

CONTACT

OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

OCTOBER, 1967

**THAT'S WHAT
HAPPINESS IS**

HELLO, TOMORROW

**TESTIMONY
TO GOD'S
FAITHFULNESS**



**NEEDED
MEN
LIKE
GIDEON**

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					Year Beginning	
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					\$	Per Week
Sun-day	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Date	Amount
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Under Pledge						
Total Special for Year						
Total Budget for Year						
Total Budget and Special for Year						

*Totals for special gifts shown only at end of year.
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personally...

POWER IN THE PRINTED PAGE

GOD BELIEVES IN LITERATURE. He gave us the greatest Book in the world. The Lord wills that its message be disseminated among all men. The invention of the printing press appears to be providential so this may be accomplished. The Bible was the first thing Gutenberg produced, and this began a world-wide program of publishing God's Word.

Each year, in October, evangelicals give emphasis to the need, value, and effectiveness of evangelical literature. It is evident Free Will Baptists need to focus greater attention on this vital ministry.

Ungodly men have discovered the impact of the printing press and the printed page. Along with the publication of the Scriptures and good books, there is an avalanche of literature that spreads wickedness.

It is not hard to see the results of the writings published and distributed by the communists—or by the leading cults. We cannot begin to measure the influence of the vile, filthy literature available on our newsstands. Like atomic energy, the written word has a vast potential for good—or for destruction!

In an age of scientific development and the expansion of power, we evangelicals may forget the importance of the greatest human power we have available. It is the power that unlocks the mind of man when he learns to read. The rapid increase of literacy in the world creates a demand for something to read—but what will it be?

Someone has said that the 26 lead soldiers of our alphabet constitute the greatest army in the world. Our great need is not to produce more bombs, but more books.

The call to Free Will Baptists is for an increased vision and faith in "the printed preacher." Except for the publishing of literature used in teaching and training, and some magazines, our neglect of this powerful ministry is quite obvious. Spasmodically, a very few books, pamphlets, and brochures have been produced.

The progress of our Sunday School and Church Training Service literature is encouraging and gratifying; yet there is a shortage of good, spirit-filled writers. There is an urgent need for our young people to enter the field of journalism. We MUST provide more and better reading material. The future belongs to those who read!

We suggest several things for consideration. One is to take steps toward the establishment of a Board of Publications. Further thought could be given to the merger of some department publications to increase their effectiveness.

An immediate pressing need is a person to work full-time in this area. Someone needs to have time to explore future possibilities and what would be most feasible for our denomination. Logically, the beginning point would be to secure a full-time editor for our national magazine.

The present dual role of the Executive Secretary makes it difficult to serve adequately in either responsibility. No one questions the need of an effective national publication. It must, however, meet our need. Much time is involved in planning, securing good material written by Free Will Baptists, editing, producing, and distributing a magazine. Yet this is essential to increasing readability, subscriptions, and financial stability.

We are investigating which way to go in providing the best national magazine possible. We must not be content with a good magazine. Our challenge is to get the message to a confused, bewildered world by means of the printed page.



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Mexico's National Convention
Unchanging Truths for a Changing World
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ABOUT THE COVER

God needs men to do His work. When one views the life of Gideon he becomes convinced that God uses "unimportant" people to do His work. When God told Gideon to do something, he did it. As ordinary men, may we respond in loving obedience to God's call, just as Gideon did.



religious news

TEST DIVORCE

STOCKHOLM, (EP)—Fighting to preserve the family unit, after introducing liberal laws towards pre-marital sex and adultery, Swedish authorities have introduced the "test divorce," something like a trial marriage in reverse.

Marriage-saving bureaus are operated by municipal authorities and the church.

Sweden admits, however, that a divorce may be the only solution for people who would break down physically and psychologically under the emotional strain of making a go of it.

The test divorce, or separation, is easy to get and must last for at least a year.

SVETLANA LIKE JUDAS

MOSCOW, (EP)—"She is like Judas who claimed loyalty to the Lord but betrayed him."

Thus Metropolitan Pimen of the Russian Orthodox Church here scored the daughter of the late Joseph Stalin who has sought asylum in the United States and is writing her memoirs.

"Mrs. Alliluyeva has abandoned her children, has become a traitor to her people and exposed her father's nakedness," he said, "and now attempts to speak about religion, about her belief in God."

\$5 MILLION FACILITY PROPOSED

CLEVELAND, TENN. (EP)—The erection of a \$5 million building complex to house the various departments of the Church of God of Prophecy was urged in a proposal here to the 62nd Annual General Assembly.

Construction would include a tabernacle to seat from 11,000 to 16,000 persons, visual aid and radio departments, international offices and a publishing house and press to replace the White Wing Publishing House which was destroyed by fire February of this year.

FIGHTS TO KEEP DAUGHTER FROM PUBLIC SCHOOL

YODER, KANS. (EP)—"I'm not against education but I'm against the environment of the public school and some of the foolishness that is going on there."

That statement by Amish farmer Leroy Garber summarized his case against the town, the state and the Kansas Supreme Court and tells why he wants to send his daughter Sharon to Harmond School taught by an eighth-grade graduate rather than to the public high school.

Perhaps paradoxically, several university professors are among a group called National Committee for Amish religious Freedom which supports the case for the 41-year-old farmer.

GOING UP

VALLEY FORGE, PA. (EP)—For all their local and world wide endeavors, American Baptists contributed \$113,643,828 in 1966 and \$109,063,309 in 1965.

The rise in one year represents a gain of 4.1 percent. The current figure represents a per capita gift of \$75.76 for last year and less than 3 percent of American Baptist income.

F. NELSON BLOUNT KILLED

DUBLIN, N. H. (EP)—Traveling to his home here from Steamtown, U.S.A. at Bellows Falls, Vermont, F. Nelson Blount's single-engine airplane apparently ran out of gas and plunged into a tree at the end of a pasture, killing the millionaire industrialist instantly.

Since the 49-year-old New Englander was converted five years ago he has become widely known as an earnest soul winner, speaking even with the President when Mr. Johnson invited him to the White House for a conference during the Israeli-Arab conflict in June.

TOP \$35 MILLION MARK

NASHVILLE, TENN. (EP)—Donations for their program of world missions were

contributed by Southern Baptists in such quantities that \$35 million was received by the end of August, topping the amount given by that date last year by more than \$1.7 million.

HIPPIE WEDDING HELD

ST. LOUIS (EP)—Guitar and vocal renditions of "I don't Want Your Sometime Lovin'" and "The First Time Ever" were featured at a wedding ceremony held in the chapel of the Christian Board of Publications here.

The couple joined in marriage, Michael Lee Cott and Lilian McReynolds, met at a Gaslight Square Christian coffeehouse called The Exit where the minister who performed the services is program chairman.

The Rev. James M. Flanagan, a minister of the Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) is associate editor of The Christian, a denominational publication. Mr. Flanagan's daughter, Kathleen, sang the two songs at the ceremony which Mr. Flanagan called a "hippie wedding."

BAN ON LIQUOR UPHELD

ATLANTA, GA. (EP)—A federal judge here refused to enjoin Gov. Lester Maddox or other state officials from enforcing Sunday closing laws which require nightclubs to stop serving liquor at midnight on Saturdays.

Judge Newell Edenfield of the U. S. District Court said that the laws are "clearly constitutional" regardless of whether they are "wise or archaic."

FUNDS FOR HOSPITAL

SANTE FE, N. M. (EP)—A unique request to aid a Protestant hospital fund drive is being made by Roman Catholic pastors in northern New Mexico. The priests were urged to ask their members to cooperate with the drive to raise funds to expand work of the Espanola Hospital, operated by the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

by Jim Jones

MISSIONS

RETREAT

A REVOLUTION rages on city streets. Secular forces proselyte church members, warp the meaning of the gospel and oppose Christian witness. Problems emerge from social change, from dialectical mutation. Liberal ecumenism taunts evangelical churches and missions. Old demonic powers in new forms harass wavering Christian natives. Pressure, financial needs, and loneliness increase stresses.

These difficulties in world missions were among those singled out during the fifth annual missions retreat of Free Will Baptist missionaries and board members at Montgomery Bell State Park south of Nashville, Aug. 16-26.

Sponsored by the missions department, the seven-day re-orientation, fellowship, and business meeting brought together about 100 persons, including missionaries and their children, missions staff and board members, and visitors.

