

CO LABOPEER

March/April, 1987



Co-Laborer

March/April, 1987

Volume 27, Number 2

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New Bern, NC



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Debbie Mitchell
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Editorially

At the same time we welcomed our 10th grandchild into the world (our third granddaughter, Lisa Lynn) we held in our hands the finished copy of the new-look *Co-Laborer* magazine. Both were dreams fulfilled.

We are an "L" family — LaVerne, Lorene, Lynn, Lynette and Larry. When Larry married Linda 12 years ago, they decided we needed a Lisa to complete our family. They first practiced with Jeremy, Jason, and Joshua before God at last entrusted them with this precious responsibility.

Over 42 years ago, auxiliary women conceived the dream of a monthly magazine. We've practiced now with yearbooks of programs, quarterlies, and with this first bimonthly, larger-format issue, we're definitely on the way! One day — should the Lord delay His coming — we'll hold in our hands a quality four-color monthly magazine with gleaming slick pages. Fulfillment of a dream.

However, in whatever format it appears, *Co-Laborer* will always be the same—a magazine for Free Will Baptist women dedicated to imparting missionary vision through challenging programs, articles and information.

This issue is being prepared before we receive your first reaction to the new-look *Co-Laborer*. We expect both pros and cons. Naturally we're anticipating an overwhelming vote in our favor which will result in renewed subscriptions and broader outreach. Meanwhile, we're asking God to do what we're helpless to perform — to ignite these mere words on paper and quicken them to our spiritual understanding..

Last year some 147 women participated in our creative arts contest. This is 25 more than ever. Is it possible to even top this? If you have something to share through poetry, program, article, art, or play, would you please send it before the March 1 deadline?

Let's keep the dream alive!

What A Beautiful Day

For The Lord To Come Again

Rubenia Dobbs

As soon as I awakened that Sunday morning, I sensed this would be a day unlike any I had ever known.

What a beautiful day
for the Lord to come
again;
What a beautiful day
for Him to reap where He
has sown.

The words to this hymn filled my heart and bubbled out in song as I stepped into the April sunshine. An unusual air of peace and tranquility surrounded me as I drove to the hospital to see my dad who suffered from angina and emphysema.

For the past two years he had been in and out of the emergency room and intensive care. Ordinarily I would have waited until after church to visit him, but a sense of compulsion drove me to entrust my responsibilities to a substitute and tend to more pressing duties.

I opened the door to my dad's darkened room and was surprised that he did not notice. He was a farmer and felt smothered unless the door was open in his lightened room and the shades opened.

My dad lay peacefully unaware that his room had not been open to the day. "I love you," I whispered as I bent over him.

"I love you, too," he answered softly. He looked up into the corner of the room briefly, then closed his eyes, resting peacefully, but not sleeping.

After a time, he looked up into the corner again, "Something has changed in here," he said.

"What?" I asked.

"I don't know exactly, but there's a bright light up there."

I saw nothing, so said nothing and he closed his eyes. After church, my husband joined me beside his bed.

Once again Dad opened his eyes to that corner. "Dean," he asked, "is there something you can do about that light? It's gotten so bright."

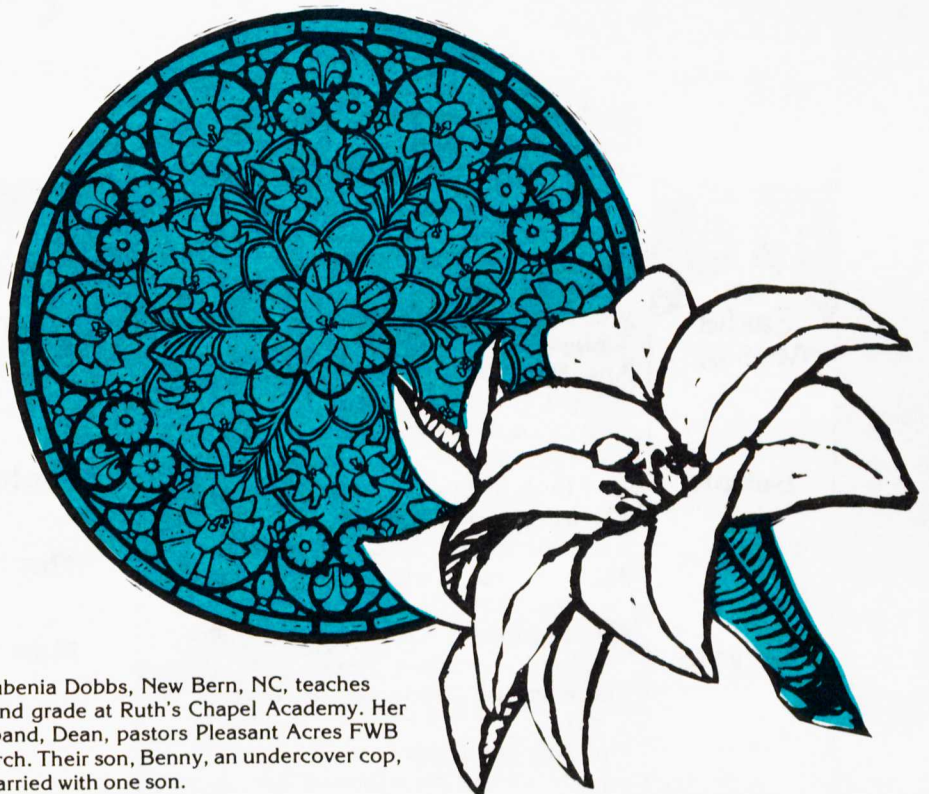
Those were his last words. He took a breath, let it out slowly, and in the next instant was in the presence of his Lord. The light

*"Faith is the hand
of a beggar reach-
ing out to accept
the gifts of a king."*

that had hovered over his bed for three hours had become so bright he could stay here no longer. I watched his eyes close in death and death give way to victory as my father entered into eternal life.

I witnessed first hand the marvelous grace I had so often sung about. My dad had lived for the devil more years than he had served the Lord and alcohol and tobacco had taken a heavy toll on his health. Although my dad suffered from severe emphysema, the Father gave a peaceful homecoming to His child, only a sinner saved by grace — as are we all.

Corrie Ten Boom expressed it, "Faith is the hand of a beggar reaching out to accept the gifts of a king." Eternal life is a free gift. It is given through grace and is not something earned or deserved. The fact that God gives it makes it more precious and the reality of Easter more meaningful.



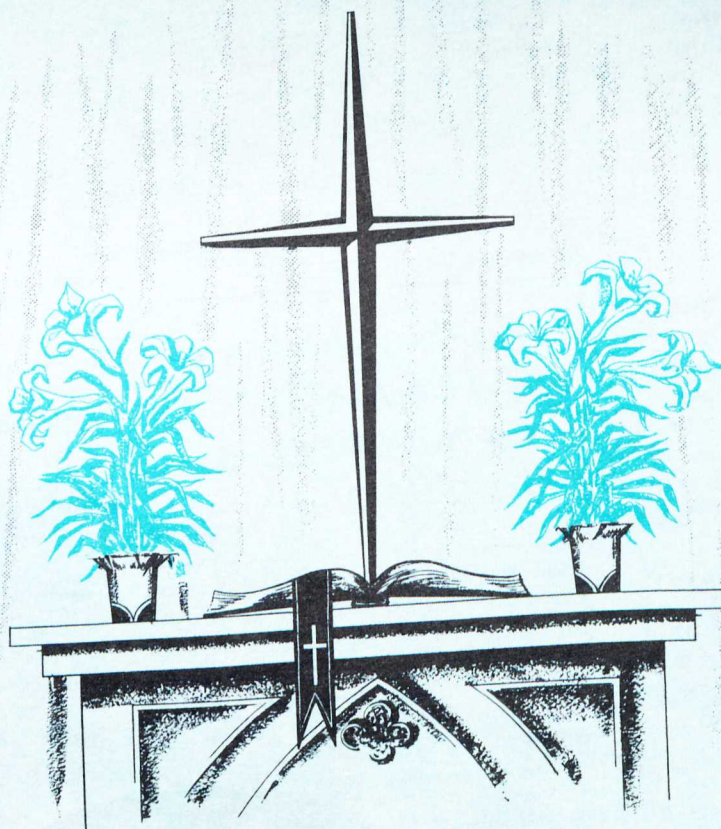
Rubenia Dobbs, New Bern, NC, teaches second grade at Ruth's Chapel Academy. Her husband, Dean, pastors Pleasant Acres FWB Church. Their son, Benny, an undercover cop, is married with one son.

May be used with your Pre-Easter Week of
Prayer emphasis.

Joan Warren

Programs Easter

Behold He Cometh



Such tender love He did bestow
That Passover night so long ago;
When, knowing that His time had
come
To do the will of the Holy One,
He took a towel and wrapped it
'round;
With a basin of water He knelt right
down,
And, forgetting the trauma He must
meet,
Calmly washed His disciples' feet.

As I look back upon that deed,
The wonder of it all to me
Is that betrayer Judas still was there
And was treated with tender, loving
care;
E'en though He knew what was in his
heart,
There was no difference on Jesus'
part.
Oh! That such humility
Might one day be a part of me.

**An
Easter
Message...**

**Behold
the
Servant**

**An
Easter
Message...**

**Behold
the
Man**

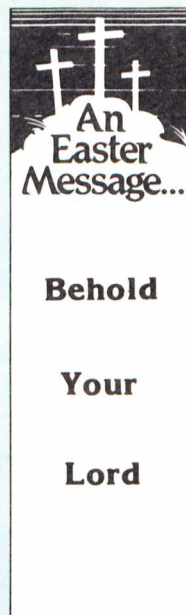
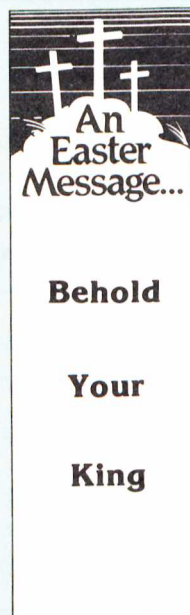
Behold the Man

Into Pilate's presence Jesus came,
The Jews quite vocal with their
blame.
Pontius Pilate could not find
One single sin or terrible crime—
"I find no fault in Him," he said.
Then why the thorns upon His head?
The soldiers smote Him with their
hand
And Pilate cried, "Behold the Man!"

And such a Man—this Nazarene!
In spite of turmoil, quite serene.
The crowing of the cock grew nigh,
He turned as Peter then did cry,
"I tell you, I don't know the Man!"
Not a tremor touched His hand.
Such a calmness I would never see
If my best friend would deny me.

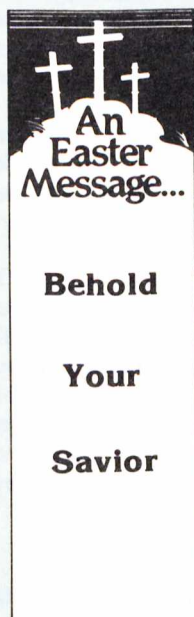
Pilate's heart began to fail;
He wasn't sure he knew the tale.
The Jews kept up their angry cry
Of "Crucify! Crucify!"
"You'd crucify your king?"
asked he;
The Jews replied, "He's no king to
me.
To let Him go will be your end—
Caesar will cease to be your friend."

What a choice for a man to make!
He knew by the way which Jesus
spoke
That He was guiltless—yet said he,
"I choose Caesar my king to be;
Take Him away! The guilt's not
mine!
You take the blame, it must be
thine!"
Oh, heart, deplore the man's
mistake—
Christ is the King for me to take.



The Jews sang out a victory song,
But the Lord of lords wasn't dead for
long!
He rose again—just as He said!
No force could keep the Savior
dead!
He would have no power to save
Had He not conquered the cold dark
grave.
But the tomb is empty—He lives
today!
The sting of death is taken away.

He walked again by Galilee's shore,
Encouraged His disciples once more;
He invited them to "Come and dine,"
And fed them fish and bread so fine.
Then the final instructions came to
be—
"Tarry in Jerusalem; there witness
of Me."
And a cloud received Him from their
sight;
Yet He's coming again with power
and might!

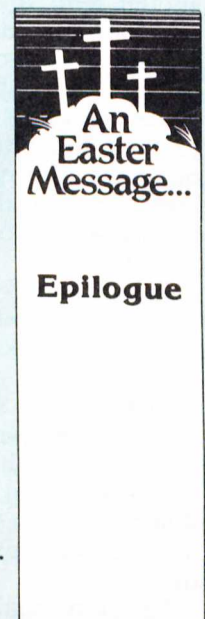


The angry crowd took Him away
To slay Him on that awful day.
He staggered up Golgotha's hill
To culminate the Father's will.
With a common thief on either side,
God's only Son was crucified;
He died in shame and agony,
But, thanks be to God,
He died for me!

