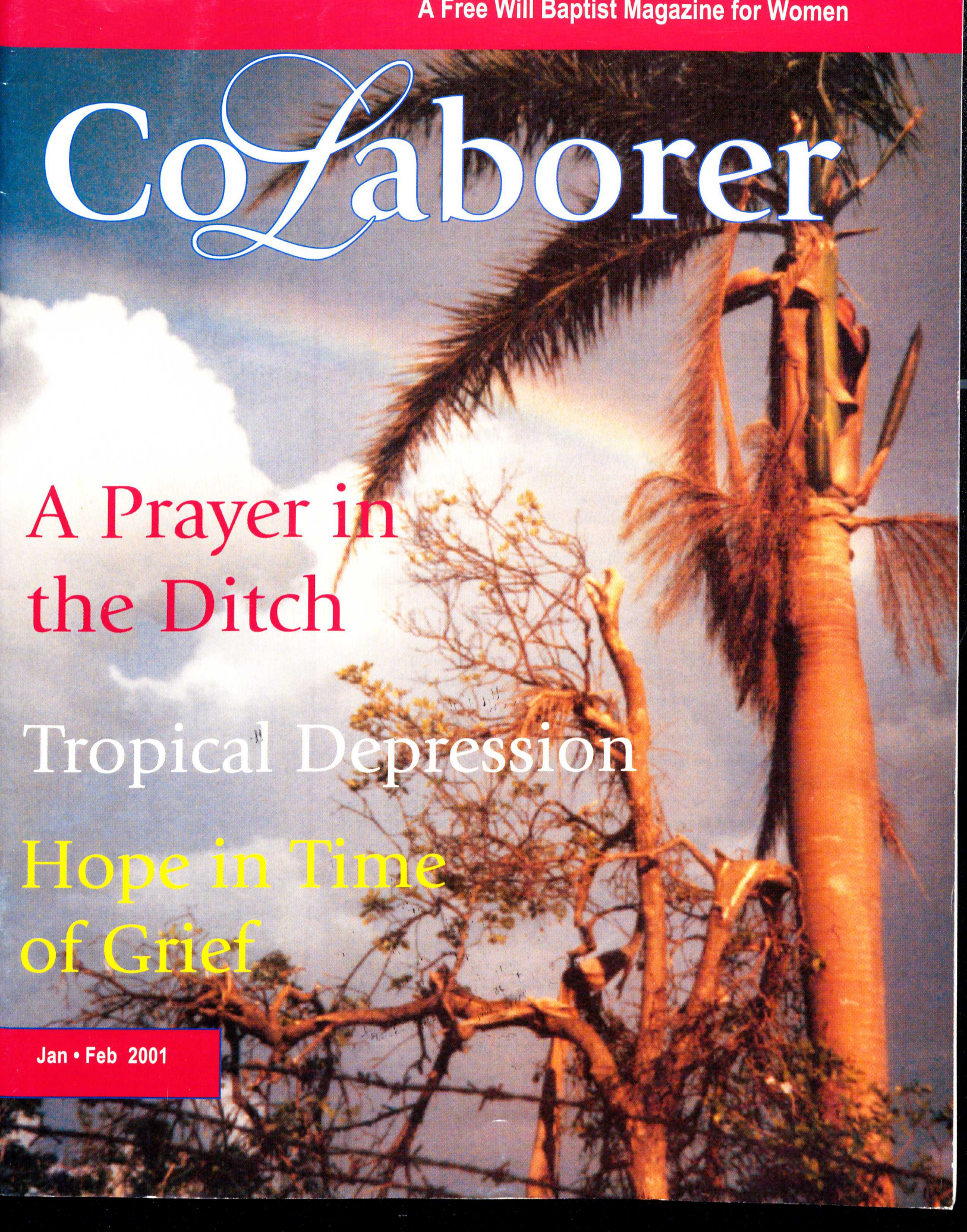


CoLaborer



A Prayer in
the Ditch

Tropical Depression

Hope in Time
of Grief

Jan • Feb 2001

VISION



Facing the Storms

The sun was shining. A small breeze was blowing. The temperature—no less than perfect. There couldn't be a better day to enjoy one of my favorite outdoor activities. So, my husband and I decided to go hiking.

After walking around a winding creek, climbing mountains, and sitting by a peaceful waterfall, the journey was about to come to an end. Another 15 minutes and we could reflect on what a great day it had been.

Underneath the dull roar of laughter and conversation surrounding us, a small rumble sounded in the distance. "Pay it no mind, the sun is shining in our world." But, my how quickly things change. The small roar turned into a giant rumble in what seemed to be two seconds. The last 15 minutes of our refreshing hike turned into a battleground.

Rain soaked every inch of our bodies. We found ourselves jumping to the dynamite-like thunder hovering about our heads and dodging the lightening bolts striking down around us. I can think of a million places I'd rather be in a severe thunderstorm than running, at this point, through the woods.

With no warning, out of a clear blue sky, clouds came boiling in releasing their fury to anyone in their path.

Life often wreaks havoc out of a clear blue sky. One day, we are walking in the warm sunshine. Minutes later, we are running desperately from the storms that quickly encompass us.

Joanne King, in the January program of this issue, grips the heart as she describes the tornado effect of grief. The emotional ride is all too real for those who have been hit with the twister winds of death falling out of a once blue sky.

If you are facing the devastating winds of a tornado or the long sustaining winds of a hurricane, look up. Christians have hope. "He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still" (Psalm 107:29).

Whether the storm clouds bring grief, financial problems, family crisis or illness, we have a responsibility to give a Christian response to disaster. "A Prayer in the Ditch" on page 11, portrays two very different reactions to real life situations.

Sharing hope and healing is the ministry of Women Active For Christ. Equipping ourselves with godly responses, we reach out to our friends, family and communities to share the only hope and healing possible to those running for shelter—Jesus Christ.

"To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory" (Colossians 1:27). ♦

Volume 41

Number 1

JAN • FEB 2001

11

**February's program,
"A Prayer in the
Ditch," suggests how
to handle life's
disasters.**

22

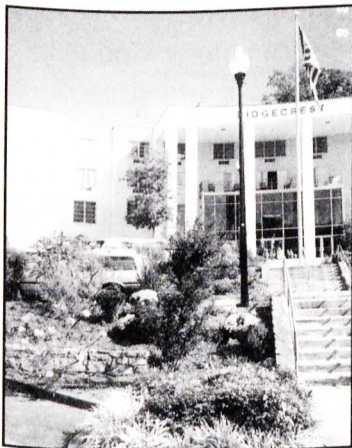
**Jeff and Melissa
Lunsford, English
teachers to
Mongolia, speak at
New Hope FWB
Church.**

24

**Ridgecrest, North
Carolina, welcomed
549 Free Will Baptist
women to the
WNAC National
Retreat.**

*Except where otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version.

C O N T E N T S



FEATURES

4

An Old Friend Revisited—Anne Worthington

7

January Program

Sharing Hope in Time of Grief—Joanne King

11

February Program

A Prayer in the Ditch—Angie Outlaw

24

WNAC Retreat

Keys to Growth

DEPARTMENTS

15

Springboard: Innovative Ideas for Officers

Springboard Illustrated—Faye Parrish

Lucy & Marge—Mary R. Wischart, Yvonne Hampton

19

Communicator—Marjorie Workman

20

Letters to WNAC

21

Mission Alert

22

Women In Action

26

My Only Hope—Debe Taylor

27

2001 WNAC Order Form

29

Tropical Depression—Carla Fannin

31

Words for Women—Marjorie Workman

Executive Editor: Marjorie Workman; Editor: Rhonda McReynolds
Circulation: Yvonne Hampton
CoLaborer, (ISSN 0896-0038), is published bimonthly by Women Nationally
Active for Christ of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, 5233
Mt. View Road, Antioch, TN 37013-2306, (615)•731•6812. Address all
correspondence to P. O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002. Annual sub-
scription rates: \$8.75 per year, single; \$8.00 per year, 5 or more to one address.
Periodical postage paid at Antioch, TN and additional mailing offices.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to CoLaborer, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch,
TN 37011-5002. Copyright privileges, reserved © 2001 Member of the
Evangelical Press Association.
USPS 0896-0038

An Old Friend Revisited

by Anne Worthington



Books are my cherished friends. I can't read and discard them as some do. I even feel a loss when I part with one. I like to reread them because I don't fully grasp the message the first time through, or in some cases I delight in reliving the plot.

I picked up an old friend the other day and paged through its short 63 pages. It was a gift from a high school friend too many years ago to count. After close examination, I discovered I had started reading and underlining it numerous times but had never finished. In fact, I always stopped at page 25.

Too meaty and heavy, I'm sure, for a young girl in her late teens with stars in her eyes, her head in the clouds and a Cinderella approach to life.

Now after nearly 45 years, I picked up *The Calvary Road* again. "What," I asked myself, "can Roy Hession tell me, an old seasoned Christian?" Plenty!

It turns out *The Calvary Road* is about revival. Hession perceived revival as a spectacular, exciting religious awakening where large numbers of sinners

were converted. However, as he experienced revival in his own life, he found that true revival isn't spectacular, nor does it necessarily take place among the unconverted where there is no spiritual life to revive.