Many of the missionaries, seeing each other for the first time in five years, and some for the first time, came directly from itinerary meetings across the country to share in the problems and testimonies of their co-workers.

It was the fourth such meeting of executives, missionaries, and staff; the first was in 1963. Prompted by a need for in-depth study of problems and operations on the part of both the home office and field staff, the retreat now brings together annually all Free Will Baptist foreign missionaries home on furlough, including the appointees on itinerary. This

means that about one-fourth of all foreign missionaries are brought together at any one meeting.

A Bible exposition opened each day's activities. Rufus Coffee, outgoing director of conference ministries and newly elected executive secretary, spoke on prayer prior to a two-hour daily session on missions operation. One area was covered each session, including orientation, deputation, field organization, and communications.

Pre-noon sessions were held each day. The Rev. Joe Ange, board chairman, and Rev. Raymond Riggs of Detroit, Mich. discussed policy revision of the missions operations. Miss Laura Belle Barnard gave what missionaries termed a thorough and descriptive account of demon activity on the field. The final three days of pre-noon sessions included an analysis of current trends and problems on mission fields around the world by Dr. Clyde Taylor, executive director of Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, whose office is in Washington, D.C.

Afternoon sessions were devoted to open discussion of problems relating to missionary activity. Evening services included brief reports of missions operations in the countries represented and a review of procedures on the field.

In voicing their reactions to the retreat, missionaries invariably expressed their gratitude.

"I consider it a privilege to be here," Estenio Garcia of Panama reported, "especially since I am a fruit of missions."



Richard Cordell, Guy Owens, Lonnie Sparks, and Dr. L. C. Johnson (l. to r.)

Earnie Deeds, missionary to Brazil, explained his view this way:

"The fellowship with other missionaries along with the excellent Bible studies were food for the soul. This outing served as a re-orientation period for me to the way we do things in the U.S. The missionary who has been away for five years has become a bit aloof from the routine and order observed in our stateside churches. And, too, the retreat was informative in that many questions of policy and relationship of the missionary to the department and foreign missions board were discussed and clarified."

Paul Robinson of Uruguay had additional comments:

"This chance to be with other missionaries has given me an insight into their problems and to observe their field operations. But even more, the spiritual uplift has been tremendous for me. All of us, trying to win the lost for Christ, have many of the same problems. This gives us a chance to find solutions."

Probably the biggest reward of the retreat was experienced by Rev. Coffey on the closing night of the meeting. The foreign missions department gave him a plaque for his outstanding service during his 5 years with the department.

"I've often wondered," Rev. Ange said as he presented the plaque, "how a man could preach approximately 300 of the 365 days a year for five years, with the compassion and zeal that Rufus Coffey has, and still keep going as he has. This plaque is presented to him in appreciation for his faithful service to the Board of Foreign Missions."

"I don't regret a mile for Jesus Christ," Coffey replied, in his remarks of gratitude.

Missionaries were given firsthand information in Dr. Taylor's discussions on current world problems. Such questions they considered were, "What is a prepared church?" "How do nationals take over the church?" "How does a missionary prepare for revolution?" "How does the missionary make the church mission-minded?"

In addition to these problems, Dr. Taylor discussed political conditions in Panama, Uruguay, Ecuador, Brazil, Japan, France, Ivory Coast, and India.

It marked the first time for most of the missionaries to learn from authoritative sources current world crises that could affect their mission field. □□

Missionary Walter Ellison and Amy Robinson share some ideas over a cup of coffee



Our denomination is indebted to missionary Thomas H. Willey for his dedicated service

Joe Haas is shown participating in a discussion of missionary activity





RONALD NIEBRUEGGE sounds a cry for men who will use God's methods and God's power in doing God's work.

NEEDED

MEN LIKE GIDEON

Gideon—A Distressed Man

Gideon was upset about the condition of God's people, but he didn't know just what to do about the situation. Many of the Israelites were living in caves and all of them were subject to the Midianites and prey to ungodly, ravaging hordes. Even Gideon was threshing his wheat in secret. His distress was soon increased as the Angel of the Lord appeared to him with a tremendous challenge. Calling him a "man of valour," he told Gideon that God was with him and that he should deliver Israel from her enemies.

Gideon was doubtful, but he was honest in his doubts. Like John the Baptist who began to doubt after spending some time in prison, Gideon's faith wavered. Both of these men were honest doubters though. The big difference between an honest doubter and a dishonest doubter is that the honest doubter brings his doubts to Jesus. And Jesus takes care of them.

Gideon was also hesitant in his decision. The fifteenth verse of this chapter tells us that Gideon made the same mistake that so many Christian workers make. He looked at himself and his abilities rather than to the Lord and His power and might. Gideon had to learn what Charles Cowman learned many years later: "Hesitancy is not characteristic of heroes."

But thank God, Gideon was holy in his devotion. Gideon saw the Lord face to face. No man can ever be the same after he sees God. Isaiah saw the Lord in a vision and he was changed forever. A man must be a worshipper before he

can be a worker or a warrior. Any man who is not first of all a worshipper can never be a Gideon; never a "man of valour;" never a soul-winner. We must know God and know Him intimately to be His men of the hour.

Gideon—A Dauntless Man

He was consecrated to God. When he built the altar and called God "Jehovah-Shalom," he was revealing an inner attitude. Jehovah-Shalom means, "The Lord is peace." Gideon had made peace with God. By building the altar, Gideon was probably voicing the sentiments of the Psalmist in Psalm 118:27, "God is the Lord, which hath shewed us the light: bind the sacrifice with cords, even unto the horns of the altar." Gideon's act indicated that he was saying, "I lay all on the altar. Bind me to the altar with your cords of love and burn out all of the dross of self and sin. Bind me, so that when this process is begun, I cannot turn away and run."

Also, he was committed to the task. What is commitment? It is sort of like a gamble. It is all or nothing. Either God can be trusted wholly or not at all. Commitment is like plunging into the water, rather than sticking one toe in to check the temperature. This man of God was cast on God. He wasn't afraid to stick his neck out. He had given himself to God and wasn't ashamed to let it be known where he stood. Where do you stand, O potential man of God?

Finally, he was courageous in his duty. Gideon did what every man of God must do. He straightened things out at home first. He tore down the pagan altar and

THE need today is not for more Christians, but for better Christians. This statement has been made by practically every Bible preacher at one time or another. The tragedy of it is that very few preachers act upon it. Hence, the Church finds itself like Israel of old, limited and pretty well controlled by the world. May God give us some *Gideons* in these days.

The opening verses of Judges, chapter 6, describe the condition of Israel. Because of her sin and rebellion against God, she is again at the mercy of her enemies. This time the enemies were the Midianites. They were chronic agitators of God's people. They remind us of the world which ever seeks to bring God's people under its power. The sixth verse tells us that the people of God cried to Him for deliverance. Apparently they were not too concerned about their bondage until now. But whenever God's people mean business with Him, He will act on their behalf. In this case God chose to use a young man named Gideon. He was God's man for the hour. Notice four features about Gideon that should be true of every man of God.

built an altar to the Lord. And this is not always easy. Much of what the man of God must sometimes do at home is not easy, but it is absolutely necessary. Some may point out that he did this act at night because of fear. This is true, but we must realize that at least he did it! Our Christianity must make a difference in our home life. We must cast out the pagan altars and crown Christ King of our lives and Head of our homes. Until this takes place, we will never be men of God.

Gideon—A Dependent Man

Like every man of God, Gideon needed God's power and guidance. One primary difference between Gideon and most modern day leaders is that Gideon realized this truth and we don't. While we may not agree with this statement, our lack of prayer reveals otherwise. Andrew Murray said, "Our dependence on God is manifested by the time we spend in prayer." What a tremendous commentary on our foolish self-sufficiency!

Gideon's dependence upon God was revealed in three ways. It was revealed first by an *openness to God's leadership*. Not knowing exactly what to do, Gideon made an agreement with God. Gideon was to lay a fleece of wool on the ground and the dew was to fall only on it, and the ground around it was to be dry. The next morning it was just as Gideon had requested. The next night the order was reversed and it also was as he had asked. This was the method God used to show Gideon that he was to lead the Israelites to victory. While some may criticize Gideon for this, we feel that it is unwarranted. God did not rebuke Gideon for this action. Secondly, one should remember that *Gideon did not have a written revelation as we do today*. The significant thing is that once Gideon knew for sure that "this is the way, walk ye in it," there was no stopping him. He was willing to do God's will, whatever it was, if he could be sure. God had now directed and dependent Gideon was obeying.

