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FLOW THRU ME



Co-Laborer

January - February - March 1974

Make Me a Channel of Blessing

H. G. S.

H. G. SMYTH

1. Is your life a chan-nel of bless-ing? Is the love of God
2. Is your life a chan-nel of bless-ing? Are you bur-dened for
3. Is your life a chan-nel of bless-ing? Is it dai-ly
4. We can-not be chan-nels of bless-ing If our lives are not

flow-ing thro' you? Are you tell-ing the lost of the Sav-iour? Are you
those that are lost? Have you urged up-on those who are stray-ing, The
tell-ing for Him? Have you spo-ken the word of sal-va-tion To
free from known sin; We will bar-ri-ers be and a hin-drance To

CHORUS

read-y His serv-ice to do?
Sav-iour who died on the cross? Make me a chan-nel of bless-ing to-day,
those who are dy-ing in sin?
those we are try-ing to win.

Make me a chan-nel of bless-ing, I pray; My life pos-sess-ing,

my serv-ice bless-ing, Make me a chan-nel of bless-ing to-day.

Co-Laborer

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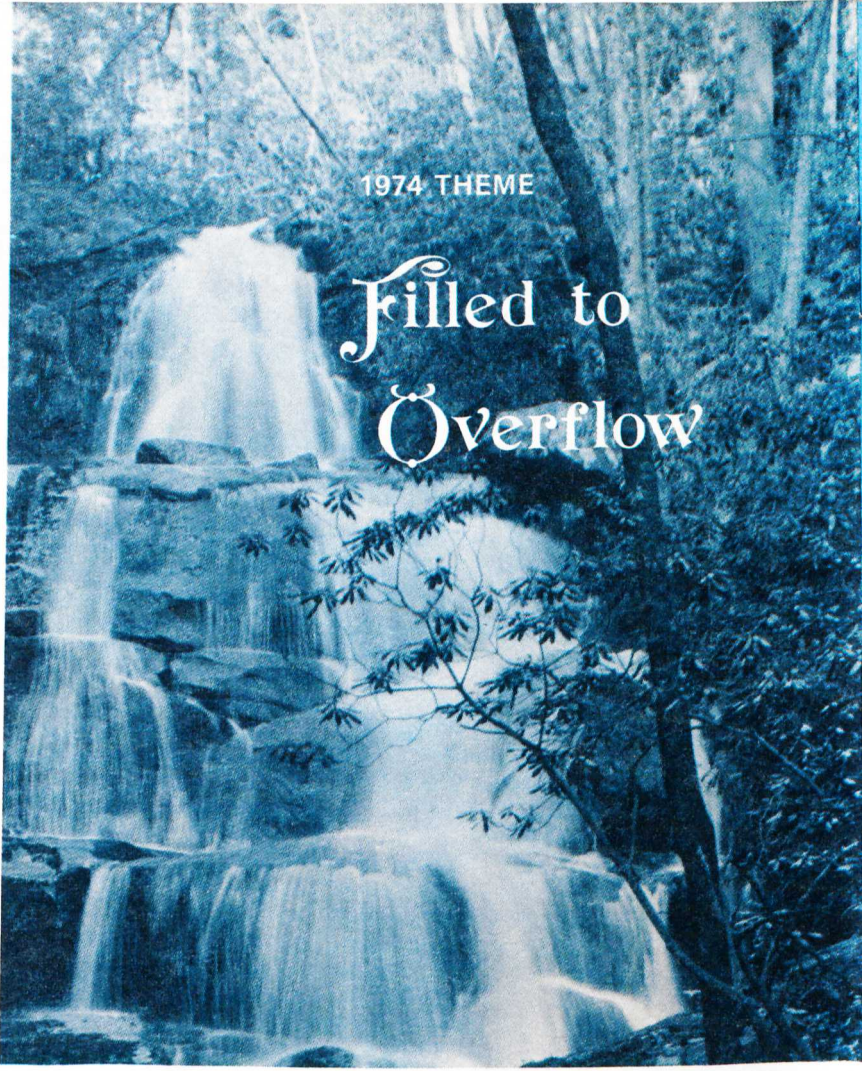
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Cleo W. Pursell, Editor

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Iva M. Hunter, Circulation



1974 THEME

Filled to Overflow

**"For the Scriptures declare that
rivers of living water shall flow
from the inmost being of anyone who
believes in me."**

John 7:38 (Living Bible)

Freedom to Flow

by Rachel Bushnell



"Mother, who put the river out there?" I turned and saw Billy looking out the window at the St. Lawrence. We had told the children that beneath the expanse of snow was a river, but now there it was, flowing deep and blue between the snow-covered banks. It was such a sudden breaking up of the ice that it seemed as if the river had appeared out of nowhere. Such a brilliant release from the rigidity of the ice.

Even more beautiful is our first release in God, when out of our innermost being flow the rivers of living water. It is usually such an overwhelming experience that we look back to it as an Ebenezer stone. Like an artesian well, the springings forth continue to overflow in joy and love. We are sure that life will never be the same again. We envision ourselves to be vast reservoirs into whom the Holy Spirit has come—*"Now, I've got it."*

However, in time, the intensity of our hunger for God begins to diminish, and strangely enough our joy lessens proportionately. What we must learn is that God's life is the out-flowing of His Person, not a gift. God's life is God Himself in presence. To live in the flow, is to live with God dwelling within, in dependence upon His continual presence, and not dependent upon a past experience.

What stops the flow? Our ignorance, our stubbornness, our pride, our self-centeredness—many things block His movement within us. But maybe most basic is our lack of sensitivity. So often we are frozen over, so encrusted by self that the beauty of Christ is hidden within us, lost to the rays of the warm sun and lost to those who would seek the peace that flows eternal in Christ.

How do we become so hard, so insensitive to Jesus and to others? The God-given self-preservation and defense mechanisms are part of our problem. I think He made us thus so that it would be a struggle for us to allow ourselves to be kept exposed and flowing. He wants us to choose His life, not just happen to fall into it. Through constant irritation, the skin forms calluses for protection. In the same way we build up a kind of psychological callus toward irritation and pain. The nerve endings, rendered insensitive, stop communicating the pain to us, and we begin to withdraw from the world outside. Our greatest loss, however, is in the

constriction of His life-giving flow.

It happens without our willing it, or even being aware of it. Suddenly we find ourselves incarcerated in our own little world, and alone. We have unconsciously retreated from exposure to people, change and pain, until we are imprisoned by our own defenses. Like the river, we are frozen over, insensitive, unable to receive and unable to give. Alone we sit in the four cold walls of self. We have shut out their voices and their needs and their clutter. The room is in order . . . nothing out of place, nothing disturbed. But, oh, how like a tomb it seems.

How do we break out of the shell? It is very hard—mostly because we aren't sure whether we want to pay the price of exposure. At the first sensation of pain, we retreat to the safety of our solitude. But then we try again . . . pain . . . retreat.

It is so hard to pull down the fronts, so hard to throw away our facades and be real. For one thing, we live with our manufactured faces so long that we get confused. *Who am I? What am I?* The questions are pain in themselves for they are keys to the outside, and to reality. We stop asking and try to run again from our obscure identity, but somehow the nothingness into which we run is alive, and we bump into ourselves coming back the other way . . . there's no escape. We try losing ourselves in material things, in the drive to make it to the top, in housework, in church work, in a new love, drugs, but there is no escape—as long as we are in the bounds of self. There is only one escape from self-gratifying, self-destroying lust: that is in finding release in the flow of God's self-giving love.

The release is so beautiful. It is not like the freedom of a bird let out of a cage. If the river overflows, it will flood and destroy instead of bring life. "Free spirits" can bring havoc and leave destruction in their wake. The spirit still remains in the river banks of the human frame, but now it is not crusted over by the walls of self. Freely the spirit moves, for it is indwelt by another Spirit over whom sin and death and hell and time and space and matter can never more reign, for He reigneth forever and forever.

