

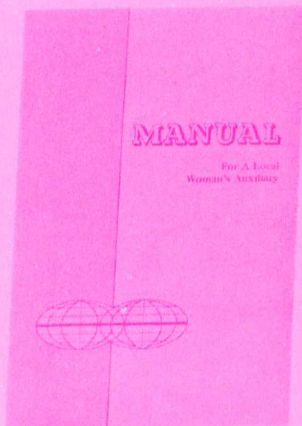
Co-Laborer



April-May-June 1978



Hot Off The Press!

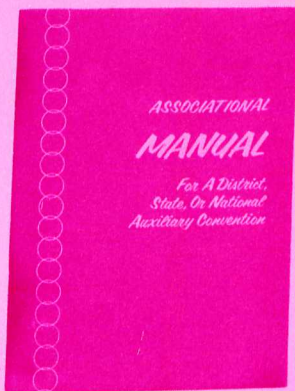


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Co-Laborer

April-May-June 1978

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Co-Laborers Write

Please increase our *Co-Laborer* magazine order from 11 to 16. Our auxiliary has grown in the past few months and we thoroughly enjoy the *Co-Laborer* each month as we meet to work for the Lord. We appreciate the fine articles and programs.

*M. Ellen Ashoori
Bellflower, California*

I would like to tell you how much we enjoy the programs in the *Co-Laborer*. They sure make us examine ourselves and what we're doing in our lives. May God continue to bless the work there and supply all your needs.

*Annie Ruth Ward
Timmons ville, South Carolina*

We praise the Lord for our ladies, also for *Co-Laborer* magazine. We have had to increase our subscription from 15 to 25, and we are growing rapidly. We are now forming Actionettes for our young girls, and they are very excited about it.

*Gaytrenia McSwain
Columbus, Georgia*

Just a note to say hello. Our women at Youngstown really enjoyed last quarter's *Co-Laborer* and this quarter's looks even better. Our writers are great! And you do such a good job of putting everything together. God bless you!

*Nora McCarty
Canfield, Ohio*

It was laid on our hearts to help our missionaries and we read in one of our *Co-Laborer* books that they needed dishes and towels in the provision closet. We hope our gift will help some needy missionary, and it is sent with our prayers that God will use them and bless their labor.

*Woman's Auxiliary
Richland, North Carolina*

I just had to brag on the Western Piedmont Woman's Auxiliary. Our emphasis month offering was the best we have had in three years. We reached a total of \$785.20 and we sure do praise the Lord for His goodness to us. This kind of work makes me feel proud to be here.

*Myrtle Parris
Gastonia, North Carolina*

We appreciate the *Co-Laborer* magazine and the fine work you do for our women across the nation. We are hoping to get a state Auxiliary organized, but it is difficult due to the distance between churches and the fact that our association meets only twice yearly. It seems that we are far away from much of the action, but we are concerned about our denomination's efforts through each of its organizations. May God bless you in your work.

*Joan Warren
Yakima, Washington*

The church here in Guadalajara is doing real good and we have been blessed by our Lord in this last year. We are seeing growth. We prayed for so long for the Lord to give us some faithful men in our church, and now this past year our prayers have been answered. We now have eight complete family units in the church, many teen-agers and lots and lots of kids. We averaged 62 in Sunday school the last two months.

*Julie Barron
Guadalajara, Mexico*

This is our first time to write you about the program in our Auxiliary. We are very proud of our Auxiliary; we began July 1975 and now have 18 active members. One of our biggest blessings is the support we get from our pastor and our husbands in each project we begin. *Co-Laborer* is a great blessing to us. We wish to thank you for the quality of work shared in our *Co-Laborer* books.

*Barbara Thorn
Anaheim, California*

I want to express my thanks to you and the WNAC for the loans made to me and my wife. This ministry that the WNAC carries on is I think a very great asset to the Lord's work. I'm sure that others like myself could not have gotten all of our education had not your organization been there to help. We have just gotten back our income tax return. We would like to pay all our bill and hope that it will help someone else who is in need. Thank you so much for your kindness and help.

*Walter W. Conger
Townley, Alabama*

Would like to write just a few words of thanks. It seems so inadequate to simply say "Thanks," but you know and understand how we feel—missionary closet, birthday cards, wonderful dinners prepared by the sisters while we're traveling, letters requesting prayer needs, financial support. God bless you . . . and thanks.

We have enjoyed so much the other Actionettes books. We have seen a lot of growth spiritually in our girls here at Garner. We are also using a Christian charm course.

*Mrs. Eugene McCabe, Sr.
Garner, North Carolina*

MEMO from CLEO

Cleo Pursell, Executive Secretary



A Challenge

Dot Smith, secretary, writes that the 289 members composing the Mississippi State Auxiliary Convention gave approximately \$10,000 to outside causes the past fiscal year. This is almost \$35.00 per capita member.

A Praise Item

Myrtle Parris, president of North Carolina's Western Piedmont District Auxiliary, is rejoicing (and so am I). This district went over the top in gifts to WNAC's general fund. Each local auxiliary brought its Emphasis Month offering to the meeting and the total was \$785.20!

A Tribute

Agnes B. Frazier is a remarkable woman. She and her husband, Emmett, observed their 60th wedding anniversary in September, 1977. Read the related article in this *Co-Laborer* to see how unselfish this woman of God is.

Mrs. Frazier is a charter member of the WNAC and served as executive secretary-treasurer for several years. Her ready pen provided auxiliary-minded women with thousands of pages of literature which aided them to proclaim missions. This was done sacrificially without salary or typewriter. We are indebted to Agnes B. Frazier.

A Need

You have been more than generous with your gifts of Tupperware to the Missionary Provision Closet. We are running out of storage space but will notify you when we need more. We do need the following items:

sheet sets (twin, double, king, queen)
bed spreads (all sizes)
irons

pressure pans (4 or 6 quart)

heavy, terry dish towels
mattress covers (double)
heavy, wash cloths
Melmac or Corelle Ware

Women In Action

International Meeting

The Woman's Auxiliary of Bay Branch Free Will Baptist Church in Timmonsville, South Carolina had an international Auxiliary meeting with 14 ladies attending dressed in costumes of other countries. Each lady also brought a dish of food from the country she represented and told of our missionary work there.

This active Auxiliary also had a Tupperware party for the Missionary Provision Closet. Each lady ordered something for herself and the closet. Since the total of their party was over \$700.00 they received \$95.00 worth of Tupperware as a bonus which was also sent to the Provision Closet.



Emphasis Programs

The Horton Heights Woman's Auxiliary, Nashville, Tennessee combined the emphasis month program, "Appropriate Apparel" with the October program, "Spiritually Fashioned." In addition to the emphasis on "spiritual clothing," they also discussed "Fashion Do's and Don'ts," "Stretching Your Clothing Dollar," and "What's New for Fall." The ladies enjoyed showing off their handiwork by either wearing or bringing something they had made. The group had quite an assortment of quilts, afghans, pillows, pictures, embroidery and needlework, and clothing to browse through.

Anniversary Celebration

The Woman's Auxiliary of Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Bristol, Virginia, recently celebrated their 16th anniversary. They had a large group in the fellowship hall of the church, which was decorated in lavender and white for the festivities. Nine of their original members were also present.





Oldest Member Honored

Mrs. Dora Brown was honored as the oldest member of the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Florence, South Carolina, at an Auxiliary meeting held in the home of Mrs. Judy Stickland. Mrs. Brown, 82, is pictured with five of her daughters, all of whom have been active in Auxiliary work since its early days.

