accomplished in the work of the Lord.

2. LOVE'S MOTIVES

Hannah was a woman of great faith. As she entered the temple, Eli, the priest, watched her from his seat at the doorpost. Hannah made no audible sound from her moving lips, but she poured out her heart to the Lord in prayer: "O Lord of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head" (1 Samuel 1:11). The last phrase of this prayer

would be an outward sign of her son's dedication to the Lord.

Eli, who had been watching the weeping woman during her prayer, moved closer. Because there was no sound from her moving lips, he judged her to be drunk. He said, "How long wilt thou be drunken? Put away thy wine from thee."

What would your reaction be to such an accusation as this? Would you have left the temple insulted? Would you have defended yourself?

Hannah showed no sign of trying to defend her actions. She explained to him her sorrow and that she had poured out her soul to the Lord. Eli, seeing her sincerity, spoke these words, "Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant thee thy petition that thou hast asked of him" (1 Samuel 1:17).

With her sad countenance removed, Hannah went her way. When she returned home, in due time, God remembered her and she bore a son. He was named Samuel because Hannah said, "I have asked him of the Lord."

What was Hannah's **motive** in asking for a son? If she had not kept her promise to return him to the Lord, we could suppose it was jealousy, or that she was trying to spite Peninnah, or trying to keep her husband's affection. But Hannah kept her promise. Then surely she must have desired a son so he could worship and serve the Lord whom she loved so devotedly.

3. LOVE FOR HER SON

"And the man Elkanah and all his house, went up to offer unto the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and his vow. But Hannah went not up; for she said unto her husband, I will not go up until the child be weaned, and then I will bring him, that he may appear before the Lord, and there abide for ever" (1 Samuel 1:21, 22).

The time was drawing near for Hannah to take Samuel to the temple and leave him in Eli's care. These could have been restless days for Hannah had her love for her son been a possessive mother's love. She could have made many excuses for not wanting to take him to the temple to live. Eli's own sons were wicked, disobedient, and not reverent in God's house. But Hannah made no excuses for keeping her son. When the time came, she prepared Samuel for the journey to Shiloh and took an offering to be sacrificed to the Lord.

After the sacrifice was made, Hannah took Samuel to Eli and said, "For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him: Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord, as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord" (1 Samuel 1:27, 28). Hannah did not look forward to only a **few** years of his serving the Lord and returning to her, but she had a vision of lifetime service. Although Samuel was a small boy, he worshiped the Lord there. Hannah prayed and then the family returned to their home in Ramah.

Hannah passed the greatest test of love by putting away her ambitions for her son's life and letting the Lord have him completely. She proved her love for him by letting him be free to become his best self in the Lord's service.

CONCLUSION

Let us examine our hearts. Are we possessive in our love for our children? Are we desiring worldly fame and achievement for them? Or can we, as Hannah, dedicate them to the Lord to be preachers, missionaries, or other full-time Christian workers? Are our motives unmixed? Have we made a total commitment of our lives as well as the lives of our children to the Lord?

Mrs. Perry is President of West Virginia State Auxiliary Convention.

Study Course Tips

For a profitable study course in Evangelism, follow these suggestions given by WNAC'S Study Course Chairman, Georgia Hill of Richmond, Virginia.

These suggestions for your study course in Evangelism are based on the book, **SOUL WINNING MADE EASY** (by Lovett).

Supplement the study by using the companion LP Recording for this book. (See 1964-65 Book List for both book and recording.) To give practical experience, follow the pattern used on the recording and conduct lab sessions involving the circumstances listed below. In each case one member should serve as the soul-winner, using appropriate Scripture portions, and another member should serve as the inquirer or person being counseled.

- Soul-winner presents the plan of salvation to one who is eager to accept Christ.
- Soul-winner deals with a backslider.
- Soul-winner deals with one who has never before heard the gospel.
- Soul-winner deals with one who thinks he is "good enough."
- Soul-winner deals with one who says, "No!"
- Soul-winner counsels one who has just accepted Christ, giving assurance verses, supplying reading materials for new convert, and giving parting words of encouragement.

