

Co-Laborer

OCTOBER—NOVEMBER—DECEMBER 1970



Do More Than Talk



It is not enough for Free Will Baptist women to *talk* about where the world is going. They must become active in this matter of changing the world for Christ.

The best place and time to begin is with the pre-Thanksgiving Week of Prayer for Home Missions and Church Extension. For this is *now!* *And now is the time to do more than talk.*

For many years some of us have talked glibly of our seasons of prayer. Most of us have agreed that they are a tremendous help to missions. Most of us have dutifully participated each year.

But the plain fact is that many of us have never taken the matter as seriously as we ought. Have we really surrendered our own time for the week? Have we made an honest effort to put this matter of prayer for our beloved country first? Does *He* exercise lordship over our attitudes and conduct during this week?

If all your answers are *yes*, what a power this week will be for your church! Think about it . . . pray about it . . . do more than talk about it . . . and the Lord will surely bless you in your giving to the Lizzie McAdams Offering as a result of the Week of Prayer for National Home Missions which is November 16-20.

CO-LABORER

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WOMEN

in Action

Oklahoma Workshop

"Women and the Little Things" (Proverbs 30:24-28), was the theme for a symposium conducted by state Auxiliary officers in April at Trinity Temple, Tulsa. Patterned after a *town meeting*, the meeting was called to order by Mayor Nelda Gwartney. Reports from the study committee, community action committee, chairman of planning and the youth council were given by Helen Cook, Billye Gwartney, and Marguerite Kern. The *Town Crier*, Cleo Pursell, executive secretary WNAC, brought the 11:00 a.m. message. The meeting was concluded by a quiz and question and answer period led by state president, Marguerite Hinesley.

Illinois Convention

"Discipleship in a New Decade" (John 16:5-8) was the theme for the Illinois Woman's Auxiliary Convention in May, at the Butterfield Church, Aurora.

Herbert Waid, missionary to Japan, brought the keynote message. Special music was under the direction of Darlene Melvin. Devotions were given by Jan Sumner and Marguerite Hinsley. A summary of the '60's was given by Mae Sullivan.

An offering of \$74 was received for the Waids and a personal gift of \$50 was given.

Kentucky Convention

The Kentucky Woman's Auxiliary Convention convened at Salyersville, June 19. The theme was "Follow Me and I will make You Fishers of Men" (Matthew 4:19).

Devotions were brought by Dorothy Cox and Lou Walker. Molly Barker, missionary nurse to Uruguay, brought both the morning and evening messages. Special music was given by Jo Simpson and the Ashland Quartet. Mrs. Loretta Branaham is president.

North Carolina Convention

"The Cry of a Broken World," was the theme for the North Carolina Woman's Auxiliary Convention, May 4th, College Lakes Free Will Baptist Church, Fayetteville. The watchword was taken from Psalms 142:4.

Mrs. Mabel Willey was the featured speaker, along with Miss Molly Barker who brought morning devotions.

The new state project will be a vehicle for Tommy Hughes, missionary candidate to Brazil, and furnishings for the student lounge, Free Will Baptist Bible College.



Newly elected officers of the Central Florida District are (from left to right) Nadine Hood, Mamie Page, Louise Lindsey, Norma Combs, Edna Henderson, Emma Jean Knight, Faye Sadler, and president Peggy Hutto.



The Woman's Auxiliary, First Free Will Baptist Church, Darlington, S. C., honored their ladies who were over 65 years of age with a covered dish supper. They each were presented a corsage of lavender and white. Mrs. Norma Harrington composed and sung a song in their honor. Left to right: Luella Lee, Tetha Howle, Martha Britt, and Daisy Welch. Unable to attend because of sickness were Estelle Floyd and Victoria Mills.

The theme "Fruitful Unto Every Good Work" was attractively used for the missionary provision closet shower held by the women of the Northern Ohio District Auxiliary Convention.



Members of the Woman's Auxiliary, College Lakes, Free Will Baptist Church, Fayetteville, North Carolina, are shown with Tupperware valued at \$70 they brought for the missionary provision closet and toys for the church nursery.



The Oak Park Free Will Baptist Auxiliary of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, recently gave a kitchen shower to supplement their present kitchen facilities. Pictured from left to right, Ann House, Linda Sawyer, Billie Grizzle, Toni Bradford, Kathy Elsberry and Karen House.

The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Quincy, Florida, enjoyed the pre-Christmas week of prayer. After the program was given by Mrs. Francis Sullivan, the group enjoyed a delicious supper and exchanged gifts. Those attending were Glenda Beach, Carolyn McDaniel, Susan Griffin, Mary Joyce Hayes, Gloria Tolar, Elsie Bullock, Bell Hayes, Minnie Beach, Frances Sullivan and Louise Hicks.



Study Course Tips



by Mary Dooley, WNAC Study Course
Chairman

AS CHRISTIAN WOMEN we desire salvation for the unsaved persons about us. We yearn for the kingdom of our Lord to be enlarged. We know the pitfalls that lie ahead for these people outside of Christ. Even though our hearts go out to them, we sometimes are not able to reach them for Christ. We must admit that we are not as effective as we could be. Most of us do not know the art of soul winning to such an extent that we can feel comfortable witnessing to our neighbors, let alone a stranger.

We need not take a defeatist attitude however, for there is help for us. Robert L. Shockey, Field Secretary of National Home Missions of Free Will Baptists, has written an inspiring book, *Let's Go Fishing*, which as Homer E. Willis states, "After reading the first page, one wants to get out and go 'fishing for men.'"

This book would be a great one for a study course. It is easily read, short and concise. Through the leadership of the Holy Spirit, the author has outlined detailed plans which if followed could be used effectively in the winning of the lost. Through a study course of this nature, the Lord will call anew followers to become fishers of men.

This book spells out a plan which calls for little preparation other than following the points set up. There are instructions for the pastor and/or teacher of the course. Ways are pointed out for organizing a Fisherman's Fleet which could involve the whole church. There is a "how to do it" section, explanation on how to start, choices that could be made as pertaining to time, and suggestions on different kinds of groups to be formed.

As one reads of the fundamental requirements for fisher-of-men, as laid out by the author of the book, and hears the challenge of our Lord through them, you are encouraged to have faith in the One who is able to make you qualified for the task at hand.

To further prepare the soul winner for instructing the catch (the new convert), Reverend Shockey has included information from a tract he wrote, "Now That You Are Saved." He presents six steps of faith, explaining each step in detail. These steps of faith reveal much to the Christian. He has something definite to offer too, in the way of Bible verses that should be memorized.

As your study course chairman, I invite you along with the author, "LET'S GO FISHING."

LET'S GO FISHING

by

Robert Shockey

each 50¢

Order From

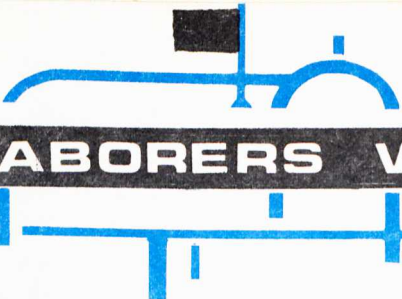
WNAC

P.O. BOX 1088

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37202

PRAYER AND PRAISE

- Pray** for the Dan Merkhls as they plan to return to France after a short furlough in the states.
- Pray** for Jim and Shirley Combs as they prepare to return to Brazil for their second term.
- Pray** for the missionary conferences scheduled during October, November and December across the states.
- Pray** for Molly Barker as she returns to Uruguay for her second term.
- Praise** the Lord for the way He has helped the Waids adjust to the language and culture of Japan after returning to their field of service.
- Praise** the Lord for the financial support to our foreign missions department so far this year.
- Pray** for the Bible Conference which will be held in the near future at the Bible College. Pray that God will touch the hearts of young men and women at the college through this conference.
- Pray** for Bill Jones as he effectively serves in the foreign missions department as director of communications.
- Pray** today for Bill Fulcher and his family as he does deputational work in the states.
- Pray** for Bobby Aycock and family as they return to the states for a year's furlough.
- Pray** for the missionary children who are away from their parents attending school.
- Remember** Sandra Payne today as she is taking care of the clinic in Ivory Coast as Dr. Miley is home on furlough.
- Pray** for the national workers in Panama as they carry on the work while Tom Willeys, Jr., are home on furlough. Pray for the Willey's support needs to be met.
- October** is World Literature Sunday. Pray for an effective use of our literature ministries.
- Pray** for Robert and Judy Bryan who will soon go to Ivory Coast in a special literature ministry.
- Praise** the Lord for an increase in gifts to National Home Missions and Church Extension of more than \$25,000 over last year.
- Pray** for Jerry and Julie Barron in language study at Edinburg, Texas, in preparation for a ministry in the western part of Mexico.
- Pray** for Roger and Beverly McCarty in their new ministry in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.
- Pray** for Jo Ann and Randall Ruth, lay workers who have moved to St. Paul, Minnesota to assist in the establishment of a church there.
- Pray** for the Home Missions Board meeting, December 14-18, in Nashville, Tennessee.
- Praise** the Lord for the work of summer missionaries in New England, Puerto Rico and Minnesota. Also for the evangelistic team which worked with young people.
- Pray** for the pre-Thanksgiving season of prayer and offering for National Home Missions, November 16-20.
- Pray** for the pre-Christmas season of prayer and offering for state missions, December 14-18.
- Pray** for Captain Gerald M. Mangham, Army Chaplain, and Navy Chaplain, Walter Golding who is in seminary training.