District Conventions

The Scioto County District was organized September 6, 1977 at Lucasville, Ohio. The following officers were elected: Lillian Henthorn, President; Elsie Lake, Vice President; Mary Benner, Secretary-Treasurer; Norma Perry, Field Worker; Connie Taylor, Mission Study Chairman; Trudy Bobst, Mission Prayer Chairman; and Polly Wiltshire, Mission Action Chairman.

"Happiness Is: Doing for the Lord" was the theme of the Idaho District Auxiliary Convention at Buhl, Idaho, October 7-8, 1977. Mary Ruth Wisehart was the main speaker and a devotion was given by Gloria Carlson. Some Buhl women performed the skit, "Missing or Mission in Action," and a constitution and by-laws were adopted.

State Convention

President Lila Faye Morgan presided over the Oklahoma Woman's Auxiliary Convention which met October 18, 1977, in the First Free Will Baptist Church of Ardmore. The convention theme, "His Banner Over Me Is Love" was emphasized in devotions brought by Wanda Kellett and guest speaker Cleo Pursell, WNAC executive secretary. Missionaries Jean Deeds and Arilla Wode brought greetings. Registration was 196.

State projects adopted are \$2.00 per member to purchase outdoor furniture for Hillsdale campus, \$1.00 per member to Arilla Wode, missionary appointee to Africa, \$1.00 per member to Jim Williams, missionary to Monterrey, Mexico, and a sacrificial offering to raise \$6,000 for the Earnie Deeds' vehicle fund. A record membership of 1,116 was reported.



New Fellowship Hall

The Woman's Auxiliary of Sulphur Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Samantha, Alabama, undertook a project two years ago to build a new fellowship hall. They planned to pay the \$9,600 for the church's new addition with quilting projects and donations. Two-hundred fifty quilts later they paid off their mortgage and were able to burn the note at church November 6, 1977. There was also enough quilting money to have the pews in the auditorium padded and covered.

The Woman's Auxiliary of Seminole Free Will Baptist Church, Seminole, Oklahoma, had a church-wide potluck dinner before their Emphasis Program. After the meal the officers of the Auxiliary presented the skit "Appropriate Apparel" by Joanne King, and an offering was taken and sent to WNAC.

Mother-Daughter Banquet

To climax the state missions season of prayer, members of the First Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary, Columbus, Mississippi, sponsored a mother-daughter banquet under the direction of Eva House.

The event was held at the Recreation Center of Lake Lowndes, December 3, 1977. Wanda Crossley led in singing Christmas carols and Cleo Pursell, WNAC executive secretary spoke on "Search for the Ideal Mother." An offering was received for state home missions. There were 78 present.

Actionettes

The Actionettes at Collinswood Free Will Baptist Church, Portsmouth, Virginia, have had a very busy year. They have had a Rock-a-Thon, Car Wash, Slave Day and Yard Sale to raise money for missions. They presented the skit, "Cloaks, Masks and Cover-Ups" at their October meeting, as well as the Woman's Auxiliary meeting.





Owens



Reeves



McClure

Who's Who in this Issue

Tucker



Franks



Cameron



Wilson



Mary Ann Owens, St. Clair, Missouri, was awarded third place for her article "A Tribute to a Friendly Little Girl." She is a minister's wife and assists her husband in a state home mission work in Union, Missouri.

Betty Reeves, Farmington, Missouri, placed first with her clever article "A Woman Named Patsy." She is active in her church and in the local, district, and state Woman's Auxiliary work.

Paula McClure, Goodlettsville, Tennessee, teaches cake decorating at a local high school and is the president of her local Auxiliary. Her article, "Frantic Faith," was awarded second place.

Velda Tucker, Batesville, Arkansas, was awarded honorable mention for our April Program, "Scattering Sunshine Seed." She is the president of her local Auxiliary and is the secretary-treasurer for her district.

Carolyn Franks, Mantachie, Mississippi, teaches in the Business Department of Itawamba Junior College. She is active in the Fawn Grove Auxiliary and is the author of the May Program, "Searching, Yet Not Finding."

Elizabeth Cameron serves as vice president of her local Auxiliary, a CTS teacher, and an assistant Sunday School teacher. Her program, "Trees of Righteousness," is our study for June.

Sheila Wilson, Bristol, Virginia, received honorable mention for her article, "Realizing God's Will." She teaches in Junior Church and attends college as an education major.

April Program
Velda Tucker



Scattering Sunshine Seeds

Purpose: *To show that a fruitful Christian life takes concern, determination, and cultivation.*
Song: "Scattering Precious Seed"
Scripture: II Corinthians 9:6
See Program Help Packet

forth with life, it is the farmer's job to cultivate them. If he leaves them alone, they will soon be choked by weeds or thorns. They will not grow if they are not given the required attention.

Christians, too, are to sow seeds—spiritual seeds. We have been given life and the Holy Spirit has been planted in our lives, but are we allowing Him to scatter seed and bring forth fruit through us? Do we need to "dig deep" into our hearts and see if there might be some seeds of sunshine that we can scatter? Let's take a look and see if we might be capable of sowing some seeds in our garden—our spiritual garden of life.

PLANT SOME P'S

In the springtime we see farmers plowing their fields and planting seeds. In these tiny seeds are the very germs of life itself. God sends His sunshine and rain and puts nutrients in the soil so the minute seeds will grow. He puts life in the seeds and gives them an opportunity to develop and bear fruit. But after they have sprouted and come

Every garden needs some P's. Why not plant a row of each of these five new kinds of P's. First of all there is *prayer*. All of us are capable of planting this first row. We need a continuous prayer life; for our own spiritual welfare, and that of our loved ones, friends, pastors, leaders, and missionaries. Our mis-

sionaries are especially counting on us to hold them up in prayer. Many times they report a special blessing or miracle that took place at the exact time someone at home was praying for them. And what better way to bring sunshine into the life of a dear friend who is going through some trial or bearing a heavy burden than to let them know you are remembering them in prayer.

Secondly there is the P of *patience*. "Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof: and the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit. Be not hasty in thy spirit to be angry: for anger resteth in the bosom of fools" (Ecclesiastes 7:8, 9). Maybe at times we are prone to be impatient with others when they do not grow and bear fruit as we think they should. Many times all they might need is for us to show a little patience with them with a word of kindness or deed to show them that we really do care. This seed might need a little cultivation on our part, but it will bring forth dividends.

And there is the P of *praise*, "the expression of our whole being." "I will praise thee with my whole heart" (Psalm 138:1). Christians have countless reasons to praise their Maker. And we can also scatter sunshine into the life of a Christian brother who has done a good job by giving him a word of praise; this may be the added boost he needs to try for greater yields in his garden of life.

A fourth seed that needs planting is the P of *presence*. At some time tragedy has touched each of our lives and what a consolation it has been to have

the presence of a dear friend. We might have to leave the dishes or some other chore undone, but if we take the time to go and be with that person who needs us, we can show our love by our presence in their home, hospital room, or wherever we are needed.

Purity is the last P for our garden. "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God" (Matthew 5:8). There is no better way to scatter sunshine than with a pure, clean life shining before the whole world. A Christian brother might need someone to listen to him when he has a problem, and he would surely want someone whom he could trust and in whose life he had confidence. Have you planted these five rows of P's lately in your garden? The world is always standing in need of more sunshine. Always be prepared to spread it to those in need. Remember, "the light that shines the farthest shines the brightest."

