

Co-Laborer

April, May, June 1979



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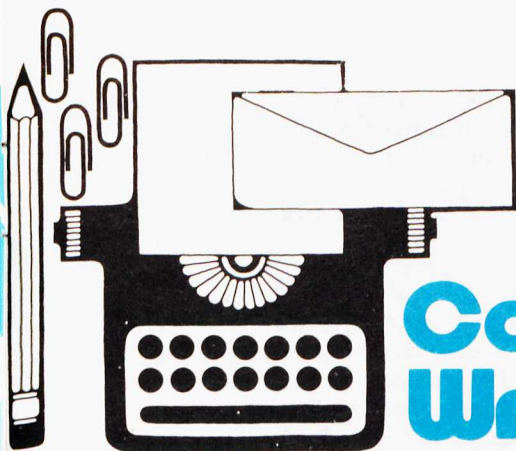
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Cleo W. Pursell, Editor-in-chief

Donna Carr, Editor

Evelyn Jones, Circulation

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Co-Laborers Write

Just had to write and tell you how we appreciate the *Co-Laborer* and the Program Help Packets. God bless you in your work for the Lord.

*Mrs. Doris Ball
Chillicothe, Ohio*

We thank God for the way He is blessing our auxiliary here in Louisville. Our membership has doubled in the last few months. We are a group of women who really love the Lord and enjoy woman's auxiliary very much. Our latest project was a shower for the missionary provision closet. Our gifts totaled \$125.00 in value. Thank you for the good programs and the work you are doing.

*Audrey Hensley
Louisville, Kentucky*

The auxiliary at Kingsway Free Will Baptist Church voted

to use the income from the Teenage Valentine Banquet, sponsored by the auxiliary, to help purchase supplies for the provision closet.

We realize the check for \$36.30 won't go far, but we are asking that the one in charge take the money and use her own judgment in purchasing supplies which are needed most.

*Chris Willoughby
Walnut Grove, Missouri*

When we read in the *Co-Laborer* that the provision closet was in need of things, we wanted to do all we could. We only have six active members, but praise the Lord! He has richly blessed us. We do hope one gift will help.

*First Free Will Baptist
Woman's Auxiliary
Roswell, New Mexico*

Our woman's auxiliary is almost a year old and it has been

a great blessing to us. It's inspiring and makes us realize what a great mission the women have in the church and community.

*Vaudine Lancaster
Ethelsville, Alabama*

This is our special offering for the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention that we filled the folders with quarters for. We put on the skit, "A Winning Team," for our church and everyone seemed to enjoy it very much. We really enjoy our auxiliary.

*Annie Ruth Richards
Phenix City, Alabama*

At your earliest convenience, please forward the fourth quarter program packet. The packets are fantastic! They have not only added variety and spice to our meetings but we can surely see the Lord's work being done.

*Dee Yates
Bristol, Tennessee*

We here at Pearce Chapel enjoy the *Co-Laborers* very much. The programs are all good. I am thankful we have so much talent among our auxiliary women.

*Inez Robison
Smithville, Mississippi*

I've enjoyed the article by Magaline R. Statzer, "Bloom Where You Are Planted," so much. A tiny flower at the right time and place is like a smile—it gives us great joy when we are lonely.

Our woman's auxiliary gave a chili supper and raised money for our state project.

*Ola Mae Winters
Albuquerque, New Mexico*

I have just finished reading the new issue of *Co-Laborer*. Whenever I receive a new one I always try as soon as possible to pick a place of solitude and quietness to read it through; for I have never failed to find within its pages some gem of inspiration which stirs and strengthens my faith and gives me a renewed determination to do more for the Lord. May God richly bless all who contribute to the writing of it.

*Dean Cameron
Mohawk, Tennessee*

I truly look forward to each new quarter of the *Co-Laborer*. It is always an inspiration to hear from other sisters in Christ.

Would you please send me a list of the recommended study courses for our woman's auxiliary? We are looking forward to a new season of study, prayer and fellowship.

*Karen Limbaugh
Viburnum, Missouri*

We enjoy the *Co-Laborers* so much. We are proud of our auxiliary. In the past six months our attendance has grown. At our September meeting we had 16. May God bless all of you.

*Imogene Marcum
Louisa, Kentucky*

MEMO from CLEO

Cleo Pursell, Executive Secretary



Missions Cookbook

Home Cooking and Foreign Favorites is the title of the beautiful cookbook compiled by members of the Ben Avenue Woman's Auxiliary, Kannapolis, NC. There are 451 recipes contributed by missionaries and other friends in this 200 page book. Pat McManus writes that "the goal of this project is to help our women keep our missionaries on our minds, in our hearts and in our prayers." All profits will be divided between home and foreign missions. The price is \$4.50 each or \$4.00 each for orders of 15 or more mailed to the same address. Make checks payable to Helen Rowell, 813 Elm Street, Kannapolis, NC 28081. No. C.O.D. orders please. Allow up to 8 weeks for delivery.

Calling All Presidents!

If you are a state president or field worker (or district where there is no state organization), *please* send WNAC a black and white photo, any size will do, along with a biography not exceeding 200 words. Tell us about your work, the offices you may have held, your family, hobbies and anything else that may be of interest to our readers.

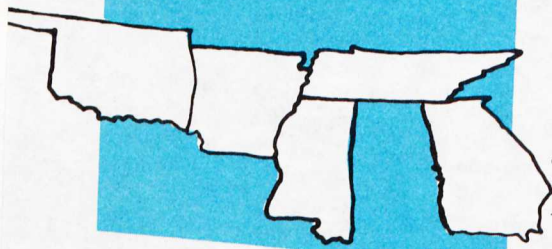
Used Stamps

Since 1976 the Salvation Army has been raising money for their foster home for children in Bangladesh by selling stamps to stamp dealers, who sell them to collectors. From one dollars worth of stamps ten plates of food are served to children. Send canceled stamps to Miss Lilamani Perea, Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters, P. O. Box 2040, Louisville, Kentucky 40201. Always leave one-eighth inch of paper around the stamps when tearing or cutting them off the envelopes.

Convention Plans

Begin planning now to attend the convention activities of WNAC which will be held in the Civic Center, Charlotte, NC, July 16-17. Watch for more details in the next issue of *Co-Laborer* and in the "Communicator." See you there!

State Meetings



"Redeeming the Time" served as the theme for the Arkansas Convention held at Camp Beaverfork, Conway, Arkansas, August 15, 1978. Devotions were brought by Nadine Followill, and the morning speaker was Patsy Vanhook, missionary to France. Over 200 were present at the banquet to hear Cleo Pursell speak on "My Heart, Christ's Home."

The Sheraton Skyline East Hotel, Tulsa, Oklahoma, was the scene for the Oklahoma State Auxiliary meeting on October 10, 1978. Lila Fay Morgan presided, 193 were present, and the theme was "Committed Unto Him Against That Day." Norma Jean Caton and Roy Thomas spoke, and Cleo Pursell and Doris Raper brought reports.

A total of \$14,000 was given to missions last year, and two state retreats were held with a combined attendance of 477.

