

CO-LABORER

October, November, December, 1983



Creative
Arts
Contest
Winners



CO-LABORER

Fourth Quarter, 1983

Volume 23, Number 4

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Editorial

Two years ago she was glowing with good health, this friend of mine whom I was trying to love into church. She had attended church regularly when her two sons (the same age as my sons) were in the war, had even sung in the choir. But she had not darkened a church door in years. She responded in this manner on a church telephone survey, so our pastor and an associate visited her. Although she willingly prayed with them, she never came to church.

Last year she discovered an unusual lump on her breast. As the months passed, she felt it grow . . . and grow . . . until one day it ruptured. Still she had not consulted a doctor. And when she did, it was too late.

We're so earthbound that often the Lord permits a weaning process, when the things of earth become less and less important and the longing for heaven becomes dearer than life. My friend began her weaning process.

"Addie," I asked, as she lay dying from cancer and septicemia. "I must know. You've heard about Jesus all your life, but do you really know Him?"

She did, she said.

"One day soon you're going to see Him face to face. He's going to expect you to know what's recorded about Him in His Word. How much do you know?"

Not enough, she said.

On my next visit I took a cassette player with Scripture reading from the Gospels. Her unsaved husband eagerly agreed to play them for her "over and over." How much she soaked up, I don't know, because, her weaning process complete, she went to be with Jesus less than a week later.

One day we, too, will be set free from earth ties and meet Him face to face.

Blessed hope! Joyous anticipation!

Lorene Wiley



From Cleo

Enlistment Helps

Carole Carner and Karon Anderson, two of Oklahoma's most talented individuals, are co-authoring WNAC's new enlistment materials. They will be mailed out in early fall for use in January or before. Some groups have their emphasis in September.

1983-'84 Program of Work

Last year we emphasized missions action, this year it is study. Our theme, "Enriched by Knowledge," (1 Cor. 1:5), reminds us that our lives can be richer through study of God's Word and other good literature.

We are encouraging those who can to read the Bible through this year. Reading guides are available from our office as well as a wealth of other materials: Bible Correspondance Courses written by Mildred

MEMO

Daniel, (certificates will be awarded those completing the courses), free leaflets on how to start a church library, a tape or cassette club, new study course books on christian living and service, home Bible studies, missions, evangelism, prayer, and Woman's Auxiliary methods and history. Certificates are available for local auxiliaries to award those reading books in all categories listed on the calendar of study.

Other New Literature

In addition to the above named materials, we have new plays, installations, tracts, theme bulletin covers, supplies catalog, and a new book of poetry, "Tapestry," compiled from this years creative writing contest.

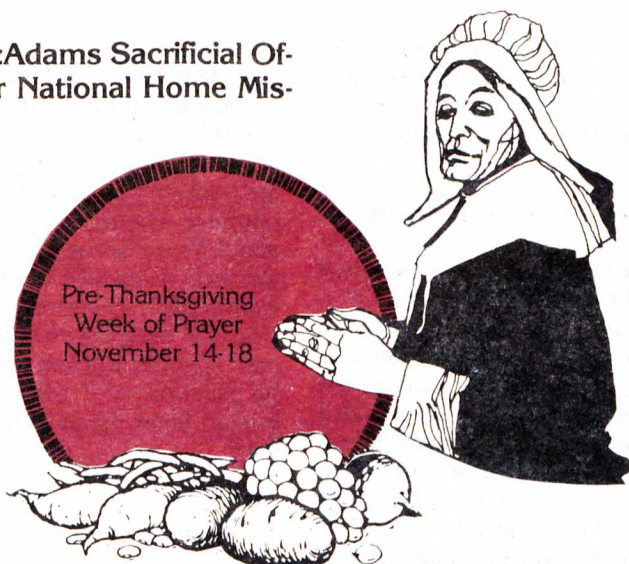
WNAC Retreat

The next WNAC retreat is scheduled for September 6-8, 1984 at Ridgecrest, N.C., situated in the heart of the picturesque Blue Ridge Mountains, 18 miles east of Asheville, N.C. We are expecting at least 1200 women.

Prices which include hotel, meals, and registration will be released soon. Reservations may be made after January 1, 1984 by writing Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, P.O. Box 128, Ridgecrest, N.C. 28770.

Plan now to bring a bus load!

Lizzie McAdams Sacrificial Offering for National Home Missions



Send through regular auxiliary channels or to:
Woman's National Auxiliary Convention
P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202

Pre-Thanksgiving Week of Prayer Program

Roy Thomas

POSSESSING THE LAND

Scripture: Joshua 13:1

Hymn: "Loyalty to Christ"

Introduction

The Free Will Baptist constituency has experienced an increased awareness for planting churches in the cities of America. Great strides have been made in recent years and much has been accomplished. However, there remains much to be done before

we can minister to the masses of our continent. The eight states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Nevada, Utah, Minnesota, New York, Vermont, and Connecticut have no Free Will Baptist churches and 22 other states have less than eight churches each. Many of our major cities have no Free Will Baptist churches. In other large cities people would have to drive in excess of 30 miles through town to reach the church.

We need to hear the words of the Lord to Joshua: "Thou art old and stricken in years, and there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed."

The Reason for Home Missions

In Acts 1:8, we find the last words of our Lord before His ascension: "You shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, in all Judea, in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Jerusalem was their city, Judea their state, and Samaria the neighboring state. The uttermost part of the earth referred to adjoining countries and the rest of the world.

A look through the book of Acts reveals how carefully the early church obeyed their instructions. In Acts 5:28, we learn "they filled Jerusalem with their doctrine." In Acts 9:31, we see that they planted churches in all Judea, as well as in Galilee and Samaria. In Acts 13, we find Paul and Barnabas taking the gospel to surrounding countries. The process continued until they had planted churches in every region of the known world.

America began as a Christian nation, but is slipping into paganism. A generation has grown up and assumed leadership who knows nothing of true Christianity. America, above all nations, has the resources to evangelize the world. Think what could be done for the rest of the world if America were filled with Free Will Baptist churches who were sending their young people and money to evangelize the world.

The urbanization of our country has brought people from the country to industrial centers. Many have not found a Free Will Baptist church and have been lost to the devil or other

denominations. We have failed to provide for our own (1 Tim. 5:8).

Only 8% of the American population is in church on Sunday morning and only 2% on Sunday night. Souls are perishing because these folks do not have a church that is concerned about them. Some use the religious telecasts to excuse them from their evangelistic responsibility. Thank God for everyone who is trying to reach people, but lost people will not be reached until someone from a broken heart presents the gospel to them.

The Remedy

The cure for the problems described is to place a good soul winning church within the reach of every family in America. The Home Missions Department has developed a program that is working well. Qualified missionaries are sent to needy cities. Their support is underwritten by Free Will Baptist churches and individuals.

The first month consists of intensive visitation and advertising in order to build a nucleus of people. The group begins Sunday school and organizes to evangelize its city. A building fund is started by the new group and funds accumulate for a down payment on property. The Church Extension Loan Fund is growing to the place that more of our mission churches can secure a loan for their property and buildings.

The mission church begins immediately supporting their pastor's account. They add to this amount as they grow until they are able to assume the entire salary. This is an excellent program that works well if all get involved.

The Results

What joy to hear of life-changing decisions that are made because a preacher came to a needy city and began preaching the gospel. Recently in a new church, a young man about 20 came to the altar. A host of other people followed. After he was led to Christ, the young man's father testified, "This is the last of my children. Two years ago a missionary knocked on our door. Because of his faithful witnessing, my wife and I were saved. Then we started working on our four children to win them to Christ. Now our whole family is saved. Praise the Lord!"

