



*Sept · Oct 1994*

# CoLaborer

*A Free Will Baptist Magazine for Women*

*Women's Auxiliary  
African Style  
12*

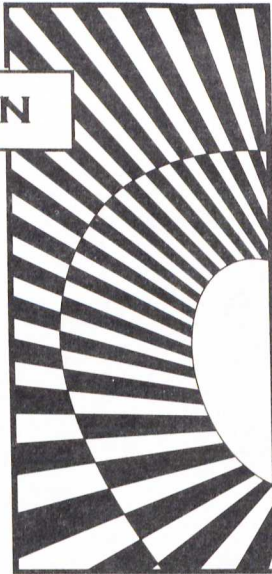
*Beatitudes for  
a Preacher's Wife  
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*India Journal  
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Inside-Out  
6*

## HORIZON

MELISSA RIDDLE



### THE FANTASTIC DREAM

"If others chide us for fantastic dreaming, can we not, like Joseph, find comfort in the inner knowledge that the dream is from God?" --Laura Belle Barnard, 1947

**A**bout once every week, I have a dream so real I remember it all day. I remember every detail as well as I know my face in the mirror. Most of these dreams are worth nothing, except maybe a good, hearty laugh. Psychologists would probably say my dreams flow out of a subconscious desire for this or that or a void leftover from childhood. Who can really know why we dream?

I have a dream, though, that doesn't come with sleep. It is a sleeping dream, one yet to be awakened.

In this dream, I see a huge crowd of people--young and old alike --from all over the country. Very few look or dress alike, but no one seems to notice. Somehow, they all favor each other. You can't really tell where one smile ends and another begins. It's a family reunion from which no one wants to leave.

The leaders want nothing more than to serve the people well. The people are interested in bearing each others' burdens. They're excited to hear how God has answered prayer.

Each person is praised for effort and attitude, not necessarily talent or position. No one competes for anything or cares about obtaining power or prestige.

There are no cookie-cutter Christians here. Everyone is a student of the Word. Each one is growing at his or her own pace, under the guidance of loving, humble leaders. The result is maturity, flourishing among the group, stirring the people to ministry.

For every church represented, there are two being planted. Most of the young people feel called to be missionaries. Because reaching others for Christ is the priority, the money is already available. Not just for those called, but for those who will be called.

A fantastic dream, isn't it? A body of selfless believers who love and accept each other unconditionally, whose highest calling and fondest desire is to show the world the love of Christ. No pretension, no pride, no policy but the Word. A dream from God. ❖

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**A HUMOROUS SEARCH  
FOR THE ULTIMATE  
BEAUTY.**

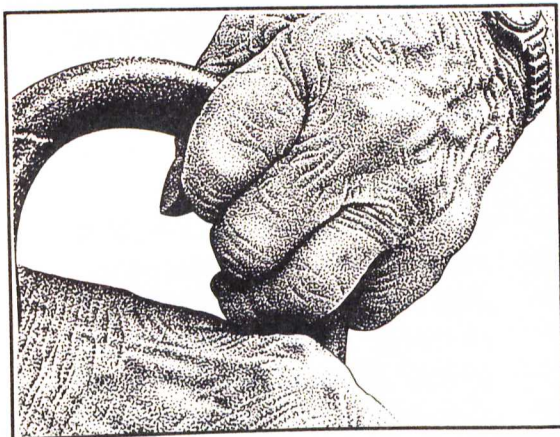
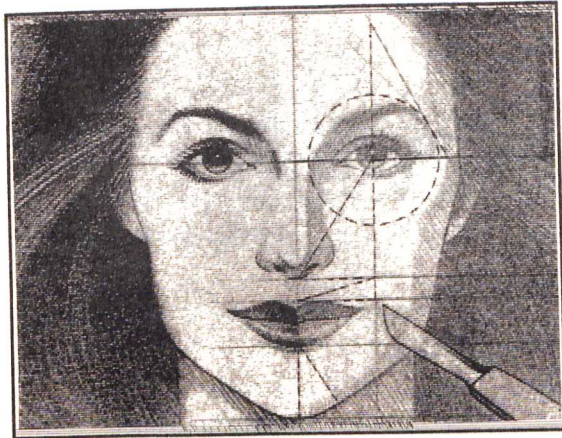
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**IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR  
A TYPICAL WORSHIP  
SERVICE, YOU WON'T  
FIND IT IN THE NURSING  
HOME. CHERYL AKERS  
SHARES HER EXPERIENCE  
IN THIS IMPORTANT  
MINISTRY.**

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**"IT'S NOT  
'SEEK AND YOU MAY  
FIND' OR KNOCK AND IF  
SOMEONE'S HOME,  
THE DOOR WILL OPEN.'  
IT'S 'SEEK AND YOU WILL  
FIND'; 'KNOCK AND THE  
DOOR WILL OPEN.'"**

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# Basic Math for the Christian Woman

Margie Patton

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**Aim:** To use basic math skills to remind us of basic Christian character traits

**Song:** *Count Your Blessings*

**Scripture:** Varied

**Suggestions:** See Springboard

## Getting Started

Mathematics can easily be compared to many basic Biblical principles. God is true, and His world is orderly (Deut. 32:4). Mathematics is also based on truth and order. If we know, understand, and apply mathematical rules, we will formulate correct answers to the equations. Likewise, if we know, understand, and apply Bib-

lical principles, we will find correct answers to the problems in life.

## Counting: Psalm 103:2

The first step in mathematics is learning to count. A child learns to count using familiar objects--fingers, toes, clothespins, pencils, books, marbles--things she is surrounded by everyday.

God surrounds His children every day with hundreds of blessings, but sometimes we go days, even weeks, without counting them. Once this skill gets rusty, it is hard to re-learn.

Counting is a skill that must be exercised. Like a child first learn-

ing, begin counting the familiar things around you, blessings you receive everyday--shelter, food, clothing, family, friends, the beauty of God's creation. Count them and praise God for His provision. You will soon improve this skill and find yourself discovering more and more blessings . . . too many to count.

## Addition: II Peter 1:5-8

After we learn to count and understand the concept of numbers, we learn to add. To the Christian, addition represents growth. In II Peter 1:5-8, we are admonished to add some things to our childlike faith in Jesus Christ.

*Read and discuss these additions.*

The qualities in these verses do not come to us automatically when we are saved, in one-lump sum. Nor do we have to master one trait before we can add another.

For example, we should not wait to exhibit goodness in our lives, before we begin adding knowledge. These characteristics are all to be added gradually. They compliment each other. They mix well when added.

### **Subtraction: Hebrews 12:1**

Just as we need to add Biblical traits to our lives, there are also many traits that need to be subtracted. There is no room in the life of a growing, maturing Christian woman for pride, prejudice, jealousy, bitterness, dishonesty, laziness, or gossip. In any equation, these elements equal the wrong answer.

To honor God and serve Him well, we must identify these elements and work at subtracting them from our lives. All they do is drag us down, blind us to God's blessings, and keep us from adding the good qualities of II Peter 1 to our lives. We need to ask the Holy Spirit to reveal these weights and to help us get rid of them.

*Share with each other about individual struggles to subtract wrongs from your lives.*

### **Multiplication: Jude 2**

As we are faithful to count our blessings, add to our faith, and subtract the sinful habits and attitudes in our lives, the Lord promises to multiply our peace

and love. An inner peace and love for God and each other are gifts that He alone can give. God responds to our obedience and faithfulness to count, add, and subtract by blessing our lives.

### **Division: Matthew 5:42**

Division in the Christian life isn't always a negative element, as we tend to think. In fact, the basic concept of division is one of sharing, or dividing, what we have with others. We are commanded to share the gospel of Christ with others. Many of us act like to do so would mean less of it for ourselves. But God's division is miraculous--the more we give to others, the more He gives to us. The more we share the gospel, the more opportunities He gives us to do so.

Division also applies to our possessions, sharing and giving out of abundance or poverty. We are to give as an act of worship and ministry to those in need. This is our mission in action. Whatever we give, He will return to us, either in this life, or in the one to come.

### **No Calculator Needed: Psalm 139: 23-24**

No matter what mathematical process is used, the teacher always urges students to go back and check their work. It is very easy to overlook a misplaced number or decimal. One oversight will result in an incorrect answer.

As Christians, we must go back and check our work, too. We

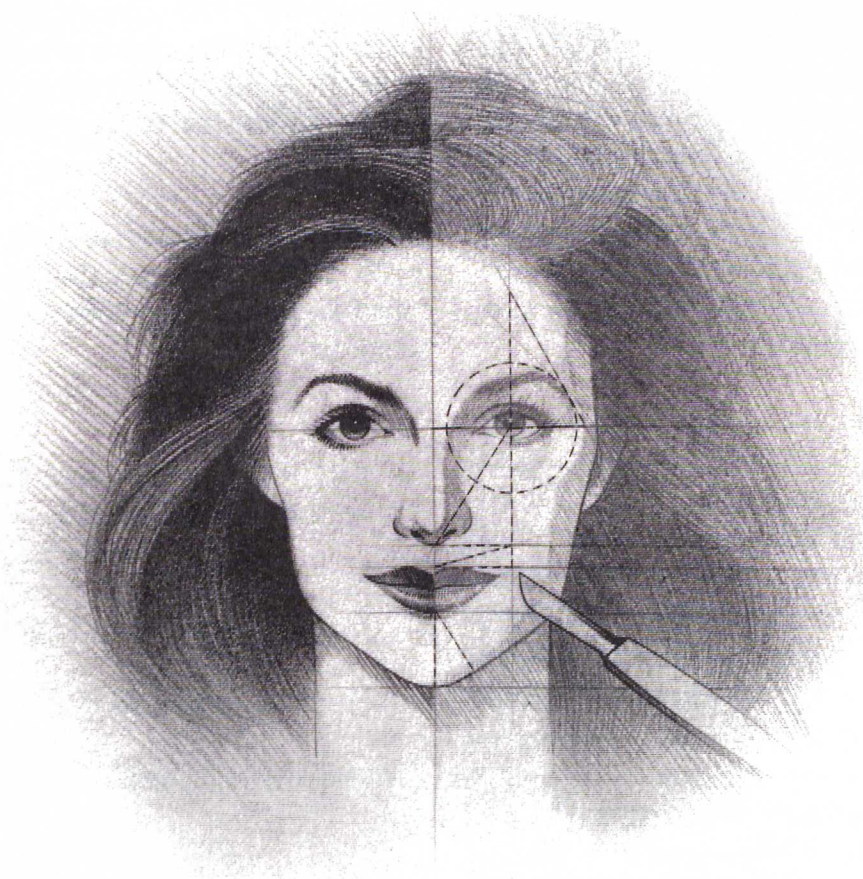
need to examine our hearts and lives for carelessness, lack of concentration, or hurried approaches to problems. We need to look for oversights or neglected areas of our lives that have not been given to God. We can catch these things before they become too large and hard to control.

