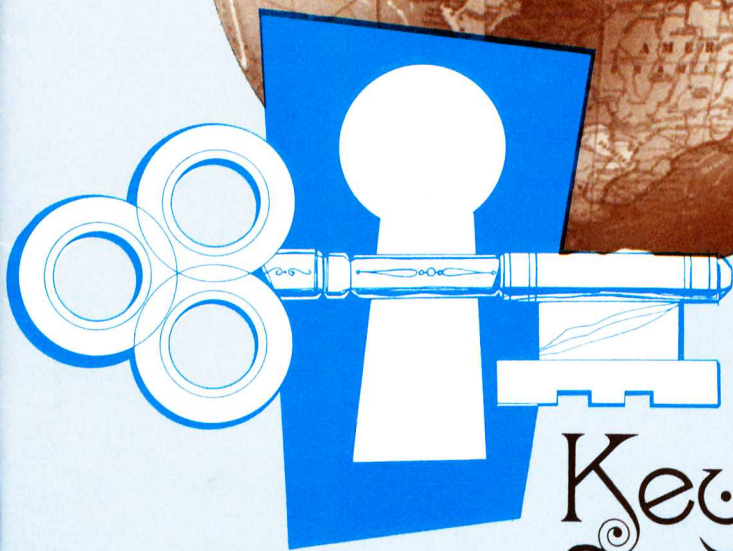
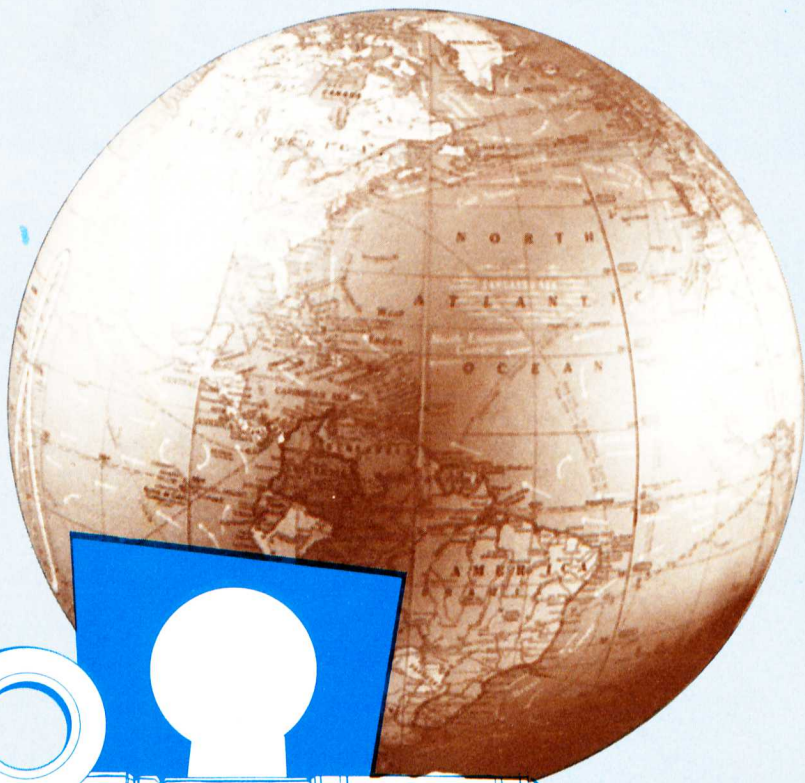


Co-Laborer

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July-August-September 1978



Keys
to Service

1978-79

WNAC Theme: KEYS TO SERVICE

Watchword: "A great door and effectual is opened unto me . . . " (1 Cor. 16:9a)

Song: "Footsteps of Jesus"

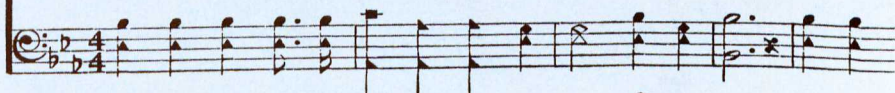
Footsteps of Jesus

MARY B. C. SLADE

A. B. EVERETT



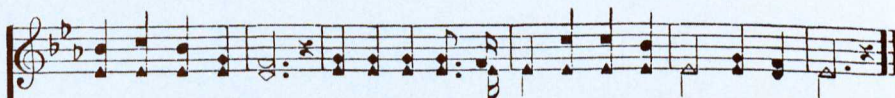
1. Sweet-ly, Lord, have we heard Thee call-ing, Come, fol-low Me! And we
2. Though they lead o'er the cold, dark mountains, Seek-ing His sheep; Or a-
3. If they lead thro' the tem-ple ho-ly, Preaching the Word; Or in
4. Then at last, when on high He sees us, Our jour-ney done, We will



CHORUS.



see where Thy foot-prints falling Lead us to Thee.
long by Si-lo-am's fountains, Help-ing the weak: Foot-prints of Je-sus, that
homes of the poor and low-ly, Serv-ing the Lord:
rest where the steps of Je-sus End at His throne.



make the pathway glow; We will follow the steps of Je-sus wher-e'er they go.



Co-Laborer

July-August-September 1978

Volume XVIII Number 3

In This Issue

- 2 Co-Laborers Write
- 4 Memo from Cleo
- 5 Women in Action
- 9 Who's Who in this Issue
- 10 July Program
- 13 August Program
- 16 September Program
- 19 Prayer Groups
- 22 Woman's National Auxiliary Convention
- 25 Bloom Where You are Planted
- 27 God Leads to the Needs
- 28 God Makes a Little Bit Big
- 29 Down Memory Lane
- 30 A Woman God Has Used
- 31 You Can Make a Difference
- 32 Write in Style!

Cleo W. Pursell, Editor Donna Carr, Associate Editor

Evelyn Jones, Circulation

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Co-Laborers Write

Please increase our *Co-Laborer* order by eight. We surely are enjoying each lesson, and I receive a blessing every time I read my *Co-Laborer* book.

*Myrna Montgomery
Madison, Alabama*

Hello and greetings from Oregon! I can't begin to tell you how the Lord has used *Co-Laborer* to bless, uplift, and encourage our small auxiliary to persevere. Thanks for the help and encouragement you give.

*Patty O'Donnell
Portland, Oregon*

I would like to thank WNAC for their help during a time when I really needed it. I only hope I can make a contribution to the Lord's work that will justify your help and the help of others who encouraged me during my years of school.

*James Munsey
Newport, Tennessee*

Our Woman's Auxiliary here at Windsor Park Free Will Baptist Church wants to say "Thank You" for the many blessings we receive from the *Co-Laborer* programs.

We thank God for those who furnish our inspiring programs and Help Packets each month. Praise the Lord!

*Mrs. Harry Cooper
Cheraw, South Carolina*

The work you are doing is great and our prayers are with you. The missionaries are always on our prayer list, and we want to be well informed so we can really help in supplying their needs. God bless you.

*Peggy Eason
Virginia Beach, Virginia*

Please send me eight magazines as soon as possible. We didn't have enough; thank the Lord.

*Estalene Winfrey
Hoxie, Arkansas*

Our auxiliary is growing. We first ordered ten books, then 18, and now we need five more. We are still considered a mission church, but we have really enjoyed the *Co-Laborer* books and the Program Help Packet.

*Lois Godley
Farmerville, North Carolina*

We just wanted to write and tell you a little about our auxiliary here at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Albuquerque.

We organized on August 23, 1977 with five members. We now have seven. Mrs. W. W. Winters, our pastor's wife, is our president.

We all really enjoy our *Co-Laborer* and get a blessing from it. We had our Pre-Thanksgiving Prayer Program and also got a blessing from it.