The Mississippi State Auxiliary Convention was held November 3, 1978, at the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Richton. Carolyn Dwyer presided, Dot Gore brought devotions and Cleo Pursell spoke on the convention theme, "We Would See Jesus" at the evening banquet. A prayer retreat was planned for 1979 and a \$4000 mission project adopted to assist the Fred Herseys in Japan.

Missionaries Jimmy and Janie Aldridge were guest speakers at the Tennessee State Auxiliary Convention, November 14, 1978, Cookeville, Tennessee. Brenda Patrick presided, and Myrtle Reeds gave the WNAC report. More than \$2,800 was contributed to the Lebanon Land Fund during the year, and the new project is to raise \$2,400 for the Uberlandia, Brazil Church Rent Fund where the Tommy Hughes are located.

"Keys to Service" was the theme for the Georgia Woman's Auxiliary Convention which met November 15-16, 1978, in Dublin. Jerry and Janice Banks were guest speakers, and President Delores Burns guided the business session. During the past year 650 members gave over \$20,000 to missions and missionary objectives. A goal of \$5,000 was set for the coming year to be given to the Bank's account.

Women in Action



Emphasis Month

"A Winning Team" was presented by the First Free Will Baptist Church Woman's Auxiliary, Washington, North Carolina. If their emphasis offering indicates the quality of the program, it must have been excellent, for \$105 was received for WNAC.

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Bethel Free Will Baptist Church,



ElDorado Springs, Missouri, performed the WNAC emphasis program for their Wednesday night fellowship. The cast certainly looks like "A Winning Team," doesn't it?

Study Courses

Executive secretary Cleo Pursell conducted a study course for the Mississippi Little Brown Creek District Auxiliary, November 6, 1978. Under the direction of Elizabeth Gibson, the meeting was held at the Booneville Free Will Baptist Church. There were five churches represented.

On November 13, 1978, Mrs. Pursell conducted a study course at the Palmer District Auxiliary meeting held in the Belvoir Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, North Carolina. Eleanor Hart presided.

Showers

The South Side Woman's Auxiliary, St. Louis, Missouri,



sponsored a personal and kitchen shower for Charolette Tallent on August 15, 1978.



The Woman's Auxiliary of the Hilltop Free Will Baptist Church, Traverlars Rest, South Carolina, gave a shower for the provision closet, and three of the ladies even delivered the \$130 worth of goods in person!

Marcia Ellison, missionary to Uruguay, was guest speaker at a provision closet shower hosted by the Central Quarterly Woman's Auxiliary Convention, September 16, 1978, at the



Bridgeport Free Will Baptist Church, Newport, Tennessee. Forty-five women representing 13 churches brought a total of \$483.01 in gifts.

Banquets



The Actionettes of Randall Memorial Free Will Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, sponsored a mother-daughter banquet. Approximately 40 were present to see them present the program.

Forty-eight were present to hear Patsy Gosnell speak on "Right Relationships Between Mother and Daughter" at the Hearon Circle, Spartanburg,



South Carolina, banquet. Each mother received a long stem red rose from her daughter, and a special offering of \$50.00 was received for missions.

Local News



The Woodhaven Woman's Auxiliary, Woodhaven, Michigan, gave Mrs. Mable Willey a surprise birthday party after she spoke at their September meeting.

The women of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Arkadelphia,



Arkansas, organized an auxiliary October 23, 1978, with nine charter members.

The Mount Moriah Woman's Auxiliary, Ethelsville, Alabama, has just celebrated its first birthday, and what a year it has been for this active group. First of all, they had in installation service; and then they observed emphasis month, Pre-Thanksgiving, Pre-Easter and the State Missions Seasons of Prayer.

This auxiliary sponsored a walk-a-thon and raised \$225 for foreign missions, and they carpeted their nursery and a Sunday school room with the money they made from a bake sale. They also provided a Valentine Banquet for the church—complete with spaghetti supper, program and entertainment.

On September 19, 1978, the Laura Belle Barnard Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Newport News, Virginia, was honored to have Miss Barnard as its special guest speaker. She spoke on her years of missionary service in India.



District Events

The 58th annual session of the Cumberland District Woman's Auxiliary met August 12, 1978, at Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee. The meeting was centered around missionary children, and the theme was "The Total Child." Speakers were the Walter Ellison family, Uruguay; Cleo Pursell, WNAC executive secretary; and Don Robirds, Director of Communications, Free Will Baptists Foreign Missions.

"Deeds for the Deeds" has been the project theme for the Greater Tulsa District this past year. In November they bought Mrs. Deeds a new winter coat, and then in February gave her a personal shower. They also gave \$176 each to Lyndon and LaDonna, the two oldest children.

Jeffrey, James and Daniel were treated to a surprise birthday party in May. They each received many articles of clothing, a watch, and as a special treat, Star Wars sheets and pillow cases.



Elizabeth Deans

AS THE SAYING goes, "birds of a feather flock together." As we examine some of the habits and lifestyles of various birds, let's consider the company we keep and whether we're using opportunities for witnessing wisely.

The mocking bird is a copy cat. She sings many beautiful tunes, but all are repetitions of other birds with no real tune of her own. Many people talk about God, religion and going to church, but don't have salvation. If your everyday acquaintances bring you in contact with that very talkative someone, question them about being born again. Could be you've been taking too much for granted.

The woodpecker gives the impression of a busy, hard-working bird. She pecks and pecks making noisy sounds and at what? Just an old, hollow, dead tree or pole. Some people are always trying to be heard; always saying a lot, but they never seem to be around when

the work begins. Thus, their words are hollow and dead. James 1:22 says, "Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only."

What about the hawk—a bird of prey? He sneaks down and makes his catch like a thief. He's a destroyer of other lives. Christians should stay clear of people who thrive on hurting others and who have no compassion or concern for others. In the parable of the good Samaritan, who committed the greater sin, those who beat and robbed the man or those who refused to help? There are many who need our love and a helping hand. Which sins are more common among Christians, sins of commission or sins of omission?

Ah, let's look at that beautiful peacock, strutting around and showing off. Do you know those who are so proud and self-centered? God cannot use people with a self-righteous, holier than thou attitude. "Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord" (Proverbs 16:5). "For the Lord seeth not as man seeth: for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart" (1 Samuel 16:7b).

The dove is a gentle, easy going bird. She is also a good clean bird and a peace-loving bird. Likewise, Christians are to have a sweet spirit. They are to manifest fruits of the Spirit. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance" (Galatians 5:22, 23).

Christians are a special and a peculiar people who are to avoid

worldly associations. Some good advice is in 2 Corinthians 6:17, "Wherefore come out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord and touch not the unclean thing and I will receive you." Let's examine our desires and wants for material things. Seemingly, the world has much to offer now, but only for a short time. Heaven will surely be worth it all.

By reputation, the owl is said to be a wise bird. Here is a poem about him.

A wise old owl lived in an oak.
The more he saw, the less he spoke.
The less he spoke, the more he heard.

Why can't we be like that wise old bird?

Knowing when to speak is an important asset in a Christian's life. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver" (Proverbs 25:11).