The Great Commission requires the organizing of local churches. Only the church can feed the souls won and develop them into mature saints. Everything in God's work is an outgrowth of the local church. Because a church is planted in a given place, the gospel is preached, the people are gathered, and they have an organization that sends them forth to reach others.

The people of a new church pay for the property. Though the denomination usually has very little invested, their property certainly increases the worth of the denomination. One pastor received about \$5000 in total salary to begin a new church. Today the property is valued at more than \$400,000. Home Missions doesn't cost; it pays.

Almost every new church has sent young people to our Bible colleges. Some of these have been called into the ministry. Some of our pastors, national leaders, teachers, and missionaries were once sinners in the cities of our country where missionaries came and won them to Christ.

Mission churches begin the very first Sunday to support the causes of the denomination with at least 10% of their offerings. Some churches started in this manner are now giving more to the cause of Christ outside their local church than the total investment made in sending someone to that city.

Conclusion

The answer to every problem we face is found in winning souls and building churches. The future of the cause of Christ depends on these two. May each of us invest our time, talents, and treasures to this end.



The Author: Roy Thomas is General Director of the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, Nashville, Tennessee.

Ideas on How to Have a Successful Pre-Thanksgiving Week Of Prayer along with a daily prayer guide have been prepared by Pat Thomas of the Home Missions office. These are free upon request. Order one copy for each member from:

National Home Missions
P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202

Our Writers



Fletcher, Sarah, Broken Arrow, OK, is the wife of Keith, Minister of Youth, Education and Music at the Grace FWB Church. Their only child, Aaron, is a year old. Sarah leads a CTS class and enjoys writing, sewing, cooking, gardening, and homemaking in general.

Lindsay, Alice, and husband, Lewis, are members of Silver City FWB Church, Oilton, OK. A retired public accountant, Mrs. Lindsay is involved in several Senior Citizens projects and enjoys bowling, public speaking and writing. Mrs. Lindsay spent the month of June in Japan visiting her son.



Moore, Debra, Donelson FWB Church, Nashville, TN, is teacher, guidance counselor and Physical Education director at Donelson Christian Academy. As vice president of the Cumberland district, Miss Moore edits the district's bi-monthly newsletter, **Chimes**. She also sponsors a weekly Christian singles Bible study.

Patton, Margie (Mrs. Wayne), Glennville, GA, is president of her district convention and mission action chairman of her local. Her husband teaches at Glennville Christian Academy and they have two children. Margie writes, "Being a wife and mother is my career, but I also have 30 private music students."



Thomasson, Barbara Ellen and husband, Michael, team in a nursing home ministry of the New Hope FWB Church, Fredericktown, MO. They have one son, Jonathan, age 2. Mrs. Thomasson also directs the Children's Church, assists in the nursery class and enjoys preparing visual aids.

SPIRITUAL CPR

Concern Prayer Revival

Aim: To learn the soul-winning technique of Spiritual CPR

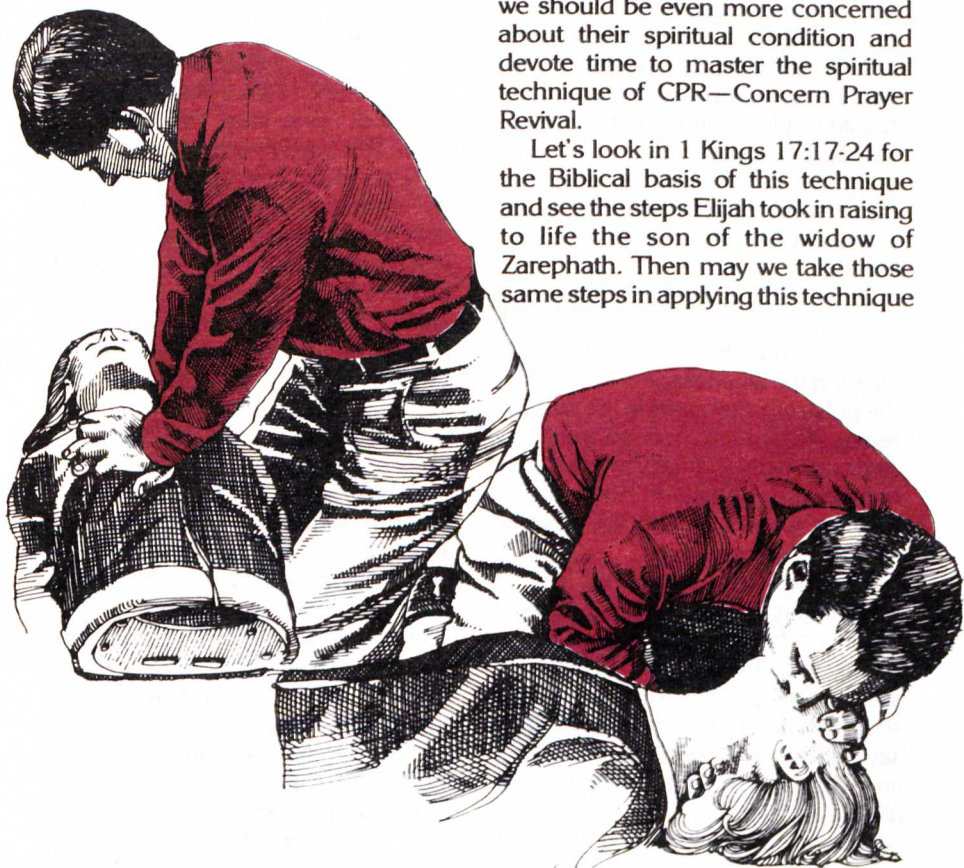
Scripture: 1 Kings 17:17-24

Hymn: "Revive Us Again"

Introduction

Many people today are so concerned about the physical condition of their fellow man that they devote four hours of strenuous learning to master the life saving technique known as CPR—Cardiac Pulmonary Resuscitation. As Christian women, we should be even more concerned about their spiritual condition and devote time to master the spiritual technique of CPR—Concern Prayer Revival.

Let's look in 1 Kings 17:17-24 for the Biblical basis of this technique and see the steps Elijah took in raising to life the son of the widow of Zarephath. Then may we take those same steps in applying this technique



to those who are dying around us, to the lost as well as those who are in a backslidden condition.

Concern (1 Kings 17:17-19)

During a severe drought in Israel, Elijah was cared for by a widow and her son. One day the son sickened and died and the widow cried out to Elijah for help. The boy's mother manifested sincere concern for her son, but that could not revive him. In panic, she made accusations against God and His man. Elijah didn't become offended and give her a sermon on blaspheming God; rather he stepped right in at the point of need to administer CPR. Undoubtedly Elijah had become fond of the boy during his stay and his actions were motivated by genuine love for him. He knew the steps of CPR which were designed to bring about that which they desired more than anything else—the boy's revival.

Basic CPR is a simple procedure, as simple as A-B-C—airways, breathing and circulation. The first steps of clearing the air passage and checking the pulse are vital steps in the physical realm. How much more so spiritually. Although revival usually refers to cold or lukewarm Christians, Spiritual CPR may be applied to both the unsaved as well as the saved.

The best way to provide rescue breathing is by mouth-to-mouth technique or one-on-one witnessing or counseling. Ask the Lord to make you sensitive to people with needs and show them from God's Word what He says about their particular situation and what they must do to establish or restore fellowship.

If we are motivated by the love of

Jesus, we will manifest heartfelt concern by reaching out to the dying and help them experience revival.

Prayer (1 Kings 17:20, 21)

The second step in Spiritual CPR is found in 1 Kings 17:20, 21. Elijah knew that concern, no matter how heartfelt, was not enough. His actions, no matter how sincerely motivated, were not enough. He must draw from his ready source of power through prayer.

Elijah maintained that powerful line of communication connecting man to God. The widow did not have to wait until the prophet got things right with God; he walked in that proper relationship. When he cried, "O Lord, my God, I pray thee," the Scriptures say, "The Lord heard it."