*Louise Bell
Albuquerque, New Mexico*

Please accept this note as a special THANK YOU for your work! This month is my first experience with the *Co-Laborer*, and I feel it has really made me a missionary enthusiast. Thanks again.

*Judy Griffin
Greenville, North Carolina*

I enjoy your *Co-Laborer* magazine very much. I especially liked the program "Spiritually Fashioned."

Our auxiliary is fairly new. We have about 15 members. It's our prayer that God would use us for the up-building of His kingdom.

*Shelby Taylor
Chilhowie, Virginia*

It is with great joy that I report a new auxiliary work in Kentucky. The ladies at the Cliff Free Will Baptist Church, Prestonsburg, organized November 7, 1977 with ten charter members.

Please send us 12 *Co-Laborer* magazines to begin with. We hope to enlarge our group early.

*Lillian Conley
Prestonsburg, Kentucky*

We have been collecting medicine bottles for our missionaries and are looking forward to our linen shower for the missionary provision closet at our next meeting.

We thoroughly enjoy our Woman's Auxiliary programs—excellent material. Thanks to all of you who contribute your time and talents.

*Susan Bowles
Vero Beach, Florida*

We organized our auxiliary at Feather's Chapel in October of 1977, and we already have 12 members on our roll. We purchased a bus and have seen one person saved who would not have had a ride to church otherwise. We praise the Lord for this victory.

We would like to thank WNAC for the *Co-Laborer* magazine. We have grown in grace and received many blessings from it.

We also want to express our deepest appreciation to our District Field Worker, Mrs. Walter Statzer, for all her help, encouragement, and prayers.

*Peggy Derrick
Blountville, Tennessee*

Our auxiliary had a shower for Janice Webb, and Jerry told his mother, one of our members, that theirs will be the best dressed baby in France!

We all enjoy the *Co-Laborers* each month. They seem to be getting better and better. May God bless all of you in His service.

*Martha Anderson
Porterville, California*

MEMO from CLEO

Cleo Pursell, Executive Secretary



Convention Plans

Plans have been made for two days of action-packed activity for the Woman's Auxiliary Convention July 17-18, in Kansas City, Missouri. Please check convention information elsewhere in this issue of *Co-Laborer*.

There will be an exchange of creative ideas between presidents, field workers, and the executive committee at the Monday afternoon meeting. Each one is requested to bring copies (about 50 if possible) of some good idea for either a program, program help, prayer reminder, retreat, study course, etc. (There is no limit to the number of ideas you may bring.)

Jill Briscoe, speaker for the Monday evening fellowship dinner, will delight and inspire you. Her books will be on sale in the WNAC display booth. There will be missionary speakers, singers, and a missionary panel on Tuesday afternoon.

Creative Writing Contest

One hundred ninety-six entries have been received. Praise the Lord for women who are willing to develop and share their wonderful skills and abilities!

WNAC Emphasis Month

"A Winning Team" is the exciting theme of the 1978 WNAC Emphasis Program. Written by Donna Carr, associate editor of *Co-Laborer*, the program will have special appeal to the young women of your group. Here is an opportunity to involve them in this important event. August is the designated month. We are counting on you to join with other Free Will Baptist women to make "A Winning Team" for WNAC.

Missionary Provision Closet Needs

Twin and double bedspreads, twin sets of sheets, twin and double mattress covers, king and queen size sheets and bedspreads, pressure cookers, steam irons, Corelle Ware, and blankets.

Women In Action

STATE CONVENTION

Georgia. Delores Burns of Swainsboro was elected president at the State Convention held November 17 at Statesboro Free Will Baptist Church. There was much enthusiasm and interest at the meeting, and it was reported that the 587 members of the Georgia Woman's Auxiliary Convention gave over \$21,000 during the 1976-77 fiscal year.

The theme, "Love's Commitment," was taken from Acts 3:6, "Such as I have give I thee." Program personalities included Sandra Payne, missionary to Ivory Coast; Charolette Tallent, missionary appointee to France; and Geraldine Waid, former missionary to Japan.

DISTRICT CONVENTION

The Central Ohio District Woman's Auxiliary met at Community Free Will Baptist Church, West Jefferson, Ohio, on September 12, 1977. Mrs. Dorothy Stidham, president, was in charge. The theme was "Love

Abideth" (Acts 3:6).

A special project of raising \$275.00 to buy a mimeograph machine for Rev. Arnold Shrewsbury and the Canton Mission was adopted.

Twenty-four were present to hear Mrs. Peggy Adkission, who was in charge of the program, give a study of the Auxiliary Manual.

MEMBER HONORED

Mrs. Betty Reeves, a frequent winner in the WNAC writing contest, was honored by her fellow-members in the Fellowship Woman's Auxiliary in Flat River, Missouri. "A friend is a present you give yourself" was the theme of the program which featured articles and poems she had written. Each of the officers presented an article and then placed a red sweetheart rose into a vase which was given to Betty at the end of the program.

As a token of their love and appreciation the women of the church presented Betty with an engraved wristwatch. Her mother, four daughters and two grandchildren were present to help her enjoy the surprise.





SENIOR CITIZENS HONORED

At their February meeting the West Side Woman's Auxiliary, Johnsonville, South Carolina, had a special Valentine theme to honor their senior ladies. The auxiliary presented each of them with a corsage to express their love and appreciation. The thirty who attended (a record high) were certainly blessed as the older women testified of God's goodness to them through the years.



CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Victory Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary, Goldsboro, North Carolina, held their annual Christmas covered dish supper at the church on December 15. Special guests were women of the church who do not attend the auxiliary meetings.

A Christmas tree was decorated with crocheted granny squares with a picture of a missionary or missionary couple in

the center of each. At the close of the meeting each of the women took one or more of these as their prayer object for the holidays and coming year.

At this yearly meeting the women also reveal who their secret pals or "heart sisters" were during the past year by presenting them with a gift.

This auxiliary has an average attendance of 20 and meets monthly in the homes of the members. Mrs. Doris West is now serving as president.

RETREAT REPORT

Approximately 100 women from all over the Palmetto State met at the Garden City Chapel by the Sea, Garden City, South Carolina, for their annual retreat September 23-24. Speakers for the retreat were Rev. Hal Norton, pastor of Garden City Chapel; Mrs. Iris Eaddy, sister to Carlisle Hanna, missionary to India; and Mrs. Jeanie Bower, missionary to Columbia, South America.

The women all enjoyed a stroll along the Myrtle Beach seashore, and the retreat served to unify them and renew their determination to work for the Lord through woman's auxiliary.



HOME MISSIONS EMPHASIS

One hundred ten dollars for National Home Missions was given by the Richland Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee, during a Thanksgiving program presented by the woman's auxiliary.

"Spiritually Fashioned," the October '77 program in *Co-Laborer*, along with congrega-

tional and special music, testimonies, illustrations, and a Home Missions report made up the service.

The teenage girls took up the offering and helped with the refreshments. The auxiliary, led by President Mary Ann Darnell, publicized their special day on a local radio station, with posters, and in the church bulletin.

SHOWERS

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Pardue Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, Clarksville, Tennessee, is pictured here after the Tupperware party they sponsored for the missionary provision closet.

The women of the Victory Free Will Baptist Church, Andrews, South Carolina, organized an auxiliary February 7, 1977, and already have 25 members. They sold Tupperware to send to the provision closet and netted \$175.00. They added \$25.00 to this and gave their church's building fund \$200.00.

Victory, which was organized January 5, 1977, is meeting in a house which the Woman's Auxiliary, with the help of the men of the church, renovated.

