

CO-LABORER

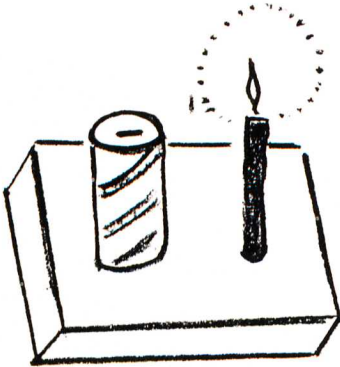
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Free Will Baptist Bible College



PLAN AHEAD



For Your

Pre-Easter Sacrificial Offering

for Foreign Missions

THE FOLLOWING should be prepared as soon as possible. Prepare a 4" x 8" x 1" piece of styrofoam (or you may find it necessary to use heavy cardboard. Collect *pop* cans (not the easy open type) which have been opened with a knife making opening just large enough to slip a quarter or half dollar through. Some may wish to decorate the cans but to leave them undecorated may be a more vivid reminder of the unnecessary spending you have done that day.

On one end of the styrofoam piece make indentation of can and carve out so the can will fit tightly half an inch down into the foam and on the other end carve out a hole and insert candle. Use your own creative ability and decorate to make attractive centerpieces for the table at the evening meal, with the candle lighted representing Jesus, the Light of the World. Involve the whole family in giving of coins as they have spent for *nicknacks* that day.

The missions chairman in cooperation with the program-prayer chairman should have begun early in January to correspond with missionaries direct to collect special prayer requests. Write for the most recent foreign mission picture map from the Foreign Missions Department, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

In making your plans for this pre-Easter prayer season try to work with your pastor and involve the total church families. Let him be the leader and the one *out front* in presenting it.

The ladies of the auxiliary may meet together and make enough of the centerpieces for each family of the church and then set up a table in the vestibule of the church and pass these out as people leave the church. A note in the Sunday bulletin may explain their purpose and that only one for each family was prepared. The pastor may encourage their use in his announcements.

CO-LABORER

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Cleo W. Pursell, Editor

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GRANDMA GETS BUSY

by Anne Sandberg



■ GRANDMA'S Hopeless outlook almost kept her from attending church that Sunday morning. She was eighty, a lonely widow with failing vision and arthritic hands which could scarcely manipulate a knife and fork.

"You've got to come, mother," her daughter urged. "The guest speaker is a seasoned saint of seventy-one with a message especially for older folks."

Grandma dolefully took her place in the front row which was equipped with hearing aids so oldsters could hear the service. Listlessly she adjusted her hearing device, hardly glancing at the speaker. Everyone looked the same at that distance anyway, just a dark blur. Well, with this gadget she could at least hear what he said.

Suddenly grandma sat up and leaned forward grasping her hearing device more tightly. Her face registered a range of emotions. Indifference changed to interest, despair to hope. With face aglow and eyes sparkling, she began nodding fervent "amens." At the end of the sermon, her lips formed a pink line of determination.

Because the sermon was tape-recorded, she listened to it again later in the week in her room.

"Oh what a blessedness it would be," the speaker said, "to come to old age, with its letting go of things which had made life meaningful, and to know how to spend time in prayer. If older persons only had a strong, built-up prayer life, then they would find occupation to the

full for their declining years and the most satisfying employment and usefulness which anyone on earth can have, whether young or old.

"People will no longer say, 'Poor old grandma,' but rather, 'How wonderful it is to be so busily and happily engaged in the most important occupation in life'."

By the time grandma turned off the tape recorder, her plans were already formulated.

Why hadn't she thought of it before!

Once she had been known as a prayer warrior. She had learned to wait in the Lord's Presence and to intercede for others. But since she had slumped in discouragement she had even neglected the church prayer meetings and ladies' weekly prayer groups. Now she was merely marking time, waiting for her summons home.

"Shame on me," grandma exclaimed. "Why, the best years are still ahead!"

With trembling hands, she reached for the phone. "Your guest speaker inspired me," she said. "I'm going to get busy and pray. Just let me know the prayer needs as they come, and I'll remember them personally."

"Wonderful!" the pastor exclaimed. "I made several calls yesterday and have four prayer requests for you already. I'm sure there will be many more."

"And when you're making announcements in church next Sunday," grandma added, "tell the folks to phone in their requests and I'll be glad to pray. I know God will answer."

"Remember how we prayed for work for the son of the woman across the street from the parsonage?" she reminded. "That was one of the quickest answers to prayer I've ever seen."

Grandma was bubbling with enthusiasm.

"Did you know that he committed his life to Christ not long after that?" the pastor asked.

"No, I haven't heard. But I might have expected it," grandma commented.

"We prayed so fervently for his salvation."

Grandma got busy, writing slowly with her arthritic hand, a list of prayer requests. At the end of a month there were thirty names.

Soon she received so many phone calls that her daughter installed an extension phone.

"Is this the praying grandmother?" a voice would ask. "My daughter's marriage is about to break up. She has three small children, and it would be such a tragedy. Will you please pray about the situation?"

"Be glad to," replied grandma. "Let me know what happens."

A few months later the woman called again. "Things are much better now," she said. "My daughter's husband is greatly changed. He is starting to attend church."

Or the call might be, "I have a problem. My son is having an important college exam. Will you please pray?"

Invariably, the next call from that party would report the answer. "George says to thank you very much for praying. He got a B plus in the exam. And now I would like you to pray about . . ."

Or it might be, "Pray for my husband! He has resisted the gospel for years. But now he's in the hospital and is much more receptive. Pray that he will accept Christ and that his operation will be successful."

Grandma never took credit for answers to prayer. "Oh, I'm not the only one praying." She would point out. "We also remember these requests at the prayer service in church."

At Christmas Grandma received more cards than anyone in the home. "In appreciation for your prayers," many of them said.

But the card she liked best was from her pastor: "To the happiest and most valuable member in our congregation. With hearty thanks for all your help!"

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Why A Christian Day School

WHY ARE YOU starting a Christian Day School is a question that is being asked over and over. It is an honest question and deserves an honest answer. The Christian Day School movement is nothing new and it did not have its origin with Free Will Baptists. In fact for too long we have dragged our feet in the field of education. It is not enough to have good Christian colleges. Any type of educational system will tell you to really educate a person, you start when that person is a child.

During the past year and a half I have become personally convinced and convicted that one of the biggest answers to turn the tide of our country back to God is through Christian elementary education. If the Bible teaches that children need to be saved, and it does, it also stands to reason that the child is in need of being educated according to the truths of God's Word. We boast that we believe "all truth is God's truth" then allow our sons and daughters to be taught by teachers who could care less about God or any truth. This is not to say that there aren't any Christians teaching in the public system. There are some, but they are rapidly becoming fewer and fewer. Why is this true? A real born again Christian teacher does not have the same outlook and philosophy of the public school system. Its system is built almost entirely upon humanism. They boast of teaching the "whole child" when they make no provisions for his spiritual growth. Logic will tell you when you leave out a part of anything, you no longer have a "whole."

However, the purpose of this article is not to necessarily persuade you to begin a school in your church but to tell you the story of the Bethany Christian School in Norfolk, Virginia. It is a story that is filled with planning, prayer, more planning, more prayer, and then

finally a dream come true.

It all began in the winter of '66, about February to be exact. The Bethany Free Will Baptist Church had voted to survey and look into the possibilities of starting such a venture. A board of Christian education was elected from the church to work with then the pastor, Reverend Raymond Riggs. Other schools were contacted, questions were asked, the National Association of Christian Schools was contacted and gave assistance through their publications. Plans began to materialize. There was checking to do with the state board of education concerning teacher qualifications, state certification, health standards, and curriculum.

The church had grown to such a size that it was necessary to build another unit for Sunday school space. The building was soon underway and was being built to serve as a dual building: Sunday school and CTS on Sunday, and Christian day school Monday through Friday. If I have learned anything about stewardship I have learned this: It is not good stewardship to invest forty-five to fifty thousand dollars on educational plants and use them approximately five hours per week, excluding vacation Bible schools. That's not even good business much less stewardship.

In August of 1966 the building was not quite completed. School was planned to open September 6, 1966. There were less than twenty students enrolled for that year for grades kindergarten (age four), through the third grade. Three teachers were already hired, but so far there weren't enough students to pay salaries.

During the final two weeks before school was to open, the men of the church including the pastor, were busying themselves to have three rooms completed to begin school. To make it short and to the point, on September 6, 1966,

By Ken Riggs



Students and school principal Riggs are shown with one of the busses owned by the school. They also have a regulation, yellow bus.



Classroom scene of the Bethany Christian School, Norfolk, Virginia, shows Ken Riggs, principal, assisting a student.

the Bethany Christian School began with thirty-six students and three faculty members. God was faithful. He provided twice as many students the last two weeks and gave strength to the men to complete three rooms.