CO-LABORERS WRITE

from Kansas

We really enjoy the *Co-Laborers*. We think the programs have really been good. God bless you.

*Sevalan Wooten
Ulysses, Kansas*

from Kentucky

Tonight was the last night of our pre-Easter week of prayer. It was also our pre-revival week of prayer. Each service was a real blessing. The services were conducted by young Christians who were doing this for the first time. The attendance was good and the Spirit of God present.

Enclosed you will find a check for \$35. This is the offering received for foreign missions. After reading the news article in *Heartbeat* about the lack of funds in the Robird's account we were very concerned and wish for this full amount to be credited to their account.

*Mrs. C.D. Hensley
Louisville, Kentucky*

from Illinois

We have re-organized our Woman's Auxiliary. We have nine members and hope to have more in our next meeting.

*Mrs. Walter Shelton
Mt. Vernon, Illinois*

from Alabama

The women of the Cahaba River District Woman's Auxiliary Convention broke a record. They gave our missionary, Miss Molly Barker, a record offering of \$1,113 plus sending \$100 to the State Convention toward their project.

*Mrs. Frank Tomlinson
Leeds, Alabama*

from California

Thank you for the material and ideas you gave me to help in planning our district meetings . . . we now have 15 members in our own Auxiliary and are presently engaged in a study course on prayer.

The *Co-Laborer* seems to be getting better all the time. The lessons are always an inspiration.

*Pansy Cravens
Pomona, California*

from Georgia

We at the Arlington Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary do appreciate your labors in our work. We enjoy *Co-Laborer* and praise the Lord for it. . . . we took as our local project this year to furnish curtains, spreads, throw rugs, and pillows for one of the rooms at the Children's Home in Eldridge, Alabama.

*Mrs. J.W. Clower
Arlington, Georgia*

from Arkansas

Our officers for the new year are Connie Holland, Ila Guntharp, Opal Phillips, Viella Wymore, Grace Woods, Natalie Shepard, Mary Joslin, Glenda Frankenberg and Gladys Hufstedler.

We have certainly enjoyed the *Co-Laborer*. The programs have been inspiring and a blessing to all our members.

Grace Woods
Pocahontas, Arkansas

from California

Thank you for the many helpful hints in *Co-Laborer*. We enjoyed very much the pre-Easter program "Chosen by Christ to Bear Fruit."

Shirley Tuggle
Santa Paula, California

from North Carolina

For the last 12 years I have felt the glances of those people who I mingled with in church, hearing that mother's who worked were causing the downfall of the nation, yet knowing that my children were better behaved, and able to assume more responsibilities than the children of mother's who stayed home all day. I've been condemned by ministers in the pulpit, but I knew in my heart that my working not only was necessary for financial reasons, but that I was happy doing this.

I shall always cherish the third quarter copy of *Co-Laborer* and Clyde M. Narramore's "The Woman Outside the Home." Thanks so much for *Co-Laborer* and its timely programs and special articles.

Waynette Bridges
College Lakes Auxiliary

We at Trinity Hill Free Will Baptist Church want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for sending us the *Co-Laborer* and other information to help us in organizing our Auxiliary.

We organized Friday night, April 3, 1970. Our good pastor helped us out. We had five members to start with, so we decided to hold two meetings in each month . . . Well we had our first meeting scheduled for April 7, and after praying all day on my job as I worked, I had everything planned (I thought), until I got to church. We had *nine new members*. I was so excited and happy and thinking how I had prayed all day for God to bless us. My cup certainly ran over . . . Each one seemed to enjoy the meeting so much and the time really flew. We have much to do. Our church has just been started since November 11, 1969. We had 122 for Sunday school last Sunday. God has really blessed us.

We desire your prayers and for each Auxiliary to pray for us . . . There is so much to learn to do.

Mrs. Jerry Helms
Marion, N.C.

from Switzerland

I really appreciate receiving the *Co-Laborer*! I usually read it from cover to cover the day I receive it. The articles and monthly programs have really been a blessing to me. Thanks so much for sending it to me.

Language school is very exciting and discouraging at times, but we are enjoying our studies. And now we can carry on a normal conversation and that's progress for us! We covet your prayers.

Judy Bryan
Denges, Switzerland

CIRCLE PROGRAMS

By Martha Morris

OCTOBER

WHAT
MAKES
THE
DIFFERENCE?

Song: Victory in Jesus

Scripture: 1 John 5:4

Have you seen Christians who just radiated Christ? They were full of life,

joyful, enthusiastic Christians. They were triumphant Christians. Have you seen Christians who found it a struggle to get through each day? They were something less than joyful, surely not enthusiastic.

Well, what makes the difference in these lives? Both are Christians, both have accepted Christ as their Saviour, yet one lives life with joy and one can hardly get through their monotonous routine of life.

Richard DeHaan, in a statement made concerning the spiritual warfare and the Christian's battle to overcome,

to be victorious, said that our battle demands diligence, dedication, and discipline to be constant.

DILIGENCE

Webster says to be *diligent* is—to be constant, persevering and careful in work, hardworking, painstaking. To be a victorious Christian, we can not continue to take life so casually—going through routine, but must work at making each new day an opportunity for service, an opportunity to share Christ with others. As Frances Gardner author of “God is Fabulous” put it “to give Christ away to everyone . . .” with whom you come in contact.

Careful effort in the most important things - time of careful painstaking study of the Word of God and time spent in prayer alone with God. Above all, to be *diligent*, *consistent* in our Bible study and prayer life.

DEDICATION

Set apart, devoted to something sacred. Set apart for God - devoted to do His will. Sold out to God. “You are not your own, with a price you’re bought”—the blood of Jesus Christ. *Strong convictions*—determined to stand for Jesus Christ if all the world differs with us. Real convictions and dedication to God brings happiness, joy, enthusiasm this world can not understand or explain.

DISCIPLINE

Training that develops self control, character, orderliness and efficiency,

acceptance of or submission to authority and control. *Submission*—totally surrendered to Christ. Determining to put first things first and then sticking to it.

A Christian businessman put it this way, “Get out of things that keep you too busy to have time for Him. Invest your life in winning others and teaching them how to win still others.” Another Christian said, “*Don’t waste time on things that don’t count.*”

Many times we find ourselves too busy to take care of the most important things simply because too many second, third, or fourth place things are taking first place in our lives.

We must learn to *discipline* ourselves to do the most important first—then what we would like to do later—or should we just change our “likes”? Only then will we be victorious, enthusiastic Christians—radiating Christ in our lives.

NOVEMBER

BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING

Song: Doxology

Scripture: Phillipians 4:6

“Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Phillipians 4:6). How much? In *some* things? No, in *everything*. How? By prayer and supplication. With what? With *thanksgiving* let your requests be made known

unto God.

PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION

Humble request, petition addressed to God. Rosalind Rinker in her book, "Prayer: Conversing With God," says this of prayer, "*Prayer is the expression of the human heart in conversation with God. The more natural the prayer, the more real He becomes. It has all been simplified for me to this extent: prayer is a dialogue between two persons who love each other.*" Especially meaningful is the phrase "between two persons who love each other. Truly this is the way God intends for it to be for His Word reminds us over and over of His great love for us and as children of His there should be a great love for Him on our part. It seems that if we really love God the way we say we do, we would not have the problem of lack of prayer among Christians today. If we love Him we will desire to talk with Him.