Many times the word wisdom is misinterpreted. It is the ability to use the knowledge God has already given us. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom" (Proverbs 9:10). We're using wisdom when we win souls, for "he that winneth souls is wise" (Proverbs 11:30b).

The pigeon, especially the carrier pigeon, is an excellent bird for Christians to identify with. Let's follow their example and carry the message of salvation to others.

Which birds are you flocking with? Mocking birds, woodpeckers, hawks, peacocks, doves, owls, or carrier pigeons?



Charolette Tallent



Alice Smith



Mirial Gainer



Patsy Vanhook



Judy Smith

Singles

HAVING WORKED with single women for the past two and a half years, we feel both qualified and obligated to speak out frankly in their behalf. Their very presence in Hokkaido has been a blessing and encouragement to fellow missionaries, as well as a definite asset to the total mission program.

In Hokkaido service opportunities for single workers are innumerable. Sunday school, mid-week children's classes, adult Bible studies, the tea shop ministry, visitation and teen work are among the various activities which occupy most of the single missionary's time. Because they are not bound by family responsibilities, single missionaries are usually available around-the-clock for personal counseling with nationals, as well as being a help to fellow missionaries.

Of course, Japan is not the only foreign field in which single women are working. At the present there are eight single women serving Free Will Baptists in five countries: Molly Barker-Uruguay; Judy Smith, Mirial



Molly Barker



Mabel Willey



Arilla Wode

Serving Worldwide

Jerry and Janice Banks

Gainer (associate)-Japan; Charolette Tallent, Patsy Vanhook-France; Alice Smith, Arilla Wode-Africa; Mabel Willey-Panama. The problems they face, and also their work opportunities vary from culture to culture.

In some countries culture itself is against the single woman and she has a job just gaining the understanding and respect of the nationals to whom she wishes to minister. And unfortunately, personality differences between missionaries sometimes cause problems and build barriers which must be overcome before the missionary family can function properly. In addition, the emotional and physical strains on a single woman are often multiplied in foreign lands where loneliness and discouragement are often coupled with such things as snakes in the pantry, frozen pipes and flat tires.

Unfortunately, problems of the single missionaries are not limited to their respective fields of service. Often they are opposed and misunderstood by pastors, peers and even family. Deputation can be a very rewarding

experience for both missionary and church, but it is often a discouragement and hardship for single women as they sometimes encounter unjust criticisms, unresponsive congregations and unconcerned pastors.

Our single missionaries have much to offer as they serve on foreign soils, but their opportunities for service should not be limited to their respective fields. The Woman's Auxiliary can benefit greatly by giving our single missionary women opportunities to minister at retreats, conventions, study courses, meetings and special church gatherings. If the Woman's Auxiliary would lovingly rally behind our single workers and more faithfully support them in gifts and prayers it would be a tremendous encouragement—not only to those directly involved, but to all those truly concerned with fulfilling the Great Commission.

About the authors—The Banks have served one term as missionaries in Japan, and are now home on furlough.



Deans



Dwyer

Who's Who in this Issue



Haney



McNew



Owens

Elizabeth Deans, Bailey, North Carolina, won first place in WNAC's creative writing contest with her article "A Lesson from Our Feathered Friends." She serves as vice president of her auxiliary and mission action chairman of the district. Active in her local church, she is a wife, mother and substitute teacher.

Carolyn Dwyer, Amory, Mississippi, received honorable mention for her program "Are Your Wheels Spinning?" our study for June. A pastor's wife and mother, she is president of the Mississippi State Woman's Auxiliary and a CTS teacher.

Anita Haney, Guthrie, Kentucky, is a pastor's wife and mother of two. An alumna of Free Will Baptist Bible College, she is secretary for the Olivet Woman's Auxiliary and a CTS teacher.

Thelma McNew, Nashville, Tennessee, is bookkeeper in the Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions office. She is a wife and mother, as well as the church clerk and Sunday school secretary. Mrs. McNew served as president of the Cross Timbers auxiliary for three years.

Frances Owens, Jonesboro, Arkansas, is the missions prayer chairman of her auxiliary. She is superintendent of the primary and junior department in her Sunday school, and she teaches the junior class. Mrs. Owens is a deacon's wife, mother and grandmother.

PRAY-REQUISITES

Aim: *To help us pray more effectively.*

Song: *"Teach Me to Pray"*

Scripture: *James 5:16*

"Shall we pray?" We hear these words so often in our churches. Have you ever wondered how many times our prayers are just words and not really prayers at all?

Through the door of prayer we have access to God. We all need to pray more often and more effectively. But to be effective we must meet the conditions God has set down for us in His Word.

Let's not say our prayers; let's really pray our prayers and ask the Lord to show us our weaknesses, to cleanse us and to use us.

PRAY WITH A PURE HEART

We must prepare ourselves to pray effectively. The Lord will not listen if we do not meet the conditions. "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me" (Psalm 66:18). "The effectual fervent prayer of a *righteous* man availeth much" (James 5:16b). A righteous man has no sin in his heart.

There may be several reasons why our prayers are not answered; but we know for sure

that if there is any sin or any kind of unrighteousness in our lives, God will not listen. So we must pray for cleansing first. And we can be assured that "If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

There are so many things in our busy, hurry-up lives that can get between us and God, and sometimes we aren't even aware that it is happening. And then one day something happens and suddenly we realize we aren't really talking to the Lord at all, and we aren't having any prayers answered. Maybe we are mad at a neighbor. Or it could be that we are holding a grudge against someone in our church. Anything in our lives that is contrary to God's will has to go before He will hear our prayers.

PRAY IN ONE ACCORD

"These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren" (Acts 1:14). "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place" (Acts 1:2). And what was the result of their being in one accord? The Holy Spirit came, three thousand

souls were saved in one day, and the apostles performed many signs and wonders!

When we begin to pray in one accord things happen; lives are changed, churches become soul-winning stations, families are closer, even whole communities can be changed. But this won't happen unless we meet the prerequisites to answered prayer. We must be pure and we must be unified.

When we pray together in one accord, we need to take one subject at a time and pray about it. Simply take the problem at hand and present it to the Lord for His decision. When a group of Christians is praying in one accord on the same subject, the number of prayers God is hearing is multiplied and strengthened by the number of people praying. Think how much more power there is in that prayer. Could it be that one reason we lack power in our churches is that we don't pray in one accord?

PRAY IN GOD'S WILL

"And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: and if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him" (1 John 5:14, 15). What a precious promise! Have you stepped out on faith and claimed it as your own?

But first, let's think about this business of praying in God's will. Are we really willing to accept

God's will no matter what? It's a lot easier to say from force of habit, "thy will be done," than it is to pray it and really mean it.

God's will may require things of us we never even thought about being able to do. He may answer our prayers at a time and in a way we least expect. His will may include plans totally different from our own. In light of this, can we truly say from our hearts, "Lord I want only what you want for me?"

What a gruesome picture we have of God's will! He is not an ogre imposing a cruel curse on us over which we have no control. His will was never intended to be a hardship. As Corrie Ten Boom said in her book, *Each New Day*, "The will of God is either a burden that we can carry or a power that carries us."

