

A Virtuous Woman

Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her
own works praise her in the gates.

Proverbs 31:31



Co-Laborer

October November December 1974

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GROUP
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The
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IN THE MISSION PRAYER GROUP

The
Mission Study
Chairman's Guide

FOR USE IN THE
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY AND
IN THE MISSION STUDY GROUP

Co-Laborer

October-November-December 1974

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Women in Action

CALIFORNIA STATE

The California Auxiliary Convention met April 6, 1974 in the First Free Will Baptist Church, Clovis, California with president June Rolan presiding.

Miss Catherine Henry spoke on the theme "The Fragrance of Friendship" to more than 125 people. The offering, over \$100, was given as a farewell gift to the Uchikoshis who have returned to Japan.

MICHIGAN STATE

The third state convention was held June 1, at the Shiloh Church in Detroit with president Nancy Trimble presiding. WNAC Executive secretary Cleo Pursell spoke on the theme, "Lord, I Will Follow Thee." and installed officers. Missionary Sandra Bishop brought the afternoon devotions.

THE BEAVER CREEK Woman's Auxiliary met at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Spartanburg, March 2, 1974. Missionary Sherwood Lee spoke. The Inman Woman's Auxiliary won the attendance award with 100% present.



GROUP ORGANIZED. A morning group meeting was organized by the Auxiliary in Kannapolis, N.C. for women who could not attend the evening meeting. Mrs. Betty Coxey was elected mission study chairman. Six were present for the second meeting.

DISTRICT ORGANIZED

THE OLD MOUNT ZION Woman's Auxiliary District was organized March 24, 1974 near Springdale, Arkansas with six local auxiliaries. State field worker, Alene Coffman was in charge of the organization. Officers elected were DeLane McCoy, president; Ermadean Marrs, vice president; Juanita Shepherd, secretary; Gennie Bradley, treasurer; Bobbie Williams, field worker; Nancy Webb, missions study chairman; Evelyn Todd, missions prayer chairman; and Hazel Easterling, missions action chairman.

SOUTH CAROLINA STATE

The South Carolina Auxiliary Convention listened to WNAC field worker, Brenda Spruill, and missionary Vada Lee at their convention held March 16, in Conway. Total attendance was 150. Mae Sheehan is the president.



MEMBERS HONORED. The Mount Olive Woman's Auxiliary Plymouth, N. C., honored their golden-age members in a special meeting. They are, left to right, Mrs. Jennie Ange 82, Mrs. Henry Ange 77, Mrs. Oressa Ange 75, and Mrs. Sade Stallings 90. Members not at this meeting are Mrs. Jessie C. Ange 87 and Mrs. Nannie Ange 72.

TUPPERWARE SHOWER for the Missionary Provision Closet by members of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Gospel Free Will Baptist Church, Wichita, Kansas.



The Vista Hills Free Will Baptist Auxiliary, Van Buren, Arkansas observed the Pre-Easter Week of Prayer. They each gave *30 pieces of silver* offering for the Jim Combs family. The offering was almost \$40.

PATCHED THE PREACHER'S SHIRT. The members of the Centerpoint Woman's Auxiliary, Tarrant City, Alabama, sewed patches on a shirt and under each patch was an offering for missions. The Larry Russells of Baton Rouge, Louisiana were the recipients of the offering which was \$94.





Officers of the Eastern District Woman's Auxiliary of South Carolina are, left to right, Evis Poston, Gemson Poston, Blanche Poston, Jessie Stone, Juanita Poston, Wilma Cooper and Lillian Evans. Not pictured is Pat Simmons.

FOOD PARCELS FOR INDIA were prepared by the Faith Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary, Manchester, Tennessee. Shown are officers Jean Dotson, Almeda Stooksbury, and Jana Vanzant.



SUNRISE PRAYER SERVICE was held by the Woman's Auxiliary, Manchester, Tennessee before Easter. The missions offering was \$40.



PROVISION CLOSET SHOWER by members of the Pleasant Valley Woman's Auxiliary, Ashland City, Tennessee.



JAPANESE DINNER. The Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama had a Japanese dinner for their April program.

Sixteen ladies were present and all were good sports and tried to learn to eat with chopsticks.

The dinner was served in the home of one of the members and all ladies had to remove their shoes at the door.

Slides of Japan were shown continuously during the meal. Several Japanese displays were shown including a Japanese doll display.

Letters were read from Free Will Baptist missionaries in Japan and a film was shown. Hearts were touched at the conclusion of the interesting program when Mrs. Naomi Olsan described a Buddhist funeral.



IMAGINARY TRIP TO JAPAN. Member of the Bloss Memorial Woman's Auxiliary, Arlington, Virginia took an imaginary trip to Japan at a recent auxiliary meeting.

Mrs. Ruthann Rose writes: "The delightful program was interesting and informative from beginning to end and left each one wishing that the trip to the "Land of the Rising Sun" could go on and on.

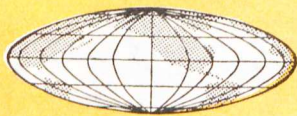
Following a quiz on Japan and Free Will Baptist missionaries in that country, they were greeted by a member in full Japanese dress. She ushered the members into a room which was beautifully decorated with all sorts of Japanese paraphernalia including kimonos, dolls, jewelry, fans and a music box.

The ladies all sat on pillows around a low table. The centerpiece consisted of water lilies with a water lily candle in the center on a glass tray.

After viewing the foreign missions film "What Do You Offer?" refreshments were served. Some of the goodies were also oriental in nature—fortune cookies which contained scripture verses, mandarin oranges, chow mein noodles, and punch.

Mrs. Rose said, "Our journey to the Far East came to an end all too soon. But we left the meeting with more of an insight into the needs of our missionary families serving in Japan and with the feeling that we had truly been to the "Land of the Rising Sun."





Prayer Groups

by Shirley Lauthern

OCTOBER

During a recent interview with Missionary Judy Bryan, an insight to the personal side of a missionary's life on a foreign field was brought to light.

Robert and Judy, recently returned missionaries from the Ivory Coast, have served their first term on the foreign field living in the town of Bouna. They have worked primarily with literacy work and literature production preparing and publishing materials in the Koulango language and literacy materials for the Lobi dialect.

Some of the questions asked of Judy are some that she might not give in a missionary service.

Q. What was the biggest cultural shock upon entering the Ivory Coast?

A. The cultural shock was probably the city of Abidjan—upon arrival into this city—the port city of entrance where our missionaries arrive, the city is a huge metropolitan city, with most of the modern conveniences that we have in the United States. Large hotels, up-to-

date restaurants and well stocked shopping areas and stores are found in this city. Our city is located about a 12 hour drive from this city.

Q. In your town (Bouna) do you have electricity?

A. Yes, we have electricity the entire 24 hours of each day.

Q. Do you have a telephone?

A. No, the post office has a telephone which we could use.

Q. Are there other Americans in the town where you are working?

A. No, Robert and I are the only Americans. The city of Bouna has about 5,000 in population and of this number there are seven whites—two Americans (Robert and myself), two French priests, a Danish married to a French woman and one Lebanese.

Q. Who are the closest Free Will Baptist missionaries to your work?

A. The missionaries working at Doropo where our hospital is located. Doropo is located 45 miles to the north of us. We go up or they come down to Bouna usually once a week.

Q. How often do you get your mail? Our mail comes in three times a week—Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and we can mail out letters, etc., three times a week—Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Q. Did you and Robert have any problem adjusting to the food or the way of obtaining your food and produce?

A. No, not really. The eggs are purchased at a chicken farm which is located about two and one-half hours away from Bouna. I usually buy seven and one-half dozen (90) eggs at a time. We eat practically the same food that we do in the

United States—it just takes longer to prepare as you have to make everything—mayonnaise, salad dressings, etc. All bread is made by the missionary—including hamburger buns and you have to grind your own hamburger meat. We may obtain canned bacon. If you want hotdogs you can purchase canned weiners. We purchase different cereals which we keep in tupperware to keep it crisp—we use tupperware for all food storage. All raw vegetables have to be bleached.

