

MAY 1969

How Churches Tear Families Apart

The Greatest Institution in the World

'I Think I'll Just Quit'

of FREE WILL BAPTISTS St. Louis, Missouri July 14-17

National Association

Dates to Remember

Make Your Reservation Early!

SHERATON-JEFFERSON HOTEL(convention headquarters)12th Blvd. at Locust StreetSt. Louis, Missouri 63101\$9.50 (single)\$12.50 (double)

GATEWAY HOTEL (youth headquarters) Washington Avenue at 9th St. Louis, Missouri 63101 \$9.50 (single) \$12.50 (double)

DOWNTOWN MOTEL 12th and Washington Street St. Louis, Missouri 63101 \$12.00 (single) \$16.96 (2 persons) \$19.00 (double, 2 double beds) \$3.00 for each additional person

SUNDAY

8:00 P.M.-New Life Hour (Teens in Action for Christ)

MONDAY

1:00 P.M.—Bible Bowl (first round) 1:00 P.M.—Tic Tac Toe (first round) 5:00 P.M.—WNAC Banquet

TUESDAY

8:00 A.M.-Youth Competitive Activities

9:00 A.M.–Men's Rally (featuring Charlie "Tremendous" Jones

2:00 P.M.—Youth Rally (featuring Charlie "Tremendous" Jones

Afternoon-Huck Finn Boat Ride

Evening -Huck Finn Boat Ride

THURSDAY

7:00 A.M.-Laymen's Breakfast

OTHER YOUTH FEATURES . . .

- * Project Life
- * Tom Sawyer Game Room

Personally

THE MOST IMPORTANT INSTITUTION IN THE WORLD

> by Rufus Coffey Executive Secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptiats

■ Henry Grady, the great statesman, once stood talking with a senator on the Capitol steps in Washington, D.C. With a gesture toward the Capitol dome, the senator remarked, "Here is the heartthrob of America."

Later Mr. Grady visited a humble rural home in Georgia where he joined the family for dinner. Before they ate, the farmer asked the children to bow their heads for prayer. At the conclusion of the meal the Bible was read. The farmer then united his children at a family altar.

Returning to the office in Atlanta, Mr. Grady wrote his senator friend in Washington: "You are wrong. The heartthrob of America is not in the Capitol in Washington, D.C., but in the thousands of Christian homes which bless our land."

The most important institution in the world is the home. This

the world is the home. This basic unit of society is the foundation upon which all other institutions are built. It is the heartbeat of all human development and progress.

It has been said, "As goes the home so goes the nation." Just as a stream cannot rise higher than its source, a nation cannot rise above the character of its domestic life. The strength of the church, the security of the nation and the stability of the schools depend upon the survival of the home.

Home life, however, is degenerating at an accelerated pace. Termites are eating away at the core of this fundamental institution of civilization. The decay is evi-

denced by mounting divorce rate, an alarming increase in juvenile delinquency, a distressing neglect of parental responsibility, the sweeping tide of unhappiness, and the discarding of spiritual and moral values. The increase of crime, drunkenness, and immorality can be directly attributed to the break-down of the home. When the home begins to crumble, society is on the road to complete collapse. We are swiftly approaching the point of social disintegration.

The only influence that can counteract this degeneracy of family life is the establishment and maintenance of Christian homes. This is God's design. He performed the first marriage in the Garden of Eden and instituted this life-long union which makes man and wife one flesh. This spiritual institution is ordained because of God's loving providential care for mankind.

The bases for an ideal Christian home are love for one another and faith in God. Such bases enable born-again parents to develop mutual trust, understanding and fellowship between themselves which in turn will be imparted to the children. The husband will assume his role as the head of the house. A wife will accept her place of loving submission. Children will honor and obey their parents. Discipline will be exercised. Reason will prevail. Prayer and Bible instruction will occupy a foremost place. Family worship in the home will extend to faithfulness in church services.

In this spiritual environment helpfulness will replace selfishness. Peace and joy will replace tensions and friction. A sense of security will exist as loyalty and devotions are made stronger.

Our greatest need is not an A.B.M. system, but a defense for our homes. A Christian home is like a solar system. Just as the sun is the center of the universe, so Christ must become the center of the home. When Christ controls, we are building a home that will endure all the pressures of modern society. Disregarding God and morality . . .

Schools Determined To Push Sex Education

Maybe Johnny can't read, but educators seem determined the country over to make sure he understands the basics of human reproduction.

The PTA, the National Education Association, and even the Girl Scouts are promoting sex education while the U.S. Government is supporting it with more than \$1 million in federal funds, according to an education report by the Los Angeles County Republican Women's Club.

At the forefront of the drive is a privately supported group called Sex Information and Education Council to the United States. SIECUS publishes selected reading materials and offers films and tapes on the subject, along with reprints from the magazine, "Sexology."

Dr. Mary Calderone, executive director of SIECUS, told 320 boys at Blair Academy in New Jersey recently: "We need new values to establish when and how we should have sexual experiences. You are moving beyond your parents, but you can't just move economically or educationally; you must move sexually as well." On the question of premarital sex relations she said, "You determine it . . . I don't believe the old 'Thou shalt nots' apply anymore. Nobody from up on high determines this for you."

David Mace, past president of SIECUS, wants current sex standards replaced, because "they are based on premises that are now totally insupportable . . . on the folklore of the ancient Hebrews and on the musings of medieval monks—concepts that are simply obsolete."

A SIECUS brochure states, "It is not the job of any voluntary health organization, which SIECUS is, to make moral judgments; SIECUS can be neither for or against illegitimacy, homosexuality, premarital sex or any other manifestations of human sexual phenomena."

Dr. Lester Kirkendall, a founder and board member of SIECUS, serves also on the staff of consultants for Sexology Magazine. Among this high class smut sheet are such articles as,

(Please turn to page 15)

RUFUS COFFEY editor JUNE R. CRITCHER assistant editor RITA WENNING circulation



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May 1969

Volume XVII Number 7

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CONTACT is published monthly by the National Association of Free Will Baptists under the direction of the Executive Committee of the General Board. All sermons and articles represent the personal views of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policies or position of the National Association of Free Will Baptists or its constituent members. While the editors are responsible for the contents of the magazine, it does not follow that every viewpoint represents those of the editors.

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 $\mathbf{J}^{\text{OB PRAYED}}$ for his children, as we see so well in Job 1:1-5. He recognized the importance of a spiritual dimension within the home. We in modern North America must do the same.

All across our nations we see the results of family failures. Disobedience to parents, disillusionment with religion, disregard for authority—all are the result of family failures.

We can decry the failure of our schools, our governmental agencies, and our churches, but we cannot escape the failure within our homes.

Why are families failing?

They are failing because we have been underselling the family relationship. In Genesis 1:26 we read that God decided it was not good for man to be alone and so he made a helpmate for him and commanded them to establish a family.

The family was the first unit in human society and it is still the most important one.

We have also been underselling the family influence. Working mothers and wayward fathers have contributed to family failures. Whenever we find a child with problems we can usually trace it to the influence of that child's family. Behind every broken life is a family which has failed in its influence on that life.