Renewed Life

Revival means renewed life and takes place among God's people in whom spiritual life has declined or grown weak. Revival means new life where spiritual life has ebbed. It isn't corporate, but personal—beginning first in the individual and then flowing outward. It

Anne Worthington worked for the Executive Office for 20 years. She is now retired and lives in Ayden, North Carolina. Anne served as Cumberland District and State Secretary for nearly 20 years.

isn't a one-time experience, but continual.

Obedience

Revival is the experience of God's child walking constantly according to God's Word. It is getting in a right relationship with Him so His power is demonstrated in my heart, life and service.

Sensitivity

Revival is renewed sensitivity to sin, calling sin sin, confession, reconciliation and restitution.

Christ Likeness

Revival is Christ's life poured into human hearts. A life full of compassion, love, purity, forgiveness, tenderness and kindness. A life lowly in spirit, holy, harmless, patient and brave. It helps the helpless, cheers the fainting, and seeks the lost. It meekly endures cruel reproaches and willingly suffers to see others saved.

Selflessness

*"Keeping close
accounts with God
is the secret of a
cleansed heart."*

Revival is dying to self, self-attitudes and self-ambitions. It is saying, "Not my will, but His." It is self-pride broken—

*"Revival is self-pride broken—admitting
I'm wrong, giving up my own way, surrendering
my rights and discarding self-glory."*

admitting I'm wrong, giving up my own way, surrendering my rights and discarding self-glory. It is continuously yielding my plans, my time, my possessions, my pleasure.

Self tries to live the Christian life and do Christian work. Self takes on the form of self-pity in trials and self-seeking in business. Self reveals itself in self-defense when hurt or injured.

Self gets irritated and irritable, envious, resentful, touchy, critical and worried. Self is proud, fearful, doubting, greedy, jealous and anxious. Self gets unnerved, is insecure, self-conscious, self-righteous, arrogant, judgmental and selfish. Self is unforgiving, self-indulgent and impure. Self is easily annoyed, bossy, callous and careless. Self grumbles, makes excuses, blames others, is unreal, unyielding, overly sensitive and easily hurt. Anything springing from self is sin and hinders revival.

Spirit's Filling

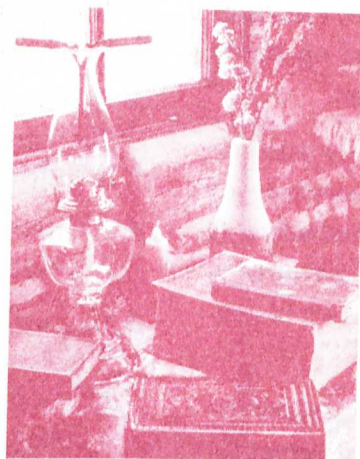
Revival is being absolutely filled to overflowing with the Holy Spirit at all times and in every situation, making no room for self. It's a life of victory where God's peace reigns. Anything taking away that peace is sin. Sin prevents the Spirit's filling and robs the heart of God's peace. Keeping close accounts with God is the secret of a cleansed heart.

Revival then is a heart-cleansed, obedience to God's commands, filled with the Holy Spirit and living day-to-day the life that Christ intended. However, revival

is also a heart that loves and is concerned for others.

Revival Demonstrated

Revival demonstrates itself first in fellowship and oneness in the home. That's where it's put to the test—where we're known best. Is there genuine love and concern for one an-



"Any attitude or behavior that does not measure up to God's yardstick is not genuine love."

other? God's measuring stick is 1 Corinthians 13. Love there is described as patient, kind and free from jealousy and conceit. It is courteous, not easily irritated, provoked or envious. It is not selfish, self-willed or resentful. Any attitude or behavior that does not measure up to God's yardstick is not genuine love.

Revival also leads to restitution, apology, reconciliation, confession, love and openness with our fellow man.

Revival affects my attitude toward service. Servants of Jesus Christ are bond servants rather than hired servants. A hired servant is paid for his service and has rights.

Luke 17:7-11 describes the position of a bond servant—he receives no wages and has no rights. He is not thanked or praised for his services. There aren't any grounds for pride and self-congratulation. He acknowledges that he is an unprofitable servant and he has but done his duty.

my heart? Is Christ's life reproduced in mine? Do I have love and concern for others? Is my service that of a humble bond servant? These are the tests—the barometer. If at any time these aren't evident, I need revival—renewed life.

That "old friend" of mine had more to say to me than I thought possible. ♦

Revival's Barometer

Does the Holy Spirit control my life? Does God's peace rule

Enter WNAC's 2001 Creative Arts Contest

Rules:

1. To enter, you must be a member of a WNAC group and/or attend a Free Will Baptist Church.
2. No fees are required, and multiple entries may be submitted. Poetry submissions are limited to six per person and should be no longer than 21 lines.
3. All entries must be postmarked by March 1 to be eligible for the contest. Any entries submitted after that date will be held for the 2002 contest.
4. All manuscripts should be typed and will become the property of WNAC.
5. Include name, address, telephone number and church name/city on every entry. Specify category to which each entry is being submitted. Contest categories are programs, articles, plays, poetry and art.

For more information on the Creative Arts Contest, request a brochure

Send all entries to :

WNAC

Creative Arts Contest

P.O. Box 5002

Antioch, TN 37011-5002

Sharing Hope in Time of Grief

by Joanne King



*"And as it is appointed unto men
once to die..." (Hebrews 9:27a).*

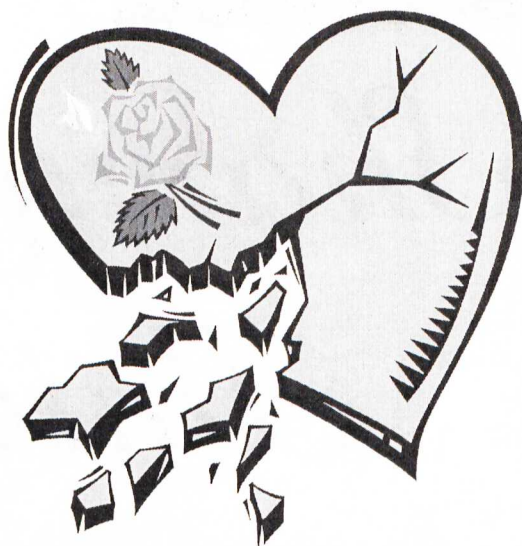
Death is certain and so is the grief that follows. Where there is grief, there is the need to be comforted. This need for comfort is an opportunity for the woman active for Christ to share hope and healing.

It Hurts to Lose a Loved One

Losing someone you love through death is painful and personal. Amy Ross Mumford, in her booklet, *It Hurts to Lose Your Spe-*

Joanne King is an administrator at Cramerton Christian School in North Carolina. She serves as Vice President of WNAC.

“...you feel as if part of your heart has been wrenched from your body.”



cial Person, reminds us that when death takes your special person, it hurts. It hurts in the middle of the day, in the middle of the night, and in the middle of your stomach. The hurt is real. It is real at the graveside when the finality of death deals a reeling blow, and you feel as if part of your heart has been wrenched from your body. It is real in the long days that follow when the enemies of fear and frustration dog your steps. It will be real in the months that follow, when sleep refuses to come, and loneliness refuses to leave.

After a death, the process of grief sets in and is often followed by depression. The grieving person is stuck in day after day of dreary weather and often feels bereft of hope or peace. The scriptures give us permission to sorrow, but not as those

who have no hope. For God promises a great reunion day with saved loved ones. God also reminds us in John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

Every One Will Experience Grief

No one is exempt from the experience of death and grief.

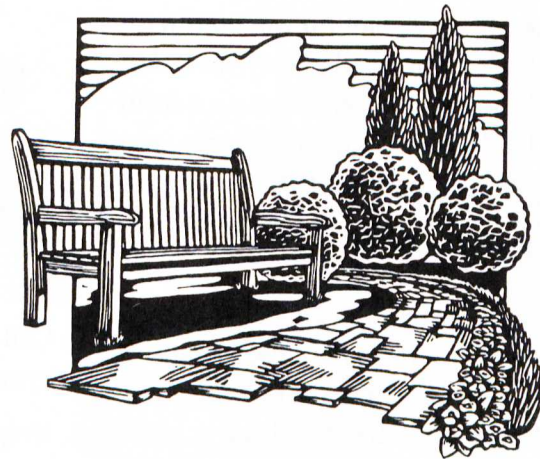
“Women Active for Christ must learn to connect with hurting people and give them hope.”

Touching examples are found in the Word of God. In Genesis, there is a poignant picture of Abraham as he purchases burial land and grieves for his beloved Sarah. Our hearts mourn with him.

After Rachel dies, we can only imagine how Jacob must have felt being left alone to parent their two sons, Joseph and Benjamin. How he must have missed Rachel's embrace when he came home at night. How sad he must have felt when he could not grasp her hand and feel her warm tender touch as he prayed over the dinner meal. How his heart must have ached when he tucked Joseph and Benjamin in at night and recalled her lullabies. When he looked into their eyes, did he see Rachel staring back at him? Who was there to comfort him in his grief?

As we move over to the New Testament, we find the story of Mary and Martha as they bury Lazarus. We are thrilled when the Savior comes and speaks those marvelous words of hope—"I am the resurrection, and the life: he that

"Encourage the grieving friend to return to the land of the living and not be afraid to have fun."



believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die...." Were it not for this promise, none of us would have hope in our grief. Christians have only to read the Word of God or to look around them to understand that grief and heartache come to all families. Women Active for Christ have the opportunity to share with others who are hurting during their grief.