Secondly, Gideon's dependence upon God was revealed by an *openness to God's commands*. Have you ever tried to think how Gideon must have felt at this time after gathering together the people of Israel and facing the enemy with thirty-two thousand men against an army beyond number? No doubt a lump rose in his throat as he lifted his heart to the Lord for encouragement and to remind God again of His promise to deliver Israel. Then, suddenly, the Lord spoke to him and said that he had too many on his side. Too many? Already

outnumbered by probably ten or fifteen to one, and too many? "Send the fearful ones home," God said. With that command twenty-two thousand left and returned home. God's next command to let the men drink and to choose those who drank like alert soldiers reduced the number with Gideon to three hundred. With these God would give victory to Israel. There are two reasons for this truth. One, the victory was a direct result of God's power and intervention; and, two, the three hundred remaining men were "little Gideons."

Thirdly, Gideon's dependence upon God was revealed by an *openness to God's estimate of Gideon*. God instructed Gideon to go down to the camp of the Midianites. While he was there he heard a soldier tell of a dream in which a barley loaf had rolled down the hill and destroyed the camp of the Midianites. Another soldier said that the barley loaf was Gideon. This was God's message to Gideon. On the surface this seems meaningless, until one realizes that barley bread was the sorriest kind of bread ever made. It was usually fed to the animals or the very poor people. It had little or no nutritional value and only served to fill the empty places in one's stomach. It was really good for nothing. This was what God was saying to Gideon. Gideon was good for nothing in himself. But, dependent on God, he was mighty. It was barley loaves that Jesus blessed and broke to feed the multitudes of five thousand men. Feeble in itself, but useful after the breaking and blessing. We, who are good for nothing, must, like Gideon, recognize our feebleness and weakness. Then, depending on God, we can experience marvelous victory in the conflict of the ages.

Gideon—A Daring Man

Gideon was like the man of whom it was said, "He feared man so little because he feared God so much." Is one cause for our weakness that our fear of God is so small while our fear of man is so great? Gideon stepped forward in this battle with his hope and trust anchored in Jehovah. Continuing to follow the leadership of God, he took the preparatory steps. Dividing the small group into still smaller groups of one hundred each, he told his men to watch him and follow his directions.

His directions included the use of some presumptuous weapons. They were to take lamps, or torches, and pitchers and trumpets. It is interesting to note that if the soldiers had swords at all they were probably strapped to their sides, not in a position for fighting. Gideon instructed his men to place the pitchers over the

torches, and at his signal they were to break the pitchers and blow the trumpets. This was to be followed by shouting, "The sword of the Lord, and of Gideon!" If a military leader of today were to even suggest tactics like this for a battle, he would be sent to have his head examined. This handful of men using such foolish weapons against the mighty Midianites seemed absurd. Ridiculous! Let us be reminded that although the world may think that God's methods are foolish, outdated, or irrelevant, God always honors the man who uses God's methods and God's power to do God's work.

Finally, notice that God gave the Israelites a powerful victory. When the pitchers were broken and the shouts were given, the Midianites were so confounded that they fought among themselves until most of them were dead and the rest were fleeing for their lives. God's methods never fail! Would to God that the modern day men of God would realize the importance of doing God's bidding in the strength and guidance of the Holy Spirit and leave the results with God! "For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise: and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world; and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are; That no flesh should glory in His presence" (I Corinthians 1:26-29).

Gideon was a man just like we are. He had fears and anxieties and doubts and hesitations. But he belonged to God and had no reservations about it. Vance Havner said, "If today in the midst of all our restlessness, nervous seeking of thrills, espousing of pet doctrines, exaltation of pet preachers, we could get a nucleus of men and women to fall in love with Christ Himself and really make it their business just to know Him and make Him known, we would have a spiritual awakening . . . We need a fresh outbreak of Christ-lovers occupied with Him. When we are properly occupied with Him, men and churches and experiences find their place like spokes in a hub. The heart finds satisfaction for only He can satisfy. And men know that we have been with Jesus."

This is our need today. Let us give ourselves anew to God to be "Christ-lovers," occupied with Him, open and obedient to all His bidding.

MR. NIEBRUEGGE pastors Trinity FWB Church, Nashville, Tenn.

testimony to God's faithfulness

Where are you presently living?

In Shesbrooke, Quebec, Canada, where we attend Bethel French Bible Institute.

What experiences led to your conversion?

I was born in a Roman Catholic family where all the teachings of the church were strictly observed, as is the case in the majority of French Canadian families in Quebec. My wife and I were married very young. In 1956 we decided to travel in the United States. Like every young couple, we were trying to get ahead in life, but instead, we kept getting deeper in sin. I was sent to work in Perry, Florida by the company I was working for.

Share with CONTACT readers your conversion experience.

While working in Florida, a faithful deacon from Mount Carmel Free Will Baptist Church, Claude Davis, began witnessing to me. Time passed and he continued witnessing to me. Finally, I decided to go to his church. Not long afterward, I accepted the Lord as my personal Saviour and Lord of my life.

What happened after you were saved?

I knew from the moment I was saved that God wanted me as a missionary. So I left Perry, Florida and went to Free Will Baptist Bible College. Financial reasons forced me to quit attending the college later. It was then I began ignoring the Lord's call. This had a detrimental effect on my spiritual life. But praise God for the time Archie Mayhew preached his last message as pastor at West Nashville Free Will Baptist Church! When I laid my head on the pillow that night, I could not sleep. I simply said to the Lord, "Do You want me as a missionary?" At that instant, He filled

my heart with assurance that God was calling me to serve Him in Africa. Since that night, a life of blessings, joy, deep satisfaction and real excitement has been mine.

Where are you presently studying?

Since our native tongue is French, we are now studying at the Bethel French Bible Institute, preparing for service in Africa.

You mentioned God's all-sufficiency. How did He choose to meet your needs?

The Lord has really met our needs. Last year we lived on \$25.00 a week. My wife worked part-time, and we had over \$225.00 in monthly bills (rent, food, gas, etc.). So, as you see, the Lord has met our needs in many ways.



Tell us how God has used you and your wife Marie in bringing others to Himself.

My wife is one of 19 children in her family. Her father was saved through her witness, and last summer two nephews were saved. We have witnessed to our landlady, a Roman Catholic, for over a

year and a half. Through prayers and the conviction wrought by the Holy Spirit, she accepted the Lord six months ago. We praise the Lord for His many victories. He has proved Himself faithful always. It is a joy to serve Him. The desire of our lives, short as they are, is that they count for eternity. We want the Lord to use us at home and abroad to point those without Christ to Him.

Tell us how God provided the faith promise and license plates.

This summer when we left Canada to go to Nashville, we decided to give some money to missions. Even though we didn't have the money to give, we were confident the Lord would provide. God gave us five times what we had given Him before our return to Canada. The missions board gave us a check for \$500.00 from a missionary servant of God.

Last winter God supplied my car license plate. Someone asked me when I was going to buy my license plate. I answered, "I do not have the money." On my way home, I stopped by the mail box, which I don't usually do. My wife almost always gets the mail. I took my keys out of the car and opened the little folder to get the keys for the mail box, and inside was \$20.00. This came from a Christian who had listened to the Holy Spirit.

What are your future plans?

We plan to go where God directs. We feel He is leading us to Africa. If He continues to lead in that direction, we will be there one day. "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you" (John 15:16).

GIFTS

choice selections
Christ-centered



INEXPENSIVE GIFT BOOKS

Act-it-out stories to help children understand that everyday things are gifts from God—and "how" He gives them to us. Big colorful pictures, stories in rhyme, suggested action.

- No. 2919—How God Gives Us Happy Homes
- No. 2921—How God Gives Us Jelly
- No. 2915—How God Gives Us Warm Coats
- No. 2916—How God Gives Us Peanut Butter
- No. 2917—How God Gives Us Ice Cream
- No. 2918—How God Gives Us Apples
- No. 2920—How God Gives Us Bread

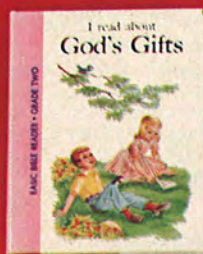
Your choice of above titles

50¢ each



TYPE SPECIMEN:
Primer,
Readers 1 and 2

Jesus told t
e owned and
e could love



A Bible Story Readers

Children everywhere love Standard Basic Bible Readers—and at first "thumb through" you will understand why. They can read the stories for themselves!

