

CO



LABORER

March
April
1992

A Free Will Baptist Magazine for Women

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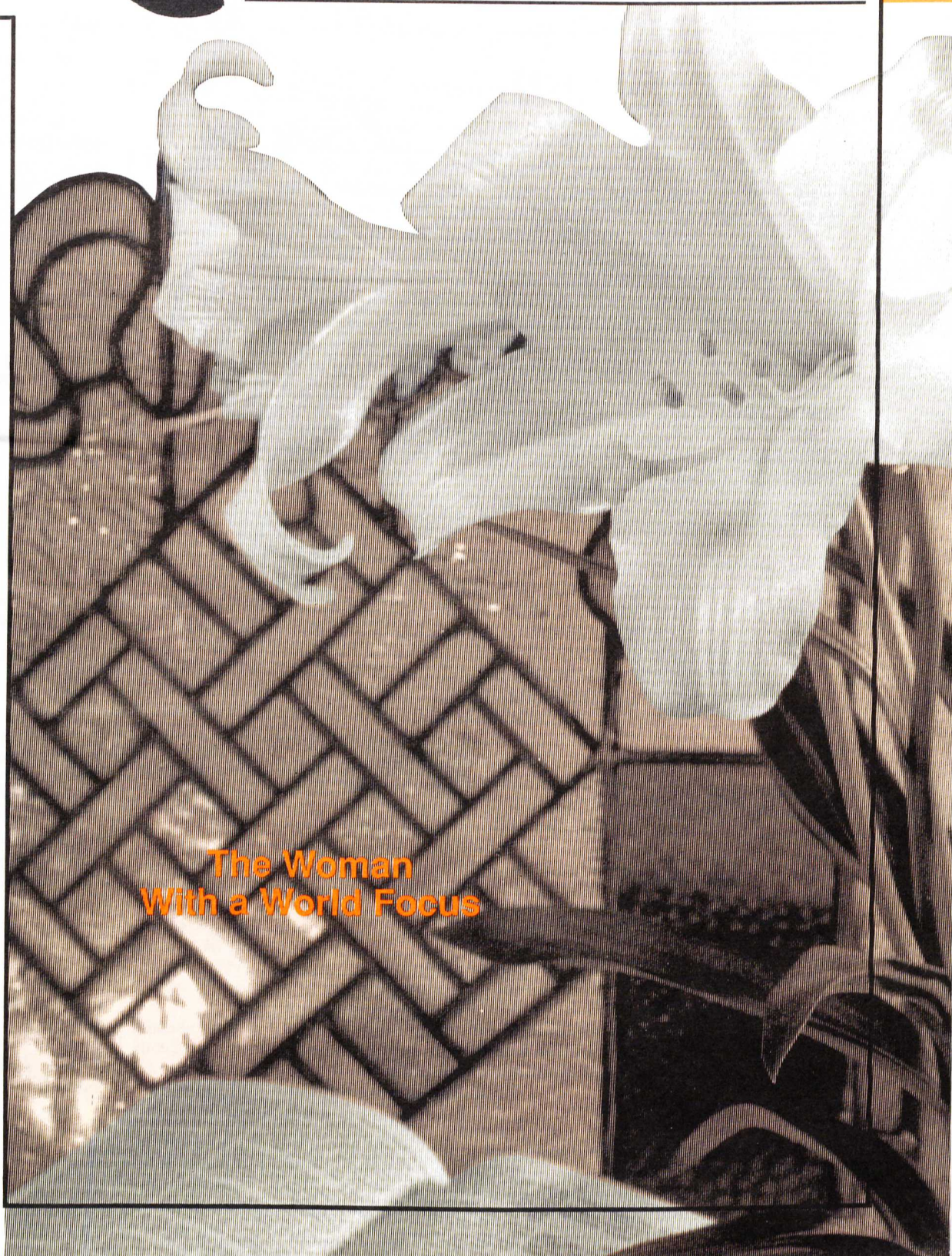
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NATIONAL RETREAT

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**The Woman
With a World Focus**



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a publication of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention
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(I COR. 3:9)

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Meet Our Writers



*Lee Ann Wilfong
Desloge, Missouri*

Lee Ann, a deacon's wife, is a full-time wife and mother married to Vernon, a carpenter. They have two daughters, Tracey, 4, and Meagan, 5. They attend the Leadington FWB Church where she teaches Sunday school

and helps wherever needed.

Lee Ann enjoys writing and is a frequent winner in WNAC's creative arts contest. She also enjoys reading, sewing and cake decorating.



*Eunice Edwards
Desloge, Missouri*

WNAC's first full-time executive secretary-treasurer lives her retirement years in her own home. Her 4 children and their families are in traveling distance.

Mrs. Edwards served during WNAC's hard years. Singlehandedly she did the writing, editing, traveling, bookkeeping, mailing and sometimes the printing.

Poor health now prohibits Mrs. Edwards from speaking to our women's groups as she once did, but her influence lives on through her ready pen.



*Debbie Mitchell
Limestone, TN*

Debbie and her husband, Dwight, an insurance representative, are active in the Limestone FWB Church.

Asked about her hobbies, Debbie replied, "I guess my love and burden for missions, and the fact that

I want to be a good friend and listener takes the place of a hobby." For this reason, Debbie is involved in Auxiliary work, from the local level on to the state.

Debbie teaches remedial reading in the public school system for grades 2-8.

Editorial

The Auxiliary woman has a world focus. For what other reason would a church have a Woman's Auxiliary? I recently asked an Auxiliary president (who did not subscribe to CO-LABORER) how WNAC could help their women. Her answer stabbed my heart with pain. I still feel the ache. "I may be wrong," she answered, "but we don't care very much about missions."

I've suspected some felt that way, but this was the first time anyone expressed it so unashamedly. Ladies, missions is our reason for existence. Without it we are only a social club and who has time for that?

So what is the Woman's Auxiliary? Let's look at some images that may describe our reason for being. The Auxiliary is just that—an auxiliary to the church. It's like an umbrella providing opportunities for Christian service and projects, both at home and abroad. The Auxiliary is like a platform under which the thinking of our women is molded. We want to help develop godly, holy women, women of prayer, who place God first and live lives separated from sin. Faithful wives, loyal church members, exemplary mothers and homemakers. Women who are concerned about lost people and who make an effort to bring them in. And—women with a world focus.

In a sense, the Auxiliary is like a switching station through which these goals are transferred to the tracks of the individual members. Regular and special meetings, projects and CO-LABORER magazine are the means used. The oil of the Holy Spirit keeps the tracks in smooth working order.

Missions was so important to God that He sent His only begotten Son to die for the sins of the world. Ladies, let's concern ourselves with the things that concern the heart of God.

—Lorene Miley

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A Woman God is Using

God is using Kim Zeiglen as an affiliate missionary in Germany. In addition to teaching in a school operated by the Department of Defense, she is helping the Dennis Heath family establish a new church.

Missions early struck a responsive chord in this young girl's heart. Foreign Missions Fellowship, a campus organization, nurtured it. One eventful summer Kim served as student missionary with the Heaths in Germany and the die was cast. God used this experience to channel her call to this needy land. Immediately upon her graduation, she prepared to take up her new assignment.

As time for her departure drew near, doors began slamming in her face. She received neither the required teaching position or even a flight out.

"Okay, Lord," she finally conceded. "I'm willing to do whatever you want me to do, even if it means not going to Germany." The very next day Mr. Heath called. She had a job! Her mother called the airlines. She had a flight! She was on her way!

Kim, oldest of four children, is a product of a Christian home, First FWB Church, and the Grace Baptist School, Jacksonville, North Carolina. Name a sport and she's probably played it. Her parents treasure the picture of their fourth grader playing football with the guys in her black patent shoes.

Kim asked Jesus into her life at an early age, but it was not until tenth grade that she nailed it down. Her coach, sensitive to the spiritual condition of his players, led her to commit her life completely to the One who had died for her. That day she decided to follow Jesus, and "no turning back, no turning back."

Kim's word is her bond. She does what she says. This is probably her most outstanding characteristic.

Faculty and student body chose Kim, a physical education major, as the Best All Around Girl from the 1991 graduation class of the Free Will Baptist Bible College. She was also included among the Who's Who among college students based on academic powers, community service and involvement in extracurricular activities.

WNAC salutes this young woman God is using in Germany.





by Eunice Edwards

Aim: to show that God's plan of world evangelization is like a great symphony in which each believer has a part; to review some great missionary hymns of the church.

Scripture: Matt. 28:19, 20
Hymn: "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" (second stanza)

*"Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before
the Lord our Maker"*

Introduction

References to music abound in Scripture, beginning with Jubal in Genesis and ending with the song of the redeemed in Revelation.

The songs of David, Asaph and Solomon, Mary's magnificat, and Miriam and Deborah's psalms of victory all demonstrate the power of music. Music characterized the early church. It expressed their moods of gladness, tragedy, trials and victories. A mass sanctuary choir is pictured in 1 Chronicles 25 with 288 members divided into 24 sections. Cymbals, psalteries and harps provided the accompaniment.

It's no wonder then that music describes God's plan of the ages. His great symphony includes a bar of music in every part represented with every musical instrument and note. He even inserts rests! We call this symphony The Music of Mis-

sions and it represents all mankind, beginning at Jerusalem and extending to the uttermost part of the earth.

This Song for the Nations is composed of a quartet of voices. Just as musical groups harmonize soprano, alto, tenor and bass voices, God blends evangelism, youth, prayer and stewardship. Let's see how His song may be sung through us.

Evangelism



The Music of our Message (John 3:16; Mark 16:16)

Both skilled musicians as well as novices composed the 288 voice choir in 1 Chronicles 25: "...the small as the great, the teacher as the scholar" (v. 8). They chose Chenaniah to teach them "because he was skillful" (chapter 15).

God reserves a place for all believers in His symphony. He gives us the song to sing (the gospel), then indwells us with His Holy Spirit who teaches us how to sing it.

A lost world cries out for our song. Let's sing of the Light that replaces their darkness. Let's sing of the One who gives joy for sorrow. Peace for unrest. Love for hate. Life for death. How can we be silent when it means so much?

When we call Him Lord it prompts us to render a love-prompted service. And we sing as we serve.

May I remind you that it still takes four to lead a soul to Christ?—the love of the Father, the sacrificial death of the Son, the work of the Holy Spirit, and the prayers of Christians (Mark 2:2-12). Obedience to His lordship opens the windows of blessings in our lives.

Devoted obedience is all God asks, but He does ask that.