For a standard follow-through course, continue with a study of *Visitation Made Easy* by the same author.

Don't Say Personal Work Is Too Hard Until You Have Tried!

Do not sit idly wondering, what big work there is for you;

Success is an independent fellow, he'll never come to you.

Consider Jesus' sweet promises, then give no thought or care

If you want a place to work for Him, you can find it anywhere.

Do not rob yourself by saying, "There is nothing I can do."

While hearts are yearning, begging, and the Master calls for you.

Use the gifts He gave you freely; "Visit," is His tender plea;

Then be glad His call you answered, "Here am I, send me. Send me."

—C. S. Lovett



Call TO PRAYER FOR MISSIONS

"Call unto me and I will answer thee . . ." (Jer. 33:3)

BRAZIL The Brazil Bible Institute was scheduled to open for its first term of school in March. Approximately 20 students were expected to enroll. Ken Eagleton, missionary to Brazil, has been working for two years on the curriculum for the institute.

Pray that the Lord will bless in this ministry, and pray for those who have the responsibility of carrying out the duties of the school.

MEXICO One of Mexico's greatest needs is trained Christian workers who can assist and extend the training ministry that has been started by the Billows.

Pray that God will give the Billows and their assistants the needed health and strength for the increasing demands of the ministry in Mexico.

NORTHWEST, USA Several new ministries are being started in the Northwest under the direction of the Wade Jernigans in Jerome, Idaho; the Roger Harwells in Pueblo, Colorado; the Johnny Postlewaites in Portland, Oregon; and the Lloyd Plunketts in Seattle, Washington. All of these ministries are in areas where there is real need for a gospel witness. Many of the people are Catholic and Mormon.

Pray that each worker will follow God's leading to those families who will respond to the gospel.

URUGUAY Missionaries Bill Fulcher and Paul Robinson are definitely interested in expanding their ministry in Uruguay to other villages and cities. They plan to carry their work into Rivera

and Liveramento, cities on the border of Brazil and Uruguay, as well as into surrounding villages.

Pray that many will be reached for the Lord through this expanded ministry.

NORTHEAST, USA More Christian workers are needed to strengthen the gospel witness in New England and Canada where many towns do not have a gospel witness.

Pray for some of our Christian workers who are considering opening a new work for Free Will Baptists in the Providence of Quebec, Canada, where there is approximately one missionary for every 70,000 people.

LATIN AMERICA Jerry Ballard, Director of Publications and Information for the Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Board, is in Latin America on a photographic and research mission. While there he is investigating possibilities for the circulation of the Free Will Baptist Spanish publication, *Impacto*.

Pray for the *Impacto* ministry that many people will be reached with this printed Word.

LANGUAGE

SCHOOLS Several Free Will Baptist foreign missionaries are in language study preparing for work on various fields. They are: Mr. and Mrs. Jim Combs, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ellison, and Mr. and Mrs. Don Robirds, (Brazil); Molley Barker, (Coasta Rica); Mr. and Mrs. Archie Mayhew, (Switzerland).

Pray that these missionaries will learn to speak the language fluently so the message may be proclaimed in a way the people will understand.

Compelling Wisdom

BY DONNA WADE

Prayer: Use "Call to Prayer" requests.

Special Music: Presented by the Junior boys and girls in your church.

Scripture: Proverbs 3: 5, 6

Business

Program (Character study: Abigail)

INTRODUCTION

Many times we marvel at the wisdom of God. We marvel at His plan for our lives and how His wisdom is transmitted through a life that is totally committed to Him.

In the story of Abigail we see God-given wisdom that cannot be discerned by ordinary vision. This wisdom is a "mystery" (1 Cor. 2:7). Abigail was married to a very rich but churlish, mean husband. In spite of his undesirable qualities, Abigail tried to protect him. She was not only a devoted wife, but a peacemaker—a woman who let God direct her thoughts and actions.