PLANT SOME LETTUCE

There are four rows of lettuce needed. "Let-us" be faithful Christians. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Revelation 2:10). We know from experience that after we have planted our gardens we have to keep hoeing, plowing and caring for them in order for them to produce. So it is with our lives. "Let-us" be faithful to our duties as set forth in God's Word. Whatever we do, do all to the glory of God.

Secondly, "let-us" be un-

selfish. It is human nature for each one to think of himself first, but how much happier we will be when we learn to put Jesus first, others second and ourselves last. What great opportunities we have today to scatter sunshine if we pull up the weeds of selfishness that pop into our lives before they smother the good that we can do.

In addition, "let-us" be true to our obligations. We are obligated to our families. We might feel we are not accomplishing anything in life when we are "just housewives" facing the same old tasks each day, but if we perform our duties with the right attitude we will scatter sunshine, maybe through the lives of our children. A mother's influence cannot be discounted; her impact on a life may make the difference between a worthy life and a wasted life.

Lastly, "let-us" love in deed. "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves" (James 1:22). To expect a harvest we know we must first sow the seeds. "Let-us" be doers. Do you know someone whose life seems to be all weeds and thorns? Then why not sow some "Sun-Flowers" in that life.

When good friends walk beside us
On the trails that we must keep
Our burdens seem less heavy
And the hills not so steep.
The weary miles pass swiftly,
Taken in a joyous stride,
And all the world seems brighter
When friends walk by our side.

Author unknown

If we sit in the shade and look on

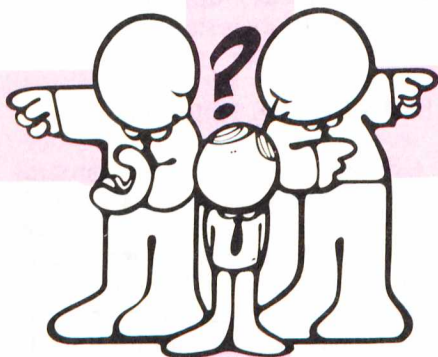
our fellowman with pity, yet do nothing to erase the cloud that is blotting out his sunshine, we are letting weeds of slothfulness smother our own sunshine.

PLANT SOME TURNIPS

Sow turnips in your garden. Turn up with courage and fortitude when everything around you looks gloomy. Turn up with a smile. Turn up with love for others and win friends. As Robert Louis Stevenson said, "A friend is a present you give yourself." Turn up with a helping hand when no one else seems to care. Turn up with a Package of Sunshine Seed and the willingness to sow them. And sow abundantly! "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully" (II Corinthians 9:6). Turn up (or get up) each day with determination to sow only sunshine seed and God will warm your soul from the rays of each little seed.

In order for all these seeds to produce we need to plant a row of "squash." In the spring when the plants are tender and the nights are cold, the cut worm is very busy destroying the little plants. Now we might label the cut worm in our garden of life as Satan, for when we allow our lives to get cold by neglecting our Father's will, Satan will be very busy trying to destroy us. We must "squash" him before he gets to us. We can sow Sunshine Seeds if we "plow up" the hindrances and let the love of God shine through.

May Program
Carolyn Franks



Searching. Yet Not Finding

Purpose: *To remind us that the answers to man's questions are found only in Christ.*

Song: *"Christ Is The Answer" or "Open My Eyes, That I May See"*

Scripture: *Matthew 7:13-16, 24-27*

See Program Help Packet

THROUGHOUT HISTORY mankind has searched for answers to satisfy the probing questions of his mind; What is life? What is its meaning? Who am I? What is my purpose? The answer to man's longing has been sought in hundreds of places, people, and philosophies. But it has only been found in one—the person of Jesus Christ. Only Christ can completely fill the vacuum inbedded in the soul of every human being. But this fact is still hidden from much of the

world; they are searching, yet not finding.

MAN'S SEARCH

On one occasion John the Baptist pointed out Jesus to two of his disciples who in turn came to Him. Jesus stopped and asked them the question, "What seek ye?" (John 1:38). Today people are still seeking for something to fill the void that only a real and personal relationship with Christ can fill, but many are searching and relying upon the things of the world and the flesh. They are becoming trapped in Satan's web. NBC recently presented a television news special, "Search for Something Else," which dealt with the Eastern religions and foreign ideologies that are growing by leaps and bounds in our country—not some foreign "heathen" land, but in our very own country, maybe even next door. It is estimated that 1,800 cults are now active in this country and that over 250,000 young people have given their lives to these cults. The tremendously rapid growth of these movements should be alarming to everyone of us. John warns, "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world" (I John 4:1).

We hear a lot about the new morality, the drug scene, pornography, witchcraft, the cults, and false religions. People flock to group therapists, counselors, and psychiatrists. And they are readily listening to and putting their faith in all

these things rather than Christ. Many of these movements promise to help the devotee sink into a state of "conscious awareness," the ideal solution to peace of mind and general well-being. But these are deceptive and enslaving avenues of Satan.

SATAN'S DECEPTION

Satan, the master liar and deceiver, is tricking thousands everyday with his glitter and false promises just as fool's gold often deceived the prospector. It looked good and seemed to be very valuable, but when the test came, it was useless. It was just fool's gold. Paul cautions about Satan's deception to young Timothy. "In the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils: speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron" (I Timothy 4:1, 2). Read your newspapers, look at the news stands, read the movie advertisements, listen to the television programs, and notice the subjects of the songs you hear on the radio. Satan can paint some very tempting and alluring pictures, but all his glitter is just "fool's gold."

"Do your own thing" was recently a very popular expression in our culture. We are encouraged on all sides to practice self-expression through our actions, our speech, and our dress (anything goes; no one is shocked any more). We are to find our true selves through meditation, drugs, depth psychology, and counseling and

to seek self-satisfaction by doing "anything that makes me feel good." What could possibly be wrong with anything that makes one feel good? Plenty! Instead of saying "Do your thing," Jesus said "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23).

God has given through His Word some guidelines for living. Even in the Garden of Eden God gave Adam and Eve some do's and do not's. But they chose to "do their own thing" and disobeyed God. Today as people substitute their way for God's, we read astounding statistics on the increase in suicide, crime, premarital sex, abortion, divorce, and juvenile delinquency. We need to reflect on Solomon's warning, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Proverbs 14:12).

GOD'S TRUTH

Many of these movements and ideologies involve "mind altering" experiences—whether in the form of drugs or meditation; they offer false promises of peace of mind, but the foundation upon which they are built will perish along with the individual. The story is told of the three little pigs. The first two built their houses of sticks and straw. When the wolf came, he easily blew the houses down and devoured the little pigs, but the third little pig built his house of brick. When the wolf came, he huffed and puffed but to no avail—the house stood. When one

builds his life on the sticks and straws of Satan's false promises, it will not stand, but when he builds it on the solid rock of Jesus, it will stand! "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (I Corinthians 3:11).

Jesus is the only answer. Why search for something else? He is the only one who can give man salvation and provide a personal relationship with God. "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). The Bible tells of many lives He changed. He healed the sick, He gave sight to the blind, He even raised the dead. But more than physical change He brought a remedy for spiritual sickness—salvation from the curse of sin. He has the power to give a new and a better life. If we will only surrender our lives to Him He will give us a new life, a better life, a more meaningful life. Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

At Calvary one can see the price that Jesus paid for that abundant life. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold . . . but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (I Peter 1:18, 19). And Paul wrote to the Corinthians, "Ye are bought with a price" (I Corinthians 7:23). Jesus was led through the mockery of a trial. He was stripped and spat upon. He was ridiculed and beaten. The love that drove Him to suffer this

shame and anguish and still say, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34) is beyond human comprehension.