Music: "Send the Light" (verse 1)

Youth



A Song of Joy to the Nations (John 20:21)

Music is vital to any youth program. They love to sing and readily respond to messages in song. Let's teach them the Music of Missions before their ears become attuned to the music of the world.

At no time in their lives are children more eager to learn. Relate missions to their geography lessons. They are sensitive to the needs of others; show them a world dying without Christ. Their minds are sharp; challenge them to memorize Scriptures pointing to the claims of Christ. The music of missions becomes relevant as they surrender their lives to do God's will, be it at home or abroad.

The clear soprano of youth echoes their song of joy to the nations: "I am the resurrection, and

the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live" (John 11:25).

Are you burdened for the white harvest fields in your Sunday school and CTS? God honors real burdens. Those eager boys and girls before you now are our future missionaries. If we don't reach them today, we won't have any for tomorrow.

Music: "So Send I You"

Prayer



Till the Whole World Sings

(John 4:35; Matt. 9:37, 38)

"Prayer pulls the ropes below and the great bell rings above in the ears of God. Some scarcely stir the bell for they pray so languidly. Others give but an occasional pluck at the rope. But he who wins with heaven is the man who grasps the rope boldly and pulls continuously with all his might," says Charles Haddon Spurgeon.

Those who play in God's Symphony of Missions are women of prayer. They claim God's promises for their community and the world. They live with eternity's values in view. They are willing to invest themselves because they have experienced God's power in prayer.

A bass voice rarely takes the lead in a composition, but its deep resonance brings harmony to the whole. So is prayer. Continuous, daily intercessory prayer for missions is central to the Christian life.

Hungering and thirsting after righteousness carries with it the idea of sacrifice. A sacrifice of personal time in prayer brings great rewards, now and always.

Music: "The Call For Reapers"

Stewardship



Listen to the Heartbeat

(Ps. 24:1; 50:10; Haggai 2:8)

Missions waits on stewardship and stewardship waits on you and me.

The New Testament makes it clear that believers are not owners; they are owned. Since we belong to God, all that we have is His. We are not owners; we are trustees.

Many of our missionary accounts are in the red, or nearly so. This fact is a blemish on the stewardship of every Christian. To know Jesus is to want the whole world to know Him. And we must support those who go to tell them.

Program Helps

1. Assign the various topics to members of a quartet. They take turns giving the topics and singing the hymns. Ask members to join in on the chorus.

2. Dramatize the program. Title it "Sing us a Song of Missions." Dress women to represent some of our mission fields of the world. Four other women will be dressed in modern clothing. Use appropriate background music.

The women enter the auditorium from the back as if going to Auxiliary. They discuss the pre-Easter program as they walk. They reach the stage and begin to prepare the room. They freeze as the country representatives enter one by one and address their speeches to the women. Auxiliary women remain motionless, unseeing.

Plan the parts something like this. For example, from Africa:

They call us the dark continent and so we are. Toil, pain, labor, sorrow—these I have known. Now with my companions we wait for death. What else is there to wait for? The shadows of yesterday, the spirits of today, the fears of tomorrow are all our lot. Is there hope? Won't you sing us a song of Missions?

Each part should close with this last sentence.

Country representatives step to the side as the Auxiliary women discuss the program, "The Music of Missions." At the end, they cry together with outstretched hands, "Sing us a song of Missions." Members go to them, singing, "Jesus Saves."

Paul gave us a great financial plan in 1 Corinthians 16:2—regular giving, personal, deliberate, faithful, generous and consecrated. God promises to bless such giving and "there hath not failed one word of His good promise."

Please be reminded that no human being can ever give as much as God gave in the person of His Son. And "unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required" (Luke 12:48).

What is that in your hand?

Music: "To The Regions Beyond" (third stanza)

*"Let them ever sing for joy...
that those who love
Thy name may exult in Thee"*

Conclusion

The Music of Missions. The opening bars of His plan echoed through the ages like an operatic harmonization. His last command sounds a marching order for all believers: "Go ye...make disciples."

Revelation 5 describes a future scene laid in heaven when the 144,000 redeemed sing their new song. Their adoration, praise and thanksgiving accompanied by paeans of music reached John's ears hereon earth in a vision and he declared, "I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps."

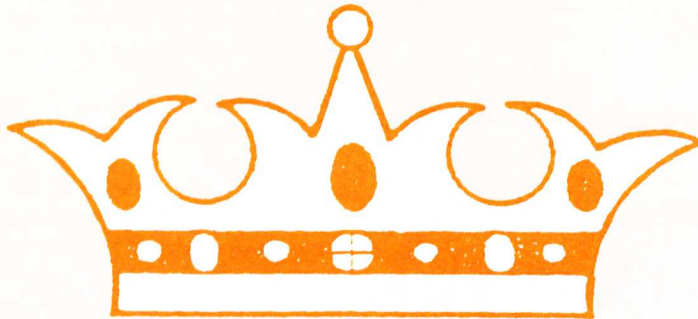
This glorious chorus of voices—"ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands"—is composed of those redeemed "out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation" (v. 9). The church at last celebrates her complete redemption. She has vanquished all her foes.

When Gabriel raises his baton to lead in this song of redemption, I plan to be present. Will you?

Music: "O Zion, Haste"



The blight of our age is materialism, or the desire for things. This play challenges women to examine their priorities and focus on those things which cannot be taken away.



HOLD FAST THE CROWN

by Joseph Jones
adapted for women
by Mary Ruth Wisehart

GOD'S MESSENGER: (*speaks from offstage*) Behold, I come quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. Behold, I am coming as a thief. Blessed is he who watches, and keeps his garments, lest he walk naked and they see his shame. Lay not up for yourself treasures on earth where moth and rust doth corrupt and where thieves break through and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.

SCENE 1—*In a department store two women are fighting over a photograph album.*

WOMAN 1: It's mine!

WOMAN 2: No! It's mine.

WOMAN 1: I saw it first.

WOMAN 2: You did not. I did.

WOMAN 1: Let go.

WOMAN 2: No. YOU let go.

(*book falls to floor*)

WOMAN 1: You can have it. I didn't really want it.

WOMAN 2: It's yours. I have one just like it at home anyway. I just thought it was a good buy.

GOD'S MESSENGER: Hold fast to the crown I have given you.

WOMAN 3: I'm looking for a car.

WOMAN 4: What? Another car. You already have three in the family.

WOMAN 3: I know, but Harry takes the Lincoln. Gina always wants the Thunderbird, and I'm stuck with the van.

WOMAN 4: What's wrong with the van?

WOMAN 3: I'm tired of driving that land barge. I want a car of my own.

WOMAN 4: Well, so what are we looking for?

WOMAN 3: Nothing too extravagant. Maybe a Mercedes or a BMW. I just want my own car.

WOMAN 4: Come on, let's go. I'm sure we can find what you want.

GOD'S MESSENGER: Hold fast to the crown I have given you.

WOMAN 1: You know, My husband promised me when we were married that one day he would get me a new home. Well! I'm finally getting it. And it is beautiful. Just what I have always wanted—Oh! We had to skimp and save for 25 years, but it's worth it.

GOD'S MESSENGER: What about the crown I have given you.

WOMAN 2: You know, we had to put out a lot on the kids and were not able to have all that we wanted. But now they are gone, and we'll be able to buy all the new furniture and beautiful accessories I want. I'm finally getting what I always dreamed of.

GOD'S MESSENGER: Hold fast to the crown I have given you.

WOMAN 3: Would you believe that dad and I have been able to save a tidy little nest egg? We didn't have much education, but we managed to put aside enough to live comfortably for the rest of our lives. Dad's got him a boat and now we're looking for a new 26 foot RV. I've already picked it out. Wow, it is nice.

GOD'S MESSENGER: What about the crown I have given you?

WOMAN 3: Dad and I are going to travel and see something of the the old USA. We can have about anything we want now.

GOD'S MESSENGER: Hold fast to the crown I have given you.

WOMAN 1: Our friends are always trying to get us to take a vacation. We just couldn't see leaving our house and things alone. I mean. . . one never knows these days. What if some one should break in and take my sterling silver? Or my antiques?

GOD'S MESSENGER: What about the crown I have given you?

WOMAN 1: Oh, no, I don't want anything to happen to my things.

WOMAN 3: Look, Mother, this dress looks just right for Misti. She loves beautiful clothes.

WOMAN 4: Takes after her mother, doesn't she?

WOMAN 3: Sometimes Dan grumbles about the money I spend on Misti, but I'm going to see that she has whatever she wants.

WOMAN 4: I know just how you feel. I don't want Misti to have do without like I did. Are you thinking of this dress for the beauty pageant?

WOMAN 3: Wouldn't it be just right? You know some people say they don't like their girls competing in the beauty contest, but I think they're just jealous.

WOMAN 4: Sure they are. Think what it's done for our Misti.

WOMAN 3: Just look how much lovelier.

WOMAN 4: And more poised and graceful too. How much is that dress?

WOMAN 3: It's \$850. Dan will fuss. Do I dare?

WOMAN 4: Never mind, honey. I'll pay for half of it, and you tell him it was only \$425. Misti must have the dress.

GOD'S MESSENGER: What about the crown I have given you?

WOMAN 1: We're going to the mountains this weekend.

WOMAN 2: I just can't visit mama today. I've got a luncheon date with Sue.

WOMAN 3: Reach out to that woman? Why should I? She's not my type.

WOMAN 1: They want me to have the visiting evangelist for a meal. Well, I said no. I'm tired of cooking for preachers.

WOMAN 4: I'm not going to church tonight. Another missionary speaker. I can't take another slide program. And they're always asking for money.

GOD'S MESSENGER: What about the crown I have given you?

ALL SAYING THE DIFFERENT LINES.

#1: Look at all my things.

#2: I want this.
And this.

#3: I've got to have that car.

#4: I want a new house.

#1: I want some pretty clothes.

#2: I need this.

#3: I want this.

#4: I must have this.

ALL: These are our things. Our things.

GOD'S MESSENGER: Behold, I come quickly! Hold fast what you have, that no one may take your crown. The time is now. Our Lord has come!

ALL: What about our things? May we bring our things?

GOD'S MESSENGER: You must come empty handed, except for your crowns to cast at His feet.

ALL: My crown. I forgot about it.

#4: I haven't thought about my crown in a long time.

#3: I got involved in day to day living.

#2: I had to take care of my things.

#1: Where is my crown?

#2: Something has taken my crown.