When we reach the place where we can pray, even in a difficult situation, "thy will be done," God will hear our prayers. If we can say, "Whatever your will is, Lord, I will accept it," God will answer us. We can be confident that the Lord is in charge of our lives and that He will work out everything for our good. At times we may not understand the "why's" of it all, but we can know that God alone knows best, that He sees the future, and that He has our very best interest at heart.

We have to work at praying in God's will; it isn't easy to turn the running of our lives over to anyone, not even a loving, heavenly Father. But Jesus set the perfect example for us when He prayed, "Father if thou be

willing remove this cup from me, nevertheless not my will but thine be done" (Luke 22:42).

PRAY WITHOUT CEASING

In 1 Thessalonians 5:17 we are told to "Pray without ceasing." What does this mean? Does it mean a constant speaking with Lord in a continual praying position? No, it means keeping our communication lines open at all times so that we can have a two-way conversation with God at anytime. We can talk to God about anything.

In addition to talking to God, we also need to listen to Him speak to us about things He wants us to know. Our source of strength is God and our access to that strength is prayer through Jesus our Lord. Luke tells us "That men ought always to pray, and not to faint" (Luke 18:1). When we are not in close touch with God our source of power is cut off. Then Satan can really go to work on us. So let's purpose to keep our communication lines with God clear and open so nothing gets between us and our Father to hinder our prayers and keep them from being heard and answered.

PRAY IN FAITH BELIEVING

"But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently

seek him" (Hebrews 11:6). We *must* pray in faith if we expect answers. And how can we fail to have faith in God, for He alone is all-powerful, all-knowing, and ever-present.

Faith is not a blind stab in the dark. It is taking God at His word. It is expecting Him to answer because He promised us that He would. "And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:22-24).

There are countless assurances of God's willingness to answer our prayers in scripture. Read them, meditate on them, memorize them. "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight" (1 John 3:22). "Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:23, 24). How can our faith waver when the Lord Jehovah proclaimed, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not" (Jeremiah 33:3).

The Bare Necessities

Aim: *To help us treasure our relationship with our heavenly Father as we compare it with our earthly parents.*

Song: "A Child of the King"

Scripture: Romans 8:16-17



NOTHING is more satisfying than to observe a tiny, new baby born into a family of love, and to watch him as he grows physically and matures into a responsible adult.

Each stage of an individual's life, from birth to adulthood, is an important one that requires certain essentials in order to

mature properly. These essentials are provided by parents, and the rearing provided by Christian parents is priceless and can be compared with that of our heavenly Father and His method of raising His children.

BIRTH

A birth in itself is a miracle, and anyone who has every witnessed a birth can more fully understand and appreciate this miracle. Only after a husband and wife have experienced the pain and travail of bringing new life into the world, can they easily appreciate what their own mother and father went through for them. Pain and suffering are always essential for a birth to occur.

Our new birth as Christians is similar to our physical birth. To be born again is necessary for salvation. In John chapter 3 we have the story of Nicodemus meeting Jesus one night and learning the salvation story. Jesus told him, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3).

For us to be born again, Christ had to suffer. His death on the cross was essential for our second birth. His pain and agony was necessary for the life and salvation of all believers.

FOOD

Loving parents provide good nourishment for their child. When a child is hungry, that need

is satisfied with food. A newborn baby's diet is a simple one; for the first few weeks of life all that is required for growth and nourishment is milk. As his body grows and matures, his diet changes to meet his needs.

The same is true of a newborn babe in Christ. His hunger must be satisfied with spiritual food. The diet of the Christian comes from the Word of God; which also begins simple—the milk of the Word. "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (1 Peter 2:2). As we grow and mature spiritually we can tolerate the meat of the Word.

CLOTHING

A responsible parent also provides clothing for his child. This also means the proper type of clothing. A parent would never send his child out into the winter weather without warm clothes, shoes on his feet and a covering for his head.

Our heavenly Father also provides proper guidelines for the Christian's spiritual clothing in Ephesians 6. He instructs us to "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace: above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is

the word of God" (Ephesians 6:14-17).

LOVE

Love is a basis for emotional growth and is first experienced in the parent-child relationship. Children who are underloved by their parents seem to lack something in their life, and they reach out to grasp any love shown to them by someone else. Parental love is unselfish and seeks the good of the child. There is no greater earthly love than the love of a mother and father for their children.

Far exceeding earthly parental love is the love that God has for His children. Space is quite limited to list all the verses in the Bible that tell of God's love. To scratch the surface, we find in 1 John 4:16, "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him."

The well-known verse in the third chapter of John, verse 16 tells us, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Assurance of His enduring love is also given. "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 8:38, 39).

CHASTISEMENT

Chastisement, or discipline, is not one of the easiest essentials for either parent or child. Even so it is a very necessary factor for good development on the part of the child. Discipline, when blended with love, creates respect between parent and child. A parent who truly loves his child will practice discipline.

As children of God we are not immune to chastisement. In fact, God tells us that if we are not chastened or disciplined by Him, then we are not His children. "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons" (Hebrews 12:6-8).

A part of our maturity in Christ lies in accepting our punishment from God. As we learn to accept this discipline we can say with the Psalmist David, "Before I was afflicted I went astray: but now have I kept thy word It is good for me that have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes I know, O Lord, that thy judgments are right, and that thou in faithfulness has afflicted me" (Psalm 119:67, 71, 75).

GUIDANCE

There is nothing that en-

courages parents more than for their child to come to them and ask for help with a situation or problem. A child seeks and wants guidance, especially when he has tried his own ideas or plans and has failed.

It is wonderful when a child can come to his parents with anything that is troubling him; and even more wonderful when the parent can give the child advice that is sound.

As God's children we receive our guidance from the Word of God. Guidance is beautifully shown in the book of Jeremiah in chapter 10. "O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps" (Jeremiah 10:23). He knows what is best for His children.

We are told in Proverbs 3:5 and 6 to "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

What better guidance could we ask for than from the Word of God?

CONCLUSION

Birth, food, clothing, love, chastisement and guidance—the bare necessities for life, both physical and spiritual. Whether or not we as children experienced these things with Christian parents, we can still enjoy them with our own children, or far better, with our heavenly Father who loves all His children with an everlasting love.

June Program
Carolyn Dwyer

ARE
YOUR
WHEELS
SPINNING?

Scripture: *John 6:27*

Song: "Work for the Night Is Coming" or "How Firm a Foundation"

See Program Help Packet

ARE YOUR wheels spinning? At first this may seem like a silly question, but many times in our own personal lives our spiritual wheels *are* spinning; we're going 'round 'n 'round, but accomplishing nothing as far as eternity is concerned.

Surely you are aware of what happens when someone's car is stuck in mud or sand. If there is nothing firm underneath and you press on the accelerator, you get nowhere except deeper into the mire. Your wheels will continue to spin until you get a firm foundation to help you get a little traction enabling you to move forward.

There were three women in particular in the New Testament

whose wheels were spinning; they could not find true purpose and happiness until they were made to realize their lives did not have a firm foundation. Let's look at them and see what parallels there are for today's women.