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Woodhaven Free Will Baptist Church, Woodhaven, Michigan, honored Sheila Williams, missionary to Ecuador, (second row, far right) with a shower while she was home on sick leave.



JAPANESE AUXILIARY

The Airin Chapel Woman's Auxiliary, Sapporo, Japan, enjoyed an American Christmas dinner in celebration of our Lord's birthday.

"I think we can see the results of our labor this year through the kind of women who attended," wrote a Japanese member of the auxiliary. Forty came to the dinner, 18 Christians and 22 non-Christians. Ten of the unsaved women had shown an interest in salvation either through attending home Bible studies or Sunday worship ser-

vices. Twelve had never before been to church. They were mothers of Sunday school children or acquaintances of the women.

One Japanese first-timer said to a member, "When I saw you I realized who were Christians and who were non-Christians because of your bright and peaceful faces."

God has surely blessed the efforts of our missionaries in Japan and what a thrill to see their converts reaching out to the lost through the Woman's Auxiliary.



Missionaries Mirial Gainer, Janice Banks, Sandra Bishop, and Judy Smith provided the music.



The Japanese auxiliary enjoyed a typical, American Christmas dinner of turkey and dressing, salads, corn, sweet potatoes, bread, pumpkin pie, and of course tea!





Campbell



Critcher



Cronk

Who's Who in this Issue

Reid



Statzer



Taylor



Lottie Campbell, Kirksville, Missouri, is the author of the article "God Makes a Little Bit Big." She is the wife of a minister and a Child Evangelism teacher. She also teaches children in the First Free Will Baptist Church.

June Critcher, Nashville, Tennessee, is a pastor's wife and mother of two. A well-known writer and speaker among Free Will Baptists, she is the author of our September program, "Praise: Loving and Adoring God."

Trula Cronk, Nashville, Tennessee, served with her husband Dan as a missionary to North India for 24 years under the Free Will Baptist Mission Board. The mother of one son, she is presently employed by the state of Tennessee. She is the author of "Parting Wishes," our study for August.

Carol Reid, Taylors, South Carolina, is the author of "Face to Face," the program for July. A 1977 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College, she teaches music in a nursery school/kindergarten. Carol and her husband Garnett, a graduate student at Bob Jones University, also work in junior church.

Magaline Statzer, Bristol, Virginia, is the author of the article, "Bloom Where You Are Planted." She is a pastor's wife, Sunday school secretary, and CTS teacher. Active in her local auxiliary, she also serves as field worker for her district and assistant secretary of the Virginia State Auxiliary.

Shelby Taylor, Jacksonville, North Carolina, works full time as a bookkeeper and she serves as Service Chairman for the Onslow County Unit of the American Cancer Society. Wife, mother of two, and very active in church work, she is the author of the article, "God Leads to the Needs."

Face to Face

Song: "When We See Christ" or
"O That Will Be Glory"

Scripture: Exodus 33:18-23,
34:29-34

See Program Help Packet

RELUCTANTLY RON replaced the receiver in the cradle, savoring the "Goodbye, dearest" from his cherished Elizabeth. His mind went back again to their many conversations of love and encouragement, to Beth's lilting, tender voice, to her laugh full of bells, and her quaint, colorful phrases. If only he could see her face, this one whose voice to him was music; if only his eyes could know the one whose love had made such a vast difference in his life. Almost painfully Ron recalled the depths of despair, his complete sense of worthlessness before he met Beth.

In the hospital room next to his, she had begun sending him messages, and later, occasionally phoning him before her return to her home fifty miles away. What hopeless lostness, what desperate wandering his soul had known until Beth, with her gentleness, understanding, and respect, stepped in to add direction and peace to his life. And this one,

this dear one whose life had given hope and purpose to his, he had never seen; for Ron was blind. His eyes were forever lost physicians told him.

THE LONGING TO GLIMPSE GOD

How very much like Ron Moses must have felt as he, alone in the tabernacle, burdened with the responsibility of leading his people, bared his soul before God. Pleading for direction and for the presence of God Almighty, he found peace nowhere except in the security and strength of God's keeping. And there, in the presence of the Lord, Moses found grace and communion. His longing to see this One whose presence made all the difference between hope and despair seemed almost overwhelming. He made his humble request, "Show me thy glory" (Exodus 33:18). Knowing every desire and motive of Moses' heart, God granted that request—not fully, but as He saw best in His perfect wisdom. Oh, the sweetness of His reply, not only to Moses, but to every Christian, "Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock" (Exodus 33:21).

Consider God's concern for the welfare of his servant Moses, His careful preparation so that Moses would be not overwhelmed by the magnificence of his view. Already God had told Moses that he could not allow him to see His face. Then in His marvelous care, God shielded His servant with His hand, allowing Moses only a glimpse of His back

as he stood securely in the cleft of the rock.

Throughout Moses' life God had prepared the way for him. As a babe, God had spared his life and given him a "royal" education and benefits. Years later, confronted by the command from the burning bush, Moses again could see God's preparation for him. He was the man of the hour for God's perfect plan, completely prepared by a God who with faultless foreknowledge cares for his own.

Fulfillment and satisfaction at the achievement of his heart's desire must have opened Moses' heart to renewed commitment and prepared him for a sacred interview with Jehovah, his Master and his Friend. Descending from the mountain entrusted with the responsibility of conveying God's Word to the waiting Israelites, he met this task with an awareness of the immeasurable goodness and completeness of the One he served.

THE EFFECT OF GLIMPING GOD

God's presence always leaves its effect on man, whether this effect be great or small. Acts 4:13 speaks of the boldness of Peter and John, a boldness they displayed in spite of their lack of education and position. As a result, the Pharisees "took knowledge of them that they had been with Jesus." The difference God's presence made in Moses' life was likewise evident as he descended from his mountaintop glimpse of and conversation with God. Although Moses did not realize it at first, his face shone

brightly. His countenance was so radiant that the Israelites and his brother Aaron were afraid to get close to him. Feeling the urgency of his message from God, Moses veiled his face. He then gathered the priests, rulers, and all the congregation of the Israelites to speak what God commanded him.

Oh, that we could be such reflectors of God's presence with us and goodness to us. Jesus has commanded, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). All that we do—every word, every thought, every action—should mirror the Christ we claim as our Savior. The Holy Spirit should have full access to the controls of our life. The "mind of Christ" should dictate our behavior and clearly reflect Him—His love, power, holiness and mercy—to others.

We represent the Godhead in another important area—that of our homes. A child's first comprehension of God's love, justice, and mercy comes to him through the lives of his parents. Do your daily actions and standards convey the right image of Christ's attributes in your home?

Moses spoke to the people veiled; yet upon entering the temple, he uncovered his face and again communed with God as friend to friend. All barriers removed, all walls broken down, Moses met with God. Certainly the meeting lacked none of the honor, fear, and reverence that God deserved, but the air was full of love, freedom, and understanding—perfect communion. The lack of pretense and

covering is an example to today's believer, teaching us to put off anything that would keep us from complete fellowship with Christ our Savior.

THE BLESSEDNESS OF GLIMPING GOD

A New Testament character also pleaded for a glimpse of God however, his purpose was entirely different. Thomas had not been present when Jesus had appeared in the upper room to the waiting disciples. He had not seen the pierced hands and side of Christ and refused to believe His appearance at all until he could witness the scars of the crucifixion. During those eight days that John 20 tells us Thomas waited, his heart must have been heavy with doubt and despair; for what hope does any believer have if he does not serve a risen Savior? While the other disciples rejoiced, for seeing Jesus had made them glad (John 20:20), Thomas surely sulked and worried, poisoned with the fear and hopelessness of his doubting. While they rested with peaceful hearts—for Christ had spoken peace to them—Thomas must have wrestled with discouragement. What cure was there for such a shadowed existence but the warmth of the presence of the Living God. "Be not faithless, but believing," Christ gently reprimanded the doubter, Thomas.