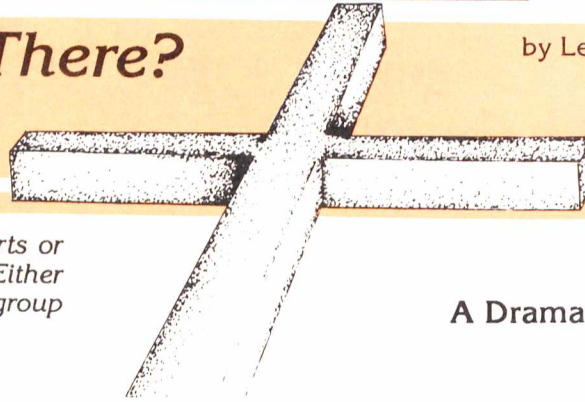
#3: I'm naked before Him.

ALL: Our crowns, our crowns.



Were You There?

by Lee Ann Wilfong



One person may give all parts or assign four women a topic. Either a choir, soloist or a musical group may sing the hymn.

A Dramatic Easter Presentation

MUSIC: First verse of "Were You There?" (*Rejoice*, p. 163)

SPEAKER #1: (*speaks in a harsh, dramatic tone*)

Had you been there when they crucified my Lord, you would be jostled by a sinful, hostile crowd. You would weep as angry soldiers persecute and beat the One who taught only love and peace and forgiveness.

You would wince in pain as the leather thong lashes across our Lord's wounded back and the thorns pierce deeper into his bleeding brow.

You would smart with anger as the jealous Pharisees hurl false accusations and scream insults at the Son of God...

If you had been there when they crucified my Lord.

MUSIC: Second verse of "Were You There?"

SPEAKER 2: (*speaks in a painful, distressed tone*)

Had you been when they nailed Him to the tree, you would see a grief-stricken mother look on as her special firstborn Son groaned, "Woman, behold thy Son."

And to John, "Behold thy mother." You would witness the epitome of forgiveness as Jesus prays for those who inflict on Him untold torment, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."

You would hear our Lord's final words as His last breath left his body. He had completed the Father's plan devised before the

foundation of the world and could now declare, "It is finished..."

If you had been there when they nailed Him to the tree.

MUSIC: Third verse of "Were You There?"

SPEAKER #3: (*speaks in a discouraged, hopeless tone*)

If you had been there when they laid Him in the tomb, you would marvel at the huge stone rolled before the entrance; and the rough soldiers left to guard His grave.

You, along with His other followers, would sink to the depths of despair with an emptiness so vast that no vocabulary could describe it.

You would be overcome with the weight of your loss. Your Lord, the One you had loved and trusted

and pinned all your hopes on, was gone forever...

If you had been there when they laid Him in the tomb.

MUSIC: Fourth verse of "Were You There?"

SPEAKER #4: (*speaks in an excited, joyful tone*)

Had you been there when He rose up from the grave, you would feel the shaking of the earth as the angel came and hurled the great rock from the grave opening.

You would sense the tremendous surge of power as Jesus rose triumphant from the bowels of sin and death.

You would slip inside the grave—you had to see—only to find nothing but the discarded shroud of our Lord.

And had you listened closely, you probably would have heard the Hallelujah chorus echoing from the portals of heaven—He's alive! He's alive!

MUSIC: The chorus of "He Arose."

ALL SPEAKERS (*in unison*)

Praise the Lord!
Praise ye the Lord from the heavens:
Praise Him in the heights!
Praise Him sun, moon and stars!
The Lord liveth and blessed be the Rock
And let the God of my salvation
Be exalted.
Let everything that hath breath
Praise the Lord!

They Led Him Away

They led Him away to sorrow,
They led Him away to shame;
They led Him away to the top of the hill
To hang there and take my blame.

They led Him away in hatred,
They led Him away in pride;
They led Him away in ignorance and sin
And there He was crucified.

They led Him away outside the wall,
For none believe in His story;
But little they knew when they led Him away—
That they led Him away to Glory.
—Judy Parkman

One Sunday morning our pastor announced we would receive a missionary offering that evening for our son who was going to Panama as a student missionary. "This offering should be above your tithes," he stressed.

My sister loved this nephew very much and wanted so much to share in the offering. But her husband had been sick and unable to work for a long time. They had nothing to give above their tithes and regular offerings.

"Oh, I wish I had something to give to that special missionary account," she confessed. But she

The Surprise

Missionary Offering

by Ella Griffith

knew and I knew they had nothing left.

That afternoon she went with my husband and me to help conduct a worship service at a nursing home. The road took us across a narrow two-lane bridge without even a walkway for pedestrians.

A slight breeze arose as we crossed the bridge and something flew up from the ground and hovered above the hood of the car. It fluttered for a moment before falling to the other side of the car.

"Did you see that leaf?" asked my husband.

"Yes, it was a leaf," I answered, as if to convince myself.

"No, that was money," declared my sister.

"It could be play money," I countered.

By this time we had traveled a short distance from the bridge. "Please, Jerry," my sister asked. "Would you stop the car and walk back and get that money?"

He did as she asked although he thought it totally useless.

We watched as he stooped and picked up something. He looked all around but the area was deserted. He returned to the car and handed the "leaf" to my sister.

That evening when the missionary offering was received, a more joyful giver could not have been found anywhere than my sister who placed her all—a five-dollar bill—into the offering plate.

Mrs. Griffith is a pastor's wife from McArthur, Ohio.

ACTIONETTES

Actionettes! We're trying to find out where you are and what you are doing. Send us reports of your activities and projects—with pictures.

Let's get together!

Garner Actionettes **Garner,** **North Carolina**

- ☐ Jamie Bullman and Barbara Fishel lead this very active group.
- ☐ Ten members, ages 10 to 16
- ☐ Monthly meetings following the Sunday morning service. Parents either provide the lunch, they bring a bag lunch, or go on a picnic.
- ☐ Afternoons consist of a program, crafts, and special projects.
- ☐ Some recent projects: They sent medicine bottles to Cote d'Ivoire.

Sent gifts to MK's

Presented the Mother-Daughter banquet program



Leslie Pope and Teresa Lee pin corsages on dads on Father's Day.

News from The National Office

Communicator ...

by Mary Ruth Wisehart

Tour WNAC's Office Suite

WNAC's office staff thinks its suite is the most attractive one in the National Offices Building.

Step through the front door, and you'll see our sign hanging in the hallway. You can see through the miniblinds into the reception area.



Yvonne Wolfenbarger, executive assistant, will greet you at the work station just inside the door.

Rest for a moment in one of the wing chairs, or take a look at the curio cabinet filled with mementos from state conventions or from missionaries.

Straight ahead is the executive secretary's office. Someone in here likes shells.





The Conference Room also serves as the library for the staff. Need a historical fact? You may find it in some of the bound volumes. The staff meets here for the prayer hour. The executive and study committees also use this room.



Lorene Miley, editor, spends a lot of time with the computer. She has brought her own personal computer to work. Some day she hopes to have one for the office with software to typeset the magazine so that we can have it camera ready for the printer.



Bookkeeping is Sue Hayes' work. She is planning to get it all computerized in 1992. The program is here and the auditor will help with setting it up in the Peachtree software.

Across the hall is our workroom with the light table, copier and files. We enjoy coming here instead of having to go into someone's office to use this equipment.

Now for the storage area and Provision Closet. They are close to our office suite, and that is an advantage for us. Some of the Provision Closet funds have helped to provide shelving and storage boxes to make the Closet more uniform and easier to use.



Gifts to the Furniture Fund

These states have notified WNAC that they plan to give the following amounts on furniture for the offices.

Kansas	\$ 700
North Carolina	1,500
Ohio	1,500
Tennessee	1,500
Other	3,646
Total	\$8,846

Through November 22, a total of \$6,474.37 came in for furniture.

Alabama	\$ 1.00
California	717.00
Florida	153.00
Hawaii	125.00
Indiana	100.00
Kansas	67.80
Kentucky	25.00
Maryland	305.00
Michigan	500.00
Missouri	90.00
North Carolina	1,256.09
Ohio	56.07
Oklahoma	25.00
Tennessee	100.00
Virginia	25.00
Other	\$ 2,928.41

The cost for WNAC's furniture is \$14,049.50. About one half of that has come in. Counting the amount that has come in and the amount still due on pledges, we lack \$3,137.50 having the furniture covered.

Special thanks to those who have contributed. If you wish to make a contribution to the furniture, just mark it "New Building." When the furniture is covered, any funds over that cost will be applied to the loan on the building.

State of the Endowment Fund

This Endowment Fund is deposited in the Free Will Baptist Foundation. The principal will not be touched, but WNAC receives the interest for use in the general fund.

The following states have contributed to the Endowment Fund.

California	\$150.00
Indiana	100.00
Tennessee	332.57
Total	\$582.57

This fund offers an opportunity for a woman to give a gift that will continue after her life time.

Think about it. Have you considered remembering WNAC with an insurance policy or mentioned WNAC in your will?



Invite the World into Your Home

Practical ways to foster a global vision

by Noel Piper

The world came early into my life. On rainy days my mother let us dig through attic baskets filled with mementos of her college summer in Mexico. My parents' table and guest bed were open to visitors from many places. Our mailbox saw many exotic stamps. On the back wall of our "vacation" church was a huge world map. My father told us stories of his days as ship's doctor on a Navy tanker, docking off Saudi Arabia, Burma, Japan, and other ports of call.

These experiences helped foster in me an awareness that God's world is much wider than my experience. I want to instill that same awareness in my children.

A "world Christian" sees beyond his neighborhood friends, his school, his everyday life and experiences. He will be fascinated by the variety of people and customs next door and all over God's wide world. But that will happen only if our children are exposed to a broader world. Here are a few ideas.

First, read. Read *National Geographic*. Check out library books

about countries where friends are or where your special interests lie. Find books and stories about different regions of the United States. If you live in the city, read books with rural or small town settings, and if you live in the country, read about the city. Together, read aloud missionary biographies or other stories with foreign settings.

Set aside a shelf for these books so they are readily accessible. In addition to books, have a globe in the living room, handy for reference, and hang a world map in the hall.