Jesus came into the world to give His life. He came to suffer the shame and burden of the entire world's sin. God's great gift was not merely the babe in the manger, but the man who died on the cross that we might have eternal life. Today we do not adore a helpless babe or worship a dead man hanging on a cross, but we worship the risen, glorified Jesus Christ. This is God's unspeakable gift to man. While we can never understand the depth of God's Love, we can accept the gift it brings with it. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23). Wages are things I earn, things I deserve; a gift is something that is given to me because of love. In the process of gift giving there must be, in addition to the giver and gift, a receiver. It doesn't matter how much time and money one puts into a gift for you, until you accept the item it does not become your gift. The price has been paid. Jesus said from the cross, "It is finished." Salvation has been purchased not with silver or gold, but with the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Have you received your gift? Do you know someone who has not received this gift? Many are still groping for answers, for meaning, for satisfaction and joy, for fulfillment and peace. But the answers to them seem hidden. Help them find Jesus, for indeed, Christ is the answer.

Trees of Righteousness

Purpose: *To help Christians realize the need for spiritual growth and fruitfulness.*

Song: "I Shall Not Be Moved"

Scripture: Isaiah 61:1-3

See Program Help Packet

THROUGHOUT the Old and New Testaments the saints of God are often symbolically referred to as trees. Isaiah called them "trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified" (Isaiah 61:3). The Psalmist referred to the people of God as "a green olive tree," "a palm tree," and "a cedar in Lebanon" (Psalms 52:8; 92:12). Our Saviour used the same comparison when He said we should "bring forth good fruit" (Matthew 7:17) for "by their fruits ye shall know them" (Matthew 17:20).

Some of the more prominent resemblances between trees and Christians are quickly apparent. One such resemblance is their attractiveness. The mountains and countrysides would seem very dismal and plain, indeed, were it not for the many beautiful trees that adorn them. And what is more beautiful in the human realm than those who bear the image of Christ and show forth His praises?

They are also alike in their

usefulness. Trees provide habitation for the birds, shade for the earth, nourishment for the creatures, materials for building and fuel for man against the cold. Many also are the uses God makes of His children in the world. Christ referred to them as "the salt of the earth" and the "light of the world" (Matthew 5:13, 14).

GRADUAL GROWTH

Some trees grow very slowly while others seem to grow rapidly. The same holds true for born-again believers. In our churches we see those whom God has saved who seem to grow very quickly in the knowledge of God's Word and other spiritual graces. Whereas, some in our midst seem to grow rather slowly. I am sure many of us have seen trees that for some reason seem to have been stunted in their development and never reach their full growth potential. This is the case of many Christians. Though they have been saved for a good while, they never seem to pass the stage of what Paul termed "babes in Christ." "For when the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of

the oracles of God" (Hebrews 5:12).

If we are to grow to full age spiritually, the Bible instructs that we desire to. "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (I Peter 2:2).

INWARD GROWTH

Trees have the principal growth within themselves. They do not grow spontaneously and immediately from external furtherances, but from their own seminal virtue and radical sap. It is thus with the spiritual growth of Christians. At regeneration a "seed" is planted in the heart (I Peter 1:23; I John 3:9). That seed contains within itself a living principle of growth. Just as we do not understand the mystery of the growth of a tree from a small seed; we do not understand how from a small seed of faith the Holy Spirit is born into our hearts as "a well of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4:14). Thus, it is the nature of Christians to grow, as it is of trees to do likewise. "And the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind" (Genesis 1:12).

Though trees have within themselves a vital principle of life, they are not independent of provision from their Creator. They are far from self-sustaining. If they do not receive a certain amount of moisture and sunshine, they wither and die. It is the same spiritually. The Christian is not self-sufficient and independent of God. Though we have a nature capable of growth, if left to itself that nature would

die.

In the Bible the heart signifies the whole inner-man. "For man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart" (I Samuel 16:7). I wonder if this is sufficiently realized by us. If it is we should be making it our chief concern to keep our hearts with all diligence.

There is much head religion, much hand religion (busily engaging in what is termed *Christian Service*) and much feet religion rushing here and there. What we need is more heart religion, more taking time for prayer and solitude to let God speak to our hearts. Long ago God spoke to Elijah in a "still small voice" (I Kings 19:12). He still speaks thus to us today.

UPWARD GROWTH

The growth of a tree is upward. The vital principle within is drawn out unto the sun above. Though rooted in the earth its nature is to move toward heaven, slowly but surely lifting its head higher and higher. Does not the same hold true in the spiritual realm? Is it not thus with the saints of God? It is the very nature of that new life, which is conceived at regeneration, to turn unto its "Giver." The need of God is felt, and the heart is drawn unto Him. This desire is expressed by David, "As the heart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God" (Psalm 42:1). For none else can satisfy this newly-created thirst within.

The higher the top of a tree reaches toward heaven, the

farther from the earth it moves. This is a parable in action: before regeneration the heart is wholly set upon the world and what it can provide for us, but when our hearts are illuminated by the "light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ" (II Corinthians 4:6) the spell is broken. Then we can no longer be content with the perishing baubles of this world. As God is better known our love for Him increases and we set a higher esteem upon Him.

DOWNWARD GROWTH

We find the growth of a tree is also downward. It takes a firmer hold on the soil. More particularly is this the case in hot countries, for there the tap-root of a tree has to penetrate deeper and deeper into the earth in order to find its needed moisture. The spiritual counterpart of this is found in such expressions as "being rooted and grounded in love" (Ephesians 3:17) and "continue in the faith grounded and settled" (Colossians 1:23). As the believer grows he takes a firmer grip on Christ and "lays hold on eternal life" (I Timothy 6:12). No longer touching merely the "hem of His garment," we become more settled in His knowledge and find more enjoyment in the Saviour's love. We are then able to become more securely established in the faith and less likely to be influenced and deceived by the philosophies of this world.

More specifically the downward growth of a Christian consists of increasing selflessness, or becoming more and more out

of love with one's self. The more a tree grows downward the deeper its roots become imbedded in the earth. The more firmly it is fixed, the stronger it becomes, the greater its resistance grows against the tempest. It is neither the height nor the girth of a tree, but the depth of its roots which gives it stability and security. So it is with Christians.

OUTWARD GROWTH

The type of tree most closely resembling that of a Christian is the fruitbearing tree. If a healthy fruit tree is planted in good soil and receives the right amount of water and sunshine, it will naturally bring forth good fruit. The same applies to Christians. Have we taken care to see that our lives have been planted in good spiritual soil? This includes surrounding ourselves with other Christians and being faithful in church attendance. And most importantly, being found faithful in daily prayer and Bible study.

If we will only let these things have their rightful places in our lives, our souls will never lack of that "living water" spoken of by Jesus to the woman at the well. If we only desire it the light of God's Son will shine and give nourishment to our hungry souls. Then like a healthy fruit tree we will bring forth much good fruit. It is this kind of fruit that Paul spoke of in his letter to the Galatians. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law" (Galatians 5:22).

Prayer Group Programs

by Pat Thomas

The Free Will Baptist movement was started by men and women who were vitally concerned with spreading the influence of Christ and His church throughout the world. Perhaps we could say that the first Free Will Baptist home missionary was Paul Palmer. Rev. Palmer went throughout the colonies preaching, holding revivals, and organizing churches. He is credited with organizing the first Free Will Baptist church in 1727 in Perquimans County, North Carolina.

One of the most outstanding of all home missionaries was Benjamin Randall who organized many churches and associations in the Northeastern states. He organized the first Free Will Baptist church in that area in New Durham, New Hampshire, June 30, 1780. A convert of Rev. Randall, John Colby, also went on extensive missionary and preaching journeys.