Another mistake is found in the tendency to undersell family dependence. Children and young people, as well as adults, need the security of a happy home. When we feel rejected we need and depend upon those in the home to give us encouragement. Yet there is often a lack of help from those in the home toward each other.

We have also undersold family responsibility. Our generation is characterized by rebellion and release from the past. Many people throw up their hands and exclaim, "What is our world coming to?" Few, however, seem to realize that we are underselling the responsibility of the family for the failures of our day. We need to recognize our family responsibility for student rebellions and racial riots.

In 1 Timothy 3:4-5 God says that the right to rule in any segment of society must begin with success in the home. We who are parents must turn to God for forgiveness and help concerning our failures in family responsibility.

Another reason families fail is from lack of understanding concerning the family members.

We fail to understand family problems. Couples often marry with the idea that life will be a fairy tale existence where the husband will be the king and the wife will be queen, only to discover that marriage is not enchanted castles, but bread and taxes. Buildings, budgets, and babies become dull and drab. Family problems develop because they failed to understand the real meaning of marriage. It is in such a moment of awakening when we begin to realize that success in marriage is not only *finding* but also *being* the right kind of person.

Family personality differences are also often misunderstood. Men and women do not act, think, or react alike. Regardless of the number of members in a family we must understand and respect one another's personalities. Families sometimes fail simply because they do not understand how to relate to one another.

The husband is to be the head of the wife and is to rule the home with understanding and love. The wife is to submit to her husband and the parents are to expect obedience from their children while exercising care not to dis-*(Continued on page 18)*

Thank You for Your Gifts to the ...

COOPERATIVE PLAN OF SUPPORT

March 1969

RECEIPTS				
STATE	MARCH 1969	MARCH 1968	YR. TO DATE	DESIGNATED
Alabama	\$	\$ 85.74	\$ 899.60	\$
Arizona	740.77	" 2	740.77	740.77
Arkansas	641.32	441.25	2,152.55	
California	436.11	580.14	1,535.31	har
Florida	173.42	546.08	437.91	173.42
Georgia	5	548.07	1,255.45	(]-]
Tdaho D	-	14	29.84	11
Illinois.	729.49	564.88	2,451.48	
Indiana	-	11+	62.75	M
Kansas	162.30	65.00	313.30	1 1
Kentucky	494.19	249.67	976.33	
Louisiana	11.34	47.96	11.34	11
Michigan	341.00	805.22	1,238.04	1
Missouri	1,397.37	1,658.25	5,564.20	/
New Mexico	112.94	124.98	181,32	112.94
North Carolina	110.54	166.56	440.59	1
-Ohio	310.00	464.12	661.58	/
Oklahoma	1,426.00	1,510.00	4,480.22	
Tennessee	53.38	316.30	321.69	10.08
Texas	213.57	125,07	438.10	12.00
Virginia	31.33	564.88	1,365.42	32 33
Washington	65.65	1.4	211.13	mail
Wisconsin	10.00	10.00	30,00	TL JE
	1 yr		N	4113
DISBURSEMENTS				11,34
Executive Department	3,172.20	2,551.11	9,557.03	133.40
Foreign Missions	1,318.05	2,117.97	5,144.63	231.89
Bible College	1,227.34	1,821.12	4,808.43	207.19
Home Missions	856.12	1,281.79	3,123.66	212.66
Church Training Service	501.42	591.06	1,699.09	161.95
Superannuation	244.28	323.08	844.09	74.52
Master's Men	105.98	174.82	465.68	4.14
Commission on Theological				
Liberalism	35.33	-	156.32	1.38
	10		VV	

Christian Educator Has Highly Successful Ministry In India

Under the sponsorship of the foreign conference ministry of the Scripture Press Foundation, Glen Ellyn, Illinois, Dr. Howard Hendricks ministered in Christian education conferences in India during the month of February. Dr. Hendricks, professor of Christian Education at Dallas (Tex.) Theological Seminary, and a Scripture Press consultant, reported that he spoke to approximately 8,000 national leaders during his month of meetings which took him throughout all the major language areas of India.

Dr. Hendricks wrote: "Nothing has marked me as much as my recent trip to India. This was a most strategic opportunity and one of the most profitable foreign trips I have ever taken. In my judgment India is the most underrated mission field in the world. God is openig an ever-widening door."

According to Ben Wati, Executive Secretary of the Evangelical Fellowship of India and newly elected President of the World Evangelical Fellowship, "This was the most contributory series of conferences I have ever seen conducted in India. Evangelists and preachers come in droves from other countries to do our work for us, but few people come to equip us to do our work."

The conferences were arranged by CEEFI (the Christian Education Department of the Evangelical Fellowship of India), an organization which is now adapting and translating Scripture Press Youth Programs in several major languages. Miss Anna Nixon is the CEEFI Executive Secretary, and Rev. Charles Warren is the CEEFI Promotion Chairman. Mr. Warren was the conference director and Dr. Hendricks' traveling companion.

DECEIDIC



to womar

by CLEO PURSELL.

QUEENS FOR A DAY

"Help stamp out home cooking," a local restaurant advertised, "take your wife out for dinner." Perhaps most women would agree that an occasional change from eating their own cooking is welcome—not to mention the thrill of sitting down and enjoying a meal without the responsibilities of "waiting on the table" and the inevitable dishwashing.

With this in mind, make an effort to plan a dinner for your women's group this month. It will not only be a tremendous benefit to the women who attend your church regularly but can be an effective means of reaching those who do not.

Of course you will not want to limit those attending to real mothers and daughters. Sunday school teachers, pupils and others will enjoy teaming up for this event.

Half the fun of any banquet is looking forward to it, so publicize it well. Posters on bulletin boards and announcements in the church paper should be utilized. Stress the "Queens for a Day" theme, the mother-daughter emphasis, your speaker, and special music.

A suggested color scheme is lilac and white or purple and gold (the colors of royalty). Lilacs, irises (flags), and violets will be blooming almost everywhere this month. Baby orchids or tiny sachets of lavender for each woman would make good favors.

Besides flowers, color can come from crepe paper streamers, gay purple and white balloons, and gold or purple nutcups and printed programs. Wide purple streamers can be stretched down the middle of each table.

The program could include: Prayer to the King of Kings, A Meal Fit for a Queen, A Royal Welcome, Songs to the King, Message from the King (Proverbs 13:10-31), By Royal Command (special music by a mother-daughter duet).

Simple paper programs will add much to the occasion. Type, ditto, or mimeograph the inside of the program on a half sheet of white typing paper; the outside can be a half sheet of purple construction paper on which a gold foil crown has been pasted. Fold and staple together or tie with gold twine.

HONOR OTHER MOTHERS, TOO

Youth groups may want to plan a card shower for shut-in mothers in your church or community; or visit mothers in convalescent homes or hospitals whose children are unable to visit them.