Pray with your children. Read together the *Global Prayer Digest*, published by the U.S. Center for World Mission in Pasadena, California. Each day's entry has a prayer for an unreached people. You might also use your denomination's missionary prayer guide. (These are free upon request from both Home and Foreign Missions Offices, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002.) As you pray for these people your thoughts will focus on different parts of the world. And as your children hear you praying for God's will to be

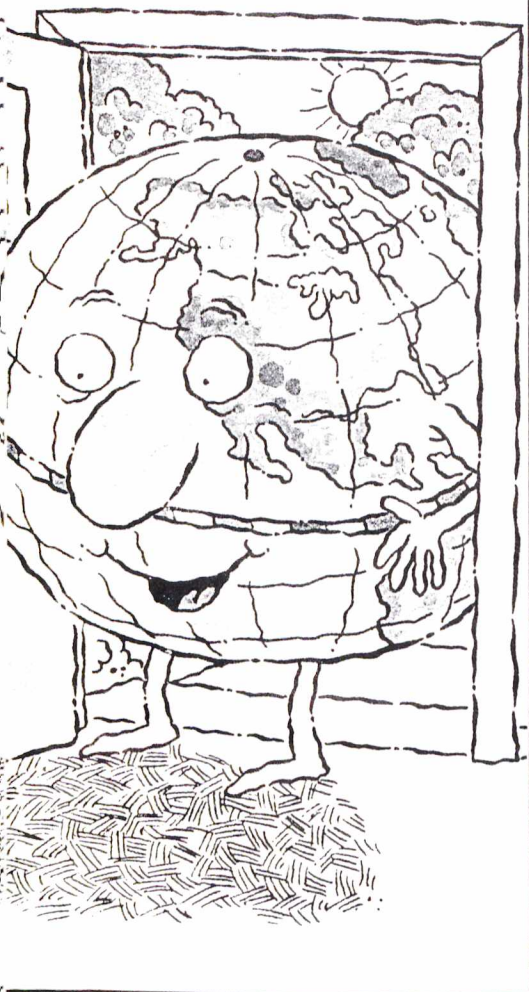


done in the world, this will shape their desires and their prayers.

Talk with your children about the world. Discuss news broadcasts or articles about countries of special interest. Include the children in conversations with missionaries, world travelers, foreign students, and immigrants to this country.

Attend travelogue evenings at your local library. The library is also a good source for tapes or records with songs in foreign languages. Let your children hear you try out that language you studied years ago.

In other words, help your children understand that the U.S. is not the only country God made.



English is not the only language, and the "American way" is not necessarily the best way.

We purposely foster the assumption that many people are different from us. We live in a city neighborhood, which helps. Our children play with children from welfare families and with others who attend private schools. One best friend is Vietnamese; another is half-Thai.

Our children learn other lessons when we share our lives with other people. The boys' world is broadened when the doorbell rings at 2 A.M. and an intoxicated acquaintance wants a ride home; when we invite a lonely man home for Sun-

day lunch; when we sponsor a refugee family; when a foreign student spends his Christmas vacation in our home.

Our sons realize that not all people in the world know Jesus. Therefore, we want to foster in our children a sense of missions as a career possibility just like any other. Missionaries are in and out of our house just as our other friends are. The more contact our children have with them, the less the missionary calling will seem like an unreachable ideal. Give your children the chance to reason that if friends of the family are involved in missions, maybe one day they will be, too.

Children love to get mail. Read letters from missionaries as personal messages. Put missionary photos on the bulletin board alongside other friends' pictures. And mark the locations of friends on the map—places like Detroit, Houston, Sweden, Cameroon. Your child will grow up knowing some friends live faraway in Georgia; some live far away in Liberia. It's all in the same world—and who knows where I might live when I grow up!

If you have friends who are missionaries, join them at the airport when they leave. When you gather in a circle for one last song and prayer together, you leave your older child with a sense of the importance of aligning himself with God's purpose in the world. A younger child will grasp, at least, that it's great fun to go to the airport, and this must be something special because we don't usually sing and cry at the airport.

David Howard, of World Evangelical Fellowship, told us once that his mother used to pray for missionaries to be raised up. Then God moved in her. Would she pray for her own children to be missionaries? Mrs. Howard saw that she must, and the result is an amazing family of God's workers.

We, too, try to nourish the longings God has planted in our children's hearts. Our 11-year-old son, Benjamin, has assumed for three years that he will move to

China someday. He will hardly read English, unless driven to it, but he had arranged for weekly Mandarin lessons from a friend. When he's due for a special treat, we choose something Chinese—a map, tour books, a folder to keep his Chinese items in. Chopsticks and Oriental food often are on our table.

We dream aloud with him: "What might you be in China? A journalist? An engineer? An English teacher?" I've begun a diary entitled, "Benjamin's China Journal," in which I record all the signs of his growing interest.

Only God knows if China is in Ben's future. But I know that, wherever God puts him, this present longing and interest will strongly affect Ben's outlook.

Do these efforts really work? Ultimately, God will decide that. But it does seem to be working in our family, as with Benjamin's plans. And if you ask Barnabas, our four-year-old, about his future, he'll tell you he's going to China with Ben—his hero.

When Abraham (now seven years old) was four, a couple he had never met before was moved to tears when he said, "I know you. You're the Esplands from the Philippines." He knew them through our family prayers and because he loved to leaf through the pictorial denominational prayer guide.

Karsten, who is 14, spent two months last year in the Dominican Republic helping to construct a church building. This past summer he was part of an evangelistic team in Hong Kong.

I heard Ralph Winter, founder of the U.S. Center for World Mission, say that 80 percent of today's missionaries caught the vision when they were children. It may also be true to say that most of today's world Christians began to "see" the world when they were young. We can help open our children's eyes.

This article first appeared in Partnership in 1987.

Titus Chapter 3

REVIEW: In the four previous studies of this brief epistle, Paul expounded on the twin subjects of "sound doctrine" and "good works." First, however, he urged Titus to stress the necessity of living blameless lives (1:6-8). This basic lifestyle will then give credence to the teaching of sound doctrine (1:9) and should, in turn, be evidenced by good works (2:7). An omission of or weakness in any area is a detriment to the cause of Christ. However, the failure of a servant to live a blameless life, open to scrutiny, will give rise to mistrust and suspicion regardless of the soundness of the doctrine taught or the scope of good works done for the Lord.

Recent media coverage of the moral decline and excessive lifestyles of world famous ministers has been an open shame and has fostered doubts. Both the saved and unsaved have every right to expect that we who profess Christ also follow His precepts and example. The closing chapter of Titus reemphasizes our responsibility to live Godly lives.

LIVING PROOF (3:1-3)

3:1—"Put them in mind to be _____ to principalities and powers, to _____ magistrates, to be _____ to every good _____." A willingness to be obedient to and respectful of the laws of the land are evidences of a servant's heart. Law keepers are not law breakers. It is good to teach others a respect for law and order while practicing it ourselves, being "ready to obey."

3:2—"To speak _____ of no man, to be no _____ (a readiness to quarrel or squabble), but _____, showing all _____ unto all men." Note that meekness is not weakness. Someone has defined meekness as "strength under control." A gentle, kind spirit, with tongue and temper under the Spirit's control, is to be evidenced before all men (Eph. 4:29-32; James 1:19).

3:3—"For we ourselves also were sometimes (once) foolish, _____, deceived, serving divers (various) _____ and _____. living in _____ and _____, hateful, and hating one another." Not a pretty picture, but who among us can deny guilt, to some extent, of these unenviable traits? Unsaved, we did what came naturally.

SUPERNATURAL SUBSTANCE (3:4-6)

3:4-6—"But after the _____ and _____ of God, our Saviour, toward man appeared, not by _____ of righteousness which we have done, but according to His _____ He saved us, by the washing of _____ and _____ of the Holy Ghost, which He shed on us _____ through Jesus Christ, our Saviour." Just as we cannot divorce ourselves from the guilt of sin before salvation, neither can we claim any merit to what He has given us freely and abundantly in the person and example of His Son.

The judicial system has always cried out for justice.

A believer, however, fully recognizes his soul's need for mercy, not justice, and should live in thanksgiving for that mercy extended to all. Our salvation is free, but meditate on what it cost God and His Son.

MAINTAIN GOOD WORKS (3:7-15)

3:7—"That, being justified (cleansed of all past sin) by His _____, we should be made _____, according to the _____ of eternal life." Not only are we dealt with in mercy and justified by His grace (unmerited favor), but He has elevated us to the status of heirs with Christ (Rom. 8:16, 17).

3:8—"This is a faithful saying, and these things I will that thou affirm _____, that they who have _____ in God might be careful to _____ good works. These things are good and _____ unto men." Those who profess Christ must be careful to maintain—keep it up or carry on—good works. Note that this same phrase is reiterated in verse 14.

3:9—"But avoid _____ questions, and genealogies, and _____ and _____ about the law; for they are _____ and vain." Arguing leads to a breach of fellowship. Though never compromising "thus saith the Word," we should avoid alienating those of a different persuasion, thus keeping the door open for future contact.

3:10,11—"A man that is a _____ (one who departs from revealed truth), after the first and second _____, reject, knowing that he that is such is _____ (dedicated to undermine or corrupt) and sinneth, being _____ of himself." A person who is subversive will verbally hang himself if given enough rope. There is a vast difference between a seeking sinner and a subverted sinner.

3:12-15—In these concluding verses, Paul makes some personal requests and remarks regarding fellow laborers, as well as sending his personal greetings to other believers. Zero in on his closing admonition in verse 14: "And let _____ (fellow believers) also learn to _____ good works for _____ uses, that they be not unfruitful."

The "necessary uses" are the pressing needs of another Christian. Paul lived and preached in dangerous times. He gave of himself unreservedly, and yet there were times when he needed to receive from others. While being ready to share as needs arise, we too may be required to be gracious receivers.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Look up the six references to "good works" in Titus 1:16; 2:7,14; and 3:1, 8, 14. What verse speaks to you personally?
2. Being "joint heirs" makes us rejoice, but what is the stipulation given in Romans 8:17? A study of the balance of this chapter will conclude that the reward is well worth the price paid.
3. What makes a heretic or subverted person dangerous?
4. Discuss ways a lay person can give concrete evidence of salvation.

HELPS for LEADERS

**PRECEDENT
VICE PRESIDENT
PRECEDENT**



an object lesson devotional

The Egg Family

The Egg Family gathered for a family reunion.

"Happy Easter, everyone," greeted HARD BOILED. "Welcome to our reunion. We've all assembled in about every shape, form and fashion, but we're all eggs just the same. Look at me. I've been dyed and colored to contrast with the green grass. And I've been boiled to make me solid. In times like these, we need good solid eggs" (read Heb. 3:6).

I'm afraid I didn't wear a colorful coat today like Hard Boiled," sighed SOFT-BOILED, who felt rather out of place. "But I'm eaten all through the year. I'm not as solid as Hard-Boiled, but my softness reminds us of something, too" (Proverbs 15:1).

Just then, Soft-Boiled's cousin spotted him. SCRAMBLED EGG

called, "Hi, Soft-Boiled, come over and mix with us for awhile."

"May I come along?" asked SUNNY-SIDE UP as she joined the group. Of course they welcomed her. You could count on her to add life to any party. (Proverbs 15:13)

Just then OMELET joined the reunion. Omelet is a lot like pancakes. She brings smiles all around.