The spirit thus released into God is not free to roam aimlessly, governed by every whim. God does nothing purposelessly, and He would bring us unto His disciplined, purposeful life. He is working all things together, and if we would know that beautiful freedom found only in His free-flowing Spirit, we would be at the same time enslaved by His love and totally ruled by His sovereign will. It is not *free* freedom; there is a price, but it is not for us to pay. We only think we are giving up as long as we are ignorant of the exalted life He offers. There is a price, so great that only God Himself could pay it. What I give up is my leprous flesh that would destroy not only itself, but my eternal spirit. What an exchange, if even it could be called an exchange!

What does it mean to be crucified to self and alive unto Christ? People have

half-jokingly said, "Well, if you were dead, you wouldn't feel your pain." I think that has gone through my mind, too. *It surely is too bad that I'm not dead . . . Well, someday I'll be dead with Christ and nothing will hurt me.* It is true that some of the martyrs of Jesus have testified to insensitivity to the pain that licked at their feet at the stake, but this is the *exception*, not the rule! Jesus was *touched* with the *feeling* of our infirmities. He was moved with compassion, as He looked upon the multitude. Surely at no time in His life was He insensitive.

Some who speak of crucifixion with Christ and His resurrected life manifested in their lives, go around as if in another world. They are dead to their surroundings, and float around as if there were no sin, no pain, and no hell. They have arrived! Never mind all the others who have never heard that eternal bliss even exists.

Many are attracted to the message of the crucified life and the ascended life, because it appears to be an escape from their woes. And for a time it is exciting. You walk around in a cloud, in an aura of spirituality. You feel that you have attained *the plateau* of spiritual maturity in Christ. It is easy then to unconsciously retreat within your own little spiritual world and enjoy your new-found life in Christ. I think it is just as deadly or perhaps more so than the drug addict who retreats from reality with his pills. More deadly, because it is so deceptive.

What in me is being crucified? I think that what He wants to cut away are the calluses I have built up against pain and others, and against Him. Whatever cuts me off from my brothers also makes me insensitive to Him.

It is true that we are called unto Him, away from people and need, but when we are in His presence with our eyes beholding His face, then we will see that His eyes are not focused on us, but on the "other sheep" who will belong to Him.

The cross crucifies the walls, the fronts, the facades—the real me is more real, more aware, more sensitive, and more able to communicate, but not as an entity within myself. It is His life, feeling and loving through my life.

I think we fear to lose our walls because of the insecurity we face in the open unknown. *If we only knew.* That was Paul's cry to the churches he established in Christ: "If you only knew where sin would take you . . . If you only knew that you are crucified already . . . If you only knew the life in Christ beyond your life, within your life . . . If you only knew Him."

Oh, Jesus, may the sunlight of Your eternal love melt away the frozen, insensitive walls that keep me from You and from the dying around me. And where the walls are too thick, send an icebreaker up the river. Crash my walls—set me free to love as You love . . . to die as You died . . . to rise in new life with you. Amen.

End Time Messenger

A Glance, A Guide, A Goal

Clara Picirilli, WNAC President



A GLANCE AT THE PAST! My heart is still made to rejoice as I think of our WNAC meeting in Macon, Georgia, in July. The presence of the Lord was present from the very first meeting until the benediction. Truly this was one of our greatest. There was a feeling of unity with our fellow co-laborers throughout the convention. We had magnificent cooperation and help from the auxiliaries of the host state. The Lord marvelously met our needs and we thank Him for it. In the words of one of our dear ladies—"The Monday evening service was such a spiritual uplift for me that I feared the remainder of the WNAC meetings would be anti-climatic; however, that was not the case. Instead, I kept being spiritually strengthened as each phase of our meeting continued. I went home ready to do more for my Lord and also with the burden to try to do more for others by telling them about Him." (This is just an excerpt from a letter received since the WNAC in Macon.)

A GUIDE FOR THE PRESENT! Even as my heart thrills at the many favorable remarks received concerning this meeting, I am reminded of the year of unceasing prayer (the year before this meeting) that the Lord would guide each of us to do our best and to make the right decisions for His glory. Each member of the executive committee was very diligent in prayer and work to make the 1973 WNAC one long to be remembered for the glory of our Lord. I am sure that we were joined by many hundreds more of our dear ladies for this same goal to be accomplished. Since the Lord so graciously blessed us at this

meeting, we must not sit back and rest on these laurels—but look ahead and begin preparations for our next WNAC meeting to be held in Wichita, Kansas.

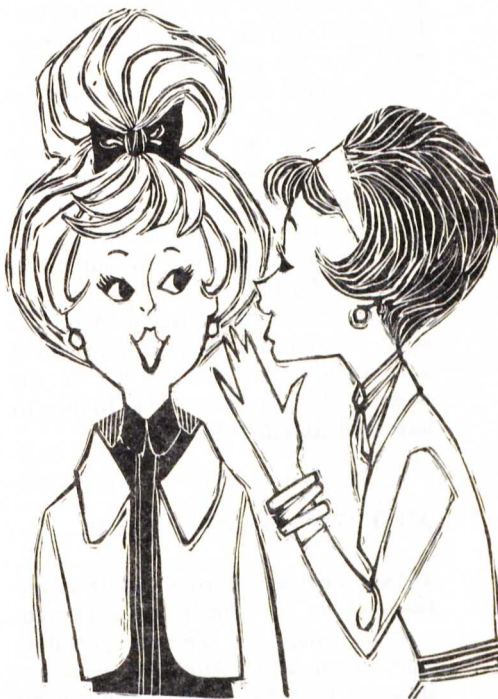
A GOAL FOR THE FUTURE! Each member of the executive committee of the WNAC covets the prayers of each member of each woman's auxiliary that we might be guided by the Holy Spirit as we think on programs, program personalities, and other decisions that will have to be made before we meet together again as a body at the 1974 WNAC meeting. We are always open for your suggestions, etc., as we try to fulfill our obligations as your WNAC representatives. Above all else hold up our WNAC in your prayers and your support—this is more important if we are to continue to function as we feel the Lord would have us.

NOW, just a personal note of appreciation to the out-going executive committee members. Mere thanks could never express the real feeling for your faithfulness in every task which we have accomplished. Only eternity will tell all the good that has been accomplished through your cooperation and willingness in everything you were asked to do—as well as your voluntary sacrifices in order that our WNAC goal might be held up before those interested in our work.

WELCOME to our new executive committee members. You have been honored with a great responsibility. With God's help we plan to accomplish great things for Him in the coming two years. Let us begin praying and preparing ourselves now for the tasks waiting for us in the immediate future. I am thrilled at the prospects before us and am anxiously awaiting our working together as co-laborers for the Lord.

Something TO TALK ABOUT

Betty Hill, WNAC Vice President



IS YOUR AUXILIARY “something to talk about?” Having a product worth talking about is the principle of producing results. If your programs are dull, your business sessions long and

boring, if your projects aren't worthwhile, and there is no enthusiasm and little interest among your officers and members about serving the Lord, then *YOU* have *NOTHING* to talk about!

No one is interested in attaching themselves to something dull, drab, and dead. Something alive and challenging is the need of today. However, let's understand right now that we can do all we know to do, but only God can breathe life into a dying organization or individual. When we as individuals have our hearts stirred, and we truly fall in love with Jesus, then we are going to be excited about serving Him, and we will take advantage of the many opportunities which God has set before us, but we *must* have His presence to do this! No fleshly, carnal efforts can transform our Auxiliaries—only His power and His presence can do it. And oh, dear women, when *HE* is in our meetings, others will want to be, too. Then we will have something to talk about! How we need to invite HIM to our meetings—pray for HIS presence!

That is what took place in Mark 2:1. Jesus entered into Capernaum, “and it was noised about that He was in the house.” This gives us a clue as to how to have well-attended meetings.

ADVERTISE YOUR MEETINGS

1. **Talk them up!** Word-of-mouth advertisement is the *BEST* advertisement possible. Share the blessings you have experienced at an Auxiliary meeting—How the Lord has burdened your heart to be a better witness; how you have become aware of the need of sending the gospel to foreign fields; how you have become better acquainted with the needs of our missionaries, especially their need of prayer. Nothing works like

the personal touch! *Share what you have experienced! Talk about it!*

2. **Use the Church Bulletin**—The vice president should see that announcements of various meetings are turned in to the proper person at the proper time. Put your meetings on your church calendar.