The General Conference of Free Will Baptists was organized in 1827, and the first Free Will Baptist Home Missionary Society was organized by that conference in 1836. Free Will Baptist churches were built in Chicago, Cleveland, and Boston. The

Boston church alone cost over \$50,000. God marvelously blessed Free Will Baptists. Rev. Henry Gordon of Illinois was an outstanding home missionary who organized a host of Free Will Baptist churches. Others who made worthy contributions to the home missions cause were Rev. T.C. Ferguson, Rev. and Mrs. H. M. McAdams, and Rev. A. B. Tolbert.

Free Will Baptists have been missionary minded from the beginning. In 1832 the first Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions Society was organized with Elder John Buzzell as the first president. Interest in missions increased rapidly over the denomination so that the missionaries were sent soon out. Among some of the first were Jeremiah Phillips and Eli Noyes and their wives to India.

Prayer requests:

Pray for John and Pansy Murray as they are in Paris, France in language school, and Jim and Susan Moser in language study in Campinas, Brazil.

Pray for the Mark Vandivort family as they gather a nucleus of people in Flagstaff, Arizona to organize a new Free Will Baptist church.

Pray for Christians in the Free Will Baptist churches in Uruguay that are closed at present. Unstable political situations seem to be arising.

Pray for Jesus (Chuy) de la Rosa, a native of Mexico, as he has been employed to assist Jim Williams in the work of the Institute of Gold in Monterrey, Mexico.

MAY

Throughout the late 1800's God blessed the work of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions, Home Missions, and Christian Education until there were organized churches in many countries of the world. But with the merger of the Free Will Baptists to the Northern Baptists in 1910, almost all of the works were lost. The record shows that more than 1,100 churches with a combined membership strength of 100,000 were directly affected by the action, with most of them being lost from the Free Will Baptist movement.

In addition to the loss of membership there was a great loss of funds, colleges, and church property. Over \$180,000 in home mission funds and \$250,000 in Foreign Missions funds were channeled into the American Baptist societies. Seven major colleges and Bible institutes also went to the Northern Baptists. Small groups of Free Will Baptists were still alive in some of the mid-western states.

Through the efforts of Rev. and Mrs. Lizzie McAdams and many others, local associations were organized as well as cooperative general associations consisting of several of these fragmented groups.

Finally, after many years of ground work, the long-looked-for day came and delegates and ministers arrived at Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee on November 5, 1935 to organize the National Association of Free Will Baptists. During the business

session, when the moderator called for the reading of the Treatise which would determine if the group would unite, Mrs. Lizzie McAdams offered a motion that the report be accepted without a public reading. The motion met with an immediate second and the vote was overwhelmingly unanimous.

This meant that the National Association of Free Will Baptists was now an official reality and that at last, Free Will Baptists were united in a common cause. The entire congregation was caught in the spirit of the momentous occasion. Strong men embraced each other and wept tears of joy and victory. The shouts of rejoicing Christians were lifted in praise to God.

Miss Laura Belle Barnard and Miss Bessie Yeley were commissioned at this meeting as Free Will Baptist missionaries, along with Rev. and Mrs. Thomas H. Willey. With these being commissioned, the denomination's foreign mission program began with the sending of Miss Barnard to India, Mrs. Yeley to Venezuela, and the Willeys to Nicaragua.

Prayer requests:

Pray for the Walter Ellison family as they lead the church in Livramento, Brazil.

Pray for the Bob Francis family working to establish a church in the twin cities area of St. Paul-Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Pray for the Jesse Dunn family as they seek to acquire property for the new work in the capital city of Salem, Oregon.

Pray for Rolla Smith, General

Director of the Foreign Missions Department, and for Rev. Bob Shockey, General Director of the Home Missions Department.

JUNE

The work of spreading the gospel was carried on by Free Will Baptists down through the years, even though there were disappointments, set backs, and times of discouragement. From these early beginnings, the National Association of Free Will Baptists was organized in 1935, and in the 1938 session the first Home Missions Board in modern Free Will Baptist history was elected.

Those chosen to serve on this board were Rev. M. L. Hollis, Rev. J. K. Warkentin, Mrs. J. E. Frazier, Rev. Mrs. Lizzie McAdams, and Rev. George Dunbar. In its first year of operation the board had a total income of \$256.00, and its work was limited to helping in a very small way the new churches that were organized.

I think it is interesting to note that two of the original five National Home Missions Board members were women. One of these, Mrs. Lizzie McAdams, was burdened for the work of home missions and sent a monthly contribution to this work as long as she lived. She and her husband preached in 17 states, held 300 revivals with about 10,000 professions of faith in the Lord Jesus, organized eleven churches and numerous woman's auxiliaries in different states. During this period of time they spent four years as home missionaries

20

and organized churches in Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, and Missouri. She had been in the Lord's work 54 of her 80 years when she died. Many of our present day pastors were converted under her ministry. Truly she was a remarkable woman who was not only interested in the work of home missions, but in every phase of Free Will Baptist work. She served the denomination as the first Field Secretary traveling thousands of miles each year raising hundreds of dollars for missions, Christian education, youth work, woman's work, and many other worthy causes.

Another original Home Missions Board member, Mrs. J. E. Frazier, taught for thirty-one years in the public schools of Tennessee. She served on the Home Missions Board faithfully and has remained a very interested supporter since that time. Mrs. Frazier has been a pioneer in many different phases of the Free Will Baptist work including Home Missions, Woman's Auxiliary, and Church Training Service.

Prayer requests:

Pray for the Tom Hughes family as they are laboring to begin a new work in Uberlandia, Brazil.

Pray for Mrs. Alma Johns, the wife of home missionary Butch Johns in San Diego, California, as she is losing her eye sight and is now studying Braille.

Pray for Rev. and Mrs. Wallace Hayes as they are laboring to establish a new work in the city of Lebanon, Tennessee.

FRANTIC FAITH

by Paula McClure

IT STARTED OUT to be just another usual, busy day. It wasn't beginning much differently than any other day, but little did I know when I got up that morning that this day would turn out to bring a real test of my faith in the Lord—not the kind of faith you have for salvation, but rather the kind you experience daily for His supplying our physical needs.

After a quick breakfast I got my husband off to work, quickly made the beds, and began getting the kids ready to go to the doctor. Yes, it was that time of year again, time for school check-ups. Paul, the oldest, was in the first grade, and Charri was ready to enter kindergarten. The two younger girls, Jyna, and Nikki, were going along for the ride.

As we got into the car and I turned on the key, I noticed the gas gauge registered empty. Here we were, six miles from the nearest gas station and no gas. So I turned to the children and said, "We need to pray kids, so the Lord can help us get to the gas station." After giving them a sermon on "faith in the Lord for little things," off we went to town.

As we pulled into the driveway of the gas station, I breathed a sigh of relief and a prayer of thanksgiving. After telling the station attendant, "Five dollars worth of regular, please," I continued to remind my children

how the Lord had heard their prayers and answered them. "See," I said, "if you only have faith and believe Jesus will do a certain thing for you, He will do it!"

We went on to the doctor, and as we started home I suggested that we drop by Daddy's work to see how he was doing. This was to give the kids a chance to tell him they passed their physical exams with flying colors.