The church had also voted to subsidize the school at least for the first year. As was mentioned above, when the board was surveying and beginning to purchase books, desks, and other necessary supplies, there was no income for the school. Accurate records were kept as to the amount of money paid out by the church to the school. These records alone prove the faithfulness of God. From February 1966, to August 1967, the church paid out to the school \$1,511.02. When you really break this down, you see that the church only paid out approximately eighty-four dollars per month. It must be remembered that there was no income for eight of the eighteen months mentioned. Is it worth eighty-four dollars a month to reach the parents of these children. As a direct result of the school three families were reached and joined our church. Two of these families have proven to be faithful to all phases of the church program. It doesn't cost a church, it pays in dividends to advance His Kingdom.

This year we began our second year. The fourth grade was added and three additional teachers were hired. The present enrollment is 65 students. Already this year we have experienced the continued blessings and faithfulness of God. God's hand has been with us for which we praise Him. He has provided additional students, teachers, busses for transportation, and equipment. The school is still in need of various materials but in God's time He will provide.

Of our present enrollment 32 are regular attenders of our church. Some of the others, when they go to church, come to ours. Such an adventure has benefited the church in more ways than space permits to tell. The Gospel has gotten into homes that may never have gotten there any other way. Children have been

saved who may never have been. Lives have begun to be molded for the service of Jesus Christ. Even Christian parents have been drawn close to a knowledge of the Word of God.

This is not to say that a Christian school is a miniature Bible college. The spiritual things are emphasized, prayer is practiced, yet we are dealing with children who don't know how to write, read, and to get along with others. What better way to teach about the ministry of the Holy Spirit than with a child? The child needs to know that the Holy Spirit is there to "guide in all things." To me this includes reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic.

It is not definite how far we plan to go. It is our goal and desire to add a grade per year at least through the eighth grade. God alone holds the future. Your church may be in a position to house such a school. I challenge you to look into it. If your church cannot, you can still pray for the ministry of Christian day schools. As of this date, we as Free Will Baptists have three such schools. Each of these schools is operated and controlled by a local church. They are as follows: American Christian School (Fairmount Park Free Will Baptist Church, Norfolk, Virginia); Faith Christian Academy (Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Goldsboro, North Carolina); Bethany Christian School, Norfolk, Virginia. The First Free Will Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia, operates a Christian nursery.

If it is true that the world's philosophy has come about through our educational system, it stands to reason that Christian elementary education can prepare leaders who once again "fear God and keep His commandments."

This story would not be complete without the mention of the vision and leadership of Raymond Riggs. God has always seen fit to use human vessels to accomplish His will. The history of Bethany Christian School begins of course with God, but without His servant there would be no history.

A MISSION VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

By Betty J. Ross

MY PASTOR, Rev. George Ludwig, announced that he would be preaching at a tent meeting near the Mission on Bull Run Road. As a courtesy to him, I attended the services. The Lord spoke to my heart the first night, and caused me to look around and compare the needs of these people and the abilities of my church people. When I got home, I prayed and talked to my fellow churchmen, and found that they, too, had felt the same urging from the Holy Spirit. We talked with our pastor and he encouraged our willingness and desires to aid in this mission. He encouraged our absence from his services if we chose to attend the mission services.

The mission is situated in a rural area a few miles from Nashville. At that time, perhaps only one family attending had a car and average intellectual abilities. This family, along with the very dedicated and faithful pastor, Gustus Thompson and wife Juanita Barrow Thompson, would go to the several isolated and economically depraved homes, and bring the people (mostly children) to services. Discipline problems were encountered every service. Mrs. Thompson was obliged to struggle with this while Brother Gustus preached the Word.

On a few occasions, the Woman's Auxiliary of my church furnished a Sunday school teacher, special music and financial aid. Then one of our young ladies, Joyce Bradley, who had spent two years at the Free Will Baptist Bible College, and had a very personable disposition, went full time to teach, play the piano, help with the music and assist in general.

We then felt that a vacation Bible school would be helpful. We got our teachers from our Auxiliary and a teen-

age assistant for each, plus a pianist from the Crusaders for Christ group, and the finances needed, and we conducted a five day school. We had two teachers from the mission, including the pastor. As director, I could observe what the classes were doing, and these teachers really worked and gave the 60 children enrolled an *accelerated* course.

Conditions were not the best in the classrooms with bed sheet partitions and the strong odor from the children who had not bathed or changed clothes for some time, but the Lord blessed every effort.

In the beginning, services were held in an old vacant log house but when the house was to be used again, the little block building was put up by the pastor and men of the mission.

We had a vacation Bible school commencement program on Sunday evening after the close of the school. Following this program, Reverend Gene Helton, evangelist for the revival meeting, preached a very soul stirring message. The parents of a family of nine children came to give themselves to the Lord. These children had been in vacation Bible school the previous week. I trust that the Lord used the influence of the school as well as the preaching of the Word to bring these parents to the altar of dedication.

There is no way to measure the *good* accomplished by our efforts but one thing was attested by every one who had a part—*When we put our hands into mission work, our hearts were changed.* Now we are stronger, more willing and more zealous of mission work everywhere.



MISSIONS WORLDWIDE

By VIRGINIA VAN KLUVE, *Missions Chairman, WNAC*

PIRASSUNUNGA, BRAZIL

"My life has really been different since I accepted Christ," says a young father of three who was saved the night of a daily vacation Bible school program.

Joao Ponciano, Sunday school superintendent, declares, "I thank God for the Free Will Baptist people who have sent missionaries to Brazil."

Missionary Louis Coscia visits the prison house to take pictures and record singing by the prisoners. "You are wasting your time," says the new chief of police. But a month later when Louis returns he is welcomed by the police chief who displays a different attitude and relates good news. The prisoners are studying the Bible and singing together. Discipline problems are a thing of the past.

One prisoner confesses, "I know I have done wrong and I must pay for my crime. But I will forget the past because Christ is my future."

Relatives continue to hinder Sebastian and other young Brazilians who have heard the call of God to Christian service.

The Holy Spirit is dealing with the heart of a young man—a devout Cath-

olic. His sister vows no one will change her religion.

SHELL, ECUADOR

Plutarco, a little fellow lies on a stretcher. Deep in his jungle home he became very sick with a huge abscess on his right hip. He was carried to the tuberculosis clinic at Cuchaentza where the white missionary doctor visited occasionally.

Upon the doctor's advice, his parents allowed him to go to Epp Memorial Hospital and from there to Rimmer Memorial Hospital in the big city of Quito.

Missionary nurse Patsy Tyson accompanied Plutarco on the flight to Quito. His eyes opened wide in amazement as he saw the big planes at the airport.

After extensive treatment our other missionary nurse Ella Rae Jones accompanied him on the return flight to Shell. Presently he is in a body cast and at home with his family.

But Plutarco is not saved. He is an intelligent lad. The gospel has been given him. By way of phonograph records he is hearing the good news of Christ's saving grace in his native language. Pray for young Plutarco.

Remember, too, to pray for Pat and Ella Rae, that God's Holy Spirit will enable them to reach lost hearts with the good news of salvation as they minister to the physical needs of mankind in Ecuador.

MONTERREY, MEXICO

Pray that God might give the Billows the wisdom to direct a mushrooming ministry in Mexico. Pray for a strengthening of leadership ability in the young Mexican Christian workers who have been trained at the Institute of Gold. The Institute of Gold is vital in training young Mexican students. Pray that there will be a high degree of dedication on the part of the Mexican pastors and their wives that God might use them to win many souls to lead and train their people to the glorious knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Pray for Harvey and Mary Acuirre as they continue their language study at the Rio Grande Bible Institute, Edinburg, Texas. Pray that God would show them the exact place where He would have them serve in our National Home Mission work. Pray for Dave Cochrane of New York state as he assists in the Institute of Gold.

ORENO, MAINE

Reverend and Mrs. Jim Nason have been appointed by the National Home Mission Board to begin a church extension ministry in Oreno, Maine, a northern suburb of the city of Bangor. The suburb of Oreno has about 5,000 people of middle to upper class. At the time Brother Nason was appointed by the board, there were no Bible preaching churches organized in Oreno—the home of the University of Maine.

Pray that sufficient support might be quickly raised for Brother Nason and his family and that God would open the door for them to have a place to live and hold services. Pray that God would open the way for them for families to be reached with the gospel message.

Rev. Nason and his wife are natives of Linneus, Maine, located near the Canadian border. They are members of the Linneus Free Will Baptist Church, a church that escaped the merger with the American Baptists in 1910-11 and has always maintained its identity as a Free Will Baptist church. Reverend Nason is a graduate of Bob Jones University and has pastored two and one half years in northern Maine.

NORTHWEST

Frontier territories are open for Free Will Baptists in the northwest. Pray that God would call mission workers to help fortify our strength in the northwestern states. Of the continental forty-eight states, Washington and Oregon have the smallest number of citizens who attend any kind of church. These states have many open frontiers for Free Will Baptists.

Pray that we could soon have more than two Free Will Baptist churches in the state of Colorado. Pray that we can have more than one Free Will Baptist church in the state of Nebraska. Pray that God would strengthen our four churches in the state of Idaho. Pray that God would raise up pastors and church extension workers who would have a burden for the strong Mormon controlled towns and cities in the northwest.