My sins helped nail Him to the tree,
The shameful death is my victory;
Because He paid the price for sin,
Salvation came to sinful men.
When the hour came for Him to die,
"It is finished!" was a Victor's cry.
Oh would that I might fully see
The magnitude of His death for me.

What kind of person should I be
As I await His return for me?
Free of blemish, without sin,
A person patterned after Him.
Serving God and others, too,
Doing all that I can do
To win the lost and teach His Word
That others come to know the Lord.

Know Him and His mighty power
That saves and satisfies each hour;
Meanwhile, wait and watch for Him—
He's coming back, we know not
when,
To take His own to mansions fair
Where we'll never age or have a care.
Oh heart, make praises gladly ring,
He is my Lord, my Friend, my King!



*This Easter meditation in six parts should be
presented by one or six women.*

*Visualization: Prepare posters to introduce
each topic. Slides or still pictures may be used.*

*Musical presentation: Appropriate musical
selections may be rendered between the topics.
Use soft background music as the poems are
given.*



Joan Warren, Yakima, WA, was featured in
the last issue in the Poet's Corner.

Changing the World Through Prayer

Challenge from the Bible
Challenge from the Home Front
Challenge from the Field

The Caring Christian
Whatever It Takes
Auxiliary Retreat—African Style

by Saebra Pauley
 by Carla Williams
 by Carol Pinkerton

The Caring Christian

Introduction

"Our account has slipped into the red," and "Please pray for . . ." are two familiar phrases found in letters from our missionaries. While we all agree that our missionaries depend on financial and spiritual support, what we don't seem to agree on is exactly who should lend this support and for how long should it continue.

Instead we tend to offer excuses for our own lack of participation. Either we don't care or we choose to look the other way. Whatever our reason for not responding, the fact remains that somewhere a missionary is hurting, both inside and out.

In Luke 10:25-37, Jesus tells of a man who was hurting. He had been robbed, beaten and left for dead. Our missionaries face this same mistreatment. Satan tries to rob them of their peace and joy; he afflicts them both in body and soul; he beats them down spiritually. When we turn a deaf ear to their cry for help, we are the ones who leave them for dead.

Let's look again at this parable of our Lord for the story of The Missionary and the Samaritan.

The Priest

The wounded man lay in a crumpled heap along the wayside. A priest came near and cast a casual glance at the bleeding sight. Perhaps he noted the feeble groan. In the next instant, however, he dismissed the scene as he quickened his steps to the other side. Out of sight, out of mind. The priest had



no compassion. He didn't even care.

Alas, our churches are sprinkled with women who couldn't care less about the needs of our missionaries or a lost world. In I John 3:17, John tells us that if we have an "I don't care" attitude, then we have not God's love in our hearts. If we don't have God's love in our hearts, we are spiritually dead (I John 3:14).

Let's ask God to make us sensitive to the needs of our missionaries. Let's read books that bring the mission field home to our understanding. Let's allow the missionary requests to burn in our hearts until we bring them to the throne in prayer.

There's no such thing as an uncaring Christian. A Christian is Christ-like and we will care. The one who does not care is not a Christian.

The Levite

Death loomed nearer for the

helpless man with each passing moment. As he hovered in and out of consciousness, he wondered if help would come in time. Then a Levite approached. He looked upon the man and saw the need and heard the weak cry, but he chose to look the other way. He crossed to the other side and continued on his way.

Many auxiliary women are kin to this Levite. They choose to look the other way when prayer requests are given or the missionary project is mentioned. Sure, they are aware that there is a need and they have the means to help, but they have too many needs of their own to be bothered. Some would be more comfortable if the auxiliary were a club or a class. But the primary purpose of the auxiliary is to make women aware of our missionary needs and help meet those needs through our gifts and prayers.

Matthew 28:19 commands, "Go ye, therefore . . . and teach all nations." We may never go to India . . . or Japan . . . or Africa, but our prayers and money will enable others to go. The missionary may plant the seed, but we water that seed through the local auxiliary (1 Cor. 3:6-9).

The Samaritan

Both the priest and the Levite ignored the man in need. At last, there came the Samaritan. He not only saw the need and heard the plea, but he had a heart that leaped to respond.

These two had little in common. They were of different race and language and country. But the man's need took priority over the Samaritan's own plans and druthers, and he responded with love and compassion.

Continued on page 8

Whatever It Takes

There was the usual scurrying around that Sunday morning as we prepared for church. We practiced the special the family had been asked to sing, then I prepared for a solo, as well. I sang a few lines to refresh my memory:

Take the dearest things to me,
If that's how it must be
To draw me closer to Thee . . .
Let the disappointments come,
Lonely days without the sun,
If through my sorrow,
More like you I become.

There were few dry eyes that morning as the Lord ministered to hearts through that song. The pastor challenged each of us to honestly say, "Whatever it takes, Lord, that's what I'll be willing to do." Little did I know how soon I'd be forced to put those words into practice.

Exactly ten days later I lost my sister and brother-in-law in an automobile accident that whisked them away to glory. "*Take the dearest things to me . . .*"

By no means were John and Kay Metcalf extraordinary people. They were two people who loved God and surrendered their lives to do His will. They approached life with eager expectancy even though they never had much money. If only driving from Oklahoma City to Tulsa, you could be sure they'd have an adventure along the way. Just ordinary people.

I'll never forget the night John and Kay asked Mom and Dad to come to her apartment. They were already engaged, but that night they announced that after they were married, they were going to Brazil as missionaries.

I remember how Kay teased John about his first sermon. He preached on the Macedonian Call, and every third phrase or so, he repeated, "Come ooooooover and help us . . ." gesturing in a wide sweeping motion with his large hand. Long about the middle of the

sermon when the twentieth "Come ooooooover and help us . . ." had been repeated, you could see the children in the congregation motioning just like John each time the phrase lifted in challenge.

We laughed about many things, but never about missions. Missions was a serious, heart-wrenching decision with John and Kay and not to be taken lightly. Each time they visited, interspersed among the cooking and story telling and teasing, they spoke of Brazil—how the church was doing, their term of language study, what they imagined their duties would be. My husband and I felt a little challenged ourselves each time they left us.

Missionary Hotline



Aim: To challenge individual women and their auxiliaries to support missions.

Hymn: "Help Somebody Today" and "To The Regions Beyond"

John and Kay did that to you. Everywhere they went, even to those small churches that had never before seen a "live missionary," they challenged people and left them evaluating their own personal commitment.

When the initial shock was over, after the funeral flowers had faded and the cards ceased, when the leftovers were leftover for the last time, God began to prick at hearts around the country. Young people began to search for some meaning in life and churches took inventory of their missions emphasis, or lack of it. "*Lonely days without the sun . . .*"

For me, answers to a lot of my whys took form: Why take them on the eve of their departure?

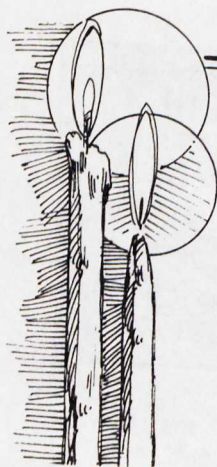
Why, after traveling so many miles to tell how God had called them to Brazil, why did God take them and never let them see Brazil?

Did God deceive them? Was it cruel in making them think they would soon be there and never really coming through?

Not at all! "*More like you I become . . .*"

If John and Kay had reached Brazil in our lifetime, their burden may have been forgotten the minute their prayer cards fell from the refrigerator. But now with every beam of sunlight that falls on a Brazilian town or an African village, a Spanish hamlet or a French city, John's "Come ooooooover and help us" echoes from a lost and dying world.

Carla Williams is a member of Southern Oaks FWB Church, Moore, OK, where she and husband, Robert, work with teenagers. Their two children, Bonnie and Merrie, are 3 and 4 years old. Professionally, Carla is patient account coordinator for Baptist Medical Center.



Challenge from the Field

Auxiliary Retreat- African Style

Maybe 60 or 70 will come," some dared to hope as plans for the first Ivory Coast woman's retreat began to take shape. Plans were bathed in

prayer as letters flashed back and forth among the six missionary women. Excitement ran high as the day approached.

From 24 villages they came, 111 women forming a walking caravan as they came from all directions and filed into Bondoukou for the two full days and three night sessions. An air of expectancy punctuated the greetings.

Pastor Victor and Mme. Josephine emptied two rooms of the parsonage for the white women to sleep. The others slept on thin mats, as is their custom, which were spread on the church and parsonage floors.

Breakfast consisted of a hunk of crusty French bread heated over the open flame which warmed the cocoa. We feasted on yams and rice served with a meat sauce for the noon and evening meals.

The women were divided into seven prayer groups. Since many could neither read nor write, they requested prayer for clear understanding so they could retell their experiences to those unable to attend. Many also requested prayer for courage. Only the Lord knows what prompted this request.

We knew some faced severe opposition in their villages or were married to unsaved husbands.

Both black and white women participated in the program. Following the topics, a testimony was given relating to that subject and concluded with a question and answer period. What a joy to hear our African sisters lead these sessions and use Scripture to their answers.

For example, "I'm the first wife, but my husband has taken another one. What should I do?" Or, "My husband is a Christian, but his faith is so small . . ."

Twenty-five young girls, either engaged, or hopeful, enjoyed an appropriate seminar just for them.

Madame Jonas, toothless but radiant, gave her testimony. She is known in her village as a talker for Jesus. Health problems led her to have all her teeth pulled and the new teeth fitted so poorly she could not wear them. "Now let's hear you talk for Jesus," taunted the villagers. She prayed until God gave grace. He didn't change the circumstances, but she is again talking for Jesus.

Plastigraph, visual aids and new songs informed the women of their walk with the Lord. The songs were often used as waker-uppers since the hot days and inactivity caused eyelids to droop and heads to nod. These dear women are accustomed to hard manual labor and sitting idly on a bench was an invitation to doze.

We closed this memorable event with a candlelight service. My skin still pops up in goosebumps as I recall those 111 lighted candles illuminating that darkened building. Lights for Jesus. All of us. Emotions of praise mingled with the words of "To Be Like Jesus" and "Fill My Lamp."

The next morning we went our separate ways with a song in our hearts and a prayer on our lips. Lord, would you do it again!

Jerry and Carol Pinkerton are 4th term missionaries in the Ivory Coast, West Africa.

Continued from page 6 . . .



If we love as did the Samaritan, we will rise up to a world lost without Christ. Our hearts will feel with their hurt and we will weep with their cry. When a missionary suffers a physical or mental breakdown, death in the family, or has to return prematurely to build up his account, we feel these aches.

Responding with compassion costs something. It costs in time as we intercede in prayer. Make no mistake, it will cost in money as well as we keep our missionaries on the battlefield.

Conclusion

"Which of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbor unto him that fell among thieves?" asked Jesus. Without hesitation, his listeners responded, "The Samaritan." "Go thou and do likewise," concluded our Lord in Luke 10:37.

Suppose you were the one who responded to the call to go. Or your son or daughter. Your grandson or granddaughter. Suppose they were in dire need of financial and spiritual encouragement. Would your response be any different?

You or I, or a member of our own family could be the next missionary sent out by our Free Will Baptist Mission Board. "As ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them" (Luke 6:31). Let's be caring Christians!

Saebra Pauley, Parkersburg, WV, a full-time homemaker, is deeply involved in the Cedar Grove FWB Church where she teaches the Ladies' Sunday school class, visits the nursing home, serves as missions study chairman and DVBS teacher. Her hobbies are very family oriented. She and husband, Michael, bus captain, enjoy camping with their two children, Jared, 4 and Colette, 1.

Spice up Your Pre-Easter Week of Prayer Program

1. Assign these three topics—"The Caring Christian," "Come Over And Help Us," and "Retreat—African Style" to three different women and ask them to present them in their own unique manner. Or 2. a) Visualize "The Caring Christian" on a flannelboard or a poster. You will need figures from the story of "The Good Samaritan." Also three pictures of modern-day women (heads of women may be used) to represent the priest, Levite, and the Samaritan. These may be cut from catalogs or magazines. Superimpose the Bible figures over the women. Use a drop of rubber cement which may be removed later without damage to the back of the figure.

On one side of the flannelboard (or posterboard) arrange a world globe surrounded by individual pictures of missionaries (cut from a missions map). These will be glued to the poster board or backed with flannel, sand paper or flocked paper. As the speaker talks about the Priest, Levite, and the Samaritan, these figures may be added to the board.



b) Ask someone to prayerfully prepare to give the account of "Come Over And Help Us."

c) Conclude the service with a candlelight service, as did the African women at their first retreat. You'll need one large candle and a smaller one for each woman present. Birthday cake candles are adequate. Be sure and have a wax catcher on each one (a circle of heavy paper).