CHEESE CAKE

Mrs. Ann Barker, bookkeeper for the National Home Missions Office, Nashville, contributed the following delicious, mouth-watering recipe:

- 1 can evaporated milk (chilled)
- 1 pkg. lemon jello
- 1 cup hot water
- 8 oz. pkg. Philadelphia cream cheese (room temperature)
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice

Mix hot water and jello and let it begin to jell. Whip chilled milk, mix cheese, sugar, vanilla, and lemon juice together. Whip jello and add cheese mixture to jello, then add this to whipped milk and chill in Graham cracker crust. Chill about an hour before serving.

Graham Crust

2 cups Graham crumbs 1/4 lb, oleo

WNAC PARTYLINE

■ Women from numerous auxiliaries are doing a commendable job of supplying the needs of missionaries through their gifts to the missionary provision closet. A few weeks ago a need was expressed for aprons and pot-holders. Thank you for your generous response. We have all we can possibly use. Bedspreads and sheet-blankets have been placed on the wanted list.

■ Zetta Rose (Mrs. Sonny), WNAC's assistant recording secretary, is the mother of a six-pound, 10-ounce baby daughter, born February 24, 1969. Her

name is Lori Lynn. The family resides in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

■ The executive committee of WNAC met March 17-18, at the national office in Nashville. Those present were Georgia Hill, Illinois; Betty Hill, N.C.; Violet Cox, Michigan; Opal Hatcher, Georgia; Clara Picirilli, Virginia Van Kluyve, and Cleo Pursell, Tennessee. Unable to attend were Wanda Rogers, California, and Zetta Rose, Oklahoma.

DRIVING GAME

When your children grow restless while traveling on monotonous superhighways this summer, this simple game can provide miles of entertainment for them.

First player chooses a category—for example, flowers—and each player in turn, clockwise around the car, must then name a different type of flower.

The first player might say "rose," the next player "tulip," the following player "daffodil." Players who, at their turn, can't think of a different flower or who repeat one already given, drop out of the game, and the winner (the last player able to name a different example) selects the next category.

Possible categories are farm animals, cars, the 50 states, colors, fruits, television programs, relatives, Bible characters . . . or anything else your family can dream up.

A MOTHER IN ISRAEL

Mrs. Alice Scott, 88 years young, has no children of her own but has been a mother in Israel to many, including several young pastors' wives.

Still cheerful, in spite of her confinement to a wheelchair in a convalescent home, Mrs. Scott wrote, "Our weather is full of sunshine. Here is a sunny thought for you . . .

Count your life by smiles, not tears;

Count your age by friends, not years." If you would like to brighten her lonely life by sending cards or letters, her address is 420 E. Washington, Tecumseh, Oklahoma 74873.



How Churches Tear Families Apart

by e. margaret clarkson

Systematically, the church destroys the family life of its members.

THE CHRISTIAN church is the redeemed family of God. Saints in the local congregation are meant to experience a family fellowship—men, women, young people and children sharing in the family life of God.

But what do we find in our churches? Men meet in men's clubs, older women in two or three different associations, couples in clubs for young married, single women (if recognized at all) in business and professional women's clubs.

Young people are so separate from the rest that often most of a congregation may not know even the officers in its own young people's group. The young folks themselves are broken up into half a dozen segments, and frequently so dissociated from the mainstream of congregational life that they attend only the evening service, from which adults are tacitly expected to stay away. Sometimes

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they even have their own minister, and the schism is complete.

Similarly, children's activities are segregated into various groups. Sunday school often meets during morning worship, and children's church breaks up the congregation so effectively that members may not recognize one another's children. In the passion for subdivision, the prayer meeting may have been organized out of existence; or it may have been split into groups having little or no contact with each other. Never in its history has the Christian church been so departmentalized as it is today.

IN ALL OUR diversity of activities, what has become of the family life of the church? Are we not losing something of inestimable value which blessed our forebears in their simpler church fellowship? Is our lack of family fellowship in our churches one of the reasons why family Christianity in the home is becoming so rare a thing? Are we living only half a life when we should be enjoying a fullorbed fellowship?

This is not to decry our many church activities. Most of them are good, and needed. There must be specialized programs if our faith is to be made relevant to the many age groups and varied interests and capacities within the Christian fellowship. The problem is, how are we to achieve some sort of unity in our church life? How are the various groups to be fused together so that they feel their relationship and responsibility to one another and to the church as a whole?

Members of local congregations should know one another—*really* know one another, not be mere acquaintances. This may seem a truism; but the fact is that many members of church fellowships, perhaps most of them, are virtual strangers to one another, especially in cities where their homes are scattered over a vast area. Apart from the fact that it is an anomaly that any Christian should know the hunger of loneliness within the House of Bread, perhaps the single greatest means of deepening the spiritual life of a congregation and spreading its influence and blessing beyond its borders is the interaction of Christian lives upon one another. How is this to take place unless there is full and frequent fellowship from group to group?

Young people and older folks need to know one another, for each group has much to contribute to and much to learn from the other. Young folks have energy and enthusiasm in the things of God; older people, wisdom and experience. Young folks are free to invest their lives in Christian service; older people may be able to teach them how to reap the richest dividends for the Kingdom from that investment. Young folks have a burning thirst for knowledge; older people have years of reading, and learning and living behind them.

THESE THINGS should be shared not in a formal, organized manner, but in family experience, in the natural paths of acquaintance, conversation and friendship. All young people and older ones will not find rewarding fellowship at deep levels, but the ones who really need each other will, given suitable opportunity. Some of my own most blessed and productive spiritual friendships have been with people many years older and many years younger than myself; and such, I believe, is common Christian experience. Provision for such flowering of fellowship should be made in the Christian community.

No less important than the mingling of age groups in congregational life is the breaking down of barriers raised by such artificial differences as sex, marital status, occupation, etc. Business men should not always group together, nor married women, single women, teachers, nurses, students and so on. The human spirit knows no such boundaries, and spirit should be free to fellowship with kindred Christian spirit, to the building up of the life of the Church and the Kingdom of God—always, of course, within the limits of propriety, good taste and Christian common sense. The life of God should be allowed to flow where it will, not required to confine itself to certain clearly-defined channels.

Ideally, the church may be visualized as a horizontal line, divided organizationally into the segments in which we commonly find it, but also, by some divine mathematical operation, divided vertically into other groups, where neither age, sex nor occupation are recognized as lines of demarcation, but only capacity for God. Here Christians, young and old, of all walks of life, fellowship on levels of spiritual desire and maturity. Aspiring souls recognize one another, join hands and press on together to higher heights than could be scaled alone. Artistic spirits find one another, and share in new joys of spiritual creativity. Mental giants meet, and lay hold on new territories for the Kingdom. Souls of vision band together, and roll back the horizons of Christendom. And timid souls gather together, and souls of little faith, and are mutually made stronger. Joined in holy aspiration, all are one in Christ Jesus. This is a church that could turn the world upside down.