We, too, must keep an open line of communication with God. Only then may we function in intercessory prayer when and where the need arises. In ourselves we may say the right words and do all the right things, but unless they are bathed in prayer and anointed by the Holy Spirit, they produce nothing of eternal value.

In order to administer CPR, one must be in good physical condition. If one has a heart condition it isn't recommended he administer the technique to another. The same is true in Spiritual CPR. If one's spiritual life is unhealthy, it isn't likely he will be able to help another with his spiritual problems. (Matt. 7:3)

Missionaries depend upon our prayerful intercession as they serve in heathen lands. Two hundred years ago William Carey changed the whole history of India and missions. What was the secret of his remarkable

accomplishment? Carey had a sister who lay paralyzed and bedridden. But for 50 years she prayed for her brother—several hours a day! We don't have power to fulfill our prayer requests, but Matt. 17:20 and Mark 10:27 promise us our heart's desires as we trust Him to do it.

Revival (1 Kings 17:22, 23)

The third step in administering Spiritual CPR is found in the last verses of this chapter. When Elijah presented the widow with her living son, he also shared in the rejoicing. It was a testimony to her of the power of God and the obedience of His prophet. Likewise when we have helped lead someone to Jesus, we share in that joyous reunion.

Free Will Baptist women are familiar with revival. Most churches schedule one in spring and another in fall, year in and year out. However Spiritual CPR is not concerned with a series of meetings conducted by a visiting preacher, but rather involves revival of the soul. The thought of revival should excite us. We must first experience it in our lives before we reach out to help others achieve it.

As we administer Spiritual CPR, we must be aware that we cannot bring life from death, only God can do this (Eph. 2:1). But we do have the glorious privilege of helping revive a person or bring him back to the place where he once walked in intimate fellowship with His Lord.

The satisfaction in CPR is witnessing a body restored to life. And if he's wise, he will avoid those conditions that brought on the attack that threatened his life. In order to maintain a spirit of revival in one's life, it is

necessary to 1) avoid unhealthy foods and places. Keep on a steady diet of prayer and Bible reading.

2) Maintain a proper weight. When you find yourself bloated from worldly and materialistic desires, get rid of the excess immediately.

3) Exercise regularly. Attend church, witness, become involved in mission action projects.

4) Have regular check-ups with the Great Physician.

Conclusion

Periodic practice in Spiritual CPR is essential to insure a satisfactory level of proficiency. A life may depend upon how well you have remembered these important steps—Concern, Prayer, Revival—and how you apply them.

May God give us genuine heartfelt concern when we see people all around us dying from a heartfelt condition of sin. Let's be ready to administer CPR at a moment's notice, then follow up our witnessing with intercessory prayer, trusting God for the end result—revival!

When we see a faltering soul

Fainting by the way,
Quickly let's administer
CPR today.

Let us show heartfelt concern,

Then intercede in prayer
Just exactly as we learned;
Let's show we truly care.

Then for revival we'll trust Him
To make them whole, revived again.

—B. E. Thomasson

Bless The Lord, O My Soul!



Margie Patton

It had been one of those days.

Rain drizzled continuously. Not a single one of my "Things To Do Today" had been checked off. Colds made by two pre-schoolers extra demanding. And I had no idea what I could put on the table for supper.

I was half way through the grocery store and mentally calculating if money would meet demand, when up through the depths of the tomato, hamburger, and bananas came the slightly muffled but undauntedly cheerful little voice of my two-and-half-year-old.

"Bless the Lord, O my soul," it quivered over and over as down the aisle I pushed.

Just the day before I had taught the children Psalm 103:1 set to music. By the time we reached the canned fruit, my three-year-old daughter had joined in. Though they remembered neither words or tune of the last part of the verse, they sounded forth sure and true on the first part.

As I picked up a box of brownie mix, I found myself humming along. Suddenly I realized that the whole atmosphere of the supermarket had changed from one of hurry and frustration to one of calmness and friendliness. People smiled at my children, at me, and at each other as they caught the spirit of joy and praise. To this day, some of the checkers and bag-boys smile and say, "Bless the Lord," when they see my children enter the store.

In spite of runny noses and a cranky Mama, my children could praise God. I felt so ashamed that instead of setting the right example, I had to be taught the lesson of praise. Sure, I still have bad days and my share of frustrations, but I remember more often to look up and exclaim, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!"

Call to Prayer

Eunice
Edwards

A life transformed and heath restored
In lands so far away;
For Satan's fiery darts fall dead
When women kneel to pray.

Designed for use in missions prayer groups, auxiliary meetings or
wherever a prayer burden is needed.

October

Prayer Requests



1. Cathy Crawford, new missionary to France, studies the French language and culture in Albertville. Pray for a quick mind, healthy body, sensitive spirit and a strong constitution.

2. Paul Thompson gathered 30 people together in Globe. Mike Harrell now leads this group while Bro. Thompson goes to Tempe. Pray for these church planting efforts in Arizona. Also for church planters Elmer Turnbough in St. Petersburg, Florida and Jim Williams in Carthage, Missouri.

3. Mario Conceicao has been ordained as a national pastor in Uruguay. Pray for wisdom and strength as he ministers to his people.

Meditation

Today's jargon is heavily saturated with phrases like "Reaganomics," "fil-

ter down theory," "supply and demand," "Dow Jones," etc. Money is the subject of most conversations, even by Christians.

However, strange as it seems, seldom does anyone say, "I'm counting the cost of following Christ." And yet our blessed Lord advised this consideration be given to following Him.

In the familiar parable (an earthly story with a heavenly meaning) of building a tower (Luke 14:28, 29), Jesus sets forth a reasonable premise: If and when you plan to build something, first consider the cost. No successful business man would do otherwise.

Following Christ is costly. For some Christians it is more costly than others. But whatever the cost, it must be paid.

Christ counted the cost of laying aside the glory that was His to become the Savior of men (John 17:4, 5). It cost Him His will (Matt. 26:39). When we surrender our will to Him, it seems easier to follow Him.

Paul understood this truth for he said, "I am crucified with Christ" (Gal.

2:20; Gal. 6:14).

Are you counting the cost of following Him? All it cost the prodigal son was his rags and his bankruptcy!

Read Philippians 3:7-14 please.

Remember Our MK's

Birthdays in October

5 Vera Sturgill, 5, Brazil
12 Regina Franks, 9, Brazil
21 Miranda Owen, 9, Spain
24 Jeffry Bishop, 6, Japan

November

Prayer Requests



1. Janice Banks' health is somewhat improved. Pray they may be able to return to Japan by next summer.

2. Pray for our deputational missionaries as they travel from church to church in behalf of missions—Don and Billie Sexton and Mabel Willey. Pray for health and safety of travel.

3. Mike Lake, Elkhart, Indiana and Bob Thomas, Ft. Collins, Colorado are in building programs. Pray for wisdom in dealing with city building and planning commissions and that strong, self-supporting churches may be established in these cities.

Meditation

One of my granddaughters gave me a book last Christmas entitled **The Travel Diary**. It is informative, practical and useful. I appreciate this thoughtful gift very much as it will serve its purpose for several trips.

My Heavenly Father gave me a lifetime gift of a book entitled **The Bible**. It, too, is informative, practical and very useful. But more than this, it is my guide-book to His throne! Oh, the praise in my heart as I read its pages! I know that if I follow His Word, I shall arrive safely at the destination He had for me before the foundation of the world.

My heart sings with such praise to Him for His Word that I don't even have words to express it. All I can do is ask Him to look into my heart and take the praise I feel for this incredible gift—God's Word to me!