SPINNING IN RELATIONSHIPS

The first lady we meet is the Samaritan woman in John 4. You are familiar with the story of Jesus traveling to Galilee by way of Samaria. He had stopped by Jacob's well at the sixth hour (noon) and the disciples had gone on into town for food. A woman came to the well to draw water and Jesus began to talk with her.

Let's notice what is said about this Samaritan woman. "Jesus saith unto her, Go, call thy husband, and come hither. The woman answered and said, I have no husband. Jesus said unto her, Thou hast well said, I have no husband: For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly" (John 4:16-18). Five husbands and now living with another man! This woman at the well evidently thought that marriage and men brought happiness, but we can see from her record that her wheels were spinning. She was obviously getting nowhere.

There are many today who think the same thing. We know that many "try" marriage only to find that it is not the bed of roses they were expecting. That's

why so many (one out of two) marriages end in divorce.

Several women are miserable in their sixth and seventh marriages because of unequal yokes. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?" (2 Corinthians 6:14). All are seeking happiness and are spinning their wheels because of no real foundation on which to build a marriage. These women will not be happy until they, like the Samaritan woman, believe in the Messiah.

Many young Christian women today are deceived by Satan into thinking, "If I can just get married my problems will be solved. Then I'll be happy." They never stop to consider that if it is God's will for them to marry that He has a Christian young man for her and it is His business to bring them together. So many times they take matters into their own hands by dating non-Christian men, thus leading themselves into a life of ruin and unhappiness. We need somehow to help our younger women be aware that unless their lives are in accord with the teachings of God's Word happiness will not be found, even in the marriage relationship.

SPINNING IN CAREERS

The next example we find is in Acts 18 where we meet Priscilla, a businesswoman and businessman's wife. (Read Acts 18:1-3.) We know nothing about

Priscilla prior to her introduction in this chapter. So we must assume what she was pursuing up until our meeting here.

Perhaps she was like many ladies of today; she was interested in a career, in this case tentmaking. Like many husbands and wives, they had their own business, and you know what that involves—all the time and money you can scrape up. They were probably looked at as fairly wealthy people, and no doubt they held a high position in the community since they knew many people through their business.

But somewhere during their pursuit of a career they were introduced to Christ. They no longer were spinning their wheels trying to make it for themselves in this world. Now they had a real purpose—being an effective witness for Christ, teachers of the Word and church planters.

Paul had come to Corinth, met this couple and decided to stay and work with them since he was also a tentmaker. They gladly welcomed Paul into their home and business. What a blessing it must have been for them to have him in their home.

How many times have you been willing, or should we say excited, about having a missionary, preacher, college kids or just neighbors share your home? If your church is like most others, when you have guests coming who need a place to stay it is usually left up to the pastor's wife or one of the older Christian women to offer her home. It's a shame that more young women cannot see the

benefits they could reap from opening their homes to others. Think of the missionaries, great preachers of God, students from Bible colleges that our children would have the opportunity to meet. No doubt the Apostle Paul had a great influence in the lives of this couple as he stayed with them.

Look at what they accomplished for God! In Acts 18:24-28 we read that they taught Apollos more of the Word of the Lord, and as a result he was able to help the believers in Achaia and convince the Jews that Jesus was the Christ. And in his book to the Romans, Paul sends greetings to Priscilla and Aquila and the church that met in their house. Paul refers to them as his "helpers . . . who have for my life laid down their own necks" (Romans 16:3, 4).

SPINNING IN BUSYNESS

The next lady we find is in Luke 10:38-42. Jesus had come to Bethany. Martha had received Him into her home gladly and was very concerned that everything was perfect for the Master. She probably didn't know that He was coming since they didn't have any means of quick correspondence or transportation in those days. Perhaps she needed to fix a quick meal (without all our modern conveniences).

Luke says that "Martha was cumbered about much serving." She was distressed, troubled, perplexed. It irritated her because Mary was "sitting" while she was doing the "important work." "I

surely wish I had time to just sit around and listen to what Jesus has been doing," she perhaps thought. And then she questioned the Lord, "Dost thou not care?" And he answered gently, "Martha, Martha, thou art troubled."

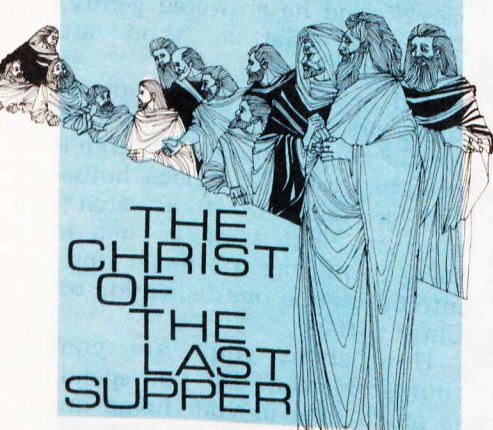
I dare say that many women today are troubled and just like Martha—over things that aren't needful. Not that a clean house and a table of food aren't necessary, but there is such a thing as putting too much time into *things* that our dedication to Christ suffers.

How about you? Are you another Martha? Do you spend so much time in your home on simple chores that your devotional life suffers? What about revival times? Do you plan to go every night or just a few? What about faithful church attendance when there is nothing "special" going on? So you do work every day; God still expects you to be faithful! You might have to let some chores go, but you will not be the loser if you do. "But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her" (Luke 10:42).

CONCLUSION

Perhaps the examples of these three women, the Samaritan woman, Priscilla and Martha, will encourage us to keep our wheels turning, not spinning. May we never put our relationships, careers, and our busyness in top priority, but may we choose that which cannot be taken away.

Pre-Easter Season of
Prayer for Foreign Missions
April 9-13, 1979
Thelma McNew



is at Christmastime? Probably the answer to both these questions is "NO!" But as Christians we should answer a positive "YES."

Let's roll back the curtain of time and drop in on our Lord and His chosen twelve in the Upper Room the night of the last supper.

PAST APOSTLES

(Light center candle representing Christ.) Sitting around the table in the chamber we first see Bartholomew, son of Tolmai. (Light first candle on left.) This disciple later preached the gospel in India and is remembered as the founder of the Armenian church. Sitting next to Bartholomew we see James, son of Alphaeus. (Light second candle.) The brother of Matthew, this James was also known as James the Less. Perhaps our Lord heard of James when he preached in the synagogues, for James was of the tribe of Levi, the priestly tribe. One author suggests that James the Less and Jesus resembled each other in appearance and that the kiss of Judas in the Garden of Gethsemane was necessary to distinguish them and to make sure that Jesus and not James was taken prisoner.

Next to James we see Andrew, the first disciple chosen of Jesus. (Light third candle.) This disciple had left his fishing nets to follow John the Baptist, and at the feeding of the 5,000 he is said to have been the one who introduced Jesus to the lad with the five loaves and two fishes.

Aim: To remind us of the cost of the cross.