$\mathbf{H}^{\mathrm{ow}\ \mathrm{ARE}\ \mathrm{such}\ \mathrm{things}\ \mathrm{to}\ \mathrm{be}\ \mathrm{accom-}}_{\mathrm{plished}?}$

The first requisite is an awareness of the need, a realization that there can be, indeed must be, a "unity in diversity" if our fellowship is to mean what it should to its membership. Then practical steps to bring about such a situation must be sought by individual congregations. These will vary from group to group, but the congregation that is convinced of its value will, under God, not fail to find its own way.

Many things might be done. Music is one of the richest fellowships on earth. "Family sing" following an evening service can be a source of blessing, where the audience is free to choose its own favorites, the leader sometimes asking the reason for a particular choice, thus bringing informality into the fellowship. Interesting testimonies often result, quite spontaneously, and the group grows in knowledge of each other. Christian art could be studied in a similar way. Studies could be made of the writings of the Christian poets. The fellowship that would result could be breathtaking in its implications, and provide real spiritual enrichment.

The list of topics for discussion groups is endless—child study, Christian education, family and human relations, Christian ethics in daily life, the relevance of psychology to Christian faith, Church history, the great Creeds of the church, missions viewed from a thousand angles —these are but a few. People in our congregations are interested in such topics, but it is a rare church that has any fellowship on these levels. What a field of worship and witness is thus left untapped!

A choice of highly-specialized topics should mean that the people most likely to be helpful to one another, whatever their ages, would probably meet; and such selectivity would keep any one group from becoming too large. In all such gatherings, fellowship in prayer and around the Word of God would be paramount, and spiritual growth and outreach would be the aim; and these priorities would have to be carefully guarded. The strength of any one group, moreover, would depend upon the free give-and-take of question-and-answer discussion, not primarily upon lecture material. It is in the interchange of knowledge and opinion and experience that fellowship among Christians is built up, not just in listening to addresses, no matter how fine.

Christians might find that their non-Christian friends, particularly their serious-minded or older friends, would be more willing to attend such a fellowship group than to come to a regular church service; and so new missionary spearheads might be launched.

The thoughtful congregation that is aware of the need will not be long in working out its own program. New dimensions of faith and fellowship and outreach are ours for the asking. Let us use imagination and enterprise, under God, in claiming them for our people, that thereby Christ's Kingdom on earth may be extended.

Miss Clarkson is an educator, poet and author. Used by permission. *Eternity Magazine* (copyright 1965).

McCOY SURVEYS PUERTO RICO

Drumright, Okla .--- Survey team consisting of Missionary Appointee Fred Mc-Coy, High School Principal Chuck Wood



from Bixby, Oklahoma, Field Secretary Bob Shockey, and Marshall Seigfred, stationed in San Juan with the Federal Aviation Authority, surveyed Puerto Rico in anticipation of establishing a gospel witness for Christ and Free Will Baptists.

"We came to an area known as Round Hill," remarked McCoy after the trip. Driving through this neighborhood, I said, 'Fellows, I believe this is the place.' We stopped the bus and got out. There was a sense of assurance and peace that comes from being in God's will."

The community is composed of Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Spaniards, Colombians, Koreans, Filipinos and Continentals. The 2000 residents have no gospel witness. Appointee McCoy is anxious to es-

tablish residence in Puerto Rico and begin his missionary ministry.

'TEEN CRUSADES' FORMED

Sumter, S. C .- An evangelistic team called "Teen Crusades" with Bobby Richardson as master of ceremonies has been formed. Its primary objective is to reach teen-agers in the smaller cities. "It is our desire for young people to come to know Christ and to live a committed life as well," expressed Richardson. "Therefore in our crusades, a very special emphasis in counseling and followup is being given." For additional information, you may write:

Rev. Sam Anderson Teen Crusades P. O. Box 1953 Sumter, South Carolina 29150

TULSA CHURCH NEEDS PASTOR

Tulsa, Okla.-Ministers interested in pastoring Central Free Will Baptist Church are asked to contact Mrs. Jean Robinson (clerk), 835 E. 46th Street North, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74126, or call Charles Mattix (chairman of Board of Deacons) at FI5-1111.

LOUISIANA CHURCH HOLDS DEDICATION

Monroe, La .- First Free Will Baptist congregation of West Monroe, Louisiana has purchased a building on corner of Gordon and Dixie Avenues. Regular services began February 9. Pastor Stanton White delivered dedication message

February 23. Free Will Baptists from Warren, Crossett, and Hamburg, Arkansas, and Bastrop, Louisiana attended the service. The Gordon Avenue church is the first Free Will Baptist church in Louisiana to locate in the heart of a city ---other Louisiana churches being rural. Appreciation is expressed to all Free Will Baptists who helped the congregation locate in this city with a population of 60.000.

OHIO MINISTER SUPPORTS APOLLO'S PRAYER

Bowling Green, Ohio-Petitions bearing signatures of 138,000 Toledo area residents supporting prayer in outer space

Administration head-

quarters in Houston.

NASA public relations director, by Rev.

Fred Taylor, pastor



Taylor

TaylorofFirstFreeWillBaptistChurchhere.Mr.Taylor, who also is business administrator for the memorial foundation which owns radio station WMGS in Bowling Green, has spearheaded a five-week campaign in this area which he calls "just a start" in a nationwide effort.

Mr. Taylor said the campaign is an answer to Mrs. Madalyn Murray O'Hair's efforts to halt prayers from outer space. A lawsuit by Mrs. O'Hair, formerly of Baltimore, led to banning required prayers in public schools.

"We're going to try to put Mrs. O'Hair out of business," Mr. Taylor said.

"We all sat back and did nothing when she did her school bit. I thought it could never happen. Now we want to make sure it doesn't happen again."



Since the petitions were presented to Paul Haney, Mr. Taylor has reported to CONTACT's staff that the total signatures have reached over 700,000.

You may direct your correspondence to:

> Reverend Fred T. Taylor P. O. Box 339 Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

RECORD BREAKING ATTENDANCE AT YOUTH RALLY

Townley, Ala.--The monthly youth rally was held at Townley Free Will Baptist Church, Townley, Alabama on March 1. "We had a record breaking attendance of 544," reports Mrs. Carolyn Bowers. Goal set for May is 600.

THOMAS HONORED BY AUXILIARY

Denver, Colo .--- Pastor Roy Thomas and family were recent guests at the Annual Woman's Auxiliary Banquet. Approximately 80 guests and members attended



the "This Is Your Life" program, hon-oring Pastor Thomas. Theme for the evening was WNAC's theme, "Give Ye Them to Eat." Special guests included the pastor's parents, Rev. and Mrs. Rue Thomas from Boise, Idaho, and Rev. and Mrs. Virgil Florence, from Guymon, Oklahoma. Rev. Florence was preaching the night Mr. Thomas was saved. Pic-

CING UND TATES

tured are (1 to r) Pastor Roy Thomas, Rev. Rue Thomas, father; Rev. Bob Thomas, brother, and Mrs. Roy Thomas.