Q. Where do you shop for clothing that you need while on the field?

A. Some things can be purchased at the market place in Bouna but Abidjan carries most of the items we need. I can get a wide variety of material for the same price as I would pay for it in the United States.

Q. What forms of entertainment fill your leisure hours while on the field?

A. We both enjoy reading and listening to music—records and cassettes. I also enjoy sewing very much.

Pray for Robert and Judy as they do their deputational work, traveling across the United States and sharing the burden of their hearts for the lost souls in the Ivory Coast.

NOVEMBER

During the month of November a prayer request is given for a particular prayer need for each day of the month. Pray for this mentioned request at least three times each day. If all our women are bound together through prayer for the same need each day, God will do mighty things.

- 1 Wilkinsons in youth camps in Jaboticabal.
- 2 Gibbs and Vanhook in French language study.
- 3 Dr. and Mrs. Miley at hospital in Doropo.
- 4 Wennings in Virgin Islands.
- 5 General Director J. Reford Wilson.
- 6 Pinkertons at Nassian.
- 7 Tom and Patsy Willey in Panama.
- 8 Hannas and Christians in India.
- 9 The reading and understanding of Koulango New Testament.
- 10 Coscias preparation to come home in December.
- 11 Frank and Marie Cousineau on deputation.
- 12 National preacher boys in Ivory Coast.
- 13 Puerto Rico works with McCoys and Powells.
- 14 New work in Japan at Kitami with Calverys.
- 15 Idaho's Jesse and Joyce Dunn.
- 16 New work in Memphis, Tennessee with Presleys.
- 17 Uchikoshis in Sapporo, Japan.
- 18 General Director, Bob Shockey.
- 19 Gages on deputation.
- 20 Interns at Missionary Internship.
- 21 Banks learning Japanese language.
- 22 National Christians in Cuba
- 23 National workers in Tubarao area of Brazil.
- 24 Haases and work at Rennes, France.
- 25 Catons and Sparks in language school in Spain.
- 26 Pastor Dorairaj in South India.
- 27 Missionary children away from home during the Thanksgiving holiday.
- 28 Aycock family in Barbacena.
- 29 Dormparents Howard Filkins family in Bouake.
- 30 Robinsons, Ellisons and Barker in Uruguay.

DECEMBER

What does Christmas mean to you? Let's travel across the Pacific to the field of Japan and visit our missionaries. The Calverys, Herseys, McLains and Waids have spent several Christmases away from loved ones and friends to serve Christ in this country.

Omereto Kurisumasu—meaning Merry Christmas does not have the significance of Christ or Christian in Japan. Since the Japanese people give many gifts throughout the year, this day is just another day for giving gifts. To most of the Japanese, Christmas means Santa Claus, stores (especially in Tokyo) brightly decorated and Christmas music playing.

Visiting one of our churches in the Tokyo area at Christmas time you might find the Christians presenting Christmas plays in order to tell the unsaved about Christ. The Japanese Christian celebrates this day—Kurisumasu, as the day of Jesus' birth and tells others how they too can have the "new birth" in Christ.

Pray for our missionaries serving in Japan. As you read this, Jerry and Janice Banks are now in language

school studying one of the most difficult languages to learn. Pray daily for them. Pray also for Dale and Sandra Bishop during these days as they raise their support before their departure for Japan.

From Japan let's go to the continent of South America and find out how Christmas is celebrated in the country of Brazil.

Dia de Natal—Christmas Day falls during the hottest month of the year. This is perhaps the biggest difference between Christmas in Brazil and Christmas in the United States.

In a country that is approximately 90 percent Catholic, almost everyone celebrates this day that Jesus was born, but here it stops.

Our missionaries are here giving not only His birth but His death and resurrection.

The Brazilians love drama so our Christians take this opportunity to present Christmas programs as a means of reaching others for Christ.

Pray that this Christmas will be a special time for our missionaries not only in Brazil, but in all our lands—at home and abroad, to win many souls for the Christ who came to earth but today lives for all of us.

What Prayer Does

Prayer makes the darkened clouds withdraw;
Prayer climbs the ladder Jacob saw;
Gives exercise to faith and love;
Brings every blessing from above.

Restraining prayer, we cease to fight;
Prayer makes the Christian's armor bright;
And Satan trembles when he sees
The weakest saint upon his knees.

—Cowper



Co-Laborers Write

Just a line or so to let you share with us how God has richly blessed our auxiliary. We now have 18 members who all thoroughly enjoy our *Co-Laborer*. Our lessons, which are so very interesting, are one of the main reasons to me why meetings are such a blessing. As the pastor's wife, I count myself very fortunate to be in the auxiliary with such dear and spiritual women.

*Donna Williford
Slocomb, Alabama*

This new year has been one of continuing growth and spiritual blessings. Each of us feel new enthusiasm and we wanted you to know how much we appreciate the *Co-Laborer* and the ideas in the program packet. Our program chairman makes our programs so interesting with these aids that we are having a steady attendance increase.

*Mrs. E. F. Herring
Bookwood, Alabama*

I would also like to take this opportunity to tell you how much I enjoy Woman's Auxiliary and what a blessing it is to my life. I enjoy our

Co-Laborer book so much I never want to miss any part of it. I admire so much the God given talent these people have in writing each lesson and part.

*Sue L. Watkins
Hot Springs, Arkansas*

I have truly enjoyed the programs and anticipate even greater things to happen in Woman's Auxiliary. I'm glad I'm a woman and a member of Woman's Auxiliary.

*Sandra L. Jones
Fresno, California*

We enjoy the *Co-Laborer* magazine more and more. Of course, it's always been good! Wish more of our ladies would realize the value of being a part of the Auxiliary.

*Carolyn Saverance
Glennville, Georgia*

Our auxiliary is growing in number. It is wonderful to have three or more join our auxiliary each month. I hope we as members will really be examples and win more souls to Christ. We have fifty members.

*Mrs. Wayne Smith
Washington, North Carolina*

We . . . are experiencing the blessings of God in our study and giving. Speaking for myself and the other ladies we want Mrs. Barbara Otwell of California to know how much we gained from her "Alone I Serve" program. She expressed many of our thoughts so well.

*Mrs. Jewel Andrews
Durham, North Carolina*

We, the sisters of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church have truly been blessed through our Co-Laborer books and our auxiliary. God has really been good to all of us. We hope to increase our membership

*Becky Hensley
Maumee, Ohio*

Please send our Auxiliary six more issues of *Co-Laborer*. We are new in the Auxiliary but something wonderful has begun to happen with our group. God has been so richly blessing this year! Our sisters are becoming very mission minded. The enthusiasm is becoming contagious. I feel the *Co-Laborer* has helped us get a better vision of the lost world.

*Kiska Sifers
Cleveland, Ohio*

Woman's Auxiliary is a wonderful spiritual experience for us at West Side Church. The auxiliary here is well established and has been working for the Lord for 19 years. But each new meeting brings a new challenge to continue in the promotion of missions.

*Mrs. Marion Hanna
Johnsonville, South Carolina*

Enclosed is my check for a year's subscription to *Co-Laborer* magazine . . . You and those working with you are doing a wonderful job with auxiliary literature, and I know Free Will Baptist women are grateful to you everyone. Each issue gets better.

*Agnes B. Frazier
Ashland City, Tennessee*

Thank you very much for your magazine. I have just finished a copy that was given to me and it really encouraged me to work harder.

*Brenda Grindstaff
Johnson City, Tennessee*

We here at New Prospect, enjoy the *Co-Laborer* very much. I can hardly wait to read each new one when we receive it.

The program help packets have been a tremendous help with our lessons each month. Pray for our auxiliary that we will become more involved in doing more for God so that others will join and help too.