IVORY COAST, WEST AFRICA

"As the work on the hospital progressed one day, we had used the last of the cement; the mason was finishing the room we had just poured; it was 11:00 A.M. and by noon he would be finished. When we saw the large truck turn into the drive, we knew it was the ten tons of cement that had been ordered to complete all the concrete work. So instead of the crew going home, they were all on the job again that afternoon. God had marvelously intervened and we had the needed materials." Howard Gage

WOMEN *in* ACTION!

NEW DISTRICT

The first meeting of the Cave Spring District Woman's Auxiliary Convention was held October 26, 1967, at the Myrtle Missouri Free Will Baptist Church with an attendance of fifty.

Mrs. Lorene Pohnert, corresponding secretary, reports an interesting program using the theme *So Send I You*, with all four auxiliaries participating. Ruth Robinson challenged the audience to become better workers for the Lord as she spoke on the theme. Ladies from the Alton Auxiliary rendered special music. An object lesson was given by Fern Hickinbotham, Gay Combs, Charlene Janes, and Jo Pingleton, from the Thayer Auxiliary. Ruby Johnson sang a solo, *Follow Me*. A mission skit was presented by Gloria Carlson, Phyllis Schaffer, Rosa Lea Reed, and Geneve Sorrell of the Myrtle Auxiliary.

The message was brought by Reverend Finis Johnson, pastor of the West Plains Church using as a subject, "They Ministered Unto Him of Their Substance" (Luke 8:1-3).

OKLAHOMA STATE CONVENTION

The Oklahoma State Woman's Auxiliary Convention met October, 1967 in the Ada Church, with a registration of 264. Convention theme was *Lovest Thou Me*. Missionary speakers were Lonnie and Anita Sparks. Jo Ann Wood, state corresponding secretary reports a membership of 845. State project for the year is four dollars per member to be divided one half for Oklahoma Bible College organ fund, one fourth for the Jim Combs' vehicle, and one fourth for the Larry Powells account. They also

voted to join Project 5,000 and to observe WNAC Emphasis month.

MISSION EMPHASIS

Vonciile Daniels of the Woman's Auxiliary of Garden Grove, California, shares with us the following interesting article.

Within the past few months, our Auxiliary has grown not only in number, but *spiritually*, as well. Our hearts have been heavily burdened with the knowledge that so many of the missionaries have deficit accounts. We wanted to do something to help—but what to do and how to accomplish it?

After putting our thoughts together, we came up with the idea of a *special mission emphasis* at our October Auxiliary meeting. Each member was to save pennies, nickels and dimes, and to deprive herself of *luxuries* which we all label *necessities*.

We put on a skit written by our missions chairman about missionaries, and some members came in costume representing various countries. The climax of the affair was when each one placed the money she had saved on an open Bible at the altar. The Lord truly did bless: there were seventeen women present and our *special offering* amounted to \$88.26. Our hearts rejoiced and it was a challenge to do more!

Several members who were not present also gave offerings which brought the total to \$98.30. Our treasurer then added one dollar and seventy cents to this amount in order that we might be able to send a total of \$100.00 to the Missions Board.

Our plans are to continue to save for this need. Our prayer is that the burden will spread throughout the nation in Free Will Baptist Churches and Auxiliaries.



Members of the Woman's Auxiliary, Garden Grove, California, who participated in the special missions emphasis for deficit missionary accounts, left to right, Sylvia Bowers, Jan Powell, Cindy Vandivort, Connie Daniels, Donna Wade, Pam Briscoe, Jessie Wertz. Second row, Voncille Daniels, Lillian White, Jewel Ferguson, Joy Francher, Ann Matala, Dora Williams, Gayle Vandivort, and Fran Bentley.



Rachel Murray, president of the Cave Spring District Woman's Auxiliary Convention which held its first meeting in October at the Myrtle, Missouri Free Will Baptist Church. Four local auxiliaries were represented—Thayer, West Plains, Alton, and Myrtle. Interest center shown here depicts the convention theme, 'So Send I You.'



OUR READERS WRITE US

FROM ALABAMA

It thrills my heart to know ladies like Mrs. E. F. Humphries. After Sunday school yesterday, she came to me having the desire to do something for foreign missions. She said, "The Lord has laid upon my heart a burden for our missionaries in India, and I would like very much for you to send this fifty dollar check through the Woman's Auxiliary."

I thank God for our Sunday school lesson on stewardship and that I may have said something in my teaching that was instrumental to the Lord's work. Pray for me, that I may always be about our Father's business.

*Mrs. Mildred Purser
Red Bay, Alabama*

FROM FLORIDA

I want to thank you for the challenge you present through *Co-Laborer*. I am always inspired by the programs and articles. Keep up the good work!

*Mrs. John Reed
Sneads, Florida*

FROM GEORGIA

Let me take this opportunity to express my gratitude and the gratitude of our auxiliary, for the splendid job done regarding the *Co-Laborer*.

We appreciate having a magazine of our own with the information, challenge,

and objectives like that of *Co-Laborer*.

We pray that God will ever keep each of us in the present Spirit of togetherness.

*Mrs. James Ursrey
Moultrie, Georgia*

I want to thank Mrs. Geneva Miller for her idea concerning the Christmas card exchange rack. Oux auxiliary decided to carry out this idea and it sure created lots of enthusiasm and excitement amongst our members. All of us are happy to send our postage money to missions.

I personally am thankful for the women who write such interesting and inspiring articles in our *Co-Laborer*. The first thing I do when I receive my copy is read it from cover to cover.

*Mrs. Gilbert O'String
Columbus, Georgia*

I want to say for the women of our auxiliary at Ebenezer Church we sure enjoy our *Co-Laborer*. You folks are doing a wonderful job. May the Lord bless you in a great way.

*Mrs. D. E. Wilkinson
Glennville, Georgia*

IVORY COAST

I thoroughly enjoy the Woman's Page each month in *Contact* and we enjoy receiving *Co-Laborer* each quarter. May God richly bless you in your labors for Him. Our regards to those in the office.

*Lorene Miley
Ivory Coast*

FROM NORTH CAROLINA

Seldom does one person become indebted to so many as is the case of a Free Will Baptist missionary to our Free Will Baptist people. Especially is he indebted to the Woman's Auxiliary.

In our case, leaving the pastorate for foreign mission service found us lacking many items needed to stretch out over the first term of service. Sheets, pillow cases, towels, blankets, quilts, tupperware, pressure cooker, stainless steel, and dishes were just a few tokens of the sincere interest shown by our women through the Provision Closet. Many were the days, thousands of miles away, that we just looked around us and were reminded of the concern of our women and their having made our stay a little brighter.

But then, the missionary returns to the states, having years before taken up stakes and severed hometies, and finds that all of a sudden he is setting up housekeeping all over again. He has no home of his own, and nothing to place in even a rented one. Once again, we were able to turn to the Provision Closet for many of our household needs.

This letter would not be complete unless mention was made of the help received through the Student Loan Fund by both my wife and I while students in Free Will Baptist Bible College.

May I close by just simply expressing a sincere heartfelt thanks to all of our women who have shared and are sharing in our mission work.

*Your Co-Laborer,
Missionary Walter Ellison*

SOUTH CAROLINA

Our auxiliary, (First Free Will Baptist Church, Charleston Heights) recently had a shower for the Provision Closet which is being mailed under separate cover. We received a great blessing in giving these items for our missionaries to use while on the field.

Our ladies really enjoy *Co-Laborer*.

We appreciate your efforts and may God continue to bless you.

*Judy A. Hanna
Charleston Heights, S.C.*

TENNESSEE

We certainly do appreciate the nice love offering you (WNAC) sent to our account. It is through women like you that God makes possible our going to Brazil.

We were hoping to leave for Brazil this fall, but it will be next spring before we leave now. Even though we were disappointed in not being able to leave at this time, we know that God knows best. We are just trusting in Him to work things out as He sees best.

Our family is doing fine. We have a new addition now—Karla. She arrived on September 27. We thank God for the way He has blessed our family, and the way He supplies our every need.

Thank you once again for all you are doing for the cause of Missions . . . We are going to be depending upon your prayers.

*John and Connie Kraft
Nashville, Tennessee*

VIRGINIA

We hope this will reach you in time to add to our yearly subscriptions of *Co-Laborer* . . . Please add 15 more to the regular mailing list . . . We praise the Lord for our increase in the months of October and November. May God so richly bless in the new year as He has in the past few meetings. We have been small for such a long time, prayers have really been answered.

. . . the programs have been so interesting and such a blessing to us all. So thankful to you for your December program in the *Co-Laborer* . . . when the *Co-Laborer* arrives we all read it through and through over and over . . . our prayers are with you and all the staff.

*Mrs. Doris L. West
Richmond, Virginia*

I AM THE MOTHER OF A MISSIONARY

REPRINTED

In tribute to the courage and faith of mothers everywhere, we dedicate these pages.