1. NABAL'S FLOCKS ARE PROTECTED

David had been anointed as the future king of Israel. Saul, the present king, had become very jealous of him. The king determined to do his very best to take David's life. Efforts of reconciliation were made to no avail, and Saul pursued David in an effort to get rid of him. David did not lean on his own understanding, but prayed, "Lord, direct me in this matter at which I am at a loss."

One might say that David had come to the "end of his rope" in dealing with Saul, but God gave him wisdom as it was needed. Many times God lets us come to this place in our lives before He gives us the solution to our problems.

Trusting God, David and 600 followers were successful in evading Saul. They went out, not knowing just where. God directed David as he became a wandering shepherd.

During this time David and his men gave protection to the flocks of a certain rich man named Nabal. When they ran short on rations, David instructed ten men to go humbly to Nabal and ask for food.

2. DAVID'S REQUEST IS REFUSED

Nabal was a man of churlish disposition, loud, bad-tempered, and he was a drunkard. He had no sense of honor or honesty. He was very wicked!

See Program Help — Page 32

David was in such distress that he was glad to be obliged to him, and in effect went to his door begging. It would seem that he chose a good time to ask for food since this was shearing season, and there would be entertaining and feasting (as was the custom). David ordered his men to deliver this message with a great deal of courtesy and respect. He was very modest in his request: "Give whatsoever comes to thine hand, and we will be

thankful for it" (1 Samuel 25:8). David demanded not what he wanted as a debt, neither as a tribute because of his position as a king, but he asked it as a boon to a friend or a humble servant.

Not only did Nabal deny David, but he abused him. He spoke scornfully of David as an insignificant man, not worthy of notice. It seemed natural for Nabal to speak the language of those who hate to give alms.

We are mistaken if we think we are lords of what we own and may do what we please with it. We are but *stewards*, and must use it as we are directed — remembering that it is not ours but entrusted to us.

When the men delivered the report of Nabal's refusal to David, he made a hasty decision. He girded on his sword and ordered his men to do likewise. He was even sorry that he had been kind to Nabal in protecting his flocks. So in a moment of passion he determined to destroy all that belonged to Nabal. Was this the same David who, just a short time before, had spared Saul when he tried to take his life? This is what happens when we look to our *own* wisdom and fail to ask for God's direction!

3. ABIGAIL'S WISDOM IS ENACTED

One of Nabal's servants, realizing the danger of the situation, went to Abigail and gave her an account of the matter. He commended David and his men for their civility to Nabal's shepherds and flocks. He also related David's plans to destroy all that Nabal had.

Abigail, a woman of wisdom and understanding, knew that a decision must be made quickly or soon all would be lost. So she set out to make amends for her husband's faults. She prepared the *very best* the house had to offer (and an abundance of it) and sent it on before her.

Without her husband's knowledge, Abigail disposed of his goods lawfully and laudably because it was for his defense and his family's that she undertook this mission. The family may otherwise have been ruined. Husbands and wives have a joint interest in their worldly possessions, but if either wastes or unduly spends it in any way it is robbing the other one.

What a brave woman! Abigail went out to meet David, and she fell upon her face before him. She asked for mercy that she might take the blame. Furthermore, she made excuses for her husband's faults by imputing it to his natural weakness and lack of understanding. What did David tell Abigail? (Read 1 Samuel 25: 32, 33.)

David told her to go home in peace. When she arrived she found her husband in a drunken stupor. She used good judgment by waiting until morning to tell him of her actions. When she told him the things she had done to save the household, Nabal "became as a stone" and after ten days he died.

Today we have many "Abigails" having to contend with "Nabals." If a woman has wisdom and understanding she will not become a victim of self-pity in this situation. Instead, she will stay busy, working for the good of her household. This type of wisdom comes only from God when we are totally committed to Him.

Do you know an "Abigail"? Do you remember to pray for her and ask God to give her wisdom in dealing with an unsaved husband? There are perhaps few of us with Christian husbands who fully understand the patience and wisdom needed to live with "Nabals" day after day. Let's be more understanding!

Mrs. Wade is an auxiliary member in the Free Will Baptist Church, Vancouver, Washington.