Women Can Minister to Hurting People

God uses fellow Christians, especially those who have experienced loss, to share hope in time of grief. Naomi knew the hurt of losing her mate and knew how to respond to Ruth's pain as she lost her husband. Surely she cradled Ruth in her arms, cried with her, and assured her that the sun would shine again.

Women Active for Christ must learn to connect with hurting people and give them hope.

Paul admonishes us to "rejoice with those who rejoice; and mourn with those who mourn" (Romans 12:15). Sharing with the grieving is a wonderful way to show the love of God.

Hearts will Heal

There is healing in the precious word of God. The Psalmist says, "He healeth the broken in heart and bindeth up their wounds. He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names. Great is our Lord, and of great power, his understanding is infinite" (Psalm 147:3-5).

God cares and understands when his children hurt. The Savior pleads, "Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 'take my yoke upon you and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls...." Allow the hurting to cry and share with them Psalm 56:8 which tells us

that God sees the tossing and turning they do in the night and that he cares enough to collect their tears in a bottle. Healing will come, but it takes time. Christians must trust the truth in 2 Corinthians that promises that God's grace is sufficient and his strength is made perfect in our weakness. God wants to comfort and heal through his Word. Eventually we can say, "But thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:57).

God Is Able to Deliver

God's love and care for us are expressed clearly in the Word. Because the Psalms were written from a perspective of deep human emotion, they are easily applied to our lives. Psalm 116:5-9 is especially meaningful as grieving people begin to recover. "Gracious is the Lord, and righteous; yea, our God is merciful. The Lord preserveth the simple: I was brought low, and he helped me. Return unto thy

rest, O my soul; for the Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee. For thou hast delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears, and my feet from falling. I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living."

Encourage the grieving friend to return to the land of the living and not to be afraid to have fun. The Word says that laughter is good like a medicine. Provide opportunities for diversion and freshness in life. The time comes when the grieving person must hitch her wagon to a star. There is hope. Faith is not the absence of fear, but the willingness to go on when fear is present. Healing will come.

Women Active for Christ, *are* we willing to extend ourselves to share hope and healing with those in grief?❖



10 ways to help in time of grief

1. Call on the home soon after the death and provide food and sympathy.
2. Help in any housework or yard work that might be needed.
3. If there are children, provide babysitting.
4. If there is a need, provide clothing for children for the funeral.
5. Attend the visitation and/or the funeral.
6. Send cards and flowers.
7. Stay close to the grieving for a period of time after the service.
8. Remember special days that follow—birthdays, anniversaries, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Mother's/Father's Day, etc.
9. Make regular phone contacts.
10. Pray regularly that they will feel God's comforting presence.

Suggested Devotionals for times of Grief:

Grieving the Loss of Someone You Love by Raymond Mitsch and Lynn Brookside \$9.99

Roses in December: Comfort for the Grieving Heart by Marilyn Willett \$8.99

Hope Eternal: Encouraging Words for Discouraging Times by: Selwyn Hughes \$15.00

Streams in the Desert by L.B. Cowman \$14.99

A Prayer in the Ditch

By Angie Outlaw



Darkness filled the open sky as a young pastor, his wife and two small children traveled home from a family vacation. A pleasant drive erupted into chaos when they found themselves in the midst of a dangerous storm. Poor visibility forced the family off the highway.

Angry winds rocked their small car as the hail pelted their windshield. Noticing a doctor and his family exiting their vehicle to head for shelter in a nearby ditch, the pastor's family followed. The two families huddled on the far side of the ditch, each adult using their bodies to shelter the children. Loud rumbling sounded as a tornado approached. Panic settled in the

Angie Outlaw lives in Hoxie, Arkansas. She is a pastor's wife and mother of three children.

hearts of the women and both began to cry out, but their cries came from two different hearts.

Discussion: How do you think the doctor's wife responded?

How do you think the pastor's wife responded?

How would you have responded?

Terror seized the hearts of the rain-soaked adults in the ditch. Where was the tornado? Would electrical lines topple down on them? What would they do if the wind shifted directions and pushed their vehicles into the ditch on top of them? The fear was real for both families, but their differences could be detected by their cries. Angry cursing flowed from the doctor's wife as she faced the dark uncertainties of the storm. The pastor's wife called to her husband, "Pray! Pray!"

Desperate prayers lack the refinement of those offered in comfortable surroundings. The minister's simple prayer in the ditch rang out into the storm, void of imagery but full of emotion. The children's reaction was reflective of their innocent faith and hope in God. "It sounds like an airplane," exclaimed the boy. Later, when the winds broke, the pastor noticed that his six-month-old daughter was sleeping soundly in her mother's arms. God not only granted safety, but in His abundant grace, He flooded the most helpless with wonder and peace.

Crisis is inevitable. It can happen suddenly, turning the best of times into the worst of times. It can be excruciatingly slow, dragging on for years. It comes to the weak and the strong, to the heathen and the Christian. Troubles come to everyone. The

*"The response
to crisis depends
on the strength of
our preparation."*

response to crisis depends on the strength of our preparation. It is no surprise that the two families responded so differently. The pastor's family had spiritually prepared themselves for such a time as this. In the moment of crisis, they went straight to God. But the other woman had not armed herself by trusting God's power and peace. Therefore, her response was fear and panic.

Let's examine the possible ways we might react to hardships, and we will see how we can condition our lives to be ready to give the most godly responses.

Discussion: Share with the group a time you faced a crisis.

RESPONSES TO CRISIS

1. Sinful Responses

As crisis comes to our lives, we sometimes react in ways unbecoming of a Christian.

FEARFUL

We are afraid to trust God. Will He protect us in this storm?

Will my mother die from cancer? Will we have to file bankruptcy?

Will my husband find another job? Will my rebellious teen ever turn back to God?

DOUBTFUL

We question God. Where is He? Doesn't He love me? Will he not rescue me and relieve my pain?

ANGRY

We lash out at God. Why is this happening? This is not fair.

I don't deserve this. I'll never put my faith in God again.

HOPELESS

We feel desperate. I will never get over this. I feel so abandoned. Doesn't God care how I feel? No one loves me.

You may think, "these responses seem normal. What's so sinful about them?" We must understand that so-called normal responses may not be godly ones. Because we are sinners saved by grace, our natural responses can be sinful. Fear, doubt, anger and hopelessness all spring from the weeds of unbelief.

Discussion: Can you share a particular instance when you responded in one of these ways? Can you think of more godly ways to respond to hardship?

11. Sensible Responses

God's Word gives us the perfect formula for responding to crisis times in our lives. Philippians 4:6-7 (NIV) says, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

To handle crisis in a way that honors God we must be...

PRAYERFUL

"Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). In times of crisis, we must fall on our knees before God begging for wisdom, relinquishing control, and trusting in His sovereign plan for our lives.

PEACEFUL

"Thou will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee, because He trusteth in thee" (Isaiah 26:3). Peace is not the result of focusing on your trials, but rather focusing your thoughts on the goodness of God; trusting him for it is "in him we live, and move, and have our being" (Acts 17:28). It is only in Christ that we have peace.

THOUGHTFUL

"Finally; brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report. . . think on these things" (Philippians 4:8).

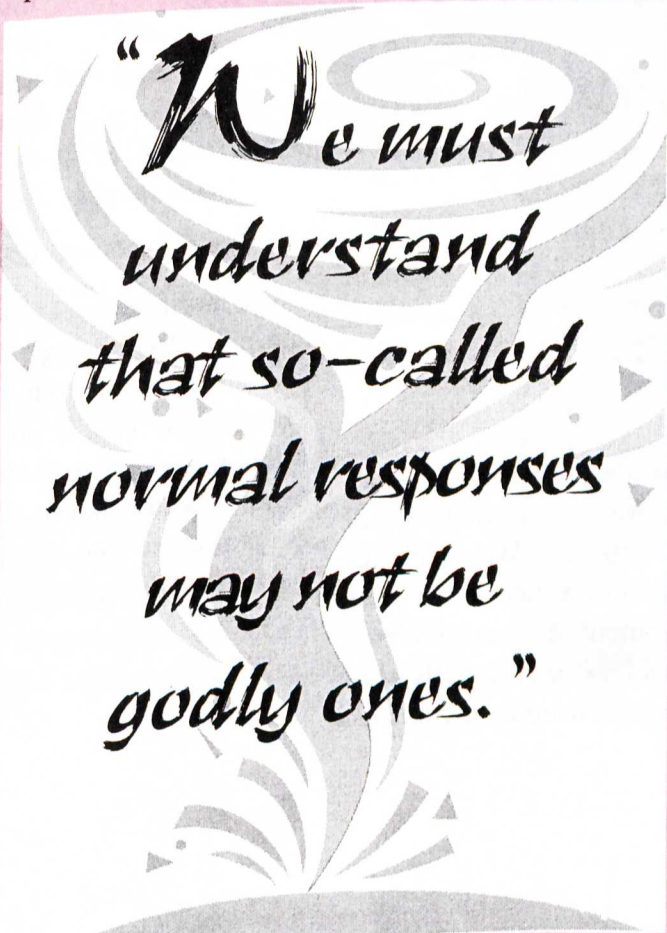
Don't allow your thoughts to be controlled by lies from the evil one designed to shake your faith during a crisis. Saturate yourself with God's Word. Think of ways God has displayed His love and provision for you in the past.