If we would but pray, talk with God, in the beginning of each day, we would find we would be better prepared for whatever the day holds in store for us. Many Christian women today enter the daily battle unprepared, with their supply line cut off, because of a lack of prayer in their lives (Ephesians 6:18).

We have often heard and read signs which said, "*Prayer Changes Things,*" but it has also been said, "*Prayer Changes People.*" Prayer will change the one who does the praying and prayer for individuals often helps to prepare the heart before the contacts are made. Praying for individuals often affects whether or not the person will receive or reject our witness. Prayer is essential to our Christian growth.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Webster says a Thanksgiving is a formal, often public expression of thanks to God in form of a prayer. I can remember, shortly after becoming a Christian, hearing the quote, "*Never Pray Without Praise.*" Since that time I have often thought about this when thinking of prayer. How often we come to God and say, "Lord, give me this," or "Lord, grant me that," and seldom pause to say, "Thank you, Lord." When we do stop to give thanks often it is for the good things we have received. Not long ago I was reminded that there are things that we should be grateful for that many times we don't consider as praise items. We fail to thank God for the trials, troubles, and the persecutions. Remember 2 Timothy 3:12—"*Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.*" And also 2 Timothy 2:12—"*If we suffer, we shall also reign with Him.*" Also read Romans 8:16-18.

These problems and troubles come many times to help us to "*grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.*"

PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW!

DECEMBER

**BUT GOD
IN CHRIST**

Song: One Day

Scripture: Romans 5:8

Have you ever stopped and thought of the many things that change when only two words are added? These two words, "But God," make such a difference it is beyond measure.

Take for example the scriptures, Romans 3:23, "*All have sinned and come short of the glory of God,*" and Romans 6:23A, "*The wages of sin is death.*"

Because we have sinned and been disobedient to God we were separated from God. But God who loves us (the whole world) so much that He made a way possible for our sins to be forgiven and for us to become sons of His through the blood of Jesus Christ.

POSITION IN CHRIST

So our position changes because we have accepted Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour. Changed from one of a sinner, lost without hope, condemned to eternal death, to abundant life here and eternal life hereafter. All because of Jesus Christ. "*For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich*" (2 Corinthians 8:9). Jesus left heaven, came to earth in flesh and blood, became poor that we might be rich. Our position changed from state of misery to one of riches because Jesus changed His position for us. "*But as many as received Him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name*" (John 1:12). Even changed to the position of a child of God. Even "heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ" (Read Romans 8:16-18).

POWER IN CHRIST

Power is the ability to do, authority to have a great influence or force. We have just seen that according to John 1:12 we were given power that changed our position. Let's take a look at what else the Word of God says to us concerning power in our lives. "*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might*" (Ephesians 6:10). "And Jesus came and spake unto them saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" (Matthew 28:18).

Oliver Price wrote concerning this power, "As soon as we took up our position in Christ, as soon as we received Him into our life and became a new person in Christ, God deposited all power of heaven and earth in Christ for us. Have you ever considered the power of your position in Christ? And did you realize that God has already given you this abundance of power."

If we are His, if we know Him as Lord and Saviour, then we have the power of Christ—all power in heaven and in earth, simply because He has this power and we are His. Keep in mind we have His power because we are His—surrendered to, and submissive to His Will. We lose this power, "*All power in heaven and in earth,*" when we fail to be submissive to Him. Remember Samson's strength and power left him after yielding to his temptress, Delilah. Even so, we must bear in mind that we can only continue to have His power in our lives as we continue to be yielded to Him.

Praise God for the power that is ours if we are His. "We are more than conquerors through him that loved us (Romans 8:37).

Ideas for your Programs

OCTOBER/Missions is . . .

You may want to order the play entitled "Me . . . In Mission Action?" for presentation at the meeting or in a church service. It reveals to every woman that she has a mission field whether it is a kitchen, a supermarket, a neighborhood, or a community of people crying out for her love.

The parts may be (1) spoken, (2) pantomimed with a hidden voice or tape recorder, or (3) a combination of these. Order from WNAC, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. The play is 20¢ per copy plus postage.

NOVEMBER/Fruits of Gratitude

Praise items may be read from *Co-Laborer*, *Mission-Grams*, and *Heart-beat*, or directly from missionaries' letters. Roll call may be answered with a praise item or verse of Scripture.

A simple but effective skit, "A Spiritual Dinner for Thanksgiving," may be presented. Two readers and four silent characters are needed. Order from WNAC, 15¢ each.

**SHOW YOUR GRATITUDE
BY ATTENDING THE
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY MEETING**
date time place

Traditionally Thanksgiving is a time for sharing with family and friends. A home is probably the best place to seal friendships and share your faith with an international student.

These students are often the most promising young people from their countries. They are likely to be the political, educational, economic, and social leaders of their countries in the future. If you wish to invite one to your home names of students can be secured from the director of student work, the foreign student adviser, or the dean of admissions.

DECEMBER/Christmas on the Mission Fields

Here is a chance to use up those old Christmas cards you have been saving. Ask the help of a few ladies. Cut off the front of the card. Write an invitation to the meeting on the front or back. Pass out to all ladies on the Sunday before your meeting.

YOU ARE INVITED
Theme:
"Christmas on the Mission Fields"
Woman's Auxiliary
date time place

A clever way to distribute Christmas gifts is a sit-down version of musical chairs. Give one gift to every person then have the pianist or phonograph begin playing a Christmas carol. As the gifts are passed around, suddenly stop the music. The gift the person is holding at that time will be hers.

Check WNAC catalog or inside cover of this issue for other seasonal helps.



Purpose: To discover what God would have us to do in the world mission effort.

Interest Center: On a table, arrange the following items: a small house or church, toy airplane, toy army vehicle, figurine of a horse, model car, small baby doll, and a coffee cup.

Meditation Music: Ask organist or pianist to play a medley of missionary hymns.

Hymn: "O Zion Haste"

Scripture: Matthew 18:10-14

Prayer Requests

Song: "Until They Know"

See Ideas for Your Programs

Leader: Religious leaders, making an all out effort to get the Gospel to all the world, foresee change in varying degrees as necessary for an effective worldwide ministry in this new decade. Foreign Missions Director, J. Reford Wilson, predicts that changes of procedure will be necessary. "The

backward nations are no longer backward. They are becoming more industrialized, more urbanized, better educated and more sophisticated. Our objective of evangelism will remain the same but means and methods of missions will change. The American missionary will be more of a technician in providing training and assistance to national workers. Direct evangelism and pastoral care will be done largely by nationals. The American missionary will serve more in a supportive capacity."

William Townsend, General Director of Wycliffe Bible Translators, estimates that the remaining 2000 or more "Bibleless" tribes of the earth could be reached in 30 more years if 6000 volunteers would train as linguists for God's service.

Recent incidents where missionaries have lost their lives, force us to ask this question: "Is it wise to increase our missions efforts in a revolutionary world where often the American missionary is associated with colonists and capitalists in the national's mind?"

Dr. Winston Crawley says: "We would not say to the doctor, 'Don't go to that city. There is an epidemic there. Things are chaotic and dangerous. Wait until the epidemic is over, and then it will be advisable to go.'"

Nor would we say to a soldier, "Don't go into that area. A battle is in progress." It is equally absurd to suggest that the missionary hold back in a day when sin and human need are most evident, when half the world stands at the crossroads, and the spiritual destiny of multitudes hangs in the balance. This is the time above all when the missionary is needed."

We cannot consider our role in reaching a lost world without thinking about the millions of lost people within our own reach. The faithfulness with which we do community missions indicates how genuine our concern is for missions on a worldwide scale.

What can you and I actually do about winning our world to Christ? *What is missions to today's Christian?*

First speaker: (Holds small house or church) Missions is Sam, an architect who needed an extra job while he was putting himself through college. He found one at the state school for the deaf, became adept at using sign language, and now interprets the worship service for deaf friends in his church every Sunday morning.

Second speaker: (Holds an army vehicle) Missions is Carl, who finished college, served his two years in the army and was discharged. Feeling the tremendous spiritual drought in military life, he re-enlisted to become a Christian officer in the United States Army, with a Christian influence in his battalion.