Listen, for perhaps it is to you also He speaks. Trusting Christ is the only answer to the dark questions in our hearts, the only relief for the shades of night that would rob us of our peace and

joy. Is it for life's major necessities you doubt Him? For food and shelter and clothing? Can you really doubt the One who feeds the sparrow and clothes the lilies? Or is it for the everyday worries and problems you sacrifice your rest and happiness? Can you do so and still trust in an all-sufficient God? You may need, as Thomas did, a new glimpse of Christ, a new realization of His provision for you in salvation and in every need of your heart.

THE HOPE OF GLIMPING GOD

Moses' joy and Thomas' peace at their glimpses of God cannot compare with that joy and peace that will one day be ours when we meet our Savior face to face. In the fullness of God's timing, the veil of flesh, the "dark glass" of this world, will be removed and "we shall know Him, even as we are known."

Through the ages prophets have been sustained by it, apostles have been strengthened by it, bereaved have been comforted by it, invalids have been encouraged by it, pilgrims have been led by it, hungry have been fed by it—this hope of seeing Christ. For those who look to His appearing the anticipation of His face has robbed Death of its pain and Earth of its pull. Our human minds cannot fully grasp all that the sight of our Lord will mean to us. Only in part can we realize the joy, peace, satisfaction, and completeness that it will mean. Seeing Christ means the finish line, the end of the race, the victory in the battles.

Parting Wishes

Song: "The Call for Reapers"

Scripture: Mark 16:15-20

See Program Help Packet

WHEN I WAS about three years old, my mother lay dying from a disease for which at that time there was no cure. One day after she had been bedridden for months, she seemed to know that her time would come very soon, so she called my father to her side and exacted from him a promise about my future welfare. It was the last request she was ever to make because she died that night. My father considered that promise made to his dying wife a trust which he could not break. It led to a terrible estrangement between him and me because I could not understand that he was doing it because he had to, and that it was for my own good. It was many years before I became mature enough to understand the sentiment involved in a last request from a dying loved one. By then, looking back from wider experience, I could also see the hand of providence and understand and be thankful for the wisdom of my mother in making that last request which was to affect the whole course of my life.

If my father had broken his promise and had kept me with him as I begged him to do and as he, no doubt, desired to do; my whole life would probably have been bound by the ring of hills around that mountain community where I was born. But he kept the trust and I was sent away where through many developing circumstances, life opened up for me so that I have been at home in the wide world and enriched by contact with many kinds of people in their various cultures, languages and religions.

A LAST COMMAND

Just before the Lord Jesus went back to heaven, He called his little group of disciples about Him in an appointed place and made a last request. Nay, not just a last request, He gave a last command and exacted from them a commitment to a task that was to reorder their whole lives and the lives of countless millions after them. They were just a little provincial group, not very educated, not very rich, and probably none of them had ever been outside the borders of his own tiny country. Without education themselves, they were called on to teach the world, including the great centers of civilization—Rome, Greece, China, and India. Though they were themselves of insignificant social standing, their master was committing them to revolutionize not only their own society, but the whole world. They knew they couldn't do it. Why, the world of that day was

in a terrible mess. Slavery was common. Misery was the lot of almost everyone. Life expectancy was less than thirty years.

Their Lord didn't seem to be aware of any of these difficulties. He just said, "Wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me . . . but ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses . . . unto the uttermost part of the earth" (Acts 1:4, 8).

We know that last command spoken to the disciples as our Lord was leaving for His home with the Father was spoken to all who are His disciples even to this day. Not one has been left out. We know it well and we probably do not need teaching so much as reminding. To the degree that those who have been called Christian through the ages have committed themselves to carrying out our Lord's last command, to that degree the world has been changed.

A LOST CONDITION

It is appalling to think of what the world would be like today if those simple men had not kept the trust. By the same token, it is grievous to think what our world could be, and is not, because of the many who have called themselves Christians, but have made no commitment to the Great Commission. Think of China where one fourth of the world's people live without access to the Gospel. This is true because Christians failed to keep the trust.

Just six years ago another nation lay wounded and bleeding after a cruel civil war. The hearts of those aching people were open to any message of comfort. An appeal went out to the Christian church to come to Bangladesh to pour on balm and heal the broken places. Had the church responded in full commitment, history for a whole people would have been changed. The token response was not enough. Now it is probably too late, even if we felt more inclined to respond today than we did six years ago.

The Gospel has changed the course of many nations. It has not only brought salvation to individuals, it has also brought cultural change to the countries of the world where it has been allowed to take root. Missionaries have taken literacy, medicine, and education wherever they have gone, along with the message of Christ.

Those first disciples knew that the great commission was not an option to be discussed but a command to be obeyed. Anything less than obedience would be treason. It is the same today. Missions began in the heart of God when He sent His son into the world to die for sinners. It continues in the heart of God as He places His seal of adoption upon everyone who accepts His salvation and commissions him to go and teach the world of Christ.

Though many choose to by-pass the demands of the great commission, no Christian can read his Bible without being aware of them. It is the lordship of Christ that is in question, not just what one thinks about mis-

sions. If Christ is Lord of my life, I cannot help being involved in His mission in the world. It is just as necessary for Christians to tell the lost about Christ as it was for Christ to die for the lost. There are different degrees of involvement, no doubt, but every Christian must have some part in carrying out our Lord's mission.

A LOVING CHRISTIAN

Perhaps you recall the story of an African woman who heard of Christ and accepted Him as Lord of her life when she was already old and blind. She had never learned to read even when she could see, and now that she was blind as well as old, the people who led her to the Lord did not expect much from her in the way of service. Little did they know what her resources were with the living Christ inside. It didn't take her long to find her place in her Lord's army. As she mentally surveyed her world, she remembered the boys school near where she lived. Every day she made her way along the road and sat down by the gate where the boys came out when school was dismissed. Sitting there day after day she learned to recognize nearly every boy in the village by his voice, her keen ears compensating for her inability to see. As the boys would come pouring out, their words tumbling over one another, she would call out the name of a boy whose voice she recognized. "Can you read?" she would ask.

"Yes, of course I can read," the boy would respond proudly.

"Then have pity on me, a poor old blind woman, and read to me

from the book." As the boy came near she would hand him her Bible in which she had already had someone locate and mark a passage. She would beam and nod as she listened to the words she loved. If he stumbled, she would gently fill in the word. When he had finished she would say, "Now, son, what does it mean? Tell me what it means."

"Why, I don't know. I don't know what it means," the boy would often reply.

"Then let me explain it to you!" she would put in quickly, and with a radiant face she would tell the boy the meaning of God's love and how he could be saved.

Now if an old illiterate blind woman in Africa can be creative enough to find ways of honoring the great commission, should we be surprised at the Lord's rejection of our many excuses for not being involved in His ongoing work in the world?

It is not easy to be a soldier of the cross, not any where in the world, and it has never been easy: but the Christian who allows Christ to be his supreme commander cannot help hearing His marching orders: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). Everyone is drafted. The call falls on all alike. When a Christian hears, there are only two options: he either obeys or he burns his draft card. Unfortunately there are an awfully lot of draft card burners in the church today, just as there have been in every age since our Lord went away. The question remains, "What am I doing about my Lord's last command?"