POACHED EGG AND EGG SALAD hadn't yet joined the group as they had a conversation of their own going. "This is a big day for you," said Poached. "There must be enough egg salad sandwiches here to feed an army!"

"Indeed," Egg Salad agreed, feeling very necessary.

"But I, too, am useful," Poached went on. "After all, poach means a pocket and our yolk is pocketed in the white of the egg when we're cooked. This reminds us to pocket our money to give to missions" (2 Cor. 9:7).

DEVILED EGG was a joy to behold in her nest on top of the potato salad. Delicious seasoning made her taste as good as she looked. She wondered how she ever got a name like that and wished she could change it (Prov. 22:1).

"Here comes EGG-HEAD," beamed Hard-Boiled as he welcomed their intelligent cousin. Let's hear what gem of wisdom he can offer today. Speak up, Egg-Head."

"Thank you. I'm glad to be here," said Egg-Head. "Our bit of

wisdom for today is found in Proverbs 16:16" (read).

"Purple is a royal color," said EGG PLANT as he preened before the group. "When people see me they are reminded to make Jesus King of their lives."

"My color may not be royal," admitted EGG SHELL, "but many people choose my neutral color for their walls." Her cousins agreed and gladly welcomed her. Egg Shell never intimidated anyone and always managed to make folks feel happy (Phil. 4:4).

EGGNOG was the last of the Egg Family to share his witness.

"I'm a good egg mixed with milk, sugar, vanilla and a sprinkle of nutmeg," he explained. "Besides quenching one's thirst, we eggnogs make a nourishing and filling drink. We only fill the body though; something more is needed for the soul" (Matt. 5:6).

So here's our Egg Family and all of them good eggs. A whole dozen and not a bad one in the bunch (Ps. 107:8). Happy Easter!

—Sacred Literature Ministries



Begin early with plans for your Pre-Easter Week of Prayer observance.

Q

How should we observe our pre-Easter Week of Prayer?

Some of our women think five minutes before a service is enough. Is it?

A

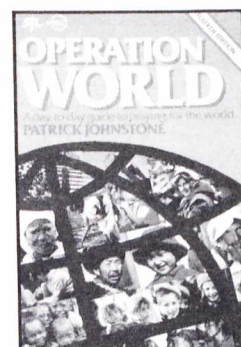
The week preceding Easter is set aside by Woman's Auxiliaries to pray for Foreign Missions. The week should be a week of concentrated prayer for our missionaries serving on our eight mission fields of the world.

The week of prayer may be observed in a variety of ways.

- Hand out the prayer bulletins on Sunday and urge each family in the church to take one and pray daily, especially mentioning the requests in the booklet.

- Arrange small group meetings in homes each evening and pray for the special requests. Call the Missions Hotline (615-731-3839) for up-to-the-minute requests.
- Plan one special meeting for all Auxiliary women with perhaps a light meal at the church or in a home and spend the evening in prayer for Foreign Missions.
- Present the program before the whole church as a culmination of the week and receive our world missions offering in honor of Laura Belle Barnard, veteran missionary to India.
- Present the program at the beginning of the week and then ask each one present to take one of the prayer bulletins and pray for the requests each day. Ask them to set aside a sacrificial offering and bring it on a specific date.
- May God help us to assume responsibility for praying for our missionaries around the world.

MISSION STUDY INITIATION



OPERATION WORLD

by Patrick Johnstone

Send the Light (OM), 1987, \$8.95

"Want to be a 'world Christian'?" Johnstone's *Operation World* will open your eyes to the vast harvest field.

With this book you can pray for all countries around the world in one year. It can serve as a tool for missions praying.

Although the order is prayer requests for a different country each day of the year, the book also may serve as a study guide for involving people in missions. The book will challenge young people to missionary service.

You may concentrate on the eight areas of the world and pray for one each day of the week. You may pray through the book day by day. Keep a prayer diary and record answers to your prayers.

Choose from the book those countries where Free Will Baptist missionaries serve. Study the material and then pray especially for the missionaries by name.

The book includes the USA and its territories so that you may use it both for Home and Foreign Missions prayer and studies.

We recommend this book for a combination study of prayer and missions.

Other books on missions are reviewed on pages 26 and 27. Refer to them for recommended study books.



This poster made by mission chairman, Cheryl Anne Daye, announces the Easter project of the St. Petersburg mission church in St. Petersburg, Florida.

MISSION PRAYER MISSION

March

Lucky Missionaries

by Cheryl Anne Day

Here's What:

small grapevine wreaths (3 or 4")
narrow green ribbon
tiny plastic clovers (cake decoration section)
magnets or pop tops
missionary prayer cards

Here's How:

Trim missionary prayer cards to fit the back of the wreath. Glue.
Make bows and glue to the lower half of the wreath.
Glue a plastic clover to the top of the bow.
Glue magnet or pop top to the upper back.

April

Easter Tree

by Cheryl Anne Daye

Here's What:

eggs (blown-out ones, plastic or styrofoam)
egg decorations—lace, beads, rickrack, or stickers
tree branch
planter, bowl or basket
missionary prayer cards

Here's How:

Secure the branch in the planter using stones and/or sand.
Decorate eggs. Using the lace, make a loop at the top. Hang on the tree.
Punch holes in the tops of the prayer cards and loop ribbons through them. Intersperse them with the eggs on the tree.
Place the branch by the door and ask the women to take a prayer card as they leave.

Our Faces
Toward

Tomorrow

RESERVATION FORM - WNAC'S SEVENTH RETREAT

Please reserve _____ rooms for the Free Will Baptist WNAC retreat, September 17-19, 1992, for the following: (Please list all names and addresses. List all roommates together.)

(name) _____ (name) _____

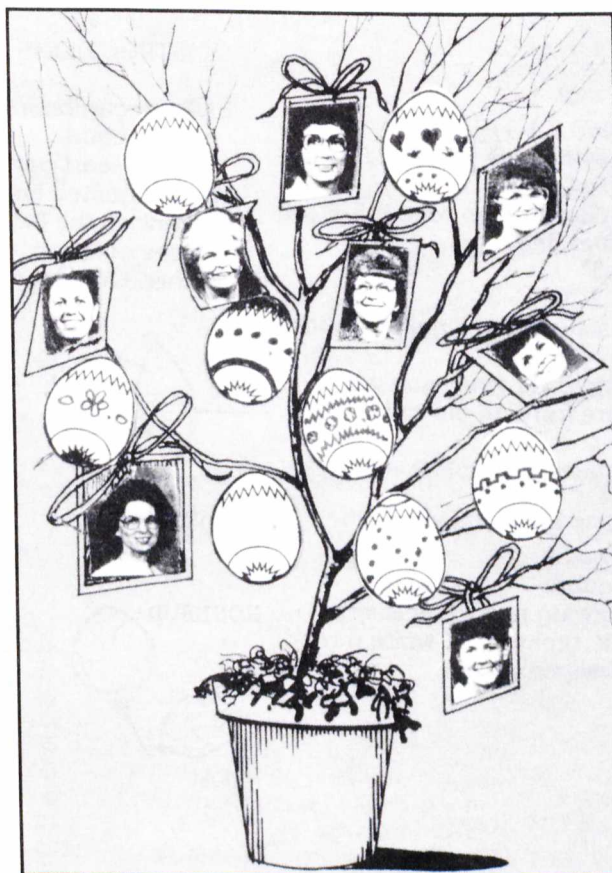
(address) _____ (address) _____

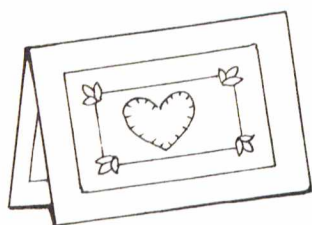
(name) _____ (name) _____

(address) _____ (address) _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ deposit. Make check payable to Ridgecrest and mail to Ridgecrest Conference Center, P.O. Box 128, Ridgecrest, NC 28770. Tel. (704) 669-8022

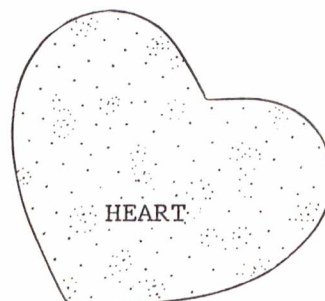
see page 24





Handmade Greeting Card

Remember your shut-ins this month with a handmade gift from the heart.



by Janet Yearby

MATERIALS

Paper:

- pastel blue 3 1/8 x 1 1/2"
- two pieces of white, one 2 1/2 x 4" and another 3 1/4 x 4 3/4"
- two pieces of pastel green, one 5 5/8 x 8 2/8" and another 3x3"
- pastel pink 2x3"

Fabric:

- two pieces pastel calico or quilted fabric 3x3"
- thin quilt batting 3x3" (may substitute with a 3" square from an old quilt)

Supplies:

- three strands pastel embroidery floss, 18 inches
- white envelope 4 1/4x 5 3/4"
- cardboard for patterns
- clear plastic square
- medium size sewing needle, scissors, ruler, glue stick, tacky glue, white thread, straight pins, ballpoint pen

INSTRUCTIONS

- Make cardboard patterns of the heart, leaf and rosebud.

- Trace heart pattern on the fabric. This will be the quilted heart on the front of the card. Sandwich the batting between the two pieces of fabric, right sides out. Pin together. Quilt layers together with white

thread. Cut inside the traced heart pattern on the top piece of fabric. Blanket stitch the raw edges.

- Cut the papers to size. Start with a straight edge and use a clear plastic square to keep everything straight.

- Trace pattern for the leaf 8 times on the pastel green paper. Cut out. Trace pattern for the rosebud 4 times on pink paper and cut out.

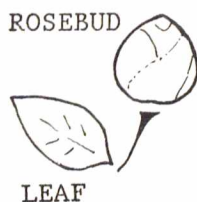
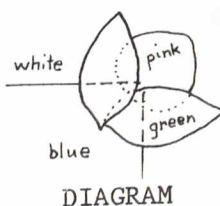
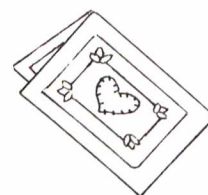
- Fold the large sheet of green paper in half to fit the envelope.

- Using the glue stick, center the smaller white paper and glue in place. Center and glue the blue paper to the white on front of the card.

- Glue rosebuds at corners of the blue paper. Glue leaves at either side of the rosebuds (see diagram).

- Using tacky glue, glue the quilted heart to the center front of the card.

- Write your message on the larger piece of white paper and glue inside the card.