To the background of soft music, a reader reads 1 John 1:5.

The first candle is lit from the big one. This candle in turn, lights the candle next to her. As the candles are being lit, someone sings, "Pass It On."

After all the candles are lit, read Phil 2:5-11. Close with prayer that we would be lights in our home, church, community, national and around the world.

Seed thoughts for a March devotional, or may be developed into a program.

Prevailing Winds

Betty Campbell
North Little Rock, Arkansas

Purpose: To help women recognize and accept the winds that blow across our path.

Scripture: John 3:8

Hymn: "Have Faith in God"

Introduction

We refer to wind as that column of air moving across the earth's surface. Sometimes it blows so slowly and gently it can hardly be felt. Or it may blow so fiercely it smashes buildings and uproots trees. Throughout life we experience ups and downs that can be classified as changes in wind direction. Let's look at some of these comparisons.

Wind in your Face (Trials, Testings, Persecutions) Isaiah 40:31

Some winds are so strong they whip up great ocean waves that damage ships and flood land along the coast. Some blow away soil from farmland. Sharp grains of dust carried by wind wear away rock and change the features of the land.

No Wind At All (Boredom, Depression, Fear) Isaiah 26:3

There are no prevailing winds near the equator and up to about 700 miles on either side because there the air rises instead of moving across the earth. This calm belt is called the doldrums. These areas are sometimes called the horse latitudes because many horses died on sailing ships that were stalled by the lack of wind.

Paul, aware of these danger periods in our lives, admonished the Colossians to "let the peace of God rule in your hearts" (3:15). As we spend time with Him, our fears vanish.

The Wind At Your Back, (Going in the Right Direction) James 1:17

A hot, moist day may suddenly turn cool if a wind blows from a cool area. Winds sometimes blow the dark clouds away and allow the sun to warm the land again. These winds are refreshing.

An old Celtic proverb says, "May the wind be always at your back." Anyone familiar with sailing knows that the most exciting, invigorating experience is a full sail, bright sunshine and a good, steady wind.

Conclusion: Proverbs 3:5,6

Communicator

The Laura Belle Barnard Offering

WNAC Pre-Easter Week of Prayer honors Miss Barnard, who went to South India in 1935.

The sacrificial offering for foreign missions may be designated to specific missionaries or projects. But don't forget the general fund. The Foreign Missions office needs funds for daily operation.

Perhaps you would like to send a card of appreciation to Miss Barnard.

Laura Belle Barnard
312 Herrington Street
Glennville, GA 37427

Re-Act!

March-April marks the second issue of the new-look CO-LABORER. We welcome your reactions, ideas, and comments.

Help us get new subscriptions! Enroll some of the women in your church who may not attend auxiliary. Explain to them that this is a woman's magazine, especially for Free Will Baptist women. A Christian magazine with good reading for only \$5.00 in groups of five or more, or \$5.75 for an individual subscription.

Enlistment!

Have you ordered free copies of CO-LABORER for distribution to women in your church who do not belong to Woman's Auxiliary? January-February issues are still available.

Subscription Changes

Changes on CO-LABORER subscriptions must come into the office by the 15th of the month preceding mailings. The magazines will be mailed in March, May, July, November and January.

Easter reminds me of God's love and God's love reminds me of creeping phlox.

The year I turned nine, my sister next-to-me became seriously ill with a potentially fatal kidney disease. I no longer had a playmate those months she was bedridden and had to rest. My two brothers seldom tolerated a girl along as they hunted and fished, dug tunnels and made treehouses. They didn't need me. They had each other.

Relatives visited, laden with gifts and candy for my sister. Mama devoted all her time to tending her sick daughter. Fear and concern creased her forehead. No one seemed to pay any attention to me. I even began to grow a bit jealous of my sister and all the attention given her. Life was lonely on the farm and self-pity consumed me. Life had bottomed out at the ripe old age of nine.

One spring morning, Mama found me sitting all forlorn on the

front steps with my head cupped between my hands and my mind wondering what the birds had to chirp about. She carried a trowel in one hand and some droopy lavender seedlings in the other.

She dropped down beside me. "Look. I have something just for you," she said. I managed a half-interested glance as she held out the wilted plants.

"Come and help me," she coaxed, taking my hand and pulling me up and across the yard to the mailbox. I watched as she began digging.

"These plants are called creeping phlox," she explained. "Each year in the spring they come up and multiply. Next year there will be more and by the next year they will have spread to cover a full bed."

"There." She patted the soil closely around the roots, then turned to me. "This is your flower patch," she said gently. "It will always remind you that I love you. Each year as it spreads, you are to remember that my love is just



like that. No matter how busy I may seem to be, I will be loving you more and more."

I melted into her arms and she held me tight. Then I knew why the birds sang.

The year was 1959. My sister got well and is still my best friend. She gave my name to her first daughter. Mama has since died, but the creeping phlox still comes up in profusion. Each spring I drive by the old farmhouse to watch the thousands of tiny lavender velvet petals wave to me in the breeze. And I remember Romans 8:38, 39:

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.

Whenever I have a "nobody loves me" day, I think of God's love and remember the lavender creeping phlox.

Over My Coffee Cup



Eunice Edwards

How many sinner friends do you have?

Jesus had several. Matthew says that "many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples." On one social occasion as they ate a meal, the Pharisees asked the disciples why Jesus was eating with publicans and sinners. Jesus answered for Himself, "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick . . . I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance" (Matt. 9:10-13).

This article, "The Legacy of the Creeping Phlox" was written by Diane Mitchell Thomas of Grifton, NC. Writing is a big part of Diane's life and she thanks God for the ability to write down life as she sees it.

Diane says she is married to a "wonderful Christian man" and their two sons are "fantastic." She is a housewife and "loves every minute of it."

How long as it been since you invited a sinner to dinner at your house?

On another occasion, the Pharisees called Jesus "A friend of sinners." They meant it to be scornful but Jesus accepted it as a compliment.

Following this incident, one of the Pharisees invited Jesus to eat with him. While there, the sinner woman with the alabaster box of ointment brought it and poured it upon her friend, Jesus. Would she have felt as welcome, as comfortable, as free in our house?

Sometimes sinners don't have enough courage to attend both Sunday school and the worship service. They may not have sufficient courage to attend church at all. However, to go to the home of a Christian friend is less threatening. I have known of unsaved neighbors attending a cottage prayer meeting and accepting Christ as their Savior.

Jesus allowed the woman with an issue of blood to touch Him. He reached out His hand and touched the leper because His heart was touched with his needs. The Word doesn't tell us that Jesus insisted on the sinners coming to Him. He went to them. Can we do less?

It seems Christians have come full circle back to the practice of the New Testament Church. His followers must again go to the sinners with the message of salvation.

As pure and holy as our Lord was, He never set Himself apart from mankind nor his needs. He served all who needed His touch regardless of their need or standing. Oh yes! Our Lord had many sinner friends even while He remained sinless.

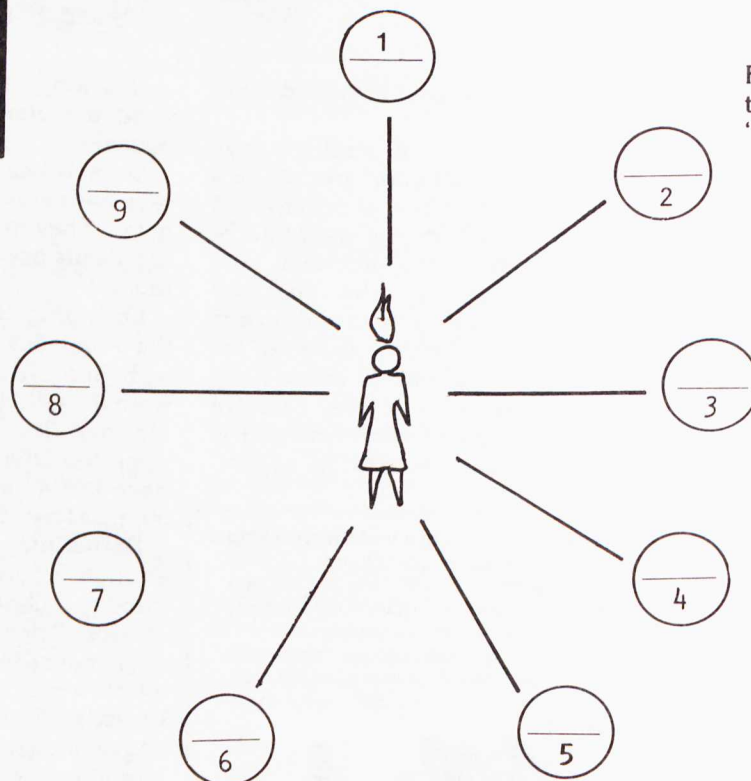
My prayer is that our commitment to Christ is deep enough to include loving sinners as He loved us.

CREEPING PHLOX

Diane Mitchell Thomas

What Does It Mean to Like Jesus'?

by June R. Critcher



For personal Bible study or those auxiliary groups who "just want to use the Bible".

What does it really mean to be like Christ? When we pray, "Lord, help me to be more like You," what are we asking Him to do in and through us?

What is meant by *being conformed to Christ's image*? (See Romans 8:28-29.)

What exactly is Jesus like?

Perhaps the most composite picture of Christ in the New Testament is given in Galatians 5:22-23.

What are those qualities Jesus possesses and also desires for us to possess?

These nine elements, or graces, constitute a unit. Hogg and Vine give their explanation for the use of the singular form: "The singular form, *fruit*, is used here perhaps to suggest the unity and harmony of the character of the Lord Jesus which is to be reproduced in the believer by the power of the Holy Spirit, in contrast with the discordant and often mutually antagonistic *works of the flesh*."

These virtues are wholly supernatural. There is no way a believer can produce them in his or her own strength. Only the life of God can produce the character of God!

• ————— LOVE ————— •

Love is first. It is the foundation of the other graces.

The kind of love the Spirit of God produces in the Christian who is being controlled by Him is **agape** love. Agape love begins in the will—and is not based on an emotional feeling.

This God-kind-of-love is a giving love.

It seeks the highest good of others.

It puts the needs of others ahead of one's own needs.

It is a self-sacrificing love.

Scripture Searching

How do we receive God's love? (Rom. 5:5)	Can a person really love without expressing that love? (Rom. 5:8)	What is one proof that a person genuinely loves others?(Jn. 3:16)
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We cannot demonstrate this kind of love to others until first we receive God's love. Then we become channels through whom His love flows to others.

• ————— JOY ————— •

Only the person who has first received God's grace (*charis*) knows the inexpressible joy (*chara*) that God gives. Joy comes, then, from being in relationship with Jesus Christ.

Read John 15, the "abiding" chapter, and then write what these verses teach about joy. _____

Joy does not depend upon feelings, nor upon circumstances. "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice," wrote the apostle Paul (Phil. 4:4). Everything must have been going great when the apostle wrote this letter of joy. Right? Wrong! Read the brief letter of Philippians and then select just one or two verses that you think reveal the reason Paul was so joyful. _____

As you study 1 Peter 1:3-9, ask the Holy Spirit to help you understand the significance of being "filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy."

Throughout God's Word we see that joy is an inward, consistent satisfaction. It is a *gladness of heart* that comes from being controlled by the Holy Spirit.

As we abide in Christ—allow His Spirit to control us—we know something about this inner rejoicing that does not depend upon circumstances, but rather rests in God's sovereign control of our lives and of all situations.

• ————— PEACE ————— •

Even when our lives—and things around us—seem to be falling apart, we have that inner repose and quietness of spirit that comes from Jesus Christ—as long as we allow His Spirit to control us.

- According to John 14:27, who is our source of peace?
- According to Isaiah 26:3, I can enjoy _____ peace.
- According to Psalm 119:165, I can enjoy _____ peace.
- According to Psalm 37:11, I can enjoy an _____ of peace.

First, we have peace *with* God (see Rom. 5:1). Then we receive peace *from* Him. The Greek word in Galatians 5:22, *eirene*, conveys the idea of right relationships and includes a root that means "to join, to set at one." When we are in right relationship with God, in harmony with Him, living a life that pleases Him, we enjoy His peace.

God's formula for peace is: don't worry about anything . . . pray about everything . . . be thankful in everything. (Memorize Philippians 4:6,7.)

• ————— LONGSUFFERING ————— •

The flesh is impatient . . . easily irritated . . .

short-tempered . . . revengeful.

But the Spirit-controlled person possesses the quality of forbearance . . . spiritual endurance . . . patient submissiveness.