Song: "He Lives" or "Tis Midnight and on Olive's Brow"

Scripture: Matthew 26:17-30

Materials Needed: One 12-inch white candle, 11 8-inch white candles, 1 black 8-inch candle and 13 star shaped candle holders. Place all candles in a straight line to give the effect of a table setting. Place the tallest candle in the center to represent Christ. Place the black candle the fifth from the left to represent Judas Iscariot. All candles remain unlit until the program indicates to light that particular candle. (The program would be most effective in dim light or done by candlelight.)

DO YOU GET as much joy from Easter as you do from Christmas? Is there as much excitement in the air now as there

Seated next to him we see the brother Andrew brought to the Lord—Peter. (Light fourth candle.) Peter would deny Christ this night and later run out of the chamber and weep bitterly. How must our Lord feel knowing those whom had been His closest companions would forsake Him!

Next to Peter we see Judas Iscariot, the disciple who betrayed our Lord with a kiss. (Light fifth candle, the black one.) Judas was different from the other disciples in that he was a Judean and all the others were Galileans. Because of his failure in life, we will later see this man hang himself.

Then we find John, the disciple described as the one "whom Jesus loved," (John 20:1). (Light sixth candle.) He occupied the privileged seat next to our Savior. Next we find Christ. And seated on the other side of Jesus we see James, the son of Zebedee. (Light eighth candle.) This James was also known as James the Greater. He, along with Peter and John, shared the inner-circle with Jesus Christ. There is evidence to show James was a first cousin to Jesus, and it's also interesting to note that this disciple was the first of the disciples to die the death of a martyr.

Next to James we see Thomas, the doubter. (Light ninth candle.) By trade he was a fisherman. The picture we see of Thomas is one of a personality given to gloom and doubt, yet a believer just the same. How many of us fit this picture? And how many of us rise above our fears, settle our doubts and ex-

claim with Thomas, "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28). Beside Thomas we find Philip. (Light tenth candle.) This believer, who was a Jew, would later introduce certain Greeks to Christ. We see him also at the feeding of the 5,000.

Next to Philip there is Matthew, the brother of James the Less. (Light eleventh candle.) Matthew was a tax collector by trade. The first account of his life as a disciple is found in Matthew 9:9-12 where he invited Christ into his home at a feast where only tax collectors and sinners were present. Sitting next to him we see Thaddaeus, the son of James the Great. (Light twelfth candle.) Very little is clearly mentioned in Scripture about this disciple. And last at our table, we see Simon, the Zealot. (Light thirteenth candle.) This disciple received his calling along with Andrew, Peter, Thaddaeus and Judas at the Sea of Tiberias.

PRESENT COUNTERPARTS

Though you were not present at the feast of the Last Supper, you may be representing the disciples tonight. Positively speaking, are you a Bartholomew, a James the Less, spreading the gospel to the lost of other lands? No, not many of us are preaching the love of God across the seas, so perhaps a better question to ask is, "Are you even spreading the good news to your loved ones and neighbors?"

Are you an Andrew feeding

the hungry? Our federal government has shown us so vividly that just feeding the physically hungry will not cure the ails of our world. Why not feed the spirit first, then take care of the physical needs? Or maybe you are a Thomas, doubting the directives and promises of the Lord. Probably the greatest hindrance in modern churches is people who have the "I can't" ailment. How disappointing it must be to the Lord when he hears our complaints, worries and doubts. But let's not be too hard on poor old Thomas; when he did reach a conclusion he was more firmly rooted and grounded for having proved it for himself.

Or perhaps you have betrayed our Lord tonight with a kiss to the world? Can your neighbors see that your life Monday through Saturday belongs to the Lord and His service? The only Bible some of your neighbors read is your life, and we all must keep our lives in teaching with Scripture.

Hopefully, we are not traitors to our Lord, rather we must all keep guard and share the inner-circle with Christ as did His chosen three. Our lights this Easter ought to shine more brightly than ever, for we pay very little in comparison to the cost our Lord paid for us.

PROPER ATTITUDES

What should our attitudes be this Easter as it relates to being Christ's disciples? First of all, we ought to feel a sense of *urgency*

to get the gospel to those still in darkness. We would hurry with the gospel message if the truth of Matthew 24:36 gripped us. "But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only." This urgency, unfortunately, is often limited to getting the gospel to those who haven't heard in Africa or India or Brazil or countless other far-reaching areas of the world. But so many times we don't have an urgency to get the gospel to our next door neighbors, our lost relatives, or those with whom we are in contact socially.

To live in a sense of *expectancy* is also necessary. The disciples of Jesus' day really believed that He would return to claim His own in their lifetimes. How many of us really believe that Christ will return during our lifetimes? How long has it been since anyone in your church prayed, "Lord Jesus, come quickly"? We ought to be *expecting* the Lord.

Thirdly, we need to be *enthused* about the Lord, which is the key to it all. Repeatedly in the Word there are examples where Jesus performed miracles in lives. It is impossible to conceive that after these miracles happened, the people weren't excited and enthused. The Lord has saved us! What better miracle to be enthusiastic over. Going back to the original question, "Do you get as much joy from Easter as you do from Christmas?" We don't have to remind our children that it's Christmastime, but have you had to tell them "It's Easter"?

Prayer Group Programs

by Pat Thomas

APRIL

The month of April has been designated as Foreign Missions Month in the Free Will Baptist denomination. During this month WNAC has designated the week of April 9-13 as the Pre-Easter Week of Prayer, and auxiliaries all across America will be receiving special offerings for foreign missions. All auxiliaries are urged to observe this special week of prayer and receive gifts for the cause of spreading the gospel worldwide. The Pre-Easter Week of Prayer program is in this issue of *Co-Laborer*.

Foreign missions call-a-thon is on Easter Sunday, April 15. On this day Free Will Baptist churches across America are encouraged to give special offerings for foreign missions. After receiving the offerings, churches are to call in the amount that afternoon so the Foreign Missions Department can tally the amount and publish the results. The telephone number is 615/361-1010. Foreign missions personnel will be manning the telephones that afternoon to receive calls. A goal of \$25,000 has been set for call-a-thon

Sunday.

Woman's auxiliaries can assist the churches in making Foreign Missions Month a success. The women can decorate the church and Sunday school facilities with foreign missions maps, prayer cards, banners and posters. Bulletin boards could be arranged around a missions theme. A display table could be set up with missions materials and artifacts from different fields. A goal could be set and a thermometer made from poster paper illustrating the amount to be raised on Foreign Missions Sunday. Woman's auxiliaries, Sunday school classes, CTS groups and Master's Men groups can receive special offerings to be added to the church offerings for call-a-thon Sunday.

During the Pre-Easter Week of Prayer when the program is observed from the *Co-Laborer*, much prayer should be made for the missionaries and mission churches around the world. Special prayer requests can be obtained by calling Foreign Missions Hotline at 615/361-5005, and the latest prayer requests will be given by tape recording.

Pray for the John Murrays, Arilla Wode and Charolette Tallent as they complete language school in Albertville, France.

The Jerry Gibbsses and Patsy Vanhook covet your prayers for their work in St. Nazaire, France.

Pray for Jerry and Wanda McClary as they raise their support to go to Omaha, Nebraska. They will be starting the only Free Will Baptist church

in that state.