THANKFUL

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). Thank God in advance for the way He will strengthen and support you in your time of need. Thank Him for His watch care over you, always working to conform you to His image.

Preparation

Trials are inevitable. Some trials come from God—some from the enemy. But all can be used to move us closer to God. Romans 5:3-5(NIV) says "We also rejoice in our suffer-



"We must understand that so-called normal responses may not be godly ones."

ings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." There is hope! And hope does not disappoint us. Trusting God allows his will to be done in our lives and changes us forever.

Are you in the midst of a crisis? You may face death, illness, financial hardship, sick children, loss of a job or natural disaster at any time. Whatever comes, you can be prepared for it. You can survive it. You can grow from it. There is hope! Christ is our hope. And hope does not disappoint us.

"His word can be an instant salve for your wounds if you trust and believe."

HOPE

Hold to God's Promises

Put your hope in the faithfulness of God. He always keeps his promises. Joshua 1:5(NIV), "I will never leave you or forsake you." His Word gives us hope for every situation. Memorize Scriptures. They will come to you in your moment of need. His promises are true. Believe and hold fast to them. His word can be an instant salve for your wounds if you trust and believe.

Open up to God's Will

Put your hope in the wisdom of God. "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (NIV Jeremiah 29:11). You may know how you want your crisis to be resolved, but God's plan may be different. His plan is perfect. Even Jesus surrendered his will to the Father's.

Your suffering may seem unfair, and you may feel as if God has dealt harshly with you. Remember, He does not want to harm you. He wants to offer you hope and a future. He may not work these things out in your way or in your time, but He will work them out for your ultimate good and for His glory.

Purify your Life

Put your hope in the righteousness of God. First John 3:3(NIV) says, "Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure." Keeping your heart from unrighteousness keeps the lines of communication open to God. A life of purity gives you freedom to stand unashamed before the Lord, opening yourself to His full control.

Expect God's Blessings

The faithfulness of God leads us to wait in expectation for His blessings. "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." God is working for your good and he will honor your trust in Him. Romans 8:28(NIV) says, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." ❖

A graphic of a springboard with a curved arrow pointing upwards and to the right, and a series of overlapping, stylized leaves or petals trailing behind it.

Springboard:

Innovative Ideas for WAC Officers

Coordinator/Assistant Coordinator

Barbara Chaffin from Ohio once said, "In order to build a strong state WAC, we must build strong local WACs." Three local goals to set for the new year are:

- Plan your meetings to meet the needs of your members.
- Pray for each other.
- Pledge to support our missionaries through prayer and finances.

Your local WAC should offer the women in your church something to encourage and uplift them. Do a survey asking the women to give suggestions on how they would improve your local group. Then act on those suggestions.

Keep your meetings short and to the point. Remember, women are very busy. Don't spend a lot of time on business. Instead, schedule an officers' meeting. Most of the small details can be worked out before hand. Then, your meetings can focus more on prayer, programs and fellowship.

Secretary

January is Enlistment Month. Prepare a list of women in your church who are not members of your WAC. Give each member the name of someone who doesn't attend the meetings. The member will be responsible for giving her a personal invitation to the meeting, making phone calls or giving her encouragement throughout the year.

Provision Closet Needs

King, queen and
full sheet sets

Queen and twin
bedspreads

Queen and full
electric blankets

Queen and twin
mattress covers

Small food
processors

Tupperware®
(all items)

**Send new items
only. No clothes,
please.*

*Whenever possible,
leave prices on items
to help the office keep up
with inventory.*

Missions Chairman

The following home missionaries have recently been appointed to start churches and are raising funds. Encourage your women to support and pray for them as they begin their ministries.

Mark Shores: Albuquerque, New Mexico

Greg Floars: Marquette, Michigan

Don Bailey: San Antonio, Texas

To stay up-to-date with other missionaries, order the directories from the home and foreign missions departments.

Prayer Chairman

This is a great time to make sure your women have updated prayer calendars, cards and other materials from Foreign Missions, Home Missions and FWBBC. Most of the material is free, so help equip your women for prayer.

Service Chairman

Plan your yearly agenda now. If your local group isn't involved in a community ministry, make a list of suggestions for your women to consider. It only takes a little time to make a big difference in your neighborhood.



MK Provision Closet

The Provision Closet at WNAC has designated some space to store school supplies and other items that missionary kids can use. MK Ministries Coordinator, Tanya Hart, explains that there is a need for items for older (teenage) MKs especially. As needs vary, check with WNAC for current needs.

Attention

The National Nominating Committee asks that anyone wishing to submit the name of a person to be considered for the WNAC Executive Committee, send in the resume giving the information of the person's involvement in local, district and state WAC. This resume must be mailed to the chairman of the National Nominating Committee by January 31, 2001. Send all correspondence to: Peggy Outland, 14869 North Rend City Rd., Sesser, IL 62884.

United States Postal Service Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation		
1. Publication Title CO-LABORER		2. Publication Number 0 8 9 6 - 0 0 3 8
3. Filing Date 10/23/00		4. Issue Frequency Bimonthly
5. Number of Issues Published Annually 6		6. Annual Subscription Price \$8.75
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4) 5233 Mt. View Road, Antioch (Davidson Co.) TN 37013-2306		
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) Same as above		
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)		
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) Women Nationally Active for Christ (same as above)		
Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Rhonda McReynolds, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002		
Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Marjorie Workman, P.O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002		
10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)		
Full Name Women Nationally Active for Christ of the National Association of Free Will Baptists		
Complete Mailing Address 5233 Mt. View Road, Antioch TN 37013 P.O. Box 5002, Antioch TN 37011-5002		
11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box ☒ None		
Full Name Complete Mailing Address		
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: ☐ Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months ☐ Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)		
13. Form 3526, September 1998 (See instructions on Reverse)		
13. Publication Title		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below November-December
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		11,333
b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b(1), (2), (3), and (4))		9,405
(1) Paid/Requested Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Stated on Form 3541 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)		9,410
(2) Paid In County Subscriptions (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)		152
(3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution		140
(4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS		25
c. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)		142
(1) Outside County as Stated on Form 3541		101
(2) In County as Stated on Form 3541		10
(3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS		75
d. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d, and 15e)		227
e. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)		9,797
f. Copies not Distributed		1,536
g. Total (Sum of 15g and h)		11,333
h. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c divided by 15g times 100)		99%
16. Publication of Statement of Ownership ☐ Publication required. Will be printed in the Jan/Feb, 2001 issue of this publication ☐ Publication not required		Date 10/23/00
17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner Marjorie Workman Managing Editor		
I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).		
Instructions to Publishers		
1. Complete and file one copy of this form with your postmaster annually on or before October 1. Keep a copy of the completed form for your records.		
2. In cases where the stockholder or security holder is a trustee, include in items 10 and 11 the name of the person or corporation for whom the trustee is acting. Also include the names and addresses of individuals who are stockholders who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities of the publishing corporation. In item 11, if none, check the box. Use blank sheets if more space is required.		
3. Be sure to furnish all circulation information called for in item 15. Free circulation must be shown in items 15d, e, and f.		
4. Item 15h, Copies not Distributed, must include (1) newsstand copies originally stated on Form 3541, and returned to the publisher; (2) estimated returns from news agents, and (3) copies for office use, leftovers, spoiled, and all other copies not distributed.		
5. If the publication has Periodicals authorization as a general or requester publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published; it must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October.		
6. In item 16, indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.		
7. Item 17 must be signed.		
Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of Periodicals authorization.		
PS Form 3526, September 1998 (Reverse)		

Springboard Illustrated Stories to Grow By

Volume 41/ No. 1

My Little Room

by Faye Parrish

I have a little room found in a corner of my heart. There, I store spiritual things that I haven't managed to get around to—things such as promises not kept, prayers not prayed, arguments not settled, etc. Some of them are so dusty I can hardly recognize them.

Not long ago, I decided to visit that room. I noticed a little box sitting off to itself. Kneeling on the floor, I took the box and placed it in my lap. Years of neglect were evident by the dusty top. When I peered inside, my face burned with shame. There on the very top was a promise I had made to God when a missionary visited our church and asked for help. At first, I was eager to help, but soon I lost interest.

Underneath the promise was a sheet of paper with a few sentences sketched across it. The words looked as though they were jotted down hurriedly and thrown into the box. Carelessly, struggling to read them, I finally recognized them as the short, insincere prayers that I had hurriedly prayed for the missionaries over my lifetime. As I thought back through the years, I realized that most of my prayers began with "my" . . . my family, my finances, my health, my church, my marriage, my needs and my desires. Memories of missionaries pleading for help and prayers made me ashamed, and I covered my face hoping that God couldn't see the face hiding behind the hands.

How could I not try to right the wrong that I had done? I can't erase the past, but I can change the future. Now, I pray daily for the missionaries. I think of them as I go about my daily routine, send money when I can, and I ask for God's forgiveness for neglecting my duties.

If there is a little room that you hide in your heart, make sure the important things don't get pushed back in a corner. They will never be any good to you or anyone else if they lay forgotten in a little box . . . in a little room. . . in your heart.

Faye Parrish lives in Columbia, Tennessee. She attends Loyal Chapel FWB church.