By Mrs. D. E. Wilkinson

BEING THE MOTHER of a missionary takes great faith, a lot of prayers. I thought I was willing for the Lord to have His way in Sammy's life. I had always said, "Lord, take my children and use them, just have your way in their lives."

But when Sam told us he wanted to go to our Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, my faith was tried. I had never encouraged Sammy to go to Bible College as I should, but the Lord called him anyway. Mothers! this is where we fail our children and our Lord.

Brother Louis Moulton was our pastor at this time and he was concerned. He and Miss Laura Belle Barnard encouraged Sammy to go on to Bible College and prepare himself to be used as the Lord directed him. We feel greatly indebted to both of them for their work in Sammy's life.

We did not feel we were financially able to send Sam to Bible College. We prayed very much about this and our prayers were answered through the good people of Ebenezer church. They helped pay Sam's expenses to the College in Nashville for four years. We can never thank them enough for this and for all their prayers. The Lord blessed in a great way.

During these four years Sam said he had a call to go to the mission field. He wanted to go to India. Miss Barnard helped again by trying to get him in, but the doors were closed to any more



missionaries. Sam was disappointed, but he never gave up. He went to Columbia Bible College in Columbia, South Carolina for one year, further preparing himself for mission work. At the end of this term, he and June Goode, a girl from Texas, got married. He had met her at the Bible College in Nashville during his last term there.

A door opened in Brazil. Sammy and June fully dedicated their lives to the Lord and followed His leading. Yes, it was hard for us, and also for them, to say good-by and start out on their three thousand mile trip.

We had lots of heartaches, lots of joys and thrills, as Sam and June sent us letters telling of their work and experiences on the field in Brazil. Never once did I doubt that the Lord would not take care of them, and bring them back home safely.

May all you mothers encourage your children to live for the Lord as you never know when He will call a son or daughter to go on the mission field.

I AM A MISSIONARY MOTHER

By Mrs. LaVerne Miley

LISTEN TO that quail! Bye, Mom, I'm going hunting!", my son yells as he slams the back screen door.

"Wait!" I yell right back, "Have you finished writing that book report?"

"AW," he hesitates only momentarily, "I'll do it right after lunch, O.K.?"

And I know if I'm not careful another quarrel will follow. And it will go something like this: Do you want to be behind all the others your age when you go back to the States? Don't you want to be finished with lesson so-and-so so you won't have to study on Christmas Day? . . . or so you can go on the next trip out with Daddy? . . . or so you can take a few days off when company comes?

But the call of the quail is more compelling and off he goes, leaving the missionary mother wondering if it is ever wise to let a child do his school work by correspondence at home.

But what happens when he goes away? Those long months when he learns to appreciate another mother's cooking or wait for another's goodnight kiss or form another standard for mothers to follow.

But the day comes when he's home! He's truly ours! We have no competition from telephone, television or outside amusements. We talk, play games, picnic, and share projects. My, how he has grown! Listen to that new vocabulary! As you listen to the numerous accounts of life in boarding school, you rejoice; for your child has achieved something he could never have gained at home—a



depth of spiritual growth, lifelong friends, keen classroom competition, fellowship among others of his own age and adults.

Sometimes it's the other way around and it isn't *he* who goes, but *you* who go, leaving your child in the States. You've known for years that it was to be so and you regarded it as a matter-of-fact experience. Those last weeks you complete last-minute details as if you were carrying out a business transaction. But it isn't the same. When that final moment arrives you want to say all that has been accumulating in your heart, and, suddenly, no words will come. But there is communication in silence and the Holy Spirit will comfort in times of separation and loneliness.

Every missionary child is a potential Absalom or a Timothy. I thank God that He has given me the privilege of being not only a missionary but also a mother at the same time. May God grant that this combination will produce children through whom my visions for reaching a lost world will be realized.

STUDY COURSE TIPS



By VIOLET COX, *WNAC Study Course Chairman*

A WELL-DRESSED young couple paused for a moment in the lobby of the hotel. She selected a comfortable chair and sank into it. He went on toward the desk, and the telephones. Entering a booth, he made several calls. His work completed, he made his way back to his wife. She was wiping the tears from her eyes. Alarmed, he bent over her. "What's the matter?" She replied, "Oh, a man came up to me after you left and began asking me questions about my salvation." Angrily he replied, "Why didn't you tell him to mind his own business!" "But dear," she said, "if you had heard him you would have thought that it was his business."

It is our business as Christians to witness to the saving power of the Lord Jesus Christ. Soul-winning is a challenging and often difficult business, but it pays big dividends. We need to mind our business of soul-winning because the needs of man are the same today as they have been for years. Men may bathe in a tile bath tub instead of a muddy creek, and drive a fast automobile instead of an ox cart, but the stain of sin is the same.

Let's consider three reasons why we should be soul-winners. First, soul winning brings joy—joy to him who witnesses, joy to the person who accepts Christ, and joy in heaven over the soul who repents. Secondly, we need to mind our business as soul winners because a person who has not accepted Christ and

the free pardon of sin is lost and doomed for destruction. Charles Finney pointed out that if we had the privilege of healing all the physical suffering of all the people of the world for all time, we would not remove as much suffering as we would in saving one lost soul from hell. Thirdly, we should be willing to share Christ with others in appreciation of what He did for us on Calvary. Salvation and a personal relationship with Christ is a precious thing, and we should be willing to share these blessings with others.

Because of the great need for a stronger soul winning emphasis among our Free Will Baptist women, I would like to recommend the book, *Personal Witness*, for a study course for this second quarter. *Personal Witness* was written by Leith Samuel. This book deals with the methods of witnessing and discusses prerequisites, pitfalls, and principles in witnessing. The reader is also made acquainted with the aim and ultimate goal of personal witnessing. Initial contacts and how to start a plan of personal witnessing is outlined. The reader is also made aware of difficulties that will be encountered in witnessing, and he is told by Mr. Samuel how to overcome these obstacles.

Why not try the book, *Personal Witness*, for your next study course? It is a ninety-four page paperback that sells for only \$1.00.

Our Programs For Second Quarter

INTRODUCING OUR WRITERS



ELLA RAE JONES, author of the April program *ECUADOR—LAND OF BEAUTY*, is a missionary nurse in the hospital in Quito, which is operated by World Radio Missionary Fellowship.



BONNIE SHELLNUT is a junior at Wayne State University, Detroit, majoring in speech and drama. She is also program chairman of the Hazel Park, Michigan, Woman's Auxiliary, and author of the May program, *MISSIONS BEGIN AT HOME*.



CLARA PICIRILLI answers the question *WHAT IS MISSIONARY EDUCATION?* in the June program. Mrs. Picirilli is stewardship-prayer chairman of WNAC and treasurer of the Tennessee Woman's Auxiliary Convention.



JULIA HILL prepared the Pre-Easter Season of Prayer programs using the theme, *MARY—HER GLORIOUS COMMISSION*. She is the president of the Wolverine District Auxiliary Convention, Michigan.

DEAR CO-LABORERS:

As you prepare for your pre-Easter season of prayer and sacrificial offering for foreign missions, you will welcome the well written programs using the theme: *Mary—Her Glorious Commission*.

The writer also offers helpful suggestions to assist you in advance planning for the offering for foreign missions. It is called the Laura Belle Barnard offering, in honor of our first foreign missionary of modern times. (See inside front cover.)

WNAC salutes the Rev. J. Reford Wilson, Director of Foreign Missions, his executive staff, members of the board, and the dedicated office staff, whose objective is to win men to Christ throughout the world and to bring them into the fellowship of the church.

Other emphases this quarter include the Bible Conference at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Christian Home Month, National Family Week, Chaplain's and Servicemen's Sunday, CTS Month, Vacation and Mission Bible schools, and Superannuation Sunday.

I hope you are planning on attending our National Auxiliary Convention activities July 15-16 at Oklahoma City. Oklahoma women are known for their gracious hospitality, and extend you a cordial welcome!

Your local auxiliary may send a delegate to this convention by paying a representation fee of \$3.00 at the registration desk.



Oles Currell

Executive Secretary

ECUADOR— LAND OF BEAUTY

By Ella Rae Jones

Song: "The Light of the World"

Call to Prayer: Romans 10:13-18

Pray for the medical ministry of Miss

Jones and Miss Pat Tyson.

SPARKS for your programs, page 34

GEOGRAPHICAL ECUADOR

A FEW WEEKS ago on a partly cloudy, moon-lit night I took my camera and tripod outside to take some time exposure pictures of Sangay, (*pronounced Sahn-guy*) an active snow-capped volcano about thirty miles from Shell. Even at that distance I could see a faint red glare from its eruption. Sangay is only one in the "avenue of volcanoes" that apex the Andean mountain range of little wedge-shaped Ecuador. From the marshy coastlands of the Pacific to the high sierra giving way in the east to the slopes of the Amazon basin, Ecuador is rich in natural beauty.