Third speaker: (Holds toy airplane) Missions is Tom. The great adventure of being a missionary jungle pilot in remote areas is now his calling.

Fourth speaker: (Holds horse figurine) Missions is John, who holds a Ph.D. in languages, and is one of the first linguists to work toward a program of

translation by computers. Yet he lives three-fourths of his time in a primitive and remote tribe which must be reached on horseback, translating scriptures into an Indian dialect most people do not know exists.

Fifth speaker: (Holds a model car) Missions is Mary, who lives in a trailer park, and never comes to Sunday school without a carload of neighbor's children whose parents sleep late on Sunday.

Sixth speaker: (Holds a baby doll) Missions is Dianne, a young mother who went up and down her block taking her own private religious census as she met her new neighbors. At every home where there was no church preference, she left a warm, neighborly invitation to her own church, and began to cultivate a friendship.

Seventh speaker: (Holds a coffee cup) Missions is Ann, a housewife who opened her home for a friendship coffee and Bible study. She was surprised to find how hungry some of her friends were to know more of God's Word. She thinks some of them may make a decision for Christ soon.

Leader: Missions to you and me is opportunity: Opportunity to witness to those within our reach; opportunity to live and speak for what we believe; opportunity to pray; to go; to give. Are we using our mission opportunities? Are our attitudes right toward those to whom we minister?

We do community missions for one basic reason—to introduce to Christ our neighbors who have not met Him. Community missions based on any other precept is counterfeit. Wherever we go in carrying out our plans, whoever is the recipient of our service, let us always be conscious of that underlying purpose, and look for op-

portunities to witness for Christ, verbally as well as with our actions.

Some Auxiliaries undertake personal service and mission activities as something that is required of them and lose the joy of service. One of the weaknesses of our Auxiliary program has been the emphasis we have unintentionally put on monthly personal service and missions projects "just to fulfill a point on the Standard of Achievement." This is like the four Boy Scouts who reported as their good deed for the day that they had helped an old lady across a busy street. When asked why it took four of them to help one elderly lady, they replied, "She didn't want to go across!"

When we think simply in terms of helping meet needs once a month on a check book basis and with the least possible amount of energy and time, we are overlooking the purpose and value of community missions.

When we limit our Christian service to a "monthly project" we are in danger of limiting it to our personal convenience. The worst danger in this attitude is that it gives us a mild case of "do-good-itis" that inoculates us against the real thing. We need to think bigger thoughts about more serious needs in every area of our community life.

Community missions is a channel we dig to others with the tool of service—through flows the love of Jesus. We will find that these tools of service take various forms. We will find places in our own community where the time, the money, and the talent that are available in our Woman's Auxiliary can make an effective witness for the Christ we love and serve.

If we find a place where food is needed, we will supply it; if loneliness

is the problem, we will find time to visit and cheer. If our church needs help in a mission vacation Bible school, we will volunteer. If there are unchurched people in our neighborhood, we will seek to enlist them.

If we have our eyes open and our hearts tuned to the "community missions wave length," we will find multitudes of opportunities to serve. A tremendous challenge is waiting to come alive in our hearts as we do this phase of our Auxiliary work.

Song: "Until They Know"

Tune: How Great Thou Art

Oh, when I think of all the many millions
Who do not know the sound of Thy sweet name,
Who do not know the miracle of Calvary,
Who never can Thy great salvation claim,
Then cries my heart, "O teach me Lord to care,
"Until they know how great Thou art!"
Then cries my heart, "Oh teach me Lord to care,
"Until they know how great Thou art!"
But when they know that Jesus died to save them
And when they know the grace He can impart,
When Jesus shines His love divine within them
When He transforms their sinful, darkened heart:
Then They shall sing, my Saviour God to Thee,
"How great Thou art! How great Thou art!"
Then They shall sing, my Saviour God to Thee,
"How great Thou art! How great Thou art!"

FRUITS OF GRATITUDE



Purpose: To search ourselves for evidence that our gratitude is being channeled into fruitful service for the Lord.

Interest Center: Arrange an attractive display of fruit in a horn-of-plenty beside an open Bible. Use a gold or green drape.

See Ideas for Your Programs.

Song: "Count Your Blessings"

Special Feature: Try Thanksgiving

Song: "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

First Reader: (as music continues softly)

We ourselves are God's own field,
Fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown
Unto joy or sorrow grown;

First the blade, and then the ear,

Then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest! Grant that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

Second Reader: (as music continues softly), Matthew 13:24-30.

First Reader: (music continues softly)

For the Lord our God shall come,
And shall take his harvest home;
For his field shall purge away

Give His angels charge at last
In the fire the tares to cast;
But the fruitful ears to store
In His garner evermore.

Second Reader: (Music continues) Matthew 24:37-43

Hymn: "Must I go, and Empty Hand-
ed"

Leader: The Bible has many symbolisms about God's harvest. In one parable, we are the crop which is harvested by the angels, as we have just heard. In another instance, we are the laborers which work in the ripened fields. Still another picture challenges us to plant the seed in the prepared ground. Paul said that some plant,

some water, but God gives the growth and fruit. Whatever the picture, this bountiful season of the year ought to remind us that there is work to be done in the vineyard of the Lord, and we are the ones to do it. There is fruit to be borne, and we are the ones to bear it.

The ratio of people won to the Lord each year in many churches is only one to every 30 church members. Most of those who are reached by our churches are not new converts, but displaced persons from other churches. In practice, we do not attempt to convert friends and neighbors to our own faith for fear of offending someone or intruding upon their personal beliefs.

Christianity is not a "live and let live" religion. Refusal to witness is a "live and let live" approach to the world. Paul describes the person without Christ as being without hope (Ephesians 2:12). Jesus said that the one who does not believe in Him shall not see life (John 3:36).

Many of us hide behind the excuse that we would like to witness but we do not know how. If this is true, we can always study and learn the most helpful Scripture passages. Many Auxiliary members have been studying for years how to win souls and how to witness but do little more with their knowledge than to keep on studying! The truth is most of us know the Scriptures but are just afraid to launch out and speak. We have no faith in ourselves—or in God's ability to use us. No concern—no "know how"—no faith—and meanwhile the harvest *spoils* in the field.

Let each of us ask herself silently these questions: Whom have I had a part in winning to the Lord this year? When I meet my Saviour at the final

harvest day, how many friends can I bring with me who possibly would not have known the Lord except for my life and witness? What friends and acquaintances are now within my everyday world whom I should be cultivating for the Lord's harvest?

Community missions activities are the natural fruit of the seed of love that Christ plants in our hearts. We serve because we are saved, and because we serve, others are attracted to Him who saves.

Sometimes we look so hard for a big chance to witness that we overlook the greater challenge of things at our doorstep. A Sunday school teacher in one of our large cities had taught a class of Intermediate boys for 15 years, always emphasizing in her lessons the importance of taking the message of salvation to those in foreign lands who had never heard of Jesus. She was amazed when a religious census revealed that a thirteen-year-old boy living less than three blocks from her church also had never heard of Jesus.

What will the harvest be?
What will the harvest be?
Not how much we know,
But how much we sow!
What will the harvest be?

So much is *known*—so little *sown*.

Special Feature: Try Thanksgiving

A missionary whose life was filled with all the problems and uncertainties that come in months and years of service, had come to the end of her own spiritual resources. She made a trip down the tropical river to visit and

seek help from another missionary. Spiritually exhausted, she arrived at the door of the missionary bungalow. Inside she saw a motto on the wall which changed her whole attitude. It said simply "Try Thanksgiving." The therapy of giving thanks to God resulted in her own inner transformation. In a strange way the calendar speaks to us from annual occasions. It indicates our trouble and makes remedial suggestions. For instance; at New Years when we are worn out at the end of the holiday season, the calendar says, "Make New Year's resolutions: turn over a new leaf and give yourself a fresh start." We make our New Year's resolutions, but by the first of March, most of them are tattered and torn. But that's alright. The calendar says, Spring is in the air. Get yourself a new spring outfit. Get all dressed up. Then you'll feel better." We buy clothes for

Easter, but by summer they, too, are soiled and worn.

In summer the calendar says, "Take a vacation. What you need is a rest. Go somewhere. See somebody." We draw our pay and take a vacation, but when we return the problems are the same.