Seedtime and Harvest

Genesis 8:22

These five brief devotional programs are designed to give new impetus to our missions obligation as well as aid us in praying more intelligently for the cause of missions around the world.

1. EASTERTIME — SEEDTIME (John 12:24)

The words fell with deep meaning from the lips of Jesus just five days before His death and seven days before His resurrection. On that great day of His triumph He was being ushered into the capital city, according to the custom of crowning kings — on muleback, upon a carpet of flowers and palm branches, and amid singing and glad shouting of hosannas. At this moment of His highest honor on earth the words did not seem appropriate. Friends meant to crown Him king, yet He declared He must die before He could reign. The law of sowing and reaping, seedtime and harvest, must work in redemption as well as in the world of nature. The Seed, which is Christ (Galatians 3:16), must die, be buried, and then rise again in fruitfulness.

"Because He laid down His life for us . . . we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren" (1 John 3:16). While writing this, news comes over the air of brutal killing in the Congo. Among the dead are missionaries who, back in the homeland, had declared their readiness to lay down their lives for the Lord and the brethren. Eighty years ago in the same African country, the Congo, an American mission



began to plant the Word of God and the seed of human lives in gospel witness. "After thirty years and thirty missionary graves" only 800 converts were gathering to worship. But at the outbreak of this present confusion there were 30,000 Christians, and converts were being won at the rate of 4,000 a year.

Seedtime and harvest! "The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom" (Matt. 13:38). Eastertime is an occasion for self-examination. Where no seed is planted in the earth no harvest will be found.

Pray for our missionaries and all born-again Christians in Brazil tonight.

2. SOWING AND REAPING IN KIND AND DEGREE

(Galatians 6:7; Hosea 8:7)

"He sowed his wild oats." His harvest will also be wild oats. When God forgives and cleanses away sin, He often allows the sinner to face the natural consequences of the sin. In creation He made "fruit trees bearing fruit after their kind" (Gen. 1:11). A wheat seed yields wheat; an apple seed an apple tree. A grain of corn will never produce an apple, nor an onion a luscious grape. This is our day of opportunity for sowing seeds of character and service. A few years hence (or sooner) we shall be rejoicing or grieving over the harvest, depending on the kind of seeds we have sown.

If one small seed can bring forth a great tree bearing hundreds of fruit, one evil seed of neglect and indifference may yield a great harvest of regret. One year of failure to challenge children and young people to purposeful service for God may result in an entire generation of spiritual drag and deadness in the church with the church bearing no fruit. Both in the natural and spiritual realms the law of sowing and reaping works — not only in kind but in quantity as well. One small wind becomes a mighty whirlwind by harvest time. But the principle holds on the better side too: little is much when God is in it, for He blesses and multiplies all we surrender into His hands.

As Free Will Baptist farmers prepare their ground and plant their seed, may we let God's Word, the Death, and Resurrection of His Son speak afresh to us the unchanging truth that our lives will yield fruit in kind and degree according to our sowing.

Pray for Free Will Baptist missionaries and all Christians in India.

3. PRAYER AND WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

(Luke 10:2)

At home and abroad the harvest was never greater nor the fields whiter than today. Some church groups give generously to missions and various gospel works, but they do not send their own members as laborers into the fields. It is a pity because the Lord commands that we pray for Him to call out from our own group those lives which He can use for His work. Such a petition is almost never heard in any church group or family circle although it is commanded. Churches and groups that give a good share of lives along with their money offerings may confidently expect to rejoice in a rich harvest. Every church has young people — some more and some less. These find their places somewhere in adult life. Many would hear the call of God if their church took seriously the command to pray for them to be called and sent forth into places of service which God has planned for them.

No more fruitful service could be engaged in this pre-Easter week than that of praying that God will honor your church by calling out from your own group a company of young people to work for Him. Also, there are always those in the middle-age group whom God would direct to change or adjust their business to count more for His kingdom work. Prayer changes things. Much praying today misses the mark because

it is not clearly aimed at something. Make today's meeting a special one concentrated on the will of God for your church members in their lifework. This is the way He planned for keeping workers in His harvest where workers are so few today.