You may need a calculator to balance your checkbook, and you may have forgotten what you learned about math in school, but spiritual addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division are things you cannot afford to forget.

If you find yourself confused about math, though, just ask God to help you. He knows all there is to know. ❖

# Beauty Inside ~ Out

by Leslie Ray



© DG 1992

**Song:** Something Beautiful,  
*Rejoice* #326

## The Search for a New You

Do any of you own a hardly-touched item of makeup in your purse or drawer? You know the one I mean----that "Angelic Orange" lipstick that was going to make you glamorous? Or the "Passionate Purple" eyeshadow you bought because the saleswoman said it brought out the blue in your eyes?

Remember how you felt carrying home your purchase and imagining how heads would turn when they saw the "new woman" you'd become? And remember the disappointment when you actually applied the makeup and found a clown face staring back at you in the mirror?

Why do we do that? Why do we continually search for some new product, new color, new image? The answer is simple: we want to make ourselves attractive and appealing to others.

Maybe we're going about it all wrong. What if, instead of working so hard to spruce up the outside, we try something like this:

## Moisturizer: A Place to Begin

We all know what this is, don't we? It's the Kary May Ultra Beauty Moisturizer. To chase away the wrinkles, soften up the hard spots, and eliminate those dry patches.

100% of the Kary May moisturizer is pure Ephesians 4:32--"Be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."

Be sure to rub this cream in real good--some hard spots and dry patches have been around a

long time. To be effective at removing them, Ephesians 4:32 must be worked in consistently every day.

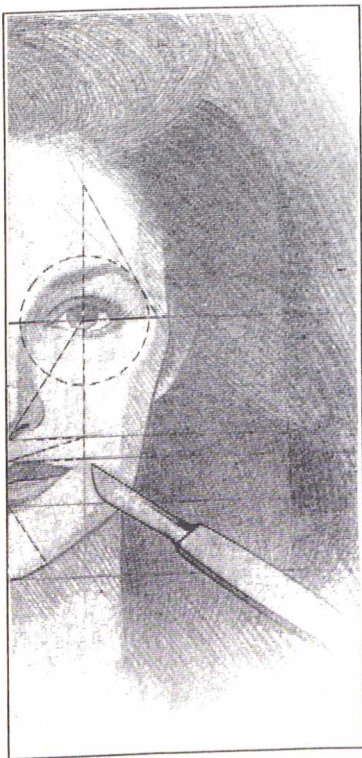
### How Firm a Foundation

The foundation is actually the most important part of the beautification process because the foundation is the base upon which all other color is applied. If you use the wrong foundation, everything else will be unbalanced. A poor foundation cracks and creases, causing powders to cake. What a mess! The Kary May Ultimate Beauty Foundation is 100% pure. I Corinthians 3:11: "For other foundation can no man lay, than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Let's do the eyes next. Oh, but wait, I see some unsightly hairs just begging to be tweezed! Tweezing is often a painful process, but any consultant can tell you it is essential to looking your best. You simply have to get rid of those horrible stragglers. Hebrews 12:15 says, "Looking diligently . . . lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled." (Pretend to pull really hard from her eyebrow with the tweezers and show the audience a long black hair that you "pulled.")

### The Eyes Have It

When choosing eyeshadow, the color is very important, as it is a reflection of your mood. Do you view the circumstances in your life as rosy and golden? Or are you wearing the most popular colors of the fashion world--blue, black, and gray? Kary May Ultimate Beauty Eyeshadows come only in the most vibrant, heavenly colors, that reflect 2 Peter 3:13: "Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth



righteousness." Your eyes should reflect the hope that is in you.

And don't forget a modest dash of eyeliner and or mascara to bring out the warmth and depth of the light in your eyes.

### What About Blush?

Blush is also important. That little bit of color on our cheeks can add just the right look of excitement and vitality when applied carefully. A natural blush of color at times can also be a sign that we are still sensitive to the feelings of others. Imagine a heart so hardened that a natural blush of shame is never seen for the hurtful things we have said or done! Jeremiah 6:15 tells of people who had sinned but "were not at all ashamed, neither could they blush."

The Kary May Ultimate Beauty Blush comes in an array of wonderful colors, but don't ever lose that natural, responsive blush indicative of a humble spirit.

### Last, But Not Least, Lipstick.

Lipstick can make or break your entire beautification effort. If you "lay it on too thick," you'll appear selfish or insincere. An "off color" mouth will keep others from seeing your beautiful features. Many will actually see or hear your mouth before they see anything else, so be sure your lips are covered in Kary May Ultimate Beauty Lipstick made from 100% Proverbs 10:11, 31-32: "The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life"; "The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom"; "The lips of the righteous know what is fitting." This final touch is critical to achieving ultimate beauty.

(Smiling volunteer is presented by consultant, who beams with joy.)

There, isn't she beautiful? Hers is the Ultimate Beauty.

Each time you apply your makeup, remember the words of I Samuel 16:7: "For man looketh on the outward appearance, but God looketh on the heart."

Let's all work harder at being beautiful inside-out. ❖

---

*Leslie Ray is a busy mother of three elementary-aged children. She and husband, Mitchell, are active members of Faith FWB Church in Glenpool, OK.*

running here and there, we don't have time to know the peacefulness in God's world. Maybe it's even to the point that we aren't sure if such peacefulness exists anymore.

Parents today are so involved in taking care of business that they don't have time to enjoy the children God has blessed them with. Gone are the days of playing hide-and-seek in the back yard and the Saturday family picnic. When Jesus spoke

of "giving good gifts to your children" in Matthew 7:11, do you think He meant Nintendos and the latest \$200 Nike shoes? No, the gifts He spoke of are gifts that last--perhaps the gift of time and special memories you've created together.

What kind of time do we give to God? Jesus said that we are to give tithes of all we possess. (Luke 11:42) Does this not include time? What if we spent a tenth of all our waking hours studying and meditating on God's Word?

D.L. Moody once said, "I have so much to do today, I must spend four hours in

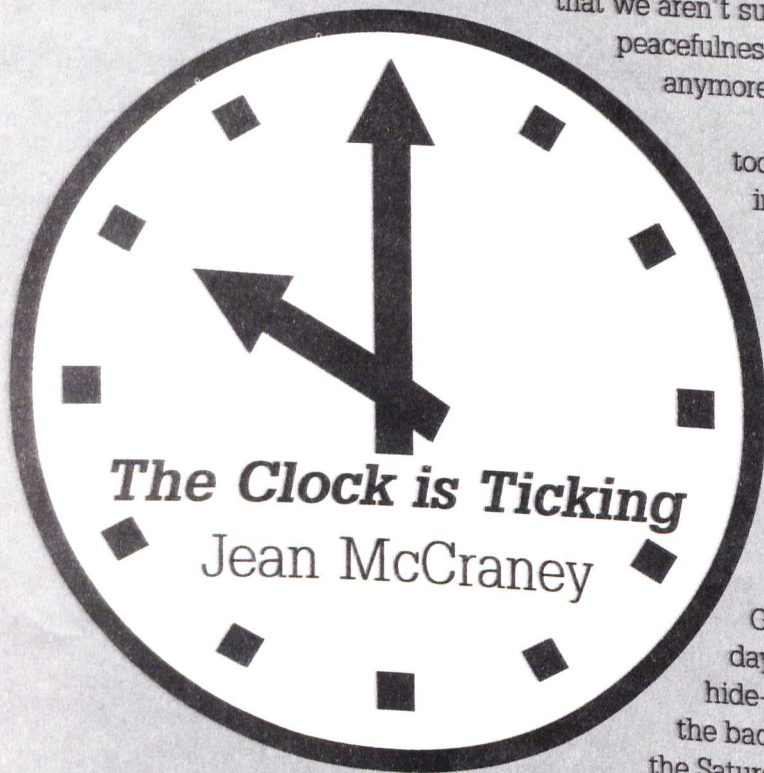
prayer" to get it all done. Who knows what blessings lie ahead for those who, like Daniel, let nothing interrupt their daily quiet time with God.

Perhaps if we tithed our time, we'd find enough of it to attend all those meetings and activities at church we never seemed to get to. Like Wednesday night prayer meetings and Woman's Auxiliary.

Deuteronomy 12:5 says seek and come to the place where "the Lord shall choose . . . to put His name." Being faithful to serve, and to attend, is important because God has put his name on the ministries of the church. If we are truly "co-laborers together with God," we will invest our time in the work.

The heartbeat of Woman's Auxiliary has always been missions and soulwinning. How much time are we devoting to these pursuits? When was the last time you wrote to a missionary with words of encouragement? Do you remember to pray for them everyday? Missionaries leave behind families, friends, and jobs to share the gospel with others. Are we willing to walk across the street to do the same? We think, "Maybe I'll run into them at the ballgame or grocery store. It takes too much time to make the extra effort."

The clock is ticking, and Jesus will be returning soon. Do you have loved ones who are unprepared for our Savior's



**R-r-r-**ing, goes the alarm clock. Oh no, another day! Time to get up! Can't believe it's 5:30 already. I just got in the bed.

Well, I have to get moving. How will I get everything done today? The orthodontist at 8:45, then to work until 5:30, run home to feed the gang, and then it's off to PTA 6:30 and Woman's Auxiliary at 7:00. Hopefully, I can crawl into bed by 10:00.

Sound familiar? For all of us, the clock is ticking.

If our ancestors could speak, they'd probably say, "Slow down!" We're so busy

return? Some may even need a spiritual revival to get rid of the complacency that has set in.

We've let the world consume too much of the time and devotion God expects from us. We have gotten our priorities mixed up. I wonder how we would feel if He were too busy for us? You know, too busy to provide for us, too busy to hear and answer our prayers. Where would we be if God had been too busy or preoccupied to send Jesus to die for us? Let's ignore the clock for a minute or two and think about how we'd feel. And then reset our clocks to run on His time.

Oh, by the way, I began writing this article in February 1993. I finally finished it in January . . . of 1994.

Where did the time go? ❖

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*Jean McCraney is an active member of First FWB Church in Decatur, AL.*



## Tender Thoughts

by pearl mitchell

**t**he earth is an amazing place! How can anyone look outside and not know there is a God?

Think about the oxygen-carbon dioxide cycle. We breath in oxygen and exhale carbon-dioxide, which plants use in order to make oxygen which we breath in. On and on the cycle goes. Could something so perfect happen by itself?

Think about the water cycle. Water is a major component of the earth. The sun draws it as humidity up into the atmosphere where it evaporates. Then it is returned to the earth in various forms of precipitation. Self-perpetuating, isn't it?