REVEREND EARL DIXON, 63, DIES

Chattanooga, Tenn.—The Reverend Earl Dixon, pastor of Layne Chapel Free Will Baptist Church for the past 15 years,



died Sunday, March 2, in a Chattanooga Hospital. He had pastored First Free Will Baptist Church of Jasper and was an active member of the Free Will Baptist State Association. Mr. Dixon was one of the oldest building contractors of Hamilton

Dixon

County and president of the Dixon Construction Company, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

TURNER SCHEDULES REVIVALS

Manning, S. C.—Evangelist I. Bennie Turner has revivals scheduled this spring in North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama and Indiana. Pastors may contact Evangelist Turner at 25 North Barfield

> **Piedmont Bible Institute's** graduating exercises were held March 15 with Reverend Frank Cantrell, alumnus of PBI, featured as guest speaker. Graduates receiving certificates were (l to r) Earl Hendrix, Lawrence Goudlock, Patsy Gosnell, Delorise Newton, Laura Rolins, Jean Carter, Linda Crisp, Larry Abernathy, Roger Gosnell, (back row, l to r) Harry Honeycutt, Charles Crisp, Raymond Davis, Joe Carter, and John B. Smith. **Reverend** Roy Rikard is President of Piedmont Bible Institute in Cramerton, North Carolina.

MAY 1969

Street, Manning, South Carolina, or may call 435-3725.

JUNIOR-SENIOR DAY AT OBC

Moore, Okla.—High school juniors and seniors from throughout the Midwest participated in the annual Junior-Senior Day April 25-26 on the campus of Oklahoma Bible College. Launching the event was the performance of Helen Kromer's play, "Take Any Street." Performance was given at First Free Will Baptist Church in Moore.

The third annual Missionary Conference hosted by the College drew seven Free Will Baptist representatives from both the home and foreign fields for the three-day event, March 19-21. College officials termed the program timely and successful.

MAINTAIN TIES WITH MILITARY

Nashville, Tenn.—Free Will Baptists are urged to keep in contact with their members in military service. They're the same people, just wearing different clothes. That's the word from Col. Roy M. Terry, deputy chief of Air Force chaplains, Washington, D.C. Church news letters are read closely; mail is always welcome. Some churches put their young people at home on the church military committee. They keep up correspondence with those in service of their own age.

Chaplains send letters to parents when servicemen arrive at a new base. Parents could help if they would remind their son or daughter that the chaplain is there just as their minister at home. Chaplains encourage keeping ties to the home church and provide regular Sunday school and worship services.

CHURCH FORMS FISHERMEN'S FLEET

Florence, Ala.—Pastor Willie Justice reports that First Free Will Baptist Church has formed a Fishermen's Fleet with 13 members. To qualify for membership, one must agree to spend at least one hour per week in soul winning and take at least one course per year in soul winning. Training is conducted by both study course and in-service. When a member wins a soul, either directly or indirectly, he gets a fishhook.



On Sunday, March 3, the man pictured on the left received Christ as his Saviour. Upon being asked who was responsible for his conversion, he replied that Almon Calvert (right) was. The blind soul winner is very active in his church: sings in the choir and men's quartet, teaches a Sunday school class, attends visitation, and is chairman of the Boy Scout troop committee.





I CAN NEVER get any of the parents to cooperate with me when I plan a picnic for the teen-agers," moaned the youth leader, "so I think I'll just quit."

"The more I do for the church the more the pastor expects me to do," complained the trustee, "so I'll just 'throw in the towel' at the next trustees' meeting."

"I've been president of the woman's auxiliary for eight years," boasted Mrs. Maxwell, "but I'm thoroughly disgusted with the way some of the members complain about our projects. I refuse to even consider another year in this position."

When a person becomes a Christian and gets actively involved in the work of the church, whether he holds the office of pastor, evangelist, missionary, teacher, board member, choir member, or musician, he enters into a life of service to God and man. Very often it is a life of sacrificial service which is taken for granted, and at times even criticized by others.

In our modern age the pressures which confront man without and within are so tremendous that many church members holding key positions in the church are so overwhelmed they give up their positions. Some become confused and disturbed, so they leave the church.

This negative feeling of despair and defeat has encroached upon the pulpit, and many pastors, due to sagging attendance and unmet budgets along with confusion and splits in the church, are leaving the ministry, confused and disillusioned.

The pastorate in reality is not at all what the young man dreamed it would be. Other pastors, who also feel the pressures, are "church shopping," never staying in one pulpit more than one or two years. Their prayer is that the next pastorate will be easier and more successful.

The modern day Christian finds himself in a dilemma, surrounded by problems that seem greater than his faith. Life is so complex, complicated and changing that his faith seems unable to cope with it.

The Christian comes to church on Sunday and his faith is renewed; but when the Lord's Day is over, he must face the problems of life. He then wonders if his "Sunday faith" is worth anything Monday on the job, at school, or in the home.

What are some of the pressures in Christian living that often cause the Christian to quit?

ECONOMICAL PRESSURES

In our age of materialism, economical pressures are greater than they have ever been. Father teels pressure from his family to make more money so they can live on the same economical level as their friends and neighbors. Rather than enjoying prosperity, we compete to see who can get the most in the shortest time. Many fathers hold down two jobs, or else the mother works outside the home in order for the family to maintain their economical prestige. New home, two cars, new furniture and clothes from Sax Fifth Avenue have become status symbols.

Many pastors feel underpaid and unappreciated. He visits in homes of members who have much more to offer their children and wife than he can on his salary. He places his education, ability and responsibility alongside many church members and feels he is being cheated. His children are unhappy because he cannot supply their demands. So he is tempted to try some other occupation or "moon light" a few hours each day to compensate. If he becomes too discouraged, he may just quit, the pitfall being bitterness.

SOCIOLOGICAL PRESSURES

There are many social demands on the family from outside the home. School activities, club activities, sports, and church activities all compete with each other for the family's time and talent. Very often, members of the family are so wrapped up in outside activities that they rarely see each other. The cry for social prestige and acceptance creates tensions in the home, and often the family is so engulfed in social success that they don't find time for church work. They feel guilty for neglecting the family and the church.

The pastor is not immune to social pressure either. He is called upon to pray at dedication services, graduation exercises, P.T.A. meetings, City Council meetings, banquets, luncheons, club organizations and other speaking engagements. If he isn't careful, he will neglect his church work for social acceptance by these other organizations. With the innumerable encroachments on his time, he has no time left for his family-thus he begins to resent the people who place these demands upon him. Denominational pressures force him to fill offices and raise money; consequently, he seeks to impress the leaders and find favor in their eyes by acceptance of these various positions.

PSYCHOLOGICAL PRESSURES

The inner turmoil within the Christian keeps him emotionally upset because he is pulled in all directions from other pressures: he doesn't feel he is accomplishing anything worthwhile. He is plagued with constant guilt for his lack of accomplishment. The pastor tells him he should be a soul winner, become active in visitation, sing in the choir, teach a Sunday school class, and be a CTS leader. The more the pastor talks about the need for workers, the worse he feels. If he does get active in church work and other activities, he feels guilty for neglecting his family, for the pastor says his first and greatest responsibility is to his family.