Ask the Holy Spirit to speak to the young people who know Christ in your church
about their places of service in the Lord's work.

4. SEEDTIME AND HARVEST FOR NATIONS

(Obadiah 15)

The prophet spoke the words to the nation of Edom who had wronged God's people, Israel. The Edomites were wicked and proud — heedless of God's purposes. He fulfilled this warning and destroyed the nation as it had helped in trying to destroy Israel. Throughout history, nations as well as individuals have been subject to this law of sowing and reaping. God has been in the founding of nations and empires (Acts 17:26). He has timed their birth and development — and their periods of flourishing and decay. He has even governed the extending of their geographical boundaries.

The Bible tells how God built the Jewish nation for the purpose of bringing the Saviour into the world and of His judgment upon the nation when it became idolatrous and unfit for His use. He restored the Jews to Palestine only after He had cleansed them of idol worship. The Bible record of God's dealing with the great Babylonian kingdom is well-known. Both Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar were brought under His judgment, and the kingdom was given to the Medes. Greece and Rome, according to Daniel's prophecy, arose, flourished, met their judgment, and now are only a memory. Germany, once a great nation, was used of God to give us Martin Luther and the Reformation, but in faithfulness to His promise to Abram (Gen. 12:3), He brought judgment upon Nazi Germany. Russia must yet be dealt with on the same ground and on the ground of her blasphemy and defiance of God. God deals with nations in terms of sowing and reaping.

Since Jesus Christ is the only Redeemer for the world, and His Church is composed of believers from every nation, He commands us to pray for all the leaders of the nations of earth (1 Tim. 2: 1, 2). At this Eastertide our Christian brothers and sisters throughout the world are living under strange and torturous systems and rulers. In many cases, such as China and Russia, we can only reach them by prayer. Prayers are a part of the sowing of good seed.

As you pray tonight, remember our missionaries in Japan and Africa.
Pray for all the Christians in these countries.

5. THE AMERICAN CHURCH: ITS SEEDTIME AND HARVEST

In the light of the foregoing paragraphs, our own nation must come under the spotlight of Scripture. It seems that God judges nations on the basis of the light and privileges He has given them and on the basis of its fulfilling His purpose. If God directed in the founding of our nation, He meant it to be a refuge for His oppressed people seeking religious liberty. But the ultimate goal was not just their comfort. He meant that the Church in the United States of America should become His voice for proclaiming the gospel to the world.

The Protestant Church had come out of the corrupt Roman Church. The faith had been clarified, and the Reformers had made an urgent and persistent call back to the Bible. These reformation forces were moving in Europe when Columbus and his company landed on the shores of this new world in 1492. But there was no Bible for the common people to read. Only priests had access to the Book, and they had to learn the ancient languages before they could read it. Shortly before America was discovered, God gave man wisdom to invent a printing press. In 1611 the English Bible, in common use today, had been translated by order of King James and was off the press,

so that those pilgrim fathers on the *Mayflower* in 1620 could bring it with them to their new country.

God has given America freedom of worship, an open Bible, and every convenience for teaching and preaching and witnessing it far and near. How has the church in America fulfilled God's purpose? What of the sowing? And what of the reaping? Are we reaping today certain harvests of evil seeds sown in the past? Are many of our national problems due to the church's neglect of the responsibility to send workers into the white harvest fields at home and abroad? Negroes have not been evangelized and taught in the Word. Their churches do not have preachers and teachers for necessary leadership. Is this a case of our having sown the wind and now reaping the whirlwind?

The American flag waved over the Philippines for fifty years, but when those islands became independent in 1946 we discovered many whole tribes back in neglected jungles that had no touch with civilization and no knowledge of God. Liberia in West Africa was settled more than 100 years ago by the American Colonization Society, and we have been "extremely close" to that country from the beginning. Yet illiteracy, heathen superstition, and economic poverty abound there today. How shall we stand when He takes account of our faithfulness in fulfilling His purpose of evangelizing, teaching, and building up strong churches in these fields? While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest shall not cease — for nations, churches, and individuals.