Standard Readers use a "controlled" vocabulary comparable to public school readers. Word lists, with particular attention to new Bible words. Colorful illustrations. Large, well-spaced type. Full-color cloth cover, shiny jackets.

No. 2709—Primer: I Learn to Read About Jesus. Three Bible stories told in 85-word vocabulary, 65 of which are found in most primers and pre-primers. The remainder are Bible words. Illustrated word list. Cover can be wiped with damp cloth.

\$2.25

No. 2711—Reader, Grade 1: I Read About God's Love. For those who have finished the Primer. 86 new Bible words.

\$2.95

No. 2712—Reader, Grade 2: I Read About God's Gifts. 85 new words.

\$2.95

No. 2713—Reader, Grade 3: Bible Adventures. \$2.95

No. 2714—Reader, Grade 4: Bible Heroes. Thirty-eight exciting stories about "heroes" in the Bible.

\$2.95

B Bible Stories of Love and Care

Beautiful new Bible-story book planned for family reading, devotions, libraries. Contains best-loved stories and pictures from Readers, Grades 1 and 2 above, but no reference to age levels, no word lists. Same large type. Beautifully bound, full-color jacket.

No. 2745 \$3.95

C Adventures of Bible Heroes

Similar to above. Stories, illustrations selected from Readers, Grades 3 and 4. A Christmas gift to enjoy all year.

No. 2700 \$3.95

D Bible Stories About Jesus

For small fry. Forty-four stories in chronological order, 44 colorful Bible Art pictures. Simple vocabulary.

No. 2735 \$2.50

E Children's Stories from the Bible and Today

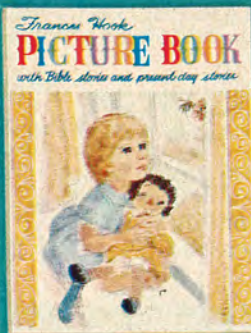
Well-told stories about Jesus, baby Moses, baby Samuel, and others in the Bible; poems about God's gifts to us; stories about God's helpers—some who lived in Bible times and some today. Full-color pictures by Frances Hook.

No. 2751 \$2.25

F Bible Stories for Little Folk

Forty-four Old and New Testament stories, each with full-page Bible Art picture in color. Begins with story of creation; ends with story of Jesus and the family of Bethany.

No. 2736 \$2.50



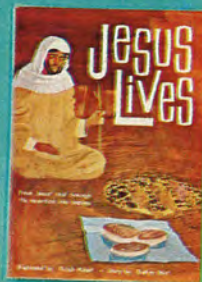
A



B



D



C



E



H



G



F

A Frances Hook Picture Book:

Bible Stories, Present-Day Stories

Big new book your small fry will "read" by the hour. Charming Frances Hook pictures, in full color, illustrate many of the best-loved Bible stories, some present-day stories, too. 96 pages. No. 2868

\$2.95

B Jesus Is Born

Contemporary — yet realistic — art in full color illustrates this brand-new retelling of the nativity story. Will simplify events for boys and girls; and give extra perception and understanding. No. 2975

\$1.00

C Jesus Lives

Similar to above. Same colorful style of art, same simplified retelling of the resurrection story. No. 2976

\$1.00

D My Jesus Book

Fifteen delightful Frances Hook pictures and Bible stories especially for Preschool boys and girls. Pictures are page size, in attractive full color; brief text in large, easy-to-read type. Marvelous introduction to life of Jesus. No. 3046

\$1.50

E My Book of Bible Stories

Full-color pictures and exciting Bible stories add up to a wonderful gift for Preschoolers. Some stories are adapted from Old Testament and some from the New. Frances Hook, illustrator. No. 3047

\$1.50

F My Thank You Book

Colorful everyday pictures about the many wonderful gifts God has given. Simple text with each picture helps children learn to say "Thank you, God." Illustrated by Frances Hook. No. 3048

\$1.50

G Picture-Story of Jesus

Picture-strip story of life of Jesus. For Juniors and Junior Hi youth. No. 3088

95¢

H The Beginning of God's Beautiful World

The Bible story of the creation retold for preschool boys and girls. Large full-color pictures are bold and uncluttered. No. 2724

\$1.50

Journeys with Jesus

A "Surprise Book" about Jesus. For Preschool and Primary children.

Large, colorful pictures illustrate brief text. Die-cut flaps open two ways to reveal the "surprises." Will help youngsters identify with Jesus and learn about His teachings. It's a wonderful gift. No. 2977

\$1.00



SURPRISE BOOKS WITH PRAYERS

N House Full of Prayers

A "Surprise Book." A fold-up storybook with prayers to learn. Your youngsters will be thrilled with these stories about an everyday family and the prayers they say each day. Lift-up flaps show activities inside the house. No. 2922

\$1.25

O Ark Full of Animals

A "Surprise Book." Delightfully simple version of the Bible story about Noah and his family on the ark. Forty lift-up flaps show what is happening inside the ark, behind the waves, in the trees, etc. Heavy board cover is cut in the shape of the ark. Brief prayers to learn. No. 2707

\$1.25

P Garden Full of Prayers

A "Surprise Book." Similar to House Full of Prayers, but this time the family is in their garden. Lift-up flaps reveal "surprises." Some Bible stories about gardens, too. Colorful pictures. Prayers. No. 2901

\$1.25

Song of the Seed

Picture-song-and-storybook for Preschool children. Ten easy-to-sing stanzas tell about the growth of a seed. Big, colorful pictures show the plant in various stages of growth. Suggestions for acting out story are in back of book. No. 3177

\$1.25

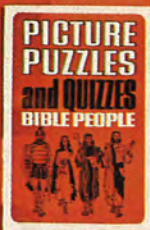
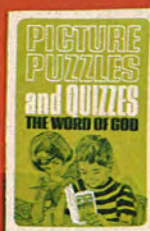


DELIGHTFUL NEW GIFT BOOKS

WHAT IS HOME? Large, full-color pictures of the many things "home" means to Preschool and Primary boys and girls. Home is "steps to climb . . . a special place to play in . . . a rug to sit on . . . a place to worship." A little boy or girl illustrates each of these, and more. Most first and second graders will be able to read this book by themselves. Full-color board covers, 32 pages, 8½ x 11 inches. 3330 . . . \$1.50

WHAT IS SPRING . . . SUMMER . . . FALL . . . WINTER? Full-color pictures and brief text about the four seasons will fascinate Preschool and Primary boys and girls. Full-page illustrations depict familiar objects which young children associate with each season, and the text emphasizes that everything is the creation of God. 32 large pages; full-color board cover; size 8½ x 11 inches. 3331 . . . \$1.50





A Standard Giant Oval Bible Puzzles

They're new — they're oval — and each is 17x20 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. With no corners to work from, these puzzles will challenge your best skill. 515 interlocking pieces make a colorful Bible Art picture.

No. 2573—Flight to Egypt
No. 2574—Paul's Shipwreck
No. 2578—Jesus and the Fishermen
Order by number \$1.19 each

B Giant Bible Picture Puzzles

Challenging jig-saw puzzles, each with 650 interlocking pieces. 17x22 inches.

No. 2575—Visit of the Wise-men
No. 2576—Moses and the 12 Spies
No. 2577—The Good Shepherd
Order by number 89¢ each

C Little Giant Bible Picture Puzzles

Youngsters (oldsters, too) will have hours of pleasure putting together these colorful pictures. Each has 108 interlocking pieces. 15 $\frac{1}{2}$ x11 inches.

No. 2540—Moses With the Law
No. 2541—The Christ Child
No. 2542—Boy Jesus in Temple
Order by number 49¢ each

D Picture Puzzles and Quizzes

Brand-new for boys and girls who like to work puzzles—and what 8-to-12-year-old doesn't? Crossword puzzles, scrambled words, dot-to-dot, and more. Answers in back of book.

No. 2057—The Word of God
No. 2058—Bible People
Order by number 35¢ each

E Bible Puzzles for All Ages

For hours of leisure-time fun! Cross-words, coded messages, scrambled words, and more—plus Scripture references to help you find the answers in the Bible. Illustrated.