Christ, our example of patient submission to unjust treatment, did not retaliate. He made no threats.

Meditate on Romans 12: 19-20 and write what you will do this week as a result of this word from the Lord. _____

Even when mistreated . . . insulted . . . criticized, the Spirit-controlled believer does not try to get even.

Remember that patience, like all the fruit of the Spirit, is an outworking of love. A look at 1 Corinthians 13:4 reveals that patience is first among love's characteristic outworkings.

• ————— GENTLENESS ————— •

This beautiful word suggests the ideas of kindness and sweetness, with perhaps the stronger emphasis on **kindness**.

When the apostle Paul refers to kindness, he almost always uses the root form, which means "useful, good, or suitable." The related word *chrestotes* is translated as "kindness, goodness, friendliness, or generosity."

This virtue, or grace, speaks of a gentle or tender action, a spirit of compassion and concern, a kindly disposition.

As you meditate on Romans 2:4; Ephesians 2:7; 2 Corinthians 6:6 and Colossians 3:12, ask the Holy Spirit to teach you one significant truth about kindness.

Think of the kindest person you know. Suggest two things this person does that reveal his or her kind spirit.

(1) _____ (2) _____

Take a few minutes to call or write this person and tell him or her how their kind spirit has touched your life.

• ————— GOODNESS ————— •

This word may be thought of both as an uprightness of soul and as an action word. It refers to a generous attitude toward sharing with others. We reach out to others and do good to them not because they are deserving but because we are allowing God's character to be expressed through us. God reached out to us not because we deserve His acts of love but purely because of His grace.

When we try to define this word *good*, we see such words as genuine, uncontaminated, honorable, generous, desirable, pleasant, dependable, honest and loyal.

Study the following passages and tell why these three people were characterized by goodness . . .

- Joseph of Arimathea (Mt. 27:57-20)

- Barnabas (Acts 4:36-27)
- Dorcas (Acts 9:36)

In his book **THE HOLY SPIRIT AND HIS GIFTS**, J. Oswald Sanders says, "Goodness is more than a kindly disposition; it is a kindly action that must find expression, as in the case of Dorcas who was 'full of good works.'"

• ————— FAITH ————— •

Faith in Jesus Christ causes the believer to be faithful, reliable, dependable and trustworthy.

What do these passages teach us about God's faithfulness?

Deut. 7:9 1 Cor. 1:9
1 Cor. 10:13 1 John 1:9

We can rely on the person who is controlled by the Holy Spirit. We can trust what he or she says.

What two significant truths do you see in Luke 16:10-12? (1) _____ (2) _____

Do you honor your commitments?

Do you keep your promises to others?

Are you dependable?

Are you faithful in your thought life?

Are you faithful to your husband? To your friends?

God is faithful—and He desires that we too be faithful. His Spirit cultivates this fruit in our lives.

• ————— MEEKNESS ————— •

Meekness does not imply weakness.

The meek person is one whose spirit God has tamed. The term used to mean "tame," as in a tamed horse. It carries the idea of strength under control. God's Spirit tames us.

The Holy Spirit knows how to refine us—how to chip away at our rough spots and smooth them so we will be gentle.

The meek person respects others with a humble and very gracious spirit. Even when offended, he or she has no desire to retaliate. His or her gentle attitude is reflected in a patient submissiveness.

The Spirit-controlled person has a teachable spirit . . . is considerate of others . . . is submissive to God . . . and to fellow Christians.

Dr. W. A. Criswell says meekness is "an attitude of heart in which all energies are brought into perfect control of the Holy Spirit."

• ————— TEMPERANCE ————— •

This word implies mastery over the flesh—and probably relates to curbing the fleshly impulses, or desires, listed in Galatians 5:19-21.

The word means "to take hold of, to grip, to have under control" and suggests self-restraint, self-denial and self-discipline. This Spirit-controlled person takes hold of herself. She has a grip on herself. She is in full control of herself so she can restrain herself in all areas of life. Why? Because she is living under the control of God's Spirit.

Meditate on Proverbs 25:28 and ask the Holy Spirit to teach you a valuable lesson as you meditate.

Are You in Control of Your???					
	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually	Always
Tongue					
Reading Habits					
TV Viewing					
Temper					
Reactions					
Attitudes					
Eating Habits					

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

The nine graces we have just studied are contrary to our basic nature. They are opposite of all we are inclined to think and be and do.

As we yield to the control of the Holy Spirit, He works these qualities in us and through us. It is a matter of **His life** being lived in and through us.

Fruit implies life! Dead trees do not produce fruit. Only living trees produce fruit. When the Spirit is in control of our lives, He produces fruit, His fruit, in us.

We learn from studying Ephesians 5 and Colossians 3 that the results of being Spirit-controlled and Word-controlled are the same. Christ is our Life. His words are life. It's Christ's life—His

work in us—that enables us to reflect His nature.

Only by the power of the Holy Spirit can we manifest these nine virtues. The Holy Spirit produces His fruit in the life of the Christian who is abiding in Christ. So the fruit Paul talks about in Galatians 5 is simply the life of Christ lived out through the believer.

As we daily submit to the control of the Holy Spirit, live in the Word and then live out the Word, He works in us the character of Jesus Christ. Throughout the day our lives reflect His nature.

Am I interpreting the life of Christ to others? To be like Him is to be loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, gentle, kind, good, faithful, meek and self-controlled.

Sing prayerfully, "More Like the Master."

Helps For Leaders

March-April, 1987

President/Vice President

Place the Missionaries

Divide our mission work into four areas: the Orient—Japan and India; Africa—Ivory Coast; Europe—Spain and France; South America—Brazil, Panama, and Uruguay.

Select four teams with a captain over each. Assign each team one of these areas.

Make flags with missionaries names on them, one for each missionary or missionary couple. On the reverse side, put the name of the country. Ask each team member to give one—or more—of her flags to prospects, asking them to bring the flag to the next meeting.

The next month, have large maps posted of each country. When those attending arrive, have someone assigned to place their flags on the proper country. The team which has the largest percentage of the missionary staff in its assigned area wins. If a team has 100% of its staff, award a super prize.

Mission Study Chairman

Are Your Women Reading?

What Are They Reading?

One of the duties of the mission study chairman is to encourage auxiliary women to grow through reading. This may be done by recommending helpful books, arranging study classes, giving book reviews, or by toting a portable library to the regular meetings.

Some women may require more personalized encouragement. Telephone—or flag them down at church—and ask if they are currently reading a book. If not, why not? What would they like to read? Suggest something, and if they respond with interest, see that the book is available to them.

Keep close tabs on these books lest they fall by the "wayside," that is, someone's book shelf, magazine rack or end table!

A second method is keeping a reading record on each woman. (See illustration.) Divide the card into categories and each time a book is read in a specific category, a special seal records it. Titles of the books may be written on the back of the card. Special recognition may be given at the end of the year to those who 1) have read the most books, 2) read more Missions books, 3) read a book for the first time, 4) participated in a mission study group, and 5) read the Bible through.

These cards may be kept together by punching a hole in each corner and fastening with a split ring.



Invitation/Poster

Use this pattern to prepare invitations for each woman in your church. The invitations may be cut on the fold with the information listing date, time and place given inside. Distribute the Sunday before your meeting.

Enlarge on the idea for a poster.

READING RECORD		Name _____			
		MISSIONS	PRAYER	INSPIRATIONAL	MISC.
1987					
I have read the Manual or attended a Leadership Training Class					yes ☐ no ☐
I have read the Bible through this year					yes ☐ no ☐



Mission Prayer Chairman

Skit to Promote the Pre-Easter Week of Prayer Emphasis

Characters: Young couple with two small children
Elaine, a church friend

Props: Four posters to announce the passing of time

Scene 1

Poster reading: Sunday, April 12

Young couple returns from church with their two small children. Mother carries two Bibles, diaper bag, and holds hand of one of the children. Dad carries the smaller child.

DAD: What's for dinner, Betty?

MOM: Good question.

OLDER CHILD: I'm hungry, Let's eat!

MOM: It'll be a while yet. Hon, I could get things going in the kitchen a little sooner if you'd take care of changing the children's clothes.

DAD: Sure, if it'll help get dinner faster. I'm starved.

MOM: As always.

(Dad and the children exit. Mom sets down the diaper bag and Bibles, picks up an apron and begins to put it on. Pulls reminder from Bible.)

I'll just put this prayer calendar on the frig so I'll remember to pray for the missionary requests each day. I'll use this money jar here, too, for my Laura

Belle Barnard sacrificial offering. Prayers that take aim. (*Pauses thoughtfully.*) Now to take an aim at dinner.

Scene 2

Poster: Tuesday

Scene opens with Mom rising from her knees, deposits change in the jar.

MOM: So far so good! This is Tuesday and I'm on schedule. Using the children's naptime as prayer-time works real well, as long as I remember to take the phone off the hook. (*Smiling, she picks up a broom and exits.*)

Scene 3

Poster: Wednesday Night after Prayermeeting

Betty is chatting with a friend

BETTY: How are you coming along with the Pre-Easter missionary requests?

ELAINE: I got off to a slow start. After working all day, there's so much to do in the evenings that finding a quiet time for missionary prayer seemed impossible.

BETTY: I can understand that, but you really only need to set aside a short time each day.

ELAINE: I know. So I asked the Lord to help me find the time and He did.

BETTY: Really? Tell me about it.

ELAINE: I'm using my afternoon break at work. I have 15 minutes that I can spend in prayer rather than having coffee or a coke or something fattening that I don't need anyway.

BETTY: That sounds like a great idea.

ELAINE: Thanks. At least it works for me. What about you?

BETTY: Children's naptime (*Checks watch.*) I'd better get those children so we can head home. See you Sunday morning (*exits with a wave*).

ELAINE: Bye. (*Exits in opposite direction.*)

Scene 4

Poster: Pre-Easter Week of Prayer Service

BETTY: (*speaking to audience*)

How did you get along with your missionary praying? We hope you've been able to establish a special missions prayer time with the use of your calendar and that this special time will continue to be a part of your daily routine.

Miss Laura Belle Barnard said, "Prayer changes things. Much praying today misses the mark because it is not clearly aimed at something. Our prayers may send and keep workers in His harvest where workers are so few today."

Please continue to aim your prayers toward God's work on our home and foreign mission fields around the world.

Virginia Justice, Joelton, TN, wrote this skit and submitted it in the annual creative arts contest.

Missionary Prayer

Calendar (for Week of Prayer, or whenever)

Using the flower pattern, make a prayer calendar for each woman in the church. In addition, cut 14 individual circles, identical size, for each calendar.