On its pages are instructions of how, why and what-then. It also carries the weight of the power of my God as He teaches me things so great I can scarcely understand. He tells me that He loves me. And wonder of wonders, He says that if I trust Him, He will guide me safely home. He speaks of the glories of His world and promises I can share it, if I'm faithful.

He tells me of His secret longings, chiefly of which is my devotion to Him. He wants me to love Him more, be more obedient. He delights in my little acts of kindness. Little, because I can't do great things; but He understands this.

He encourages me with His wisdom; even when I don't understand it all, He does.

Thank You, Lord, for Your Word and the way it speaks to my heart.

Remember Our MK's

Birthdays in November

7 Camila Cowart, 2, on fur-

lough from Brazil
13 Brooke Cousineau, 3, on
furlough from Ivory Coast
26 Rachel Callaway, 7, Spain
28 Johnny Inscoc, 16, Panama

December

Prayer Requests



1. Mark and Louis Vandivort, Flagstaff, Arizona, suffer from ill health (Louise's heart condition), deficient funds, and unemployment among some church members. Pray for victory in these areas.

2. Pray for Elaine Allen, RN, and her furlough ministry. Pray for Sherwood Lee and the clinic staff at Doropo, Ivory Coast, as they minister not only to physical bodies but to their spiritual bodies as well.

3. A big "Thank You" from both the home and foreign missions departments for your gifts of money, the showers to the provision closet, and most of all, for your prayers throughout this year for our missionary families around the world.

Meditation

A simple question, "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3) indicates how strong God feels about our obedience to Him. He wants us to serve Him gladly, lovingly, and in accord with His wishes.

God is holy, so without holiness no man shall see the Lord (Heb. 12:14). Jesus came, suffered and died that we might have life through His name (Gal. 4:4, 5). The blood of Christ demands that man be "born again"

before he can be acceptable with God. If it were possible for an unsaved man to enter heaven, it would be an eternal insult to the blood of Christ. The flesh is unprofitable (John 6:63).

In death we go to our Father. In the return of His Son, He comes for us. Whether one is of "this opinion or that persuasion," I'm convinced that at Jesus' return we will all learn something we've never even dreamed of.

Of this we are sure—He is coming again! We read with delightful anticipation, "This same Jesus . . . shall so come . . . as ye have seen him go" (Acts 1:11) Therefore since we must either go to Him in death or await His return, how should we "occupy" until we are in His presence?

1. Look for His return (Luke 12:37)

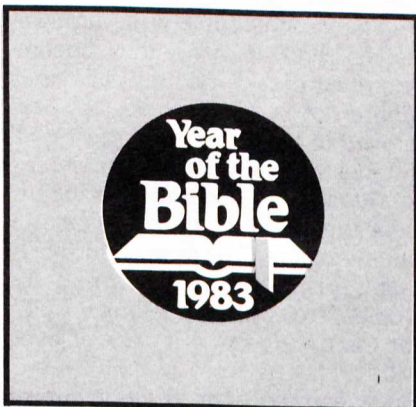
2. Prepare for that occasion (Luke 12:40)

3. Lay up treasures for ourselves in heaven (Luke 12:34)

4. Pray for Him to thrust forth laborers (Luke 10:2)

5. Be obedient to His commands (2 Peter 3:12)

God's Word is forever settled in heaven, it cannot be broken. Lord, may this be the year we see You face to face.



A WOMAN OF ST. CROIX

The Virgin Islands once charmed Christopher Columbus and have continued to attract thousands of settlers. When Vida Brown left the British island of Nevis to come to St. Croix in October, 1966, at the age of 21, she was so enchanted with the blossom covered hills, turquoise sea, and blessedly mild winter that she decided to stay.

Shortly after her arrival, she renewed acquaintance with a young man from Nevis who lived on the island. Friendship developed into love and she and Miron Hendrickson were married two years later.

Both Miron and Vida were Christians with a Brethren and Methodist background. A Free Will Baptist church was just organizing and a fellow-employee invited them to attend. Since there were no Brethren churches on the Island, her Nevis pastor also encouraged them to attend this new congregation.

The young couple was warmly received, and in 1971, they became members of the First Free Will Baptist Church of St. Croix where they have proved to be two of their most dedicated and dependable members.

Vida likes to cook and her recipes bear the touch of the many cultural strains of the Caribbean and the Island's history. Basic are the same tropical fruits and vegetables which the Carib and Arawak Indians enjoyed with additions from a grab bag of European cultures—salt-preserved

fish, rice in many guises, bean dishes from Spain, Creole gumbos, marinated meats (beef and goat) in citrus juices or vinegar. Her family admits that Johnny Cakes and fungi are two of their favorites. Fungi is much like the couscous our African missionaries serve.

Fellow Christians have described Vida as faithful, encouraging, happy, generous, helpful, and a good mother who spends time with her family. Her life centers around her husband and their three children, Miron, Jr., 14; Michelle, 11; and Catherine, 7; as well as her church and school. She leads the children's choir, teaches a Sunday school class, and serves as an aide in the Free Will Baptist Christian School.

The fruits of the spirit are evident in the life of Vida Henderickson. The Lord was gracious to our work when He led this young, dark-skinned girl to the Island of St. Croix and to our church.



Read this article before you start your Christmas gift list.



What do you do while sitting under the hair dryer at the beauty shop? How do you spend your time waiting in the doctor's office? Or dentist's?

Many ladies casually pick up whichever magazine is close by—**Better Homes And Gardens** or **Southern Living**, or, heaven forbid! one of those other kind.

What better way could you demonstrate your love for Christ and others than by giving your hair dresser (or shop owner) a year's subscription to a Christian magazine? Send the subscription to the beauty shop, not the home address. Hopefully she will display the Christian magazine along with all the others.

You could share Christ the same way with your doctor, dentist, or child's pediatrician.

Now's the time to start thinking about the Christmas gift that lasts all year. Ask the Lord which magazine He would have you send to the waiting room you regularly patronize. So while it's on your mind, take a few minutes to mail the subscription. Ask the Lord to use this instrument as a means of

bringing many persons into a meaningful relationship with Himself.

If you need a suggestion, scan this list:

The Joyful Woman (\$8.50 a year)
P.O. Box 3227
Chattanooga, TN 37404

Family Life Today (\$13.75 a year)
2300 Knoll Drive
Ventura, CA 93003

Today's Christian Home (\$11.80)
P.O. Box 1134
Dover, NJ 07801

Moody Monthly (\$14.95)
2101 W. Howard St.
Chicago, IL 60645

Christian Herald (\$13.97)
Chappaqua, NY 10514

Virtue ((\$12.95)
P.O. Box 850
Sisters, OR 97759





WHO SAYS MK'S AF

An interview with Laura (Mrs. Myro... daughters of Eddie and Sandra Payne, mi... 1964.

Laura

Because we went to the Ivory Coast when I was very young (3½), it always seemed my country even though my skin wasn't the same color. Even now that I am living in the U.S., I still feel a kinship with Ivory Coast and her people that I don't often feel with Americans.

I feel my education by correspondence was excellent and thorough. Some added advantages are the building of character, good study habits, and being able to stay at home and be involved in my parent's ministry.

One disadvantage was the absence of American friends my own age. All my life I have played and worked with adults (other than the African children and my sister). This made it difficult in relating to people my own age when I returned to America.

My years on the mission field have shaped my life in such a way that it will always affect my actions. I think I'll always dislike throwing away food because I remember African children who do not have enough. I'll always be thankful for clothes and shoes that keep me warm; for parents who not only love me but know how to show it; for a good education; and foremost, for a living faith in a living God.

Living in the Ivory Coast has helped me to see the world "through the eyes of Christ" in such a way that it will always influence my future.