Lucy & Marge

Lucy: Hey Marge, are you ready for Y2K?

Marge: Oh, Lucy, that was last year. And I didn't even have to come over and help you because you didn't have any electricity.

Lucy: I know, Marge, but some people think this new century is only beginning January 1, 2001.

Marge: Well, whether it's the beginning of the century or not, at least we won't have that computer problem.

Lucy: That does cut out some of the excitement, doesn't it?

Marge: Yes, but there are still a lot of exciting things about the year 2001.

Lucy: Like what for example?

Marge: Well, for one thing, we have a new president.

Lucy: Yes, and I certainly hope that he keeps his campaign promises.

Marge: You know we need to pray for him and all the leaders of our country. Let's make that one of our New Year's resolutions.

Lucy: That's a good one, Marge. And we need to have a new spirit in our women's meetings.

Marge: What do you have in mind, Lucy?

Lucy: I don't know, Marge, just something. After all, it's a new

year, a new century, and I hope we have something new and exciting for our women's group.

Marge: You know, the WNAC theme for this year is Sharing Hope and Healing and our enlistment program is New Hope for Your WAC. Do you know who wrote that program?

Lucy: I have to confess I haven't looked.

Marge: Why it's Mrs. Cleo Pursell. You remember, she was the WNAC Executive Secretary for 22 years.

Lucy: Oh sure I remember her. I wondered what she is doing these days.

Marge: She is still promoting WNAC.

Lucy: Well good for her. I'm sure her program will give us new hope.

Marge: Our goal for this year is to involve new women in our group. We want to include all of our women in our ministries.

Lucy: Well, how about the healing part of the theme?

Marge: You know, Lucy, there are a lot of women hurting and needing the kind of healing that Christ has to offer. We want to share that hope and healing with them through our WAC.

Lucy: Well, when is this program to be, Marge?

Marge: Let's, see, my calendar is marked for _____.

Let's make a resolution not to miss a meeting this year.

Lucy: Another good resolution.

Marge: And you know what? I won't have to worry about not being able to use my hair dryer.

Lucy & Marge in this issue is written by Mary R. Wisheart and Yvonne Hampton of Nashville, TN.

URGENT

memo

Call
Missions Hotline

615-731-3839

e-mail:
carole@nafwb.org

Communicator

by Marjorie Workman

A SALUTE TO TREASURERS

A brand new year is a good time to make changes, get started on the "right foot," or resolve not to get behind on reporting. A treasurer's job is not easy. But a good treasurer is a gold nugget to any organization. What makes a good treasurer?

It is most important that she enjoys working with numbers. She enjoys seeing a checkbook balanced. Her women's group does not have to worry about the handling of finances for she keeps them well informed. She reports in detail with open honesty because she has nothing to hide.

A good treasurer deposits income and pays bills in a timely manner. She desires respect for her group and does not want to bring reproach on Christ's name by being slow or even delinquent in paying bills. Keeping on top of her finances monthly is a worthy goal.

Another fine trait of a good treasurer is disbursing designated funds to the appropriate person or agency as quickly as possible. She recognizes that just as she must depend on a regular paycheck, the missionaries, missions departments, children's homes, colleges, and the WNAC office count on an uninterrupted flow of funds. Thus, the urgency to report regularly.

Treasurers delight in having adequate income to operate in the black. This is another reason why she is keenly aware of the importance of disbursing funds monthly. She knows that others are dependent on the funds to meet their budgets. Helping others to have sufficient funds give her great satisfaction.

In the structure of Women Nationally Active for Christ, the treasurer knows she is an important link in the chain of the cash flow which begins with the local WAC treasurer, then the district, state, and

finally the WNAC office. She delights in getting monies started on their journey to their final destination promptly after receipt. Therefore, she cultivates the habit of closing her books the same time each month. She is consistent for she recognizes the importance of not breaking the chain. She is aware that monthly income is as important to ministry agencies as it is to her own household.

A treasurer has the unique opportunity to encourage those in her group to give cheerfully, generously, and faithfully. As an officer of her group she is able to help set goals for giving to missions and missions causes and WNAC.

Your WNAC Office salutes all treasurers. You are volunteers using your financial skills to serve Christ. You give hours of your personal precious time to fulfill the obligations required of you as a treasurer. Often those hours go unnoticed by those you serve. Your faithfulness in keeping accurate records, reporting frequently, and encouraging women to be good stewards is deeply appreciated. The greatest tribute will come when the Master Record Keeper says, "Well done thy good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things:" (Matthew 25:21).

RESOURCES FOR TREASURERS:

- Treasurer's Record and Report Book (\$1.50)
- Local Treasurer's Report Forms (12/\$1.00)
- District Treasurer's Report Forms (12/\$1.00)
- State Treasurer's Report Forms (12/\$1.00)

RECORDS ARE AS IMPORTANT AS A

Mirror	To show where you are and where you have been.
Compass	To indicate where you are going.
Yardstick	To help evaluate in setting goals.
Guard	To avert misunderstanding.
Scale	To keep areas of service in proper balance.

From Manual for Free Will Baptist Women's Organizations



Dear Ladies,

I want to say thanks to all the women who make up WNAC.

I have known all my life of WNAC and the heart these ladies have for missions. Now, as a home missionary, I am seeing first-hand the faithful generosity of these women in supporting the Lord's work! Thanks for all your support—cards, letters and gifts. May God richly bless you all!

Clayton Hampton, Clarksville, TN

Dear WNAC,

Thank you very much for the gift card. It will help me in my school shopping as I return to college.

In Christ,

Benjamin Bailey, Farmington, MO

Dear WNAC,

Thanks so much for the retreat. All your planning and working everything out will be of eternal rewards for your staff and each one involved.

God Bless

Betty Mutchler, Millington, TN

Dear Ladies,

Just a note to say thank you for all your hard work. You are doing a great job.

Also, thank you for the retreat. I had a wonderful time.

May God bless you all as you serve Him there. All my love and prayers.

Susan Turnbough, Missionary to Spain

Dear WNAC staff,

I want to thank you for the wonderful WNAC Retreat. It was a blessing to me from the start to the finish.

Gail Smith was a joy. Her music ministered to me and she was so sweet.

I love each of you and pray daily for WNAC and you individually.

Delois Loveless, Nashville, TN

Dear WNAC,

I just wanted you to know how much our ladies enjoyed the Missions Service held recently at the Ridgecrest Retreat. I have already received a lot of positive comments not only from the ladies who attended, but also from our foreign missionaries on how well the presentation was prepared and presented.

They were very impressed with the power point presentation and all the hard work put into the script to make the missions service a blessing to all who attended. Thanks for a job well done.

Janice Buck, Pamlico, SC

Mission Alert

Evangelism News from Around the World



Uruguay

Molly Barker requests prayer for the Free Will Baptist works in the Rivera area. According to Molly, Satan is trying to hinder the churches at Barrio Recreo and Melo, so pray for God's intervention in these matters. Please continue praying about the legal battle over the church property at Santa Teresa. Pray that the judge will discern the truth and decide in favor of the church.

Brazil

Bobby and Sue Aycock are praising the Lord that 10 people have been saved since July. On Sunday, October 15, Bobby baptized six people, four from Barbacena and two from Antonio Carols. Pray that the baptismal service had an impact on unsaved relatives who attended.

According to Bobby, the Barbacena church took a giant step and elected a national pastor at its business meeting on October 14. Flavio Grossi will assume the pastorate on January 1, 2001. Pray for him and the church in the days ahead.

The Hollands are rejoicing that official construction of the church building has begun. They request prayer for the salvation of Marcos who is studying the Bible with Curt. Pray that God will continue to guide and bless the Hollands and the congregation at Sao Jose, Brazil.

France

Pray for Clint and Lynette Morgan who are working at the church in Nantes, France this fall. They are filling in for Steve and Becky Riggs who are on a short stateside assignment. Pray for the Morgans as they work with the French field council to explore means of further developing the leadership training program in France.

Mexico

Felix Zuniga, an important part of our Mexican work, is suffering with pancreatic cancer. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

Alabama

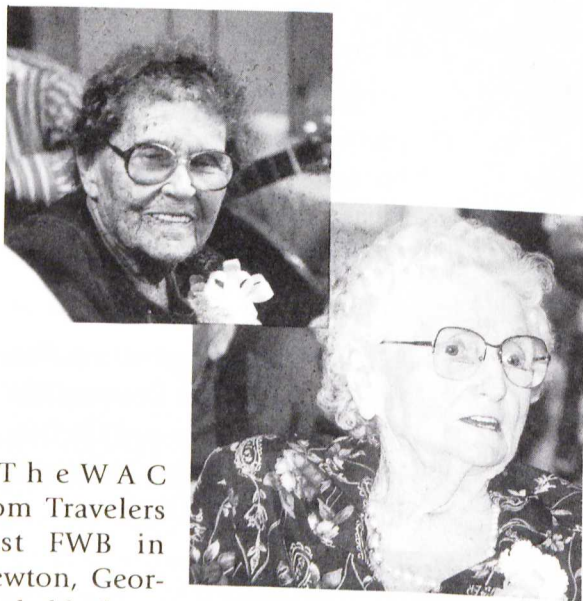
Chaplain Bishop who suffers from ALS is in the Decatur, Alabama hospital. He and his family need your prayers as he goes through this final battle.