Last Sunday at church there were two bouquets of sweet-smelling gardenias. Nestled in the center of one was a purple orchid. Most likely, someone had picked it from along the roadside. Occasionally, a bright, yellow-breasted bird graces the eaves of my house. From my window I can see as many as five different fruit trees. After heavy rains I can hear the river rushing over mighty boulders that line its way. Traveling from the eastern jungle to the capital city my nose tells me when we have begun the ascent into the high mountains because the spicy smell of the tall glistening eucalyptus trees fill the air.

Foreign companies have learned of Ecuador's riches. For years they have been finding oil, and more recently gold has drawn them like flies to a fire. God has blessed Ecuador with bountiful natural beauty and resources.

ECONOMICAL AND CULTURAL ECUADOR

Some of the beauty of this land has also made difficulties. It is not easy to construct good roads in mountains. The lack of roads, no doubt, has stunted Ecuador economically. Since all cannot own the fertile valleys, some squeeze out a living from small farms on steep mountain slopes.

This week a mountain Indian came to the hospital selling his woven tapestry. A colorful piece about 18 inches square cost twenty sucres (\$1.00). I asked him if he could weave a larger piece, perhaps 30 inches square, portraying the Ecuadorean shield. He said that he could but rather apologetically said that the price would be sixty sucres (\$3.00). He explained to me that it would require two days work from one person plus the material. In a case like this which culture pattern would you follow? Our U.S. culture says pay the price marked. The Latin culture says bargain and get the price down or don't buy. If you don't bargain you are a stupid, rich American.

The most of Ecuador never knows freezing temperatures. There is much rain. The humid soil is never burned nor frozen and thus is a continual living laboratory for parasites. The people are infested with them. Even if they receive treatment it is a constant battle. Economic and health problems make life become a state of existence.

From the time of the Spanish conquests the Indian has known subservience to the white man. (By white man is not necessarily meant North American, rather the Latin of Spanish descent.) His defeatist outlook on life is manifested by his sad music and complacent acceptance of his situation. But fast arising in all

of Latin America is a working middle class somewhat spanning the gap between the dominant rich and the servant classes. Education is being emphasized. By our United States standards a university education costs little. And at the same time those who cannot sign their names are numerous.

A picture of contrast, to be sure, is this aspect of Ecuador. From the very rich to the very poor, from the colonial to the modern, change is seen but at the same time a desperate clinging to the old way.

RELIGIOUS ECUADOR

A few nights ago while at work I had time to engage in lengthy conversation with one of my patients. The more we talked, the more I felt that the Holy Spirit was saying, "this is the time to lead him to a decision." And there he asked forgiveness for his sins. Then I asked him if the chaplain had prayed with him previously. He said yes but that he himself had not prayed since he didn't know the evangelical prayers. His major religious background is that of Roman Catholicism. Even yet, it is difficult for José to pray spontaneously since he is accustomed to memorized or followed prayers. As he talked I realized that in those short moments I was trying to span years of culture. Trying to explain the simple plan of Salvation to José became a major theological problem. Why? Because this was his first serious contact with it. Did you ever think when you *first* heard the message of Salvation? José's childhood years brought him no light. And only with time, the Holy Spirit, and God's Word will it take deeper root.

Presently, the Gospel knows no open physical persecution in Ecuador. We are tolerated. The attitude is, "You have your religion, we have ours." There are not multitudes standing with outstretched hands asking for the Message. We battle the concept of the "rich gringo." And yet, here and there, God is finding His own.

One of the crying needs is for dedi-

cated nationals. Those who scrape to save for Christian training then find few churches who can support them. Those who have seminary training gain the reputation of having ideas too high for the local congregation. But even in this, there are those who are giving of themselves in His service to their own people.

In all these problems, we need Godly wisdom and understanding. May He help us to live lives to strengthen our national brethren and make an impact strong enough to cause either persecution or acceptance.

ABOUT OUR WORK

Our duties carry us to every part of the hospital and can actually include any hour. Technically, we rotate shifts—days and evenings and rotate emergency surgery call. These shifts may put us in charge of the floor, working in the operating room, or emergency room. At times our duties are in the out-patient department (like a doctor's office) or actually bathing patients, changing bed linens, etc. This in some ways is similar to Stateside nursing. But we also learn to operate autoclaves, fold gauze and save intravenous tubing to make straws for patients. This isn't very Statesidish where everything is disposable.

At times we wish for air freshener as a mountain Indian pulls off layers of clothing and the odor says that he hasn't bathed in some time. Then your heart melts to see his gratefulness just to have a bed in a hospital.

These become routine things in a day's service for the Lord. Perhaps typical according to some patterns of missionary service, but a real avenue of contact with the people to whom we are sent.

The staff here at Epp Memorial Hospital consists of three missionary nurses (one is from Australia; the others are Pat Tyson and me), two national registered nurses, five nurses aides, one lab technician who also manages X-ray and the pharmacy, an accountant, a chaplain, the administrator who is a missionary from Canada, a missionary doctor and a national doctor.

MISSIONS BEGIN IN THE HOME

By Bonnie Shellnut

Song: "Jesus Calls Us"

Scripture: Matthew 5:15-16

Prayer requests

See *Sparks for your Programs*, page 34

THE FAMILY LEARNS THROUGH EXAMPLE

HOW MANY TIMES do church members get so involved with church-related activities that we forget our own family's evangelical needs? As mothers, we have the sacred responsibility to introduce our children to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. This means that we must be missionaries in the home.

If we recognize that missions begin at home, through example, we will be able to see world missions in their proper perspective. Because we do not identify ourselves as missionaries, or indeed take on such identification, we are incapable of relating meaningfully with the professional missionary. If we do not realize that all Christians should be missionaries, we think of ourselves as one kind of Christian and the professional missionary as some other kind of Christian. Too often we see the professional missionary as some faceless servant of God whose job is winning the unseen masses to Christ.

For the family to be an effective missionary influence, the parents must be examples of the missionary spirit. By the missionary spirit, I mean a sincere concern for all sinners. This concern must begin with the immediate family, for it is inconsistent to display a concern for the unseen masses without a display of concern for personal and intimate relationships. World missions, then, is best taught by example. First one must do one's best to win the family to Christ.

THE FAMILY GIVING

Giving includes more than dollars and cents. Indeed, an organized missionary program cannot operate without financial support, but we must recognize that just money cannot get the job done.

What else is needed? The answer is education. The family can be a very effective medium of learning about our denominational missionary program. The parents can help the children to become acquainted with the various missionaries by encouraging them to correspond with them. In this way the family can *learn* the missionaries' needs in a more personal way than through formal media. This personal contact will enable the family to know the specific needs and encourage them to do something about these needs.

The children will probably be more willing to adopt family projects to raise money or buy or make needed items for the missionaries.

The giving of oneself can be learned by doing such missionary work together as visitation, helping needy families, and inviting friends to church. These factors are very important in that they work to unite the family in a common goal.

THE FAMILY PRAYING

The missionary spirit is often caught more than taught. By this I mean that the family can feel if someone else has the true missionary spirit, for it shows up in everything he does. This missionary spirit becomes evident especially in our prayer life. The family altar is an excellent opportunity to display true missionary spirit. Give each child a chance to request prayer for his friends and favorite mission field or family then proceed to introduce your special concern for certain persons and missionaries.

When other members of the family see that you are deeply moved by the needs of others, they will want to have the same concern.

In addition, encourage the different members of the family to have their own time for prayer and meditation. Explain the importance of talking with God privately about the people with whom we are most concerned.

CONCLUSION

This playlet is an attempt to show how many of us get so wrapped up in church and missionary activities that we often fail to see the need in our homes. Our homes can and should be the centers of missionary influence; let us not leave the job up to formal missionary organizations and church activities. We are missionaries; our field is our home; our country is our neighborhood!

Characters: Mother—Ruth Hunter;
Daughter, Dawn Hunter

Setting: A living room with a telephone.

First scene occurs about 4:30 p.m.

Second scene, early the following morning.

Dawn: (Rushes in from school, throws armload of books on couch) Mom,

Mom, . . . (louder) Mom, *anyone home?* Mother: (coming from bedroom, dressed to go out, putting on gloves.)

Oh, Hi, Dawn. Anything new? (Begins to gather her material, Bible, pamphlets, etc., and pays no heed to Dawn's answer.)

Dawn: (excitedly) Oh, yes! Listen, Mom, just about the greatest thing in all the world has happened! Chuck Thomas asked me to go steady . . . and I . . .

Mother: (Not hearing, and interrupting) Honey, I've got to run to the missionary circle meeting in 15 minutes, and after that I have to meet with the City Evangelical Board, so I'll see you at prayer meeting. Your Dad has a Deacons' meeting before church so he'll probably go home only an hour. Dinner's in the oven. Keep it hot for him, o.k.?

Dawn: Sure, Mom.

Mother: I'd better run.

Dawn: Mom, I'm, not going to church

tonight; I'm going out with Chuck Thomas.

Mother: Honey, I wish you wouldn't go with him. I hear his parents drink a lot.

Dawn: Oh, Mom, that doesn't make him bad.

Mother: Well, I guess you've got a mind of your own. Be careful, though hon . . . well, gotta go. (exits.)