RE DEPRIVED?

n Stafford), 21, and Debbie, 17,
missionaries to the Ivory Coast since

Debbie

Four months after my family arrived in Ivory Coast, I was born. I'm a loyal American at heart, but Ivory Coast is home. It would seem more of a loss to live my adult life in the United States than in Ivory Coast.

Living in Africa made me discover that people everywhere, despite totally different cultures, are the same inside—empty without Jesus in their lives.

Education by correspondence is hard work but very rewarding. You learn how to reason, analyze, express your ideas and accept responsibility. At times though it gets very lonely.

Some advantages of being an MK are sailing through the Bermuda Triangle, visiting one of the Azore islands, spending the night in England, and making friends all over the world.

Opportunities for service on the mission field are varied. You might be leading the singing at church, teaching a Sunday school class, tutoring students in English, collating literature, packaging medicine in the clinic or registering patients.

Someone has said, "You never really leave a place you love; part of it you take with you, leaving a part of you behind." I have a lot of Ivory Coast in my heart; it has a lot of me.

Most important, living there has taught me that there is no place in the world I won't be happy if I'm doing the Lord's will.





SHARE-A-BOOK

by Genny Waddell

BLOW AWAY THE BLACK CLOUDS
by Florence Littauer
Harvest House Publishers, 1979
136 pp/\$3.95

Books about depression are many and popular. Some are nothing more than helpful hints on losing the blues. Others paint dreary pictures of a Land of Despair from which there is no escape. Most of them have good suggestions without Scriptural depth.

Mrs. Littauer has written a book designed to be a Christian woman's answer to depression. She has kept to her purpose. She is not preachy, but clearly shows that the Bible is not only God's Word, but it is also **the** psychological manual for Christians.

The author has herself suffered much, burying one son and institutionalizing the other—a veritable “vegetable.” She carefully documents the various steps involved in becoming depressed and withdrawing from the mainstream of life, having experienced this herself. However, she minces no words in dealing with her own story.

Another interesting aspect of the book is the way the writer deals with living with a depressed person. Few books about depression do this. She also writes about counseling a depressed person, as well as defining the type of person who becomes depressed. A “Depression Questionnaire” is helpful, too, in pointing out areas that could be causing depression in a Christian.

Perhaps one of the most helpful sections deals with distinguishing real and imagined guilt. Most Christian women will benefit from this material.

Depression has reached epidemic proportions in America today. According to **Psychology Today**, eight million people in the United States suffer from **serious** depression. How many of these are Christians? Most are embarrassed to seek counsel. This book could be of value to someone in that situation, and certainly, to every believer who wants to help those suffering with depression.

ABOUNDING IN DEEDS



Aim: To discover and apply principles of ministering to others and actively loving others as seen in the life of Dorcas.

Scripture: Acts 9:36-42

Hymn: "Others"

Introduction

The inexpressible privilege of having a friend who gives, ministers and loves you abundantly is immeasurable. What woman wouldn't desire such a companion? But to possess a friend of such character demands that you first be one. Dorcas is one example of a woman in Scripture who cheerfully and unreservedly gives of herself to others.

The location was a seaport town of Joppa. The primary male occupation in the town was fisherman. Because of bad weather, many of these fishermen were killed at sea, thus leaving

countless widows to supply for themselves. What a setting this was for Dorcas to practice her talent of sewing. Dorcas, whose English name, Gazelle, means image of female loveliness, must have been a picture of beautiful womanhood. Her warm, Christ-like character is one to be studied by believers today and applied to daily life.

Disciple

The first description of Dorcas is the word "disciple." She is the only woman in Scripture directly referred to by this title. Disciple means learner or imitator of the teacher. Jesus is the Teacher and Dorcas set the goal of imitating His lifestyle. She had learned well that one of Jesus' characteristics was actively loving and ministering to those in need. Her interest surpassed learning about Christ for she realized that true discipleship was learning plus imitating.

Worker

Dorcas abounded in good deeds and acts of charity. Note the word "abounded." Dorcas didn't perform a good deed once a week or twice a month. Her life overflowed in Christ-like deeds and acts. Such character was the habit of her life, an outpouring of the love she possessed for her Teacher. The quality that was inside her oozed out on the lives of others through works and acts.

Several Scripture passages refer to good works. Good works manifest the faith that one possesses (James 2:14-26). Christians are saved by faith but that faith always results in works. Faith without works is dead faith. Warren Wiersbe has said, "You only believe as much of the Word as you practice." Faith which does not result in good works is not Scriptural, true faith, according to James. Where does this leave so-called Christians who attend church or hear the Word but do not become doers of that Word? James indicates that they may need to check up on their salvation.

Good works are not to be done merely for show (Matt. 6:1-4). The right motivation is to glorify God, not self. Acts 10:38 informs believers that Jesus set the example of good works. We are to become like Him.

Good works are to be done with zeal (Titus 2:14). This is to be a real eagerness, a warm interest, a fervor and a burning desire within the believer to practice good works. God faithfully remembers such works (Acts 10:4). Not one act passes unnoticed before His omniscient eyes. Faith results in good works but good works alone without faith is insufficient for salvation (Eph. 2:8, 9).

Dorcas abounded in almsdeeds as well as good works. Almsdeeds are gifts of charity or mercy to others, such as to the poor. It is only the love of God that inspires such gifts (1 John 3:17). Prov. 21:13 warns us that the danger in ignoring almsdeeds is that one day the ignorer will be the needy. These commands for almsdeeds appear in Scripture: Acts of charity are to be done with simplicity (Matt. 6:1). They are to be given liberally, not hesitantly nor sparingly (Rom. 12:8). The attitude of the giver is to be of cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7). The Christian who truly imitates Christ will freely, graciously, joyfully give to those in need.

Dorcas ministered to others in need by making garments for them. She was involved in service and expressed her faith in God through this active service. One key work in Acts is "did." Dorcas loved actively; she **did**. Her love for the needy in the community wasn't expressed in mere words, but in deeds. She believed in putting the Gospel in shoeleather.

Helper

How often have you heard someone say that God has not given her the talent to do much? Sometimes Christians think that only those with important gifts like speaking, singing or writing can accomplish much for God. But the word "important" is a gross misinterpretation of Scriptural principles. Any gift, talent or skill given by God is important for accomplishing His purpose.

Dorcas possessed one inconspicuous gift of sewing. Yet she manifested Christ's love so effectively through this talent that others were drawn to

her and her Lord. She became endeared to the Christians so lovingly that they were grief-stricken at her death (v. 39). Because of Dorcas' faithfulness in meeting others' needs by sewing, she had earned their respect. As her recipients displayed their garments to Peter, they were showing respect for Dorcas' sacrificiality.

Each believer has some talent, some gift that God has given her to be used to manifest Christ-likeness. People are nearby that you and you only have the ability and opportunity to actively love. The Holy Spirit has beautifully arranged believers with various gifts and talents in specific places where the glory of God can be shown forth. No Christian nor gift is insignificant for the task.

Sacrificer

Sacrifice is a glowing quality in Dorcas' life. She was more interested in others than herself. Her selflessness appears in two ways. First, making garments costs monetarily. The raw material had to be purchased. Secondly, sewing takes personal time. Dorcas gave both of her means and her time. The latter is perhaps the downfall of believers today.

Giving of self is often the most expressive gift to give to another. Just as God gave His Son, as Jesus gave His life, as Dorcas gave of herself, may Christians learn to develop a giving heart.

Application

The lessons that we learn from Dorcas are sobering.

1. Learn to be a disciple, a follower of Christ's example. May Dorcas not be the only woman known as a learner of Christ. Study the Word and commune with God daily.

2. Sacrifice yourself for others. Be characterized by selflessness.

3. Love actively by ministering to others. Put shoes on your love.

4. Be involved in Christian service. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you develop a servant's heart.

5. Utilize every gift or talent you have for Christ, regardless of how big or small, conspicuous or inconspicuous.

6. Faith is always expressed in works. Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you how to live out your faith.