Friday

Pray for **Alice Smith** in Côte d'Ivoire as she ministers to women and children in the Agnibilekrou area. Ask God to continue to open doors for her as she teaches Bible in the public school, teaches and counsels women, and plans vacation Bible schools and special programs.

Pray for God to meet the **physical and spiritual needs of all our missionaries**. Ask the Lord to give them spiritual discernment as they serve Him in different cultures.

Pray for **Walter and Marcia Ellison** as they work with the church at Malvin Alto, a suburb of **Montevideo, Uruguay**. Pray that this will become a firmly established Free Will Baptist church that will draw many unsaved to Christ.

Pray that **God will call new laborers** to sow the gospel seed overseas. Ask Him to speak to the hearts of students, pastors, and lay people about the necessity of sharing Christ with the nations as foreign missionaries reach out "to the ends of the earth till the end of time."

***Prayer Requests
for***

WNAAC Pre-Easter Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions

April 13-17, 1992

Prayer Requests for Pre-Easter Week of Prayer, 1992

Monday

Pray for three lay leaders at the church in Conselheiro Lafaiete, Brazil, who are overseeing the work while Earnie and Jean Deeds are in the U.S. on furlough. Ask the Lord to guide them and bless them as they carry out their responsibilities.

Pray for our pastors in India. Two in South India have serious heart problems. Ask the Lord to help them as they continue to minister to the people.

Pray for Stan and Brenda Bunch as they serve the Lord in Panama. Ask God to give them spiritual wisdom and insight as they work to build a strong Free Will Baptist church in the town of Parita.

Pray for Juanita Thompson as she teaches missionary children at the Hokkaido Christian Learning Center in Sapporo, Japan. Pray that the Lord will keep her in good health and give her strength for the task.

Tuesday

Pray for Dwain and Debbie Crosby and Lynn Midgett as they work to win people to Christ in Mostoles, Spain. Ask the Lord to bless their outreach efforts through evangelistic campaigns and English lessons.

Pray for university students in Nantes, France, who attend the Bible studies conducted by Allan Crowson, Steve Riggs, and Charolette Tallent. Pray that many will commit their lives to Christ through this outreach.

Pray for the leadership training program in the area of Bondoukou, Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast). As Ron Moore and Jerry Pinkerton train lay leaders to teach the Word, pray that the Lord will bless these participants and that many more unsaved people will hear the gospel because of this training program.

Pray for Dave Jr. and Becky Franks to raise their support to go to Uruguay. Ask the Lord to provide faithful prayer and financial partners so they can join the missionary team in Uruguay soon.

Wednesday

Pray for Don and Ruth McDonald and Debbie Griffin as they work with Pastor Kawasaki at the Ai No Sato church in Sapporo, Japan. Pray for their contacts with neighbors in their subdivision and with those made through English classes.

Pray for Steve and Linda Reeves in Spain as they work to plant a church in Torrelodones, a town near Villalba where the Reeves have been working. Enrique, a preacher from the Villalba church, is helping them in this effort. Ask the Lord to provide open doors of witness for Christ in this town.

Pray for affiliate missionaries Dennis and Mary Heath and Kim Zegelian in Germany as they try to reach people for Christ. They are working to plant a Free Will Baptist church in the town of Kusel.

Pray for Dr. Kenneth and Rejane Eagleton and Robert and Pam West at the medical station at Doropo, Côte d'Ivoire. Ask the Lord to guide in the rebuilding of the hospital. Ask Him to undergird the missionaries' health during the dry season.

Thursday

Pray for missionaries who are preparing to come home for furlough during 1992. Ask the Lord to guide them as they make arrangements for their ministries while they will be away. Those expected to come home in 1992 are: Norman and Laura McFall, Ron and Linda Moore, Robert and Judy Bryan, Norman and Bessie Richards, Ken and Judy Bailey, and Steve and Becky Riggs.

Pray for Bible institutes in Brazil, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Panama, Spain, and Uruguay. Ask the Lord to guide the missionaries and pastors who teach in these institutes. Pray for the spiritual growth of the students, and ask the Lord to call leaders for the national churches from these groups.

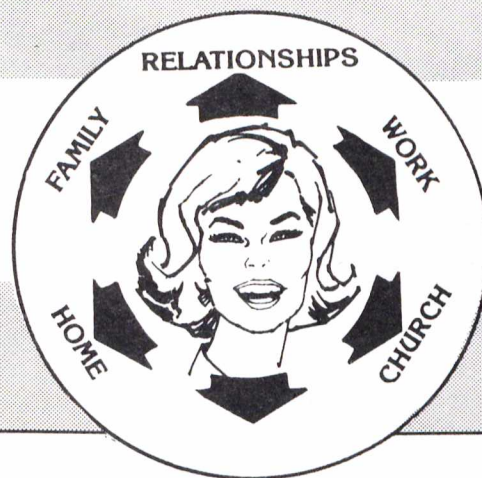
Pray for deficit missionary accounts. Ask the Lord to provide through His people the monthly support needed for each missionary, especially those in the red.

Pray for Carlisle and Marie Hanna in India. Ask God to uphold them spiritually, emotionally, and physically. Ask Him to bless their work as they continue to assist Indian pastors and to reach out to the lost in India.

The Minister's Wife

Newsletter

Compiled By Cleo Pursell



volume 12, number 2, 1992

To Brand-New or Would-Be Preacher's wives

Keep it All in Perspective

by Delma Gunnels

Twenty years ago an old friend shared his thoughts on serving the Lord in the pastorate.

"Some day you'll realize that it's just a game people play and you'll quit, too." He had indeed quit following an unpleasant experience.

Mixed emotions gripped me—anger at him for quitting, determination to prove him wrong, and fear he might be correct. Twenty years later we're still in the pastorate, but quite frankly, his words haunt me now and then. Many times I have wanted to quit and even once or twice I thought I might.

As a PK (preacher's kid), I had a pretty good idea of what to expect as a PW (preacher's wife). "Pretty good idea" is putting it mildly. Did I have a lot to learn!

One of my husband's favorite choruses is "He's still Working on Me." That describes my life as pastor's wife. We had been in the pastorate about 13 years when we moved to FWBCC for Vern to attend Graduate School. I enrolled in a class for pastor's wives. I needed all the help I could get.

I delight to talk to young prospective preacher's wives. I could opt to give them the same advice given me—a game people play and some day they'll want to quit; or I can share these thoughts I've gathered over the years.

Be absolutely sure this is God's plan for your life. Many women marry a preacher and then complain throughout his entire ministry.

True, some complaints may be justified, but your grouchy attitude can ruin his ministry.

Before Vern and I married, I sincerely prayed that if I would ever hinder his ministry, the Lord would prevent our marriage. I also prayed that should Vern stand in my way of serving the Lord, that He would make it clear to us before we married.

I don't have much patience with women who state, "Well, I didn't marry a preacher. He started preaching after we were married." I encourage them to look at the alternative.

Accept him as he is. Don't spend all your time trying to make a perfect preacher out of your husband. Surprise! There are none. Instead devote your energy to becoming what YOU should be.

Vern was a comparatively new Christian when we married. I, on the other hand, had been a Christian for over 15 years. At first I tried to play Holy Spirit when my husband didn't do things exactly "the way they had always been done." It doesn't work.

As you have children, let them be just that. Another surprise—there are no perfect preacher's kids!

God has blessed our family with three wonderful children, two boys and a girl. Each of them was saved at an early age and we have tried our very best to raise them to love and serve the Lord according to the

Some day we will stand before the Lord and explain to Him why we quit or continued to press on.

best of THEIR abilities, not what we think they should be.

A mother's attitude makes the difference when it's time to move to the next pastorate, when we can't afford to eat out this month, or when we have to wait on that new pair of shoes. You get the point, Mother? The kids know if you are content with what you have.

Place a sense of humor high on the list. I had a couple of friends in Bible College to whom others came for counseling. When they wanted to giggle, they came looking for me. I used to hate that trait, but now I thank the Lord for the ability to laugh. I often say, it's either laugh or have a nervous breakdown.

Take your marriage vows seriously. You married him for better and for worse. Bad times come in different guises. Unpleasant church experiences or crisis within the family. Hang on. The Lord won't put more on us than we can bear, especially when we do our best to serve Him.

Often the preacher's wife is treated like royalty—paid visits to the beauty shop, offers to babysit, gift certificates, poundings, dinners out and other special gifts. Sometimes I think we need to make a list, good things on one side and bad things on the other. That would hush us up in a hurry!

If you married him for richer or poorer, you'd better mean it! Our first church paid us \$60 weekly. Vern had just finished Bible College, we were expecting our first child and had no medical insurance. Don't base decisions on salaries.

Certainly churches should take care of their shepherds, but some can do better than others. Both pastors and their wives must learn how to live within their means, richer or poorer.

Should the pastor's wife work outside the home? This is something the family must decide together. What works for one is not necessarily best for another.

Sickness and ill-health are bitter pills to swallow. Five months into our first pastorate, Vern became seriously ill with diabetes. It continues to be a trying illness. Most churches are very understanding about the pastor's physical needs.

Some of the times we laugh the

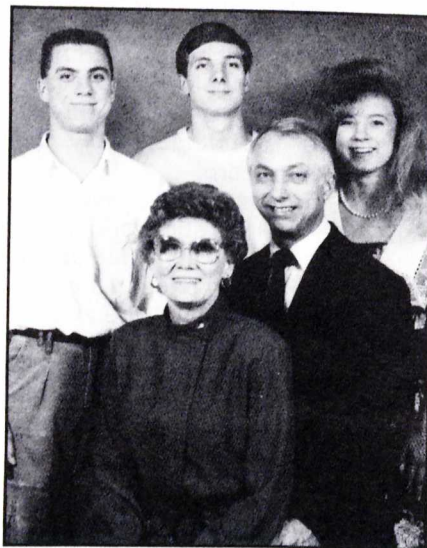
hardest (so we won't cry) is when someone tells Vern he can't come to church because he has diabetes. Vern doesn't bother to explain his three shots daily.

Health problems may also plague your children. Be serious when you dedicate your children to the Lord and place them into His safe keeping.

Death is a certainty that will come to all. It helps to discuss together what you will do in the event death takes your pastor husband. Will you stay in the town where you're living? Will you move "back home"? That would be near-impossible for me because I have no "back home." My mother lives in the city where my dad pastored when he died, but I never lived there.

The key to living the Christian life, whether in the parsonage or not, is to keep it all in perspective. We are mere pilgrims passing through this world. We are either faithful to our calling or we are not. Someday we will all stand before the Lord and explain to Him why we quit or why we continued to press on.