*Mrs. Sybil Cooper
Pamplico, South Carolina*

Please send the Program Packet . . . I feel like the packet would be a great help to me. I get a blessing every time I read the *Co-Laborer*.

*Mrs. Willie Mae Barrett
Saltville, Virginia*

We just received our *Co-Laborer* magazines today, and we were so happy to get it. We can hardly wait each quarter for the mail now to bring our magazine, it is such a blessing to us.

*Don and Billie Sexton
France*

Purpose: *That we may be "lively stones" at work in God's Kingdom.*

Song: *"Make Me a Channel of Blessing"*

Scripture: *1 Peter 2:5*

See Program Help Packet

EVERY CHRISTIAN woman is a stone in the building composing Christ's kingdom. But are we always "lively" stones?

How often we feel we accomplish so little for Christ and His Kingdom. Could the reason be that we are fearful, timid, and lacking in enthusiasm? We should be overflowing with enthusiasm for the greatest thing in all the world—the Gospel!

Frank Bettger, young and ambitious, started out as a professional ballplayer. To his surprise he was soon fired. When he asked the manager for

the reason he was accused of laziness. The young ballplayer explained he wasn't lazy, he was just so nervous and scared he had tried to hide his fear by taking it easy.

"That never works!" said the manager. "Wake yourself up and put some life and enthusiasm into your work!"

Mr. Bettger determined to take his advice. He forced back his fears and timidity, demonstrated enthusiasm, and became a highly successful salesman—a human dynamo.

ALIVE THROUGH PRAYER

Nothing humbles the soul or brings new life and meaning to a Christian as the secret and intimate communication with God. There is such a joy in knowing we can confide and talk to

October Program
by Cora Christian

Lively Stones

Alive Through Prayer

Alive Through Study

Alive Through Mission Action



Him, and that He knows all about us yet loves us.

There are times when we are motivated to prayer. Especially in times of grief, sorrow, and trouble we feel we must talk to God. And He is always available. Then there are those times when all is well and we just need that sweet fellowship with Him. We want to share and thank Him for the loving care He has given to us. These are the times He must be most pleased with us. However, even in the times we talk to Him out of desperation He answers and helps us to handle the problem or trouble. He is moving us toward Him in the troubled hours as well as in the more serene times. We can only hear the voice of God if we are on personal and intimate terms with Him.

Prayer does not become a lively stone until put into use. Someone has

those things that are pleasing in his sight" (1 John 3:22).

ALIVE THROUGH STUDY

"And He spake unto the children of Israel, saying, When your children shall ask their fathers in the time to come, saying, What mean these stones? Then ye shall let your children know, saying . . . that all the people of the earth might know the hand of the Lord, that it is mighty; that ye might fear the Lord your God forever" (Joshua 4:21-23).

Only through study of the scriptures and other methods of learning can we know what it means to be *alive*. Only through study can we be able to instruct our children or others. Paul tells us to study so that we can show ourselves able and also that we may be capable of knowing right and wrong (2 Timothy 2:15).

Study is just as necessary today as it was in Timothy's day for approved workers. If we would have auxiliary officers and chairmen who can rightly divide the duties, responsibilities, and program of work, to auxiliary members, we must have study classes and reading groups. Officers' training sessions are a must! The woman who will not study and read is not very far ahead of the one who cannot read.

The Gospel itself is the rarest jewel. Let us liken it to the queen of gems—a flawless diamond, clear, flashing, brilliant, and costly. The word *diamond* comes for a word meaning *unconquerable*. Enemies have tried to destroy God's Word countless times. Yet it has endured and will stand the test of the ages. With God on our side, we too, shall be unconquerable "lively



said, "The secret of power is the power of secret prayer." God's power is limitless for Christ said, "*All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth*" (Matthew 28:18). He has made this same power available to the Christian. Time after time He invites us to ask anything with full assurance that we will receive. "*And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we do*

stones" for the Kingdom service.
Hymn: "Holy Bible, Bood Divine"

ALIVE THROUGH MISSION ACTION

Only by knowing the Lord personally can we have the desire to go and tell the Good News of the Gospel. If Christ is alive in us we will be our brother's (sister's) keeper and a good Samaritan.

Having been born again we have love for our brothers and sisters. We will make every effort to win them to the Lord or to support them in times of difficulty. We will be willing to uphold our missionaries with both our prayers and our finances.

Every Christian has a divinely appointed mission. Determine what it is and do it. Utilize your God-given talents. The Lord always equips a person adequately for any assignment through prayer, study and action. In order to help us He supplies a storehouse of *stones*:

The lively stone of hope (Hebrews 6:19; 1 Peter 3:15)

The lively stone of faith (Ephesians 2:8)

The lively stone of peace (Philippians 4:7)

The lively stone of forgiveness (Ephesians 1:7)

The lively stone of patience (Hebrews 12:1; Hebrews 10:36)

The lively stone of mercy (Matthew 5:7; Hebrews 4:16)

The lively stone of understanding (Proverbs 2:6; 1 Corinthians 14:20)

The lively stone of love (Matthew 22:37-40; 1 Corinthians 13:13)

The warehouse does not bear a padlock. It is yours.

"Ye also, as lively stones, are built

up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 2:5).

Stones are useless until put into action. When a stone is hurled through the air or into water, it takes on life. As the hurled stone strikes the water it makes a rippling motion. It becomes *alive*.



What manner of stone are you? Only a genuine stone is valuable. Imitation jewels can be purchased by anyone without much sacrifice. For only a few cents one can purchase an imitation stone. Surely no one would reject a genuine stone in preference to an imitation. If we are thinking as we should, we will also reject an artificial life and strive in all ways to live a true, dedicated, useful life. We will find ourselves consistently bringing others to God in prayer. We will study the scriptures, searching out the will of God for our lives and will recognize the prompting of the Holy Spirit to the task of involving ourselves with others in mission action! We will be *lively stones* at work in His kingdom. Let us meet the challenge!

November Program
by Rita Wenning



St. Croix: Claimed for the Lord

Purpose: To gain a better understanding of Free Will Baptist missions efforts in the Virgin Islands.

Song: "Jesus Saves"

Scripture: Matthew 24:35; John 5:24; Isaiah 40:8

See Program Help Packet



"AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL. U.S. Virgin Islands. St. Croix: America. Warm, tropical . . . the very beautiful. This is St. Croix." Thus begins the tourist guide to St. Croix. And it is all true. This United States territory which claims the most beautiful waters in the Carribean Sea, a coral reef of spectacular beauty, tropical sunshine and refreshing sea breezes is most appealing to the eye.

It seems as if God took very special care to her creation. Surrounded by such beauty in nature one is never quite ready for the sin, discontent, unhappiness and general discord found in many lives of those who live here.

St. Croix is in many ways as modern as many towns and cities in the mainland. In the shopping center you will find a Woolworth store, a few clothing stores, a bakery, beauty shop, barber shop, a police station, post office branch, religious book store, movie theater, furniture store, electronics shop, drug store, bank, a Grand Union grocery store and even a Colonel Sanders Kentucky Fried Chicken

franchise. So very evident among all this convenience and American influence is the culture of the Crucian people who have inhabited their island for so many generations. Also felt very strongly is the influence of the West Indian people who have come to the island to work from their native islands scattered from Cuba to South America. The Puerto Rican influence is readily seen also as Spanish is a second language here. As a result, although the Virgin Islands are an American territory, the culture is a mixture of many cultures and traditions which influence everything.