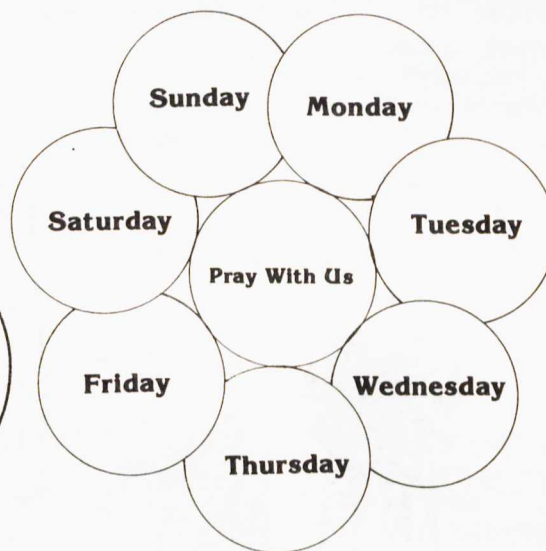
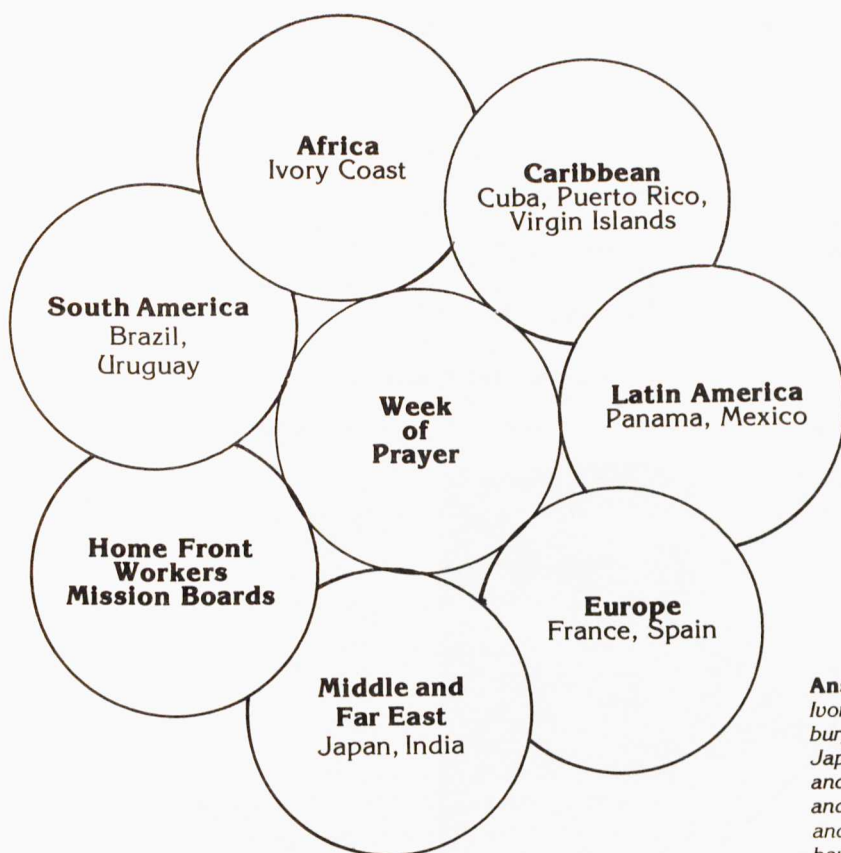
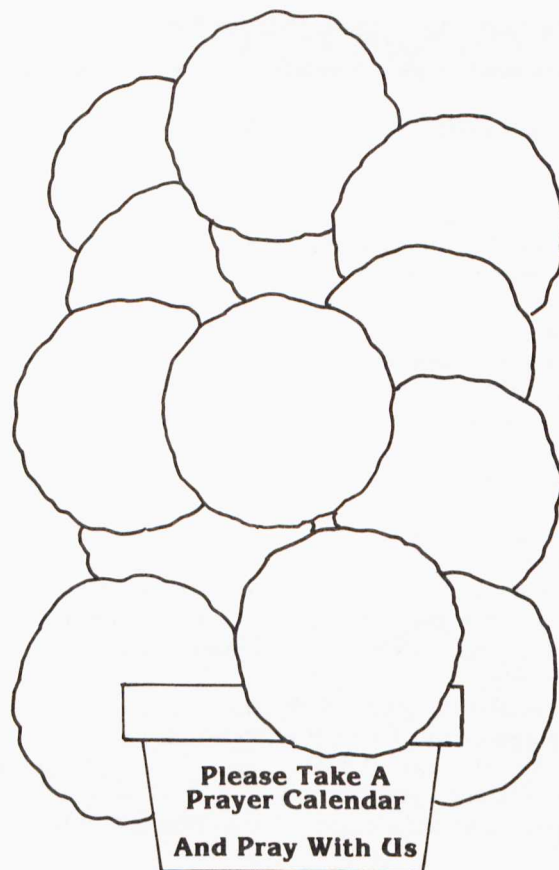
On seven of the circles, print missionary prayer requests to correspond to the locations given. Find these in the "Please Pray" section of this magazine (page 29), missionary periodicals, or by calling Hotline (615-361-5005) for more current requests. Glue these circles over the corresponding circles. To make the flower more colorful, use colored paper for these request circles.

On the last seven circles, print a day of the week. Use a dash of rubber cement to cover each circle:

Glue a 1/2" strip of magnetic tape (available from craft stores) to the back of each circle. This enables it to adhere to any metal surface.

Remove one of the day-of-the-week cover circles each day in order to expose the prayer request for the day.

Display these calendars on a poster the Sunday before Easter. In the church bulletin and from the pulpit invite all women to remove a calendar from the board and pray together during the week.



Answers to Directory Search. How did you do? 1. 8; 2. a) Ivory coast, b) 16 teams. This does not include Glennnda Leatherbury and Jalayn Martens, newly appointed. 3. a) France and Japan, b) Patsy Vanhook; 4. Tommy and Nancy Hughes, Earnie and Jean Deeds; 5. Jerry and Barb Gibbs with Marc, 10; Ben, 7; and Ryan, 4; 6. 6; Elaine Holland, Sherwood Lee, Lynette Morgan and Sandra Payne have RN's. Carol Pinkerton and Sheila Gilliland have LPN's. 7. Fred and Evelyn Hersey; Debbie Griffin, 8. Larry and Priscilla Inscoc, Steve Lytle, 9. Lonnie Sparks from Ivory Coast, 10. 51.

Mission Action Chairman

Mini-baskets for Easter

Mini-Easter baskets make attractive centerpieces or tray favors and answer the question "What can we take to the nursing home or on visitation?" They may be used as place card holders, conversation pieces or prayer reminders.

Make an assortment for your April meeting. Then distribute as desired.

Supplies needed:

1. pastel or white poster board
2. adhesive tape
3. scraps of calico cloth, lace and ruffling, and ribbon
4. craft glue

Instructions: 1. Cut poster board into $\frac{1}{2}$ " strips.

2. For each basket, you'll need three strips about 5" long (for the length) and four strips about 4" long (for the width), plus another strip 8" long for the handle.

3. Bring the cut ends of the hand together and tape to the center middle of the length strip.

4. Weave the two strips on each side, taping each one in place as you progress.

5. Lay a ruler across the edge of the two end strips,

longways, and fold up at the cross ties. Tape the ends. Do the same with the other three ends.

6. Trim to make all ends even. Tape corners.

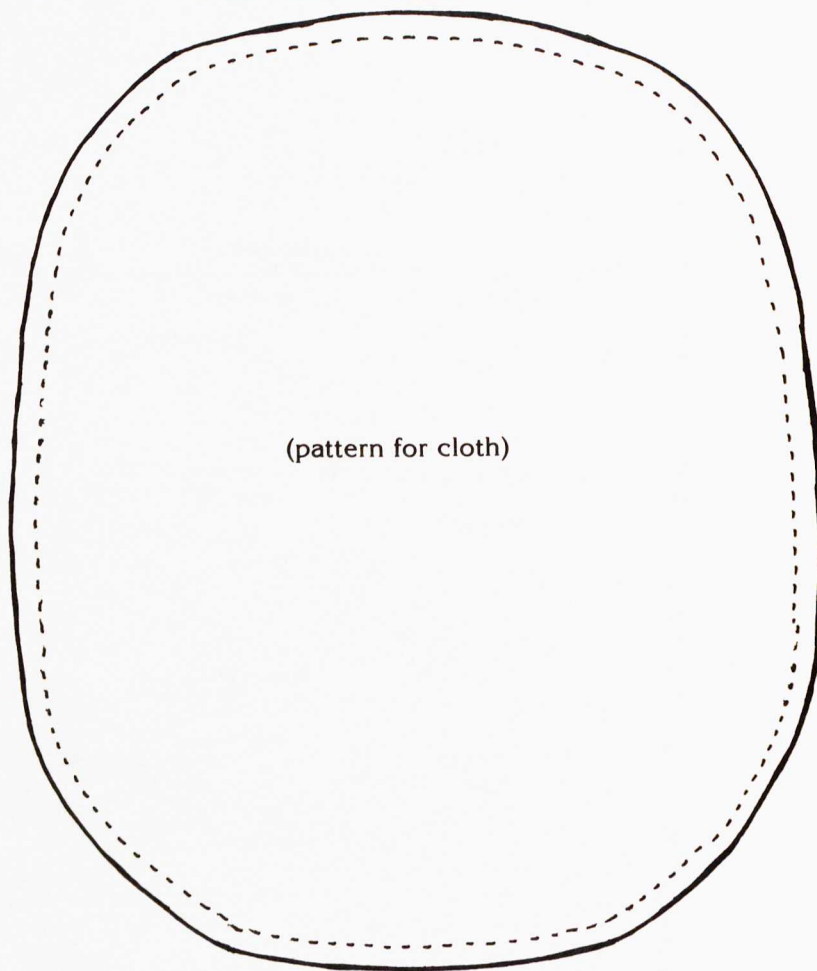
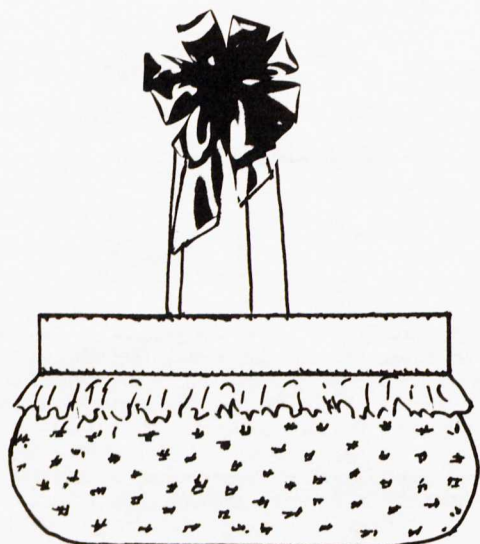
7. Using the pattern for the cloth, cut an oval of calico. Sew a running stitch around the top and gather to fit the top edge of the basket. Fill the inside of the cloth lightly with cotton fill. Using craft glue, glue the cloth to the top outer edge of the basket.

8. Cover the raw edges of the cloth with a band. This band may be as simple or elaborate as you desire. For example, it may be a) a pastel satin or grosgrain ribbon, b) pre-gathered ruffling sewed to bias tape, c) cross-stitch an appropriate message on special aida bands, d) any decorative band with/without lace.

9. Attach a small bow to the top of the handle.

10. Nestle a group of these tiny baskets on a platter layered with flowers and greenery. Fill the baskets with plastic grass and jelly beans, or flowers.

11. Take to a nursing home or use as tray favors. A verse of Scripture could be typed on small cards and tucked inside each basket.



Women in Action



Alice Smith, missionary to Ivory Coast, reports her "beloved sisters" in West Virginia gave her \$327 in a money tree plus 150 yards of material with matching notions. "I won't want for clothing during my next term," she rejoices.

New Hope district meeting with the Friendship church near Rose Bud, AR, featured Laura McFall, missionary appointee to Brazil.

Bethlehem Auxiliary, Ashland City, TN gave a new twist to their provision closet shower. They awarded a prize for the most unusual gift. Among the billfold, calculator, umbrella, alarm clock, cosmetic bag, etc., emerged a winner—a hammer with a packet of nails!

Eastern Kentucky district's goal of \$7500 will be divided

among state missionary projects, among which are the Daniels and Fergusons in Ivory Coast; Bob White, Paducah; and Camp Caleb.

At South Carolina's prayer and praise rally, Velma Brown prepared a sheet with pictures of their state's six missionaries on the front. Inside were statements made by the different missionaries. The audience was asked to match the statements with the right missionary. It was informative and interesting and as one participant said, "It



Linda Callaway, missionary to Spain, encourages the Mt. Olive auxiliary, Plymouth, NC during their annual shower for the Missionary Provision Closet.

Auxiliary president, Brenda Wills, Trinity Temple, Tulsa, OK, plans "Christmas in October" farewell party for their pastor's wife, whose husband, Glen, has accepted another pastorate in Denver, CO.



Patsy Braddy installs new auxiliary officers at the Riverview FWB Church in Bettendorf, Iowa. Loraine Ritter, second from the right, holds the gavel.

also showed us how little we really know about our missionaries."

The auxiliary of Blue Point, Cisne, IL,

sponsored a talent night consisting of skits, music and readings. The event was taped and sent to missionaries Don and Ruth McDonald in Japan.

Georgia's state convention at Norman Park Assembly featured an historical slide presentation entitled "Reflections." Charollette Tallent, France, gave the missionary challenge.

Tennessee adopted a state project of \$2000 for Jim and →

Evelyn Teague, Oak Ridge, appointed as replacements as dorm parents for Neil and Sheila Gilliland, Ivory Coast Academy in the Ivory Coast.

Mississippi delegates heard June Critcher, Nashville, speak on "Patterns." Small prayer groups added a missionary flavor.

Fredda Davis, treasurer of the Oklahoma convention, reported that their 1366 members gave \$42,148.98 to missions and related causes this past year.



Eastern Alabama's district retreat in Montgomery.



Pastor and Mrs. Glen Bobo and the newly organized auxiliary of Huntsville, Alabama. Reba Ritter, Progressive district president, organized this promising group of women.

"Sound retreat, sergeant! The enemy is approaching and we're in danger of our lives!"

The mental image of a general issuing orders to his bugler flitted across Janine's mind as she listened to the auxiliary president announce the forthcoming retreat. Janine smiled to herself as she pictured the Woman's Auxiliary in army uniforms. Her eyes fell upon Agnes McEntyre who was expecting her fourth baby. Her uniform would bulge at every seam and the buttons would pop right off, the poor thing!