7. Learn to give of your means and your self.

8. Be characterized by a giving heart remembering how Jesus was a giver of the most precious gift—His life.

9. Learn to be sensitive to the needs of others. Sensitivity doesn't come overnight; it is developed by doing. Invite people into your home for a meal or snack. Utilize the phone to keep in touch with people. Pick up a milkshake to take to a friend. Purchase a small gift, such as a book, and give it to someone. What about the extra vegetables in that garden or freezer? Share them with an acquaintance who doesn't have any. On and on the list could go. Give full attention to people's needs.

10. Be a Dorcas.

Happy Birthday, Dear Jesus

Sarah Fletcher



It was Christmas Eve morning, a Christmas Eve none of them would ever forget.

Christmas tree lights blinked as carols blared from the record player in the living room. Two small children hopped happily from present to present, fingering each gift-wrapped parcel

and dreaming of what the next morning held for them. Mother busily finished Christmas baking while mentally preparing for the evening.

Moments later, the children huddled around her. "Do you know what is going to happen tonight?" she asked.

"Santa Claus will come," chirped the little girl.

"No, no, what else will happen tonight?" She had always tried to teach her children the true meaning of Christmas.

"What, Mommy, tell us!" the children chanted.

"Well, when Daddy comes home and we finish supper, we'll all go into the living room and Daddy will read the Christmas story."

"Then we will light the candles," added the little girl.

"Yes," Mother answered, "we will light the candles and sing 'Happy Birthday' to Jesus."

"Ooh!" the little boy's eyes gleamed with excitement. "And Jesus will come down and blow out the candles!"

The children, too excited to stay still, skipped through the house chanting, "Jesus will come down and blow out the candles. Jesus will blow out the candles for His birthday."

Unexplained fear gripped the mother's heart. Thoughts of the Lord's return, His second coming, floated through her mind.

"No, He wouldn't really," she reasoned. Yet deep inside, she knew the power of her children's faith, a faith so precious to the Lord.

As she went about her chores, the chant of the children haunted her. She grew more apprehensive. With each moment, she examined her life. Was she ready for the Lord's return?

Daddy came home. They rushed

through supper. Dishes were done. At last the family gathered in the living room.

Father read the familiar passage, but the familiar joy was absent. A lump formed in Mother's throat.

"Now it's time to sing 'Happy Birthday' to Jesus," the little boy announced, "and Jesus is going to come down and blow out His candles."

There! He had said it again!

"Happy birthday, dear Jesus . . ."

The sound of the children's voices rang hollow in her ears. With each word, her heart beat faster. "Happy birthday to you." The song ended.

The moment had come. All eyes were glued on the candles. She looked, half in expectancy, half in . . .

The flame flickered. And flickered again. It was going out!

"No, oh, God, no!" she cried from her heart.

The candle sputtered. After what seemed an eternity, the flame reappeared.

The children, satisfied, went merrily chattering about the house. But a tear trickled down the mother's cheek. "Oh, Lord, forgive," she whispered, "please forgive."

Many Christmases have passed since that one. The little girl and boy, my brother and I, are now married with families of our own. Our family is scattered, but each Christmas Eve, we still gather after supper in our living rooms and read the Christmas story. When the time comes to light the candles and sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus, we remember that Christmas Eve when He acknowledged His presence.

Today there is no fear, only expectancy, as we breathe the prayer, "Even so, Lord Jesus, come."

WOMEN IN ACTION



Piney Grove auxiliary, Bristol, GA, show the **Jerry Gibbs** family (missionaries to France) with clothing, cooking mixes and coin folders.

Local

Approximately 100 mothers and daughters attended the banquet at Lovely, KY, according to **Julie Collins**. The skit, "Her Children Rise Up And Call Her Blessed" was presented.

Rita Miller, publicity chairman of the Fellowship auxiliary, Kingsport, TN, reported giving \$2600 to missions last year.

"Speaking of Him" highlighted the missions banquet sponsored by the Central auxiliary, Tulsa, OK. **Don Payne** was guest speaker with the special offering going to the Ernie Deeds account, missionary to Brazil.

First auxiliary, Benton, IL, presented pocket size tissue holders to mothers attending service on Mother's Day, also to the residents of a local nursing home.

Twenty-seven women from Cross Timbers and Fellowship auxiliaries, Nashville, TN, met at Fellowship for an all night lock-in. Presidents **Debbie Sensing** and **Thelma McNew** presided over the activities which included book reviews, skits, prayer groups, and communion and feet washing.

District

Patricia Powell replaced **Donna Huds** as president of the Central district which met at the Westside FWB Church, Johnsonville, SC.

Blacklands auxiliary, AR, presented the skit "Where Did Our Auxiliary Go?" at the Polk Bayou district convention at Blackland Chapel.

Saline district's membership boosted to nine when First auxiliary of Warren, AR joined their ranks.

Margaret Speer, Bethany, presided at the Greater Tulsa (OK) auxiliary banquet at Owasso. **Debbie Cavitt**, Airport, directed the skit and music.

"When I was a Child" outlined the St. Francois convention at First church, Flat River, MO. More than \$150 in toys were brought for the Provision Closet and \$50 to the Student Loan Fund for the older kids. More than 70 women were present from nine churches.

Cumberland district of Tennessee planned their spring workshop around the theme "Give Yourself Away Through Mission Action." **Sandra Payne** and daughter **Debbie** (Ivory

Coast) participated, as well as several auxiliaries who gave skits and visual demonstrations.

The eight auxiliaries in the Darlington, SC area sponsored a soul winning workshop with evangelist **Joe Ange**. More than 45 attended this one-day session at the Faith church.

State

Glenna Murphy was re-elected as president of the West Virginia state convention at the McCorkle church. **Mrs. Cleo Pursell**, Nashville, was guest speaker.

Rodney Outlaw, joint project missionary in Headland, AL, spoke at the Alabama state at Vinemont.

Mrs. Eunice Edwards, Missouri, spoke at the California state convention on the theme "Give Yourself Away" to more than 191 registered guests.

Helen Sanders presided at North Carolina's 21 annual session at Cramerton with 184 registered from eight districts. Projects adopted included a Mobile Unit for Home Missions and transportation for the Inscoes back to Panama.

Vice President **Kay Tallent** presided over the Missouri state which met at Lebanon. New officers: **Barbara Harwell**, president, and **Rose Mertz**, vice president.



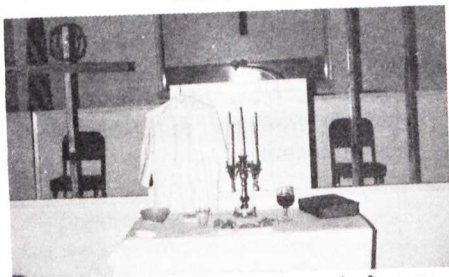
First auxiliary, Darlington, SC, entertain the adult Sunday school classes on a Valentine cruise with 40 attending.

Steve Miles and **Allison Horn** provide entertainment.





"Around the World With Missionaries" is presented to the entire church by the Trinity auxiliary, Hamburg, AR.



Passover background for the week of prayer program sponsored by the First auxiliary, Montgomery, AL.



Dorothy Cox installs officers of the newly organized Sandy Valley district. Judy Carter, Turkey Creek (front left) serves as president.



New Hope auxiliary, Fredericktown, MO, honors Lonie Murray on her 80th birthday with an embroidered friendship pillow.



Rosalie Thomas, president (far right), and the officers of the Rocky Mountain district convention of Colorado.

THE BEST GIFTS

Aim: To discern new dimensions in the giving and receiving of gifts.