Seeing so many instances of families and individuals with no real purpose in life, missionaries are re-challenged to give them the Gospel of Christ and the hope we have in Him. Hope not only for the life to come, but for the life that is now. Often born again believers emphasize the hope of heaven; but fail to emphasize the joy experienced in this life when Christ is the center of it. This has been one thing that has become evident in the people who have been reached for the Lord here. What a blessing is this present peace and joy! And it is an encouragement to others to see the Spirit working through their lives.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Within the past year there has been a steady growth both in number and in maturity. Virgin Islanders are a complete mixture of races and nationalities and the Free Will Baptist Church on St. Croix is, as it should be, a picture of that mixture. For example, the Sunday morning congregation will consist of Chinese, Korean, Trinida-

dian, Aruban, British West Indian, Irish, Puerto Rican, Crucian and American (Continental U.S.A.). The joy of this is that if we try to look through the eyes of God and see each man as He sees him, we do not see what we call *color*. We see his soul's need because to God color is insignificant. It is an outward appearance—not an inner condition.

Such a blessing it is to have a man come to the pastor and say, "*Why didn't someone tell me before?*" Or hear the testimony of a young couple with small children say, "*This afternoon we poured a hundred dollars down the drain (in form of liquor).*" Or listen to a man pray and give his testimony for the first time and say that only a few months before he had told his wife to "*keep that preacher away from me.*"

The church is seeing growth and spiritual maturity. Many times it comes very slowly because of the spiritual and cultural backgrounds of new converts. For some of the people *English* is a second or third language, so naturally this can present a barrier to complete understanding. But as the Word is faithfully taught, the Lord is faithful to give wisdom. God has sparked a fire in the hearts of all the Christians and it is believed that the next years are going to count for Christ on St. Croix and especially in the church. Attendance now averages over one hundred. Recently seven people came to the Lord, four of whom were teenagers.

BARRIERS

Another barrier which often is difficult to overcome is the fact that most people have a religious back-

ground. Not always a *born-again* religious background, but religious non-the-less. As a result, many times they must be pointed away from *religion* and to *Christ*. This seems simple enough, but the Devil can blind the mind and confuse so easily.

Many people who live on the island, especially those from the continental United States, are here only for a few years. As a result, about the time a family is established it is time for their transfer. The church recently lost nine families or parts of families. Instead of being depressed and discouraged, they went out with renewed energy to win others to the Lord to fill the vacant places. In reality the church is sending out missionaries since nine of those who left came to know the Lord as Savior while they were in the church.

It is difficult to build a mature church completely on transient people but neither can their need of a Savior be ignored. Thankfully, many who have been won to the Lord make St. Croix their permanent home and they are having a real witness to their friends. Because the Gospel can meet the needs of all people, the church in Sion Valley on St. Croix is trying to reach them.

YOUTH

Just as with every other country, state, city and community all over the world, the future of St. Croix lies with its youth. For this reason, in September, 1971, the Free Will Baptist Kindergarten was established with 21 four and five year old children. In September, 1973, the first grade was added and plans are made to add second grade and nursery in September,

1974. Future plans include an education building for added classrooms as one grade is added each year through the elementary grades.

One afternoon the author heard a knock on her door. When she answered there stood her neighbor with her five year old son who attends their kindergarten. Scotty had had a fight with another little neighbor and had come home crying that he wanted to go talk to pastor Wenning. He kept saying something about having the black taken out of his heart. The mother, not completely understanding, brought him over to the pastor's house. In the Bible lessons at school that week the Visualized Wordless Book had been presented and he wanted to get the *black* (sin) out of his heart. Pastor Wenning talked with him and he accepted the Lord as his Savior. Several families in the church have been saved as a result of being contacted when their children were enrolled in the church school.

The missionaries no longer ask themselves if it is worth the problems, headaches, heartaches, and pure exhaustion. They know the answer. They praise the Lord for His work among them. They want to honor and glorify His name through the church and its ministries, and to win many souls to Christ. An unknown author has written:

If you plant for a year, plant grain

If you plant for ten years, plant trees

If you plant for one hundred years, plant men

If you plant for eternity, plant the Word!

"America, the beautiful. U.S. Virgin Islands. St. Croix: Warm, tropical . . . the very beautiful. This is St. Croix"



December Program
by Anne Worthington

The Christ of Christmas

Purpose: *"To show that Christ is the theme of Christmas and should be given the preeminent place.*

Songs: *Christmas carols and choruses*

Scriptures: *Galatians 4:4, 5*

See Program Help Packet

"CHRISTMAS, I will be so glad when it is over!" "I'm glad it comes just once a year!" Are these your sentiments? I am afraid most of us are guilty. Christmas has become gifts and shopping and crowded stores; parties, drinking, over eating and family get-togethers; cooking and baking and decorating; goodwill, hope, and cheer.

And last, but not least, the preeminent one Santa Claus himself, Satan's substitute for Jesus Christ. Santa Claus receives more attention at Christmas than Jesus Christ. How tragic! Christmas has become too burdensome; too commercial; too Heathen. It is all too easy to get caught up in the fanfare of celebrating and lose sight of the one who deserves the preeminent place—Jesus Christ, the theme of Christmas.

GOD'S PLAN

God's marvelous plan of the ages

was the sending of His Son, Jesus Christ, to purchase redemption for the world. The entire content of the Bible centers around Him. He is the theme of every book in the Bible. The Bible, in a nutshell, is a cross with an arrow on the left pointing to the cross and an arrow on the right pointing back to the cross. The Old Testament saints looked forward to the coming promised Messiah. We, as New Testament saints, look back on that cross where the promised redeemer died. The Bible is the message of redemption. Genesis 1-11 portrays the need of redemption. Genesis 12 to Malachi deal with the family or channel through which the redeemer would come. The four hundred silent years between the testaments prepared the world to receive the redeemer. The Gospels record the purchase of redemption. Acts records the acts of the apostles as they proclaimed the purchase of redemption. The epistles explain the purchase of redemption; and Revelation is the consummation of redemption. God's completion of redemption will be at the second coming. So, not only do we look back on the cross, but we look forward to and long for that promised second coming.

THE PROMISED ONE

Yes, the Old Testament saints looked forward to the coming of that promised one. Had not God promised Him in Genesis 3:15? Were not the coats of skins with which God clothed Adam and Eve a picture of the redemption that promised One would purchase? Did not God call our Abraham to become the father of a great nation through which Christ

would come? Did not the Mosaic law point to His coming? Did not each article of furniture in the tabernacle picture Him? The prophets foretold His coming as Isaiah prophesied that He would be miraculously born of a virgin; and Micah (5:2) foretold His birthplace.

Yes, the Old Testament saints looked forward to His coming and the world, without realizing it, was made ready. "*But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law*" (Galatians 4:4). Christ was born according to God's accurate timetable, not a minute too soon, not a minute too late, but in the fulness of time. History shows clearly that if the Lord Jesus had come to earth at any other period, the world would not have been prepared for Him as well as they were at the time of His actual birth.

RELIGIOUS PREPARATION

Among the heathen there was decay of faith in the heathen gods, as many of the philosophers led the people in ridiculing the gods and goddesses of the Greeks and Romans. People were disillusioned with their false gods as many are today.

An intense expectation of a Messiah was spread throughout the Roman world among Jews and Gentiles. Two famous Roman historians said that men were expecting a world-deliverer to arise out of Judea. Several hundred years before Christ, Plato had written, "It is necessary that a lawgiver be sent from heaven to instruct us. O how greatly do I desire to see that man and who he is! He must be more than man."

The Jewish feasts, celebrated three times a year in Jerusalem, attracted thousands of Jews annually to Jerusalem from all parts of the Roman world. This unified the Jews and helped stir the expectation of the coming Messiah. Also, as mentioned previously, there had been no prophetic writings for four hundred years and this created a great longing for the voice of inspiration once again. Just prior to Christ's birth the voice of inspiration was renewed; thus, emphasizing His greatness. The silence was broken with "fear not!" spoken to Zacharias as he burned incense in the temple, pronouncing the birth of John the Baptist. (Luke 1)

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL PREPARATION

The world was at peace when Christ was born. Law and order were preserved everywhere by the Roman legions. This period of peace along with the new Roman road system, which ran from Rome to all parts of the Roman world, unified the world and aided in the rapid spread of the Gospel.