SPIRITUAL PRESSURES

The Christian finds it difficult to be spiritual in a materialistic, paganistic, atheistic society. He feels he should be a spiritual giant, yet he feels much weaker than when he first believed. He knows he should pray more and read his Bible more, but when is he going to find time to feed his soul when he is pressured from without and within? He feels broken and crushed and confused, so he decides the only way out of the dilemma is to quit.

This is no time to sit in a corner and mourn. It is no time to quit. Church work has always had its difficulties, its trials, its heartaches, its problems. It is no time for pastors to leave their churches and run away from the battle. Rather, it is a time to stand together as brethren and fight the good fight of faith. It is time to really put our faith to the test. Listen to the Apostle Paul as he, too, faced similar trials:

We are pressed on every side by troubles, but not crushed and broken. We are perplexed because we don't know why things happen as they do, but we don't give up and quit. We are hunted down, but God never abandons us. We get knocked down, but we get up again and keep going. These bodies of ours are constantly facing death just as Jesus did; so it is clear to all that it is only the living Christ within Who keeps us safe. Yes, we live under constant danger to our lives because we serve the Lord, but this gives us constant opportunities to show forth the power of Jesus Christ within our dying bodies. . . . These sufferings of ours are for your benefit. And the more of you who are won to Christ, the more there are to thank Him for His great kindness, and the more the Lord is glorified. That is why we never give up. It is hard on our health, but good for our souls. Down inside we grow stronger in the Lord every day. These troubles and sufferings of ours are, after all, quite small and won't last very long. Yet this short time of distress will result in God's richest blessing upon us forever and ever! So we do not look at what we can see down here, the troubles all around us, but we look forward to the joys in heaven which we have not yet seen. The troubles will soon go away, but the joys to come will last forever" (II Corinthians 4:8-11; 15-18 from Living Letters).

"I'LL JUST QUIT"

I have taught a class for many years; Borne many burdens—toiled through tears; But folks don't notice me a bit. I'm so discouraged—I'll just quit!

Some time ago I joined the choir That many souls I might inspire; But folks don't seem moved a bit, So what use to sing? I'll just quit!

I've labored long in women's work And not a task did ever shirk; But folks have talked a little bit, And I won't stand it. I'll just quit!

I've led young people day and night And sacrificed to lead them right. But folks won't help me out a bit; And I'm so tired. I'll just quit!

Christ's cause is hindered everywhere And folks are dying in despair. The reason why? Just list a bit; The church is full of folks who quit!

-Author Unknown

Well, what about you, my Christian friend? Are you thinking of quitting? Would you think of letting your church down just when it needs you most? What will you say to Christ at the Judgment Day? Anyone can quit, but only those who really love and trust God can live victoriously in spite of pressures. Do pressures drive you out of the church or to your knees for renewed strength and courage?

Jeremiah was ready to quit when God visited him and spoke to him. After that the Word was in his heart as a burning fire, and he couldn't possibly keep quiet. He couldn't quit! Oh, that the Word would burn in our heart so we would feel as did Jeremiah. Perhaps we need to return to the feet of Jesus and be recommissioned. Instead of resigning, we need our commission resigned!

The author is pastor of First Free Will Bootist Church, Hazel Park. Michigan. The FWBBC alumnus is a member of the National Sunday School Board. He recently received the M.A. degree in pastoral counseling.



RELIGIOUS NEWS from Around the World

JUNE 8 BROADCASTING SUNDAY

MINNEAPOLIS (EP)—Again this year the second Sunday in June marks a time set aside to learn about and pray for Christian broadcasting around the world.

This annual day of prayer, arranged by International Christian Broadcasters association, "gives us all a chance to review the strategic ministries that radio and television have in reaching the world for Christ," says ICB Executive Director A. G. Thiessen.

There are more than 500,000,000 working radio receivers in the world today, according to Thiessen. Missionary radio uses more than 80 transmitters in about 50 locations to beam more than 5,000 hours of programming to these receivers each week. It is estimated that within the U.S. there are over 200 radio stations under Christian management also engaged in broadcasting the Gospel. In addition, there are scores of gospel programs released over hundreds of commercial and government stations world wide.

BIBLICAL CITY UNEARTHED?

PESSATH BARADON, Israel (EP)— Archaeologists working here announce the discovery of an ancient city which they believe to be the "salt city" mentioned in chapter 15 of the Book of Joshua.

Located 10 miles south of the ruins of Qumran, the city must have been the center of the desert sect whose scribes penned the Dead Sea scrolls, the announcement said.

In one of 20 tombs nearby the team found a jar with the Hebrew inscription "Yohanan" written in a script similar to that of the Dead Sea scrolls.

Reuters News Service said the building is believed to be the community hall of the sect where the people gathered for meetings and meals.

APPROVES ABS NEW TESTAMENT

NEW YORK (EP)—Richard Cardinal Cushing, Archbishop of Boston, has granted his official approval to Today's English Version of the New Testament, published by the American Bible Society.

Popularly known as "Good News for

Modern Man," the New Testament was first published in 1966.

Dr. Laton E. Holmgren, a general secretary of the Bible society, told Cardinal Cushing that his imprimatur "will enable a great number of new readers throughout the world, particularly in Asia and Africa, to become familiar for the first time with the printed Word of God."

CRIME UP 17 PER CENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. (EP)—Crime in the United States rose 17 per cent in 1968, the sharpest rise recorded in large cities and suburban areas by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

J. Edgar Hoover announced that preliminary figures showed crimes of violence up 19 per cent, including a 29 per cent rise in robberies, 14 per cent in murders and forcible rapes and 12 per cent in aggravated assault.

30 IN MAY

LINCOLN, Nebraska (EP)—Begun on May 1 thirty years ago by Theodore Epp as a live, 15-minute daily radio program, the Back to the Bible Broadcast marks its 30th anniversary of ministry this year.

Now broadcasting for 30 minutes, the interdenominational gospel broadcast has more than 3,520 releases a week and is heard on some 530 selected radio stations around the globe.

STUDENTS TALK ABOUT CHRIST

PITTSBURGH (EP)—Because they say "race, sex and drugs are tearing the campuses apart," a group of students at the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie-Mellon University have started a pilot project to talk "point blank about Christ" at a series of forum meetings and discussion groups.

The Christian Fellowship groups at both campuses have joined forces to "tell it like it is" about their faith in Christ. Their project is called Project Point Blank.

Saying they are "sick and tired of trying to find solutions through student disorders, sit-ins, confrontations with the chancellor, ad infinitum" the students plan a series of evangelistic, person-toperson thrusts to "uplift Christ."

A spokesman for the Pitt group said

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A Free Will Baptist preacher asks: "Please explain the meaning of church and state."

In separation of church (organization of Christians) and state (civil government), the church functions without the aid and control of civil government. True, I believe the church can benefit from

privileges granted by the government as long as this benefit does not tie the hands of the church. The church or institution that leans on the civil government for financial support will be among the first to come under governmental control. The church should honor and glorify Jesus Christ. I believe this can best be accomplished when the church as an organization is free from civil government control.