But there is one time the calendar speaks and really makes a lasting change in all of us; it's every November when it says, "Try Thanksgiving." When we try giving thanks, we find that our problems, like those of the frustrated missionary, dissolve and everything looks better.

There are three reasons why we should "Try Thanksgiving."

1. Try giving thanks and experience the joy it restores.
2. Try thanksgiving and experience the effect it has on God.
3. Try thanksgiving and experience the influence it has upon others.

We Thank Thee

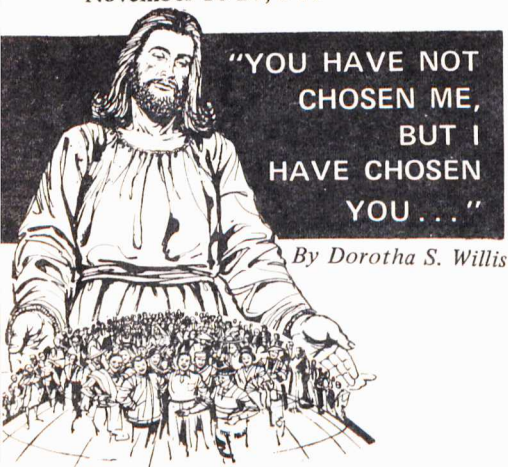


"We thank thee, Father, for the care
That did not come to try us,
The burden that we did not bear,
The trouble that passed by us,
The task we did not fail to do,
The hurt we did not cherish,
The friend who did not prove untrue,
The joy that did not perish.
We thank thee for the blinding storm
That did not lose its swelling,
And for the sudden blight of harm
That came not nigh our dwelling.
We thank thee for the dart unsped,
The bitter word unspoken,
The grave unmade, the tear unshed,
The heart-tie still unbroken."



Anonymous

Pre-Thanksgiving Season of Prayer
November 16-20, 1970



Outline For the Week

Song: "The Call for Reapers"

Scripture: John 15:16

Prayer Emphasis: National Home Missions staff, board members, missionaries.

Offering: National Home Missions

NEED FOR CHOSEN WORKERS

In Ecclesiastes 3:1 it reads, "To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven." November has been the time, the season, designated in which to learn more about, pray for and give to our National Home Missions cause. Not that it really should be necessary to have a specific time to stress His work, but as humans, we are careless. We need to be reminded continuously of our responsibilities.

Perhaps we are like the man who was chided by his friends for giving \$5.00 to foreign missions. "Well," said

the friend, "I'll give five more to home missions also if you will." "Oh," said his friend, "I didn't mean it that way!"

November, the thanks-giving month, is an ideal time to take inventory of our stewardship. Are we being faithful in that which He has given to us? There is more to stewardship than giving of our money. Women have time and talents that can be shared and spared to advance His cause. Women have capabilities and resources that have never been tapped. Some have never been asked to help in the varied activities; some possibly don't realize themselves what they are capable of doing. Many would participate if encouraged and instructed. It would surprise us and bless us if only we'd lead others into greater activities for Him.

Christian service is a difficult and an exhausting life, yet full of thrilling experiences. But did He promise us an easy life and a bed of roses? It seems the thorns along the way only tend to make the roses smell more sweetly.

Some tend to believe that the role of the home missionary is not so bad; at least he doesn't have to leave his home, in most instances, to go as far away as those who serve with the foreign board. He really doesn't have to learn to eat the food and live in conditions too foreign to that of his usual way of life. So true, but it takes complete consecration and dedication to carry the Gospel to these areas where Free Will Baptists are as unknown as in Africa or elsewhere. It's not easy and often desirable to plod these great city streets, to knock on doors, to try to gather a little prayer group as a nucleus for a new church. So many of us are too proud and too lack in consecration to do this thing

for His cause.

Churches can only be started, built, dedicated, consecrated and grow as the Christian gets a vision. Building churches takes money, so our wallets must be consecrated, too. More emphasis needs to be laid on the possibility of every church serving as mother to another church. Truly if every church member could have the experience of helping to build a new church, he'd never be the same again. New congregations are closer-held together by the bond of purpose—more friendly and enjoy a fuller, deeper fellowship. It's a feeling not experienced by any other means. Everyone is a vital member of that group. A more spiritual group is developed due to their dependance on the Lord. They feel their insufficiency without His blessing.

Our Free Will Baptist denomination is dependent upon our home missions department and our local churches. Surely we can never hope to be able to send more foreign missionaries, support our colleges, and enlarge all phases of our work unless we have local churches, strong home mission churches. Where will the support come from except on the home front? God has a plan for all of us. Pray that we will feel the need to be one of His chosen workers.

SOME CHOSEN WORKERS

Those consecrated workers whom God has chosen to work on the field for Home Missions surely need our prayers. Situations and conditions around the world affect their ministries. Over the past fourteen years our missionary family has changed and will continue to change. God has a place

for these and a time. Some have met the obligation placed on them by the Lord and have moved on to other fields of service.

Some of those who have been on the field the longest are the Sanders family who labor in Hawaii. It was my privilege to visit with them in their work last summer. I felt as I sat in their services that it was indeed missions in action. People of varied cultures, colors and nationalities all worshipping one God! It was indeed a thrill to me. Their work has been indeed blessed of the Lord.

Others who labor outside the continental United States are the Arthur Billows family and associated with them are the Dave Cockranes. Only eternity can possibly reveal the good done in Mexico by these chosen ones. The Institute quartet from Mexico will thrill you even though you can't understand the words. Truly their spirits can bear witness with ours that they know our Christ. The Jerry Barron family have been appointed to work in South Mexico at a place that is uncertain at this time.

Laboring in the Virgin Islands are the Larry Powell's and in Puerto Rico, the Fred McCoy's along with their families. It was a joy to meet those won to Him through the efforts of the Powell's, while on a visit to the Islands. Pray for these two couples as they labor in the Caribbean for the Lord for discouraging times DO come to them.

The work in Alaska still needs our prayers and support. Much work, money and prayers have gone into that lonely land in the cold north. The christian's need to feel that we've not forgotten them though we have no home missionary there now.

Canada has been an active field for home missions. Two of the provinces of that nation have been acceptable to Free Will Baptists. The Owens family has labored untiringly for several years but due to Mrs. Owens health have taken work elsewhere. At a recent meeting of the mission board the Roger McCarty's were appointed to serve in Nova Scotia. They were there last year only as summer appointees but felt the leading of the Lord to return there to serve. Add these to your prayer list as you continue to pray for all these who are working so unselfishly to win the unsaved to Christ.

MORE CHOSEN WORKERS

The aim of the National Home Mission Board has been to organize a flourishing church in each capital city in the United States. Too long we've remained in the smaller towns of our nation, but surely our denomination has a gospel for the cities. In the past fourteen years much progress has been made in this direction. Pray for this project of launching into these great cities of America. Pray too that the right people may accept this challenge to go to the right place. God has a right time and a right place and a right person, but it takes effective prayers to bring this about.

One accomplishment of this project was the organization of the Bloss Memorial Church in our nations capital. Others have followed throughout the country.

Other fields in America have been opened. I think of the churches in New England. Some of these had been Free Will Baptist many years ago and had closed their doors; others had kept

open but remained unaffiliated with the national program. It took some real pioneering to re-open this work but the efforts were not in vain. We have some thriving churches in the Northeast now.

Pioneer missionary efforts have been done on the West coast.

Some of our states have felt they should sponsor a mission church. Several state home missions boards have done just this in cooperation with the national board. If your state has a missionary worker do remember him in your prayers and with your support at this season.

This phase of your home mission board which sends or helps to send a home mission worker to the individual state, operates under the division of church extension.

OTHER CHOSEN MINISTRIES

The work of the Home Mission Department is not confined to just sending out the missionaries and the church extension workers. It includes the chaplains commission which consists of aiding chaplains in our armed forces and other places. Put this area of work on your prayer list as we need to have our own ministers in these vital fields. Requirements are rigid but we have young men who could earn qualifications for this work. They could be a definite blessing to His Cause.

Mission-Grams is a bi-monthly publication prepared to keep us all informed concerning the activities in this department. Other publications including tracts, booklets and newsletters are

prepared for distribution by this department.

The Department of Evangelism is having an impact upon our denomination. The emphasis is upon personal and mass evangelism. Conferences are held periodically throughout the year in strategically located areas across the nation. God has blessed and challenged our people through this channel to do more and greater things to win others to Him. Pray for those who plan and lead these conferences. Pray too, that as a result of these that great conviction would come upon our people, that they might become awakened to the need for a soul stirring revival. America needs a real revival and so does Free Will Baptists!