Greek was the world culture and language; thus, hastening the spread of the Gospel since most of the world spoke the Greek language. Socially, more than one-half of the entire Roman population was groaning under the bondage of slavery.

Moral conditions of the world were very low. Immorality was rampant, as illustrated by the fact that it was even regarded as an act of worship, in many of the heathen temples, to satisfy lustful desires with prostitutes. Many historians say that if Christ had not come, the world could easily have

come to an end because it was rapidly destroying itself by its horrible sins.

CONCLUSION

The world was prepared and "*in the fulness of time God sent forth His Son,*" the theme of the Bible, the plan of the ages. Even though the unsaved world has failed to recognize it, Christ is the theme of Christmas. Whereas the world at Christmas thinks of Christ as a babe in a cradle it does not end there for us who know the Christ of Christmas. We cannot think of the cradle without thinking of the cross; for He was born to die. But the cross was not the end; for He arose and ascended back to the Father. The beautiful words of the Hallelujah Chorus sum it up: "*King of Kings and Lord of Lords. And He shall reign forever and ever. Hallelujah.*" The ultimate crown!

Christmas is for remembering
The glory of that night,
When Christ was born to bring us out
Of darkness into light.

Christmas is for peace and good will
Instead of war and strife,
Because the Prince of Peace has come
To bring Eternal life.

And Christmas is for faith and hope
Replacing doubt and fear,
For heaven has sent the King of Kings
To fill our hearts with cheer.

For love incarnate came to earth
On that first Christmas day,
And then became our Saviour
Who took our sins away.

... Evelyn Greenway

Pre-Thanksgiving Prayer Program
November 18-22, 1974

Watch Unto Prayer

by Sandra Smith

INTRODUCTION

Song: "Have Faith in God," "Whisper a Prayer," "Did You Think to Pray?"
Scripture: Mark 11:22-26

WHEN ARE WE TO PRAY?

Jacob, in Genesis 32, is a good example of the importance of keeping our prayer life up to date. His prayer "routine" had been sadly neglected, and, as he started back home to meet the brother whom he had cheated, he found it necessary to ask the Lord for emergency rations when he had continually failed to ask for daily bread. Does this remind you of yourself? His emergency resulted in losing a wrestling match but he came out victorious, because the Lord, in His forgiveness, love, and grace, heard his prayer, and the brother that once had sought to kill him, now met him with open arms of forgiveness. Had Jacob kept his prayer life up to date, probably this wrestling match would not have been necessary, but, Praise God, he didn't let his former neglect keep him from calling on God in his hour of desperation, and neither should we.

Many Old Testament scriptures remind us of the custom of praying

three times daily: "*Evening, and morning, and at noon will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice*" (Psalm 55:7). And in the New Testament, Acts tells us that the Jewish periods of prayer were the third, sixth, and ninth hours. However, Romans 12:12 says that praying should be continual. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 compels us *to pray without ceasing*, and 1 Peter 4:7 challenges us *to watch unto prayer*.

Now, let's look at the example of Christ. In Mark 1:35, when His fame was spreading throughout the land, He arose early, "*a great while before day*" to find a place alone to pray. Christ prayed all night long before the decision of choosing His disciples (Luke 6:12, 13), and even as late in His life as the very moment of His death on the cross.

Prayer Period

1. The church in Anderson, California without a pastor.
2. Gary and Faith Watson, appointees to Hawaii
3. Jesse and Joyce Dunn, Boise, Idaho

HOW SHOULD WE PRAY?

Duet—"Teach Me to Pray, Lord"

Prayer, like writing to a dear friend, may take any form you choose, Jesus gave us the form in the Lords prayer, but, it is doubtful that He wants us to use it totally, for he rebuked formalized prayer (Matthew 6:5-8). To pray in *the name of Christ*: is to pray with implicit confidence in Christ Himself. It seems that three main prayer patterns stand out in the scriptures. (1) *Simple communion* is found in Mark 1:35 as Jesus quietly talked to His Father alone. The scriptures do not say what He was praying about, because no one but the Father heard Him, but we know that this happened during some of the brighter days of His ministry and, very possibly, it was just a Father and Son talk. Isn't it thrilling to realize, that when we accept Him, we are adopted into His family and can also engage in these Father/child talks! (2) *Petition*. Many examples of this pattern are listed all through the Old and New Testaments and it is probably the one with which we are most familiar. Let's compare Jacobs example to Christs. "*Deliver me I pray thee, from the hand . . . of Esau*" (Genesis 32:11). "*Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless, not my will, but thine, be done*" (Luke 22:42). The difference is "*not my will, but thine be done.*" (3) The third form is that of *praise and thanksgiving*, and Mary's song of praise in Luke 1:46-55 is a lovely example. Philippians 4:6 instructs us "*by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*"

The posture of prayer is important, but its significance is not to be overdone. Only a few scriptures refer to posture in the New Testament, while many in the Old Testament go into detail. Stephen kneeled down in the

presence of his executioners and prayed, "*Lord, lay not this sin to their charge.*" Jesus also knelt when He asked His disciples to pray with Him in Gethsemane. There are many indications throughout Acts that His disciples knelt when they prayed. Standing, sitting, and bowing to the ground are other postures mentioned in the scriptures.

More strongly stressed than physical posture is the attitude of the heart and mind—fervently, earnestly, understanding, sober, reverence, sincerity, humility, but greatest of all is faith. "*And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them*" (Mark 11:22-24). (Read 1 Peter 1:17-23, James 1:5-6, James 5:15.)

Rosalind Rinker emphasizes in her book "*Prayer, Conversing With God,*" that "a faith-sized request is first of all a request which is just the right 'believing' size for your faith. It is not a request which is so large that the very size of it makes you wonder if God will answer." She also concludes that this could be the reason for failing to see results when we pray for an unsaved family member or friend for years. We pray for the end result without praying for guidance in taking one step at a time to see that it finally happens. If God can bring about the miracle of the end result, how much easier would it be for Him to bring about one step at a time!

Prayer Period

Leland and Dollie Horton, Des Moines, Iowa

Larry and Janis Russell, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Randy and Jo Ann Ruth, St. Paul, Minnesota

WHERE AND WITH WHOM SHOULD WE PRAY?

Song: "Near to the Heart of God"

In the Old Testament the temple was the designated place in which to pray, but village synagogues, Abraham's altars and various improvised places were used. The New Testament has many instances of prayer meetings recorded, but possibly the sweetest and most familiar, is the special gathering together of believers to pray for the imprisoned Peter: "*But prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him*" (Acts 12:5b). When the angel of God released Peter and he appeared at the door where the cottage prayer meeting was taking place the people inside were so surprised that they accused the little girl who answered the door of being mad. Does that remind you of anyone you know?

Acts 16:13 supports the Woman's Auxiliary prayer retreats: Paul wrote, "... *and we went out of the city by the river side, where prayer was wont to be made . . . and we spake unto the women which resorted thither.*" How relaxing and satisfying to pray alone or to assemble to pray together in the beauty and solitude of God's creation, away from telephones, doorbells and other "modern conveniences." Even though Jesus did not always pray alone, we find He utilized and sought

out solitude for conversations with His Father. "*And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone*" (Matthew 14:23). He instructs us in Matthew 6:6 to enter a closet and pray in secret and we "*shall be rewarded openly.*" Taking plenty of time to pray in secret is rewarding, for then we can be still and listen and meditate, before rushing on to another subject as we often do when praying with others.

Prayer Period

Jerry and Julie Barron, Guadalajara, Mexico

David and Alma Cochrane, Guadalajara, Mexico

Frank and Marie Cousineau, Billings, Montana

FOR WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY?

Solo—"I Am Praying for You"

The book of Acts is full of recordings of churches praying for the building of their church, and of prayer for guidance in church life, but to do this we must remember the point made by Rosalind Rinker. We must be willing to take action one step at a time, for, it is doubtful that God is going to give us a super church, just because we ask, without seeing some real action and involvement from those who are asking.