3. **Announce Meetings in Sunday School**—Be sure they are made enthusiastically, briefly, and to the point. A short skit encouraging attendance could sometimes be given and be most effective.

4. **Use the Church Bulletin Board**—Posters, attractively done, should appear from time to time advertising regular meetings, special events, and projects. Make them colorful and eye-catching as well as informational.

5. **Postcard Announcements or Letters** may be sent to your now-and-then attenders. If not overdone, this can be an effective method of publicity.

6. **Telephone Calls** will sometimes get the job done and give a personal touch. Don't be satisfied with using only *one* of these methods. Use them all, then the results could be the same as those in Mark 2:2 - “And straightway *many* were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive them . . . and He preached the Word unto them.”—which brings us to the fact that we must . . .

GIVE INSPIRING PROGRAMS

Jesus gave them the Word. He was interesting in His preaching and teaching. He didn't have to get up and read a program—the Word was in His heart, and the Holy Spirit applied it to the hearts of those present—and yes! He will

do the same today. Preparedness is essential if we expect to have inspiring programs that warm the heart. We prepare through prayer, study, and meditation. May God help us to give our women something worthwhile spiritually when they give their valuable time to come to our meetings.

There is something else in this account in Mark 2 which we must have if we expect to enjoy a successful Auxiliary . . .

CO-OPERATION IS ESSENTIAL!

Four men brought a palsied man to Jesus. One or even two would have had a hard time carrying the man. It would have been awkward for three; but four did the job well. That took co-operation. How many Auxiliaries have died for lack of co-operation! If a thing cannot be done the way some want it done, they will not let it be done at all. "MY way, or no way!" And we hinder the work of Christ with such actions and attitudes. No doubt, the grumblers were on the scene when the palsied man was lifted through the roof by his friends. The money lovers probably felt too much expense was involved in the repair of the roof, especially since it wasn't their idea to start with. (Its amazing how much we are for a thing when it originates with us!) Satan will always have his workers around to hinder the progress of the work of God, and sad to say, we as Christians sometimes are deceived and allow him to use us! But, *praise the Lord*, there is victory in Jesus! He always knows just what to do when we bring our cares, our problems, and our troubles to Him. Shall we learn a lesson from this? In order to see our Auxiliary accomplish things of eternal values, we must . . .

CONSULT JESUS.

He always knows just how to handle a situation and can impress us with ideas to improve the work. Take a fresh look at your Auxiliary. Is it carrying out the true purpose of the Auxiliary? That is, to help each woman find her place in the Great Commission? Our goal as an auxiliary should be to involve *every* woman in our church. To do this, some changes may have to be made to improve our meetings. The time of meeting and the place of meeting may have to be changed. It may be necessary to provide a nursery. It could mean having to branch out into two or more Auxiliaries with a General Director serving as co-ordinator. Certainly more women would be involved with more than one Auxiliary. A day-time Auxiliary could be provided for those who find a day meeting more convenient, and instead of having fellowship around refreshments, it could be a luncheon meeting. Then, a night-time Auxiliary could be held for the benefit of the working women.

You don't have to have a real big church to need two Auxiliaries. One church which runs 250 to 300 in Sunday School has two Auxiliaries and is involving 50 women in Auxiliary work in this way. If your church is larger, a Young Woman's Auxiliary may also be needed. In a set-up of this nature, you could still work together in various aspects of the work, and reports are combined by the General Director for sending to the District. In this way, each Auxiliary is able to operate as a separate unit, and yet together.

Let's *consult* Jesus and see what His plans are for us, then let's work His plan, remembering His plan is to involve ALL. When we follow Him, then we will have SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT!

How Many Prospects Do You Have?



The young woman who has never been a member of the Woman's Auxiliary.



The busy mother whose time is limited by the needs of her family.



The working woman who has dropped out of Auxiliary or who has never been a member.



The woman with time on her hands.



The retiree who is still active and needs to use her skills in Woman's Auxiliary.



The woman who is confined to her home by long-term personal or family illness.

Each One Bring One

GETTING TO KNOW THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Co-Laborer introduces
WNAC's newest officers



Worthington



McLain



Scott

Anne Worthington, recording secretary of the WNAC Executive Committee wanted to be a missionary from the time she was saved at the age of nine. She was born in Kentucky but at a very young age moved to Lake Zurich, Illinois, where her parents, brothers and sister still live. Her family attended the Palatine Bible Church and it was there she was saved.

Anne met her husband, Melvin, while attending Columbia Bible College, Columbia, South Carolina. She graduated from Columbia in 1959 with a Bachelor of Biblical Education. She was married in September, 1959, and became a Free Will Baptist.

In September of that same year Melvin was called to pastor Union Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Chocowinity, North Carolina, and Palmetto Chapel near Vanceboro, North Carolina. While there their two children, Daniel, age 13 and Lydia, age 11, were born. Since then they have ministered in South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi, and presently in Albany, Georgia.

Anne has served in various capacities in Woman's Auxiliary work. She was the first secretary of the Mississippi State Auxiliary Convention.

Winnie McLain, member at large, brings to the committee a wealth of experience and insight. She organized the first Auxiliary in California in Kerman, in 1945. She assisted in organizing the California State Auxiliary Convention in 1950, and was the first

secretary-treasurer. She later served as president. She has been secretary-treasurer of Oklahoma State Auxiliary Convention and recording secretary of WNAC.

Winnie has a B.E. degree from California State University at Fresno. She recently retired from teaching in public school where she taught for 29 years in Oklahoma and California.

Presently on the faculty of California Christian College as a part-time instructor, the course she enjoys teaching most is "*Practical Ministries for Women*," and spends several sessions of the course on Woman's Auxiliary.

Mrs. McLain is the wife of the late Reverend George W. McLain and the mother of Mrs. Lonnie Rolen (June) of Fresno, California.

Genelle Scott, member at large, is no stranger to Free Will Baptist women having served as national stewardship-prayer chairman from 1963 to 1966. She has been active in Auxiliary work for the past 24 years holding offices from the local through the national level in Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. She is presently serving as President of Arkansas Auxiliary Convention.

Genelle was a P.K. (Preacher's Kid), born near Mountain Grove, Missouri, to the late Reverend and Mrs. H. B. Smith. She is the wife of the Reverend Ben Scott, pastor of the North Little Rock, Arkansas, church and the mother of three sons. One son, Randy, is an ordained minister of the gospel.



Prayer Groups

Gladys Sloan

JANUARY HAPPY NEW YEAR

"Bless the Lord, O My soul; and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:" (Psalm 103:1-2).

Yes, praise the Lord for all that was accomplished during 1973—that which will glorify Him.

Last year there were approximately 30 new auxiliaries organized and, approximately 394 additional members. "Praise the Lord."

What shall we ask for the coming year?

We ask for a greater increase during the year 1974.

We ask for a year of love.

We ask for a year of prayer.

We ask for the dying world.

Prayer Requests.

1. Pray for an increase in auxiliary membership.

2. Pray for the evangelistic efforts of our women across the country.

3. Pray for additional literature for our young people. There seems to be a crying need for more materials.

4. Pray for our political leaders.

5. Pray for our spiritual leaders.

6. Pray for our country.

7. Those who prepare the programs for *Co-Laborer*.

FEBRUARY HOME MISSION PROJECT

New Electric Typewriter with Spanish Characters

New Electric Mimeograph Machine

The McCoy's need these two pieces of equipment very badly. The work load is increasing steadily now with the school and church growing. The Bible Correspondence School is also growing and reaching out into new areas. The equipment is to be used for these purposes. The present equipment is worn and operates slowly.

Fred and Billy McCoy began work in July, 1969 in Puerto Rico with Bible clubs in their home. In December of that year the small group of believers rented their own meeting place with option to buy. Today there is a strong group of near fifty believers ministering to nine different nationalities.