Only about three more miles to go and we would be there. But as I turned the corner, something very unusual happened to the car. It died as if someone had turned off the key. I tried to start it and when I could see that that failed, I let it coast to the side of the road. I looked around to see where we were, and to my surprise we had stopped right in front of a gas station. Knowing I wasn't out of gas, I had no idea what could be wrong with the car. Instructing the kids not to unlock the doors for any reason, I left them in the car and went inside the gas station to phone my husband. Keeping one eye on the car as we talked, he told me he thought he knew what was wrong with it. He said, "Let it set for about 20 minutes and it will start." Then he emphasized, "But do not try to start it before that, or it may never start."

As I walked back toward the car, I could see four little heads bouncing up

and down. I thought to myself how I wished I could have that sort of joy at a time like this. When I got back in the car Charrie announced in her very matter-of-fact way, "Ok, Momma, you can start the car now!"

"No, I can't, because Daddy . . ."

But Paul interrupted, "Yes, you can, Momma. We prayed while you were gone and Jesus is going to start our car."

Suddenly many things crashed into my mind at once. First, the sermon I had just given them earlier, and yet, my husband's voice rang very clear, "Don't try before 20 minutes or it may never start."

"Lord, what am I to do?" I thought. I just could not disappoint my babies' faith.

Slowly I put the key into the ignition and immediately a lump swelled up in my throat. As I turned the key on, it sounded as if it were trying to start, but then it started back down. Almost in tears, I prayed silently, "Lord, if not for my faith, please start this car for my babies' sake." Immediately the car started and the kids were yelling and clapping. As I pulled away from the curb, I could hardly see through my tears to drive.

That day I experienced a prayer meeting like I had never witnessed before. Just that morning I instructed them in faith and that afternoon, they reminded me of the verse in Matthew 19:14 which states, "But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Some people may try to explain this away by saying that the car would have started anyway, but this is one person you could never convince. That was a miracle due to some mighty believing hearts!

Dedicated to patsy's everywhere.
Any resemblance to women
living or dead
is purely intentional.



by Betty Reeves

I WOULD LIKE to take this opportunity to introduce you to a member of my church. She is average size, not too big and not too little. She most probably would not win the local beauty contest. She is not the world's greatest intellect and probably not a member of the social world in her

community. In fact, if you came to our church, you might not even notice her at all, but she is one of the most active members of our local congregation. She is the one that everyone calls on when there is a job to do or a program to be given, and more likely than not, it is at the last moment.

You can depend on her to help in Sunday School, CTS, Bible School, and Woman's Auxiliary. She goes on visitation, delivers fruit baskets, goes to the hospitals, attends all kinds of meetings. She gives her time, efforts, and money to all causes. In other words when anything comes up, you always hear, "Let Patsy do it." She is also the one most criticized, by some of the less active members of the church, for having her nose in everything and trying to run the church.

Now Patsy is not the name that her parents chose for her when she joined their family, but she has been called this so often that she wonders if that has not become her official name. For her husband, family and friends often tell her, "You're just a patsy." "They're taking advantage of you." "Why don't you say 'no' sometimes?" And yet when those same well-wishers have a job that needs to be done, whom do they call on? Patsy, of course!

We can find a counterpart to our Patsy in the book of Acts. Her name was Dorcas. She was well known in the local congregation at Joppa. She was known for her alms giving and her benevolent works. Dorcas worked willingly with her hands to make garments for the needy. That tells me that she probably wasn't a wealthy woman, or if she were she wasn't content to give her money as a substitute for her time or to salve her conscience. Strange to say, even

though Dorcas had been living among these people for a number of years, the first time we hear of her is when she had died. Then all of a sudden the folks realized all that she had done for them and how much she would be missed. They became concerned. They sent for the Apostle Peter and asked him to come quickly. When Peter arrived and entered the room where Dorcas was lying in state, the people began to weep and tell him what a wonderful woman Dorcas had been. They even exhibited some of the articles of clothing that she had made for them.

The Lord performed a miracle through Peter and brought her back to life, and I am sure that she continued living and working for her Lord until He once again called her home to be with Him.

Fortunate indeed is the church that has several *patsy's* in their midst to share the load—those good women who can be depended on to help no matter what the cause, no matter who the preacher is, or who the chairman of the committee happens to be. It makes no difference to them as long as they do a job for the Lord Jesus.

Take time to look around to see if you can recognize the *patsy's* in your church. Don't add to their load by trying to discourage them, for the devil is already making a full-time job of that. Don't wait, like the friends of Dorcas, until they are gone to try to show love and appreciation to them for all their efforts. Most probably you won't get the second chance as did Dorcas' friends. All the good words and flowers will not lift their spirits one little bit after they are gone. Take time to join their ranks. Become a *patsy* for the Lord Jesus and enjoy the blessing of the Lord in your life.

A TRIBUTE TO A FRIENDLY LITTLE GIRL

Dedicated to Ginny

by Mary Owens

Once upon a time there was a chubby little girl with curly, black hair. She had a round cherub face with a turned-up nose and rosy red cheeks. Her father was a very wealthy and influential man in town. But she didn't let that go to her head, for she treated everyone the same. Being a loving little girl, she was loved by all. She was especially adored for her friendliness by a young woman who hadn't been married very long.

This newlywed was not only unsaved but also a first-time visitor at the state youth camp. Being new and lonely, she was looking for a friend. The little girl's mother, being older and wiser, invited the newcomer to stay in their cabin. Immediately she took her under her wing by telling her the rules and regulations and other helpful things to know concerning camp life.

Tired of staying in the cabin and bored with nothing to do, the little girl had the idea of showing Jean, the newcomer, around the camp and introducing her to some of her friends. For such a little girl Ginny had very good manners. After introducing her, she made sure that Jean was made to feel a part of the conversation. She accomplished this by occasionally looking at Jean while she was talking and asking her opinion on the subject.

Some of the other friends Ginny introduced Jean to were her father's wealthy friends. They, like her father, were leaders in the community. While it made Jean feel a little nervous to meet such wealthy people, Ginny wasn't the least bit affected by their presence. She just remained her sweet and humble self. She neither bragged on their positions nor tried to impress Jean because of her dad's associations with them. She simply liked them because they were kind and gentle people and had been nice to her.

"Ginny," her mama called, "don't forget to get back in time to clean up for services tonight."

"Ok," she answered. Then she turned and asked Jean, "Do you like youth camp?"

The newcomer answered truthfully, "It's a lot nicer since I met you and your mama."

Jean started thinking about how sweet and friendly the little girl was and how the people loved her. She didn't try to get people to like her because her father was rich and influential. Her personal credentials were her own pleasing qualities.

Then Jean realized that Ginny had stopped talking and was looking at her. Jean abruptly asked her, "What did you say?"

Ginny impatiently restated her question, "Will you sit by me at services tonight?"

"Ok," Jean replied and hurried to her cabin.

Later in the tabernacle it was hard finding Ginny, but then she heard her sweet voice calling, "Jean, over here." She squirmed in and out of kids' knees until she finally reached the splintered seat beside Ginny.

"Ouch," she whispered, "there goes my last pair of nylons."

"Shhh," Ginny frowned back, "the sermon is starting."

The sermon was about how Jesus is the best friend in the world and how He will never let you down or be disloyal to you. During the invitation the Holy Spirit rustled the newcomer's mind like spring leaves before a gentle breeze. He took her back to those "good, ole golden school days" and to the English class in which she had studied an essay on friendship. It was something about how true friendship is based on complete honesty with one another. And how we meet many acquaintances in life's walk but make only a few friends. The essayist had compared them to rare and precious jewels.

Jean was jostled back to reality by a sniff from Ginny. She glanced down and saw some tears trickling down her face. The thought that Ginny had been touched by the sermon made her think of what a gem she had found in her friendship. Little did she know what a true pearl she had found.