As Acts 12 points out, we should pray for Christians in trouble. I especially think of our youth. I am made aware of the urgency to pray for them every time I hear one of them mention the drug problem in our own school system, or see the dress of some

of the young girls, or hear of the language and activities in which our own sweet Christian young people are encouraged to engage. They are Christians in trouble and are suffering persecutions as real as those the early Christians suffered! The vulnerability of youth, the desire to conform to their peers, and the quest for popularity makes their persecutions far more real than possibly we adults REALIZE. Whispering a prayer for a Christian in trouble, whether young or adult, instead of a word of criticism may not be as enjoyable at the moment, but will bring great joy in the end.

Paul gives many indications throughout his writings, of praying for others and also asked them to pray for him. How many times have we heard our missionaries urge us to pray, pray, pray! James 5:16 clearly tells us to confess our faults to one another and pray for one another. Somehow it is harder to be irritated by others faults when we have made a sincere effort to pray for that particular fault. In direct relationship to this is the instruction of Jesus to pray for the right attitude of ourselves toward other men. (Mark 11:25, Matthew 6:14, and 18:21-35.) James 5:13-14 instructs us to pray for any who are sick and makes it very clear that this is not only a privilege but the duty of the church. Mark 9:29 prescribes prayer as the only help in battling the crippling forces of Satan.

We should also concentrate our prayers on the unsaved and backsliders. *"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much . . . Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way, shall save a soul from death, and*

shall hide a multitude of sins" (James 5:16b, 19, 20).

Prayer Period

Edd and Linda Green, Clovis, New Mexico

Fred and Billy McCoy, Puerto Rico

Larry and Wanda Powell, Puerto Rico

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE PRAY?

Song—"Sweet Hour of Prayer"

Probably, at sometime in everyones life, problems become so complex, or trials are so baffling, that we are really at a loss as to how to pray, but Romans 8:26 reassures us that, *"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."* Jesus tells us in Matthew 21:22 that *"all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."*

In summary, the key seems to be the attitude in which we pray, for the scriptures vary on time, place, posture, number, etc., but they do not vary on faith, belief and confidence. It is my prayer that we, as women, and an auxiliary of the church, approach the throne of grace boldly, *"that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need"* (Hebrews 4:16).

Prayer Period

Sunny and Rita Wenning, Virgin Islands

Home Mission Board Members

Home Mission Board Staff



Smith

Who's Who in this issue



Morris



Worthington



Wenning



Christian

Cora Christian is a member of the Upper Room Free Will Baptist Church, Church Hill, Tennessee. She is treasurer of Tennessee Auxiliary Convention.

Rita Wenning and her husband are missionaries in St. Croix, Virgin Islands. They serve under the Free Will Baptist National Board of Home Missions.

Anne Worthington is a pastor's wife and lives in Albany, Georgia. She is recording secretary for WNAC.

Sandra Smith, Farmington, Missouri, is president of Missouri Auxiliary Convention. She is employed as caseworker in the Missouri Division of Welfare.

Martha Morris is working with her husband to establish a Free Will Baptist church in Statesboro, Georgia. This is a project of the Georgia mission board.

Shirley Lauthern, Nashville, Tennessee, has been personal secretary for almost six years to General Director J. Reford Wilson in the Free Will Baptist Missions Department.

Heddy Chapman (Betty), a former missionary and school teacher is presently a successful author. She lives in Norfolk, Virginia.

STATE HOME MISSIONS PRAYER PROGRAMS

Program Suggestion

Before beginning or reading our state missions prayer program, take this test individually and see how well informed you are. Then you will know whether or not you pray for, or understand and respond to, the missionaries.

1. Who are your state missionaries?
2. Where are they serving?
3. How are they supported?
4. Is it a state project?
5. Is it a joint project, that is, state and national?
6. If a state project only, what is provided by the state?
7. What needs could you as an auxiliary meet easily that are lacking, or an added burden, to your state

mission?

8. How close in miles to the nearest mission point in your state are you located?

9. Have you traveled these miles to see the nearest work? Have you traveled this same number of miles for a ballgame or something else that might hold your interest?

10. Have you traveled these miles to help with a survey in that area? Or to help prepare a building or grounds for a meeting place; or to help make up a soul winning team during a special week of soul winning efforts?

If you do not know the answers to the first eight questions, find out. Check with your state mission board. Be informed. The answers to questions

Shall Your
Brethren
Go To War
And...Ye Sit
Here?

by Martha Morris

nine and ten, you must answer yourself. If you are guilty, confess your failures and begin now to do something about them.

Songs: "Am I a Soldier of the Cross?"
"Stand Up for Jesus"

Scripture: Numbers 32:6-33

KNOW THE NEEDS OF YOUR STATE MISSIONARIES

"Shall your brethren go to war and shall ye sit here?" (Numbers 32:6). Your state missionaries have gone to war to establish a church in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. In an area where there is no Free Will Baptist Church, the people will not be familiar with the Free Will Baptist denomination. The missionary may be the first or only Free Will Baptist that they know and will have to prove himself to the people before they will accept him or this new church. This is a real need that they face—being accepted and being patient during this proving period. Another need of a state missionary is spiritual—a continual every day closeness to the Lord. Surely we all have these needs, but a state missionary can only function or establish a church as he stays in close fellowship with the Lord.

Pray for the spiritual needs of your state missionaries. Your state missionaries need encouragement. Many are the times when the labor is long, hard, and trying, and they will not see results for some time. They will need to be encouraged by you as co-laborers because the time will come when their few people will be discouraged. Even though the missionary may be discouraged, he will have to encourage

the people when there is a lack of response to visitation efforts. Your state missionaries will have needs in material ways. Of course, this will differ with each state work according to how it is supported. But remember, they are not in the pastorate of an established church where they are helped in different ways by the people in the local church. They are in a new work, many times with new converts who have not learned to consider the needs of their pastor who happens to be a state missionary.

What are the needs of your own state missionaries? Have you responded to them?

KNOW THE NEEDS OF YOUR STATE MISSION

What are the needs of a state mission? What is necessary in order for a work to begin in a new town, or a new city? Well, what do you have in your church? First of all, you have a building in which to meet. Your state missionary has to locate a building in order to have services.

What do you have inside that building? Your missionaries might find a building available to rent that was never used as a church before, was not designed for a church. Petitions may have to be built, a pulpit and chairs or pews will have to be located, a piano will have to be acquired, song books will have to be given or purchased. All of these things are just a starter. Many of these things we take for granted. We go into church and we find them already there, but the state mission must purchase or acquire all of these things at once without having had any offerings, bank account, or tithers to support this work or these purchases.

A joint project between the state and the national home mission boards would provide the first song books. The national will provide the first year's Sunday school material and the first year's CTS material. If your state mission is solely a state project, these things probably are not provided. Could you help to provide these things? Your mission needs them.

When you know that a state mission board is about to start a new mission, your local auxiliary could buy a couple of offering plates. You could send money to purchase chairs and provide a place for five people to sit to hear the gospel. Look around, perhaps your church has an old pulpit that it no longer needs. Your state mission project could possibly use this pulpit. Look around, you may have new hymnals and the old ones may be needed by the mission point until they are better able to buy new ones.

What needs could you as an auxiliary meet easily that are lacking or are an added burden to your state mission?

KNOW THE NEED FOR LAYMEN

In talking with some other state missionaries, this writer received the same response repeatedly—"Tell them of the need for laymen." Laymen who would see the need and so desire to serve God that they would be willing to move to this new mission area. Laymen who would be willing to relocate and find a new job so that they might be a help to the missionary in establishing a new church. In beginning a new work there is a desperate need for good, faithful, dedicated Sunday school teachers. In a

new mission point, many times the only qualified teachers you will have will be the missionary and his wife. Oh what a burden would be relieved if we had a layman and his wife who would be willing to go, to forsake their home for a new home, a new job, to help in establishing a church and to help in teaching and training the new converts. This is a tremendous need. In a mission point many of those who attend are new converts. They have to have a time of learning, a time of growing, a time of being taught, a time to be trained so that they might themselves grow in the Lord.