In March, 1971, a Bible correspondence school called *Nueve Vida*, was begun and now has an enrollment of over 250 students. Plans are being made to change this to a more permanent type school. The new name will be *Instituto Biblico Nueve Vida*. Several have shown a desire for establishing a

church in their area after having enrolled in the Bible courses.

August, 1971, marked the beginning of "Academia Bautista Libre," a bilingual Christian day school. At present classes are for kindergarten and pre-kindergarten with plans for a full program in the future.

Services in English were begun in November, 1971, to minister to the English-speaking people of the community. The interest and prospects are running high.

Prayer Requests

1. Leland Horton begins work in Des Moines, Iowa soon. Pray for him and his family as they start this mission work in the capitol city of Iowa. He wants 50 in his first service.

2. Pray for the Larry Russells as they work in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

3. Pray for David McDaniel and his church as they build their new unit.

4. Pray for the Ed Greens as they finish internship and go to Clovis, New Mexico to begin their work.

5. Pray that Jerry Barron's immigration papers will be approved by the Mexican government so he and his family can continue to live in Mexico.

6. Pray for the Gary Watsons, Karol Smiths and the R.W. Woods as they finish their itinerates and prepare for intership before going to their field of work.

MARCH

Did you ever wonder about the home life of a missionary? Well, here are some of the experiences of the Eagleton family in Brazil as told by Marvis Eagleton.

Kenneth's class mate had got a new

piano for her birthday and she hadn't learned to play yet, so she invited him to her home to play for her. In the family are five teen-age girls and one boy. They all enjoyed the friendship and soon all our boys were going quite often to their home. The parents wanted to meet Ken and me and it was arranged that we should pay them a call. After this there was quite a lot of visiting back and forth between the two families. They are second generation Syrians but are practicing Catholics. The parents listened attentively to our witnessing and would even bring up the subject themselves at times and asked a lot of questions.

They were glad for the children to visit in our home but forbade them to attend church services. Soon, however, the 17 year old daughter, Nadia, became very interested in the gospel. She was eager to learn all she could and started going to services when she could slip off. She would make some excuse to leave the house or say she was going to "church" deliberately leading them to believe she meant the Catholic church. Then she accepted Christ in our home. Now what should we do? We wanted her to be able to go to church but of course could not encourage her to deceive and even lie to her parents. Even more difficult for her was the fact that she was engaged to a young doctor in another town. In Brazil engagements are very binding and looked upon almost as marriage. How to tell her fiancé? Imagine her position. She has secretly accepted a "religion" (Brazilian way of referring to following Christ) that is very displeasing to both her family and fiancé.

Her engagement is quite satisfactory to her family; Jardel has the social asset of being a doctor and all hopes for a good financial future. Finally she

decides to tell him she has been going to church. He doesn't like this at all and tells her "You have had too much Protestant influence. If you 'change religions,' we're through." She didn't recant and he pulled off his wedding band (worn on the right hand during engagement) and returned it to her. This was the situation when we left Brazil. But Jardel won't give up so easily. There will be tremendous pressure from Nadia's family (not only her parents but uncles and aunts as well) and from Jardel. She tells me, "My family thinks I'm so different. The difference is that I have had my eyes opened to a way of life I never knew existed." Whether Nadi remains firm in her conviction to serve the Lord or whether she gives in depends partly on you and me, whether we intercede for the Lord to help her remain true to Him.

Not only was Nadia's life affected, but her sister Tania became interested and has attended some services. Her brother Luiz wanted a Bible and asked Andrew would it be a sin for a Catholic to read the Bible. Do help us pray for the Elias family that they might all find spiritual light.

Like Thanksgiving and New Years, the end of a term on the field is a good check point to see just what your strategy is and what you are accomplishing toward your goal. This time came for me in mid-July. Without really having planned it that way in the beginning I found that our home during this term had been a focal point of contact. A lot of the credit goes to our four sons. Their friends were always welcome and pretty soon it was friends of the friends. Also the young people of the church came and went at will.

Someone was in our home almost constantly. Even at mealtime we had company. A family joke grew out of

this. We have always made it a point at our house to eat our meals together and when we sat down we starting guessing to see if it would be the doorbell or telephone first. And it never failed to be one or the other. Even to have family devotions we finally had to find a secluded place at the back of the house and take the receiver off the hook.

Sometimes we were tempted to say, "*This is just too much!*" but we recognized it for the two-fold opportunity it was. First, there were innumerable opportunities for witnessing to those who were not Christians, both by our family and by our church young people. Not only by talking but by Christian music and discussions of their activities, etc. And secondly, there was the influence of Christian principles they could see put to practice in a Christian home. Sometimes when the girls came we would just sit in the living room and talk about something they wanted to discuss. Nothing was taboo—whatever they wanted to talk about, we did.

Many times we want to see immediate tangible results of what we do. In a situation like this that is sometimes hard to do. However, we saw enough encouraging things happen that we were convinced it was worthwhile. And not only that—we were having a wonderful time!

Pray for:

1. The new converts, that they may be grounded in the faith.
2. The people who are interested in the Gospel but have not been saved yet.
3. The Tom Hughes family as they minister in the church in Araras.
4. The plans to re-open the Bible Institute in Brazil.
5. The new areas to be opened by Free Will Baptists in Brazil.
6. Our missionaries as they live an example to those around them.

Our Writers

JOHN CRAFT, missionary to Brazil 1967-1973, is now pastor of the Unity Church in Smithfield, North Carolina. He was the keynote speaker for the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention and at that time ably presented our theme for the year, *"Filled to Overflowing."* The January program is a condensed version of that message.

CAROLYN FRANKS, Mantachie, Mississippi, was first place winner in WNAC's first creative writing contest. Her program on Christian witnessing is our February study. Miss Franks teaches in the Business Department of the Itawamba Junior College.

BARBARA OTWELL, Santa Paula, California, is missions study chairman of her local Auxiliary and vice president of the West Coast District Convention. The March program is a challenge and encouragement to those women *"Who Serve Alone."* Barbara is the mother of an eight year old son.



ENLISTMENT AIDS

New Enlistment Leaflet
12 for 35 cents

Invitation Cards
12 for 30 cents

Membership cards
25 for 40 cents



Available from WNAC, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee. Please enclose postage: 20¢ for the first dollar and 10¢ for each additional dollar.

Women In Action

Arkansas State

The Arkansas State Auxiliary Convention convened in August at Camp Beaverfork, Conway, with approximately 200 in attendance. President Genelle Scott, presided. WNAC executive secretary, Cleo Pursell, spoke at the eleven o'clock service and also at the evening banquet held at the Holiday Inn with 123 present.

Tennessee District

The Cumberland District Woman's Auxiliary Convention met in August at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee. Registration was 85. Missionary Marvis Eagleton, Brazil, was

the speaker and Glenda Fulcher, Panama, was the featured soloist. Lorene Miley brought greetings from the Ivory Coast. Avis Sublett was re-elected president. Highlights of the national convention were given by Cleo Pursell and Helen Kettelman installed the officers.

Texas Auxiliary Organized

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Corpus Christi, Texas, was organized in May. Membership now numbers 13. Reverend Eddie Condon is pastor. The Auxiliary has an active missions action program visiting nursing home and hospitals and helping the handicapped and disabled veterans.



Members of the Canah Chapel Woman's Auxiliary, Erwin, Tennessee, with tupperware for the missionary provision closet.

WOMEN IN ACTION

ARIZONA STATE WORKSHOP conducted by WNAC field worker, Brenda Spruill in July. Lou Spears is president. Twenty four were present.



OFFICERS of the Little Miami River District shown with gifts for the missionary provision closet. They are, left to right, Joyce Williams, Maryetta Sebastian, Ruby Hutchinson, Joann Sizemore, Mary Dooley, Velma Wallace, and Lillian Conley. The meeting was held with the Urbana, Ohio, Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary.