The president asked for a show of hands of those going to retreat. Janine was not a bit surprised when Agnes McEntyre raised her hand. "She's just going to get away from her husband and kids," thought Janine. Like the commercial, instead of

"Calgon take me away," it's "Retreat, take me away!"

Mrs. Gibson slowly raised her hand to be counted. *I don't see why she goes every year. She's so old. She'll probably complain about the food and won't be able to sleep on the lumpy beds.*

Oh no! A couple of teenagers are going! Janine groaned inwardly. They're only going along for the fun. They'll short-sheet beds and stay up all night yaking and singing and giggling.

"Do I want to go to retreat this year?" Janine asked herself. Reflectively she remembered her last one. Meeting the missionary was such a treat. She had never realized the troubles and struggles a missionary faces daily merely to survive on a foreign field. Most unbelievable was the idea of the missionary yearning to go *home* to that heathen land!

Sounds

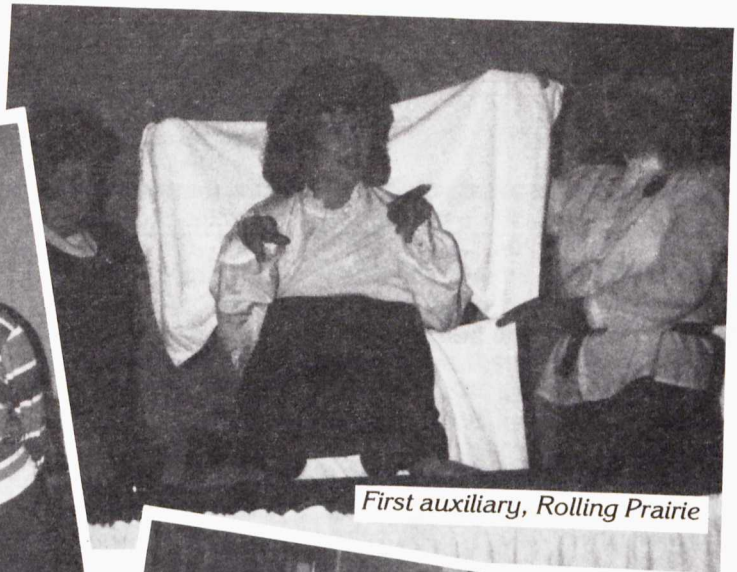
General

The

Four auxiliaries participated in Indiana's state retreat in Lebanon. Yvonne Wolfenbarger and Mary Wisehart from the WNAC office brought special messages.



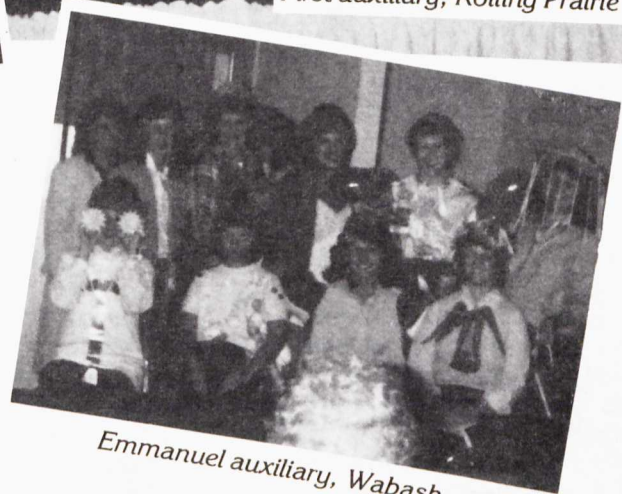
First Bible auxiliary, New Castle



First auxiliary, Rolling Prairie



Peace auxiliary, Indianapolis



Emmanuel auxiliary, Wabash

RETREAT!

Esther Mayo

Sharing testimonies around the circle and participating in the fellowship made Janine feel as close as a sister to the others. If Agnes McEntyre wants to go for fellowship, so what! After all, carrying on a conversation with someone who doesn't have strained peas in his hair and has a vocabulary of more than a hundred words is worth the trip. Janine giggled to herself.

The giggling brought to mind the teenagers. They really *were* fun! And they made me feel young.

Janine considered old Mrs. Gibson. She's such a saint that I can learn from her strong faith. She's to be admired because she could stay home and be so much more comfortable.

Janine had felt refreshed and renewed and revived as she returned from the retreat. Giving

herself a mental shake, Janine realized there was only one reason women went to retreat. We're different women with different needs, yet we all have one thing in common: we all love the Lord Jesus and want to serve Him better.

Janine raised her hand to be counted. "Onward Christian soldiers! Only by retreating can we go forward! To battle and to win!"

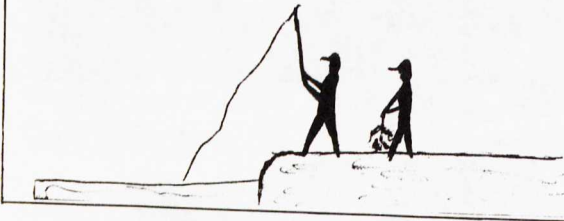
The president smiled. "Thank you for those words, Janine. But just a motion to accept the business report approved as read would have been appropriate. I don't think we'll do battle with the treasurer tonight."

Janine slunk down in her seat and vowed not to let her mind wander the rest of the meeting.

The Successful Fishing Trip

by Trey Morgan with Adam and Aaron

One day my friend and I went fishing. We fished all day long.



While we were fishing I asked my friend if he wanted to go to church with us on Sunday.



On our way home we went by his house to ask his dad if he could go to church with us. His dad said he could.



On Sunday my friend went with me to church. We sang and clapped and then my dad preached.



At the end of service my friend got saved. I hope one day his dad will come too.



Trey, 12, Adam, 10, and Aaron 6, are the sons of Clint and Lynette Morgan, serving their third term as missionaries in the Ivory Coast, West Africa.

The Minister's Wife

Compiled by Cleo Pursell

The role of the pastor's wife in the congregation somehow defies description. Books have been written. Seminars have been held. But how do you sum it all up? When pulpit committees look for a new leader, they may prepare lists of all they expect of a pastor and his wife. We are more than just one who goes along with the preacher. We also have a ministry to fulfill. Possibly the one comment made most of the pastor's wife is this: "We want someone who will be a godly example to the women in our church." This is true, but oh! How much that covers!

Often pastors' wives are expected to be an example in areas they are not qualified to fill. Not every pastor's wife is an apt speaker for women's groups or retreats. She may have a message all bottled up inside, but is unable to stand before a group and deliver it. Not every pastor's wife is musically talented. Some have a difficult time finding the pitch. Some work well with children, others with teens, and still others with senior citizens. No one should be expected to fulfill obligations in all three areas.

When it comes to example, all ministers' wives should be examples of godliness, cleanliness, piety, and faithfulness to our husband and family. An example is a pattern to be followed or imitated. We should be these examples simply because we are God's children and these are His commands to us. From there, we branch out into other areas that may inspire the women in our congregations as well as other ministers' wives who may be struggling.

There's one area that I thoroughly enjoy. I love company! The Bible labels this with a special name called "hospitality." It means receiving and entertaining guests generously and kindly. A second definition suggests kindness and generosity to guests or strangers.

Four Scriptures give hospitality as a command. In listing the qualifications of a bishop, Paul told both Timothy and Titus to be "a lover of hospitality" (1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:8). This means not only showing the virtue toward others, but being willing to have hospitality shown us. Peter wrote to Jewish Christians, "Use hospitality one to another without grudging" (1 Pet. 4:9). In Romans 12, one of the commands for all Christians is, "Distributing to the necessity of saints; given to hospitality" (v. 13).

What has happened to hospitality? There are many lonely people in this world, and not just widows or even the isolated. Not all of them are lonely. I refer, rather, to *families* in our churches. For years, fellowship with others was neglected as they retreated to television. Now that we have learned that television is boring or not fit to watch, the art of fellowship is gone, leaving families bored and lonely and frustrated. What can we do to turn this tide? How many churches send their missionaries and evangelists to a motel because no one volunteers to invite them into their home? Motel rooms can be some of the loneliest places on the earth!

As a young wife, I was exposed to some examples that left such a strong impression that I have wanted to follow them down through the years. In our earlier days, I sometimes traveled with my husband in his music or preaching ministry. People would invite us into their homes for a meal. Once in Detroit, Winona Riggs got up and made popovers for breakfast. She had four children at home, was heavily involved in the church's ministry, but it was normal for her

to entertain guests.

The law of God's harvest is that one reaps what he sows. Generally, he reaps much more than he sows. Another thing about God's harvest is that one might receive a seed of example from another and the one giving neither knows or misses it. Mrs. Riggs planted such a seed and through the years it has been my personal delight in preparing breakfast for ministers, missionaries, college kids, or friends. Lingering around the table, basking in fellowship, has lifted my spirits and inspired me on many occasions. As I think of them, not as guests, but as dear friends, the anxiety is removed that the toast might be too brown or the gravy too lumpy.

On another occasion, when our four children were small, I came down with a virus that put me in bed. My husband may be quite proficient in the pulpit but is about as adept in the kitchen as I might be in trying to fly a plane. When one of our dear women learned I was sick, she called and said, "I'm fixing supper for your family and will bring it over." She brought a box of food that I remember to this day! I doubt the Israelites could have enjoyed their manna in the wilderness more than we did that meal.

A funny thing about God's harvest. The seed keeps cropping up at one time or another so that it drops fruit into the lives of others in order that they might in turn bless others. To this day, when I learn of a sickness or an illness in a home, especially if it is the wife or mother who is ill, how can I not do something? Mary may have forgotten it, but I never will. I wish I could tell her that her seed produced a good crop. Hospitality is more than having folk share your home; it is sharing what you have when it is inconvenient for them to come.

Not only is hospitality commanded, it is commended as a virtue. Paul said of Lydia, "... she besought us, saying, If ye have

I Love Company!

Maurine Lee

Bologna sandwiches and potato chips mingled with good fellowship can be a feast.

judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. And she constrained us" (Acts 16:15). Regarding widows to be received into the church, Paul told Timothy, "Well reported of for good words; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have diligently followed every good work" (1 Tim. 5:10).

To the Romans, Paul said, "I commend unto you Phebe our sister, which is a servant of the church which is a Cenchrea: that ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a succourer of many, and of myself also" (Rom. 16:1-1). Of Mary, he said, "Greet Mary, who bestowed much labour on us" (Rom. 16:6). Since most women of that day kept much to the home, evidently much of the labor was preparing food, sewing garments, and just providing a comfortable and quiet place to rest.

Hospitality in our day has often been the victim of what I will term a "protocol syndrome." In the world of business and government, protocol dictates an order of behavior to be followed. Certain ones are expected to act first, then others act in return. I invite you to dinner, then you invite me. Do we invite others just to be invited in return? Jesus said that sinners do this, but those who love God will reach out even if they never receive anything in return. God is keeping an accurate score in heaven. Why not invite a family, or maybe two or three, to your home after church on Sunday night? Bologna sandwiches and potato chips mingled with good fellowship can be a feast!

Another hindrance to the fellowship of hospitality is the "What will others say" syndrome. We fear man more than we love. Let me ask a question: How will ministers's wives be an example of hospitality

if they never invite the church families into their homes? Common sense dictates that unless we have a very large house—and who does?—then it is impossible to have everyone at once. It would also require a larger amount in the pocketbook than most of us have. But really getting acquainted—learning the needs, sorrows and interests of others—demands a family in a family setting. Crowds tend to detract. When a new family, shy and bewildered, comes into our church, we try to invite them to our home for a meal. This creates an atmosphere for sharing.

Giving of ourselves, whether in a meal served in the home, a meal sent to a shut-in, or entertaining overnight or even longer, is a grace that must be cultivated. Paul aptly describes the grace of giving in 2 Corinthians 8 and 9: "He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly: and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully."

If we say to the women in our churches or to other minister's wives, "We ought to set hospitality as our priority," and never show them what we mean, how will they know what to do? Example means doing beforehand so that others will have something to imitate.

Our first place for hospitality is in our hearts. If we belong to God, then His Son lives there and we, unconsciously or consciously, entertain Him each day. As we become more comfortable with Him, we can allow our homes to be opened to others who need to know that someone loves them and cares. I love having this opportunity. I love company!

Maurine Lee has been a pastor's wife for 32 years. The last 14 have been at the Victory FWB Church in Goldsboro, NC. They have four grown children.



Turning Point

**Jeanne Hoover
Heritage FWB Church
Williamsburg, Virginia**

A few months ago, my husband made a decision that changed the course of our lives.

For years, Paul had fought against his call to the ministry, but God wouldn't take "No" for an answer. He finally pushed Paul into a corner where the only way out was to get right with God and do His will in our lives.