No. 2044—Old Testament Puzzles
No. 2050—New Testament Puzzles
Order by number 35¢ each

F Fuzzy Felt Stories

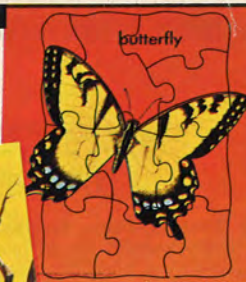
Colorful, creative, fascinating. Just lay brightly colored, die-cut felt pieces on the fuzzy board to illustrate Bible and missionary stories. Pieces cling like magic! Sample pictures, instructions.

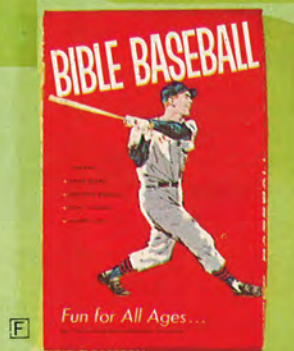
No. 6375—Mission Hospital
No. 6387—Bible Stories
Order by number \$1.98 each

INLAY PUZZLES

Four adorable inlay puzzles (big, easy-to-handle pieces) for little people, and three "Little Giant" puzzles (108 interlocking pieces) for older youngsters. Full color. Wonderful gifts.

Inlay puzzles, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches. 29¢ each
No. 2521—Birds
No. 2522—Butterfly
No. 2523—Kitten
No. 2524—Puppy





A Spinner Games

Flick the spinner and move your "man." Each colorful game board has four playing discs, spinner. Instructions.
No. 2551—Noah and Animals
No. 2552—Buzzy Bee
No. 2553—Walking With Jesus. Requires some Bible knowledge.
Order by number 59¢ each

B Fuzzy Board Fun

Your youngsters will have a great time punching out the die-cut figures and arranging them on fuzzy storyboard to make Bible scenes. Full color. Scripture references, instructions. Boxed.
No. 2250—Birth of Jesus
No. 2251—Boy David and Boy Joseph
Order by number \$1.98 each

C Pocket Puzzles

Adaptations of the well-known "15" puzzle, these fascinating pocket puzzles are guaranteed to keep youngsters of all ages busy for hours. Great Christmas stocking stuffers. 2½x2½ inches.
No. 7883—Jesus and His Apostles. Picture of Jesus in center.
No. 7884—Palestine in Time of Jesus. Arrange sliding squares to complete map of the Holy Land. Names of cities, towns, rivers listed on back.
No. 7885—Old Testament. Arrange books in order. Completed design has scroll in center.
No. 7886—New Testament. As above. Cross design in center.
Order by number 49¢ each

D Bible Treasure Hunt

With this exciting game you either know your Bible or you learn fast! "Talents" are won or lost according to speed and knowledge. For two to twelve players.
No. 2650 \$1.95

E Bible Cubes Game

Toss cubes on table and arrange as many as possible in order of books of the Bible. Wonderful family fun.
No. 2651 \$1.00

F Bible Baseball

Combines the fun of real baseball with knowledge of Bible. Make hits, home runs, outs, etc., by answering questions.
No. 2655 \$1.95

low-cost GIFTS FOR CHILDREN

LITTLE BOOKS — BIG VALUES

My Little Book of Bible Stories. Each of these "little books" for little people has brief story from New Testament and one from the Old. Full-color pictures.
15¢ each

No. 2011—Baby Jesus, Baby Moses
No. 2012—Story of Jesus, Boy David
No. 2013—Jesus and Children, Joseph
No. 2014—Lost Sheep, Noah's Ark

Bible Picture/Story Booklets. Frances Hook's charming paintings of children illustrate these delightful books for Preschool boys and girls. Thirteen pictures, very brief text.
25¢ each

No. 2091—We Learn About Jesus
No. 2092—Stories From the Bible
No. 2093—God's Gifts
No. 2094—God's Helpers



THE MISSIONARY I LOVE MOST!

I HAVE seen hundreds of missionaries both at home and abroad. But I want to tell you of the missionary I love most. He has deeply influenced my heart and greatly enriched my life. He is the missionary after my heart, and God's heart too. Given a chance, he would conquer the world within our generation.

Surprisingly, this missionary idol of mine is the frailest of all missionaries I have met.

He looks thin, ill clad, despised. He can hardly stand upright and spends most of his days leaning upon others. He cannot walk a block unless transportation is provided for him. He sits speechless most of the time, though he loves to talk to someone. He loves to be handled like a little child, but he is so frail that a child can mistreat him or a drunken man can trample him under his feet.

I have seen this amazing missionary at work. Fifty years ago he was sent to India to evangelize the most sin-degraded head-hunting mountain people. When he arrived in the village, the chief examined his credentials and issued him a permit to stay. Before long, everyone was impressed with his message, and night after night people came to see him. He was so humble that everyone loved him. His longsuffering and gentleness especially impressed the people. He was calm even when the children handled him roughly.

Before long five men, including the chief, announced their willingness to accept his message. Since that day the missionary has multiplied his witness a thousand times. He has learned many new languages even while traveling much of the time. He has had the joy of seeing over 100 indigenous churches established, and has had a part in winning over 30,000 souls to Christ. I have known him for the past twenty-five years, and the more I work with him the more I love and appreciate him.

His name is Mr. Written Word, and his message is the Gospel. The people he reached were my own people and several other hill tribes in Assam, India. Mr. Written Word is today livelier, stronger, and has a more effective ministry than ever before. The burden of the Lord is heavy upon him. He desperately needs your fellowship in prayer and giving. Will you encourage him today so he may reach other people who need the message?

—Rochunga Pudait, Director, Indo-Burma Pioneer Mission

(Adapted from ELO Bulletin)



gems

FROM THE
GREEK NEW TESTAMENT

by ROBERT PICIRILLI

IN GALATIANS, chapter six, there is a verse whose significance is often overlooked because of the nature of the English translation. Our King James Version says: "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things" (v. 6). The word here that causes us to miss the point is "communicate," for we have now come to the place in English usage where we almost always use the word "communicate" in reference to saying something or sending a message.

The Greek word which is translated "communicate" here is *koinoneo*, and its idea is more like our "communion" than "communicate." It means to become a partner or associate or sharer with someone in something. It is used, for example, in Hebrews 2:14, where all human beings are said to be "sharers" or "partakers" of flesh and blood; in Romans 15:27, where Gentiles are said to have become "sharers" with the Jews in spiritual things; in 1 Peter 4:13, where we are said to have become "sharers" with Christ in sufferings; in 1 Timothy 5:22, where we are exhorted not to be "sharers" in other men's sins; and in 2 John 11 in a similar sense.

The word is used, however, in a very special sense in three New Testament passages: Romans 12:13, where it is translated "distributing to the necessity of the saints," Philippians 4:15, where Paul speaks of the churches who "communicated" with him "as concerning giving and receiving," and in the verse before us, Galatians 6:6. In all three of these verses, the word means to become a partaker or sharer in one's ministry by giving.

Galatians 6:6, therefore, makes it very clear that it is the obligation of the one for whom a ministry is performed to become a partner with the one performing the ministry by assisting him. There is, indeed, no better way for one to become a minister or teacher than to contribute to his need. And so the verse tells us that the one who is taught in the Word should become a partner with the one who teaches him.



glancing around the states

Successful Camp

The summer camp of the Northwestern Association of Free Will Baptists was held at Glen Cove Christian Schools, Glen Cove, Maine. This was the first summer camp program for the area.

There were campers from Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada, Maine and New Hampshire. Total enrolment was 54 with 17 workers. Camp director for this year was Rev. James Nason.

Rev. Glen Hill of Scotland Neck, North Carolina was the camp evangelist. There were 13 campers saved during the week.

Christian Academy

GOLDSBORO, N. C.—Faith Christian Academy has been organized here to offer students an education in light of the Bible. Presently enrolled are 112 students. Approximately 75 are in our four and five year old kindergarten and 50 in the first four grades.

Teachers are as follows: Mrs. Dolly Stox, Four-year-old kindergarten; Mrs. Joyce Corbett, Five-year-old kindergarten (unit 1); Miss Theresa Coleman, Five-year-old kindergarten (unit 2); Miss Inez Taylor, First grade; Mrs. John Pippin, Second and Third grades; and Lorenza Stox, Fourth grade and Principal.

First Youth Camp

SPRINGDALE, ARK.—Recently a dream materialized here when 155 young people, ranging in ages from seven to eighteen, attended the first local youth camp

at the Association grounds located between Springdale and Huntsville. These young people were from the Old Mount Zion Association of Free Will Baptists which consists of churches in Benton, Madison, and Washington Counties in Northwest Arkansas.