And what about the food chain? Is it a coincidence that all creatures fall in line somewhere, usually feeding off smaller species or vegetation. Plants make their own food, but animals seek their food according to their natural positions. Eventually, though, the smallest feeds off the largest.

But the most incredible miracles are those beyond description. Like how God gets a large oak tree into a little bitty acorn. Man thought he had the patent on freeze-drying and dehydration, but God actually thought it up.

And how does God get a baby into a microscopic egg, a life which grows from conception to be a man or a woman with characteristics so distinct, that even in the womb, the genes are different?

How can a person breathe everyday, see his body digest food, his cells repair themselves, see his bones healed—his body at work like a fine machine—and not acknowledge God, the great engineer who designed it? Only God could design and manufacture the human body, the ecosystem, the stars that hang in the sky, and the planets that revolve around the sun without bumping into each other.

We could think on these amazing things all day, but our thoughts will never overshadow the tender thoughts of God. "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, saith the Lord." Isaiah 55:8. ❖

---

*Pearl Mitchell is an elementary school teacher living in Columbus, GA, and the mother of three grown children.*

**i**f you are looking for a typical worship service, you won't find it at the nursing home.

Our church has been leading a monthly Sunday afternoon worship service at Manor Care for at least five years. We who regularly attend get used to the inevitable interruptions, but one Sunday recently made me ask, "Is this really worship? Can worship really take place in the midst of this chaos?"

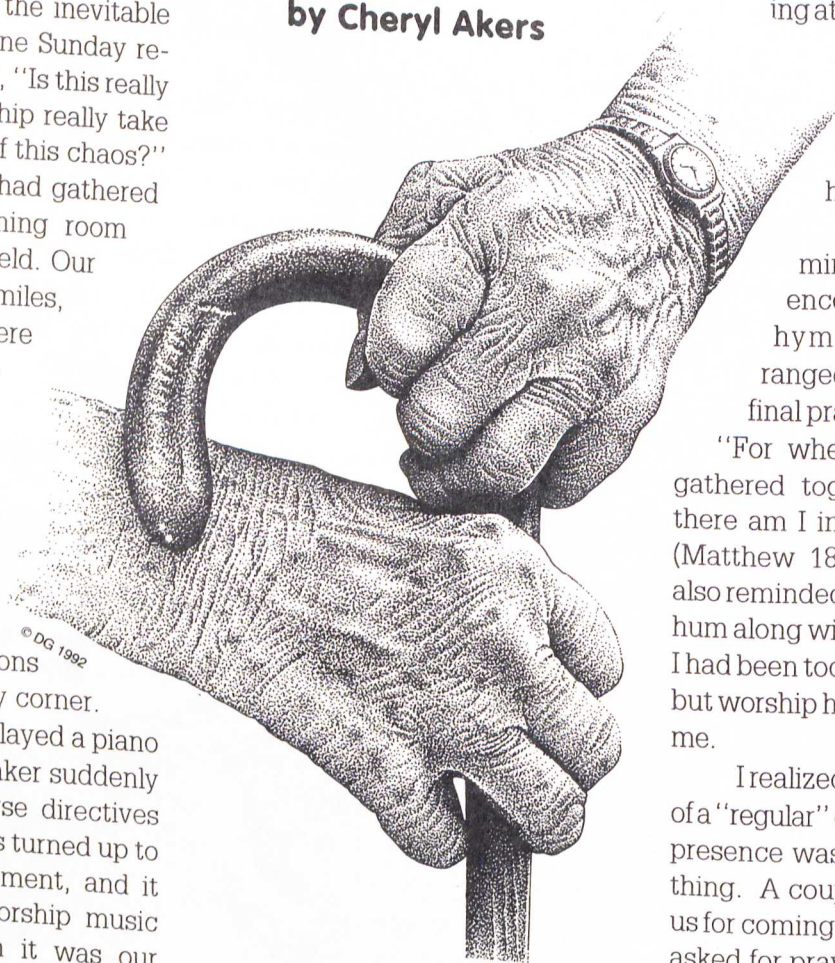
The residents had gathered slowly into the dining room where "church" is held. Our regular greetings, smiles, and handshakes were returned, and the services began. The pastor opened in prayer, when I realized that this service was going to be especially challenging. Interruptions sprang up from every corner.

While our son played a piano special, the loudspeaker suddenly blared out some terse directives from the staff. Heads turned up to catch the announcement, and it seemed that the worship music was wasted. Then it was our daughter's turn to play her hymn. This time, noisy fidgeting and muttering blocked out most of her song. A patient nervously drilled her fingers on a nearby table. I was getting exasperated. "Are we wasting our time?" I asked myself.

Glancing outside, I noticed a child's head popping up and down regularly. He was desperate for attention from his relatives in the service. I was desperate for normalcy, peace, and order for the service.

# iRreguLar WorshiP

by Cheryl Akers



While the pastor led a congregational song, two patients in wheelchairs in the back corner of the room began arguing over where to put the chairs. One lady swore. The other lifted her fist in an automatic defense. My mind yelled, "This shouldn't be war! This is church!" Finally an aide settled the dispute. I breathed deeply. "Lord, just let us get through this service," I prayed. Inwardly I squirmed, trying to will an end to the afternoon's confusion.

My husband then preached a

short message to the mixed audience--residents of the nursing home (some dozing by then), some visitors, a nurse, an aide, three of our church families. A few people entered; a few left. It was obvious to me that hardly anyone was paying attention. "Is this really

worship?" my mind asked. "You bet it is!" The answer startled my reluctant heart.

The Lord reminded me of His presence as we gathered the hymnbooks and rearranged the chairs after the final prayer. Hadn't He said,

"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20)? My daughter also reminded me that one lady did hum along with the piano specials. I had been too distracted to notice, but worship had gone on all around me.

I realized that despite the lack of a "regular" order of service, God's presence was the most important thing. A couple of ladies thanked us for coming. A silver-haired man asked for prayer.

Suddenly my heart was lifted and full of peace. God had been praised despite the distractions. The preacher had spoken the Word. The people had sung of God's goodness. He had been glorified!

After all, isn't that what worship is all about?❖

---

*Cheryl Akers' article won 2nd place in the 1993 Creative Arts. She and husband, Michael, have two children, Timothy (15) and Alisa (13). They attend Immanuel FWB Church.*

## THEME ARTICLE

THE BIBLE: LIGHT ON THE WAY

# THE SECRET

BY MARY ANN HAYS



**T**here is a basic formula for victorious Christian living that eluded me for many years. I had grown up in a Christian home, attended a Christian school, attended FWBBC and Hillsdale, and could practically quote Free Will Baptist Sunday school literature from the nursery to the adult class. I knew Jesus as my Savior. I knew how to worship and trust God. I could feel the Holy Spirit at work in me. I knew the Scriptures about finding God's will for my life, but I never knew how to translate all of these into a life of victory.

When I was nineteen, I had accepted the fact that marriage would not be in my future. I had not had a date in over a year. But God spoke to me about changing my attitude. He wanted me to act in faith. After all, "whatsoever things you desire when you pray, believe that you shall receive them," right? Well, either He meant what He said, or He didn't. I prayed back to Him what is written in His Word. I believed He meant it, so I just got ready for my answer. It may sound naive, but I even went out and bought a bridal magazine. In five months, I went to Hillsdale and met John, who had been

praying for me. We were married a year and a half later.

After a year of trying, my husband and I were unable to have children. I became depressed, thinking it must be God's will for us. But again, God began to speak to me about my attitude. I began searching the scriptures for an answer to the frustration and depression of being childless. I just knew there would be verses of comfort and peace related to my problem. What I found surprised me. Did you know that every woman in the Bible who prayed for a child had one? Barrenness was the exception, not the rule. Psalm 119:6 joyfully proclaims that God can deliver the barren woman and make her a joyful mother.

As I communed with God over those scriptures on motherhood and barrenness, quoting them back to Him, God gave me a special blessing. He sent me a book called, *Supernatural Childbirth: Experiencing God's Blessing in Conception and Delivery* by Jackie Mize. Doctors had told her that she would never have children, but in faith she and her husband began claiming the promises of God's Word. Now they have four children.

I began to speak God's Word to Him everyday. "God you said. . . ." "Lord, I believe your word when it says. . . ." I know, it may sound naive, but I bought a pair of tiny baby shoes. People who knew me would ask, "Who are those for?" I would say, "For the baby I will have." I began talking about things yet to be as if they already were. The Bible says that God Himself does that. Why can't we?

God has been faithful to His Word and to me. When I pray, confess, and believe His promises, He always answers. The answer may not always be what we hope for, but this time it was. Our baby is due in August.

We are all partakers of the promises of God, are we not? There are so many unclaimed promises in His Word. Many simply live and accept whatever happens without searching the Word for what can be. Once I learned the secret, I could hardly believe that it wasn't being proclaimed loudly in our churches.

Do you believe Luke 1:37--"With God, nothing is impossible"? Don't just say how you feel. Don't allow Satan to tell you to "get a grip." Go to God's Word, and find out what He has to say about what you are facing. It's not "seek and you may find." It's "seek and you **will** find." It's not "knock, and if someone's home, He might come to the door." It's "knock, and the door **will** open." When you pray, pray the Word back to God. The secret is really no secret at all. ❖



them to visit and comfort the grieving woman. They sing, have a short devotion about hope in Christ, and pray with her. Visiting the home of the bereaved is important in this culture.

Marriage ceremonies and church conferences find Les Femmes busy "in the kitchen." They gather under a tree beside the church where they cut up and wash the meat, dice onions and tomatoes, pick stones from a 100 lb. bag of rice, and cook huge pots of rice and sauce over open fires. The women delight in the fellowship of this vital ministry to the church.

Les Femmes have also organized and staff the nursery during church services. They arrange four benches around two sleeping mats laid out on the ground. Three women watch any fussy babies and toddlers, so the mothers can concentrate on the sermon.

The one event their American sisters can best identify with is their "Camp des Femmes," a combination national retreat and convention. The women scrimp and save \$12, which includes transport and participation fees. Although not all are able to attend, those who do return in high spirits, eager to share the blessings from meeting with other sisters from different tribes.

Different, but equal. Les Femmes may be across the ocean on another continent, yet we are laborers together with Christ. We share in each other's ministry. Sisters, pray for us! ♦

---

*Lynette Morgan and her husband, Clint, are missionaries to Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa.*

**E**ach Saturday afternoon around 4 p.m., women of the Bouna Free Will Baptist Church gather for "Les Femmes" (The Women). They walk the short distance from the village to the church outside of town. Chattering like women the world over, they find their seats on benches arranged in a circle in front of the church. Soon the area resounds with lively singing accompanied by brisk hand-clapping. You say you don't understand the words? Just wait. They may sing in seven different languages before the session ends.