Scripture: Matthew 2:10, 11 and Ephesians 4:8

Hymn: "Joy To The World"

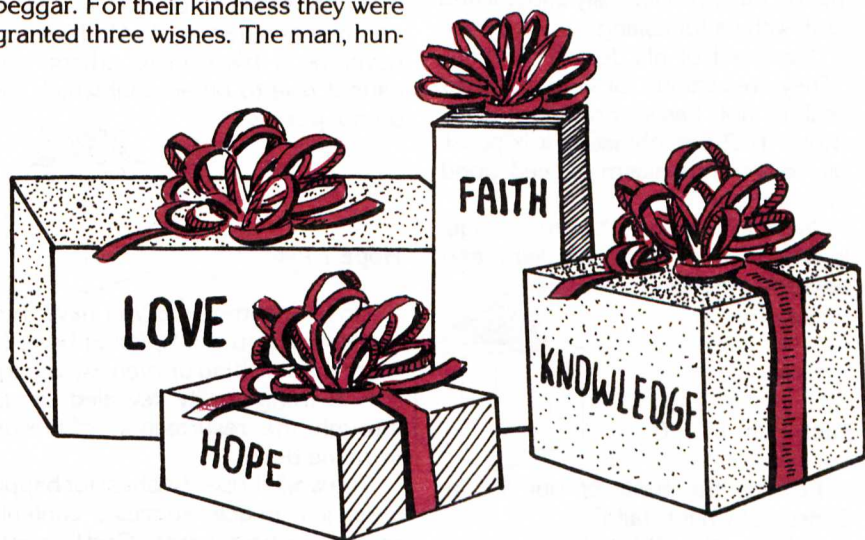
Introduction

Of the many customs and traditions surrounding Christmas, exchanging gifts is perhaps the most widely practice of any other. This is as it should be. God gave to the world His only Son, the Lord Jesus, who in turn gave Himself for us. Thus the true spirit of Christmas is portrayed in a very real way through the giving and receiving of gifts.

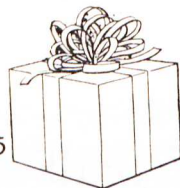
Most of us have heard the story of the poor woodcutter and his wife who befriended a good fairy disguised as a beggar. For their kindness they were granted three wishes. The man, hun-

gry and thinking only of food, wished for a steaming pot of porridge cooking over the fire. The wife, angered at his frivolous wish, exclaimed, "Stupid! I wish you had it bubbling up your nose." Immediately the boiling porridge pot was under the man's nose torturing him with pain. One wish remained, and of course it had to be used to get the pot back on the fire. So all the couple had to show for three wishes, representing any or all of life's comforts, was one pot of hot porridge.

We smile at their foolish and thoughtless actions, but when asking God for His blessings, often our requests are just as thoughtless. Let's ask God for four special Christmas gifts that will strengthen our spiritual lives, and at the same time, replenish our storehouse of spiritual gifts to be shared with others.



Knowledge 2 Tim. 2:15



Spiritual knowledge comes through two avenues—prayer and study. Paul told Timothy to be diligent and study to become a worker approved by God. The Bible is God's source-book of knowledge and the better acquainted we are with the Author, the more we will understand it.

It is one thing to know about God; it is another thing to know God. Knowledge of God through His Son Jesus Christ is the foundation of all spiritual gifts. Jesus is the head, the heart, the purpose, the will and the way to spiritual power.

Paul wrote that he longed to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings (Phil. 3:10). The greater our knowledge of God, the better able we are to distinguish between good, better and best. If we lack wisdom, let us ask of God and it shall be given us (James 1:5). Not only will God give us wisdom, but He will give it liberally and not find fault with us for asking.

Paul said of his Jewish brothers, "They are zealous for God, but their zeal is not based on knowledge" (Rom. 10:2 paraphrased). It is possible to let enthusiasm exceed good judgment.

May we cover the gift of knowledge. It will enhance our own lives and become a blessing to others.

Faith Heb. 11:1, 6



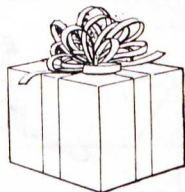
Faith is the basis of our life in Christ, but what is faith?

Believing the Bible to be the divine-

ly inspired, inerrant and perfect Word of God, we turn to it for our answer. Faith is not, as some would have us believe, a sentimental feeling of emotionalism or nebulous will-o-the-wisp. The writer to Hebrews tells us that faith is made up of two elements—substance and evidence. Substance is something solid, tangible, real. It can be handled, felt and evaluated. Evidence, on the other hand, is cold hard logical fact derived by experimentation, reason, intelligence and personal experience. So with the reality of things hoped for and the logical intelligence of things not seen, faith becomes the most powerful asset we have.

Jesus said if we have faith as a grain of mustard seed we can remove mountains (Matt. 17:20). Sometimes the mountains in life seem formidable, too high to go over, too long to go around and too thick to tunnel through. What does one do? The answer is obvious—ask for faith to remove them.

Finally we are told that without faith it is impossible to please God. Until our lives are pleasing to God we can never be a blessing to others. We cannot give to others that which we do not possess.



Hope 1 Peter 1:3

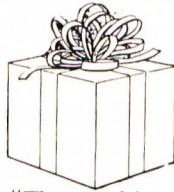
Hope is something you have, not something you do. Spiritual hope is more than wishing or even expecting. It is a living reality revealed to us through the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

The world hopes (wishes) for happiness, joy, peace, success, contentment. We who belong to God through

regeneration hope (have) the promise of all these things. Occasionally we hear about someone who died in poverty with thousands of dollars hidden in nooks and crannies around his house. Many of God's children are like this in their spiritual life. Possessing the healing balm of hope for all life's problems, sorrows, frustrations and worries, they hide it away in nooks and crannies of sin and indifference.

Paul told the Colossians that the mystery of the ages had been revealed in the saints—"Christ in you the hope of glory" (Col. 1:27). A radiant hope provides polish and glitter for our Christian armor and proclaims to the world that we have been with Jesus. A hurting world needs the soothing touch of hope that only Christ can give. If it ever finds this hope, it will be through us who belong to God through Christ.

Hope is the fuel of our Christian light. Let's rejoice in it and share it with others.



Love Mark 12:30, 31

There is a saying, "The world is dying for a little bit of love." Perfect love comes from God. The more we love God, the more we can and will love others.

There are many reasons why we should love God. He made us. He provides for us. He understands us. Most importantly, He loves us. God demonstrated this love by giving His most precious possession, His only Son, to die for us (Rom. 5:8).

Loving our neighbor is the test of true discipleship. Jesus said, "A new commandment I give unto you: that you love one another as I have loved

you" (John 13:34, 35). This has sometimes been called the eleventh commandment. We show the world how much we love God by the way we love one another and we show God how much we love Him by the love we have for the lost, not just here at home but around the world.

Love sets our goals, directs our course, controls our emotions and determines our priorities. The Bible tells us we will either love God or the world; we cannot love both at the same time (1 John 2:15).

1 Corinthians 13 describes love as patient and kind, saddened by evil and made happy by truth. It does not envy or boast, is not proud, rude, self-seeking or easily angered. It keeps no record of wrongs. Love always protects, trusts, hopes, perseveres. Love never fails.

Elizabeth Prentiss wrote a beautiful hymn that should express our prayer: "More love to Thee, Oh Christ, more love to Thee; hear now the prayer I make on bended knee. This all my prayer shall be, more love, Oh Christ to Thee. More love to Thee, more love to Thee."