Approximately forty-five young people accepted Christ as their Saviour during the camp. The success of the program is attributed to Rev. Tommy Day, Director; Rev. James Spears, General Superintendent; Rev. Cecil Garrison, Chaplain; Rev. Eldon Bagwell, Evangelist; Rev. David Todd, Playground Supervisor; and the many devoted workers including seven teachers, kitchen workers and concession stand operators.

College Opens 26th Year

NASHVILLE, TENN.—On September 18 the Bible College began its 26th year of operation with an enrollment of 373 students. This figure is a jump of more than 10 per cent over last year's 339 first semester registration and does not include evening school students. One hundred seventy new students, representing 21 states, registered at the Bible College for the first time.

One of the most surprising features of this year's enrollment was the large number of dormitory men entering school. Nearly 130 were registered, contrasted with less than 100 who were in school last year. The newly completed men's dormitory made it possible for the school to accommodate all of the increased number of registrants.

Minister of The Year

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.—Rev. H. Ray Berry, pastor of Faith Free Will Baptist Church here, was honored as "Minister of the Year" by the State Association of Free Will Baptists as they met in Henderson, Texas recently.

Mr. Berry has pastored Faith Free Will Baptist Church since its organization five years ago. He has also been instrumental in organizing other churches in the state. Among them are Mt. Union Church; First Church of Houston; Pine Prairie, Huntsville; and was pastor of Fellowship Church, Bryan, Texas during the construction of their initial building.

Charity or Coned

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Recently the CONTACT editorial staff was notified by a



BERRY

pastor in the Columbia, Georgia area of being taken in by a hard luck story. The pleas sounded plausible and the person informed the pastor of a so called personal acquaintance with several of our National directors whom he called by name and described their work. Later when his story was checked, no one in Nashville was acquainted with him.

It is sometimes hard to distinguish between charity and a con artist. We need to beware of being deceived but on the other hand we must be alert lest we miss the opportunity of entertaining an angel unaware.

Completes Studies

TULSA, OKLA.—Rev. Don Payne, former president of Oklahoma Bible College, has completed his required academic studies for a doctorate in Christian Education at the University of Tulsa. He has received an appointment to the graduate faculty of this University where he taught Educational Statistics and Educational Philosophy last summer. He has majored in Educational Administration and minored in Educational Philosophy and Psychology. He will complete his dissertation during 1968.

Camp Gives \$500

FARMINGTON, MO.—A total of \$500 was presented to Evangelist Jack Paramore for the Development Program of Free Will Baptist Bible College following a combination youth camp and camp meeting effort here. The figure included offerings received each night and an hono-

rary for the Evangelist. The idea, born in the minds of a group of ministers in southeast Missouri, involved a 5-day youth camp with people of the churches throughout the area driving to the campgrounds for the evening service. The camp enrolled approximately 160, and the evening services attracted from 350 to more than 500 people.

The spiritual impact of the camp meeting was termed "very successful" with scores of decisions for salvation, rededication, and full-time Christian service recorded. At least 40 young people professed salvation as revival spread across the campus, some being saved in the tabernacle, some on the grounds, and others in the dormitories.

In addition to the offerings received and the honorarium paid the Evangelist, four \$5 per month checkbooks were signed with the college which will add \$240 to the total over the next 12 months.

The camp was under the direction of Rev. Bob King, who was assisted by Rev. Tom Malone, Rev. Frank Guinta, and Rev. Harley Brown.

Beware of Invoices

NASHVILLE, TENN.—CONTACT editorial staff has been notified of companies mailing invoices to churches and small businesses under the headings, Classified Directory Publishing Company; Directory Publishers Service; Directory Advertisers; Business Men's Directory Service, and approximately ten others. Invoices received under these names should be checked carefully. Make sure

the company has rendered a service before the bill is paid.

New Work Begins

MERIDIAN, MISS.—Rev. Levy Corey and his family are now located here under the joint sponsorship of the Mississippi State Missions Board and the National Home Missions Board. They are working under "Project 30."

Worship services in the city began October 1. Those interested in the work should contact Mr. Corey at 3001 Highland Avenue, Meridian, Mississippi.

Mission Work

WEST POINT, MISS.—Rev. Herman Baker has moved here to become pastor of the Free Will Baptist Mission. The mission has an average weekly attendance of approximately 20. Anyone interested in the work should contact Mr. Baker at 964 Brame Avenue, West Point, Mississippi 39773.

Evangelistic Work

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Rev. John A. Cullipher has declared himself available for full-time evangelistic work. Mr. Cullipher formerly pastored in Winterhaven, Florida. Those desiring his services may contact him at 3708 Murphy Road, Nashville, Tennessee.

Celebrated Anniversary

WAPIHU, HAWAII—Recently the Free Will Baptist Church here celebrated her eighth anniversary. Reports were presented from each department of the church.

The treasurer of the church reported an indebtedness on the land of \$11,300 and \$1,800 on the church bus. Plans are under way for the construction of a new sanctuary by the 10th anniversary.

During the 8 years there have been 35 first time decisions, 50 new members and 19 baptisms. The Sunday School enrollment and average attendance is at an all time high.

State Association Meets

BOONEVILLE, MISS.—The Mississippi State Association of Free Will Baptists will convene November 10th and 11th with the Martin Hill Free Will Baptist Church six miles east of here. Services will begin on Friday evening. Rev. Curtis Briley is the pastor.



Rev. John Edwards is shown presenting awards to Bible Bowl winners from Free Will Baptist Children's Home in Eldridge, Alabama. They are (l. to r.) Connie Nobles, Kathy Tidwell, Brenda Nobles and Elizabeth Tidwell.

JIM COLES is not a world traveler. He makes only an occasional trip to another city. But when he does, he confidently dials his favorite airline with every expectancy that in a matter of two minutes he will be told what flights are available and that his reservation is confirmed. Jim may not fully understand the \$2,000,000 computer that keeps track of all the flights, seats, and passengers of the airline, but he has come to expect such performance as routine.

Two nights a month Jim attends committee meetings at his local church. He usually chairs one meeting, the one concerned with trying to involve more of the church members in the programs of the church. It's a frustrating time. Although the church has 706 members on the roll, it is a continual struggle to fill the 115 offices in the church and Sunday school programs. No one seems to know who the non-workers are, what they are doing or where they are hiding. Without thinking too much about it, Jim has also come to expect this level of performance for this situation.

Jim Coles is living in two worlds. He

is demonstrating the human being's amazing ability to play the role expected of him. The "world" is something that is moving, dynamic, changing, adventure-some. The "church" is something that is standing still, static, unchanging and conservative. Jim is living in a generation that has produced so many new jobs that 40 percent of them didn't exist when he was born. He daily uses tools of transportation, communication and commerce that were not available when he was a boy. And yet on Sunday morning the only difference he might find in his boyhood church sanctuary is the microphone on the pulpit and the clothes worn by the congregation.

The church literature Jim and his children read is equally antiquated. Oh, the pictures look modern but the message seems strangely like the antique cars Jim loves to work on. It may look new, but it's not part of *this* age!

Like many men, Jim not only accepts this dichotomy, he welcomes it. The very unchangingness of the church has become a sense of security to him. He may have little inclination toward things litur-

gical but the furniture in the sanctuary the 11:00 a.m. worship service, the Sunday school program, the Wednesday evening prayer meeting have all become symbols for which he searches in evaluating what a church should be. They continually serve to reinforce his conscious or sub-conscious understanding that the "world" and the "church" are two different places. And though the church is "in the world," its walls are high and the moat is deep. The drawbridge must be regularly lowered to permit access and quickly lifted once the guest is inside.

Jim is sometimes bothered by the fact that the big action is taking place in the world and not in the church. The issues of crime prevention, contamination of air and water, and school bonds seem much closer at hand than the questions of man's spiritual condition. But again he accepts this as the way things are.

This is not a new situation. Since Jesus Christ left His Church in the world as His witness, we have time and time again attempted to abandon that responsibility by fleeing from the world to some form

Hello, Tomorrow!

by Ed Dayton

Possibly the most powerful weapon ever fashioned is the alphabet, but the church has yet to seize its full potential in a world whose population will double in 32 years, double again in 17, then in eight, four, two . . .