After services Ginny very shyly asked her if she would like to meet her very best friend. She led her to the cabin and took a picture out from under her pillow. The picture was one of Jesus with little children. On the back was written the following plan of salvation:

1. "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). We can't take our own sins away or work our way into heaven. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us (Titus 3:5). "For by grace are ye saved through faith: and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works" (Ephesians 2:8, 9).
2. We must ask Jesus to forgive and save us from our sins. "Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3).
3. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved and thy house" (Acts 16:31).
4. You must admit that you have sinned, realize the need of Jesus as your Savior, confess your sins with the intention of forsaking them by the help of His grace.

That night Jean gave her life to the Lord. She had found two friends now; one was a curly, black-headed little girl and the other was her Savior.

REALIZING GOD'S WILL

by Sheila Wilson

AFTER becoming Christians, most of us learn that God has a "will" for our lives. But just what does this mean, that God has a "will" for us? Often it is interpreted to mean that there is something God wants each of

Christian brothers.

Indeed, love is something completely foreign to our carnal natures. The best we can muster up on our own is a superficial tolerance for others which soon wears thin. We must earnestly ask God for *His* love to be instilled in us, so that it might flow out to others. The Bible says, "Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God" (1 John 4:7). Love does not come naturally, and to pray for love from God, and let that love flow out to others, will be a witness and will convict lost souls of this quality lacking in their own lives.

"Ultimately, to do God's will is to express God's love to other people."

us to do for Him—teach a Sunday school class, work in the Auxiliary, visit a nursing home, or some other worthy endeavor. Indeed, this is part of what "doing God's will" involves, but it goes further than simply doing some task for the Lord.

Ultimately, to do God's will is to express God's love to other people. Love—God's love through Jesus Christ to us, and our love for Him—is the hub around which Christianity revolves. How this aspect of Christian life is neglected, for to look at an average Christian one often sees a proud, judgmental person with no love for the lost and very little love for even his

In seeking God's will we should start off by praying for God's supernatural love. We should pray that we would love others in spite of our natural selves, pray that we would love family members (those whom we really know well enough to judge), that we would love the brothers and sisters in our church, that we would love those in our community and those we meet on the job every day, pray that we even have love for the strangers with whom we come in

contact. What different attitudes we would have. God's love could push such things as backbiting, judging, condescension, and contempt from our lives! With such attitudes we would be attuned to God in a way as to know His will on a day to day basis.

Therefore, the basis for God's will in any Christian's life is the expression of God's love through that life. As we look further at different Christians, we see how vastly diverse they are. We have all probably said to someone (or been told ourselves) that "when God made you, He threw away the mold!" We may smile, but how true this actually is.

Each of us are individuals with personalities and characteristics all our own. Our unfavorable qualities and traits often cause us hours of dissatisfaction, grief, and concern. But we must realize that each Christian is a very special, unique individual created by God with these qualities in order to carry out His will for that individual. When we humbly submit ourselves, bad traits and all, to God for His molding, we find that we are "fearfully and wonderfully made" with just the qualities needed to do God's bidding in our lives.

When we realize that God has created us the way we are for His purposes, accept ourselves as His special creation, and submit ourselves to God for the refining of these qualities, we are on our way to doing His will. It is our responsibility to develop these qualities to their fullest at God's direction. He is never pleased with second best, mediocre Christians. If God directs one to teach, that

person should become the best possible teacher through study and whatever means God provides. If God calls one to visit, he should develop his talent for speaking with people and witnessing. Whatever we do for the Lord, may it be to the best of the abilities He has given us!

As we consider God's will for our lives, let us first realize that whatever this will is, it will result in an expression of God's love through us to all the people we meet. Secondly, we must accept ourselves as very special, unique individuals endowed with certain qualities by God for carrying out His purpose for our lives. After submitting ourselves to God for the refining of these qualities, it is our

*"We must strive to live
up to our potential
as Christians."*

responsibility to develop whatever talents we have to the very fullest. We must strive to live up to our potential as Christians.

If we live out our lives in such a manner (for this is a life-spanning process) we will never be able to complain of boredom. How exciting, how exhilarating to think that there are certain things to be done for our Lord that *no one* else is qualified to do! It should give me a feeling of importance, a sense of well-being, an attitude of optimism to know that I have a part in God's universal plan and His love is being expressed through ME!

Welcome

Welcome Aboard!

Miss Donna Carr was employed by WNAC in October as secretary and associate editor of *Co-Laborer* magazine. She is the daughter of the late Don Carr and Mrs. Nell Carr of Nashville. Donna graduated from Free Will Baptist Bible College and attended Tennessee State University for one year.

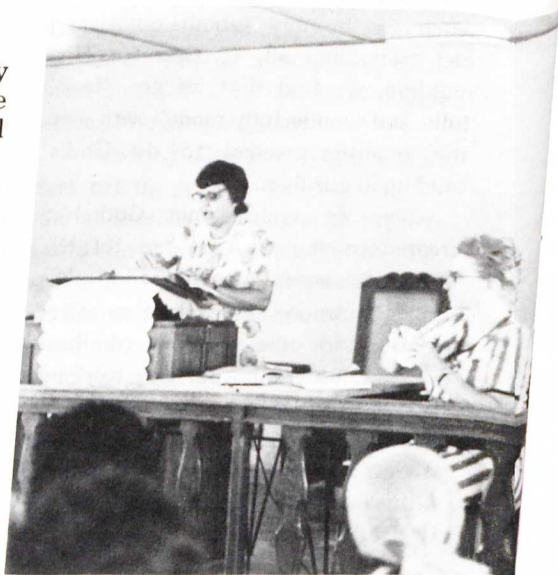
Three full-time employees are now working in the WNAC office.



Welcome Back!

Mrs. Mabel Willey, missionary to Panama, recently visited the churches in Cuba that she and her husband, the late Rev. Thomas H. Willey, founded in the early days of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions. She is pictured here listening to the President report at the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention held in Cuba, October, 1977.

Rev. and Mrs. Willey went to Cuba in 1941 and ministered there until President Dwight D. Eisenhower broke American diplomatic relations with the Castro government in January, 1961.





Happy Anniversary To A Special Couple

Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Frazier, members of the Ashland City Free Will Baptist Church, Ashland City, Tennessee, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this past September. Unlike most couples the Fraziers do not exchange gifts with each other. Instead, they have come up with an idea that not only makes them happy, but serves others as well.

Each year since their 50th anniversary the Fraziers have given a dollar for each year of their wedded happiness to some phase of the Lord's work. In the past they have given to the building and library funds of Free Will Baptist Bible College and to various missionary accounts.

This year they sent their gift of \$60 to the WNAC Student Loan Fund. Incidentally, Mrs. Frazier launched this program to aid young people seeking an education with an original donation of \$500 some years ago.

Have you ever found yourself saying, "I just don't know what to get my husband for our anniversary. He has everything!" Or maybe you've wondered to yourself how you could possibly find room for another bottle of perfume—much less use it!

Why not follow the unselfish example of this lovely couple? What better way to praise God for a happy marriage and add to His kingdom at the same time. When God has given us so much, what a privilege to be able to give a portion back to Him.

RETREAT REFLECTIONS

Ohio Retreat

Seventy-six Ohio women met September 30 and October 1, 1977, at Big Prairie, Ohio for a time of inspiration, prayer, and also fun. The theme of the retreat was "Love Is . . ." and was based on I Corinthians 13.

Barbara Gibbs, missionary to France was the guest speaker. She spoke, showed slides, and was then honored with a surprise shower in which she received clothing, jewelry, and cash.