Each year college young people go to the several fields to aid in vacation Bible schools, visitation programs and in other ways help the missionaries. This summer training may later lead to full time mission work for either the foreign or home boards. Pray as they labor for the Lord in this way. Ask God to use your young people in His vineyard. You might ask Him to use one from your own family.

The way to really get a blessing from a project or the Lord's work is to get involved. Perhaps your own involvement might be by way of prayer, and all of us can do this. Dare you get involved?

SOME WILLINGLY CHOSEN

Are we willing to be chosen and used of God? There are sacrifices that have to be made and have been made and are being made by those who are working for His Cause. Those who are working for the mission board feel that theirs is a privilege. The men who travel many weary miles, alone,

separated from families, do it because they love His work. They travel often when they're sick in body and physically exhausted to help carry on the work of home missions. They've given the best years of their lives and for a surety, they're wearing out rather than rusting out! Do pray for the Director and the Field Secretary as they travel.

The office staff has a responsibility to carry on for the work is becoming increasingly heavy and more exacting. In spite of all this they are encouraged when the work makes progress, new missionaries are commissioned, more churches are organized, men are converted, older churches are revived, Christians edified and His Cause marches on!

We had the glorious privilege of spending the past Christmas holidays in Israel. Just to visit the place where the angels made that great announcement, see the place where that miraculous birth took place, walk the paths He walked, visit the places He visited, trudge along the shores of the Sea of Galilee, dip my hands in the Jordan river, pray and weep in the Garden of Gethsemane near the old olive tree, view Golgatha's hill, worship at the empty Garden tomb, and lastly gaze upon the shell-pitted wall up toward the Eastern Gate, makes all the difficulties, trials, discouragements of this life seem as naught! It was wonderful!

Pray during this season that God may truly make us thankful for our blessings. Pray for your National Home Mission Department that they may help win the lost and one day we can hear Him say, "Well done, you have been a faithful servant and did all that was asked of you. Enjoy Heaven with me for a season!"



December Program

Christmas On The Mission Field

Purpose: To stimulate a desire to share with others the gift of eternal life—which God gave us through Jesus and to pray for our missionaries away from home.

Worship Center: Open a large Bible on a table, over a red drape. Place on the Bible a large globe on a bed of angel hair.

See Ideas for Your Programs.

Songs: Christmas carols; “Tell Me the Old, Old Story”

Prayer requests.

Scripture: Luke 2:1-20 (Read alternately by two people)

YOU HAVE just heard the old, old story—what men term the “Christmas Story.” As always, our hearts are touched by its simple majesty—the angel’s announcement, Mary’s humble acceptance, Joseph’s trust, the shepherd’s wonder and the angelic choir.

Christmas is really a missionary day! Have you ever thought of that? Yes, the Christmas story is a missionary story—the Christmas message is a missionary message. Our loving heavenly Father had an only Son, and He was sent to earth as a missionary-physician. A pioneer missionary. A missionary martyr.

When a missionary goes to a foreign land, he knows Christmas will be different but he doesn’t know just what the difference is going to be. In many of our mission fields Christmas comes at the hottest time of the year. The missionary may dream of a white Christmas “just like the ones he used to know,” but the dream vanishes when he wakes up and finds himself in the tropics.

Then there are thousands of miles separating him from home and loved ones. He can get along without the roast turkey and mince pie if need be, but the hardest part is being so far from all his loved ones.

Let us visit briefly some of our mission fields.

CHRISTMAS IN JAPAN

Christmas in Japan is a merry-making and even a hilarious time, and is very much commercialized and secularized. To the school children it is a time for music, stunts, and magic. "Jingle Bells," "Silent Night," and all the rest of the Christmas carols and hymns are very much in the air through the radio, TV and commercial loud speakers. Santa Claus is everywhere and Christmas is a time for exchanging gifts. One may get the false impression that Japan has become a Christian country all of a sudden.

Missionary Wesley Calvery described last years activities of the church in Sapporo thus: "Our church is busy getting ready for Christmas. For a small church we have lots of plans. We will have our main Christmas worship service in candlelight on the 21st. On the same day our evangelistic team will leave for a three day trip to some of the small churches in the eastern part of the island getting back to Sapporo in time for a youth meet on the 24th and a big children's program on the 25th. The 26th we plan to have turkey with the McLeans."

Christmas is everywhere in Japan, but the true Christmas is yet to come and it is the responsibility of the Christians to invite the real Christmas to this secularized and yet inquisitive country.

CHRISTMAS IN PANAMA

"Separating a trunk load of tootsie rolls, taffy, gum drops, and bubble gum can be quite a job and quite a sight," wrote Emma Ruth Willey, missionary to Panama. "The night after Halloween, Brother Clifford Hanna led a group of boy scouts in a post-trick-or

treat campaign at the American Air Force Bases to collect all leftover candies for our mission children in the interior. The response was many times over what we had expected but the real fun came when they walked in our living room with all 140 pounds of it. By the time Cliff, Jean, Tom, and I had finished sorting and re-packing every piece, we were green!

Come Christmas week the men will fill a huge box with this, about 60 small toys and stacks of Christmas literature, rig it with a parachute, fly over and drop it at the bush village of Jenene. You may be sure this will be the only piece of candy or scrap of Christmas paper these children will see."

CHRISTMAS IN BRAZIL

Christmas in Brazil is—"blah," wrote one missionary. There are three reasons for this condition: namely, the dominant religion, the poverty of the people, and the climate. Since the dominant religion is Roman Catholic, the emphasis is on the *mother* of the Holy Child not on the Child.

The poverty of the people in general makes Christmas a sad occasion for the majority. Although the commercial interests of the land have gone to great lengths to make the people conscious of the season, stores are full of merchandise, bells ring, advertisements appear in newspapers, radio and TV commercials vie with crusing sound trucks to belabor the ears of the passing throngs. But for the vast majority these blandishments engender only a desire to have things which are beyond the means of the would-be customer.

The sight of a sweating Santa Claus garbed in the traditional red suit and whiskers, slouching down the street in 80 or 90 degree temperature under a blazing sun and enveloped in humidity of almost one hundred percent is one way to kill quickly an incipient Christmas spirit. Pine trees? Unknown. Snow? Unbelievable. A sled? What's that?

One small comfort afforded to the Protestant pastor in the States is denied him in this Portuguese-speaking country. He cannot even urge people to put Christ back in Christmas. The word for Christmas in Portuguese is "natal." How can one put "Cristo" back into "Natal"?

Like I said, Christmas in Brazil is—"blah!"

CHRISTMAS IN AFRICA

"I left our created Christmas inside and walked out into the warm night," wrote Lorene Miley in describing the Christmas season in Ivory Coast. "Why, look, it's like Main Street, U.S.A.! I exclaimed. It's the annual burning-off season when farmers burn off the elephant grass grown 9 to 12 feet tall during the rainy season. What a lovely night to burn! On a distant hillside the fire formed pyramids like so many clusters of lighted Christmas trees. Across the road the fire leaped high in red and yellow and orange flames. Occasionally it would ignite a tall, dry tree, and the entire tree would be illuminated, glowing brilliantly.

I looked through the blaze to the huts of our nearest neighbors. That huge fiery furnace is symbolic of their fate without Christ. And we're here to point them to Him who can save them from eternal punishment and give everlasting life.

We appreciate the Christmas cards from each of you. They form a large part of our decorations. Next year they will find their way into the homes of the Africans."

CHRISTMAS IN AMERICA

(Clip headlines and stories from your local newspaper which illustrate hatred, strife, and sin in your community. Begin your talk by referring to these.)

America is a mission field. However, during the Christmas season these unsavory stories are temporarily pushed out of the limelight. Despite commercialism Christmas is a time of joy and happiness and hope. There are few homes that do not have a Christmas tree or other gay decorations to brighten up the house. Christmas greeting, social festivities, family get-togethers and church activities are all an important part of the season.

Adults like to reminisce about Christmases spent *back home*. What will your children remember most about Christmas? They will remember the tree and how they were permitted to help decorate it. They will remember the presents and colorful wrappings. They will fondly recall the special warmth of the season; how the family was drawn even closer; how friends and strangers cheerfully exchanged happy greetings. But in a few days the tree will be dry and discarded. The toys will be broken or tossed aside. The greatest gift of all—God's love—the real reason for Christmas, should be theirs throughout their lives.