More than 50 women have enrolled in Les Femmes with a weekly average of 28. "Madame Clint" has been elected as teacher and president. Eight other officers comprise the "bureau," and all are baptized believers. Madame Clint is grooming her vice-president Mme. Martin, a dedicated Koulougö woman, to become president.

An offering is received to finance their projects--each giving

50 francs (.10) each month. The president then teaches the Bible lesson. Most of the women are illiterate, so these sessions are vital to their spiritual growth. The remaining time is spent sharing praise items or prayer requests and praying. The meeting adjourns by 5:30, so the women can get home to prepare the evening meal.

The last Sunday of the month is visitation day. Instead of meeting at the church, the women visit unsaved neighbors and friends, inviting them to church. Many have been saved as a result.

Les Femmes do more than meet on Saturdays. When one has a baby, they carry benches from the church and go to congratulate her. They laugh and chat and pass the new baby around. Someone gives a devotion related to children, and another prays a dedicatory prayer. Finally, they present the mother with a traditional gift of seven bars of laundry soap.

When someone dies, they once again carry the benches with

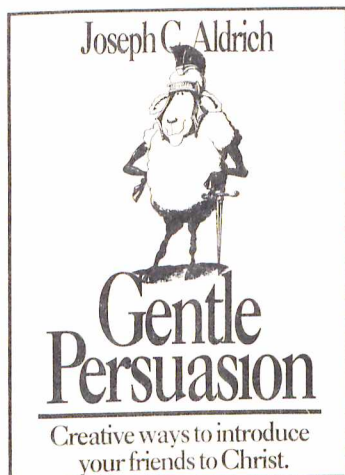
## Gentle Persuasion

Joseph C. Aldrich

Multnomah, 1988

ISBN: 0-88070-253-2

Reviewed by: Melissa Riddle



When it comes to evangelism or witnessing or winning souls, there seems to be some people who have it and some people who don't. There are the professionals (preachers and evangelists and a handful of lay men and women) who, in a matter of words, can bring a sinner to his knees in repentance. Most of us, however, struggle with the need to be witnesses in conflict with our lack of know-how. Joseph C. Aldrich's book *Gentle Persuasion* offers a humorous and biblical approach to creatively reaching others with the gospel. For the fledgling missions-minded Christian, this book is a boon.

Aldrich opens with a profound statement: "God is not so much asking you to tell your people what a friend they have in Jesus, as in showing them what a friend they have in you. . . . Love them we're told. Love them until they ask us why."

He goes on to explain how, in order to become a "redemptive" people, we must grow in our understanding of how God draws people to himself. It involves [1.] making the decision to be what God has called us to be; [2.] being accountable to others in the faith; and [3.] sharpening our focus beyond our fears.

Each chapter is not only informative and challenging, but it is chocked-full of wonderful

illustrations, mock-interviews, real-life accounts of how people came to the Lord, funny anecdotes, and little pearls of wisdom--all related to the process of successful evangelism (operative word: process). Each chapter has a traceable outline, enticing subtitles, and the illustrations alone are worth a couple thousand words, not to mention the price of the book.

But by far, being the list fanatic that I am, I especially benefitted from Aldrich's lists:

*Biblical Metaphors*  
*What Are Lost Sheep Like?*  
*The Oikos Perspective*  
*How to Cultivate a Soul*  
*Evangelistic Pitfalls*  
*Tips for Helping People*

These lists help us recall the basics of soul-winning.

*Gentle Persuasion* ends trying to answer some tough questions related to lifestyle evangelism. Here again, Aldrich's answers are timely and appropriate. Of course, his book is aimed at Christians of many different denominations and doctrines, so he answers both at specific and general areas of concern.

Some might tend to write off a book that can address something as serious as evangelism with wit and lists and cartoon sheep. Even Aldrich knew that. This is how he puts it:

"'Whoa, brother Aldrich, whoa!' someone says. 'All this talk of serving and helping the oppressed sounds like a lot of liberalism to me! If you spend your resources doing that sort of thing, in no time at all you forget the gospel! You don't want to do that, do you?'"

"'No indeed! We must never forget that it is the gospel, and only the gospel, that saves men and women from hell.'"

It is the hands-on approach to spreading the gospel, modeled by Christ and the Apostles, that Aldrich is proclaiming. God wants to make us "attack lambs," loving the lost into a relationship with Christ.

Read it, laugh, and be encouraged. "Saints, (and sheep) go marching out." ♦

*WNAC does not stock this book. Please order from Randall House or your local Christian bookstore.*



## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

You've worked hard. You've been faithful. You've done a good job. No one can argue with that.

And you're not just good at it; you're practically an expert.

If experience counts for anything, very few can top you.

But then one day, you are replaced. Someone younger or better has been given your job. You've gone from first-string to the bench--all in a matter of hours. How do you handle it?

When Elijah's ministry was coming to a close, it must have been hard to let it go--to give it to Elisha. After all, Elijah had held his position for years. He was God's prophet.

### *19 Kings 2:9*

**"Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken from you?"**

Elijah wanted to do what he could to help Elisha. He knew how to bow out gracefully, with a humble, helpful spirit.

Going out gracefully takes spiritual maturity and confidence that God knows what He wants to accomplish in our lives.

## Poet's Corner

### A Gentle Reminder

Mary Ann Hays

*1st place in the 1994 Creative Arts Contest*

How many days have I spent at home with nothing to do.  
How many nights have I laid awake, thinking nothing new.

Empty mailboxes, silent telephones, no communication.  
I live alone, unfeeling, untouched with mundane meditation.

I see a glimpse, a ray of sun, its warming effect, my emotions undone.

Trying, testing, making a way  
My heart is breaking,  
My mind is clay.

I wonder, I wake, I wish that I were away from the trouble of problems astir.

My eyes are closed, my thoughts are still,  
My soul cries out, my heart grows ill.

And just when I feel I can stand no more,  
I hear in my heart, a knock on the door.

Someone is standing just outside, His face full of love, His arms open wide.

I rush out, not thinking to invite him in.

The moment I am near Him, I feel peace begin.

His forgiveness overwhelmed me I hurt, so I cried.

He gently reminded, "I have already died."

"I died just for you, I love you so. But your life was so busy, you didn't know.

"And all this time I've seen you cry, You carry your burdens alone, little one, why?

"I'm here now, and I always will be. I'll be your strength, and I'll set you free.

"Don't be afraid, don't shed a tear. I've overcome the world, so be of good cheer."

It was something like magic, yet not quite the same. Still troubles abound and problems remain.

Yet in the shadows, in the darkness of night, God's love and His peace gives strength, hope, and light.

### Time is Slipping Away

Lynette Morgan

*2nd place in the 1994 Creative Arts Contest*

Time is slipping away--  
Do it today.

Before long he won't want you to kiss him, hug him, scratch his back--  
Time is slipping away.

She won't want you to play Barbies, tickle her at bedtime, sit on your lap--  
Time is slipping away.

Laugh at that silly joke, Relax at that spilled milk, Let them play in the rain--  
Time is slipping away.

Oh Lord, make me aware of each moment--  
What am I giving them to remember?  
Time is slipping away.



# Springboard:

## Innovative Ideas for WNAC Officers

### Coordinator

When planning your Fall calendar, don't forget that September is Student Loan Month. All gifts designated for the Memorial Student Loan Fund enable FWB young people to pursue a Christian education. Since 1957, this fund has been an important service ministry of WNAC. Your gifts keep it going.

September is also Pastor Appreciation month. Plan now for your women's group to honor him and his wife in a special way. Perhaps your group could spearhead a churchwide effort to honor them.

And September is the month for Together Way's "Rest of the Family Offering." Together Way is a plan of stewardship for FWBaptists to support all the national agencies. September is set aside to support the agencies other than Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and FWBBC.

Are any women from your group planning on attending WNAC's 8th Annual Retreat at Ridgecrest, NC? Is there anyone who might want to go who hasn't registered? The retreat promises to be a blessing. Well worth the "last minute rush" to go.

### Asst. Coordinator

*A Piece That Fits* is WNAC's new playbook (Vol. 11). It contains six new plays to fit many different occasions. You can order it by sending \$3.80 (includes p&h) to WNAC, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN. 37011-5002.

Suggestions for the September program: *Basic Math for the Christian Woman*: A poster with fake copies of pages from a checkbook ledger that has scribbles and mark-throughs all in it (hard to read, much less balance). The caption at the bottom could read, "Your checkbook doesn't have to read like this. Basic Math for the Christian Woman. (Date, Time, Place)."

The presenter may want to begin or end with questions like: When was the last time you subtracted something from a recipe only to have a culinary disaster? When was the last time you added a good deed to your day? When was the last time you divided your possessions to share with someone else? Allow time for sharing.

A take-home favor of some kind with pluses, minuses, equal signs, and division signs with selected scriptures from the program would be an added touch.

*Beauty Inside-Out* can be presented as a two-person skit--one, a "Kary May" beauty consultant; the other, her volunteer for a make-

### DEVOTION OUTLINE

#### What is Prayer?

**Scripture:** "Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." Matthew 7:7

**Opener:** Ask the women to give their definitions of prayer. Discuss the different types of prayer, such as intercessory, praise, and thanksgiving.

I. The disciples said, "Lord, teach us to pray." Discuss prerequisites for learning to pray, such as: a set time, the right attitude, a place, a prayer list, and a study of the scriptures on prayer. Share the difficulties of being persistent in prayer.

II. Prepare in advance and give each woman a scripture reference on prayer. Have them read the verses aloud and discuss the relevance to Christians today.

III. Challenge the women to commit to a specific pattern for daily prayer, using the following guide:

Adoration Ps. 8:1

Confession I Jn. 1:9

Thanksgiving I Thess. 5:18

Supplication Jn. 16:24

IV: After sharing prayer requests, use this pattern to lead the women in prayer. ❖

over. As each item is introduced, the consultant applies the makeup to the volunteer.

The consultant should wear a pink smock with "Kary May" or "KM" badge on her lapel. The volunteer should have no make-up on and have her hair pushed back from her face. Use any other available props to achieve the salon look.

Don't be afraid to use exaggerated motions when applying the makeup, and ad-lib all you want to make it more specific to your women's group.

Print I Samuel 16:7 on white cards with smudges of eyeshadow, lipstick and foundation. Let them dry, cover them with clear contact paper, and affix stick-on-magnets on the backs. Pass out to the women to put on their makeup or bathroom mirrors to remind them of this lesson in beauty.

### Prayer Chairman

Read Mary Ann Hays' article "The Secret." Then, make prayer reminders using scripture verses that can be used as prayers to God. Fold one sheet of paper vertically once, then horizontally twice, and you will have 8 even rectangles. On one side, write specific requests that you know exist in your women's group; on the other side, write a promise in scripture related to that request.