Dawn: (Dejectedly looks toward front door.) But, Mom, don't you care if we're going steady . . . (goes to couch and slumps down) Oh, who cares about anything I do around here . . . (phone rings) Hello . . . Oh, Dad . . . yes, Mom's gone already . . . You won't? . . . no, I'll be ok., Mom already fixed dinner . . . yeah, o.k., . . . Say, Dad, can I go out with Chuck Thomas tonight? Dad? . . . Dad? . . . (hangs up.) Oh, well, I guess it's all right with him too. (Goes to kitchen.)

Man, am I hungry. I sure hope Chuck calls soon. (Phone rings and she runs happily to answer.) Hello. (Sweetly) Oh, *hel-lo*, Chuck. (giggles) Ah, go on . . . Of course I do Chuck, O.K. I love you—so there, see! You sure you wouldn't like to go to church instead of Gary's party? . . . No, I didn't think you would . . . you bet, I'll be ready . . . (kisses air) . . . you too. Bye. (Hangs up phone, gets up dreamily, picks up some of her books and hugs them to self.) Ooooooh—I just can't believe someone as cool as Chuck loves me so much.

SCENE 2

(Mother comes from bedroom in housecoat, goes to front door and gets morning paper, returns, calls to bedroom.)

Mother: Bill, Bill, coffee's on. Better get Dawn up too . . . (phone rings) Hello . . . yes, this is Mrs. William Hunter . . . who is this? (shocked) The police? What's the matter? What? Yes . . . Beer in the car? Oh, no! Yes, sir, we'll be right down. (Hangs up stunned, gets up and calls Bill.)

Bill, Bill, Dawn's at the police station. She and Chuck were arrested at a wild party and for being in possession of beer. (Returns to couch and cries.) Oh, Bill, where have we failed?

WHAT IS MISSIONARY EDUCATION?

By Clara Picirilli

Song: "I Love to Tell the Story"

Scripture: Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:15

Prayer requests

See *Sparks for your Program*, page 34

SINCE EDUCATION MEANS "to learn," then a simple definition of missionary education would be "to learn about missions." This is a true statement but a far cry from the total definition and meaning. It is our desire this month to review the how and why of missionary education as well as dwell briefly on our proper response to this important subject.

We can glean much from the Word of God concerning missionary education. The teachings of Jesus show us that He had a real passion for souls. If He hadn't then why was it necessary for Him to spend His life on earth being abused and persecuted? If souls are not worth salvaging, the death of Jesus was in vain.

One cannot have a proper passion for souls until he is willing to obey the command of Christ in Matthew 28:19 "Go ye therefore and teach all nations . . .," and Mark 16:16, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

WORLDWIDE KNOWLEDGE

Why must we concern ourselves with the heathen in other lands? Is it really fair to us to leave all the nice things we have worked so hard for? And is our Lord justified in asking us to move to a foreign country where we will possibly be separated from our children while they are attending school? Is it foolishness to risk our good health to go to a place

where diseases are much more prevalent than in our country?

Let's look at it this way. As Christian Co-laborers, can you imagine how your life would be today if you had never heard of Jesus Christ? To lie, to steal or to kill would be regulated only by tribal codes. We are told that this is the condition of most of the world's people who have never heard the gospel. Yes, this does seem incredible, but nevertheless it is true.

Do not the people in other lands deserve to hear the gospel just as much as we? Just because the people of a country are well educated does not mean they are educated to the cause of Christ and missions. Japan is known as the most literate country in all the world, yet Japan is less than one per cent Christian. Of 93 million people, fewer than one million profess to know Christ.

These people (as well as numerous millions like them around the world) are hungry for the gospel. Even in their ignorance they know there is a supreme being, thus the reason so many of them worship gods of iron and wood, by burning incense, beating a drum, and many other outlets they have for trying to find favor with their gods. And all of this is done without any comfort or hope. Would any of us be willing to trade places with any one of these people? Are we as thankful as we should be that we have the knowledge of the one true God and for the privilege we have

to serve Him? If our concern is as great as it should be, we will not be content until those in heathen darkness have found the true Light and have been taught the many wonders of God.

There is a God, all nature cries;
I see it painted on the skies;
I see it in the flowering spring;
I hear it when the birdlings sing;
I see it on the rolling main;
I see it on the fruitful plain;
I see it in the clouds that soar;
I hear it when the thunders roar;
I see it when the morning shines;
I see it when the day declines;
I see it in the mountain's height;
I see it in the smallest mite;
I see it everywhere abroad;
I feel, I know there is a God.

—Selected

CHRISTIAN CONCERN

The purpose of the Woman's Auxiliary is to help our churches promote missions. We can show our concern by faithfully attending the auxiliary meetings, participating when given the opportunity, giving of our financial means to further Christ's cause through missions, and diligently praying for our missionaries as well as the over-all missions program. However, we cannot afford to let our concern stop here. It is not enough to "feel" concern. We must become involved ourselves. You might say, "It is impossible for me to go to the foreign mission field." True, many of us cannot, but there are mission fields in our own country—yes, in our own neighborhood wherever it may be.

In our own auxiliary we can show our Christian concern through mission study classes, attending the seasons of prayer services and monthly programs, and giving to missions through the Co-Laborer plan and special mission offerings. True concern will also give us a burning zeal for the souls of those around us who have not yet experienced the thrill of having their sins forgiven.

One of the greatest joys in our Christian life is rejoicing with one that comes to the Lord. But it is also rewarding to watch the spiritual growth after one is saved. Too many times we are prone to seemingly forget a person once they are saved. Many times they need our counsel and help just as much after they have given their heart to the Lord—this is when Satan begins his subtle reminders that they are being foolish to give up their good times, and also to plant seeds of doubt of salvation, along with playing many other tricks of his trade.

WITNESS

Can we truly be burdened for the souls of the heathen in foreign lands if we do not witness for our Lord in our own community? Only as we are faithful in our Christian obligations here at home will we realize fully the great joy that is ours in serving Christ. May God give us a passion for souls as never before, with a heart of love for those who are yet without Him.

Give me a shepherd heart, O God,
As I go forth today;
Grant me the patience to be kind
To those who've gone astray.
Mine not the task to chide nor scold,
But gently lift the lamp—
To bind the wound, to warm the cold,
And make them glad I came.
Let me not look with cool disdain
Nor condescending pride
Upon the broken, fallen one,
The one for whom Christ died:
Give me a tender, loving heart,
And wisdom from above—
Oh, by Thy Holy Spirit, Lord,
Teach me how to love.
Give me an educated heart,
A sympathetic ear;
Give me a soul that understands,
A word of faith to cheer.
So many need fresh courage, Lord,
That Thou alone canst bring—
So help me place their hands in Thine
And trust, and pray, and sing!

—Mrs. Floyd B. Roberts

MARY— HER GLORIOUS COMMISSION



By Julia Hill

*To Program-Prayer Chairman
and Missions Chairman.*

Cut 8½" x 11" sheet of white paper in half crosswise and place together and fold in half to form a booklet. You may place a sticker of praying hands or a cross on the front. Inside front cover put heading *My Personal Prayer List* and *Service Boys*. On the next page *Monday* and on through the days of the week to *Friday* on the last inside page. The chairmen may divide their requests from the letters they have received from the missionaries or list missionaries' names from the Foreign Missions picture map for the five days. But leave the *Personal* page blank.

Now that you have your layout done take it apart and lay it out as it was before you cut the paper. Now, you are

ready to cut your two stencils for mimeographing your prayer booklets. Make enough copies for each family of the congregation. This will involve them whether they attend any of the meetings or not.

If you are from a smaller congregation you may wish to make copies with carbon paper. Follow the same procedure. These booklets may be stapled together or tied with yarn or ribbon. This, of course, involves some effort, but has proven a blessing in many groups, especially when the group does not meet together daily during the week.

Songs: Select appropriate hymns for each day. Use theme song "*So Send I You*" frequently but vary presentation—by the group, a solo, a recording, or instrumental number.

MONDAY

Central truth: The glorious commission given to Mary to be the first to go forth to tell others—those she was so closely associated with—the resurrection message.

Responsive reading: Matthew 28:1-10.

Let us observe, as we study the resurrection story again, that a woman was commissioned to *go tell*. We may conclude from the accounts given by Mark, Luke and John that there were other women present with Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, who was the mother of James and Joses. In John 20:17-18, only Mary Magdalene is mentioned.

Jesus had cast out seven demons from Mary Magdalene. Grateful for His great mercy, she was one of His firmest and most faithful followers. For all who turn to Him in surrender and faith, Easter can mean the difference between a life of frustration and a life of purpose and power.

As Mary and the other women were commissioned to go tell others the resurrection message, so women of our modern day are also sent. Mary Magdalene and the other women were first sent to those they were most closely associated with—Christ's followers. So we are first responsible to tell the resurrection message to those we are closest to—our family.

A mother, when asked how she was bringing up her children, replied, "Exceptionally well. On Monday they go to the Scouts; Tuesday, they have music; Wednesday, dancing school; Thursday, elocution; Friday, singing; Saturday, the movies; and when convenient, I take them to Sunday school on Sunday."