Paul wanted to be a minister in a church where he could teach and preach directly from the Bible without fear of reprimand. I wanted to be what has become more-or-less obsolete in our society—a housewife and a lady. This led us to the Free Will Baptist denomination.

We had both been raised in another denomination, so our first reaction was a kind of culture shock. No slacks for women? No movies? Saying "Amen" aloud in church? What did this church want from us?

It wanted nothing, only to give. Wonderful teachers answered our questions and gave us references so we could search them out for ourselves. Loving, warm-hearted people taught us by example how to live a Christian life.

Have our lives changed? Yes, oh yes! Even though we didn't understand at first and were even a bit reluctant to change, we've found exactly what we've wanted all along.

*Wives of ministers are invited to share in this column. What was the turning point in your career as a minister's wife? Please limit your copy to three double spaced pages. A copy of **How to be a Minister's Wife and Love It** by Alice Taylor will be given for each experience used.*

So you've been elected an auxiliary officer. Great! How well do you know the terminology of the organization? This quiz will help you determine your Auxiliary Intelligence Quotient.

Answer each question, then compute your score using the scale at the end of the test. If your worst fears are realized and you're not up to snuff in your auxiliary know-how, don't bury your face in shame. Stubbed toes watch for pitfalls and make the sturdiest steps. Happy stepping!

1. Define the five basics.

a. Requirements for membership—age, weight, measurements, spiritual gifts and marital status.

b. Even a first grader knows this—reading, writing, arithmetic, spelling and geography.

c. Important facts each woman should know (but seldom remembers)—watchword, definition, purpose, hymn and colors.

2. What is a Woman's Auxiliary?

a. a tool used by enterprising women to keep the pastor in check.

b. An entrance in some churches to discriminate between men and women.

c. Has something to do with teaching missions so women can better serve the church.

3. WNAC is an abbreviation for

a. Woman's National Anonymous Convention (a select group for those who know a secret password).

b. Woman's NOW Auxiliary Convention (an associate of the National Organization of Women).

c. Woman's National Auxiliary Convention (representing women in 23 states).

4. Co-Laborer is the name of

a. A labor union of auxiliary members.

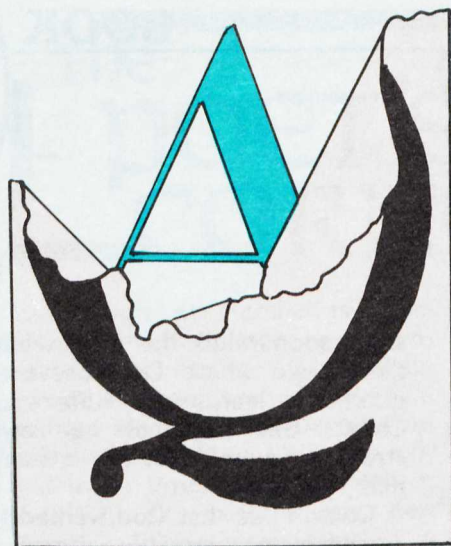
b. The Crafts-For-Profit segment of the Woman's Auxiliary.

c. A magazine that women have to hide from men to keep them from reading it first.

5. What does the "constitution" have to do with auxiliary?

a. Ability to digest the auxiliary programs.

b. Guidelines for getting along



Auxiliary IQ

by Lorene Miley

with those of different temperaments.

c. Suggested rules to help women govern themselves.

6. Who is the mission action chairman?

a. She leads the physical fitness program of the auxiliary.

b. She bugs the pastor to act on important issues.

c. She involves every woman in missions, according to her talents, personality and availability.

7. What is the WNAC Gift Plan?

a. Recognition given to retiring officers. This is accompanied by gold watches, automobiles, trips, etc., depending on length of term and accomplishments.

b. Baby and wedding showers and other gift-giving activities sponsored by the auxiliary. This excludes the Pastor-Appreciation Day, although the auxiliary may participate.

c. The broad scope of auxiliary giving—Co-Laborer and Emphasis Month offerings for WNAC, Student Loan and National Student Funds, and sacrificial offerings for missions through the weeks of prayer.

8. What is meant by "auxiliary channels"?

a. A plan for sending money via an underground cable that connects all treasurers with the WNAC office.

b. An intricate system utilizing waterways and waterproof containers with electrically charged propellers. The source is the Cumberland in Nashville, Tennessee and branches out to every state and village.

c. The roundabout route whereby designated money ends up where it's intended—first through the local treasurer, on to the district, state, national, and finally—whew!—to where it was destined.

9. What are Seasons of Prayer?

a. A pungent spice that enhances our conversations with God.

b. An automatic prayer calendar that emits electronic signals to pray during special times of the year.

c. Three times during the year when women combine their missionary prayer with a sacrificial offering.

10. What do Mission-Grams and Heartbeat have in common?

a. One's missionary heartbeat is measured in grams.

b. Two study course books an auxiliary is required to study each year.

c. Both are missionary publications that help one pray intelligently and score high on quizzes like this one.

The Moment of reckoning

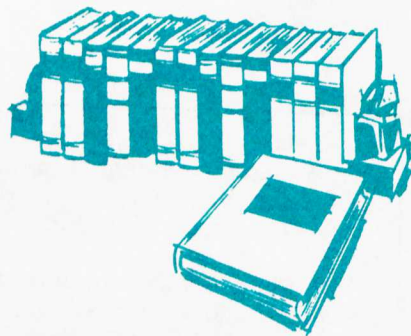
If you marked—

9-10 responses (c) answers: Congratulations! You're on your way to becoming a topnotch auxiliary leader.

6-8 (c) answers: You're on the right track, but a bit wobbly at times. A crash course on the *Manual* should put you in good shape.

3-5 (c) answers: It's doubtful a crash course would help, but nothing ventured, nothing gained.

1-2 (c) answers: A for effort. There's a place for *everyone* in auxiliary.



BOOK

Highlights

Genny Waddell

Living Sacrifice

by Helen Roseveare

(Moody Press, 124 pp., \$3.95)

Helen Roseveare, who served as a medical missionary with Worldwide Evangelization Crusade (WEC) in Congo/Zaire from 1953-1973, was imprisoned and molested during warfare in Zaire. She has an unusual story to tell, and she tells it well while giving all of the glory and praise for her own contributions to missions to God. *Living Sacrifice* details her personal response to God's call to "present your bodies a living sacrifice . . ." The book is the culmination of her writing for students on the subject of sacrificial living.

The author first describes her own salvation experience, but that is only the beginning. Her

story soon takes the reader into the Congo where Dr. Roseveare gradually learns to suffer for Christ. She says of her own struggle to yield her life a sacrifice:

Could I see that God wanted to transform my life from a somewhat ugly, useless branch to an arrow, a tool usable in His hands, for the furtherance of His purposes? . . . To be thus transformed, was I willing — am I still willing — for the whittling, sandpapering, stripping processes necessary in my Christian life?

At times *Living Sacrifice* reads like poetry in its beauty and its choice of illustrations. The author also uses scripture masterfully, weaving it in and out of her words of testimony.

After establishing that God has the "right to demand" our sacrifice, Dr. Roseveare deals with yielding to Him our hearts, souls, minds, and strengths. She concludes that giving our lives back to God for His service is a "privileged love-gift to Christ."

Living Sacrifice is a momentous, challenging book. It possesses a missionary zeal reminiscent of other centuries when those who left the safe shores for foreign fields, often never to return, counted it a joyful privilege to give their lives to Christ. Dr. Roseveare captures some of their spirit in sharing her own testimony, which is a lovely picture of what God can do with a life yielded completely to Him, even in these modern times.

A Woman God Has Used

Anyone who is 95 years old and still being used by the Lord is worthy of mention.

Myrtle Whiterher, a lifelong resident of Panama, Oklahoma and a retired school teacher, was left widowed some 14 years ago. They had no children of their own, but raised and educated three nephews. Her life has touched a host of children for Christ.

Mrs. Whiterher had always been a good girl, but at age 16, in 1916, she knew if she died she wouldn't go to heaven. So she prepared by asking Christ into her heart and life. Although she was raised in the Methodist church, she joined the Panama FWB Church in 1974

and was baptized in the North Canadian River.

Mrs. Whiterher lives alone and cares for herself, but the

church folks keep close tabs on her. One recently reported, "We visited her this morning and she's doing real good."

While the natural process of aging is claiming her physical body, Mrs. Whiterher, alert mentally, loves to read her Bible and the *Co-Laborer*. Her church and the Woman's Auxiliary are blessed from her prayers and finances.

"She's an inspiration to all who know her," says her church family. And as this dear lady begins to shake off the earth dust and prepare for immortality, she radiates an aura that attracts all who come into her presence.



Have We No Rights? by
Mabel Williamson
126 pp., \$5.95

Mabel Williamson, who began her missionary work with the China Inland Mission in 1934, now teaches in Indonesia. This new printing of her 1957 classic re-emphasizes the importance of commitment.

Miss Williamson shares what she learned about surrendering all her resources to Christ and what happens when one gives up all of life's normal comforts for Him in His service.

The book is especially timely because so many Christians are unwilling to surrender their rights to the Lord and His work today.

WNAC does not stock these books. Please order them from your state bookstore, or from Randall House, 319C Harding Place, Nashville, TN 37217.

Two out-of-print missionary classics reprinted

Who Cares About The Missionary?

by Marjorie A. Collins

This book contains the most comprehensive list of practical helps and suggestions for missionary giving you'll find anywhere. It also answers the questions: Of what does missionary support consist? and How can I become more involved in missions?

WNAC recommended this book several years ago. Perhaps it's time for a renewed emphasis.

Let's Quit Kidding Ourselves About Missions

by James M. Weber

A missionary of 25 years, Mr. Weber begins his book with a definition of terms. Missions has become a word which means everything in general and nothing in particular, he states. This hard-hitting book, with occasional humor, explores the missionary call, finances, mission boards and mission fields.

These two books may be ordered from:

Don Wardell
P. O. Box 325

Winona Lake, IN 46590

Please contact Mr. Wardell for a current price list.

The POET'S CORNER



Although Lori Marshall is a Missourian by birth, she is an Arizonian by choice. Her family moved to Phoenix when she was a college student. They became involved in the First FWB Church, and in no time at all, Lori fell in love with the pastor's son, Ken Marshall. They were married a short time later and their first child was born last November.

Both are heavily involved in the ministry of the First Church. Ken, the church pianist, also teaches

Sunday school. Lori works in Children's Church and the pre-school department.

Lori's interest in poetry began in her early teens as she began forming messages in rhyming words. Words aren't limited to poetry, however, as they often flow in plays and skits as well.

She explains it this way, "I believe God has given each of us a talent and we should strive to please God in all we do. This is what I try to do in my writing."

OUR CREATOR

I often wonder why this world
With all its toil and strife,
Never stops to think about
The One Who gives us life.

All the wondrous works of God
Too carelessly we see,
And try to reason in our minds
How all this could be.

Yet if we look into God's Word,
Our Maker, we would find,
With all His mighty wisdom,
Created all mankind.

When beset by earthly sorrow,
Your burdens hard to bear,
Just remember our Creator
For He will always care.



If you're looking for a decorative salad for your spring festivity, this Rainbow Salad found in West Virginia's Beckley Conference cookbook may be just what you're looking for:

You'll need one 3 oz. package of Jello

in red, orange, green and yellow.

½ gallon vanilla ice cream

Starting with the red, mix jello with 1 cup boiling water. Cut ice cream in four parts. Add ¼ of the ice cream to the jello. Mix until well dissolved.

Pour into a spring pan. Let set. Spread a small layer of sour cream on top. This sets up quickly. Repeat three more times. Spread top with sour cream. Let set overnight. This is also good without the sour cream.

Appointed to Pray

Be a Prayer Missionary

Were You There?

by Debbie Mitchell

Were you there

as the mosquito nets dropped over the bed and were tucked securely under the mattresses so all those crawly things wouldn't trouble the children during the night? Did you hear the lecture about putting on their shoes before hitting the floor, or using a flashlight to reveal scorpions lurking in unexpected corners?

Were you there as the children played with snakes just for fun? When lizards were a choice plaything? How about the time an epidemic hit the area and two hours of sleep was a thankful night's rest?

Were you there in Ivory Coast?

Were you there

to be admitted to the hospital after only a few months on the field to find the beds so close you could reach and touch someone—literally? Did you sense the frustration of not being able to ask, "What is this I'm eating?" or to the doctor, "Please tell me about my condition." Nothing anyone said made any sense at all.

Were you there to feel the embarrassment of learning you had answered the phone with "Worms, Worms!" instead of "Hello?"

Were you there in Japan?