Is serving the Lord just a game that people play? No, I don't think so and I'm sure not going to quit. I am very proud to be a PK and a PW.



Delma Wright Gunnels, a California native, is married to Vern who pastors Pearce Chapel FWB Church, Smithville, Mississippi. They have three teenagers: Brian, Jeff and Amy. Delma, a 1964 graduate of FWBBC, works in the State Troopers' office.

WOMEN in ACTION



First Auxiliary women, Marion, NC, pose with Tupperware donated to the Missionary Provision Closet. Volena Wilson, center, is a former missionary to India.

Pleasant Mound Auxiliary, Buffalo Springs, Texas, chose the shamrock theme for their "Friendship Banquet", a salad supper enlistment. The following officers stand before the rainbow poster surrounded by shamrocks: Marie Perkins, Nell Stell, Stanley Rater, president, Traci Jones and Betty McGee.

Mrs. Rater directed a skit entitled, "An Awakening Dream."





Rhoda Creech, dorm mother of the Ivory Coast Academy, examines gifts showered on her by the Hendersonville Auxiliary (TN). Deborah Lynn arrived about two weeks later.

The 4H Youth Center, Columbiana, hosted Alabama's state retreat. Guest speaker, Lorene Miley, is pictured with Odessa Ledlow, retreat director.



Lillie Woolard, president of North Carolina's Pamlico district, presents Linda Callaway with a basket overflowing with personal gifts from its nine churches. Linda is a missionary in Spain.

In the last decade of the 20th Century we have set

OUR FACES TOWARD TOMORROW

Hebrews 12:1-2

Do you have questions about tomorrow?
What about my children, my family?
What's my place in my world, in the church?
Who will lead the way?
What direction will missions take?

Join Free Will Baptist women from across the USA for the 7th National Retreat, Ridgecrest Conference Center, September 17-19, 1992 and

Consider TOMORROW'S WONDERS.

Hear some favorites. Meet new speakers. Renew friendships.

Cost per Person

Includes 2 nights lodging, 5 meals, and retreat fee. No provision for children.

NO. IN ROOM	COST EACH
1	\$122.25
2	86.25
3	78.25
4	74.25

DEPOSIT OF \$23.60 PER PERSON REQUIRED. Applied to total cost. Refund available if canceled before August 17. Walk-ons must register and pay \$23.60 (Accepting reservations Jan. 1, 1992)

Air and ground travel discounts available. Call or write WNAC or Ridgecrest for information.



Vaudine Lancaster, Mt. Moriah Auxiliary, wrote a devotional skit depicting Biblical role models of God's women. Tammy Lancaster and Helen Field assisted in the presentation.



The love offering was divided between their missionaries: Becky Franks, Uruguay, and Carolyn Hendrix, Madison, Alabama. Carolyn directed music for the retreat.

CROSSWINDS

How can I be concerned about the pagan in Africa when my world is falling apart around me? In other words, how can I find a balance between my place in the Great Commission and peace and harmony in my home?

This column addresses everyday problems that often bring defeat and discouragement in our walk with the Lord.

Hope for the Wounded Heart

by Anonymous

I stared into the bathroom mirror as tears streamed down my face. My husband had hurt my feelings, made me mad and caused me to lose control of all reason—again. I knew I couldn't keep on going this way.

I drove myself from the bathroom to a therapist's office. She listened, soothed, sympathized and nearly cried with me several times over the next six months as I confronted 25 years of pain and anger.

No way can I express the kind of pain I'm talking about. An emotional stab wrenches your guts each time you allow yourself to think about certain things—a father who abandoned me, a mother as unstable as I, a stepfather who abused me, and feelings of inadequacy as a wife, mother and person, in general.

I look back on that time—and thank God! I can look back; I never thought there would come that time—and see God's gentle guiding hand in every phase of my healing. The day came when with shaking hands He helped me call my father and express my love for him. He stood with me that day in

the cow pasture as I confronted my step-father with what he had done to me. I walked away a new, strong and confident woman.

The Holy Spirit constantly wooed me to Himself. One Sunday morning my little girl took my hand and walked me across the backyard of the church. I sat in church that morning afraid I would fall apart before church was over. I remember thinking, "My friend is here next to me. She understands and I can reach for her hand."

Suddenly I realized I hadn't left Jesus in the church yard. He was sitting right next to me in the pew. I could reach for His hand anytime. He knows. He understands. I can lean on Him.

That day during the invitation I asked Him to come into my heart and help me get my life together. My friend looked at me and said, "It's all over." She was right. Those days were over.

My life has taken on new meaning. I like myself now. I am a good wife and mother. I never had women friends before—I always felt so inferior. I prayed for a friend, just one. God gave me a whole Auxiliary full of them! And He continually adds more.

Books to stimulate spiritual growth

Book Highlights ...

Good books never die, they just come back in reprints. That describes our book selections this month. If you haven't read them, please do. Or like me, you may want to read them again.

PEACE CHILD

by Don Richardson
Regal Publishing Co.

This, the author's first book, was condensed in *Reader's Digest* and produced in a motion picture. It gives the first person account of living among the Sayi tribe in New Guinea noted for treachery and cannibalism.

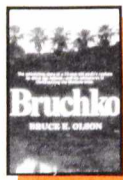
As the missionary pondered how to bridge the gulf between their culture and spiritual truths, he began to search for keys to open their understanding. The book relates his discovery.

LORDS OF THE EARTH

by Don Richardson
Regal Publishing Co, 367pp,
\$7.95

This book continues the saga of missionary work in the primitive areas of Irian Jaya, New Guinea.

The book focuses on three couples sent out by the Un-evangelized Fields Mission. It captivates you in the author's "can't-put-it-down" style and climaxes in a dramatic, unexpected ending.



ETERNITY IN THEIR HEARTS

by Don Richardson
Regal Publishing Co., 173pp,
\$6.95

The author believes that every culture holds a key to open their understanding to spiritual truths. In a fascinating series of documented stories, *ETERNITY IN THEIR HEARTS* relates incredible examples of how the concept of a supreme God has existed for centuries in hundreds of cultures throughout the world.

Use the question section at the end of the book for a study course.

BRUCHO

by Bruce Olson
Creation House, 208 pp,
\$6.95

Originally titled "For this Cross I'll Kill You," this book relates the fascinating story of a headstrong 9 year old with an overwhelming burden to reach those who had never heard the gospel. With no money or backing from a mission board, he heads to-

ward the jungles of South America and a stone-age people in Colombia.

Today, 15 years after his venture in faith, the country boasts 10 health centers and 2 primitive clinics operated by trained Motilone nurses, 8 bilingual schools taught by Motilone teachers, and 11 agriculture centers. It is unclear how many churches and pastors. For this reason Olson has been accused of being a colonizer instead of a missionary.

BRUCHO is a missionary classic, a reading must for those concerned about the Great Commission.

Two other books, formerly out of print but now reprinted, are also recommended, especially for our younger women who may have missed them previously.

MISSIONS ON THE MOVE IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

by Marjorie Collins and Carl Blackburn
Reprinted by Don Wardell

One of our most popular mission books in the 1970s was

"Who Cares About the Missionary." It's the most practical book you'll find anywhere for helping our missionaries. Some of the sections include: Praying for your Missionary, How to Send Parcels, What to Send, Sending Letters and The Missionary Guest.

This book has now been combined with some unpublished material promoting a missions program in the local church. Areas as the Missionary Conference, Missions Fair, Missionary Promotion in the Sunday School and Visiting the Field—and much more—are explored.

You'll want to keep this as a resource book on missions.

LET'S QUIT KIDDING OURSELVES ABOUT MISSIONS

by James M. Weber

Reprinted by Don Wardell, 138pp

The author spent 25 years in Japan as a missionary. In the forward, Tim LaHaye writes: "How long has it been since you read a book written by a missionary? That's probably the reason you should read this one. Missionaries see world missions differently from the way most of us see it, and we need at least to evaluate the situation from their perspective."

The book is based on his definition of missions. You may not agree with everything he says, but one thing is certain—he will make you think.

These last two books make excellent study courses. The retail price is \$3.00 or \$1.80 each in quantities of three or more. Add 50 cents postage for the first book plus 5% of the total price.

Order from: Don Wardell
Box 325

Winona Lake, IN 46590
(219) 267-8246

WNAC does not stock these books. Please order them from your state bookstore, or from Randall Book Store, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37211.

The POET'S CORNER



Missions

Spirit Sisters

Louisa Godissart McQuillen

B.C.

REBEKAH

gathered her belongings
and breathed deeply the familiar odors
of her homeland...

then followed her Lord's
servant
to another homeland
another family.

She did not understand, but she
was willing
and in the willingness,
her young heart knew peace.
When asked, she replied,
"I will go.

1992 A.D.

CINDI

closes the last suitcase
and looks once more upon
all that is familiar—
family ...
friends ...
home of her childhood ...
"I love you ... I love you," she
murmurs brokenly.
Already His peace and grace
soften the parting.

She gathers the children for
last goodbyes
hugs
kisses
and settles them in for the
journey ahead.
"We are ready,"
she tells her young husband.

Rebekah and Cindi

avored handmaidens of the
Lord.
Not mere tools for the task
ahead
nor a means to an end,

But lovingly chosen for
who and what
they are in Him.
Willing sisters in the Spirit
Who know the peace that comes
... from being ready.

Thematic

Lord, Raise Our Sights

Brenda Shores

How quick we are to grab a chair
At Victory's banquet
When some lost soul is saved.
"I gave a dollar to that field!"
"Remember the red headband
I put in the rummage sale?"

And thus, we gloat over petty
things,
Our feeble giving,
And the minor role we played
In bringing the gospel to a soul
In some dark, benighted land,
When it's the missionary's
travail
That does the greater part
Of bearing up the cross.
There's not a day it hasn't weighed
Rock-heavy on his heart.
His vision of the task at hand
Makes vanities grow stale.

If we were just as quick to claim
Responsibility
For those who die unsaved,
Perhaps we'd give more freely
And heed the Lord's command
To never let our vision fail.

Be a Prayer Missionary

Appointed to Pray ...

Dear Missionary P.S. I Love You

by Debbie Mitchell for all our co-laborers

In John's tiny third epistle, we find an interesting comparison to our missionaries. Writing to the "well-beloved Gaius", he wishes him three blessings—material prosperity, good health and spiritual maturity.

Since John's letter is part of holy scripture, we can assume these blessings are meant for us as well. God is no respecter of persons. Every believer everywhere has a right to these privileges. Dear missionary, I wish them for you.