Côte d'Ivoire

Latest reports from Côte d'Ivoire state that the military ruler, Robert Guei, has fled the country after massive demonstrations. Mr. Gbagbo, who actually had the majority vote in the election, has been declared president. Please continue to pray for the country in this time of transition.

Shane Davison in Bouake is praising the Lord for the salvation of Mr. Aldo, who was formerly a Muslim. Shane and some youth from the school for MK's had given Mr. Aldo a Bible a few weeks ago. The students went to see him. He told them he had come the point on Friday night that he had to make a decision. He said, "I had no choice but to trust God." The young people will continue visiting him and teaching him the Word. ♦

Women In Action



The WAC from Travelers Rest FWB in Newton, Georgia, held a banquet to honor the work of the seniors age 70 years and older. (Pictured top left: 91 year old Voncile Musgrove; bottom right: Lorene Edwards, one of the original WAC members.)



The members of the Bradley FWB WAC in Bradley, West Virginia have been busy frying pies and making apple butter as fund raising efforts to support foreign missions and also as an outreach in their local community. The ladies adopted a room in the Haven of Hope Homeless shelter in Beckley, West Virginia. The room received a total makeover which included new drapes, bed spreads, pillows, tables, lamps, rugs and a new bookcase. (From left to right: Tammy Mann, Lisa Gravely, Tonya Dangerfield and Joanna Bare.



The State Line Association held their District meeting at New Hope FWB Church located near Echo, Alabama.

Reverend Jeff Lunsford, and his wife, Melissa, English teachers to Mongolia, were the guest speakers.



The First Mission District WAC met at the Holiday Inn at Stillwater, Oklahoma. Forty-Three members were in attendance. Debe Taylor was the guest speaker. (Pictured from left to right: Laura Biswell, Louise Richmond, Bertha Mathews, Debe Taylor, Jean Marie Rogers, Joan Warren.)



Joni Pettis was the recipient of the 2000 Jimmy and Janie Aldridge \$500 Scholarship from Alabama FWB WNAC. Joni is a senior at FWBBC pursuing an English major with a minor in missions.



Elaine Holland, missionary to Côte d'Ivoire, visits the provision closet while on state side assignment. Elaine is currently in Oklahoma.



Members of the First FWB WAC of Lexington, Kentucky, visited Nashville, Tennessee to bring donations for the Provision Closet and take a tour of the National Offices. Seated (left to right) are: Jean Blair, Barbara Hall, Teressa Hall, Glenna Callihan, Kathy Ruffing. Standing (left to right) are: Janie Stone, Mary Waddell, Tara Ward, Malta DeRossett, Carolyn Snapp, Sharroll Minix.

WNAC Retreat

Keys to Growth

Five hundred forty-nine Free Will Baptist women from around the world joined together for a weekend get-a-way on September 14-16, 2000, in Ridgecrest, North Carolina, to tune up their lives and focus their attention on the Lord.



Missionary Service

The missionary service was definitely a highlight of the weekend. Each of the four foreign and two home missionaries shared with the congregation the title of her favorite hymn and how it played a role in her life.

WNAC President, Debe Taylor, introduced the keynote speaker, Gail Smith. Gail encouraged and enlightened the women's hearts with her inspiring piano music. She introduced the congregation to a variety of classical music, great hymns as well as music she composed. Gail's recipe for growth comes directly from the scripture. Second Peter 3:18 outlines the keys for successful Christian growth.

Throughout the weekend, the women were challenged to grow as Christians. Gail presented the analogy between the musician and the Christian. Just as there are different levels of musicians, so there are different levels of Christians—the beginner, the intermediate, and the advanced. The Christian, just as the musician, must begin with practice, repetition, and perseverance.

With soft piano music in the background and photos of each mission work on the big screen, each missionary took her turn explaining a time in her life when her favorite hymn ministered to her heart.

Elaine Holland shared how "Have Faith in God" has encouraged her over the years. She said that in the most crucial situations, faith in God is the only answer. Her story took the captivated audience back to an incident in Cote d'Ivoire when Ernest, her husband, and Norman Richards were arrested and accused of stealing their own car. Elaine said it was then that she realized how important it is to have all of her faith in God.

The service then took the crowd to Spain with June McVay and Susan Turnbough. June expressed how "Great is Thy Faithfulness" comforted her heart when trying to understand Anthony and Lea Edgmon's loss of triplets. She

explained how God still works when circumstances seem so dark. As a result of this tragedy, many unsaved people were exposed to God's word.

Susan shared her emotions of having to let go of her children as they left Spain to attend Bible College. She expressed how "My Life is in Your Hands" comforted her heart during this time.

Annette Aycock, missionary to Brazil, described how her favorite song is "Each One, Reach One." Annette says this is the way God planned it. "Each person tells some one, then they'll tell some one else until the whole world knows about Jesus."

"Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus" is near to Robyn Osborn's heart. Robyn is a home missionary to Memphis, Tennessee. The Osborns were appointed to start a church in Cordova, but God had other plans. Instead, they were led to Grace Church to pastor. The church continues to grow as the Osborns continue to trust in Jesus.

During the recent loss of her father, Pam Jones, missionary to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, clung to the song, "Oh What a Savior." This hymn was sung at her father's funeral and has become very dear to her—especially the line, "death's chilly waters I'll soon be crossing, his hand will lead me safe home."

At the close of the service, a missionary offering of \$5,000 was taken for those missionaries attending the retreat.

Recreation

Friday offered a free afternoon to those ladies in serious need of some serious shopping. The women had plenty of time to enjoy fellowship, food and fun during their weekend at Ridgecrest. The attendees enjoyed time to visit the prayer garden, play miniature golf, enjoy a popcorn party, stay up all night, and, oh yeah, did I mention, shopping?

On a Grace Note

What better way to end a retreat than on a

"grace note." Rebecca Pugh wrapped up the weekend with a few words of wisdom.

She explained that just as a "grace note" adds beauty to the main note in music, so must we bring beauty to God. We can not be the main person in our life. God only can fill that position. But, as Rebecca said, "the master composer has put us in his grand symphony." We, as Christian women, are to accent Him.

Tape Order

2000 WNAC Retreat, Ridgecrest, NC

You may place an order for any of the tapes below:

Please check the ones you want. WNAC will mail them and bill you for the tapes.

Each tape is \$4.50, which includes postage and handling.

Quantity

- ☐ Gail Smith: Thursday Evening Session: "Keys to Christian Growth"
- ☐ Gail Smith: Friday Morning Session: "Take My Life And Let It Be" and Missionary Service with Joanne King and Laurie Horne
- ☐ Friday Morning Session II: "Women Hymn Writers"
- ☐ Gail Smith: Friday Evening Session: "The Lost Chord"
- ☐ Rebecca Pugh: Saturday Morning Session: "Ending on a Grace Note"

Total Order _____ @ \$4.50 = \$ _____

Please print your name and address clearly below.

Name: _____

Address: _____

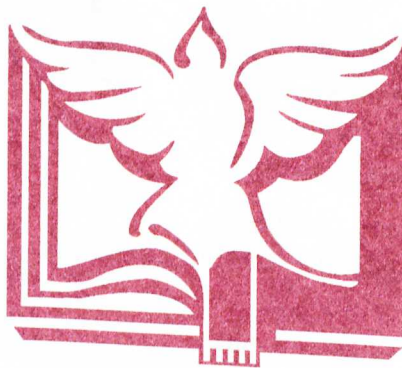
Call 1-877-767-7662 or mail order to:

WNAC, P. O. Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002 or

E-mail us: WNAC@NAFWB.ORG

MY ONLY HOPE

by Debe Taylor



In the opening scenes of Star Wars, Princess Leia attempts to get a message to Obi-Wan Kenobi by using the robot, R-2 D-2. When Luke Skywalker inadvertently plays the message, he hears a plea from a desperate young lady, "Help me, Obi-Wan Kenobi. You're my only hope."

I know exactly how Princess Leia felt. There have been so many times in my life when I have had to turn to "my only hope."

When the storms of life rage around me, I turn to "my only hope." Like the Psalmist David, I have found that "my only hope" is also my only refuge. "Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me! For my soul trusts in You; and in the shadow of Your wings I will make my refuge, Until these calamities have passed by" (NKJV Psalm 57:1). Often, God allows the storm to rage, the fire to burn and the wind to blow. Yet through it all, He is with us. "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they shall not overflow you."

Not only do I have His presence, but also His protection as He covers me. "Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide me under the shadow of Your wings" (NKJV Psalm 17:8). The story has been told of a fire that swept across a farm. As soon as it was safe, the old farmer went out to assess the

damage. While doing so, he saw something lying in the field. Kicking at the object, he turned over the charred body of a mother hen. To his astonishment, out from under her burned body emerged her baby chicks. God protects me in that same way. I'm so thankful for "my only hope" which covers me "until these calamities have passed by."

There are those times when I am just too tired to go on. A skirmish with the devil has left me battered or my fervor for the Lord's work has reduced me to weariness. Whatever the circumstance, "my only hope" gently lifts me up and carries me.

I love the word picture found in Isaiah 40:11b(NKJV), "...He will gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom." So many times, He has done just that for me. I rejoice in the fact that "my only hope" knows when my strength is gone and is more than willing and able to carry me.