Pray for Buddy Bell as he replaces Wallace Hayes as the joint project worker in Lebanon, Tennessee. Brother Hayes is now the promotional man for Tennessee.

MAY

There are many important things to remember in prayer during the month of May in the Free Will Baptist denomination. The National Home Missions Board will meet May 7-9 for their semi-annual meeting in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. At this important meeting the 1980 budget for the National Home Missions Department will be worked out for final approval by the National Association. New missionary candidates will also be approved and new mission fields selected. Please pray for Rev. Roy Thomas, General Director, and Mr. Trymon Messer, Associate Director; as well as the nine board members: Rev. J. E. Blanton, Rev. Jim McAllister, Rev. Delbert Akin, Rev. Ed Cook, Rev. Dean Dobbs, Rev. Claudie Hames, Mr. Guy Mayo, Rev. Buford Pierce and Rev. Don Pegram.

Please remember to pray also for the Foreign Missions Board as it meets April 30-May 3. This board will also be approving new missionaries and mission fields, as well as making many other important decisions. Please pray for Rev. Rolla Smith, General Director; Rev. Henry Van Kluyve, Director of Deputation;

Rev. Don Robirds, Director of Communications; and Rev. Harold Critcher, Director of Finance. Pray for the board members also at this time: Rev. James Murray, Rev. Allen Moore, Rev. Reford Wilson, Rev. Dennis Wiggs, Dr. Joe Ange, Rev. Dan Cronk, Rev. Fred Warner, Rev. Jim Walker and Dr. Ron Winkle.

Another important prayer matter is Serviceman's Sunday, May 27. On that day please remember to pray for Free Will Baptist servicemen and women stationed all over the world. Many of these are in areas where there are no gospel preaching churches. Also pray for our six Free Will Baptist chaplains serving in the armed forces. They are: Chaplain (Capt.) Larence Cusick, Chaplain (Capt.) Walter Golding, Chaplain (Major) Gerald Mangham, Chaplain (Capt.) Kerry Steedley, Chaplain (Capt.) James L. Langford and Chaplain (Capt.) James B. Bishop. Also pray for men to fill two slots open to Free Will Baptists for Navy chaplains. Pray also for several men who are now in seminary training for the chaplaincy.

The Jim Cowarts need your prayers as they study the Portuguese language in Campinas, Brazil.

Pray for the summer missionaries who will be serving in several different foreign fields for about 10 weeks.

Pray for Cliff and Helen Holland in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This is an isolated area that desperately needs a self-supporting Free Will Baptist

church.

Remember the Mark Vandivort family as they labor to establish a soul-winning church in Flagstaff, Arizona. Pray that God will give them a strong nucleus of people.

JUNE

During the month of June there are many important activities and events in our Free Will Baptist churches. Many churches will be having Vacation Bible Schools during this month. The woman's auxiliaries can certainly assist the churches in sponsoring VBS. Not only can they pray for the success of VBS and the salvation of many souls, but can furnish refreshments, assist in teaching, work with handcrafts and provide supplies. One auxiliary in Tennessee made a map of Mexico from poster paper and presented it to the VBS children to fill with quarters to send to home missionaries Jerry and Julie Barron. Churches are urged to designate their VBS offerings for National Home Missions, as has been the custom in our churches for many years.

Sunday June 17 is Father's Day, and on this special day not only are our fathers remembered and honored, but also our retired ministers. Many auxiliaries do something special during this month for retired ministers in their church or association, such as writing letters to them, honoring them with a banquet, or presenting them gifts.

Churches are encouraged to receive special offerings on that Sunday honoring our Founding Fathers. This offering goes to the Board of Retirement and Insurance to assist in operating costs. If auxiliaries wish more information on this, please contact Rev. Herman Hersey, Board of Retirement and Insurance, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

June 14 is Flag Day, and this would be a good time for woman's auxiliaries to purchase and present to the churches new American and Christian flags. Women can do much to assist churches in promoting patriotism and love for our country. Posters could be made displaying the pledge of allegiance to the American and Christian flags, and these could be used in Vacation Bible School opening exercises. These flags should be displayed correctly in the church auditorium and used to teach love and respect for our country and Christianity.

Pray for the Dale Bishops and Fred Herseys as they make plans to return to the states for furlough.

Being the only Free Will Baptist missionaries in India be much in prayer for the Carlisle Hannas as they labor for Him in that needy country.

Pray for joint project workers Harold and Norma Teague as they open a new work in Longview, Texas.

Pray for Larry and Mary Nix as they begin as joint project workers in the metropolitan area of Atlanta, Georgia.

Praise The Lord

Mavis Daniels

I LIVE WITH two sisters and my mother. We three girls are victims of a rare nerve and muscle disease called "Freiderichs Atavia." The doctors say it is from birth, but it did not begin to show up on us until we reached the age of eleven or twelve. Joan, my older sister, after struggling many years, had to take a wheelchair as her constant companion. At this time she has been in a wheelchair for 21 years.

I was next. Before my teenage years I started stumbling, tripping, and falling. I was stubborn though. Before going to a wheelchair, I got a pair of crutches (against doctors orders) and used them until I had to lay them aside for a wheelchair. I have been in a wheelchair for 13 years.

After watching Joan and me all these years, Brenda was very bitter when she began to stumble. She refused the aid of a wheelchair until she had no choice. Mother helped her without a wheelchair as long as she possibly could. Reluctantly, Brenda finally gave in for a wheelchair. That was seven years ago.

Life was tough for us during our growing up years. The reason it was tough was because we were not saved by the blood of Jesus. We were constantly asking the Lord, "Why?" We were very hateful girls because of our bad attitude. We made life hard

for those who tried to help us. Joan, being the oldest, adjusted to the disease much better than Brenda and I. Brenda and I would purposely disobey our mother when we got mad at her. We are ashamed of our bad attitudes now. We are so glad that when Jesus saved us He forgave and forgot our past sins.

We three wasted so many years. How sad, but true. Joan has been saved six years, Brenda four and one-half. I have been saved only five years. Since the blood of Jesus was applied to our hearts, our constant prayer is, "God, please make us and mold us into the persons you want us to be and make our wants like your wants."

We are learning more and more to do as the Apostle Paul tells us. "Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Philippians 4:6). A lot of people laugh at us for taking every little trivial thing to God. We just let them laugh because we are supposed to please God, not man.

As long as we are in this ole flesh, we sin. We try to do as Paul said in Philippians 3:14, "I press toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." We Christians often make it so hard on ourselves because we insist on doing things our way instead of God's way. My family and I are so proud to have a God we can take our problems to. We can truly say, "Praise the Lord."

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost."

A Fantastic Answer To Prayer

Brenda Daniels



Mavis, Joan and Brenda. Mother standing.

GOD IS in the prayer answering business. David tells us to "Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart" (Psalm 37:4). Mark 11:24 says, "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." And God cannot lie (Titus 1:2).

We are a family of four. There are three of us girls and we are each in a wheelchair. Our mother waits on us every day. We are very big babies. We certainly appreciate our mother for the many things that she does for us.