We need laymen with high Christian convictions and standards. This would help the new converts to see by their lives, as well as the missionaries', that there is a necessity for Christian convictions and standards in their lives also. The new converts need other examples along with, and besides, the preacher and his wife.

Do we have laymen who are dedicated to the Lord enough that they would be willing not only to pray for the missionary, not only to support the mission point, but also to move there and labor for the cause of Christ?

KNOW THE NEED FOR MORE CONCERNED SUPPORTERS

We have talked about the need for laymen who would be willing to go and live in a new area to help the missionary. Now we will talk about the need for more concerned supporters of the mission point.

Have you traveled miles to help with a survey in that area? Or to help prepare a building or grounds for a

meeting place? Or to help make up a soul winning team during a special week of soul winning efforts. Are you willing to go on your day off one week, to help get that building that has never been used as a church before, prepared and ready to hold services in? Are you willing to help clear the grounds where a church will be established? A missionary who has just arrived can't reach many homes very fast, whereas if you could go, twice as many homes could be reached in one day. There is a great need for people who are not only willing to give monthly support to a missionary but who are also willing to give some *time* to the mission point. Everyone cannot do all these things, but there is one or more things that all could do.

Some could be faithful to pray every day for our missionaries. Many people do not even know the names of their state missionaries, or if they know the names, they do not know where they serve. So what is needed is concerned people who will pray, who will give their money, who will also be willing to labor on occasions when there is a special need for a day of work here or there.

If your state mission has a day of work to clear off the land for building, or to prepare a building for a meeting place, they have few, if any, to help in the labor. Would you be willing to help? If you are, why not let your missionaries know that you can be called upon if needed.

KNOW THE RESULTS

In the book of Numbers, chapter 32, the Israelites are warned not to let their brothers go to war to find themselves a place to live and work without going to help them. If they stay home

and refuse to go help them, they will be sinning against God. "*But if you will not do so, you have sinned against the Lord, and be sure your sins will find you out*" (verse 23).

Did you realize the needs of your state missionaries? Do you now have a better understanding of your state missions' needs? Have you cared enough to ask the needs? Are you informed? Are you doing something about these needs?

Praise the Lord if you have been praying, if you have recognized the needs, if you have been helping in every way possible. You have a vital part in helping to establish another church for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Paul spoke of the church at Thessalonica as being *in* God the Father and *in* the Lord Jesus Christ. They had become followers of the apostles and of the Lord, having received the Word. "*For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing*" (1 Thessalonians 1:8). These had been faithful and had sounded forth the word in their area so there was no need for Paul to say anything. The gospel had been preached there by the church that had been established.

Paul also pointed out "*What is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ . . . ? For ye are our glory and joy*" (2:19, 20).

What a joy it will be to see souls stand in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ who have been won through the efforts of our state missionaries. If you have been faithful in supporting your state missions and missionaries, you too, will share in the reward and joy.

This 'n That

Attention Missionaries

World Vision International, Muskegon, Michigan, will supply AMWAY PRODUCTS without charge to missionaries going overseas.

Used Postage Stamps

Here is a new address where you can send your used postage stamps (formerly REAP). Send to: THE STAMP PACKET, 164 Bliss Street, Westfield, New York 14787. According to Reverend Kenny Joseph, more than one and one-half million gospel tracts have been printed from the proceeds of the sale of used stamps.

More Information on Food Parcels to India

Please do not send anything except food. Meats are probably needed most. Limit your packages to 22 pounds and send parcel post. Pack tins separately from other foods. Pack firmly in a box and then cover the box with cloth (just as if you were wrapping with paper, only sew instead of taping or gluing.) You may use any kind of cloth (muslin, feed sacks, burlap). You may use a stick-on tag or write the address on the cloth with a felt-tip marker.

Also sew cake mixes, etc. in cloth bags. To save postage you may take the mixes out of the boxes and put six or eight mixes in one bag. *Be sure and* tear off the instructions and attach to the bag. Then pack the bags in a cardboard box and wrap with cloth. Wrapping the mixes in bags insures their arrival in good shape minus the taste of cardboard. Please do not pack soap in the box.

You will have to list the food items—you can't just say "food" or "canned goods." There is no duty charge on food parcels. There is a *very*

high duty on other things. (Present duty on clothing is 310%.)

PLEASE DO NOT SEND PARCELS TO THE NATIONAL OFFICE. Send them to:

Carlisle Hanna
Sonapurhat, Via Islampur
West Dinajpur District
West Bengal, North India

Special Projects

The Dan Merks are on a different electrical current from missionaries in other parts of France and do not have a transformer. Therefore they are in need of cash to purchase specially equipped appliances. A Sunbeam iron which can be purchased in France costs approximately thirty to forty dollars. A dish washer will cost around \$350.

The Fred McCoys need one-half dozen Show 'N Tells in both English and Spanish, a mimeograph machine, and an IBM Electric Typewriter with Spanish characters. Just send your gifts to WNAC, earmarked for these projects.

New Enlistment Play

"A New Look" or "Miss Annie and the Auxiliary" is the title of a new enlistment play by Melba Parker. It was received too late to be listed in the new catalog. Order from WNAC, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Please inclose 25¢ per copy plus postage.

A New Book

"The Jewel of Consistency" is the name of the interesting new book by Elsie Staten, wife of Reverend Ralph Staten, pastor of Wooddale Free Will Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Order from WNAC, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee, and inclose 75¢ plus 20¢ postage.

Something From Home by Heddy Chapman

CAN YOU IMAGINE what receiving a package from home can mean to a missionary family?

Distance and barriers melt in an instant as the parcel is placed on the dining table, and its contents opened. Even the familiar labels can be transporting.

Soon a party spirit is created, and at least one or more special delicacy sampled and shared by all. Usually the remaining items are stored in the mission cupboard until the next guest arrives or a special occasion, such as a birthday. (If that's too long to wait, well, there is always "Puss's birthday.")

Though each country has its own inimitable tasty foods, there are some things that just spell "home."

To my Scottish husband, it is a loaf of substantial white bread, carried under his arm all the way from Glasgow.

To me, it is chocolate, chocolate, chocolate . . .

Consider the new missionary. He may find new strange foods revolting for a short season. Especially if he has inadvertently drunk unboiled water from an innocent-looking jug en route. I did, and as a result, arrived at my destination feeling more like a seasick sailor than an airborne missionary.

Early I was introduced to a popular fruit, mango, which only made me feel more queasy. In fact, for several days, everything I ate tasted like that mango, even the toast. The rice meals, relished by the veterans, were so vastly different and *peppery* that I feared starvation would catch up with me before I even started the task I was destined to do.

Our mission doctor at that time was a female—charming and idolized by many. I spend my second week-end in Africa with her.

Entertaining has its complications. Meat in the tropics is not always available. As it happened, one of the doctor's former patients had sent in a generous portion of roasted goat for the main dinner course.

I truly tried to cooperate with that tough, tired, stringy old goat, but I surmised even the doctor seemed a trifle dismayed with the cook's results. As for me, I was fast becoming reconciled to the fact that my digestive system would always remain a misfit in this new land.

The good doctor placed before me a platter of something very familiar and spoke hopefully, "These came from a boxed mix from home, but they're not bad."

Fudge brownies!

As I took the first chewy, crunchy bite of that delectable tidbit, my lethargic taste buds leaped for joy, crying:

"Where are we? Back home?"

That did it. Just what the doctor ordered . . .