"May I ask," inquired the visitor, "What you are doing for their souls?" "For their souls?" laughed the mother. "What a quaint idea!"

What a warped sense of values this mother had!

No need of the child is more important than his spiritual needs. The first duty of the home is to lead the child to know

and love Christ as his Lord and Savior. This, too, is women's work for the church. When Paul wrote to Timothy he mentioned "the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also" (2 Timothy 1:5). The church alone cannot adequately teach and train individuals. There must be a linking of home and church in Christian training. Women, who are responsible for many hours of the early training of their children, become this vital link between home and church.

Let us in this pre-Easter season make a special effort to impress on our children, grandchildren and those we are most closely associated with the Good News of Salvation through the resurrection of our blessed Lord and Master.

Prayer: For those on your Personal Prayer List—Our Service Boys, Missionaries and their special requests as submitted by your Missions Chairman.

TUESDAY

Central Truth: It was real love that overcame fear which sent Mary Magdalene forth to receive this glorious commission. *Scripture Reading:* St. Luke 23:55, 56; 24:1; St. John 20:1a.

Let's re-read the Scripture verses and try to imagine the scene. They had observed that Jesus' body had been prepared hurriedly for burial. Women are more sensitive to details, you know—especially when it concerns someone they dearly love. They must complete the embalming by pouring this preparation of spices and ointments on the linen that covered the body of their Lord.

As we think of the task these women were about to perform, we first think of their bravery and courage. Can't you imagine that the echo of the mob "Crucify Him!" was still ringing in their ears! The horror and awfulness of the trial to the crucifixion scene was indelible on their minds. Many of us, because of the rioting in our cities over the past year,

have come to fear the crowd or the mob. Curfews were set and enforced when darkness came for our safety. Without a doubt it was dark when they set out on their journey. It was with real love and adoration for their Lord that they prepared the spices and ointments and returned to the sepulchre without thought of their own welfare or safety.

How does the love and fear balance out in your life? We are so weak at times. We go to the church and worship and attend the Bible classes, but we are reluctant to go out and carry out the commission outside our home or church. Will the fear of your own weaknesses in conveying the Good News overrule your love and concern for the neighbor next door, across the street or down the road a mile or two? Knowledge will not be accepted by God as a substitute for deeds.

Jesus spent much of His time visiting in homes. He knew the value of personal contact with people who needed his teaching. He commanded women to *go tell*. Let us accept this commission anew and go out to our neighbors. You may wish to take some pastry, tracts or a good book to leave with her. A special invitation to attend Easter services at your church she will expect from you whether she attends or not. Most people attend church somewhere on Easter.

Prayer: For your neighbors—for the missionaries in your prayer booklet.

WEDNESDAY

Central Truth: The women exercised the little faith they did have and *did run to tell* the other followers what they had witnessed (*Matthew 28:1-8*).

“‘With fear and great joy . . .’ Fear, first at the wonderful scenes which they had witnessed—the stone rolled away, and the presence of an angel; second, a confused state of mind, apprehensive, perhaps, that it might not, after all, be true. The news was too good to be credited at once, yet they *had sufficient faith* in it to fill them with great and unexpected joy. Perhaps no language could better express the state of minds—the

mingled awe and rejoicing—than that which is here used.” (Barnes Notes.)

How great is our faith? We hear reference to the resurrection event in every worship service we attend. Has the wax of indifference hardened in our ears, therefore, causing our faith to weaken?

Let us sit in the box seat of observation for a few minutes. At this time last year John and Mary Jones were living a life of frustration and despair, but they accepted this wonderful resurrected Savior and their lives are changed. Others in our congregation were headed for destruction, but they opened their hearts and let Christ come in. As we witness these lives being transformed, each time our faith is strengthened or increased. As our faith is increased we branch out and take advantage of the many ways we have of communicating this Good News to others.

Think on the words *did run*. This was the only way these women had of getting the news to the disciples was to run and tell it. Now let us remind ourselves of the various ways we have today of communicating the Good News.

One of the modes of communication we take for granted the most is our mail service. Through a letter we can witness or offer encouragement to someone far away from us. I have heard people remark “Your letter came at just the time when I needed it most. I was so discouraged that day.” Our service boys, our missionaries, our friends and loved ones whom we are separated from by many, many miles are strengthened by our thoughtfulness.

The telephone is another means of communication which can be such a blessing. The business world is profiting by it. The salesman uses this and the automobile especially to sell his products. Are we exercising our faith and carrying out the great commission through these numerous channels of communication?

Go tell the Good News today through these convenient methods of communication which were not available to the women of Jesus’ day.

Prayer: For the Missionaries in our prayer booklet.

THURSDAY

Central Truth: "But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter . . ." (*St. Mark 16:7*). Peter had so recently denied his Lord. No doubt he was in a sad state of despondency. This shows the tender love and kind remembrance of our Lord.

"If I were God," declared Goethe, "this world of sin and suffering would break my heart." Yes, it did break God's heart—there on the cross God's only begotten Son hanged dying for the sins of man. Through his dying he made the "Holy of holies" accessible to all through faith in Christ Jesus.

It has been reported that whenever a publisher was ordered to put out a new edition of Tennyson's poems, he would have to order an extra supply of the letters l and v. The word *love* appeared so often in the poems that the supply of type had to be supplemented. Does the love of God hold a large place in our lives?

An unknown author writes of the influence of a Christian friend:

For me 'twas not the truth you taught,

To you so clear, to me so dim,

But when you came to me, you brought
A sense of Him.

And from your eyes He beckons me

And from your heart His love is shed,
Till I lose sight of you and see

The Christ instead.

In just about every congregation there is someone who is deprived the privilege of regular church attendance by age or by illness. If not in the congregation, within the community of the church. How these people enjoy the attention of Christian friends. They need us and we need them. Many times I have visited in the homes of the sick and shut-in for the purpose of cheering them—and came away so lifted up and encouraged because of the glorious testimony and love that radiated from them. How genuine is our love for God? Are we convincing the world that we serve a God who is just and merciful.

Make this a day of calling on the sick and shut-ins. You may wish to divide into groups according to the number of shut-ins you have in your community. Take a cake or pie along . . . tracts . . . a tape recording of services of previous Sunday morning worship . . . Sing, pray . . . have testimonies and read Scriptures. *Prayer:* For the missionaries; that you will be a greater witness in the community.

GOOD FRIDAY

For your personal devotions at the nine o'clock hour, read from the Gospels the accounts of the crucifixion and resurrection in detail.

For the women with children of school age, this is a holiday from school. You may wish to have Bible reading around the table following breakfast.

It is suggested that the pastor have the service on Good Friday evening. Many churches have Communion and Feet Washing at this service. Whatever the pastor decides for the service it should involve the total church.

Use the telephone to encourage all the women of the church to attend.

Offertory: As you leave the service place your sacrificial offering on a table at the door.

Secretaries and Treasurers

■ 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 secretary's reports to:

Mrs. Wanda Rogers
4864 E. Normal Avenue
Fresno, California 93703

■ Send treasurer's reports to:

Mrs. Cleo Pursell
P. O. Box 1088
Nashville, Tennessee 37202



Circle Programs

OR FOR SECOND AUXILIARY MEETING

By Joan Warren

April / The World Needs . . .

Song: *Whosoever Will*

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

THE APOSTLE PAUL, were he alive today, perhaps would not meet today's standard as a minister of the Gospel. His sermons would probably be considered too long and too pointed, and his obvious lack of tact on political diplomacy would irritate many a pulpit committee in today's world. But how we need more men (and women) of Paul's spiritual stature, unafraid to speak the truth in love, and able to back up the letter of the law with his uncompromising life!

A Man

The world needs a man of principle, a man of character, a man who has experienced the regenerating power of the Holy Spirit in his life. And the

world needs women of the same caliber. "God give us men," we plead. We need stalwart men. But how many times do we as women undermine the effectiveness of our husbands? The world needs families who are dedicated and consecrated to the cause of Christ—husbands and wives who see beyond the frame which houses their collection of treasures they lovingly call home—who can work together in the church; pray together in the home; share their burdens and their spiritual joys. Are we the helpmeet we should be so that as we encourage and support our husbands we can say, "God has a man?"

The world needs women who lift the moral standard high in today's world of new morality; mothers who will not

compromise their standard of conduct for their youth simply because "everybody else does it."

A Message

When Paul wrote the church in Corinth he re-emphasized the fact that his message had always been simple and to the point. "For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified" (1 Cor. 2:2). This was the message in Paul's day, and it has not changed. The world does not need to know, particularly, our theory on the millennium, or how often we should observe the Lord's Supper, and Feet Washing. The world needs to know that "when we were without strength, Christ died for the ungodly." We so often get bogged down in ideologies, pet theories, or unanswerable mysteries and souls rush by us into eternity.

How do we reach the masses of this world? By lifting up the Christ of the cross—the One who bore in His own body the sins of an ungrateful world on the lonely hill of Calvary. Forsaken, alone, He paid the penalty for our sins.