Frequently, we hear Christians say that their church is patterned after the New Testament church. The New Testament church is an example of how the church did (and can) function under various types of government. It is reported that in Russia the Bible-believing church does not have the approval of the government. In some areas the believers depend upon the Holy Spirit to guide them to their secret meeting place. As a result the government spies remain uninformed. The Apostle Peter declared, ". . . We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29).

In our country we have many privileges as a church because we are a "republic governed by the people." Many of our laws were designed by people sympathetic toward the church. However, some churches have taken unethical advantage of government privileges by engaging in competitive, moneymaking businesses, unrelated to evangelism or edification, without paying income tax. (See *Readers Digest*, March 1969, "Should Churches Be Allowed to Do Business Tax-Free?"

the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie-Mellon University are "racked with problems from all sides . . . and Christ is the answer."

"If all goes well," he said, "we will try Project Point Blank on other campuses of this area and then, hopefully, in other states."

Sex Education

(Continued from page 4)

"Alcohol Can Solve Sex Problems," "Group Sex Orgies," "The Many Ways to Ask for Sex," and others. One story told how a boy was introduced to sex by his grandmother and to homosexuality by his father.

Several school districts in California have filed lawsuits to cancel courses after parents have become aware of the contents. But Dr. Kirkendall advises his friends to meet the opposition in advance. "Just sneak it in as an experimental course and see how people react," he was quoted as saying. "Don't say that you are going to start a sex education course. Always move forward. Say that you are going to enrich, expand and make it better. The Opposition can't stop something that you have already started."

He has called those opposed to his sex education courses a "fringe group of dissidents who don't think rationally."

Leading sexologists admit that they have no way of knowing whether sex education is effective in reaching their stated goals of combating venereal disease, ridding youngsters of inhibitions and lowering the rates of illegitimate births and divorce. Meanwhile, children are now being told that homosexuality, sodomy, and other forms of sexual deviation, are perfectly normal, and though some are not desirable, they are not to be condemned.

Perhaps sex education is needed in the schools today because parents have forfeited their opportunity to give quiet counsel to their children in the home. But how tragic it is that extremists look upon the Creator's masterpiece for married couples purely as a physical function, missing completely its mystery within the human spirit!

-NBR

For further information on what is happening in our schools and how Christians can counteract this socalled sex education program, write *Christian Crusade*, P. O. Box 977, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74102.—editor





■ In the modern day in which we live the pleasure of dancing is taken for granted. But to the Christian (and especially to the young man or woman who has recently received Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour), it is well to examine dancing not only in the light of the Scriptures, but also to examine dancing as to the effect it has upon the testimony of the one who is saved.

Following are ten facts about dancing in the light of history and the Scriptures:

1. Dancing has a disreputable history. The path of the dance is a slimy trail back through half civilized people to the very heart of savagery. As to the modern dance, it originated in the beer gardens of Germany among lustful men and disolute women. A man named Gault, a French dancing master, originated the waltz in 1627. In an attempt to ruin his sister, he strangled her to death, for which he was beheaded in 1632. The lust of the human heart is the only reason for the popularity of the steps of the modern dance. Read James 1:14 and 15.

2. The origin of the modern dance was on a low level. Many of the present day dances originated in the lowest places of this earth . . . among prostitutes, drunken men, and in gambling dives. The dancer is putting himself or herself on a level with the scum of the earth. The dance hall is the nursery of the divorce courts, the training ship of prostitution and the graduate school of infamy.

3. Dancing has ruined millions of lives. Ex-dancing master T. A. Falker, an authority on the subject of dancing, said, "80 percent of the denizens of the underworld once belonged to churches which permitted dancing." There are 800,000 fallen women in houses of correction in the United States. The Chicago Vice Commission says that 75 percent of these women attribute their downfall to the dance. The average life of a fallen woman is only five years. This means that there are hundreds of thousands of new recruits for the underworld every year.

4. Dancing permits indecent familiarity between the sexes. Such familiarity which would not be allowed otherwise, breeds lust which leads to the sins of adultery and fornication so prevalent among modern dancers. Please read Proverbs 6:27-32.

5. The dance ruins one's influence for good. The Christian who plays with dancing or indulges in dancing is always open to reproach, and never fails to bring down upon himself the censure of good people. Romans 14:22 says: "Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth."

6. One cannot take Christ with him when he goes to a dance. Who would

(Continued on page 18)

What BETTER way can we magnify the Lord than by magnifying His examples. David said, "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together" (Ps. 34:3). It seems to me that the churches that practice Feet-washing should prepare for its observance with the same magnitude as they do for the Ordinances of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

The blueprints of our newer church buildings include a baptistry that is an outstanding, lovely attraction. Some churches add a baptistry to their older buildings that were built without one. Baptismal robes are provided for both minister and candidates. The setting for this sacred act of obedience is one of divine beauty.

For the Lord's Supper we use a beautiful sterling silver communion set with handy individual cups, a sacred treasure as we behold its beauty on a handsome memorial table.

Magnifying Baptism and The Lord's Supper in such great splendor and serene beauty is very commendable. It does not detract but adds attraction to the solemnity of the observances. There was nothing shoddy nor cheap about the compartments and fixtures of the temple. Solomon built the temple by directions from God Himself. We see beauty in

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MAGNIFY

THE

LORD

THROUGH

FEET WASHING

by elsie staten

perfection, seemingly, when reading the description of the temple.

How long would it be before the Lord's Supper would be abandoned in our services if only one cup were used, and everyone touched the bread they broke from? How often would we have baptismal services if we had to go to a lake or river? How many members would attend? Both Baptism and the Lord's Supper have been practiced in beautiful settings, and our Lord has been magnified. Why, then, the 'ole tin pans, a bucket of water, and cheap towels hung in a back room of the church for the practice of Feet washing? There is no intention of spurning this sort of practice. Many blessings have been received in the back room, and I have enjoyed them for forty (40) years, quarterly most of the time. But I can see the same splendor, the same beauty, and the same magnitude of worship in Feet washing as in Baptism and the Lord's Supper. For years I have dreamed of a way to practice this act of humility and love that Jesus ordained in a manner that would exalt Him more, and bless the majority or the entire membership, rather than only a small minority. It can be done.

Why not include a mezzanine (or balcony) in the sanctuary? On the mezzanine two basins with water fountains artistically planned and properly arranged: one for men, one for women. As the tones of "My Jesus, I Love Thee" or some other appropriate hymn, sound forth, the participants arise from the sanctuary and go to the "upper-room." There the observance can be observed by those remaining in the sanctuary. It is seen as it truly is—a beautiful, sacred witness of Christian love and humility. Jesus said, "If I, then, your Lord and Master have washed your feet, ye also

The author is the wife of Reverend Ralph Staten, pastor of Wooddale Free Will Baptist Church, Knoxville, Tennessee. She is the mother of three children: Janis, Ruth Ann and Randall.

Splendor, beauty and magnitude should characterize the ordinance of feet washing

ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example that ye should do as I have done to you." Then the command is nailed down when He said to the disciples, "Go ye . . . and teach all nations . . . to *observe* all things whatsoever I have commanded you . . ." How can anyone reject the Ordinance of Feet washing?