Discuss: How can we make Christmas more meaningful to our families? How can we brighten the Christmas season for our missionaries?

HANDMAIDENS OF GOD



by Dr. Hershel H. Hobbs

Program Chairman: Check with your state home missions board concerning the current state missions project. Secure information concerning your state missionaries and use their needs as prayer requests. If your state does not have a state missions project you may want to earmark your offering for another states' project.

MONDAY

The Handmaiden of the Lord

Song: "Jesus Calls Us"

Scripture: Luke 1:38a

Louis de Beaufort once made a striking statement, "The future of society is in the hands of mothers; if the world was lost through woman, she alone can save it."

I can just hear some of you women saying, "Isn't that just like a man blaming the women for everything!" Perhaps so. In so doing we go back a

long way to find the beginning of such practice. For, you see, Adam did just this. As God viewed the wreckage wrought by sin in the garden of Eden, He asked Adam what he had done. Adam's only reply was "*The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat*" (Genesis 3:12). Note what God said to Eve, "*What is this that thou hast done?*" God put this supreme question to woman.

However, let us look again at the words of Mr. de Beaufort, "*Woman, she alone can save it.*" Did not God say that it was by the seed of woman, not of man, that the world would be saved (3:15)? If the one thing is woman's greatest shame, the other is her greatest glory and responsibility.

We are not surprised, therefore, that when God moved in history to save the world, He began with a dedicated woman. He began with Mary of Nazareth. *Not that she herself was to be the Saviour, but through her was born the God-Man Jesus Christ. It is He who shall save from sin.*

Behind all this there is a lesson for us. A fallen woman drags the world down with her. A dedicated, godly woman makes it possible for the world to be lifted up to heights of glory. That is why the primary need of this hour is a rededication of womanhood to the benevolent and spiritual purpose of God. The scriptural basis for such a statement is found in Luke 1:30-31, 38a (read).

"The saddest thing that can befall a soul

Is when it loses faith in God and woman.

Lost I these gems,

Though the world's throne stood empty in my path,

I would go wandering back into my

childhood

Searching for them in tears.”

... Alexander Smith

“Faith in God and woman.” How these two are entwined together! When men lose faith in God, womanhood is degraded. A degraded womanhood is a sure harbinger of the decay of a nation and civilization. In times like the present when civilization totters in uncertain steps we would be wise to “go wandering back into childhood searching for them in tears.”

It is to this end that we pause in the rush of life to view “handmaidens of God.” In so doing we shall see the glory of womanhood, the call to womanhood, and the dedication of womanhood.

Song: “Where He Leads Me” (softly)

Prayer of dedication of self.

Let us commit our ways into the Lord in an act of dedication (Silent prayer time. Each in her own way makes a personal commitment.)

TUESDAY

The Glory of Womanhood

Song: “What a Friend we have in Jesus”

Scripture: Luke 1:30

These words were spoken to Mary, and they pertain specifically to the fact that she had been chosen to be the mother of God’s Son. In a very real sense, through the Son of God, they relate to womanhood in general. Through His grace woman has been rescued from being mere chattel to stand upon the pedestal of human

glory and grace.

Herrick Johnson has expressed it in winsome words, “Christianity has lifted woman to a new place in the world . . . And just in proportion as Christianity has sway, will she rise to a higher dignity in human life . . . What she has now, and all she shall have of privilege and true honor, she owes to that gospel which took those qualities which had been counted weak and unworthy and gave them a divine glory in Christ.”

Actually the basis of the glory of womanhood is the fact that she is a woman. The crowning act of God’s creative work was when He made man in His own likeness, but in the mere sequence of events the pinnacle was reached in the making of woman. God said, “*It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him*” (Genesis 2:18). Genesis records that God made woman of a rib taken from man. He did not take a bone from man’s head, to indicate that she should rule over him. Neither did He take a bone from man’s foot, to suggest that he should rule over her. He took a bone from man’s side, nearest to his heart. Thus He portrayed that she is to be the wife of his bosom, the object of his affections, the darling of his heart. She is to stand alongside him as his helpmate, sharing alike with him the joys and sorrows, the victories and defeats of life. This is the divine ideal. Though sin marred this relationship, in Christ God has made possible its full realization.

To be sure, Paul says that, “*The husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church; and he is the saviour of the body*” (Ephesians 5:23). This means that the husband is not a tyrant but a saviour with respect to his wife. He is to love,

nourish, and cherish his wife as his own body, even as the Lord does the church.

However, if the glory of womanhood is in the fact that she is a woman, the acme of her glory is seen in Christian womanhood. It is where the Christian gospel holds sway that woman is exalted to the greatest of human positions. In Christ the tenderness of her love, the depth of her sympathy, and the delicate quality of her nature—all appear in their most resplendent glory.

In this light we may well agree with George Hermes, "A beautiful and chaste woman is the perfect workmanship of God, and the true glory of angels, the rare miracle of earth, and the sole wonder of the world." However, such a glory is not without responsibility.

Song: "Seal Us, O Holy Spirit

Prayer Season

WEDNESDAY

The Call to Womanhood

Song: Select a Christmas carol

Scripture: Luke 1:31

This birth was unlike any other birth—the virgin birth of the Son of God! Yet it is suggestive of the primary role of consecrated womanhood as the mothers of the race. As great as may be the achievements of women in other areas of life, in holy wedlock this role of womanhood outweighs all others in importance.

One views with alarm the present-day trend toward femininity among men and masculinity among women.

A man in his basest self may cast a roving eye at a woman whose conduct is more at home in a tavern than in a parlor—a woman who becomes a toy for a passing diversion. A true man who is worthy of the name wants a wife who is the essence of feminine loveliness and whose standards of conduct are those of Christian womanhood at her best. He wants the mother of his children to be of such quality that she will lead both him and his children to honor all womanhood who is worthy of the name in the highest sense of the word.

In the providence of God not every woman is privileged to be a wife and mother. But to those who are is given the greatest of all responsibilities. In the human scheme of things they may be called upon to serve in the background of society. Like the hidden foundation of a mighty structure, it is upon them that the welfare of the nation rests. They can give themselves to no greater calling.

Prayer Season

THURSDAY

The Dedication of Womanhood

Song: "All for Jesus"

Scripture: Luke 1:38

Though Mary was overwhelmed by the responsibility placed upon her, still in God's power she dedicated herself to His will and purpose. Said she, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38).

In your own sphere as a woman God asks you to be just that. In such dedication you as a woman can undergird every worthwhile value in society.

A.B. White reminds us that, "If the time should ever come when women are not Christians and houses are not homes, then we shall have lost the chief cornerstones on which civilization rests." It is in this light that, in God's name, we call every woman to a rededication to those God-given purposes which are inherent in Christian womanhood. Such can be the mightiest force on this earth for righting the wrongs which threaten the very life of both men and nations.

Dedicated womanhood can restore the crumbling foundations of righteousness. We hear much today about "situation ethics." Such teaches that a thing is right or wrong according to the situation in which it is done. It ignores the absolutes of the Ten Commandments.

Furthermore, dedicated womanhood can give strength and purpose to a social order, both domestic and international, which borders on despair for the future. In the scheme of things men largely stand at the forefront of the battle to save the world from chaos. Ours is a time when the best laid plans of righteous men are facing frustration. It is in such a time that the quiet, hidden strength of the so-called weaker sex can make the difference between defeat and victory. "Behold the handmaid of the Lord!" God has so ordained, and so may it ever be. In this hour of crisis for the whole world, this is the need above all others. That womanhood will say, "Be it unto me according to thy word." Few women may hold in their hands the symbol of rule over nations. Behind the scenes, humanly speaking, hers is the honor, the power, and the glory. It is ever true that *the hand which rocks the cradle rules the world.*

FRIDAY

State Missions

Song: "Lord, Speak to Me"

Scripture: Mark 5:1-19

Why *state* missions? Because every state is a ripe and challenging field for evangelism, church extension, church development and a vital Christian ministry to those in cities, towns and rural areas.

State missions effectively provides this ministry through churches, new and old, in neglected areas, in recently developed sections, as well as in the older communities.