Joann Sizemore and Delois Loveless conducted workshops, and the Ohio state officers presented the skit "Why Mother Hubbard's Cupboard Is Bare." A special highlight of the retreat was the "Galilean Service," a candle-light service by the lake.

Mississippi Retreat

Beautiful Lake Tiak-O-Khata was the setting for the Mississippi State Woman's Auxiliary prayer retreat held August 26-27, 1977, Louisville, Mississippi. The theme of the retreat was "Anchored Till the Morning."

Sandra Payne, missionary nurse from Ivory Coast, shared the joy of serving the Lord in faraway Africa. Other speakers included Carolyn Dwyer, Barbara Fletcher, Hilma Marlin, Fay Carol Reid, Helen Shackelford, and Betty Shelby. Dot Gore served as prayer captain.

Missouri Retreat

"Pattern for Prayer" was the theme of the 1977 Missouri Retreat. Glenda Fulcher, missionary to Panama, was the guest speaker. Hearts were challenged as she spoke on the purpose of prayer, the price of prayer, and the promise of prayer. Clothing and over \$200.00 for additional clothing were given to the Fulcher family. An honorarium of \$150.00 was sent to their account. One hundred nineteen attended the retreat at the Youth Camp in Niangua, Missouri.

Kentucky Retreat

It was a first for women of Kentucky when they met with women in the Norton, Virginia area for a prayer retreat September 9-10, 1977, at Jenny Wiley State Park, Prestonsburg, Kentucky. Miss Laura Belle Barnard was the speaker for the Friday and Saturday services.

Jean Johnson from Southside Church, Paintsville, Kentucky, was in charge

of the music and made a booklet of Scripture songs for each lady. She also accompanied on an auto-harp. Dorothy Cox reviewed the book *Discovering How to Pray* by Hope MacDonald. Rudene Kennedy did an outstanding job as emcee and kept everything running smoothly.

Walta Preston was in charge of registration and publicity and Rudene Kennedy and Gertie Whitehurst helped with planning and publicity in the Virginia area. The attendance was 71, and the survey showed a unanimous decision in favor of another retreat soon.

Michigan Retreat

Michigan women met at Waldens Woods for their annual Woman's Auxiliary Prayer Retreat. Mrs. Earlene Lindsey, housewife, mother, and teacher, was the guest speaker. The ladies enjoyed attending seminars and had a great time of fun and fellowship.

Washington Retreat

August 26th and 27th were the dates for the Washington Woman's Auxiliary Retreat. The theme was "I Am a Promise," and June Rolan, Fresno, California, brought excellent thoughts on being special and one of a kind. Thirty-six women attended the retreat held at Bible Rock Camp near Cle Elum.

Indiana Retreat

The second Indiana Woman's Auxiliary retreat was held October 7-8, 1977, in the activities building of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Anderson. Forty-seven women registered for a time of fun, fellowship, and serious study. A chain of prayer continued throughout the night.

Carol Eldridge presided, and Jane O'Donnell and Luann Davis brought devotions. Cleo Pursell, WNAC executive secretary, spoke on "The God-Controlled Woman" and "Sharpening Leadership Skills." Mary Neal led in an inspiring song-fest.

California Retreat

The fifth annual retreat of the California State Auxiliary Convention was held at Emerald Cove Camp, Bass Lake, October 13-15, 1977. The theme, "Her Name Is Woman," was cleverly carried out through special features, decorations, songs, fun time and serious discussions. Doris Raper, matron at Free Will Baptist Childrens' Home, Greeneville, Tennessee, was the guest speaker.

Oklahoma Retreat

A total of 382 women attended Woman's Auxiliary Retreats held in two sections of the state. June Critcher, a Nashville pastor's wife, led in a study of *What Happens When Women Pray* at the eastern Oklahoma retreat held near Waggoner. The western group met at the Lake Texhoma Lodge and heard Irma Warr, Oklahoma City, discuss problems women face.



A Woman God Has Used

Mrs. Zella Ramsey is the wife of Free Will Baptist minister, Reverend Lee Ramsey. She is the mother of three, grandmother of 11, and great-grandmother of 11. Mrs. Ramsey was saved at the age of 15, and began teaching at 16. She has been faithful in the Lord's work since, with teaching playing a major role in her service to her Master.

A native of Oklahoma, she went to California and settled in Kerman in 1940. During the past 37 years she has directed 14 Vacation Bible Schools and taught unnumbered Sunday school classes.

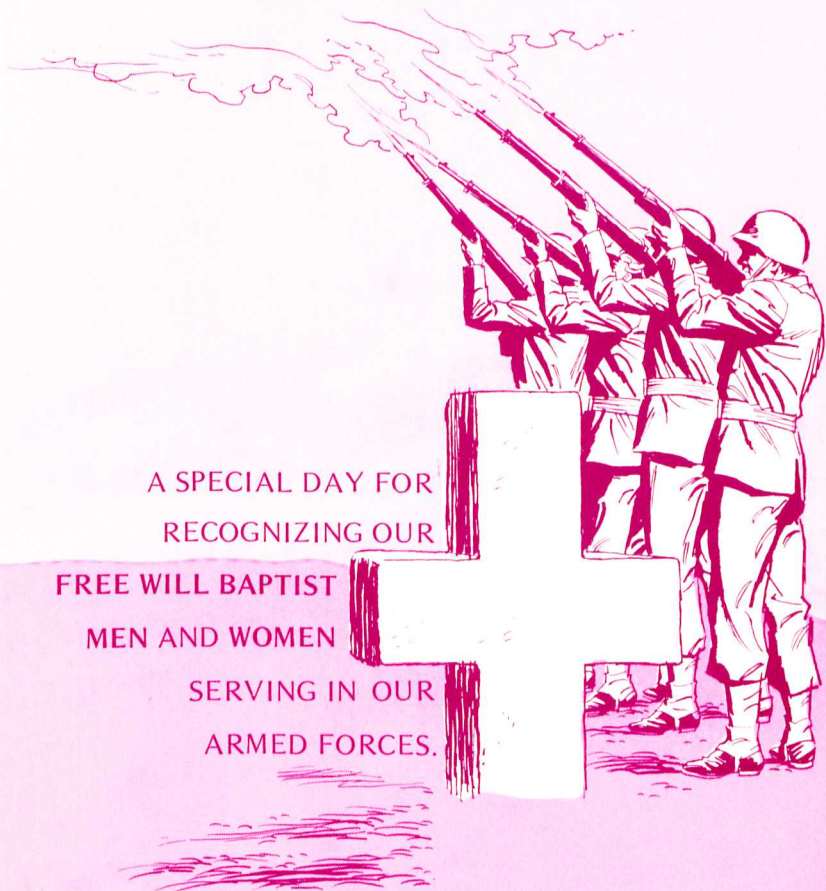
Mrs. Ramsey has served her local, district, and state Auxiliaries in almost every possible office. As Field Worker in 1955-56 she traveled over 3,200 miles organizing new Auxiliaries, installing officers, and leading study courses.

Mrs. Ramsey has also been actively involved in youth work, organizing and leading a Young People's Auxiliary and Go Tell Auxiliary at her own church, as well as several other California churches.

Mrs. Zella Ramsey has been faithful in all her duties as wife, mother, and servant of God. She has been a true friend to anyone who needed her help in any way. Rev. Ramsey's ill health has kept her close to home the past five years, but she is still teaching Sunday school and active in her local Auxiliary.

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July 17-18, 1978

Kansas City, Missouri