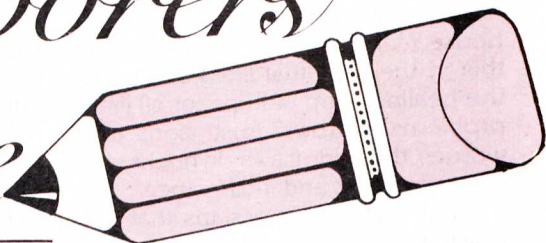
Conclusion

This Christmas let us reverse the giving and receiving of gifts. May it be the receiving and sharing of gifts. A glorious truth about spiritual gifts—The more we give, the more we have.

Let's not be like the woodcutter and his wife who wasted their opportunities on frivolous things. We can have anything we ask when we ask for the right things in the right way and for the right reasons.

Dear Heavenly Father, may knowledge, faith, hope and love be ours to keep and share throughout the next year.

Co-Laborers Write



Blessings

I am a relatively new Christian and have been attending auxiliary about a year now. The blessings I receive from our auxiliary cannot be measured.

**Karen Kempton
Grifton, NC**

I just felt like writing you about the wonderful blessings we received from our pre-Easter week of prayer program . . . it seemed like all heaven came down and filled our souls. The entire church was blessed and we received a generous offering for missions.

**Odessa Ledlow
Sylacauga, AL**

We sincerely enjoy the Co-Laborer . . . These programs have ministered to all who have attended.

**Davelyn Gerhart
Waipahu, HI**

Former Missionaries

Every room in our house reminds all four of us of how generous our women are all across the states. Over the past nearly nine years the savings

to our family has really added up. Please express our sincere appreciation to our women.

Norma Caton, Spain

Joe and I would like to personally thank all the women who have prayed for us during our 16 years with the mission board. Words cannot express our gratitude to each of you who have displayed your Christian love through prayers, letters, gifts, and provision closet furnishings.

Barbara Haas, France

The women have been so wonderful to us over the past ten years, supplying hundreds and perhaps thousands of dollars worth of goods for our ministries in Ivory Coast . . . Now we are beginning a new chapter in our lives here in Moore, OK while Dale finishes school . . . We're having the joy of re-organizing our auxiliary here at Choctaw . . . had 16 at our first meeting.

Joan Filkins, Ivory Coast

Christmas Nuts

Old Fashioned Country Cookin' a cookbook published by the Woman's Auxiliary of the First FWB Church,

Johnston City, IL, contains a Christmas nuts recipe by **Mary Leigh**.

8 c. nuts (walnuts, pecans or others)
2 egg whites
1 c. sugar
¼ t. cinnamon

Beat the whites and sugar together until stiff. Add cinnamon and nuts. Spread on baking sheet and bake at 300° for 30 minutes.

Contest Winners

I wish more ladies would realize you don't have to have a great talent to write—just use what talents you have and the Lord will bless you for your efforts.

Vaudine Lancaster
Ethelsville, AL

The news that I was among the winners brought a sense of humility. I realize I am only a vessel being used and He deserves the credit. If somehow we could get this across to more women, I'm sure we would have greater participation. I know there are many women who have greater abilities than I.

Zylphia Bondeson
Sterling, VA

New Auxiliaries

We have just started a Woman's Auxiliary. Could you please tell us how long it takes a letter and packages to go overseas to our missionaries?

Donna Strandridge
Sikeston, MO

I'm very encouraged about our women. We met Tuesday with 16 women present. They were very responsive and eager to organize an auxiliary. Please pray as we strive to teach and motivate them to take responsibility. The tendency of the island is to let someone else do the work. Come to think of it, that's the problem on the mainland, too, agreed?

Virginia Van Kluyve
St. Croix, Virgin Islands

Home Missions

Our state of Colorado has a special place in our hearts for home missions. We would like to see more emphasis placed on home missions in all areas of Woman's Auxiliary.

Rocky Mountain District Convention

The Minister's Wife

As a pastor's wife, I want to tell you that I really enjoyed receiving the publication, "The Minister's Wife." It always seems to arrive when I really need it.

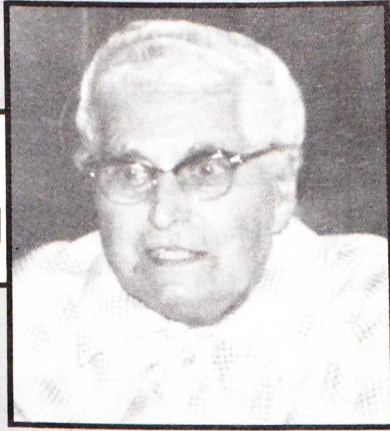
Maxine Bennett
Dothan, AL

Alliance Biblical Seminary

I have recently become aware of your magazine and am interested in obtaining it for our library.

Valmike B. Apuzen
Valenzuela, Metro Manila
Philippines

A Woman God Has Used



Her name was Rachel Lou Parrott, but to everyone who knew her, she was "Granny." Though a native of Tennessee, Granny lived most of her 82 years in North Carolina and was loved and respected by auxiliary women in the district and throughout the state.

The Goshen auxiliary, Mt. Holly, consider Granny their cornerstone. Her strong guidance and example remained constant. When participation dwindled and efforts seemed useless, Granny only prayed and worked that much harder. Through rain, snow, heat and cold, you could depend on her. Today the auxiliary is grateful for her determination.

For years she molded and shaped young lives in her Primary Sunday school class. Many of these are devout Christians today because of the quality time she spent with them each week.

When it came to supporting missions, Granny often gave "until it hurt." She and her family chose to give up something they personally desired in order that the Gospel would be preached to those who had never heard. Not only did she give money, she gave her time in prayer. Granny was probably the greatest prayer warrior her church has ever known.

She was also noted as the best cook around. No one could quite measure up to her german chocolate cake. At homecomings, men scraped the bottom of the bowl for her chicken and dumplings.

Granny was left a widow when her youngest child was just a few months old. Five of her 11 children had already preceded their father in death. She supported her family by working in a spinning mill until her heart attack at age 64.

Thank you, Granny, for being an example of a woman God has used.

THE GROWNUPS

"Deb-bie-eee!"

The cry swells as I climb from the
Car and slam the door behind me.
They press as close as they dare.

Sweet urchins

With their little bloated tummies
And grimy hands extending in welcome.
An inquisitive girl reaches out
To stroke the soft material of my
Dress and pat my pale skin.

"Ca va?" I ask,

Winning a flash of white from the
Coffee-colored faces; but abruptly
Their cracked and naked feet
Scatter, as a menacing man raises
His hands and shouts a threat.

Dear Father,

These children are easy to love,
But I need help with the grownups.

—Debbie Payne

MK (missionary's kid) from Ivory Coast, Africa



1982-83 WINNERS CREATIVE ARTS CONTEST

Art

First



Marie Scott
Rogers, AR

Second



Joyce Crouch
Farmington, MO

Third



Karen Polston
Nashville, TN

Honorable Mention



Vicky Mutchler
Conway, AR



Dee Kingsmill
Nashville, TN

Articles

First



Diane Thomas
Grifton, NC

Second



Margie Patton
Glennville, GA

Third



Ann Maines
Norfolk, VA

Honorable Mention



Carolyn Redfearn
Modesto, CA

Plays/Skits

First



Velda Tucker
Batesville, AR

Second



Vaudine Lancaster
Ethelsville, AL

Third



Loretta Williams
Van Buren, AR

Honorable Mention



Loree Medley
Wichita Falls, TX

Poetry

First



Mae Fry
Nashville, TN

Second



Laura Wade
Morehead City, NC

Third



Cheryl Akers
Jacksonville, FL

Honorable Mention



Connie Greene
Ashland, KY



Noveline Burgess
Antlers, OK

Programs

First



Geneva Poole
Brazil

Second



Annette Dake
Blanchard, OK

Third



Debbitt Cavitt,
Tulsa, OK

Honorable Mention



Barbara Thomasson
Fredericktown, MO



Zylphia Bondeson
Sterling, VA