September Program
June R. Critcher

PRaise:

Loving and Adoring God

Song: "O For A Thousand
Tongues to Sing" or "Praise
Him! Praise Him!"

Scripture: Psalm 96:4

See Program Help Packet

We thank God for what He does. We praise Him for who He is. The word "praise" comes from a Latin word meaning "to prize." When we truly prize something we place a high value on it. Something brings us a great deal of satisfaction and enjoyment, so we prize it highly. Or we admire a thing's excellence, and we place a high value on it.

Do you enjoy God's excellence? Do you delight in just sitting in His presence and telling Him how much He is worth to you?

"O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!" (Psalm 8:1). The Hebrew for the word "excellent" means "worthy," "powerful" and "glorious." The Name of the Lord is worthy, powerful and glorious! "For the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised" (Psalm 96:4).

THE PURPOSE OF PRAISE

Life is filled with praise. Parents praise their children—

only to be outpraised by grandparents. Women praise their hairdressers. Husbands praise their wives' cooking. We seem to be born with a desire to spontaneously praise whatever we place high value on.

We watch our children perform in the school band, or play, or participate in some sports activity, and we clap our hands in joy or shout with delight. Are we really consciously thinking of how the praise is affecting our children? Hardly. In order to fully savor our enjoyment, we must give expression to our feelings. Clapping and shouting sort of seal the feeling of pleasure within us. We have a need to release our inner feelings in an acceptable way.

In his *Reflections on the Psalms*, C. S. Lewis wrote, "I had not noticed how the humblest, and at the same time most balanced and capacious minds praised most, while the cranks, misfits and malcontents praised least. The good critics found something to praise in many imperfect works; the bad ones continually narrowed the list of books we might be allowed to read. The healthy and unaffected man, even if luxuriously brought up and widely experienced in good cookery, could praise a very modest meal... the snob

found fault with all. Except where intolerably adverse circumstances interfere, praise almost seems to be inner health made audible" (p. 19).

When a person is filled with inner spiritual health he expresses this strength by praising. He exercises the strength by expressing praise.

Just sensing the presence of God—whether during private devotions or in corporate worship—motivates the believer to rejoice and praise God.

C. S. Lewis also said, "I had never noticed that all enjoyment spontaneously overflows into praise, unless (sometimes even if) shyness or the fear of boring others is deliberately brought in to check it" (p. 23). So, we praise God because we enjoy Him.

We also express our praise because we enjoy God's presence. Psalm 22:3 declares that God inhabits the praises of His people. The path into the presence of God is praise. If you do not daily express praise to God, start today. You will enjoy a fellowship with Him that you have never before known. Praise produces the realized presence of God.

Praise delights God. "Bless the Lord, O my soul..." (Psalm 103:1). The Psalmist didn't cry, "Bless my soul!" We are told to bless God, to honor and give pleasure to Him. "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created" (Revelation 4:11). When we express our love and adoration for God, we bring Him

much pleasure.

VARIETY IN PRAISE

When we look into God's Word for His methods of heavenly praise, we are once again reminded that He is a magnificent God of infinite variety.

Often the Psalmist speaks of a loud shout accompanying praise. New Testament writers tell us Christ's return will be with a shout. Before the walls of Jericho fell, there was a shout of joy. Ezra tells us there were shouts when the Temple foundation was laid. Psalm 47:1 reads: "Clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph." In the fifth Psalm, verse 11, we are told, "Let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy." God is not hard of hearing. (He isn't nervous either!) But many times shouting is the only way we can release the joy that floods the inner person.

As we focus on the greatness of our God, who we are in Christ, and the abundance of spiritual blessings that is ours, we often feel the urge to sing loud praises to God. When all believers are gathered around the Throne, a vast host of angels will praise God with a loud voice (Revelation 5:12).

Sometimes we praise God as we "keep silence before him" (Habakkuk 2:20). As we are still before Him, we come to know God more intimately and appreciate His nature. This closeness to Him creates an eagerness to praise Him.

Revelation 19 describes for us a cascading waterfall of praises—praise with shoutings, adulations, prostration and declarations of God's greatness.

Praise in God's Word is sometimes vocal (often loud). We see mass worship, sometimes singular. The Word tells us to shout for joy. Often praise is sung. Sometimes praise is accompanied by bowing, clapping the hands, raising the hands, prostrating and casting crowns before our Lord.

Variety in praise takes away the ritualism often associated with the practice and makes it more personal.

WHAT PRAISE DOES TO THE BELIEVER

What is the first thing you do when you feel tense or frustrated? Take a tranquilizer? Or "relax" in front of the television? The next time you feel pressure crushing you, take your Bible to a quiet place and read or sing several Psalms to God as an expression of your love to Him. You will experience release and joy!

The more you praise God, the bigger He gets and the smaller your problem gets. The praiser must look often into God's Word to enlarge his comprehension of God. Thus will his praises to God abound more and more.

God offers you a "garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness" (Isaiah 61:3). Give Him your negative way of life, your self-pity, your depression in exchange for a "garment of praise."

Praise God in spite of cir-

cumstances. You don't praise God only when you feel like it. Sing Psalms of praise to Him, or praise hymns, or make up your own words of praise. Using God's own words is a beautiful way to bring rejoicing to your heart.

More than 300 Scripture references tell us to sing. "They ministered . . . with singing" (1 Chronicles 6:31-32). Praising in song brings the believer close to God—either when he is home alone, driving to work, or in group worship. Sing with your mind on the meaning of the words and keep your heart in your singing. Sing to the Lord—not to people. Be sure the song focuses on Christ—His person or nature, or on what He has done for you. But you're always certain of pleasing Him when you sing Scripture because of the melodious release of your inner feelings plus God's anointed words.

God has purposed joy for His people. Happiness depends on circumstances, but real joy comes from Jesus Christ who is the Source of joy. Those who live close to Jesus are being filled with "exceeding joy." As we release this joy in praise to God, we bring much pleasure to Him who is worthy of our praise.

Praise is an expression—not a feeling. Praise should not be governed by our emotions, but should be a release of our joyful emotions. Praise begins in a person's spirit and is governed by a person's will. We must will to praise.

Beginning today, will you daily praise Him who "is great and greatly to be praised"?

Praise ye the Lord!

Prayer Group Programs

by Pat Thomas

JULY

Each year during the month of July, the National Association of Free Will Baptists convenes in a different city in America. Thousands of Free Will Baptist people gather from all over the United States and many foreign countries to a pre-selected city to conduct business, worship, fellowship, and share the blessings of God together. There is an emphasis on youth activities through the National Youth Conference which also convenes during this time. The Woman's National Auxiliary Convention also convenes at this time with worship services, business sessions, and an annual banquet.

There is a strong emphasis on missions throughout the entire convention. Early on Monday morning of the convention, the Home Missions and Foreign Missions office staff personnel begin to set up their display booths. The booths not only serve as a display area for missions materials and supplies, but also a place for missionaries to be available to meet the Free Will Baptist people. Missionaries spend many hours during the convention at the booths

greeting the people and sharing their experiences of life on the field of service.

Wednesday night, the missions night of the convention, is usually the highlight of the entire gathering. On this night all foreign missionaries and home missionaries sit together in designated places and are introduced individually to the audience. After a special chosen speaker delivers a missions message, an invitation is given for those wishing to surrender to God's perfect will for their lives. The missionaries are used as counselors during this invitation time, when on many occasions hundreds have responded.

At the end of this special service, a missionary offering is received which is divided equally between the Home and Foreign Missions Departments. In July, 1977, this offering amounted to over \$9,000. What a thrilling time the annual convention is, and what an opportunity to get to meet missionaries serving around the world!