Several years later, once more in the land flowing with milk and honey, I enthusiastically partook of such sumptuous fare that I had forgotten existed. However, now unaccustomed to such rich foods as tender roast beef, thick gravies, and succulent baked hams, again my digestive system repeatedly revolted.

But I brightened considerably when my concerned mother asked, "What do you *think* you could eat, Heddy?"

Quickly producing a small container of freshly-ground red hot pepper from my ample crocodile handbag, I suggested:

"Oh, anything with rice, Mom—with *lots* of hot pepper."

(Just what the doctor ordered. Something from "home.")

Winners 1973-74 Creative Writing Contest

PROGRAMS

First Place:

"Five Steps into Easter"
Rose Marie Lafoon
Seminole, Oklahoma

Second Place

"The Christ of Christmas"
Anne Worthington
Albany, Georgia

Third Place

"Let's Go Fishing"
Carolyn Franks
Mantachie, Mississippi

Honorable Mention

"Moved With Compassion"
Susan Kay Burgess
Jacksonville, Florida

PLAYS

First Place

"Babbling Books"
Debbie Cavitt
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Second Place

"Miserly Maude and the Missionaries"
Norma White
Corcoran, California

Third Place

"Which Christian Are You?"
Rose Marie LaFoon
Seminole, Oklahoma

Honorable Mention

"So What's a Witness to Do?"
Bonnie Shellnut
Hazel Park, Michigan



Hayes



Christian



Teague



Wampler



Hastings



Shellnut



White



Lafoon

ARTICLES

First Place:

"Someone Else's Child"
Norma Teague
Henderson, Texas



Franks

Second Place:

"In Times Like These"
Louise Wampler
Edgewood, Maryland



Burgess

Third Place

"Confessions of a Gossip"
Carolyn Hayes
Russellville, Arkansas



Cavitt

Honorable Mention:

"I Love You, Grandmother"
Cora Christian
Church Hill, Tennessee



Worthington

"A Hidden Reason for Sharing"
Jo Hastings
Bronaugh, Missouri



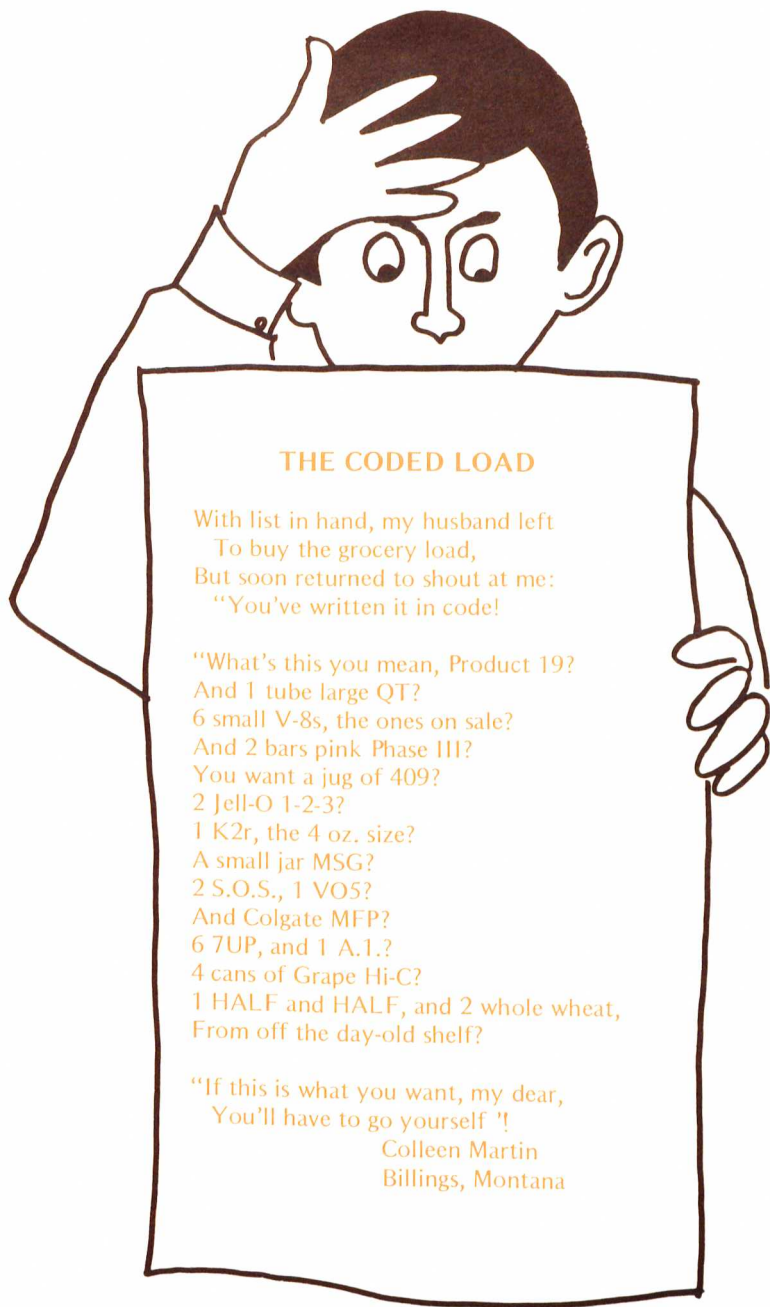
Mrs. Pursell,

Now that we have settled down to another term of service, I want to write again to say "Thanks" for the service the WNAC renders to us.

Because of the emphasis the auxiliary places on missions, more and more women are being informed and involved. And in their desire to be involved they have been the source of many blessings to us personally. More and more are writing to say they are praying, and asking for information. The cards they send are appreciated also. Often we can use them in our children's work afterwards. Greeting cards here are not so beautiful as those there.

When we moved here in January, I had several curtains to make fast. Even the bedrooms had the São Paulo state houses and no shutters like picture-window size openings. As I tried to think of ways to cover them with the least expense, I had the idea to use the one figured (cartoon) sheet I got from the provision closet for the little boys' bedroom. So I bought some royal blue strips, and three little boys were delighted with the results. Jeffrey, James, and Daniel are posing in front of it in the snapshot. Once again, thanks to our auxiliary women. We enjoy a home with many little touches it wouldn't have otherwise.

Jean Deeds



THE CODED LOAD

With list in hand, my husband left
To buy the grocery load,
But soon returned to shout at me:
"You've written it in code!

"What's this you mean, Product 19?
And 1 tube large QT?
6 small V-8s, the ones on sale?
And 2 bars pink Phase III?
You want a jug of 409?
2 Jell-O 1-2-3?
1 K2r, the 4 oz. size?
A small jar MSG?
2 S.O.S., 1 VOS?
And Colgate MFP?
6 7UP, and 1 A.1.?
4 cans of Grape Hi-C?
1 HALF and HALF, and 2 whole wheat,
From off the day-old shelf?

"If this is what you want, my dear,
You'll have to go yourself '!

Colleen Martin
Billings, Montana



It's time for
1974-75 Creative Writing Contest
Sponsored by WNAC

We invite Woman's Auxiliary members to submit original material in the following categories:

Programs

Plays or Skits

Articles

SUBJECTS for all entries may include: Woman's life and problems, personal Christian experience, practical Christianity, devotional and inspirational—including seasonal themes. Missions, prayer, enlistment, stewardship, service and family life.

LENGTH OF MANUSCRIPT: **Programs** should be approximately 1800 words. **Plays** should not exceed five pages of typed, double-spaced material. **Articles** should not exceed 1100 words. All manuscript should be typewritten and double-spaced, with your name and address on the top of the first page.

AWARDS: In each of the three categories the prizes are first place, \$25; second place, \$10, third place, study course books. Honorable mention awards will be decided on by the staff.

DEADLINE DATE: March 1, 1975. Send your entry to WNAC Writing Contest, Cleo Pursell, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

ENTRIES WILL BE JUDGED ON: originality, content, interest and suitability for *Co-Laborer* readers. Send as many entries as you wish.