VADA Lee, missionary to Ivory Coast, was speaker at a special meeting of the Lebanon Woman's Auxiliary of Effingham, South Carolina. She was presented provision closet shower gifts.



Queen for a Day

Each of these lovely women were honored by their local Auxiliaries as "Queen for a Day" in the May program.

Mrs. A. F. Moore, charter member of the Waycross, Georgia, Woman's Auxiliary, is shown with Tressa Moore. Second row, left to right, Hazel Gill, Mrs. Eli Aldrich, Eula Taylor, Mrs. Previs, Violet Richerson; Back row, Mrs. McMillon, Gladys Chancy, Charlene Griffin, Jesselene Morgan, Chris Griffin, and Mrs. Crews.

Mrs. Willard Day, pastor's wife, Drum-right, Oklahoma, was honored by a special luncheon following the general meeting of the Auxiliary. Husbands of members were guests.

Mrs. Celia (Granny) Dockens was honored by the Christian Home Free Will Baptist Church. At the age of 83, she holds the highest attendance record of the Auxiliary. Shown with Mrs. Dockens is the Reverend Homer E. Willis, guest speaker for the day.

Mrs. Willie Mae Patrick "has been an inspiration to the Woman's Auxiliary and also to the church of Morrison City, Tennessee," writes Mrs. Hargus Griffie, Kingsport.

Mrs. Jo Ann Riggs, pastor's wife, received a gift and bouquet of purple iris and white peonies as an expression of appreciation from the Russellville, Alabama Woman's Auxiliary.

Mrs. Birdie Smith, 73, never misses an Auxiliary meeting and still plays the piano. She serves as missions action chairman for the Greenbrier Woman's Auxiliary, Adair, Oklahoma, and also for the district Auxiliary convention.



Mrs. Dockens
Mrs. Day



Mrs. Patrick



Mrs. Riggs

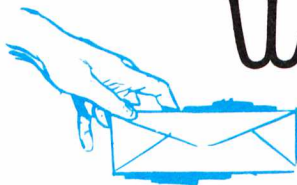


Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Moore



Co-Laborers Write



We formed a prayer group in our Auxiliary which meets every Wednesday morning in our homes. This has proven to be one of the most personally rewarding things that we have ever done. The prayer group has now turned into a prayer meeting and Bible study and we have from eight to ten ladies present every week. The Lord has really blessed as we have been able to share our prayer burdens with one another and have witnessed the close bond of love that has developed as we pray and study together.

*Gloria Floyd
Auburndale, Florida*

The Philadelphia Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary is sending a box that we packed for the missionaries of Bouake, Ivory Coast, West Africa. We hope and pray that these few things will be of some help to them. Our Auxiliary is growing in number and spiritually.

*Louise Bryant
Folkston, Georgia*

Our Auxiliary is really on the move for Christ. The ladies have sure started to work harder than ever to make our Auxiliary a good one. Enthusiasm and participation ring a high note.

Also we want you to know how much we enjoy the *Co-Laborer*. There is

always something interesting for each individual to read and study in each copy. Many of the ladies will be discussing articles they have read before and after the meetings.

*Margaret Smith
Moultrie, Georgia*

At our last meeting the Auxiliary asked me to write a letter for the Auxiliary stating to you how much the women and our church appreciate your work and the work of the WNAC. As we reflect over the accomplishments of WNAC during the last years we know that truly God has blessed the work We trust that God will grant our WNAC many, many more fruitful years.

*Sarah Fulton
Butterfield Auxiliary
Aurora, Illinois*

Enjoy the *Co-Laborer* so very much. The lessons are a great blessing to each of us.

*Mrs. Orlen Ritter
Muskogee, Oklahoma*

I want to speak for all our women. We really do look forward to getting the new *Co-Laborer* each quarter. There is always so much good reading in them.

*Mrs. Effie Morris
Trinity Temple Auxiliary
Tulsa, Oklahoma*

The Lord has greatly blessed our Auxiliary although we are small in membership. We are sending tupperware for the missionary provision closet, and \$10.00 for the WNAC debt.

We enjoy *Co-Laborer* so much. Sometimes we feel as if we had been to the mission field.

*Canah Chapel Woman's Auxiliary
Erwin, Tennessee*

The Lord has blessed us greatly the past year. We now have 16 members and we started with eight.

We enjoy the *Co-Laborer* so much and really receive a blessing each month from the program.

Dianna Tate
Valley Free Will Baptist Church
Wenatchee, Washington

We still look forward to the *Co-Laborer* with its news and programs. Seems it is better every issue.

June Wilkinson
Jaboticabal, Sao Paulo, Brazil

The Lord is still blessing our Auxiliary and our church. Recently a family of 9 found our church. They had moved here from Manchester, Tennessee. They had lived here for several months before finding the church. A friend of theirs saw my name in *Co-Laborer* and sent it to them and through that they found the church.

Mrs. Lottie Horton
Fairfax, Virginia

We have received the program packet and enjoy using it very much. We especially enjoy the Bible quizzes and would like to have more of them. Please put us on the standing order list.

Mrs. Sybil Cooper
Pamplico, S.C.

The ladies of the Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church really enjoy the program packet . . . I am the program chairman and I find it very good . . . It has helped our Auxiliary attendance a lot.

Mrs. Paul Hardwick
Pell City, Alabama

I want to thank all the ladies who have shared their ideas with *Co-Laborer*.

Our Auxiliary has used some of these ideas with much success.

We are planning to have a bulletin board to keep the church up to date on missions.

Sue Calvert
Gastonia, North Carolina

Please increase our *Co-Laborer* subscription from 12 to 16 copies . . . Thank you for this inspiring magazine.

Sarah Whitlock
Garner, N.C.

FROM THE FIELD

Missionaries express appreciation for gifts from WNAC's missionary provision closet.

This makes our work much easier on the field . . . It enables us to have things that we cannot afford to purchase. *The Kenneth Walkers, Mobile Alabama.*

It is such a thrill to get to use the provision closet. There is so much to choose from and such nice things. *The Bobby Clyatts, Emporia, Kansas.*

Each time I open a cabinet or go into the linen closet I think, "someone cared. They couldn't go, but they are helping send me." *The Larry Russells, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.*

We appreciate the items we were able to get . . . we also appreciate the kind local Auxiliaries who provided these items. *The John Hollises, Kankakee, Illinois.*

I think it's a great way to help us on the field . . . May God richly bless your ministry and once again THANKS: *The David Cochranes, Guadalajara, Mexico.*

It is a tremendous blessing and we shall think often of our sister collaborators as we use these provisions in the dorm. *The Howard Filkins, Ivory Coast, West Africa.*

Filled to Overflow

Purpose: *To show the need for complete control by the Holy Spirit in order to produce results for Christ's kingdom.*

Use Ideas from the Program Packet

Song: "Make Me a Channel of Blessing,"
"Fill My Cup, Lord."

Scripture: John 4:14

THE FEAST of the Tabernacles was at hand (John 7:2). God had led his people out of Egypt and through the desert but their housing during these years of traveling was tabernacles or portable lean-tos that they built at the end of each day. But even as they dwelt in these temporary buildings they were always reminded of the promise of God that one day they would inherit the Promised Land and have a permanent roof over their heads. When they

reached the Promised Land, this Feast of Tabernacles was instituted by God to be held once each year to remind them of God's blessings. At the time of the feast, every Jew who was of age and lived within a twenty mile radius of Jerusalem was obligated to attend this feast. They were to leave their homes and build the same type of temporary buildings that they had lived in while in the desert.

In the middle of the seven day feast, Jesus went up to the temple and began to preach and teach.