Disappointment, heartache and discouragement have wreaked havoc in my life, leaving me to cry alone. Arriving on the scene is "my only hope." In her book, *Glorious Intruder*, Joni Eareckson Tada shares: "We often long to have comforting arms sur-

round us in our weariness, heartache and confusion. That's what I love about the Holy Spirit. Certainly, the Bible names Him as our Counselor. And yes, He is our Intercessor. We're told elsewhere He is our Teacher, Guide and the Spirit of Truth. He reminds us of everything Jesus has said. He reveals the Father. He even convicts us of sin. He does so many things. But one thing I love most...He's our Comforter. If you're hurting today, don't immediately grab the phone to call a friend. Seek the everlasting arms of the Spirit. He is many things, but most important to you today, He is your Comforter. He has a ready embrace for hurting little girls, heartsick grandmas, worried daddies...and you, too, by the way."

The Apostle Paul reassured us of the Father's desire to comfort when he wrote, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God"(NKJV 2 Corinthians 1:3-4). "My only hope" gives comfort of which I am in desperate need.

"My only hope" covers, carries and comforts. What more should anyone ask or want? "Help me, O Lord. You're my only hope."

Misc. & Free Materials

- ☐ Missions Prayers for Shut-ins [first 10 free; .10 each over 10]
- ☐ WNAC Promotional Folder (includes all WNAC brochures (brochures listed separately below) [first 10 free; .10 each over 10])
- Free Materials (indicate how many)**
- ☐ New WNAC Enlistment Brochure
- ☐ Prayer Fellowship Card
- ☐ Calendar Key
- ☐ WNAC Emphasis
- ☐ Creative Arts Contest
- ☐ Missionary Provision Closet
- ☐ Magazine Subscription Card
- ☐ WNAC Quarter Folders

for office use only

Send all orders to:

WNAC

P.O. Box 5002
Antioch, TN 37011-5002
Telephone: 1-877-767-7662
E-mail: WNAC@nafwb.org

Please give complete information in blanks below and enclose this entire form when ordering. A new one will be sent with your order.

Shipping and Handling Charges:

\$3 for 1 Manual + \$1 for each additional Manual. _____
All other materials:
\$1—\$5 X \$.50 per dollar = _____
\$6—\$10 X \$.40 per dollar = _____
\$11—\$20 X \$.35 per dollar = _____
\$21 & up X \$.30 per dollar = _____
Total = _____

Quantity Books

- ☐ GE17 *Beyond the Gate* autobiography of Mabel Bailey Willey with Mary R. Wisheart. \$19.95 Hard back
- ☐ GE16 *They Deserve A Second Chance* by Shirley Roberts Combs
An unforgettable story of rescuing Brazil's street children.
127pp/\$6.50
- ☐ GE15 *First Fruits: Answered Prayer on the Mission Field* by Lorene Miley
80pp/\$5.00
- ☐ SB7 *Touching the Untouchables* by Laura Belle Barnard with Georgia B. Hill
\$4.00
- ☐ SB13 *I Looked for a Man and Found One* by Lorene Miley
\$3.50
- ☐ GE5 *Sparks Into Flame: A History of WNAC from 1935-1985*
by Mary Ruth Wisheart
154pp/\$4.00
- ☐ GE12 *Study Guide for Sparks Into Flame*
\$1.00
- ☐ GE26 *How to be a World Class Christian* by Paul Borthwick;
171pp/\$10.00
- ☐ SB4 *A Promise Kept* by Robertson McQuilkin
The Story of an Unforgettable Love.
85pp/\$9.99
- ☐ SB8 *Ann, You're Super* by Cleo Pursell
54pp/\$1.50
- ☐ GE20 **Booklets**
A Covenant of Abstinence: What the Bible Says about Premarital Sex by
Joy Jacobs and Deborah Strubel
\$2.00
- ☐ GE21 *Five Vows for Spiritual Power* by A. W. Tozer
\$2.00
- ☐ GE22 *Hope for Hurting Parents: When Grown Children Make Bad Choices* by
Tom Allen
\$2.00
- ☐ GE23 *Life After TV: Slaying the One-eyed Monster* by Teresa Olive
\$3.00
- ☐ GE24 *Medicine for Depression* by Donald A. Miller
\$2.00

Totals

Page 1 \$ _____ Church _____
Page 2 \$ _____ Name _____
Page 3 \$ _____ Address _____
Page 4 \$ _____ City, State, Zip _____
Total \$ _____ Phone () _____
Postage \$ _____ [Please enclose payment for orders less than \$5.]
Amt. enclosed _____ Comments: _____
\$ _____

Helps

Quantity

☐ M19

Parliamentary Procedures
A guide to help you conduct your business properly and in a hurry.
\$2.00

☐ NM1

Manual for Free Will Baptist Women's Organizations
The guidebook for organizing and operating Women's Groups.
\$10.00

☐ NM2

Manual Study Guide
Includes teaching aids and posters that can be used to make transparencies.
\$3.00

☐ YB6

2001 Yearbook
Calendar of events, program suggestions, WNAC goals, plan sheets, and other helpful information for officers.
\$6.00

☐ EN4

Enlistment Ideas
A guide for increasing participation among Free Will Baptist Women
\$1.50

☐ RF1

Local Treasurer's Report Forms
12/\$1.00

☐ RF2

District Treasurer's Report Forms
12/\$1.00

☐ RF3

State Treasurer's Report Forms
12/\$1.00

☐

Annual Report Blanks
(circle the type you want)
local, district, and state levels.
FREE

☐ RB1

Secretary's Record and Report Book
Space for membership roll and minutes.
\$1.50

☐ RB2

Treasurer's Record and Report Book
Space to record receipts and disbursements for a year.
\$1.50

Total this page \$

Plays for Women

Quantity

☐ PN14

God's Bouquet (Volume 14) \$4.00 Includes:
I only Wish (Missions) by Ruth Bivens
Defeat Became Victory (Easter) by Joan Warren
Thanksgiving Prayer by LaCecia McFadden
Kati's Question (Christmas) by Sharon Langston and Tina Tolbert
God's Bouquet (Installation of Officers) by Mary R. Wisehart

☐ PB13

Mother's Day Medley (Volume 13) \$3.00 Includes:
Precious Moments by Henrietta Elliott
The Virtuous Woman by Carol Reid
Hats off Style Show by Carolyn Lane
You Be the Judge by Joy Price and Linda Coffman

☐ PB11

A Piece that Fits (Volume 11) \$3.00 Includes:
A New Heart by Sara Kilgore
Mary and Martha Today by Ordealia Martin
That Girl by Rhonda Stewart
Songs of My Mother by Melissa Riddle
Enthusiasm by Barbara Otwell
A Tear in Your Eye by Annette Aycock

☐ PB10

Fresh Air (Volume 10) \$3.00 Includes:
The Eye of the Needle by Lorene Miley
The Very First Time by Patricia Richards
Catch the Dream by Annette Dake
The Talents by Lee Ann Wilfong
The Thanksgiving Scrooge by Anne Worthington
Debt Free Living by Debbie Payne Anderson
R-U OK? by Linda Coffman and Joy Price

Colaborer

A Free Will Baptist Magazine for Women

Please enter my subscription for _____ magazine(s). I understand Colaborer operates on a continuous service plan, but that I may cancel at anytime.

Subscription rates: \$8.75 single, \$8.00 in bundles of 5 or more.
(Price includes postage & handling.)

☐ New

☐ Renewal

☐ Payment enclosed

☐ Please bill

Total this page \$

Tropical Depression

by Carla Fannin



(photo by Ruth Bivens)

I can still remember meeting my first missionaries. I was eight years old and the Cousineaus came to our church. I couldn't believe that you could actually have a job telling people about Jesus. I remember deciding that night that I wanted to be a missionary when I grew up.

Many years later, my husband Chris and I decided, after much prayer, that the Lord was leading us into Home Missions to the island of Puerto Rico. Many tears later, we left a wonderful church in East Tennessee and headed out on our new adventure.

We packed our van with all our worldly possessions and shipped it to our mission field. It was a sad day when we realized that after ten years of marriage all we had (that we could keep) would have to fit in our van. I know that we are not supposed to worry about the worldly things, but as a woman, having to say goodbye to all our stuff (dishes, furniture, knickknacks, books, etc...) was very hard. Still we were so excited because we knew this was where the Lord wanted us.

The day we flew into Puerto Rico was rather scary. I wondered if I would ever fit into this strange culture. Everything was different: the food, music, language, people and the weather. From time to time a storm front would come through, followed by a tropical depression that might turn into a hurricane. All of the changes were just about too much for me. That's when my own personal battle began with my own kind of tropical depression.

Life is difficult any time you are working for the Lord. Satan has his eyes set on you. The Bible says in Ephesians 6:12 "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers,

Carla Fannin is a home missionary to Puerto Rico. "Tropical Depression" won third place in the 2000 WNAC Creative Arts Contest.

"All of the changes were just about too much for me all at once. That's when my own personal battle began with my own kind of Tropical Depression."

against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." We are a threat to Satan. When we are working toward building God's Kingdom, we're destroying his. He will do whatever it takes to make us leave his territory alone. Believe me, Puerto Rico—as well as most mission fields—is Satan's territory. Sin runs rampant here. The drug use, alcoholism, adultery and child abuse are sky rocketing on our little island. Only Christ can change lives.