The world needs this message of Christ.

The Right Method

In our Scripture lesson, Paul pointed out the fact that his message was not delivered with an excellency of speech and wisdom. His words were not enticing words of man's wisdom, because Paul did not want the Corinthians won to Paul, he wanted them won to Christ.

We do not want to belittle people who try to improve their speech or who are eloquent of tongue. But the important thing is that the message be a "demonstration of the Spirit and of power." Paul doubtless possessed a strong and varied vocabulary. However, flowery words and eloquent gestures are not enough. In order to win people to Christ there must be an evidence of the Spirit. We might convince and persuade men, but only the Holy Spirit can convict of sin and draw men to Christ. If we are blessed with a gift of oratory, we should be grateful—and should make sure that God receives the glory for it.

We should be very careful not to try to win people to ourselves. Faith built on man or his wisdom will not stand in judgment. Only a faith in the Rock of our Salvation will suffice. All of us can declare the testimony of God. The power of the Holy Spirit can touch souls with our simple testimony.

May / The Power of a Woman

Song: Faith of Our Mothers

Scripture: Proverbs 2:4

WOMAN'S influence has been felt almost since the beginning of time. After all, it was Eve who partook of the forbidden fruit first, and she convinced Adam that he should try a bite. On down through the centuries the woman has reigned in her private castle called home and even began to venture into the "masculine" areas. We should never underestimate the power of a woman. She can be an influence for good or evil.

Jezebel

Jezebel is representative of the bad influence women can have. She was a Sidonian princess who married the wicked (but weak) Ahab, king of Israel. She was an imperious, unscrupulous, vindictive, determined, devilish woman. She was devoted to the worship of Baal and built a temple for Baal worship in Samaria, maintained 850 prophets of Baal and Ashtoreth and slew the prophets

of God. When her husband pouted because he could not talk Naboth out of his vineyard, she quickly manufactured a plan to have Naboth stoned to death. She was so cruel and wicked that even the fiery Elijah fled from her in terror.

Jezebel had power, but it was misused power. Her wickedness lived on in the person of her daughter Athaliah who had her own grandchildren murdered in order to keep the throne.

Jezebel is a picture of evil power and influence. God visited His wrath upon her and her descendants, using Jehu as an instrument of judgment.

Lois and Eunice

There is a great difference between the wicked Jezebel and the mother and grandmother of Timothy. The only mention we have of these two women is in 2 Timothy 2:5, but what a testimony! Paul recalls the unfeigned faith that dwell first of all in grandmother Lois. This faith was real, genuine. It must have been an active, outgoing, visible faith that produced a life of good work. For this faith was handed down to Eunice, and on to young Timothy.

We have but a glimpse of these two staunch soldiers of faith, but their influence lived on in the young missionary who traveled with Paul during his mis-

sionary journeys and later pastored some of the churches that Paul had started. The influence for good could be passed on from generation to generation.

Mothers, we may not make a big mark in history ourselves. But that blond-headed, blue-eyed ornery little boy we call son may one day reach thousands for Jesus Christ. So much of what he will be depends upon us. Do we have the unfeigned faith manifested in our life?

The Virtuous Woman

Our study would not be complete without a look at the virtuous woman recorded in Proverbs 31. This is our ideal as wives and mothers: to have the trust and confidence of our mates and our children; to care for our family properly and provide the necessities of life; to be respected for our accomplishments; to deal wisely in all situations. We can attain this ideal, for the secret is found in Proverbs 31:30, "A woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised."

Yes, it is a woman's world. But how we women need the guiding hand of Almighty God. We are rearing our children in a corrupt world. LSD and immorality are products of our sinful society. We need to look well to the ways of our household in spiritual matters, too; to train our children in the way they should go.

June / This Is My Task

Song: My Task

Scripture: James 1:22-27

WE ALL have great aspirations, even in the realm of religion. We like to think that if we possess some qualifications and perform a few good deeds, we are doing what is expected of us as Christians and have climbed the height to reach our goal. What really is our task?

To Live

My task is to live for Christ. We sing so earnestly, "I'll live for Him who died for me," then go out and live for self. Paul said, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now

live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Crucified with Christ! Crucified to the law as a means of justification crucified to the world—its applause, treasures and gratification; crucified to self. When we reckon these things to be dead, then we can live unto Christ. Not only a Christ to copy, not a Christ outside ourselves, but a living, reigning Christ within.

To live for Christ means a life of strife, for there will be war with the self we reckoned dead, and the warfare against the principalities and powers in high places that are so prevalent, and will be until Christ returns. But in all things we can be "more than conquerors." To live for Christ is a challenge. But if we meet it boldly and courageously we can also say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness" (2 Tim. 7, 8a).

To Love

My task is to love. The silver thread of love ties together the framework of Christianity. God first loved us, so much that He gave His only Begotten Son to purchase our salvation. And that same Son gave us this commandment: "That ye love one another, as I have loved you" (John 15:12). Love is a proof of our discipleship, and is considered the foundation of all the law and the prophets.

Notice how much we are to love! Jesus said to love as *He* has loved us. Then He goes on to say, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Our love should be a self-sacrificing love. The natural man loves those who are lovable, or those who love him. But Jesus loves even the unlovely; His sacrifice was as much for the vilest man as the righteous.

To love—the black-skinned mother in Africa; the man next door; the rich, the poor, the educated, the illiterate; the murderer in death row, and the community idol. My task is to love them

with the self-sacrificing love of Christ and to want them to know the One who is love.

To Share

My task is to share. Jesus said that He was sent by the Father to complete a specific task. He told His disciples, "As the Father hath sent me, even so send I you" (John 20:21).

We like to excuse ourselves from personal evangelization by saying that it is the job of the preacher, or the missionary, or the deacons, or our husbands, to share the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. But we women have the same obligation. It is interesting to note that Christ first appeared to a woman after His resurrection, and she was charged to go tell the disciples. The Samaritan woman who tasted the "living water" was anxious to share with others the good news of salvation.

Why is it that we let opportunity slip by time after time? One day we will meet souls in eternity who will ask us the question, "Why didn't you share the Gospel with me?"

Our task is to share.

The Woman's Auxiliary
Laborers together with God,
Walking the path Jesus trod,
Seeking the lost,
Counting the cost,
An onward and upward we plod.
Our colors are lavender and white,
Our mission to "Send out the light"
To those who haven't heard,
The Life-giving Word,
And are lost in sin's dark night.
Christ calls and we answer, "Send me,"
Let us do some service for Thee,
Reaping the grain,
Enduring the pain,
Rejoicing to suffer for Thee.

. . . Ruth Shelton
Church Hill, Tennessee

SPARKS

for your programs

APRIL / ECUADOR—LAND OF BEAUTY

Draw an outline map of Ecuador and print the following information across it.

Size: About as big as Colorado

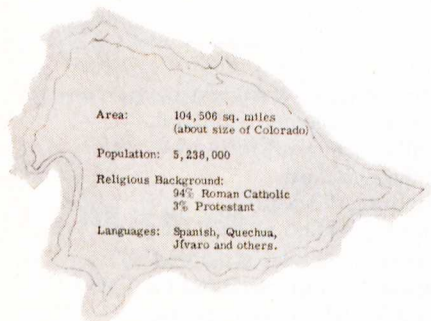
Population: 5,238,000

Religious Background:

94% Roman Catholic

3% Protestant

Languages: Spanish, Quechua, Jivaro, Cofan, and many others.



MAY / MISSIONS BEGIN AT HOME

■ The short play printed with the program will not require a lot of preparation. The dialog need not be memorized exactly, for the audience can understand its simple message if the characters understand the plot and enact it extemporaneously.

■ After presentation, ask the women to discuss the play. Is it applicable to Christian homes today? Who failed? Why?

■ As wives and mothers we know that our homes and children are our most valuable treasures. Perhaps the truest test of our mission service is our willingness to create a strong mission influence in our homes and to send our children gladly wherever God calls.

JUNE / WHAT IS MISSIONARY EDUCATION?

Missionary education is more than attending meetings, and even giving of money. It involves all that we are and can become. Its results affect not only our own lives, but people around the world. Our definition of missionary education could be put into a simple formula: (*Print on poster paper and display*).

WORLDWIDE KNOWLEDGE

+

CHRISTLIKE CONCERN

=

WITNESS AND SERVICE

1968

July

1968

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
				Independence Day		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	WNAC ACTIVITIES*		NATIONAL ASSOCIATION*			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	JUNE AUGUST		
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SHERATON HOTEL
OKLAHOMA CITY

THE PRE-EASTER Season of Prayer sponsored annually by the Woman's Auxiliary, brings spiritual power to a worldwide task . . .

Missionaries are aware that increased financial resources alone will not bring success on the mission fields. This must come through greater spiritual power. The seasons of prayer undergird God's servants and their labors at home and abroad.

PRE-EASTER SEASON OF PRAYER
AND
OFFERING FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS
APRIL 8-12, 1968