THE MESSAGE OF JESUS

Each day during the Feast of the Tabernacles the people carrying palm and willow branches would follow the priest from the Pool of Siloam (where the priest had filled a golden pitcher with water), back to the temple courtyard. During the procession, the Levitical choir would sing psalms of thanksgiving (Psalms 113-116). The priest poured the water through a funnel and let it run down to the base of the altar. The people would then shout "Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation." It was during the last day of this ceremony that Jesus stood to preach. The silence must have been charged with surprise and hatred for in the crowd were those hungry to hear Jesus' every word and there were also those that plotted to kill him. As the water poured from the golden pitcher to the altar, Jesus stood and cried out, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink." Immediately, and in such a few words, Jesus described the spiritual condition of man—thirst. And this thirst is worse than any that the drought-ridden millions of India or Africa may experience. Man was made



in the image of God and thus has more than a mere physical need. Man's soul and spirit thirst after God and will never be at peace until he finds rest in Jesus Christ. God has said that man does not live by bread alone and until it is realized that man has a spiritual need and attempts to meet that need, the world will always be thirsty. We see the thirst of the country in which we live. We see it in the restlessness of our country, as men seek change for our society. Every day there is something new, a new thrill, a new place to go. And our society is like a group of little children in a room full of toys, running from one toy to the next, seeking something to satisfy the longing in their hearts and not finding it. We not only see it in the restlessness of our society but also in man's quest of knowledge. It has been said that we must educate the mind of every man who might be able to help our crumbling society. Well, help will not be found in knowledge. They will not find it in education and science. While storing up vast volumes of knowledge they go further away from the true need of man. Man's need is spiritual and not physical or material. He has a thirst in his heart and he needs God. We can also see the thirst in the misery and despair written on the faces of our young and old. As men spend much time in the physical, life becomes a disappointment to them. They become disappointed with their parents, their marriage, their job. Many young people, rejecting the materialistic society in which we live, have turned wholly to the hippy society and free expression. But they have ended up disillusioned, disappointed, and in despair. Oh, the quest of the human heart, the thirst of the human soul. Renewed interest in religion is another outgrowth of this thirst. There is a

renewed interest in the mystic and Asian religions. Men are travelling all over the world to hear other men in India and Japan explain their religious philosophies. The worship of devils is rapidly gaining followers bearing witness to the need of the human heart.

But the need cannot be met by knowledge, change or religions. Throughout the Old Testament, the only one that is accredited with the ability to satisfy the hunger and thirst of man is God and here in this message, Jesus is claiming to be God incarnate, reconciling the world unto God. Jesus cries out, *"If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink."* In other words, He says that thirsting, coming and drinking, equal believing, and believing equals the receiving of the Holy Ghost.

THE RESULTS OF THE MESSAGE

Jesus concluded his message by saying if one will come and drink, then out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. So two things seem to be implied that take place in the heart and life of all men that come to Jesus. First of all, into the life comes a satisfaction which is based on the new relationship with Jesus. The Bible teaches us that we can have peace with God through Christ and that we are also born again as new creatures. I know what I am talking about for I have experienced it. I can remember wanting joy and peace and thirsting for a better life. I know what it is to drink of Christ's salvation and be satisfied. The Bible teaches that upon entering into this new relationship rivers of living water shall flow forth for the refreshment of others. The new life becomes a cup full and overflowing with the wonderful Spirit of God. Some may

be asking what is it to have this fullness of the Spirit. Romans 8 draws us a parallel between the natural man and the spiritual man. The believers are in Christ and do not walk after the flesh (verse 1). The believers mind the things of the Spirit (verse 5). In other words they will be concerned about visitation, prayer meetings, and the matters of the church. The believers will depend upon spiritual means to accomplish spiritual goals. Carnal things spell death, so we must create a hunger and thirst after the spiritual things of life. When we have to resort to all manner of means to motivate our people to work, there is something wrong and they are not minding the things of the Spirit. The believers are subject to the laws of God (verse 7). We have all types of people in our churches who are not interested in the laws of God because they are not really children of God, they have never been born again spiritually. The believers are concerned about pleasing God and they are concerned about cleaning up their lives (verses 8-13).

When one is filled with the Spirit then he will be concerned about producing the fruit of the Spirit in his life. These nine virtues of the fruit of the Spirit are often divided into three parts. The first group of love, joy and peace are the inward characteristics of the spiritual man. Longsuffering, gentleness and goodness are the characteristics of the Christian in his dealings with others. Faith, meekness, and temperance are characteristics of the Christian in his dealings with God. Love is the basis of all of these Christian virtues. A definition of love might be *"that no matter what a man may do to us by way of insult or injury or humiliation, we will never seek anything else but his highest good."* Love from the overflowing life! The important thing in the Christian's

life is faith which worketh by love. According to Galatians, we are by love to serve one another. We are to use our Christian liberty, not to sin and live as we wish, but to serve one another.

Longsuffering is another virtue of the fruit of the Spirit. This characterizes the person who is a man of patience. This word *longsuffering* is used most often in the New Testament to describe God's relationship to man (Romans 2:4). Longsuffering is like a dam holding back the water of God's wrath. We should display in our dealings with others, the same longsuffering and forbearance God has. We are to be filled with the Spirit of God and concerned about the things of the Spirit, concerned about the spiritual welfare of others, producing in our lives the fruits of the spirit.

When Jesus was talking with the woman at the well He summed up this whole idea. *"Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst, but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life"* (John 4:14).

The life that we have in Christ has such a quality that it just cannot end. We are told in the book of Revelation, that there will be some from every tribe and nation and tongue before the throne, and the Lord who is in the midst of them shall lead them and let them drink of that fountain of living water in eternity. It is a life that does not end but overflows into other lives and then is fulfilled in glory in Christ Jesus. So Jesus stood on the last day of the great feast and said, *"If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink. He that believeth on me . . . out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."* Into his life comes satisfaction and peace and out of his life flows the love and longsuffering of God himself to those around him.

Show and Tell the Good News

February Program
Carolyn Franks



Purpose: *To create a greater awareness of our responsibility in Christian witnessing to first show loving concern and then tell the Good News.*

Use Ideas from the Program Packet

Song: "I Want to be a Worker"

Scripture: *Luke 10:25-37*

BEFORE HE ascended into Heaven, Jesus told his disciples "...ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:8). He did not say, "I think you ought to be a witness" or "I would appreciate your being a witness if you have time." No, he said very specifically, "*ye shall be a witness unto me.*" We are to be a witness wherever we are—at home, at work, visiting friends, or on vacation. Every thought we have, every word we say, and every deed we do should be a witness of our having been with Jesus.

I am my neighbor's Bible

He reads me when we meet.

Today, he reads me in the home,

Tomorrow, in the street.

He may be relative or friend,

Or slight acquaintance be;

He may not even know my name

Yet he is reading me.

A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

The first requirement for witnessing is a right relationship with God through Jesus Christ. "*Being justified freely by this grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood*" (Romans 3:24-25a). This relationship is very clearly stated by Christ when he was asked which is the first or greatest commandment of all. His reply, "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with *all* thy heart, with *all* thy soul, and with *all* thy mind, and with *all* thy strength: this is the first commandment" (Mark 12:30). This covers our entire being—heart, soul, mind, and strength—our all.

Man was created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:27). He was given the faculty of freedom of choice and he chose to disobey God, but

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through his love and mercy, God has provided a way for man to be restored to a right relationship with Him. *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16). Paul Reminds us that *"The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying: but put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof"* (Romans 13:12-14).

A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH MAN

A right relationship with our fellow-man is vitally important. In answering the question of which is the first commandment, Jesus included our relationship with each other. *"... Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thy self..."* (Mark 12:31). In order for us to love our fellowman as ourselves, we must have the right attitude because our attitudes determine, to a great extent, our actions. In the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 30-37) we see three attitudes which determine the relationship of the people involved:

The Thieves

The thieves had a selfish attitude. They followed the principle of what I want I will get regardless of who gets trampled and hurt. Some people are too ambitious and some try to find happiness and peace of mind in fame and fortune. In their mad pursuit, they use

any means to get to the top. But Jesus said, *"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his soul"* (Mark 8:36). We can steal from our neighbor without taking his tangible possessions. We can repeat a rumor than can be damaging to his character. James says that with the same tongue *"therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God"* (James 3:9).

Do Not Judge!

Pray don't find fault with the man who
limps
Or stumbles along the road,
Unless you have worn the shoes he
wears
Or struggled beneath his load.