The next two verses relate the joy that comes as we walk in the truth. The greatest joy in the world—next to our own salvation—is to see others brought into the kingdom and established in the faith. We who know Jesus as our Savior and God as our heavenly Father must share this Good News to all we meet.

At the same time, someone must go and proclaim that truth to

those who have never heard. God has chosen you and sent you forth. Thank you for going where we are unable to go and doing what we are unable to do.

The fifth verse causes us to sit up and listen. We are to be faithful in doing good, not only to the brethren, but to strangers.

It's easy to love our family and those we have associated with all our lives. But how can we show love to strangers? As much as we love you, Dear Missionary, many of you are strangers to us. When you come our way, often we say among us, "Who will take these folks home with you?"

"I know what we can do," another offers. "Let's send them to a motel where they can have some privacy. I am sure they'd rather be left alone."

How can we know you personally if we don't spend time with you? How can we make you a part of our family unless you share our

home? How can we feel your burden for the field unless you pray with us around the family altar? How can we expect our children to be challenged for missions unless you come and demonstrate it before them? What you say in church will go in one ear and out the other, but what you say around the dinner table will be planted in the fertile soil of the heart.

John further tells us that not only do we care for the brethren and strangers, but we take nothing from them. We give. We give expecting nothing in return. We give because we love.

Dear Missionary, what can we give you? Verse 8 declares that if we give to you we will be "fellow helpers to the truth." We want to be fellowhelpers to the truth. Here is our home; make it your own while you are in the area. Here is food; please enjoy it. I give you my time; how can I help? I give you my attention; please share your

burden. Here is our cabin...here are our books...here is our money. We give them as unto the Lord.

Thank you for allowing us to be fellow helpers to the truth. We count it a great privilege.

John's third epistle takes on a harsh note with verse 9. He sharply rebukes those who refuse to see to the needs of God's saints. Dear Missionary, we want to see to your needs. What do you need? Let us know. Some place to leave your car? Someone to do your newsletters? A refuge for emotional healing? A prayer partner? Someone to laugh with...or cry with? Share a confidence. We're here.

We don't own the cattle on a thousand hills, so we can't provide all your financial needs. But we have a personal relationship with the One who does. We can pray, as one of you (Carol Pinkerton, Cote d'Ivoire) suggested, "Pray that the folks He left in charge of His cattle will sell a few to help our Mission account. If not beef, did He leave you in care of something you could share?"

May He who promised to supply all your need make it a reality in your life. And if He desires that part of that need be supplied through us, we will be obedient to give.

"I trust I shall shortly see you," John tells his beloved friend. He desired to see him. He valued the memories they shared. They were one in the spirit.

Dear Missionary, we, too, desire to see you. You are a part of us. We want to speak to you face to face. We want to hear what you have to say. You have gone to the regions beyond in our stead. We want to tell you thank you.

Our homes and our hearts are open to you. When you are in our area, please bless our home with your presence. We are your fellowhelpers in the truth.

P.S. We love you.

Dwight and Debbie Mitchell, Limestone, TN, put into practice the principles set forth in this article. Debbie, a school teacher, is involved in her church and directs their Auxiliary's spring Bible Conference.

Unless the missionary is on furlough, please send birthday cards directly to the field. Addresses are given in the Missions directories and are free upon request from the respective mission boards: Home or Foreign Missions Office, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002: Patty McCullough (France), and Vada Lee (C'I); are the only missionaries at home at this time. Send their cards to the Antioch address.



WNAC'S Prayer Bookmark

Week of March 1-7

The annual Na-Co-Me missions retreat of Free Will Baptist Bible College students is this week end. Pray for a moving of God's Spirit

powerful missionary speakers
commitment of lives to service

Birthdays this week: 2—Evelyn Hersey (Japan); 5—Willie Booth (OH) and Vonda Johnson (WY); 7—Patty McCullough (France)

Week of March 8-14

Pray for FWBBC's Jubilee celebration and the Bible Conference. Ask God to receive glory and honor from all the activities.

Birthdays this week: 13—Vada Lee (C'I); 14—Allan Crowson (France)

Week of March 15-21

Pray for the Levan Hubbard family, joint project workers, ministering in the Maumelle planned community of Little Rock, Arkansas. Ask God to give good contacts

ready response

a church building for His glory

Birthdays this week: 15—Linda Moore (C'I) and Lynda Hunt (WA); 19—Anita Sparks (Spain); 20—Trena Owen (Uruguay)

Week of March 22-28

Several missionaries are finishing their deputation and preparing to return to their fields of service, especially the Steve Lytle (Panama) and Ernest Holland (Cote d'Ivoire) families. Pray for necessary funds

wisdom in packing and making traveling arrangements

stamina in fulfilling last minute obligations

Birthdays this week: 24—James Sasser (MD); 25—Pamela Potete (IL) and Howard Gwartney (AZ); 26—Tom Hunt (WA); 27—Olena McLain (Japan)

*Lord,
Teach us to pray.*

Please clip this prayer bookmark and keep as a reminder to pray.

Week of March 29-April 4

The Carlie Lloyd family is moving to Madison, Wisconsin to open a new field. Pray for a tentmaker family to assist them open doors suitable housing and schooling for the children

Birthdays this week: 29—Lois Reagan (Canada); 1—Bobby Aycock (Brazil)

Week of April 5-11

Many churches are now having/planning missionary conferences. Pray for the missionaries representing the various fields

interested church people response from the young people to full time Christian service
Birthdays this week: 9—Marie Hanna (India)

Week of April 12-18

Remember the prayer requests listed in the prayer bulletin in this issue. Each family should have a copy.
*Birthdays this week: 13—Charolette Tal-
lent (France); 15—Donna Nix (Hawaii);
18—Miguel Vera (Puerto Rico)*

Week of April 19-30

The Bible Institute in Mexico needs clean drinking water. Ask God to give wisdom in where to dig a well help them find water provide the necessary funds

*Birthdays this week: 24—Tim Coats (SD);
25—Bill Johnson (KY); 29—Mike Criswell (OR)*



New Building

We're happy to see all of you enjoying the niceties of your new offices. Congratulations.

Reba Ritter
Marion, IL

Uses Co-Laborer

Our ladies used both the "Vacation" and the "Weather" pages. Also the Emphasis Program for our church family. We all thoroughly enjoyed it.

Hope Teel
Milan, IL

We enjoy CO-LABORER. I'm never too busy to sit down and read it through if possible. I like to know what other Auxiliaries are doing.

Mrs. Pike McLain
Lyons, GA

I love the CO-LABORER. It has such inspiration between its covers. Keep up the good work.

Janie Cantrell
Cleve, OH

I want to let you know how much I enjoy CO-LABORER. I keep them until I read all the articles. I was very impressed by the "The Minister's Wife" by Brenda Martin and "Born to be Different" by an anonymous writer. (January/February, 1991)

In these days when abortion is used to murder our children, it is refreshing to know a mother's love is still alive for the child who may not be considered normal. Abortion is so cruel when many childless couples long for a baby. I believe God who is the giver of life is the only one who has the right to take a life.

Perhaps these two articles will help those in doubt to choose life instead of death for their unborn child.

Jenny Johnson
Cocoa, FL

Letters

Provision Closet

Thanks for the privilege of going through the Provision Closet. I hope our ladies can help fill it up for others.

Sandra McGowan
Hamilton, OH

News From Our Missionaries

Our daughter Suzanne arrived after finishing her Master's degree ... God is opening up opportunities for her to minister and to earn a living.

Dave and Pat Franks, Brazil

Together we have accomplished much...seven acres valued at \$185,000, a sanctuary valued at \$350,000, remodeled education building valued at \$85,000. When we came to Vineland, NO ONE believed we would stay nor succeed...except you. Thank you.

Vergel and Alyne Maness
Vineland, NJ

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Mary R. Wisheart			

Over My Coffee Cup



By Eunice Edwards

I dentity crisis is a brief yet wonderful question we need to face. Our young people today confront the evil in our society and then ask some serious questions: Why are so many still poor in affluent America? Why do her ghettos exist?

Why do racial tensions continue to mount even with the most extensive civil rights law in history? With all our talk about national unity, why are we so divided? Why with all our new sexual freedom and knowledge are we more confused and frustrated with sex than ever? Why are we so insecure when we have great investments in security, both personal and national?

In order to understand the answers to these questions, we must realize that this generation holds to these five illusions:

- Happiness comes through entertainment gimmicks. America with all its diversionary facilities is the Utopia of happiness.
- Money and possessions bring happiness.
- Man without God can bring about that permanent peace lurking just around the corner.
- Man is naturally good.
- It is possible to have religion without personal commitment or involvement.

These are illusions, mere figments of someone's imagination. The answer is found in Jesus Christ. His authority must be faced, confronted and dealt with by every person on earth. Christ must claim our lives, our loves, our careers. Until those are given over to Him—aims, ambitions, and goals—we are out of the will of God and must be brought back into fellowship with Him.

This is the only way for lasting happiness.



Words for Women

Problems may be pulpits, stepping stones," I recently heard someone say. "Problems may be good for you, even cancer, even an alcoholic son," he went on. You can easily say that to other people, but what if it's your own experience? I could almost hear the sob in his voice, and I knew that he was talking about himself.

Hey, wait a minute. Cancer? An alcoholic son?

Can these do us good?

Not that we would desire these experiences or that God would delight in giving them to us. Simply because we live in the world, we are going to suffer problems. Since they do come, God can turn them into stepping stones, into pulpits for us. Problems can become opportunities. They may be good for us.

Perhaps to see the good, we have to turn them inside out. Remember Joseph's words to his brothers. "You meant it for evil, but God meant it for good."

I delight in the thought of evil turning to good for the woman in John 8. Her accusers meant her harm, but they gave her the best gift imaginable. They brought her to Jesus.

The enemy of our souls would like to destroy us. His evil intentions for us, however, God can turn to good. We look beyond what the uses to try to trap us to the good God has in mind for us.

Problems may be good for us. Even cancer, even an alcoholic son. God can turn them into stepping stones that help us rise to Him.



Mary Ruth Wisehart



First Project

Eunice Edwards

Loan Fund

Goal: \$50,000
Amount Loaned: \$35,000
Balance: \$2,137.72



Tune Your Hearts to Sing His Praise!

**Let the
Music of
Missions
Erupt in a Week
of
Prayer, Praise
and
Giving.**



Your Prayers Can . . .

**Change
discouragement into
rejoicing!**

**Change defeat
into victory!**

**Change darkness
into light!**

**Change despair into
singing!**

*Pre-Easter Week of Prayer
for Foreign Missions*

April 13-17, 1992

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