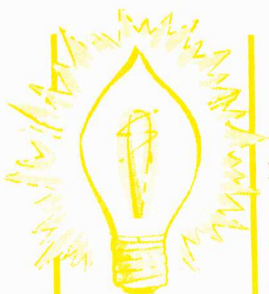
Because state missions is the "seed corn of all missions" and its two-fold task of witnessing and serving at home and of undergirding and strengthening world missions is urgent and unfinished.

The Board of National Home Missions and Church Extension offers assistance to state missions boards in establishing new churches through their "Project 30" plan. This plan is designed to assist the church extension worker during those first few months until a young church can assume the full support of its pastor.

Once a year, the Woman's Auxiliary observes a special season of prayer and gifts for state missions. This united effort helps in giving the gospel to the multitudes of unevangelized in all the states. Following a season of prayer for state mission projects and missionaries, our offering will be received.

Presentation of Gifts

Dedication of Offering



I D E A S FROM OUR READERS

We are appreciative of the creative ideas we receive from time to time from our readers. Please continue sharing with us.

MANUAL STUDY COURSE

Mrs. Bobbie Carter, study chairman of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Northport, Alabama, describes an enjoyable study course used successfully in her Auxiliary: "Using the Hollywood Squares procedure, all members were encouraged to study the manual ahead of time. As master of ceremonies I chose the nine officers to be the participants. Three of them sat on the floor, three sat in chairs, and three stood behind the chairs to form the squares. Other Auxiliary members were the contestants. This way everyone had to know the manual in order to know whether or not to agree with the participants. Using nine sheets of typing paper, I printed a large W on one side and a large A on the other side for each participant to hold. We used W's and A's instead of the usual X's and O's.

I made up a list of questions ahead of time but no one else knew what they were. It was very interesting and we really learned. No one was told ahead of time anything except to study the manual well because they would be expected to answer questions about it. We used small inexpensive items for prizes.

PRE-EASTER WEEK OF PRAYER

Sarah Fulton, program-prayer chairman of the Butterfield Church, Aurora, Illinois, utilized the theme, "Chosen by Christ . . . to Bear Fruit" in their pre-Easter Week of Prayer observance. "I cut a green tree from paper, gave each lady seven fruit seals, met with them on Sunday before the week of prayer began, and encouraged each one to read the Scripture and material from the *Co-Laborer* each day of the week of prayer. I also gave them special missionary prayer requests giving them out so that each day our ladies would be praying *around the world*. I stressed that our prayers would be a chain reaching around the world and that if one lady failed to pray for her particular missionary, the prayer chain would be broken. Each day after reading the Scripture, the *Co-Laborer* material, and praying, the lady was to place a fruit seal on her tree. The ladies were to bring the trees back the following Sunday. I had a poster prepared showing that it referred to the Woman's Auxiliary week of prayer and being fruitful. As each

lady gave me her tree, I taped it onto the poster board. Also, I gave each lady a special decorated envelope in which to place her special offering. I gave out seven trees that Sunday morning before the week of prayer, and I had seven returned to me. So it seems that every lady present for the meeting when I introduced the idea took part in the week of prayer.

"I know the best way is to meet together to pray, but it seems almost impossible for our ladies to do that . . . so this method was quite effective for us for this last season of prayer."



Woman's Auxiliary in Virgin Islands



WHEN WANDA AND LARRY POWELL became missionaries in Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, there was one thing she especially missed. It was the Woman's Auxiliary meetings she enjoyed in the States.

There were numerous obstacles to beginning an Auxiliary in their new field—their group was small, many of the ladies worked, most of them had small children and their husbands worked late, and then too, it was dangerous for ladies to go out alone in St. Croix at night.

But as the number of active women increased in the church it was decided an Auxiliary could definitely be a blessing to the new church. A Woman's Auxiliary was organized in January, '69. Mrs. Powell wrote: "We are certainly enjoying our fellowship together and the programs. We have six members at the present. Most of the ladies in our congregation work and because of the danger in going out at night, we are forced to meet in the day. We hope someday this situation will change. Pray with us in this matter. We appreciate so much your prayers in the past.

"We all received a great blessing during the pre-Easter Week of Prayer.. *We set as our offering goal \$100, and invited all church members to participate. We were thrilled to not only meet our goal but to go over \$19. We presented a program during the Sunday morning worship service and all of our Woman's Auxiliary members participated. We believe it was a blessing to everyone.*

Everyday we are reminded of our ladies all over the country who are supporting our work here by gifts and prayers. We are certainly enjoying our Tupperware and linens . . . Thank you so much for all you are doing there at home.."



MISSIONARY PROVISION CLOSET NEEDS

SEVERAL MISSIONARY families have visited the missionary provision closet recently and obtained numerous helpful items such as linens, Melmac, flatware, steam irons, pressure cookers, tupperware and layettes.

Some of these missionaries are on furlough for a few months rest and itinerary. Others are new candidates preparing to go to the fields. All have expressed their appreciation to members of the Woman's Auxiliary for providing these needed items for their use. You have been generous in your support and we appreciate your faithfulness in sending gifts regularly.

There are, however, a few articles which we need:

- fitted sheets (both twin and full size)
- twin flat sheets (we have plenty of full size)
- blankets and quilts (full and twin size)
- bedspreads (full and twin)

Please note: *Heavy* towels and wash cloths are needed. The thin ones do not last as long. Missionaries prefer *Mirro-Matic* or *Presto* cookers and *large* sets (service for 8) of Melmac and flatware. Even those with small families have frequent visitors. Please do not send *used* items. Some have expressed preference for colored linens as they do not show water stain so badly.

Send all gifts to WNAC, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOMES

Shopping for two or three children can be expensive but when you have 50 or 60 !

Whether your gift is money, clothing, food, coupons, or trading stamps, the Children's Homes listed below will welcome your contributions . . . not only at Christmas but all year 'round.

Free Will Baptist Children's Home
Eldridge, Alabama 35554

Free Will Baptist Home for Children
Route 9
Greeneville, Tennessee 37743

Free Will Baptist Home for Children
Box 245
Turbeville, South Carolina 29162



SEASONAL HELPS

Thanksgiving Plays

Give Thanks for What?

Warren

Four men, seven women, one scene.

Each .15¢

A Spiritual Dinner for Thanksgiving

Ross

Two readers and four other silent characters. One scene.

Each .25¢

Special Features

The Things of Christmas

Maxey

May be used as a devotional or object lesson.

Each .15¢

The Unexpected Christmas Guest

Adapted, Wright

One person. A dramatic presentation. Very good for use in pre-Christmas season of prayer.

Each .15¢

Seasonal IQ Test

Clever quiz about the first Christmas.

Each .05¢

Six Little Candles

Adapted, Royal

One person. Excellent object lesson for Auxiliary program or workshop.

Each .15¢

REDUCED PRICES

Take advantage of reduced prices on material listed below:

Recording Secretary's Book ~~1.50~~
now 1.00

Treasurer's Book ~~1.50~~
now 1.00

Large Study Course Posters
(seven in packet) ~~2.00~~
now 1.50

Officers' Packets with Guide ~~2.00~~
now 1.85

W.A. Manual ~~.75~~
now .50

Teacher's Guide, Manual ~~1.00~~
now .50

Flip Chart, Manual ~~1.75~~
now 1.25

Order from:

WNAC

P.O. Box 1088

Nashville, Tennessee 37202

Please inclose postage and handling charge on all cash orders . . . 20¢ for the first dollar and 7¢ for each additional dollar or fraction thereof.

**FIVE
THINGS
TO
REMEMBER:**



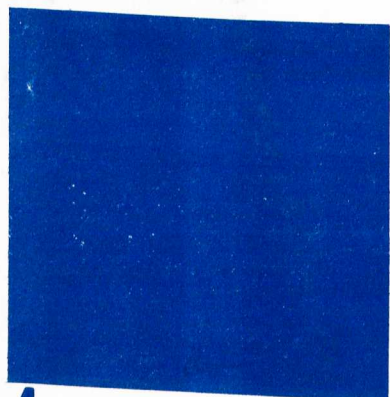
1 To set the alarm clock.



2 The Alamo.



3 To brush your teeth.



4 To pay the light bill.

HOME MISSIONS
PRE-THANKSGIVING
WEEK OF PRAYER
NOVEMBER 16-20

5 Lizzie McAdams Offering
Week of Prayer
for Home Missions