For example, if someone in your group is in need of a job, write "Susan's Job Situation," and on the back write, "Psalm 84:11b: No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly."

Be sure to include the latest requests on the Missions Hotline, Mission Alert, and other missionary requests you know. This will take some time, but once you make one set of cards, you can copy them for your entire group. One for each day of the month. Encourage the women to use these cards and pray believing God will keep His promises.

### Study Chairman

Note the book review of *Gentle Persuasion* by Joseph C. Aldrich. You may want to consider this for your group or church library. The Service Chairman may find this book beneficial for guiding your group in community outreach.

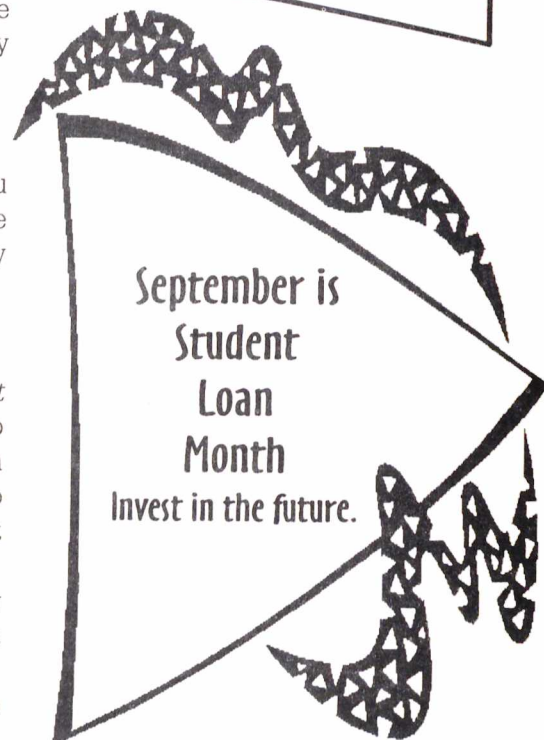
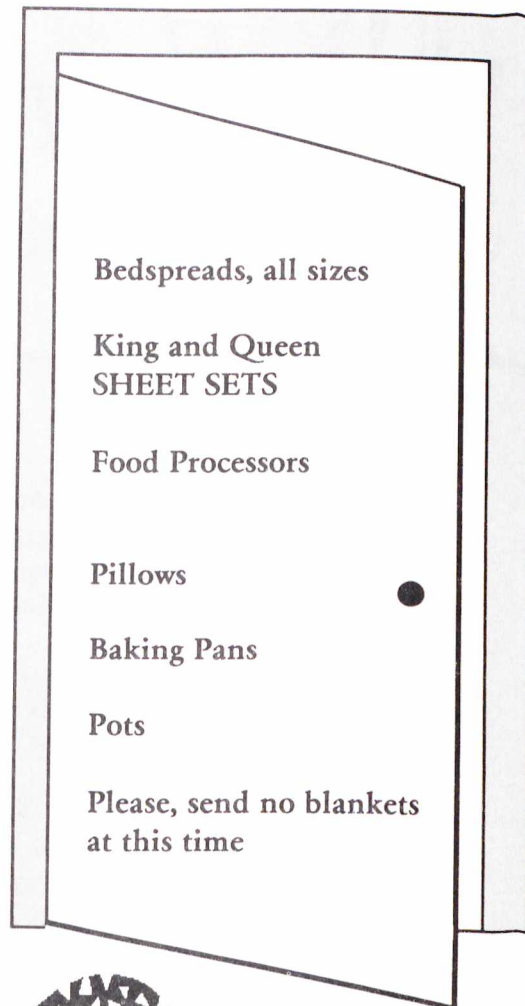
### Mission Chairman

Just out is Lorene Miley's book of missionary stories entitled *First Fruits: Answered Prayer on the Mission Field*. It is an inspiring testimony to God's work on the mission field and the power of prayer, stories of great men and women of God. Every church library needs this one. For anyone who cares about missions, *First Fruits* is a must. Order through WNAC. The cost is \$5 plus postage and handling.

You may want to order a copy and begin sharing a story or two in your meetings to motivate the women to purchase their own. *First Fruits* is a great devotional side-dish or quiet time read.

Did you see Lynette Morgan's article "Woman's Auxiliary: African

## Provision Closet Needs:



Style" on page 11? Isn't it amazing that there is a FWB women's group of that size half way around the world? And look at all they do, without the comforts and conveniences we enjoy? Perhaps we all need to see the big picture more clearly, remembering our Christian sisters and brothers in prayer more often.

Breakfast for your heart. Do all the women in your group have prayer cards? They go great with toast and juice in the mornings. Write to the FM and HM departments and request them.

### Service Chairman

For those who collect used postage stamps to send in to WNAC, please be reminded to mail them in as cheaply as possible. We receive about .30/lb. for domestic and \$3/lb. for foreign stamps, so when possible, send them by someone traveling to Nashville.

Now that school is starting back, there are plenty of opportunities for service to students. Here are some suggestions:

- ❖ Volunteer as a tutor or monitor or teacher's helper at Christian or public schools.

- ❖ If you live in or near a college town, investigate opportunities to meet and minister to international students. Check with the Student Affairs office, or contact an International Student, Inc., representative. Possible ways to minister: sponsor a coffee hour once every month or every few months for groups of students; be a conversation partner to help them with English; open your home to them for family interaction.

- ❖ Check with city or county agencies about joining a mentoring (buddy) program for disadvantaged youths.

- ❖ Start a neighborhood Bible club, rotating members of your group as helpers and teachers

- ❖ Offer "Mother's Day Out" once a month at the church for those mothers and fathers who need a night out. The proceeds could pay for the babysitter, and the extra could go to missions. ❖

**HOW  
IS YOUR  
WORLD  
VISION?  
20-20!**



### Marge Needs A Lift



#### On the phone:

**Lucy:** Hi, Marge. How are you dear?

**Marge:** Oh, I've been better. Seems like everything is caving in on me. Mother is in the hospital. Rayburn and I have been squabbling all week. And Jr. has lost his mind . . . again.

**Lucy:** It can't be as bad as all that. The doctor has said your mother will be fine. You and Rayburn always make up. And Jr., well, chances are he'll find his mind again.

**Marge:** Well, I just have to wonder sometimes why God chooses to answer our prayers when and how He does. [sadly] Life is just too hard, Lucy.

**Lucy:** [excitedly] I have something that just might encourage you, Marge!

**Marge:** What could that possibly be?

**Lucy:** It's a book of missionary stories written by Lorene Miley. You know Mrs. Miley. She was the editor for *CoLaborer* magazine.

**Marge:** Oh yes, she's such a fine woman.

**Lucy:** Well, her book gives example after example of just how powerfully God answers prayer, whether we are here in [your state] or halfway around the world.

**Marge:** That sounds nice, but you know I don't have time to read.

[continued]

## Springboard Illustrated: Stories to Grow By Volume 34/ No. 5

### The Cockeyed Drawing

Melba Hibbard

2nd place winner--Articles--1994 Creative Arts Contest

Taped high above the desk, our four-year-old daughter proudly displays her latest coloring creation. Always in hot water for throwing her masterpieces away, I allowed her to hang it any place she pleased. So with paper and tape in hand, she climbed on the desk and suspended the page.

It's a picture of David and Goliath. Goliath looms gigantic and is fully armored. David stands before him, small and open. Open to harm. Open to destruction. A small slingshot dangles from one hand as David fearlessly faces Goliath. A Bible verse is printed at the bottom: Isaiah 12:2--"I will trust and not be afraid." Goliath's hair is pink, and David has one orange leg. But the image speaks volumes to my weary heart.

You see, I'm facing a giant. I have been for a long time. Things only seem to go from bad to worse. A spark of hope may flicker along the way only to be snuffed out before it can catch fire. If I had known the tunnel would be so long, I may have never started the journey.

Friends have reserved their comments for now, but even they see no way for a graceful ending to the clash. I feel abandoned to defy this giant alone.

But the picture above the desk screams encouragement. "The battle is the Lord's!" He may equip me with a slingshot and five smooth stones, but He will prevail. I may go it alone, even with words of discouragement from my brothers and sisters, but God will deliver me.

I will trust in God. I will not be afraid. This mountain that shadows my route will not detour me. God has a perfect plan. I choose to walk in it.

She's always been an angel to me. And tonight she supplied water to a thirsty soldier and hope for a drooping heart. All in her cockeyed drawing.

I think I'll keep this one. ❖

### Lucy and Marge continued . . .

Rayburn has tracked mud all through the kitchen and laundry room . . .

**Lucy:** Trust me, Marge, you need to make time for this book. It will encourage you. It will help you put your problems in perspective. And it will help you to better appreciate and pray for our missionaries.

**Marge:** Okay, but will it help Jr. find his mind and give up this idea of moving to Canada?

**Lucy:** Probably not, but it will help you. And then maybe you can help Rayburn Jr. ❖

## HID IN MY HEART

### Jonah 2: 6-9

I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever; yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O Lord my God.

When my soul fainted within me I remembered the Lord: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple.

They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy.

But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay *that* that I have vowed. Salvation *is* of the Lord.



### MISSIONARY PRAYER CALENDAR

Missionaries supported by both Foreign and Home Missions departments are listed here by birthdays in September and October. Brighten their special days with your cards and prayers. Missionaries on furlough are indicated by \*.

#### SEPTEMBER

- 1 Gerald Mangham (VA)  
Rhoda Creech (C'I)\*
- 2 Ken Bailey (Japan)  
Ken Doggett (IL)
- 3 Sue Aycock (Brazil)
- 4 Tom Hunt (WA)
- 7 Susan Turnbough (Spain)  
Mirial Gainer (Japan)
- 8 Jeff Turnbough (Spain)
- 9 Nancy Hughes (Brazil)
- 10 Cliff Donoho (IA)
- 11 Sandra McGowan (OH)
- 12 Joel Nason (NH)
- 14 Carol Teague (France)
- 17 Gail Criswell (OR)  
Laverne Alligood (FL)
- 19 Nathan Snow (Japan)
- 20 Debbie Crosby (Spain)
- 25 Kathryn Wright (WV)  
George Harvey (AZ)

- 27 Larue Crowson (France)
- 28 Brenda Bunch (Panama)\*
- 29 Pat Franks (Brazil)\*  
Ruth McDonald (Japan)
- 30 Norman Richards (C'I)

#### OCTOBER

- 1 Paula Roach (OH)  
Deleen Cousineau (C'I)\*
- 3 Adelaida Vera (Puerto Rico)
- 5 Dave Franks (Brazil)
- 6 Carol Pinkerton (C'I)\*  
Rebecca Franks (C'I)
- 8 Clint Morgan (C'I)\*
- 9 Dot Gore (MS)
- 11 Ivan Ashbury (IN)  
Paul Creech (C'I)\*
- 13 Jerry Gibbs (France)\*  
Kathy Coats (SD)

- 14 Jim Mertz (MO)
- 17 Geneva Poole (Brazil)
- 18 Bob Thomas (CO)  
Jalayn Martens (C'I)  
Becky Riggs (France)  
Debbie Lynn (GA)
- 23 Gerald Fender (TN)  
Mike Cousineau (C'I)  
Lila Nichols (C'I)  
Robert West (C'I)\*  
Louise Vandivort (AZ)
- 26 Bertie Mangham (VA)
- 27 Donna Thomas (CO)
- 28 Susan Burgess (IL)
- 31 Dwain Crosby (Spain)

PLEASE . . .  
DO NOT SEND MAIL  
TO MISSIONS OFFICES  
TO BE FORWARDED.