There may be tacks in the shoes that
hurt,
Though hidden away from view;
Or the burden he bears, placed on your
back,
Might cause you to stagger too.

You may be strong, but still the blows
That were his if dealt to you
In the self-same way at the self-same
time,
Might cause you to stagger too.

Don't be too harsh with the man who
sins,
Or pelt him with words or stones
Unless you are sure, yes, doubly sure
That you have no sins of your own.

For you know perhaps, if the tempter's
voice

Should whisper as soft to you
As it did to him when he went astray,
'Twould cause you to falter too.

—Author Unknown

The Priest and the Levite

The Priest and the Levite probably had the most common attitude. They were aware of the problem and need, but they passed by on the other side of the road. There are many excuses given for this attitude:

(1) I just don't want to get involved. James admonishes us to "*be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only*" (James 1:22). "*If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled, notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?*" (James 2:15, 16). "*To him that knoweth to do good and doth it not, to him it is sin*" (James 4:17). We need convictions. Complacency has no place in the Christian's life. At the age of 12 when Jesus stayed behind at the temple and Mary and Joseph came back looking for him, he said that he must be about his Father's business (Luke 2:41-49). His commitment and love lead him to the cross. Stephen's total commitment caused him to be stoned to death (Acts 6, 7). John the Baptist was beheaded for his convictions (Matthew 14:1-11).

(2) It might be too time consuming to fit into my busy schedule. In Psalms we are admonished to "*Be still and know that I am God*" (Psalms 46:10a). We need to spend some time in quiet prayer and meditation, studying and listening to God speak to us. Christ should be the center part of our being and should be in control of our actions just as our head is in control of the actions of our hands, feet, etc. Our hands are available to do the biddings of our head. Often times our hands are still and quiet waiting for the signal from the

head, but they are ever available and willing to do whatever is asked of them. So we as Christians must be available and willing to do the will of Christ. He was not too busy to go to the cross for us. The disciples were told that they would be witnesses after the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they were instructed to tarry and wait for this wonderful event (Acts 1:4-8). "*They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint*" (Isaiah 40:31).

(3) It might cost me something. Jesus said, "*If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me*" (Matthew 16:24). Jesus did not promise his followers that the Christian life would be an easy way. "*Yea, and all that live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution*" (2 Timothy 3:12). Paul says, "*Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service*" (Romans 12:1). "*Ye are bought with a price*" (1 Corinthians 6:20a). What a price that was paid for you and me at Calvary!

(4) There are others who can do the job better than I can. Shakespeare described life as a stage and each person as a player who plays *his* part and spends *his* hour upon the stage. Paul describes it as an athletic event: "*Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us*" (Hebrews 12:1). Christ is our coach; we are on his team. As a team member, we have our place to fill.

I recently read the following story of a football team. As it was facing a very

crucial period in the game, the coach sent in instructions for the quarterback to give the ball to Charlie. When the play was run, Charlie did not carry the ball and the team lost yardage. As they were assembling for the huddle, the coach yelled from the sideline, *"Give the ball to Charlie."* Again the play was run and Charlie didn't carry the ball. Again the play was a failure. A third time the coach yelled from the sideline, *"Give the ball to Charlie."* A third time the ball was not given to Charlie and the opposing team was victorious in its efforts. Later the coach asked the quarterback, "Didn't you get my instructions? Didn't you hear me yell 'Give the ball to Charlie?'" "Yes, sir," replied the quarterback. "Then why didn't you follow my instructions? I had observed the other team and had determined their weak spot. Charlie could have carried the ball through. Why didn't you give it to him?" "But, Coach, Charlie wouldn't take the ball. He didn't want it," came the reply. Are you a Charlie on God's team? Others may do a greater work, But you have your part to do; And no one in all God's heritage Can do it as well as you.

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The Samaritan

The attitude of the Samaritan is the attitude of compassion and love for his fellowman even to the extent of risking his own life. He saw his neighbor in need and responded to his needs.

The story has been told of a young girl who was in desperate need of a blood transfusion. No one could be found whose blood type would match hers until finally the doctor discovered that her six year old brother's blood

would match. When asked if he would give his blood to his sister, the boy said he would. As the blood was being drawn from his veins, the doctor noticed that the boy was very pale. When asked if it hurt, the boy replied, "No, I was just wondering when I was going to die." "You thought that you were going to die if you gave your blood to save your sister, and yet you were willing to do so?" "Yes," the boy replied.

SHOW AND TELL

Sometimes in school the children have a period called *"Show and Tell."* During this time, each child shows an object and tells about it. This same principle can apply to our being a witness. First we practice; then we preach—actions speak louder than words. Before we can effectively tell anyone the good news of salvation, we must first show a genuine concern and love for the individual regardless of how unlovable they may be, because God loved us when we were unlovable. This must be a sincere love, not a hypocritical, self-righteous attitude. People respond more readily to the way we feel about them than to the things we say to them. Jesus condemns the scribes and pharisees very severely for their hypocritical attitudes (Matthew 23). *"For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lords"* (Romans 14:7-8).

The greatest event in life is to experience the love of God in Jesus Christ and to share it with others. May each of us be challenged to let our light burn a little brighter and to share the True Light with others that they too can see the footprints that lead to Calvary.

March Program
Barbara Otwell

Purpose: *To show that aloneness need not become chronic loneliness if we give ourselves wholeheartedly to others and to God.*

See Program Help Packet

Songs: "How Can I Be Lonely?"; "Have Faith in God"

Scripture: *Psalm 102:6-7; John 16:32*

IN EVERY church there are always those women who come alone or bring their children. Their husbands seldom attend church.

Serving Jesus alone can become a handicap or a real challenge, depending on your attitude. In this lesson, I would like to urge each woman who serves alone, to rise to the challenge. In my experience, I have learned to let God lead and not try to find my way alone.

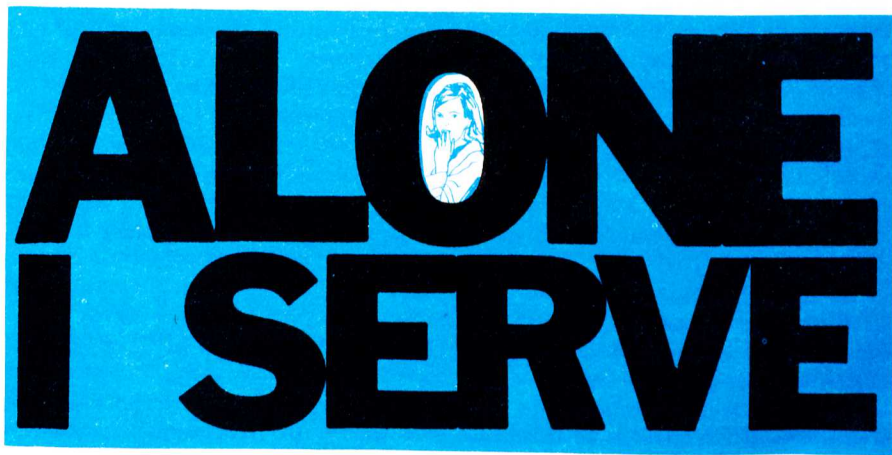
Here are some suggestions I have found helpful for myself, while serving alone.

SELF-PITY

First, don't feel sorry for yourself! Self pity is one thing Satan can use to make you lose your enthusiasm. I've seen so many women, including myself, who think they are the only person on earth who has a problem. They feel so sorry for themselves, they have little time for anything else. Everyone has problems of some sort. Maybe your problem is different from theirs, but just the same we each one must face our problem and let God lead us. When you feel sorry for yourself, just think of Jesus, and the sorrow and loneliness he had to face. He had no one to turn to when the world ridiculed him and he was left alone to suffer the agony of the cross. Our problems can never compare with what our Saviour had to overcome.