Where There Is No Vision The Papers Perish

of monasticism. The frightening thing is the rate at which it is happening today. Man's knowledge is expanding at a rate of five to ten times faster than the population explosion and the population is expanding at a rate that is exponential. This means that if it follows present trends, population will double in 32 years, then double again in 17, then double again in eight, four, two. . . .

Assuming that man controls the world population without resorting to the mass destruction of a thermo-nuclear war, it is not a question of whether society will change at a rate inconceivable twenty years ago. The question is how will the Body of Christ respond to this change?

It is an accepted fact that today's technologist must be continually building his education. He thinks nothing of spending 100 hours a year in the classroom. But how many Christians spend twenty classroom hours a year relating the Bible and the world in which they live?

Society demands maximum utilization of every foot of floor space it builds. How many hours per square foot do we get from our North American church buildings which are going up at the rate of \$1,000,000,000 per year?

In fifteen to twenty years our television sets will be converted to programmed teaching stations and push-button information centers connected to the major libraries of the country. Will we still be limited to one half hour a week of flannelgraph, flash cards, or slides?

The number of new books multiplying space at the paperback stores, airline terminals and news counters reaches new heights in sales and new lows in breadth of content. What teenager knows the name of a novelist who is successfully interpreting the message of Christ?

We are told that the high school graduate of 1990 will be a genius by today's measurement. Will he find any link to reality as we try to tell him of God's love for him in Jesus Christ? In a society in which the potential for Big Brother to watch everyone electronically will reduce our privacy to near zero, will he find his security in Jesus Christ?

Will the church as we know it today survive this Computer Age? Hopefully not. Of all men the Christian should be most open to change. The world has been in the process of change since the day God told Adam to subdue the earth and fill it with his offspring. The Christian should be a man ready to seize every tool that comes to hand and to use it for the glory of God.

There is hope that the church can adapt its institutional structure to meet the great challenge before it. For one of the tools we are developing is at once

the most important and the most usable by the church. We become so dazzled by the new products of the age that few see their development and application as useful in helping man increase his ability and to manage himself and his problems. He is making the transition between the systems engineering approach to technical problems to the broader concepts of management systems. He is learning to look at a problem in its entirety—as a system. He looks past the problem of more freeways for more trucks to see that what he is really dealing with is the system problem of feeding a city. He places the problem of cleaning up our contaminated water supply as part of the over-all need to eliminate contaminants. He learns to balance the cost of crime control over and against the cost of crime prevention.

The technologist is just beginning to apply his system know-how to social problems. But New Haven, Connecticut's computer location of its people . . . San Bernardino, California's contract with TRW to make a system analysis of its welfare program, and Lytton Industries' contract with the government of Greece to manage tourism are indications of what lies ahead.

If there is any hope of the religious press adapting to the needs of an expanding society it lies here.

We must first understand from a systems view what we are attempting. We are charged with making disciples of all nations. George Sweazey in his book *Effective Evangelism* has pointed out to us the steps of the system: contact, cultivation (communication), commitment and consecration (as operating members of the system). Stephen Rose's book *The Grass Roots Church* makes some practical estimates of what this might mean.

The tools of communication lie everywhere before us: computers, information systems, understanding of people. In the area of literature we have libraries full of secular books that demonstrate how a meaningful message is transmitted.

The question is not whether the church will survive, but how? Robert Browning said, "Ignorance is not innocence, but sin."

Never has technology offered so much to so many so fast. Let's give literature its full dimension for a viable and dynamic church!

MR. DAYTON is director of the Missions Advanced Research & Communication Center, a division of World Vision International serving in cooperation with the School of World Mission, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, Calif. His article is furnished by the Evangelical Press Association in observance of Protestant Press Month.

HALF A MILLENNIUM ago that noisy, banging thing called a printing press was invented, and since then a Niagara of literature has pushed civilization to its highest peaks.

This month is the 19th annual observance of Protestant Press Month by member periodicals of the Evangelical Press Association in North America and in other parts of the globe as well. It is a salute to the reader, as well as the publisher, calling each to a united effort in heralding the message of Christ through literature.

The enormous influence of the press is undeniable. Few would quarrel with Henry Ward Beecher who opined, "Newspapers are the schoolmasters of the common people. That endless book, the newspaper, is our national glory."

From the jumbled mass of editorial material an editor sorts out the facts as best he can and presents them honestly and accurately so his readers can form their own opinions. He separates news from editorial judgments, reserving the right to express editorially his own judgments on important issues to win his readers to the periodical's viewpoint.

A shackled press not clearly identified as such is immoral. If this is true of the secular press, it is even more true of the Protestant Press. Some readers of religious publications may expect to find in their periodicals only that which has been pre-approved by their church's hierarchy, but the reader of evangelical periodicals expects to find its content free of alteration by political pressures and, within the framework of its own philosophy, free of pressure to conform to a given ecclesiastical viewpoint.

But without readers, publishing would come to naught. If was for good reasons that the Apostle Paul enjoined his young friend Timothy to give attention to reading.

You are what you read. What you read with approval you become like. The future belongs to those who read.

Ignorance, as Robert Browning said, is not innocence, but sin. Let us do our part to support a free and responsible Protestant press!—NBR

IT DOESN'T TAKE much observance on anyone's part to verify the fact that everyone is seeking happiness. It also doesn't take much observance to see that there are innumerable ideas and theories, even among church people, as to how this happiness is obtained. Indeed, to listen to the popular slogans of our day, one would be led to believe that happiness is found in anything and everything from ideas and philosophies to puppy dogs and cigarettes. Yet, with all these countless ideas about happiness, is it not a strange phenomenon that the world is blessed with so few really happy people?

What is happiness? You smile that such a one as I should endeavor to answer such a profound question. And well you should smile, for in my wisdom, as in yours, I cannot fathom the question. Therefore, I deem it greater wisdom to go to the source of all wisdom—God's Word—for our answer. To fully analyze happiness to the satisfaction of all, we must be able to answer three important and separate questions. First of all, *what* is it? Secondly, *how* is it obtained? Thirdly, *who* can obtain it?

What is happiness? To answer that question let us go to that marvelous sermon of our Lord, commonly called The Sermon on the Mount. In Matthew 5:3-11 (the Beatitudes), Jesus gives a list of qualifications for those who would be blessed, or happy. Add to these verses Psalm 1:1 and 32:1, and you have an extensive yardstick with which to measure. But what do all these things really mean—blessed are the poor in spirit, blessed are they that mourn, blessed are the merciful, etc.? The key to their understanding is in verse 11 of Matthew 5: "Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, *for my sake*." Along with this, we need to include Psalm 32:1: "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered." Further light is shed on the meaning of these "blessitudes" in John 14:1-3: "*Let not your heart be troubled*: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." After explaining the second coming of the Lord in I Thessalonians 4, Paul closes the chapter in this manner: "Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

by Lonnie Skiles
Junior, Free Will Baptist
Bible College

That's What Happiness Is

*While some seek to buy or
earn happiness, it is obtained
only as a free gift from our
Heavenly Father.*



Taking all these scriptures together, we can conclude, according to God's definition, that true happiness is found in forgiveness of sins through belief in Christ, and an eager expectancy of His second coming to reward those who do believe. This brings happiness in three distinct ways: (1) it gives one incentive to live right while in this world; (2) it produces patience to endure hardships of this world with a smile; and (3) it keeps alive that blessed hope for a far superior life in a better "world" to come. In connection with this last point, Paul says: "For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it" (Rom. 8:24-25).

The next question that confronts us, having analyzed what happiness is, is, "How can happiness be obtained?" The answer to this is in John 16:24, where Jesus says to His disciples: "Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full." Jesus states simply to "ask . . . that your joy may be full." This, in turn, raises other questions in our minds. First of all, *whom* should we ask? In Philippians 4:6, Paul says: "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." So then, we must make our requests directly to God Himself. Hebrews 4:16 admonishes us to "come boldly unto the throne of grace." The next question that arises is, *how* should we ask? There are many things that could be said in regard to this question, and an equal number of scriptures that could be quoted. However, suffice it to say that Jesus, here in John 16:24, instructs His disciples to "ask in my name." If we expect our requests to be fulfilled that our "joy may be full," then it is imperative that we ask in the name of Christ. Now, it is obvious that we cannot ask in the name of one with whom we are not acquainted; therefore, we conclude that only a person who has a *personal acquaintanceship* with Christ can expect his prayers to be answered and thus his joy to be full.