# COMMUNICATOR

BY MARY RUTH WISEHART

## The Memorial Student Loan Fund

September is Student Loan Fund month.

WNAC began the Student Loan in 1956 with \$500 from Mrs. Agnes Frazier. Sophomores and upperclassmen at Free Will Baptist Bible College, our national college, are eligible to apply for a loan. Students may borrow up to \$4,000 during their years at the College. The loan has simple interest beginning one year after the loan is made. The money must be repaid according to a set schedule, and interest is payable each year in December.

In the month of September, women have the opportunity to give a special gift to the Student Loan Fund. It was established in memory of the faithful women who founded WNAC.

## WNAC's Eighth Retreat

September 15-17 women from across the country will meet at the Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina for the 8th biennial retreat.

With the theme "Back to Basics," women will be concentrating on prayer with Pam Wood and Bible study with Alice Wood.

Lois Miller, retired missionary with OMS, will speak to the theme each day of the retreat.

Attendees will have the opportunity to meet and talk with missionaries in a relaxed atmosphere.

Check out the program below and be one who gets in on the basics of the Christian life. ❖

### 8TH ANNUAL WNAC RETREAT

SEPT. 15-17

RIDGECREST, NC

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

3:00-7:00 P.M.  
Check-In (Pritchell Lobby)

5:30-6:30 P.M.  
Supper  
(all meals will be served in the Dining Hall)

7:30 P.M.  
Opening General Session (Spilman Auditorium)  
Congregational Singing  
Welcome . . . Mary Wischart  
Meet Your Group Leaders  
Special Music  
Speaker . . . Lois Miller

11:30 P.M.  
Quiet Time

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

7:30-8:15 A.M.  
Breakfast

8:30-9:30 A.M.  
General Session (Spilman Auditorium)  
Congregational Singing  
Special Music  
Speaker . . . Alice Wood

9:45-10:45 A.M.  
Small Group Sessions (Crystal Springs Classrooms)  
11:00-11:30 A.M.  
General Session (Spilman Auditorium)  
Speaker . . . Alice Wood

12:00-12:45 P.M.  
Lunch

1:30-2:30 P.M.  
General Session (Spilman Auditorium)  
Congregational Singing  
Special Music  
Speaker . . . Pam Wood

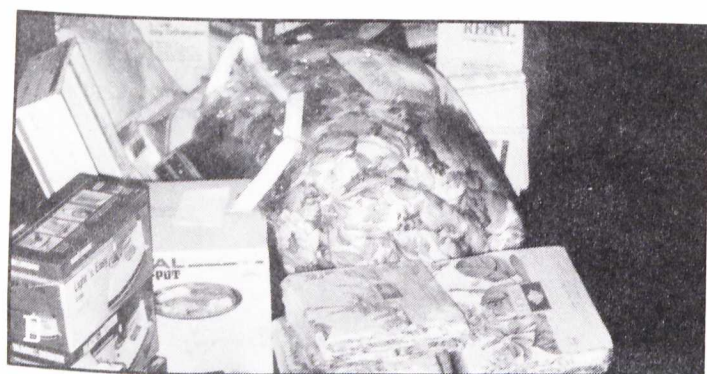
3:00-4:00 P.M.  
Small Group Sessions (Crystal Springs Classrooms)  
5:30-6:00 P.M.  
Supper

7:00-9:00 P.M.  
General Session (Spilman Auditorium)  
Congregational Singing  
Special Music  
Speaker . . . Lois Miller  
Missions Offering

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

7:30-8:15 P.M.  
Breakfast (Dining Hall)  
8:30-10:00 A.M.  
General Session (Spilman Auditorium)  
Congregational Singing  
Take Five  
Congregational Singing  
Special Music  
Speaker . . . Lois Miller

# Women In Action



## A. Warm Fellowship for the Quiroz Family

Caesar and Luz Quiroz, national missionaries to Ecuador, are pictured holding the fellowship quilt made for them by the Woman's Auxiliary of First Church in Mobile, AL. Daughters Priscila and Rebeca look on. Luz was saved as a result of Ella Rae Jones' ministry in Ecuador.

## B. Virginia is for Lovers . . . of the Provision Closet

The Northern Virginia District Woman's Auxiliary, which is affiliated with Maryland State, collected \$775 in goods for the WNAC Provision Closet for their quarterly project. According to Peggy Wolfe, District Treasurer, there are five churches in this district: Bethel in Woodbridge; Bloss Memorial in Arlington; Fairwood in Fairfax Station; Heritage in Fredericksburg; and Stephens City in Stephens City, VA. Pictured are some of the items collected.



## C. Sophia, WV has Fun for the Sturgills

Jim Sturgill is one happy missionary! The Sophia, WV, Auxiliary sponsored an all-day fundraiser in the church's gymnasium that netted \$1,375 for the Sturgill's account. Baked goods, hot dogs, crafts, a rummage sale, and a pie-in-the-face auction were just part of a grand day of fellowship and fun for the church family. A campfire devotional and singing time closed out the day. Pictured is President Mary Jones and Treasurer Janet Stovall presenting Brother Sturgill the check.

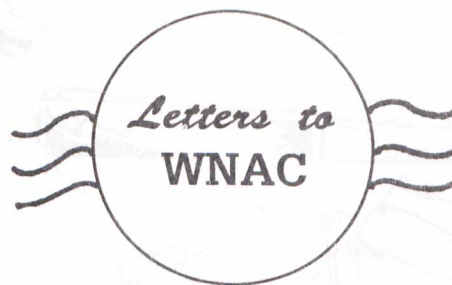
## D. Linens and More

The women of the First FWB Church in Montgomery, AL, collected linens for the Provision Closet as part of a concerted effort by the Alabama State Woman's Auxiliary. Alabama collected over \$1,400 for the Closet. Pictured are: (back) Bessie Carr, Lois Scraggs, Teresa Phillips, Lois Hibbs, Maggie Barrett; (front) Peggie Miller, Lura Corley, and Virginia Tatum.



### **E. - F. Darlington Women Go To "France"**

The Pre-Easter Week of Prayer this year found the women of First FWB of Darlington sponsoring a trip to "France" for their entire congregation. Everyone received their passport to "France" and dined by candlelight at the Cafe la Terrasse (Fellowship Hall). Visiting artist "Pierre," a Spring Fashion Show, and a mock interview with missionaries Patsy VanHook and Charolette Tallent entertained, informed, and inspired the audience. \$174 was given to support missions. Pictured are the models for the fashion show and artist Pierre at work. ❖



### **Dear WNAC,**

I want to thank you for loaning Dana the money to finish her education. I hope and pray God can use WNAC to help many more young people.

*Darline Zimmerman*  
Sesser, IL

### **Dear WNAC,**

I love the new *CoLaborer* magazine. As program chairman for group, I am never at a loss on how to present a program. I'm grateful God is using more women to write for Him. May God bless your ministry.

*Sue Winchester*  
St. Louis, MO

(\*Sue's program "Spring Cleaning" appeared in the May/June issue of *CoLaborer*.)

### **Dear WNAC,**

Just a note to say how much I look forward to the *CoLaborer*. I read it from cover to cover. I have especially enjoyed the section about our single missionaries.

*Pam Buck*  
Darlington, SC

### **Dear WNAC,**

As a rule, I don't write many letters, but I want to share my appreciation of my pastor, Donald Trogdon, and his wife. Brother Trogdon leads his small church with big church excitement. Many times I have seen my pastor and his wife do things for others, not for show or for a pat on the back. Our pastors need to know we appreciate them every Sunday of the year.

*Sue Jackson*  
Ft. Wayne, IN

### **Dear WNAC,**

Keep up the good work--encouraging, teaching our women, and supporting missions. Please have the women pray for our women. The money here has lost half its value, and many are having trouble buying medicine and food. We count on you so much. When I have a need, I turn to WNAC first. Special thanks to the OK women for a new washing machine. Way to go, ladies!

*Elaine Holland*  
Ivory Coast



## *Beatitudes for a Preacher's Wife*

by Helen M. Young



1. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife who considers her life a "plan of God," and who accepts her particular role as "God's appointment."

2. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife who joyfully occupies her role and looks upon the minister's work as the noblest, the hardest, but happiest on earth.

3. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife who knows that her own spiritual growth demands the scheduling of her time—to meet the demands of her family, the demands of the congregation, and her own personal need for replenishing her spiritual resources.

4. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife who radiates a spiritual glow, reflecting her joyous and confident faith in Christ and a love for all His people.

5. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife who keeps the common touch, who feels at home in all places and with all people—and learns to be content in all circumstances.

6. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife who has a listening ear for the problems of the people she works with, who can keep a confidence, be wise with advice, and who will not stoop to petty talk.

7. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife who can pray for those who criticize her or her husband and can, in

turn, show love and forbearance, who will be as kind and gracious to the unloving as to the "best members" of the congregation.

8. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife with sanctified common sense, who does not take herself too seriously, but who takes the unity and progress of the church seriously and, by good judgment and charity, strives to promote love and unity.

9. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife who accepts gifts with gracious appreciation, as tokens of love from the givers and, in turn, gives generously to others.

10. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife whose loyalty and devotion to the man she loves makes of her marriage a one-ness, divine and indivisible. Her joyous commitment to love and cherish her husband until death expresses itself in daily acts of tenderness, affection, consideration, and encouragement.

11. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife who considers the role of motherhood her greatest career, and who lovingly trains her children to be Christ-like. She recognizes that bringing her children up in the way of the Lord is her highest and most rewarding task.