**HUSBANDS USED
AS AN EXCUSE**

So often, we who serve alone become tempted to use our husbands as an



excuse for not living a full, rich, Christian life. Sometimes we hear women say "If my husband were a Christian, I could do this or that." Jesus said in Matthew 16:24, "*If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.*" He wasn't speaking to couples. He said it to each individual. You are responsible for your actions. There is no excuse for a woman not to serve the Lord just because her husband prefers not to. Many times I have seen young married couples who were serving God when they married, gradually drop out of church. First the

"As for me and my house, we'll serve the Lord." Even if it is only half your household, you can serve God."

husband and then the wife. Then when the children came there was no Christianity in the home at all. Sometimes, they sent the children to Sunday school, but all too often God was forgotten completely. How sad that we parents forget our responsibility to our children. We as mothers are responsible to show them the way if the fathers fail to teach them. God's Word says: "*Train up a child in the way he should go: when he is old, he will not depart from it*" (Proverbs 22:6). If our husbands choose to disobey God's Word, it is not for us to follow them but to look to God to help us train the children to the best of our ability.

We should not use our husbands as an excuse that we cannot work in the church. There are many avenues in the church where women can work for the Lord without their husbands. One is the Woman's Auxiliary. This is an excellent

arm of the church where women can come and join in and learn so much of missions, of serving the community and many other services. You can also visit the sick, write letters to missionaries, teach a class. You need not be hampered from living a full Christian life.

HAVING THE WRONG ATTITUDE

Many of us who serve alone have a very wrong attitude toward serving God alone. When we see other women in the church who have a Christian home, we get envious and feel that God is punishing us for some reason. We begin to feel everything is hopeless. We each have a cross to bear. Some may have a greater cross to bear than others, but God said: "*Take up your cross, deny yourself and follow me.*" He didn't promise us that the way would be made perfect. He knew there would be times when Satan would tempt us and try to get us to give up, but we grow each time we overcome Satan and his temptations. A ministers wife once told me, "Don't let this get you down. Your husband may not be saved for a year, or ten years, but don't let that burden rob you of the joy of your salvation." From that day forward, I have been able to rejoice and be glad even though I still carry my burden. Christ has promised us so much if we will but follow Him. Hebrews 13:5 says "*Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.*" What a wonderful promise.

LIVE A DEDICATED LIFE

Each one of us can live a dedicated life alone. In Hebrews he says to be

content and he will never forsake us. If we actually take God at his Word, we will never doubt or let Satan tempt us. Christ is the answer to all problems. If it seems impossible for you to live a dedicated life, pray and ask God to help you. We limit God and think he couldn't possibly remedy our situation. God can do all things. So can we, for Paul says, *"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me"* (Philippians 4:13). We need to have faith and believe God's promises. Stay faithful! Strive to live a more dedicated life each day. Christ said to deny yourself and pick up your cross and follow Him. Your dedication may cost you friends, or your family may ridicule you, but this is just a stepping stone up the growth chart of a Christian. Each time someone advises you to change your life you can just remember the Scripture, *"As for me and my house, we'll serve the Lord."* Even if it is only half of your household, you can serve God.

BE A HAPPY CHRISTIAN

No one likes to be around a person who is a "sad sack." Be cheerful and see how much easier the day goes. Don't dwell on your problems. Thank God for all the wonderful things he has done for you. You can surely do this if you visit the hospitals, jails, and nursing homes. We take our daily life and health so much for granted. Look above your problems and seek to help someone else. This will right away make you happy. How often have you seen anyone who is always complaining win someone to Christ? If we are truly Christians, we should have a happy smile, for Christ has saved us from sin. Christ said, *"Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so*

persecuted they the prophets which were before you" (Matthew 5:12). So even in persecution we should rejoice that God loved us enough to give his only begotten Son. Your mission in life as a Christian is to win others. How can you win them if you aren't sold on what you have?

Happiness is something few people seem to find. True happiness is loving Jesus and serving Him. So many people look for the wrong things to bring them happiness—money, jobs, homes, are but few that we seek, but God is the real answer.

Be happy around your home. How often has your husband come home from a hard days work and you were in a bad mood? Things go from bad to worse then. Try and realize that he does not have Christ in his life, therefore he has little to be happy about. Your life around your house day by day will make a tremendous impression on him. So show him you are happy to be a Christian!

BE A PATIENT CHRISTIAN

Often we ask God for a prayer to be answered, but we want it answered immediately. You may be serving the Lord fully and still haven't won you husband. Think of it as a testing period. Maybe God is seeing if you can stand up under the test and overcome trials. He may be preparing you for the future. Many times Satan tempts us and tries to get us to give in just a little. When we give in that little, HE gets his foot in the door and it isn't long before he is in ruling our hearts and minds. The Scripture says in James 1:3 *"Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience."*

Be patient with your husband. Don't

always preach to him on how bad he is or how he needs to be in church. Don't act self righteous with him. This will only alienate him from you. Let your life be your testimony for him and make your life count as a real Christian.

BE A FAITHFUL CHRISTIAN

Of all the things Satan tempts us with he uses unfaithfulness more than anything. If he can talk us into just missing one or two services at church, then he already has a foot-hold on us. Your faithfulness in church attendance is so important. Each time I attend services I feel stronger and more able to cope with the days cares. You also need the fellowship of your brothers and sisters at church. If your husband is not a Christian, you have very little Christian fellowship in the home. It is very important to stay happy in the Lord.

Also be faithful in Bible reading and prayer. So often Satan tempts us on this point. You get busy with your household chores and forget to take time out for an inspirational time.

Be faithful in living a consistent Christian life. You can't serve two masters. You will cleave to one and despise the other. You can't be a "Sunday Christian." Your life must shine every day of the week wherever you are. If you are going to serve the Lord, do it with all your might. I'm sure Jesus gets so tired of our excuses! We take Him so for granted thinking He will overlook our short-comings. Jesus has set down strict standards for Christian life and he expects us to live up to these standards. If we don't, how can we expect Him to answer our prayers?

So you see, you can live a full, rich rewarding Christian life if you really want to, with God's help. Let God lead

your life, and learn to follow Him instead of trying to follow your own instincts. He will help you overcome every trial. He said to cast all your care on Him, for he careth for you. He can fight all our battles if we only let Him.

If you want to win your husband there is a Scripture in the Bible that is for you. "*Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your onw husbands; that, if any obey not the Word they also may without the Word be won by the conversation of the wives*" (1 Peter 3:1). This Scripture alone proves to us that if we live our life pleasing to God, the husband can be won even though he doesn't hear the word preached or attend church. Through our conversation or life, we can win him to the Lord.

Have faith and believe that he will be saved. Many times we think our husband doesn't even think about the Lord and therefore he is hopeless. This is not true. Sometime in the future when the Holy Spirit speaks to him he may listen and be saved because he has watched our life and our faithfulness.

Remember he says to follow Him and deny yourself. Proverbs 3:5-6 sums it up very well. "*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths.*"

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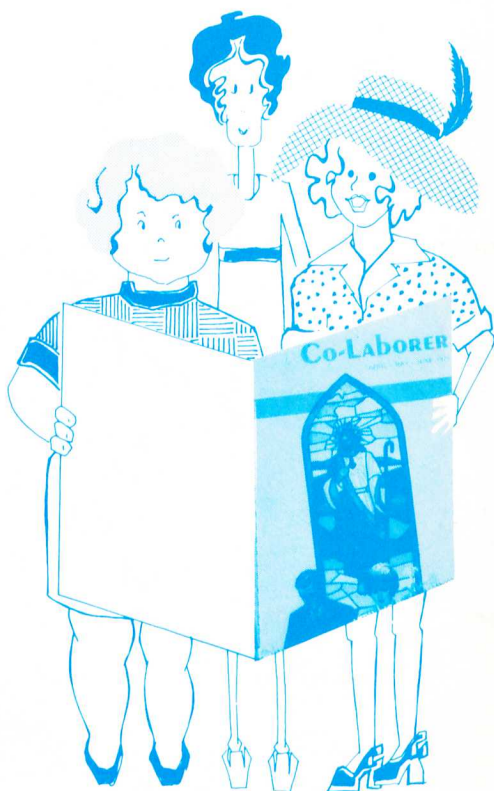
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