Last of all, the question arises, *what* shall we ask for? In this same verse in Philippians, Paul simply says "in everything let your requests be made known unto God." We believe, then, that God takes a personal interest in every part of the lives of His children. We should not attempt to analyze what God is interested in and what He isn't, but simply

include Him in everything. James 4:2 tells us: "Ye have not, because ye ask not." In his book *How To Pray*, Dr. R. A. Torrey explains how asking and receiving bring happiness to the recipient. He says: "It makes God real. When we ask something definite of God, and He gives it, how real God becomes! He is right there! It is blessed to have a God who is real, and not merely an idea." Psalm 16:11 puts it this way: "In thy presence is fullness of joy." So happiness is available—but while some seek to buy, earn, steal, or even take it by violence, it can be obtained only for the asking, as a free gift from our Heavenly Father, in the name of His lovely Son, Jesus Christ.

The last, and perhaps the most important, question in our analysis of happiness is: "Who can obtain happiness?" There is, of course, no more beautiful answer than that found in the golden text of the Bible, John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten Son, that *whosoever* believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." This serves to substantiate all previous conclusions concerning true happiness. It comes from God (and only from God), is obtained through His Son, Jesus Christ, and is available to whosoever will. Furthermore, Luke 12:32 tells us that it gives our Heavenly Father pleasure to make His children happy. He enjoys bringing happiness to us. Not only so, but all the hosts of heaven join with Him in sharing our happiness (Luke 15:10).

What is happiness? Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter. If we believe God's Word, we must conclude that it is not in having, seeing, tasting, hearing, or even in doing, apart from the fact of knowing. Knowing Jesus Christ as our personal Saviour, and by that knowing that all joys are ours through Him, not only in this present world, but in a greater sense throughout eternity. Knowing the peace of Christ that passeth all understanding. Knowing that whatever befalls us here is of little consequence because our Lord is coming again to deliver us from this present state. Knowing that even though we have to endure the presence of sin and wickedness for a season, "the sufferings of this present time are not to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." Knowing that "after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." Knowing the reality in our hearts of the precious promise of Christ, "Be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." THAT'S what happiness is! □□

cooperative giving

GIFTS FROM THE CHURCHES EFFECT A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

AUGUST 1967

	AUGUST 1967	YEAR TO DATE	TOTAL TO AUG. 1966	DESIGNATED AUG. 1967
Alabama	\$ 86.10	\$ 2,060.98	\$ 2,011.46	\$
Arizona		858.97	794.54	
Arkansas	740.55	3,212.06	3,165.83	
California	413.55	4,303.98	5,121.26	
Florida	1,692.58	3,905.60	2,152.41	
Georgia	621.94	2,156.69	1,433.74	
Idaho	42.87	216.53	295.23	
Illinois	673.76	5,187.61	4,679.11	
Indiana	18.87	287.37	94.00	
Kansas	52.20	716.50	1,758.00	
Kentucky		250.00	608.44	
Louisiana	23.00	256.26	145.56	
Michigan	117.35	1,970.27	182.27	
Missouri	2,870.08	14,970.33	10,848.72	
New Hampshire	48.48	323.16	178.43	
New Jersey	21.00	102.00		
New Mexico		230.50	179.91	
North Carolina	231.57	1,478.94	1,547.66	
Ohio	163.57	2,346.90	2,295.62	
Oklahoma	1,244.48	11,259.17	10,330.74	
Tennessee	419.59	3,893.27	1,765.97	
Texas	97.03	1,582.99	1,495.53	
Virginia	546.18	4,437.16	4,447.64	
Washington and Oregon		267.07	370.53	

	COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS AUGUST 1967	YEAR TO DATE	DESIGNATED AUGUST 1967	YEAR TO DATE	TOTAL RECEIPTS TO DATE
Foreign Missions	\$2,936.18	\$19,219.55	\$	\$116.27	\$19,335.82
Bible College	2,126.20	13,917.61		116.27	14,033.88
Executive Dept.	2,126.20	13,449.67		93.02	13,542.69
Home Missions	1,619.96	10,603.90		116.27	10,720.17
Church Training	1,012.47	6,627.43		13.96	6,641.39
Superannuation	303.74	1,988.22		4.65	1,992.87
Stewardship		467.93		4.65	472.58

An Unexpected Visitor

by J. E. Blanton

My Daily Date With God

by Danny Eason

Clayton, North Carolina

A DAILY DATE WITH GOD, what a forgotten time in this world of so called hustle and bustle. Many Christians are hypocritical, in a sense, when it comes to their date with God. They claim that they are religious, and most of the time they are, except when they come to the subject of their date with God; because they just don't keep that date.

The story is told of a boy who at a certain hour each day talked with God for one hour at four o'clock. For about a week or so the boy kept up these meetings with God. Then slowly, but surely, the boy started skipping a few of these sessions each week. Then he started missing these sessions by whole weeks, which finally led to his missing them altogether. One afternoon around four o'clock he happened to pass by the library where he had once had the sessions with God. The door was open, and the light was on, so he looked in to see who was in it. Who should be in the library but God! The boy felt embarrassed but he went in just the same. "So, you've finally come back," said God. The boy with disbelief in his eyes slowly mumbled out, "But I thought after I had missed a few weeks You wouldn't be waiting." The trouble is, a lot of people don't find out their mistake until they've already given up hope. "But," replied God, "where there is but the slightest hope of that one returning to Me then I'm always waiting."

Yes, just as the moral of this story is that God will always be waiting where there is hope of that person returning,

surely God will always be waiting.

A lot of people just like this boy maybe say they don't have time, but why can't they find time for God? They find time for the things they want to do, but people just won't take time for God.

There are many times a person could stop for God. Just a few of these are: in the morning when you wake up and are fresh and have a clear mind; or at dinner time just before you eat; another time is just before you go to bed at night. Personally, I think the morning time is the best of these because I think you sort of feel closer to God and have so many new things to thank Him for.

One of the best ways to spend your date with God is to get away from noise and disturbances to start with. Then you might get one of the *Depth Devotional Guides*, get your Bible readings and Bible study out of it. If you're going to get anything out of this date with God, don't just read your Bible but really study it and get the meaning out of the scripture and then pray. Don't just pray your normal everyday prayer, but when you pray put real meaning in your prayers. Also when you pray put power in your prayers by believing that your prayers will be heard and answered.

Do this when you pray and surely you will have sweet communion with God.

DANNY'S essay won first place in the National Herald Declamation Contest last summer. The contest is sponsored annually by the National Church Training Service Department.

THE CONGREGATIONAL SINGING was over, the special numbers had been given, the pianist had taken his seat, the prisoner playing the guitar had seated himself, the preliminaries were over, and now it was time for the preaching of God's Word. I read from Luke 14. After reading about the parable of the great supper, I explained what a parable was and why our Lord spoke many times in parables. The next subject was *excuses* and why many people will not serve the Lord. I glanced out the window and to my surprise saw the Governor of our state with his staff heading for the chapel. "Men," I said, "Here comes the Governor, let's stand and sing *Amazing Grace*." For just a minute it was a mass of confusion. Finally the pianist and the guitarist were settled, and together we sang the first and last stanzas of that wonderful old hymn. By the time we finished the last stanza, the Governor and staff were in the chapel and joined in the singing.

After singing the hymn, I asked the Governor if he would like to speak to the men. He gave us the following testimony: "Men, I'm glad to see that you are engaged in revival this week here at the prison. I want to tell you that the only hope that any of us have is in the Lord. The man on the street, whether it be the warden, the guard, the mayor, the governor or the president of the United States, the only hope they have is in the Lord. The only hope you have is in the Lord. Goodbye and God bless you."

With these few words, our Governor was gone. The impression he left lingered throughout the service. During invitation time, four prisoners walked down the aisle and knelt at the altar to receive Christ as their Lord and Saviour.

Many times since this experience I have thought how completely surprised, unprepared and shocked we were with just an unexpected visit from the Governor of the state.

One day our Lord is going to return. No one knows the day nor the hour. According to the Scriptures, He will be an unexpected visitor also. Will there be confusion? Will there be fear and dread? Will you be prepared for His coming? "Therefore be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh" (Matthew 24:44). □ □

MR. BLANTON is pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church in Jesup, Georgia, and member of our National Board of Home Missions and Church Extension.

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LITERATURE
SUNDAY**

OCTOBER 15, 1967

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