12. *Blessed* is the preacher's wife who learns to be content, to be positive and always ready to serve, to encourage, and to appreciate others. ❖

# When You Support

## THE TOGETHER WAY

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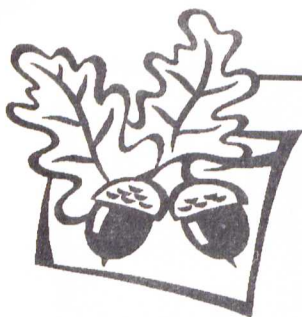


by  
**Lorene Miley**

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at Ridgecrest, North Carolina  
September 15-17, 1994  
Ridgecrest Conference Center



1994 Theme:

***Back To The Basics: Prayer and Bible Study***

## RESERVATION FORM

Enclosed is my deposit\* of \$ 25.50 (per person) made out to  
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Tel. (704) 669-8022 Fax. (704) 669-9721

The mailing address is: P.O. Box 128, Ridgecrest, NC 28770.

*Discount airfare is available on American Airlines:*

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**No Refunds After August 15, 1994.**

### Rates

(per person for 2 nights+5 meals, incl. program fee):

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**Option 1: Deluxe**  
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**No. of Guests:** \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\* Per-person deposit is deducted from the total cost. Commuters' total cost is \$25.50. We accept personal checks, Visa, MC, AmEx, and Discover cards. If using a credit card, please complete the following information (credit card users may fax or phone in reservations):

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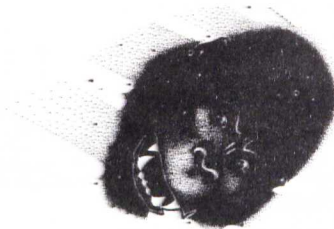
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"And let us not grow weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Galatians 6:9

a column for young people

# Life!Action.

... for everyday life



## A Glorious New Thing

**S**ome people think that once you become a Christian, it's not hard to do what's right. You know, like once you're saved, you are zapped into this person who does just what the Bible says everytime. If you had a problem lying before, no problem now. If you used to curse or talk back to your parents, no problem now. Cheated on some tests? You don't even think about doing it now. This Christianity thing is just plain simple.

What planet are they on? Being a Christian--growing up in Christ--is not a magical zap that makes you into a remote-control goody-two-shoes. Growing in Christ is a process, an everyday effort to get rid of the old and put on the new.

My front porch was built of beautiful terra-cotta, red-clay tiles. The kind that cost a fortune nowadays. Unfortunately, someone with no appreciation for them, painted the entire porch with a horrible, thick coat of grey paint. For years, there wasn't even a clue to what was underneath. The man who renovated my house had been chipping, scrapping, and sanding to remove the paint for two years. Over half of the porch is uncovered now, revealing deep, orange-brown tiles that reflect the sun. But guess what? I will be scraping and sanding the paint off those tiles probably for the rest of my life.

That is what the Christian life is like. No, not a drudgery or a dull day-after-day routine, but a process that takes a lifetime. There will be bad days and good days. There will days when you can't seem to do or say anything right. There will days when you sail through without one ugly thought or temptation clouding your mind. There will moments of victory--overcoming the hurdles of sin, fear, and doubt. There will be moments of defeat--when your world makes no sense, and God seems far away. All of these are a part of growing to know God better.

Read Galatians 6:7-10, and look at what Paul says about the Christian life. How we live matters. Whatever we do comes back on us. Every day we need to re-make our decision to follow Christ.

Every day, more of the old will come off, and underneath it is a glorious new thing.

**A Note From the Editor:** Hey Actionettes (or any teenage readers), this page is for you—to help you grow in Christ and to let readers of *CoLaborer* know about the great ways you serve God. I invite you to send in material or topics you want to see talked about on this page, and pictures—we love seeing your fabulous smiles! Mail your ideas, etc., to *CoLaborer* Magazine, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, Tennessee, 37011-5002 ❖

## My Loss, Another's Gain

Mable Purviance

### *Strange goings on out in the corridor.*

Nurses in crisp, white uniforms were scurrying about outside my room at St. Joseph's Hospital in Fairbanks, Alaska. Earlier that morning, I had given birth to our third child, a robust little fellow that my husband Edwin and I had longed for. But, unable to breathe, Robert Alan was never to be a part of our family. And yet, at the same time, he became very much a part of it.

When grim-faced nurses gathered around my bed that March morning, I had already settled the matter with God, confident He would strengthen me for the worst. But even so, no greater sorrow can descend upon a mother than that of losing a child. My gracious Lord just seemed to reach down--as only He can do--and tenderly gather my little boy into His arms, another jewel in His eternal kingdom.

I found tremendous comfort in a verse of Scripture, tucked away in the book of Zachariah. He wrote: "And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing . . ." (8:5). The sixth century prophet may have had ancient Jerusalem in mind when he wrote, but I have accepted his word portrait as a reference to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Though he left us with broken hearts, our Robert Alan has, through the years, touched--indirectly--thousands of other children around the world.



A distinctly new facet which was to change the course of our lives had its inception one morning when I stood in the narthex of our Fairbanks church. The frigid air outside was barred from icing down the sanctuary by a plain glass window. The idea gripped me: what our church needed was a stained glass window, placed there in memory of our son. What an inspiration such a window would be!

But not so. The vision I had deemed so perfect was no more than peanuts compared to the bombshell my Lord was about to spring on us. His blueprint was

crystal clear and so perfectly presented that it offered few loopholes for declining: we were to establish, in our baby's memory, a charitable organization to feed, clothe, teach, and love starving little waifs across the seas. God even named it for us: World's Children, Inc.

I could hardly believe it! We confessed to having no training whatsoever in such work. Yet, again and again God has reached down and laid His hand upon those seemingly less qualified to do His work. Consider Simon Peter, Paul, and young David, and Moses, the graybeard--how many

of us would have chosen one of them? God knows exactly whom He wants and where, every time.

In quest of destitute children overseas, Edwin and I boarded and departed 22 different aircraft--some surely held together with baling wire and chewing gum. As we touched down, I confessed more than once to my husband: "I never did put all my weight down in that thing!"

We soon discovered that you just cannot tour India, Korea, Hong Kong, the Philippines without departing with a crushed spirit. We found the children, as thick as leaves in autumn, hungry, half-naked, unable to write their names, and certainly not having heard the glad news of salvation.

The financial help we needed came from all over. Our sponsors pledged to support the children we had rooted out of India's squalid back-alleys, Korea's pathetic little lean-tos, and Hong Kong's walled city, the den of sin. We placed our little waifs in substantial structures--not extravagant by any means--but far above anything they had known. Our corporation was able to help thousands of destitute children--in our little son's memory.

A stained glass window is indescribably beautiful, but it cannot quell the hurting in a child's heart. In his own way, our little Robert Alan continues to bring comfort to Edwin and me --and to that host of little mop-pets God has permitted us to bless in His Name. ❖

---

*Mable Purviance has written two books and co-authored several more with her husband, Edwin, a retired minister. They live in Missoula, MT.*

## OVER MY COFFEE CUP

BY EUNICE EDWARDS



**I**t's apple picking time again. As I drove past the orchard with trees bending under the weight of their fruit, I resolved to indulge myself in a favorite recreation--picking Jonathans, Red and Yellow Delicious, and plenty of Rome Beauties for freezer pies.

However, all kinds of apples are not picked at the same time. They all don't ripen at the same time; first the tart Jonathans, then the juicy Delicious, and finally the waxy Rome Beauties.

As I pondered these things, a verse of Scripture came to mind; "But when the fullness of time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law" (Gal. 4:4).

There is no premature action in God's timing. He doesn't pick unripe fruit. The time for Christ's birth was as important to God as the birth.

You see, if I picked Rome Beauties when I pick Jonathans, I'd have unripe fruit. I'll miss the waxiness of ripe Rome Beauties. Not only will the fruit be harder to peel, the pies will lack the full flavor. In short, it would be foolish to pick both kinds of fruit at the same time.

Jesus was coming into the world to end one dispensation and begin another. His birth was planned and timed exactly.

It is foolish to think Christ was a product of the age. His birth was planned, timed, and accomplished in the heart and mind of God, even before the foundation of the world. (John 3:16; Heb. 1:2b, Phil. 2:7,8)

The exquisite, indescribable favor of God's grace in the person of His Son! Beautiful, perfect fruit sent from God to me? Yes! The long-promised Seed was ripe, and He came--"sent forth" by the Father to me!

As I behold the form, the color, the texture of this apple, I think about these eternal wonders and am awed into silence. ❖



## India Journal

A 10-part series  
from the journals of  
**Laura Belle Barnard,**  
pioneer missionary to India

*Psalm 16:11*

*Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore.*

*As a girl in college, that verse drew me like a magnet. I must have been blind to that time, or missed that path, or something. Anyhow, I joined hands with the Lord Jesus in a new way and said, "Lord Jesus, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest." (That was first recorded of a youth in Matthew 8:19, you know.)*

*In response, my Lord warned me very frankly that "foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man hath not where to lay his head," and that in all probability, I would have to share these difficult accommodations with Him. But I was earnest in my intention, and I stuck to my vow, for I wanted alway to walk with him.*

*And then it wasn't too long until the Lord said "I must go to the other side of the sea." So, like the disciples in Matthew 8:32, I followed Him—away over here to India. (You'd better get your Bibles just here, in order to keep up with me.)*

*And when He (and I) was come to the other side into the country of the Asiatic indians, there met us many, many possessed with devils, exceeding fierce; and old people and children cursed with all kinds of diseases. Oh, what that Path of Life has held for me as I've come along these years with the Lord!*

*And now, my beloved friends, I wonder if many of you will one day get into a boat with Jesus and come over here to India, or to some other needy place, and come face to face with just such needs. I pray that every word I have written to you may ring in your ears as a heartfelt cry, an earnest plea for you to COME if it please the Lord, or to send, certainly to give and pray, and to LIVE there in your own place, walking close to Him in the Path of Life, so that your influence will waft its power and sweetness over here.*

*And when I come to you and meet with you in person, I shall expect to hear firsthand how you too have joined hands with the Savior, followed Him, and how you have found that pathway strewn with rich opportunities for service and such fullness of life that you have forgotten to notice whether, like the foxes and birds, you have a "nest" or a place to lay your head. ❖*

# 1994

## Creative Arts Contest Winners

### PROGRAMMS

|            |                                    |                               |
|------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1st place: | "Entering the Gates to the Garden" | Eleanor Grindstaff, Erwin, TN |
| 2nd place: | "Strike Up the Band"               | Brenda Shores, Alma, AR       |
| 3rd place: | "Adding Up Our Christian Lives"    | Linda Hettel, Casa, AR        |
| 4th place: | "Beauty Inside-Out"                | Leslie Ray, Jenks, OK         |