Mother learned to drive at the age of 54 because she wanted to visit with other shut-ins. Our married brother gave her a car, but it had to have work done on it just about every week. It

was getting old, and every time she would replace a part, something else would go wrong. We girls did not want Mother to give up visiting. We decided to claim those Bible promises on prayer. We asked the Lord to provide Mother with another car, a good one that would not have something wrong with it all the time. Well, praise the Lord, He answered. He even did more than we asked Him. "Now unto him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us" (Ephesians 3:20).

At that time we were going to church in the back of a pickup truck. One of our uncles had the truck. We would go to our home church and to other revivals that were close by. Our uncle would drive slowly so the wind would not freeze us. We often got colds in the winter. When it looked rainy we would start out anyway, praying all the way that the Lord would hold up the rain until we got where we were going. The Lord did too. We were sprinkled on only a few times, and when we'd get inside, it would usually come a downpour. Isn't our Lord wonderful?

Getting back to our prayer. God led some singers that we had met to give benefit programs for us to get a van. The Spirit led the group as where to sing each time. On August 6, 1976, they drove in the yard with our van—the Lord's van. Naturally, we all had to get in and take a ride. All three wheelchairs could be rolled right inside, and Mother could drive it.

We are so thankful to the Lord for answering our prayers. We will forever praise Him for His goodness.

Presenting Our Presidents

Oklahoma

Serving her second term as president of the Oklahoma Woman's Auxiliary, Lila Faye Morgan plans the annual prayer retreats and plans and presides over the state conventions. Raising money for Hillsdale and foreign and home missions projects also occupies her time.

Lila Faye graduated from Bixby High School in 1949, and she has enjoyed her 28 years as a pastor's wife. The wife of Rev. J. C. Morgan, pastor of Lawnwood Free Will Baptist Church, Tulsa, she has four children and three grandchildren.

Margaret Dixon, now serving as the Oklahoma State Field Worker, proved her leadership capabilities in the early fifties by helping to organize the Arkansas Woman's Auxiliary. Their first president, she has also served as president of the Missouri Woman's Auxiliary.

Mrs. Dixon has organized many local auxiliaries, and she has planned and directed several prayer retreats. She and her husband, Rev. O. T. Dixon, are associated with Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College and the chaplaincy department of the Oklahoma State Correction Center.

Alabama

Annette Tomlinson was elected as president of the Alabama Woman's Auxiliary Convention in May of 1978. She is also serving as treasurer of the State Line District Association and study and prayer chairman of her local organization.

The Tomlinsons are originally from Leeds, Alabama, but they moved to Enterprise five years ago. Annette's husband Frank, a deacon, left his business to help with the Free Will Baptist mission there. She teaches the nursery and beginner Sunday school class and is the church pianist.

Working the field in the "Heart of Dixie" is Mrs. Jackie Peters. She has served in several offices on the local level and last May she helped plan the state retreat and gave a devotion there, as well as at the state meeting.

Mrs. Peters helps sponsor the Actionettes of the Holmes Free Will Baptist Church where her husband Bobby Peters is pastor. She has also helped with youth camps for the past six years, and she directs the adult choir and teaches a children's Bible class.





Retreat Review

Missouri. One hundred and four women from across the state heard Dr. Mary Wisheart speak on "Lord, Change Me," September 11-12, 1978. The retreat project was an offering for the FWBCC library, and over \$805 has been given.

Texas/Oklahoma. "Today's Woman in the Home, Society, Business and Church" was the topic for discussion when approximately 30 women from Texas and Oklahoma gathered at Lake Texoma Baptist Youth Camp, November 17-18, 1978. Mary Feath directed, and Cleo Pursell was guest speaker.

Ohio. Camp Big Prairie, Big Prairie, Ohio, was the scene for the auxiliary retreat, September 28-30, 1978. Missionaries Deleen Cousineau and Marcia Ellison were guest speakers and the theme was "Patterns for Prayer."

Michigan. Mrs. Mabel Willey, missionary to Panama, was the special guest speaker at the Michigan Woman's Auxiliary retreat held September 15-16, 1978, at Pine Hills Camp, Brighton, Michigan. One hundred sixty-two "Handmaidens of the Lord" attended.

Tennessee. The Tennessee Woman's Auxiliary retreat was held at Cedars of Lebanon State Park, Lebanon, Tennessee, September 8-9, 1978. Laura Belle Barnard, Trula Cronk, Mary Ruth Wisheart, Ruth Dearmond and Linda Peyton emphasized the theme, "Prayer Is the Key to Power."

California. "Lord, If . . ." was the theme of the California Woman's Auxiliary retreat, October 12-14, 1978, at Emerald Cove Camp, Bass Lake. One hundred fifty-five women attended and June Rolan directed.

Maryland. The Maryland Woman's Auxiliary held their first camp and prayer retreat in May. Jane Burden, a pastor's wife from Norfolk, Virginia, was the guest speaker.

Florida. The West Florida Woman's Auxiliary had an all night prayer retreat September 22, 1978, with 16 ladies present. Margaret Baker and Frankie Matthews spoke on prayer and total commitment. A season of prayer followed.

Northwest District. "God's Patterns for Living" was the theme for the Northwest District Woman's Auxiliary retreat, September 8-9, 1978, at Circle C Ranch high in the Cascade Mountains. Fifty-two were present to hear keynote speakers June Rolan, Cheryl Rogers and Winnie McLain.

Arizona. The third annual Arizona Woman's Auxiliary retreat was held October 13-14, 1978, in Tucson. Naomi Wright and Donna Turner were guest speakers, and the women reached their state project goal of \$500 for home missions.



A Woman God Has Used

Mrs. Edith Duke Shiver says she has never been bored a minute in her life; and with a schedule like hers, who would have time to be bored? Active in church, auxiliary, civic and community affairs, she is a farmer's wife, mother of two, grandmother of three, award-winning cook, seamstress and fisherman.

Mrs. Shiver has been interested in woman's auxiliary since 1944. Always active in the district and state conventions, she has held several offices and many times attended the national association. She served as president of the Georgia auxiliary for six years, and she is currently the state historian. She compiled the state work in scrapbook form, and as her husband Myron G. Shiver, a retired rural letter carrier, said, "This is one type of work—digging up old records—Edith enjoys."

Edith Shiver has been a member of Patmos Free Will Baptist Church since she was 12 years old and has held many positions of leadership. She especially enjoys working with the young people. A retired coach, librarian, teacher and principal, Edith was named among Outstanding Citizens of Georgia in 1976-77.

Having lived in Baker County all her life, Mrs. Shiver attended Martha Berry College and is a graduate of University of Georgia. Edith loves people, and once she knows you, she counts you as a friend and brother or sister in Christ.



ARMED FORCES SUNDAY

May 27, 1979

May 27, 1979 has been set aside as a time to honor our Free Will Baptist men and women who are serving our country in the various branches of the United States Armed Forces.

Sponsored by:

The Master's Men Dept.
P. O. Box 17306
Nashville, TN 37217

Woman's
National Auxiliary Convention
It's not too early to start getting ready!

July 16-17

Civic Center

Charlotte, North Carolina