Remember our missionaries and all Christians in Panama, Uruguay, and Ecuador.

CONCLUSION

Earth groans with sorrow and tragedy today. Constantly the lives of our young people are drafted without their choice into a service which may cost life or great suffering. Much of the need for sacrifice in warfare and the like could be averted if parents in the church would dedicate their children to God for service and continually renew that dedication by their prayers according to Luke 10:2. As the world gazed upon the scene of youthful Dr. Paul Carlson's family last November, sorrow-stricken by the slaughter of their missionary son and brother in Africa, all knew there was sweetness and satisfaction in their sorrow. Carlson had not been unwillingly drafted into a regimented service. His real death took place before he left America — death to self and to his own will. His life had been lost in the higher will of God. His cruel physical death is a beautiful illustration of John 12:24. This death and that of his fellow-martyrs will bring forth much fruit.



In 1935 Miss Barnard became the first Free Will Baptist missionary to India. She served faithfully in South India for 22½ years (exclusive of furloughs). As head of the Missions Department at Free Will Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee, she continues to share her concern for world-wide missions.

Remember as you give your missions offering this week that the offering is in honor of Miss Barnard, our first missionary. (Any auxiliary that wishes to designate the offering for a particular missionary's account should earmark the check or money order when mailing it to WNAC office or your district treasurer.)

PROGRAM HELPS

APRIL



For the next several months the programs will be based on women of the Bible. The following suggestion may be used as a continuing interest center and may be added to each month: stand a partly opened Bible (or facsimile) on end, and place small dolls, dressed like Biblical characters, on the table as though they are walking out of the Bible. This month you will portray *Mary Magdalene*.

MAY

Have two readers read alternately, line for line, Hannah's song and Mary's Magnificat. Compare them carefully. Notice especially how one may have inspired the other, and yet, how each is complete and individual in its own right.

Prepare and use a worship service planned around the music and lyrics of women in your church hymnal (use index of authors and composers) and also the writing of women in the Bible (Miriam's song at the Red Sea—Exodus 15:1-18).

JUNE

Make a survey of your community or city. Indicate on a city map needy places where women can minister:

homes for aged, jails, detention homes, hospitals, districts where there are no churches, poverty-stricken areas, and other nationalities.

Discuss how these needs can be met:

conduct prayer services, supply material needs, visitation evangelism, distribute tracts, or begin a Sunday School or Bible club in unchurched areas.

Secure a good filmstrip (suggestion: "White Unto Harvest") which shows the many opportunities afforded Christians to witness. One may be secured from our National Home Missions Department on a free will offering basis or may be rented from your local Baptist Book Store for \$3.00.



NEW

**W N A C
O F F I C E**

NEEDS NEW FURNISHINGS

State conventions, district associations, and local auxiliaries are urged to consider these needs as special projects.

- 
- TWO DESKS
 - FILING CABINET
 - SOFA
 - SEVERAL CHAIRS
 - LAMP
 - TWO TABLES

***OUR SINCERE THANKS TO
RECENT DONORS***

Woman's Auxiliary, Thomaston, Georgia	\$5.00
Woman's Auxiliary, First FWB Church, Monett, Missouri	\$10.00
Woman's Auxiliary, Bettendorf, Iowa	\$3.00
Illinois State Auxiliary Convention	\$10.00
Coastal Woman's Auxiliary Convention, Morehead City, N. C.	\$25.00
Woman's Auxiliary, Second Free Will Baptist Church, Ashland, Ky.	\$10.00
GTAs — FWB Church, Florence, Alabama	\$3.00
Beckley FWB Woman's Auxiliary Conference, Beckley, West Virginia	\$10.00
GTAs and YPAs — Sherwood Forest Church, New Bern, N. C.	\$2.00
Missionary Midgets, Ahoskie FWB Church, Ahoskie, N. C.	\$2.00
Oklahoma State Woman's Auxiliary Convention	\$3.50
Woman's Auxiliary, Drumright, Oklahoma	\$10.00

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