Were you there

to experience the aloneness without a mate to offer protection, support and comfort? You well know that God promised to

never leave or forsake you, but did you feel the ache when you yearned to cuddle someone with skin?

Were you there to struggle through language school just to be able to communicate with absolute clarity, "Do you know my Jesus?" and follow through with the plan of salvation?

Were you there in France?

Were you there

as the children were told—again!—to stay off the grass. No playing on the grass. It's against the law, you know!

Did you explore the rubbery taste of octopus just for the sake of identification with the people you had gone to love? Or work all day to prepare a meal from scratch in order to eat dinner by 11 or 12 o'clock that night?

Were you there in Spain?

Personality Profile



Steve and Becky Riggs

est son of Tennessee's promotional director, Raymond Riggs. Becky hails from Michigan. Her pet name for her husband is "Steve-O". She won't tell his for her.

Steve's favorite food is lobster with shrimp sauce. Her favorite, spaghetti, balances their food budget.

Pet peeves: Steve's is dirty washed silverware. Becky can't



abide cracking chewing gum.

Hobbies: Becky cross-stitches while Steve fishes.

They share their sons, Daniel, 5, and Brian, 2, and enjoy France where folks slow down and take time to converse.

These first termers served a year in France before their official appointment in 1983. Part of a team, Steve is charged with the pastoral and music ministry of the fledgling Lorient church.

Steve is the young-

Were you there

to feel the utter helplessness in knowing your critical condition demanded immediate surgery and you would have to come to America? Were you there to share in the departure, wondering if you would ever be able to return?

Were you there to put your child on the plane to leave for college a continent away? Did you feel the warm tears and hear words unable to be uttered?

Were you there in Brazil?

Were you there

as your children had to be guarded by police or military just to be protected from physical harm? Where unborn calf is a delicacy? Were you there when the struggles for a fledgling Bible Institute were so overwhelming that you gave up your own table

and chairs and wished you had more to give?

Were you there in Uruguay?

Were you there

as your account dipped into the red many thousands of dollars due to the devaluation of the dollar? "You may have to come home prematurely to build up your account," the mission board threatens.

How can that be? You panic. I can't leave the work! Oh God, please, not now!

Were you there in Brazil or France or India or Ivory Coast or Japan or Mexico or Panama or Spain or Uruguay or wherever Free Will Baptists have commissioned missionaries to go and tell?

Were you there

to witness the transformation of a lost soul into a new creation in Jesus Christ? To see that one disciplined and taught and trained to become a flaming witness among his own people? Were you there to experience this joy multiplied times over again?

If you prayed,

If you gave,

You were there!

Missionary Prayer Calendar

Missionaries supported by both Foreign and Home Missions departments are listed by their birthdates. Brighten their day with your prayers and cards.

March

- 2 Evelyn Hersey (Japan)
- **5 Willie Booth (OH)
- 7 Patty McCullough (France)
- *11 John McClure (Mexico)
- 13 Vada Lee (IC)
- 14 Allan Crowson (France)
- *15 Lynda Hunt (WA)
- 19 Anita Sparks (Spain)
- **19 Melba Hibbard (CA)
- 20 Trena Owens (Spain)
- **24 James Sasser (MD)
- *25 Howard Gwartney (AZ)
- *26 Tom Hunt (WA)
- 27 Olena McLain (Japan)
- *29 Lois Reagan (Canada)

April

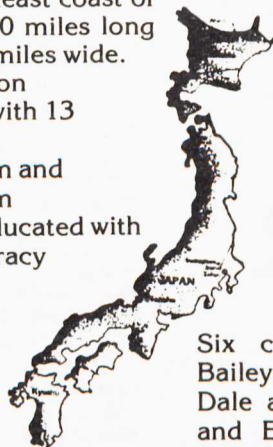
- * 1 Mike Lake (IN)
- 9 Marie Hanna (India)
- 11 Ledgel Ferguson (IC)
- 13 Charolette Tallent (France)
- *18 Miguel Vera (Puerto Rico)
- *24 Tim Coats (SD)
- **27 Angela Dooley (OH)
- 27 Sharon Filkins (IC)
- 27 Marvis Eagleton (Brazil)
- *27 Mike Criswell (OR)
- 28 Neil Gilliland (IC)
- **29 Debbie Jude (WV)

- * Home missionary or church extension pioneer
- ** Joint project worker or deputation missionary

Focus on the Field

Japan, Land of the Rising Sun

- Location** Four main islands off the southeast coast of Asia 1150 miles long and 180 miles wide.
- Population** 120 million
- Capital** Tokoyo with 13 million
- Religions** Buddhism and Shintoism
- People** Highly educated with 99% literacy



Missionaries

Six couples: Ken and Judy Bailey, Jerry and Janice Banks, Dale and Sandra Bishop, Fred and Evelyn Hersey, Don and Ruth McDonald, Jim and Olena McLain. Two singles: Debbie Griffin and Judy Smith. Two associates: Mirial Gainer and Vivian Waller

Missionary Activity

Pastors, counselors to national pastors, English, cooking and children's classes

Debbie Mitchell, Limestone, TN, has been married for the last ten years to one of the finest Christian men she knows. She and Dwight share in their burden for missions.

Debbie teaches grades 2-8 in an elementary reading program, presides over her local and district auxiliary, and serves as field worker for the state convention.

Please Pray:

- ☐ for the deficit Mexico account from which all national workers are paid.
- ☐ for the student missionaries now raising support for their summer ministries.
- ☐ for Debbie Griffin beginning her Japanese language study.
- ☐ that the Pre-Easter Week of Prayer emphases in our auxiliaries will produce renewed interest and challenge for missions.
- ☐ for the Tom Hunts, newly appointed to establish a church in the Tri-Cities areas of Washington D.C.
- ☐ that the internationals on American soil will receive a positive witness for Jesus Christ.
- ☐ for joint project workers: Larry Haggards to Elk City, OK; Earl Hanna to Orangeburg, SC; Terry Mosleys to Tecumseh, MI; and Richard Hendrix to Alabama.
- ☐ for the Clint Morgan family, newly arrived back in Africa for a 4th term. Lynette's health is still fragile.
- ☐ that the Miguel Veras will soon have their own building in Puerto Rico. They have outgrown their rented quonset.
- ☐ for the 200,000 Gypsies in Spain. Less than 3% are Christian.

Study Books

For Your
Mission Study Groups



Second Mile People, Isobel Kuhn
(OMF) 154pp/\$3.50

—Written in the late 1930's but not published until 1982, this book portrays six of those who most influenced Isobel in her youth and her early years as a missionary to China.

A Vision For Missions, Tom Wells
(Banner of Truth Trust) 157pp/\$3.95

—A book written with the primary conviction that a missionary vision must begin with a vision of God. Only then can the Church respond to the command to declare his glory among the nations.

Touching The Untouchables,
Laura Belle Barnard with Georgia Hill
\$6.95

Linda's Song, Genny Waddell \$5.95

Sparks Into Flame, Mary Ruth
Wisehart \$4.95

**I Looked For a Man ... And
Found One**, Lorene Miley \$5.95

Special Groups

Your Best Years, J. Oswald Sanders
(Moody) 132pp/\$5.95

Christian Living

**The Christian's Secret of a Happy
Life** (with introduction and built-in
study guide by Elizabeth Elliott),
Hannah Whitall Smith (Word Books)
172pp/\$5.95

Written in 1875, this classic has been translated in every European language and some Oriental languages, as well as many tribal ones. It has already sold over a million copies in America alone. This new, revised edition should speak to every hungering soul who desires to live a more victorious life.

Sound advice from the book: "For every new book you read, read two old ones. If they're still around, they're good."

**Pray: How To Be Effective In
Prayer**, Warren Myers w/Ruth Myers
(Navpress) 171pp/\$5.95

A book with a missionary flavor since the author represented the Navigators in the Far East for almost two decades. He applies fundamental principles for an exciting and growing prayer life.

**The Hour That Changes The
World**, Dick Eastman
(Baker Book House) 174pp/\$2.50

Evangelism For Our Generation,
Jim Petersen
(Navpress) 214pp/\$5.95

Subtitled: **The Practical Way To
Make Evangelism Your Lifestyle**,
it is a sequel to **Evangelism as a
Lifestyle**. It deals with how to lead people to Jesus when traditional methods of evangelism seem to fail.

A step-by-step inductive study of the gospel of John is included to be used with a friend or a group.

order blank

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name

address

Bill: _____

title quantity price

Order form: WNAC, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202

Add 35¢ the first dollar and 20¢ for each additional dollar. NC residents add 5% sales tax.

30 CO-LABORER / MARCH-APRIL 1987

Letters

From our Missionaries

Since coming to Japan, I've discovered how really special our ladies are. I've always been proud to be a Free Will Baptist, but especially now. We have a great group of women. Thanks!

Ken and Judy Bailey, Japan

We are back in Spain in the Middle of a spiritual battle. This is Satan's territory and he will not let go without a struggle. We need your continual prayer support.

Jeff and Susan Turnbough, Spain

Tomorrow we go to the Bishops ... their baby has had measles and had to be taken to the doctor for three days for IVs because she wouldn't eat or drink.

Olena McLain, Japan

Water has entered our kitchen twice with nearly six inches on the floor. Both times Stan has been gone, but God provided someone to help. It's a lot of work, but we're a healthy bunch!

Stan and Brenda Bunch, Panama

This time last year we had 200 students enrolled in our Bible study course. We now have over 400. Their letters of conversions and Christian growth keep us reminded that the time, expense and hard work are worth it all.

Jim and Shirley Combs, Brazil

New Eyes for the Needy

We deeply appreciate your gift which enables us to help the visually handicapped. In addition to eyeglasses, we solicit donations of precious metal scrap: jewelry, silverware and dentures with gold or silver.

New Eyes for the Needy, Inc.
549 Milburn Avenue
P. O. Box 332
Short Hills, NY 07078

New Auxillary

We've just organized a Woman's Auxillary. We're so excited! This new ad-

venture has created more enthusiasm than ever thought possible.

Sue Plymon
Ethelsville, AL

New Magazine

The long-awaited has arrived and done so admirably! Co-Laborer, beginning with the cover, is very attractive. Inside it is just what is desired, I believe, and that is information for WNAC officers and members and all others who desire to know what Free Will Baptist women are doing.

All you who labored to produce such a lovely magazine are to be highly commended. Just remember that "she who does God's work gets God's pay." It may not be as you and I would put it, but it will be paid in God's own way and time.

Mrs. Agnes Frazier

Nashville, TN

Ed. Note: Mrs. Frazier paved the way for WNAC Journalism. She wrote the first *Manual* and helped with the first books of programs. We eagerly awaited her reaction and value her comments more than we could express.

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Words For Women

Mary R. Wischart



How Blue Is Your Sky?

Blue, blue sky, punctuated by fluffy white clouds, screened with delicate pink blossoms.

I saw the sky that way in the spring, looking up through the peach trees blooming in my grandfather's orchard. I always wondered, "Does the sky look such a deep blue because of those pink blossoms, or is it really a deeper blue in the spring?" I never knew the answer.

I have learned since, however, that the depth of the blue may depend on what you see it through.

How was your day today? Gray, full of problems, filled with confusion and dismay? Wait a minute, did you try looking at the circumstances through the pink blossoms of spring?

No pink blossoms in your orchard? Oh, come, now. In one of Amy Carmichael's books, she asks of one who is fretting, "Had you no spot of joy in your day? Not even a baby's smile? Not even a cup of hot tea?"

Perhaps a cup of hot tea is not one of your delights. Still, think about your day. Have you let some spots of joy go unnoticed?

Spring itself thrusts upon us the pink blossoms of God's love. Hear the cardinal's cheery question about spring, "What's here?" Sniff that lilac perfume. Watch the buds on the tulip tree swell. A quick April shower followed by a rainbow joins the other signs of spring singing on tiptoe, "God loves you."

The every day sounds, the feels, smells and tastes of home may be your spots of joy today. Just watch for them! Hear the tinkling sound of a child's laughter. Feel those fresh clean sheets on the bed. Listen to a friendly voice on the phone. Share that hot tea with a neighbor. Rejoice in those spots of joy, free for your taking, blessings of God's love.

That love is always there, steady and sure. How deep is the blue of your sky? Try looking at it through the pink blossoms of God's love.

Eunice Edwards Loan Fund



5 year goal
\$50,000

Amount Received
\$1239.55

God's Wonder's

for tomorrow

**WNAC's
Pre-Easter Week of Prayer
for Foreign Missions**

April 16-22, 1987

Please send your Laura Belle Barnard Sacrificial offering through the normal channels—the local sends to the district, district to the state, state to the national, and national sends to where designated.

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