Pray for the 13 summer missionaries who will be completing their work on the different fields and returning to the states.

With the Carlisle Hannas home for a short furlough pray for the Nationals in India as they carry on the work.

Pray for Joint Project workers in Mississippi, Rev. J. L. Gore in Jackson, and Rev. Steve Nichols in Greenwood, as they seek to gather a congregation and build churches.

Pray for Joint Project workers Rev. John Hollis in Kankakee, Illinois and Rev. Paul Reid in Greenwood, South Carolina that their churches will grow until they can become self-supporting.

AUGUST

Each year the Home and Foreign Missions Departments sponsor retreats for their missionaries, board members, and office staff personnel. The Foreign Missions annual retreat is in August and the Home Missions retreat is in April. The purpose of the retreats is not only for fellowship and inspiration, but also for problem solving and sharing together some of the difficulties faced on the mission field.

The Foreign Missions Annual Retreat is usually held on the campus of Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee. The missionaries and board members stay in the dormitories at the Bible College and eat at the college dining hall. During the five-day retreat there are devotional times, messages of challenge, instruction and orientation of missionary methods, recreation periods, banquets and dinners, panel discussions, testimonies from each field, group studies, and times of fellowship.

The Home Missions Annual Retreat is usually held at the Missouri State Camp Ground of Free Will Baptists at Niangua, Missouri. It is conducted similarly

to the Foreign Missions Retreat. Methods of church growth, soul winning, and church administration are discussed. There is usually special singing and worship services. Home Missionaries, board members, and office staff personnel gather from all over the United States, Mexico, and the Islands of the Seas, for this time of instruction, challenge, and inspiration.

The purpose of these retreats is to help missionaries with any problems they are having on the fields, expose them to new materials and methods for winning souls and building churches in isolated places, and challenge and warm their hearts to return to the field with greater determination to do a work for God. Such topics as "Coping with Loneliness" by Trula Cronk at the Foreign Missions Retreat, and "How to Personally Win a Soul To Christ" by Trymon Messer at the Home Missions Retreat are discussed. These days of sharing together are very rewarding to both missionaries and missions personnel.

Pray for the Rue Dell Smith family in Meriam, Kansas, a suburb of Kansas City, as they work toward their goal of becoming self-supporting.

Pray for the Clint Morgans, Ledgel Fergusons, and Patrick Dickens as they arrive in the Ivory Coast to begin their ministry after completing language school in Albertville, France.

Pray for Arilla Wode and Charolette Tallent as they begin

*their language study at
Albertville, France.*

SEPTEMBER

Prayer is a very important part of the work of missions. All missionaries serving on both home and foreign mission fields will verify the fact that prayer is the only thing that gives strength through difficult times, especially when serving in isolated areas. Prayer for missionaries offered by the churches back home has kept missionaries on the field many times when nothing else would have succeeded. Missionaries seem to know when they are being prayed for and when they are not. How important it is for God's people to remember to pray for those serving in hard areas to win people to Christ and establish churches for His glory.

Free Will Baptist Bible College, Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, and California Christian College all have prayer bands of students that meet each day to pray for the needs of missionaries. During these prayer band meetings each day, newsletters are read from missionaries, prayer requests are given, and time is spent in prayer for specific needs of each field. Many times through these times of meeting and praying together, students have received a burden and a call to the mission field as they were made aware of the needs.

At the Free Will Baptist National Offices in Nashville,

Tennessee each department meets daily for a time of prayer. During these prayer times, requests are shared, not only for the needs of the departments, but also for the missionaries serving around the world. On Wednesday mornings all the departments meet together for a prayer meeting and short worship service. Missionaries are also remembered during this time of prayer.

All across America at 9:00 o'clock each morning, Free Will Baptist women are praying for the needs of missionaries around the world. This is called the Prayer Fellowship Hour.

In Free Will Baptist churches throughout the country prayer goes up to God regularly on Sundays and Wednesday nights for the work of missionaries. Also Woman's Auxiliaries, Master's Men groups, Sunday school classes, and youth groups remember to pray for missionaries.

Several missionary kids will be in colleges across the United States away from their parents. Pray for both parents and "M.K's" during this time of separation.

With so many patients coming to the clinic at Doropo pray for extra strength for the Dr. Mileys and the Sherwood Lees.

Pray for the church and Christian school in Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands, where missionary Rev. Ron Dail is pastor. Pray that the school will be a means of winning parents to Christ.

43rd Session . . .

WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION

July 17-18, 1978
Municipal Auditorium Arena
Kansas City, Missouri
Holiday Inn
City Center
WNAC Headquarters



"Keys to Service," the theme, and "A great door and effectual is opened unto me . . .," the watchword, will form the focus of WNAC's convention activities.

Keynote speakers include Jill Briscoe, Waukesha, Wisconsin; Marcia Ellison, Uruguay; and Carlisle Hanna, India.

Jill Briscoe, wife of Stuart Briscoe who pastors Elmsbrook Church in Waukesha, Wisconsin, will speak at the Fellowship Dinner. Jill has been active as a women's Bible study leader in Milwaukee since they moved to the United States in 1970, and she travels throughout the United States, Europe, Canada, and the Caribbean ministering to a variety of groups.

She was born in Liverpool, England, and graduated from Homerton College, Cambridge. She taught in the public schools for three years and worked as director of a youth club and nursery school for ten years. The Briscoe's have three children.

Marcia Ellison and her husband Walter have served as missionaries in Uruguay for 14 years. She has a B.A. degree from Free Will Baptist Bible College and is the mother of five children.

Carlisle Hanna, from Florence, South Carolina, is also a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College. He and his wife Marie have served in North India since 1952 as general and educational missionaries. The Hannas have one daughter and two sons.

WILL YOUR AUXILIARY BE REPRESENTED?

Each local Auxiliary in good standing with its representing higher body (district or state), has the privilege of sending a delegate to this convention by paying a representation fee of \$3.00. She will pay the fee when she registers at the WNAC booth. You still have time to elect a local delegate. Plan to have your auxiliary represented in Kansas City!

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

Woman's National Auxiliary Convention

Sunday

2 p.m. WNAC Registration
Municipal Auditorium

Monday

8 a.m. WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast
City Center Holiday Inn
Board Room 2718

WNAC Executive Committee Meeting
Director's Suite 2702-4

9 a.m. Nominating Committee
(Meets to organize and elect a chairman)
City Center Holiday Inn
Frisco Room

12:00 WNAC Executive Committee Luncheon
Holiday Inn
Board Room 2718

1 p.m. Meeting State Presidents/Field Workers/WNAC Executive Committee
Holiday Inn
Frisco Room

5 p.m. WNAC Fellowship Dinner
Imperial Ballroom, Hotel Muehlebach
Jill Briscoe, speaker

Tuesday

9 a.m. Woman's National Auxiliary Convention
Municipal Auditorium Arena
Carlisle Hanna, speaker

1:30 Missionary Panel

WRITING CONTEST AWARDS

Awards for the winners of WNAC's sixth creative writing contest will be made in the Tuesday morning session. We ask participants to be seated on the platform before 9 a.m. Tuesday.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Jill Briscoe will speak at the Fellowship Dinner to be held at 5 p.m. in the Imperial Ballroom of the Muehlebach Hotel. Make your reservations early.

All banquets have been reserved for a certain number of people. To avoid disappointment you are urged to order tickets early. No tickets will be mailed or reserved without payment. Refunds are available through July 1, 1978. Please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your request for tickets.

The dinner is open to both men and women and tickets are \$6.00 each (includes tax and tip).