### ARTICLES:

|            |                               |                                |
|------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1st place: | "Secure Within His Keep"      | Barb Eubanks, Sesser, IL       |
| 2nd place: | "The Cock-Eyed Drawing"       | Melba Hibbard, Pioneer, CA     |
| 3rd place: | "Auxiliary: Is It Worth It?"  | Darla Trimble, Dardanelle, AR  |
| 4th place: | "A Recovering Prayer Warrior" | Kiska L. Sifers, Cleveland, OH |

### PLAYS:

|            |                              |                                |
|------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1st place: | <i>A Tear In Your Eye</i>    | Annette Aycock, Florence, SC   |
| 2nd place: | <i>Room for Jesus</i>        | Jean Jenkerson, Farmington, MO |
| 3rd place: | <i>A Runaway's Christmas</i> | Vicki Turner, Cartersville, MO |
| 4th place: | <i>The Good Shepherd</i>     | Brenda Shores, Alma, AR        |

### POETRY:

|            |                                    |                                       |
|------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1st place: | <i>A Gentle Reminder</i>           | Mary Ann Hays, Van Buren, AR          |
| 2nd place: | <i>Time is Slipping</i>            | Lynette Morgan, Côte d'Ivoire, Africa |
| 3rd place: | <i>What Will You Do With Jesus</i> | Elzie Yerby, Vernon, AL               |
| 4th place: | <i>Priorities</i>                  | Tawana Williams, Krebs, OK            |

### ART

|            |            |                             |
|------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st place: | "Thy Word" | Barbara McLeary, Lawton, OK |
|------------|------------|-----------------------------|



### **Sapporo, Japan**

Dale and Sandra Bishop express praise to the Lord for the recent conversion of Mrs. Maeno, who has been attending the Koinonia church for about two years. Her son is a Christian doctor who works in a hospice. She was baptized on June 19. Also, be in prayer for the Bishops who are now in the states on furlough.

### **Detroit, MI**

Tom and Patty McCullough have recently adopted a son, Ian Ross McCollough. Ian was four-months-old when he came to live with the McCulloughs. Pray for Tom and Patty as they adjust to being parents and for Ian that he will grow up to be a strong, healthy child of God.

### **Bondoukou, Côte d'Ivoire**

Ron Moore reports that 24 new Christians were baptized by Jerry Pinkerton, in his last official act as pastor of the Bondoukou church. The baptism took place on Easter Sunday, with over 270 in attendance, the highest in two years. Forty more believers from nearby villages have since been baptized. Pray for Ron as he prepares and teaches at the Bible Institute and for Linda who is teaching a literacy class of seven women.

### **Majadahonda, Spain**

After a difficult furlough, Dwain and Debbie Crosby are finally heading back to the Spain, to continue their work with the Turnboughs. They, along with the Reeves, who live in Las Rozas the sister-city, are working to establish several home Bible studies in the area. These groups will eventually be merged into one congregation. The Crosbys write, "Our goal is to see a church established in a much shorter period of time. Working through a TEAM effort will facilitate furlough schedules, thus avoiding losses" due to lack of missionaries on the field. Pray for this team and for opportunities to meet and minister to those in need of the Savior.

### **Lancaster, Ohio**

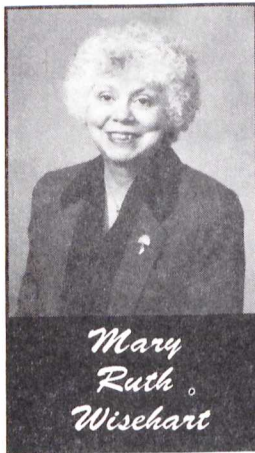
On May 1, 1994, the Open Door FWB Church became self-supporting, with the church building and property completely paid off. This mission church was a project of Ohio State Missions and the National Home Missions Board and is pastored by Willie Booth. Those who supported the work in Lancaster are encouraged to transfer support to the mission effort in Zanesville, OH, under the leadership of Roy Roach. Their account has been in the red for sometime. Please pray about your part in this ministry.

### **Waldorf, Maryland**

Frank and Donna Owens, home missionaries to Maryland, report that the work is going well, except for the moving vans. In the last year alone, twenty-six people from their church have relocated, and twelve more have moved in the past three months. Brother Owens writes, "We'll keep on working, but I wish the moving companies would take a rest." Providentially, the Nethercutt family moved to WV, right down the road from the property of Heritage FWB Church, where Russell Wright pastors.

### **Altamira, Mexico**

"We are continuing to see God's blessings in the Bible Institute in Altamira," writes Coordinator James Munsey. "We have seven on-campus students (up two from last fall), and at least seven more committed for the fall semester, and we expect to reach our goal of 20 by then." Six recent graduates of the Bible Institute are pastoring FWB churches in Mexico, so the Lord is using the school to further His work. A student can be financed for a full year at the Institute for \$500. If you can help underwrite a student, please contact or send funds to the Home Missions Department. ❖



## Words for Women

PREVIEW

sept/oct 94

- ◆ FOCUS ON MEXICO
- ◆ Minister's Wife:  
Smooth Transitions
- ◆ MissionCall: SPAIN
- ◆ New Christmas Traditions:  
Tidings of Comfort and Joy

*"W*ow,' I thought, 'This air must be different.' We were driving through the Blue Ridge Mountains. The trees looked intensely green and the sky a brilliant blue.

Then I noticed strange markings on the rear glass of the car in front of me.

I raised my new clip-on sunglasses to get a better look. The markings disappeared and the sky was just a normal blue, the trees the usual shade of green. (Later I also discovered that these glasses completely blank out the digital screen on the gas pump that tells me what to do with my credit card.)

'H'm,' I thought, 'I could get addicted to these glasses.'

Wait a minute. Am I not already addicted to my own peculiar set of lenses for looking at the world and people around me?

Looking through my own special lenses, I see from one perspective only. I've limited myself to my particular viewpoint. Even though someone may tell me that I'm not really seeing life and people the way they are, I'm not convinced.

My lenses show only what I want to see, what I have decided is there or not there.

I put on the negative lenses. Those people at that church—they don't really care about me. That preacher never really preaches a sermon with any depth. The Sunday school teachers are never prepared. Through my negative glasses everything about my church becomes negative. No one can convince me that they really care. I just can't see beyond my special lenses.

That Sister McKenzie, now, she really has a bad attitude toward me. I'm wearing my bad attitude

glasses. She started to sit on my pew last Sunday, and when she saw me, she went to sit on the opposite side of the church. Never mind that she spotted some visitors she had invited and wanted to greet them and make them feel welcome. Her every action and word are seen through my bad attitude glasses.

I put on my poor, pitiful Pearl glasses. Look at Imogene. She has a wonderful husband and beautiful children. She never has to deal with the problems that I have. Poor me. And Sally, she is the picture of health always smiling and happy. But me, I have a serious illness. Poor me. I have to stretch every dollar just to meet my bills, and there are the Makowskis, they never have money problems. Poor me. My glasses blot out the problems these people live with every day. I see only through my lenses.

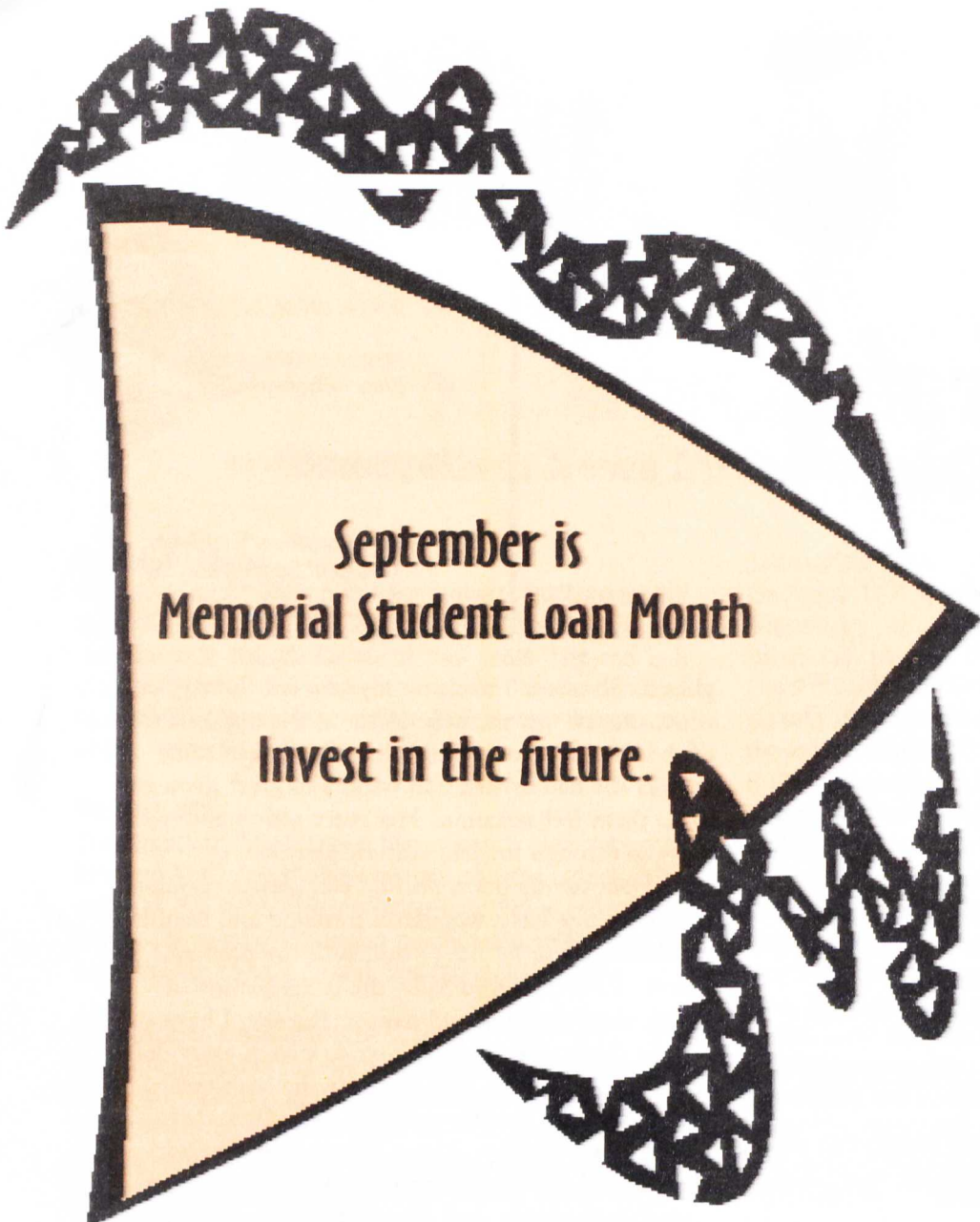
Which glasses shall I wear today?

Lord, help me to put on the lenses you are holding out to me. The lenses that will show my church, my friends, and my situation the way You see them.❖



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