One of my favorite verses is 1 Corinthians 15:34, "Awake to righteousness and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame." Satan knows that as long as people don't have a knowledge of Christ, his territory is safe. Satan will do whatever it takes to get us out of here. (He knows just how to push the right buttons.)

We have been here since July, 1999. Let me share a few of the buttons Satan has pushed. The language is probably the hardest obstacle we face. Here they speak Spanish. It is a chore to do daily, everyday tasks such as make an appointment, talk to your neighbor, ask for directions, and so much more—telling them about Jesus. I'm just learning how to ask, "Where's the bathroom?"

The next hurdle that Satan put in front of us to trip us and make us fall was our living conditions. I'm no John the Baptist. I'm just a normal pastor's wife. I just moved out of the nice three-bedroom parsonage with air conditioning, dishwasher, etc...into a house in the rain forest with no electricity. (We're still waiting on the Puerto Rican officials to finish that paper work.)

We occasionally have a few visitors. One evening we found a snake in our youngest daughter's bed. Another night my husband got bit by a land crab that decided to sleep in our bed. And, of course, there

are always lizards. But we like having them around. They eat the endless supply of bugs and mosquitoes. I like to camp out just as much as the next girl, but there are nights as I carry the pots of warmed water to the bath tub that I wonder what I'm doing here. It's then that 1 Corinthians 15:58 comes to mind,

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." We can't let Satan have any part of our life. Remember, he wants us out of his territory.

Another tactic Satan will try is depression. He loves to get into your thoughts and take control of your mind. He must love working on missionaries. He preys on our loneliness. Most of our families live thousands of miles away. He also makes us doubt that we're really accomplishing anything. That's when we have to remember Galatians 6:9, "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

The best way we can fight Satan is exactly as Christ fought him in Matthew 4. Quote and memorize scripture, pray, and read our Bibles. And, we need your prayers! There are many days we are on the front line in this war with Satan. Sure, there are plenty of hard days, but there are also plenty of joys and victories. For example, one Sunday we had nine of our youth give their hearts to Christ. One week we had 25 people come to a cottage meeting.

That's when we can see Satan trembling because "Greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world." And Satan knows, little by little, prayer by prayer, that he will lose his territory. If we just stay faithful and let Christ work, we can see Christ take control. And once more, a tropical depression can just become something we hear about on the weather forecast. ♦



Words for Women

*Marjorie H.
Workman*

Going Out With Joy

You could feel it in the air. Both expectations and apprehension, excitement and questions. The day had finally arrived. Plans had been in the making for several months. Carefully laid plans. My husband's and my bags were packed. We had our pillows; our thermos cups filled with fresh water—we were ready. Two new tires, a tank full of gas, a cleaned trunk and a fresh car wash—the car was ready. We anxiously waited the arrival of Gerald and Norma, the lay couple going with us. It was going to be a great weekend!

And a great weekend it was! Approximately sixty eager bodies converged on the beautiful grounds of Grace Free Will Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. They arrived from Nashville, Millington, and Memphis. They were young, old and all ages in between. They all shared one common goal—to put God's Word in one thousand homes within a couple of hours. This was just a tiny portion of a much larger picture. The ultimate goal was to put the Word in one hundred thousand homes across America through Operation Saturation.

Amazingly, our task was accomplished with ease. Good planning and excellent organization pay off. Trekking across lush green lawns in beautiful suburban neighborhoods, we hung bag after bag on doorknob after doorknob. We marched in teams of two equipped with maps and packets containing powerful material.

Our marked map kept us on course, but it was our packets that compelled us up one street and down another. Bags containing enough power to keep a soul out of hell. Enough power to put a family back in church. Power enough to establish a church. What was in the bags? God's **WORD**. The plan of salvation was clearly stated in the booklet "When You Need a Friend." Also included in the bag was a schedule of services, and information about Grace Free Will Baptist

Church. Within an hour and a half all of our bags were gone. Hot and tired from the September sun, we returned to the church for lunch.

Now it was time to go home. The fellowship with our sister congregations had been sweet. The delicious meal prepared by the women of Grace had been devoured. Pictures capturing the event were made and prayers of thanksgiving prayed. We said our "goodbyes." Feeling good about the day, Gerald, Norma, my husband and I piled into the car and headed back to Nashville. During the four-hour drive home, I posed a question to Gerald who is the president of our local Master's Men Chapter. "Was it worth it?" The trip had been expensive. We'd spent money for gas, two motel rooms, dinner and breakfast for four, plus hours of travel time for just an hour and a half of hanging bags on doorknobs. Gerald's answer came quickly and emphatically, "Yes! How can you measure the value of a soul?" Our responsibility is to get the Word out regardless of how much it costs. The results belong to God. Our task was over.

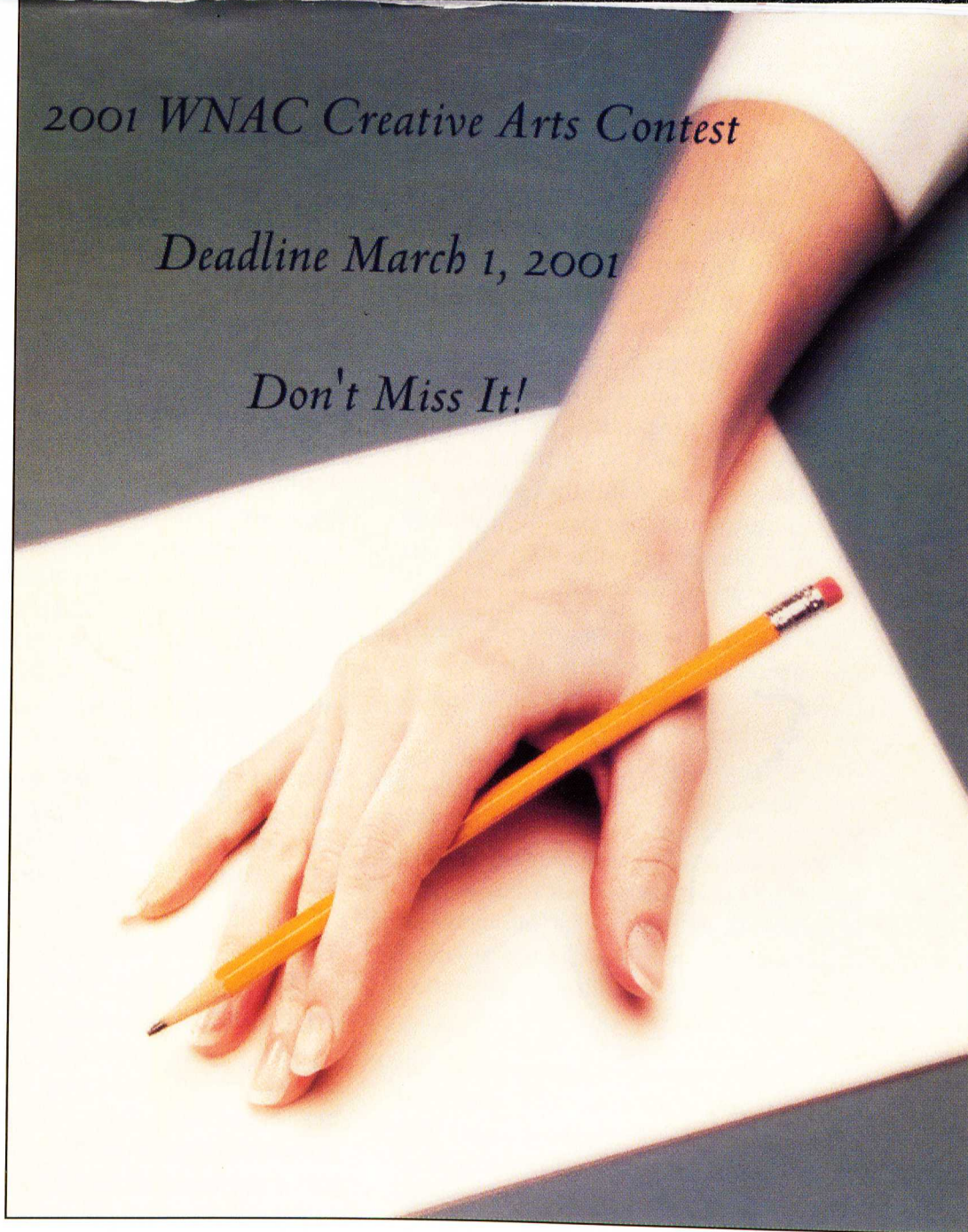
The seed has been planted in neighborhoods all around Grace Church. Now we wait expectantly. Isaiah said "For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (Isaiah 55:10-11).

Three days later I called Grace Church. I couldn't wait. Already God's word had found tender hearts. A Spanish couple showed up early Sunday morning inquiring if Grace offered services in Spanish. Another couple attended the evening service with promises to return for midweek prayer service. Both couples came as a result of the bags hung on their doors. Truly, it was an awesome, joyful weekend! ❖

2001 WNAC Creative Arts Contest

Deadline March 1, 2001

Don't Miss It!



CoLaborer Magazine

P.O. Box 5002

Antioch, TN 37011-5002

Periodical postage paid at Antioch, Tennessee
and additional mailing offices

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to above
address.



*****3-DIGIT 372

FWBBC LIBRARY
3606 W END AVE
NASHVILLE TN 37205-2403

2
2