We encourage our Auxiliaries to help make it possible for all our missionaries home on furlough to attend the dinner. You may do so by purchasing one or more tickets for missionaries. While you are filling in the reservation form for yourself, just include the name of a missionary. WNAC will see that the missionary receives the ticket. Clip and mail to WNAC, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

DATE _____

I would like to reserve _____ tickets(s) for the WNAC Fellowship Dinner, Monday, July 17, 1978, at 5 p.m. at the Imperial Ballroom of the Muehlebach Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri.

Enclosed is \$_____ (\$6.00 each). I wish to purchase tickets for the missionaries indicated below:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____

ATTENTION STATE SECRETARIES AND TREASURERS

State secretaries and treasurers and/or district and local officers (where there is no state or district convention affiliated with the national convention) should send in their annual reports and dues before the first of July if they wish them included in the report to the national convention. Send treasurers' reports and membership dues of \$1.00 per active member to: Mrs. Cleo Pursell, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Send secretaries' reports to: Mrs. Anne Worthington, 1712 Dawson Road, Albany, Georgia 31705.

Magaline R. Statzer

BLOOM WHERE YOU ARE PLANTED



SOME YEARS ago a godly little lady lived in a small house near the mountains. She grew rows and rows of flowers in the rich, fertile soil, some of which she sold to a florist in the small town nearby. She never had any trouble selling them because they were truly the most beautiful flowers in all the area. The sweet little lady, as was her custom, worked and sang in a soft voice. She lived alone, so on many occasions she even talked to her flowers, and this particular year they fourished and were lovely indeed.

One day as she walked near the woods at the top of the hill, she found one of her plants growing and blooming in the rocks near the end of a broken-down fence. She started to pull the plant and replant it with the others closer to her house, but as she stooped to pull it, she had a strong feeling that it wanted to stay where it was. The woman lovingly touched it and said, "All right, Little One, bloom where you are planted."

Day after day she watered and

sang to Little One and kept telling it to bloom where it was planted. Finally the time came for her to sell her flowers to the florist in town. But she left Little One blooming gaily by the broken-down fence.

The same day a young man began to walk aimlessly through the woods, thinking of his life in the last few years. He had once been a respected father and citizen of the community, but sin had crept into his life and now he felt he had nothing to live for. He had determined he would take his own life, believing there was no other answer.

As the evening drew near, he walked to the hill above the place where the little lady grew her pretty flowers. There in the stillness he followed a fence until he came to the end where it was falling down. This fence reminded him of his own life. Once it had been strong and had served a useful purpose, but now it was falling apart. His life had once been filled with love and zeal, but now all seemed to be gone.

What better place to end it all than here, he thought to himself? Suddenly a glimmer of color waving at the end of the fence caught his eye. He looked away, not wanting to divert his attention from the task at hand. But he was drawn to the small bit of color. Reluctantly he moved closer and saw Little One standing tall and bright. For the first time in weeks he allowed his mind to stray from his own problems. Very moved, he crept closer and touched the flower.

The soft petals of the flower felt like the velvety touch of his little baby's hand. As he continued to look at Little One, the pretty color reminded him of the cheeks of his lovely wife. The pale tips made him think of how she had grown pale from the trouble and worry he had caused her. He moved his hand slowly across the flower, and as he did, a drop of dew fell to the ground. His heart pounded in his chest, for this reminded him of the tears of his godly parents who had prayed for his return to the fold of God. At the same time a song crossed his mind, "The Same Road Will Lead You Home Again." His eyes wandered back down the way he had come and there a new fence was being built to replace the old one.

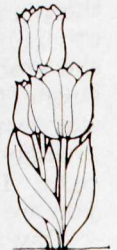
He looked again at Little One standing strong and beautiful by the broken-down fence and began to wonder if his wife could find it in her heart to forgive him. Surely a little beauty could be found in a broken life if a flower could lend beauty to a broken fence. The flower waving

in the breeze seemed to be saying, "Yes, go home and try again."

There on the hill the young man knelt and asked God to forgive him and help him build a new life. As he prayed he remembered reading in the Bible that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed as the lilies of the field and that not a sparrow falls to the ground but our Heavenly Father knows about it. Then he remembered the scripture, "Are you not of more value than many sparrows." The young man rose from his knees rejoicing in the fact that he was truly forgiven. As he left, he stooped and touched the flower and thanked it for being there.

Quickly he rushed home to his family. His wife forgave him and welcomed him back. The young man took his baby in his arms, and with his happy wife by his side, headed to his parents' home for a reconciliation.

The next Sunday at church there was certainly a spirit of rejoicing. A young man stood and gave a heart-warming testimony. He told how a flower beside a broken-down fence had caused him to realize his sinful condition and turn repentant to Christ. How the church praised God! The little lady who raised flowers was thrilled for the young man. She bowed her head and thanked God that she had allowed Little One to bloom where it was planted.



Shelby Taylor



GOD LEADS TO THE NEEDS

I have always admired those who could knock on the door of an absolute stranger and immediately start talking about God and His wonderful plan of salvation.

The first time I tried witnessing in that way, a big, burly man came to the door and in a very impatient way let me know that he wasn't the least bit interested in my God. The slam of the door didn't do a thing to help my already weak knees. With every ounce of courage I had I tried other times and other streets. But the best response I ever received was silent acceptance of what I had to say and no reply to my invitation to come to church.

Discouraged beyond words I prayed, "God, you know my personality. You know that I'm shy and that I'd rather read a

book than talk to people. Lord, I can't witness that way, but I do want to share my faith. Please, Lord, lead me to some burdened hearts who are waiting for someone to tell them about you."

A short while later during the local Cancer Crusade, for which I had volunteered as a neighborhood captain, I was asked by the Executive Secretary to be the Service Chairman for the county unit of the American Cancer Society. This was the same job I had turned down four years earlier. The job would bring me in contact with cancer patients all over the county, most of whom would be in the last critical stages before death. I would assist in obtaining items of care and comfort for indigent families. I said yes, thinking only of the worthwhile job to be done. I never guessed this was God's answer to my prayer.

My first visit was with a woman literally eaten up by the disease. She had been to church only sporadically, and was filled with fear of the unknown. She didn't understand cancer, she didn't understand death, and her lingering question was "Why can't something be done?" I assured her that she had one of the finest doctors in the state and that all was being done medically that could be.

We talked about cancer research and all the new things that scientists were learning to aid in wiping it out. She said, "But I feel like my life has just slipped away from me and I have nothing to hold on to."

It was like a bell had rung in

my brain. I had a chance to witness! Just like that!

So I talked about faith, and how we can hold onto faith in God and His will for our lives when all else fails. And right there she renewed her faith and received a new spirit of acceptance. A few weeks later she went on to be with the Lord in a place that freed her of the dreadful disease of cancer.

Since then there have been

many associations with patients. Sometimes I don't even see the patient. To them I'm just a voice on the telephone. As one said, "Someone who cares" when family grows weary and friends stop calling.

I now talk often of how Jesus cares, how He loves, and how He saves. And I now have a captive audience, ready and willing to hear about a new body and a new life.

God Makes A Little Bit **BIG**

Lottie Campbell

WHEN I started my "pie ministry" in 1969 God clearly showed me that He can take something little and make it into something big.

My husband was stationed in Fayetteville, North Carolina, and he was also pastoring a small church a few miles from our home. Every fifth Sunday the church where he pastored had "singsings." Two brothers would come and play and sing; one played a guitar and the other a mandolin. They were unsaved, but they could play and sing beautifully.

The younger brother was married and had three children. One day when he and his children were very sick with the flu, the Lord spoke to my heart

and told me to make them a pie. I went to my cabinet and found one box of lemon pie mix. Then I looked in the refrigerator and found I only had one egg. "I can't make them a pie with this," I moaned. But I was impressed to go ahead with it. I made the pie and took it to them feeling ashamed, for I do believe it was the worst pie I had ever made.

But the family started coming to church and the man was saved. Later on his wife and children were saved, and the Lord called him to preach. At church one day he testified that the pie I had made was the first act of kindness that had been shown them and it really had touched their hearts.

Things have changed now. My husband went to be with the Lord in 1971, and this young man is now pastoring the church where my husband ministered. And I am now remarried to a Free Will Baptist minister who pastors in Kirksville, Missouri, but I am still making pies to take to the sick and lonely.

Down Memory Lane

In April of 1943 Mrs. Inabelle Hamilton, Mrs. Nancy Hancock, and Mrs. Bertha Wagoner boarded a city bus with a group of young girls and headed for Reservoir Hill in Tulsa, Oklahoma. After a lunch of picnic goodies and "stick bread" (biscuit dough wrapped on the end of a stick, cooked over a campfire, and then filled with jelly) the first Go Tell Band in the National Association of Free Will Baptists was organized.



This group of girls usually met in Mrs. Hancock's home, and after devotions they planned their work. They visited the sick and homebound, wrote letters to their soldier and sailor boys, and sent many gifts to Miss Laura Belle Barnard, missionary to India, and Barbara Willey daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Thomas H. Willey, at that time missionaries to Cuba.

This Go Tell Band worked for the Lord for several years and stayed in existence until the girls, in fact, grew up. "As far as I know," writes Mrs. Nancy Hancock, "all these girls are still serving the Lord."

SENIOR CITIZEN LUNCHEON

Mrs. W. H. Chambliss, Pleasant View, Tennessee, directs a covered dish luncheon for approximately 100 "Older American's" every month. They meet in the basement of a local church to enjoy good food and fellowship.

Mrs. Chambliss decorates the tables, provides favors for them to take home, and purchases door prizes. She also secures local talent for entertainment. Enjoyed by all the oldsters, this non-denominational ministry operates on occasional donations, hard work, and faith.

Does your church or community have any lonely senior citizens who would enjoy an activity such as this? Why not have your auxiliary undertake a special project to minister God's love to them. It is time for us to say "thank-you" to them for all they have done and meant to us.



A Woman God Has Used

Every morning after reading the Bible and singing hymns, Nancy Melvina Hancock spends at least an hour in prayer. Having joined the missionary prayer band at Free Will Baptist Bible College when it was first organized, she started her prayer list when the Sparks' went to Africa. She has added the names of missionaries, Bible College professors, WNAC workers, and others until her list now includes 805 names. As Mrs. Hancock calls each name she visualizes the face and the place where they are. Starting in Nashville, Tennessee, she travels around the world on the wings of prayer, landing back home in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

This dedicated prayer life is the culmination of a long record of service dating back to Mrs. Hancock's conversion at age 12. Her early years of Christian ministry were filled with singing and teaching Sunday school. Through the years she has taught every age group from beginners to adults in Sunday school and League. Mrs. Hancock served as Superintendent of the Primary Sunday School Department for 20 years, and she taught a weekday Bible school for nine years in cooperation with the Tulsa Public School Board and Tulsa Counsel of Churches.

Nancy Hancock is a charter member of the First Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary organized in the state of Oklahoma. She has held several offices and has been active in auxiliary since. In 1943 Mrs. Hancock organized and directed the first Go Tell Band (later changed to Go Tell Auxiliary) in the National Association.

Nancy Melvina Jackson was born the sixth of 13 children to Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Jackson. At Christmas in 1915 she became Mrs. Samuel Logan Hancock. She is the mother of seven, grandmother of 18, and great-grandmother of 15.



You can make a difference

September is WNAC's Student Loan Fund month, and by contributing you can make a difference in the lives of hundreds of Free Will Baptist young people. Send your offerings to WNAC, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee, 37202. Earmark them for either Free Will Baptist Bible College, Hillsdale Free Will Baptist Bible College or California Christian College.

Write in Style!

Send your entries now to WNAC's Creative Writing Contest

Categories: Programs (suitable for publication in *Co-Laborer*)
Skits and Plays
Articles
Poetry

Subjects: Missions, prayer, enlistment, service, stewardship, woman's life and problems, seasonal themes, devotional and inspirational materials.

Length: Articles—one to three pages
Programs—five to five and one-half pages
Plays/Skits—one to three pages
Poetry—one to two pages

All manuscripts must be typed and double-spaced, with the writer's name and address in the upper left hand corner of the first page. Please enclose the original and one copy.

Awards: In each of the four categories the awards are:

First place—\$25.00

Second place—\$10.00

Third place—Books

Fourth place—Honorable mention

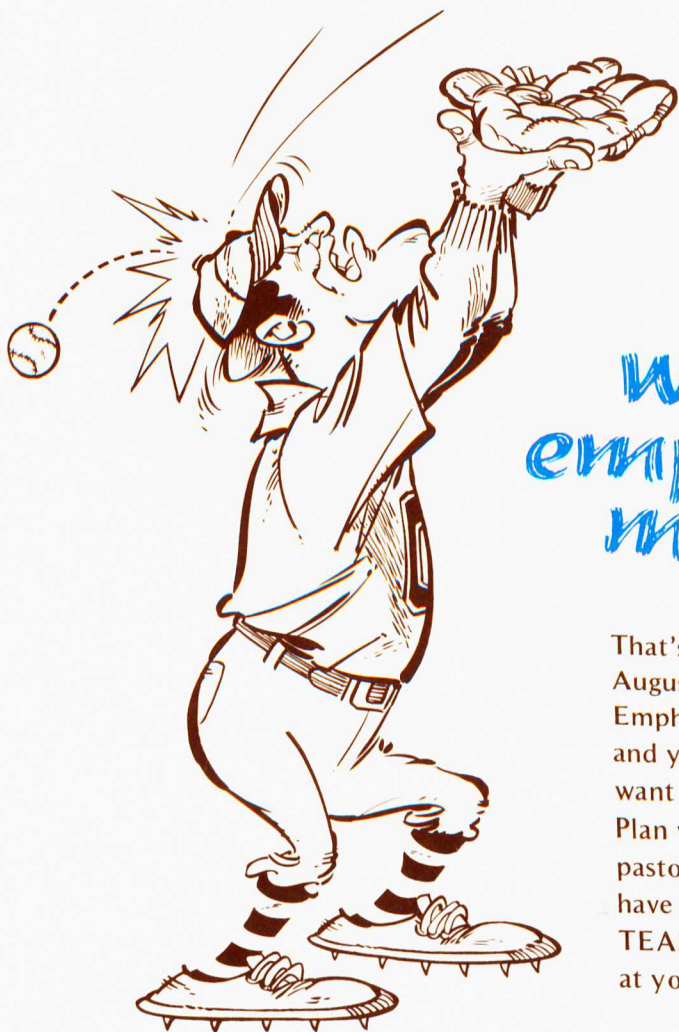
Deadline: March 1, 1979

Entries will be judged on: Originality, content, interest, and suitability for Woman's Auxiliary work. Send as many entries as you wish.

WNAC Writing Contest
P. O. Box 1088
Nashville, Tennessee 37202



DON'T
MISS



Wnac emphasis month

That's right!
August is WNAC
Emphasis Month,
and you won't
want to miss it.
Plan with your
pastor now to
have A WINNING
TEAM presented
at your church.



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