Pride hinders many people, from observing it. "It is immodest," contends one, "to wash feet in public." Likely, that same critic would not raise his voice against any of the immodest styles, fads, and fancies of, perhaps, many of his church members. Another lets pride of position and possessions prevent him from washing a brother's feet. He forgets, no doubt, that "life consistent not in the abundance of things which he possesseth" (Luke 12:15b). And "he that humbleth himself shall be exalted" (Luke 14:11b).

Pride, however, is not the only hindrance to feet washing. Some try to get around it by saying it is an old Jewish custom. But if it had been a Jewish custom, Peter would not have objected to it because he was a learned Jew. He knew their customs and would have recognized what Jesus was doing. Their custom was to wash their feet before entering the house. It was an act of hospitality for the host or hostess or one of their servants to greet a traveler at the door with a pan and water. The traveler, himself, would wash his own feet before entering the house. Now, the act of feet washing recorded in St. John 13 was not only inside the house, but in an upper room after supper was ended.

Others avoid feet washing by saying it is not an ordinance. What keeps it from being an ordinance? An ordinance is an admonition or teaching that is established by an authoritative precept or example. A precept is a commandment or directive, meant as a rule of action or practice of conduct. It is a written order.

Feet washing is a rite that complies specifically and completely with the above definition, and with any other quality that describes an ordinance. The proper authority was God the Father who commended all things into the hands of Jesus, the Lord and Master of the disciples, who gave them the example and the command. We have the *precept*, (a commandment or directive) the *example* and the *authority*, all three qualities of an ordinance in St. John 13:14-15.

The practice of feet washing is *inferred* in I Timothy 5:10. Paul told Timothy that the church should not support a widow unless she had washed the saints' feet. Where do we find saints, collectively? At the church, of course.

Some critics say the words "ought" and "should" are not commandatory in John 13:14-15. Both "ought" and "should" denote obligation, according to Webster. There are many *oughts* and *shoulds* in the New Testament about which we hear no question or dissention. No one denies that men ought to love their wives, that we ought to love God, that we ought to love one another. So, why question that we ought to wash one another's feet?

The same night and in the same room that He instituted the Lord's Supper, Jesus instituted the Ordinance of Feet washing. Speaking of the two, Jesus said, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them" (John 13:7). Both "these" and "them" refer to the two ordinances. In 1 Corinthians 11:23-25, we are told that the same night that Jesus was betrayed (the same night that He washed the disciples' feet) He observed communion with His disciples. Both ordinances were observed the same night.

"What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Mark 10:9). Even though this Scripture is taken out of its setting, it gives food for thought. It is true that man and wife are not all that God has joined together. In Acts 20:21, we see that He has joined repentance and faith. Also, faith and works cannot be separated without the death of faith. Why separate the two ordinances or practices that Jesus instituted and commanded the same night?

I am persuaded that there would be fewer Christians disregarding Feet washing as an ordinance and many more magnifying the Lord by following His humble example if it were illuminated in a public setting with all the earthly beauty possible to display its divine beauty and blessings.

Feet washing was a subject that was discussed 'pro' and 'con' during my early church life. Those who practiced it were judged by many to be ignorant or unlearned. That accusation disturbed me very much. Then, I had an experience that dispelled any pride that might hinder my participation in this sacred act.

Soon after I began my first year as a school teacher I attended church where the service was concluded with the Lord's Supper and Feet washing. My first impulse was not to participate in that part of the service. Just in front of me were several women. They sniggered and giggled like a bunch of silly teen-agers as they stretched their crane-like necks to see the preparation being made for the Feet washing service. When I saw their disrespectful behavior, I could hardly keep from rushing to the front to take part in the service. My participation was never again hindered by pride.

Thinking on that experience, I later drew a beautiful mental picture that has lingered with me through the years: I saw a small group of people . . . some middle-aged and others much older . . . unlearned . . . not wise in their own flesh . . . not noble . . . not mighty . . . but humble . . . humbly witnessing a spirit of love, not only obeying a command, but following the example of their Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, while people spurned and made light of them. There was no thought of revenge or retaliation. To those who love the Lord, His commandments are not grievous to perform, even before a mocking crowd.

Interior decorators arrange displays that attract customers to buy clothing, jewelry, appliances, food, and even cars and homes. Think what a slump there would be in business if there were no displays, and boxes had to be opened and searched through until we found the desired article.

Free Will Baptists, let's "sell" Feet washing through an interior (inner man) decoration of spiritual love and humility displayed in a lovely exterior setting of "temple" richness.

FAMILY FAILURES

courage them and making every effort to understand their different personalities.

Sometimes we fail to understand family possibilities. For some reason we seem to look upon everything but the family as a possibility for personal achievement and satisfaction. I wonder if we realize the potential good of a happy home. There is no greater gift parents can give to a child than that of a home where every possible opportunity for growth and love is afforded. What a challenge it is to be a parent! And what a privilege it is to be a child where no one despises your youth and where you can become an example of believers in every part of your life. This is the goal of a family: to produce youth whom no man can despise, youth who are examples in word, life, love, spirit, faith and purity. This is the possibility of the family.

Another failure which is becoming more prevalent today is the failure to undergird the family, to give the family a strong spiritual foundation.

Family prayer and Bible reading have been neglected in many homes. We have left the spiritual training of our children to others, while laying our own Bibles (Continued from page 5)

aside. Let me ask you this: should you right now establish a time for Bible reading and prayer in your family life? Admit to yourself, to God, and to your family that you have failed to undergird your family. *Begin now* to build a spiritual foundation.

Many families have failed because they do not have family faith. By that I mean a faith that is shared by the entire family. They are not united in the desire to do the will of God. They are not able to say as a family, "We are crucified with Christ, nevertheless we live, yet not we, but Christ lives in us, and the lives we now live in the flesh we live by the faith of the Son of God who loved us and gave Himself for us."

Family faith involves a conversion or salvation commitment on the part of every member of the family. It involves an assurance that we belong to God and a desire to do the will of God on the part of each person in the family.

We need to come to Christ ourselves and we need to undergird our children by helping them come to faith in Christ for salvation. We should be teaching our children to pray and to read the Bible for themselves.

Ten Facts about Dancing

(Continued from page 15)

dare pray just before entering a dance hall, "Lord Jesus, be with me this evening? Let Thy blessing rest upon this in which I am about to engage." How would you like Christ to call for your soul while you are in the dance hall, in indecent contact with some other man's wife or daughter? Read Philippians 4:8.

7. The dance robs Christ of one's affections. Colossians 3:1-3 should be enough for the Christian. Can a place where sin, danger and death constantly lurk be a fit place for any decent person?

8. The best people, and the most spiritually minded people condemn dancing. Mr. C. P. J. Mooney once wrote editorially in the *Commercial Appeal* concerning a dance hall in Memphis: "Why not let the police put a sign in red fire across the front reading thus: 'This place is the beginning of the journey of lost souls.'" Read Exodus 32:26.

9. The appeal of the dance is altogether to the flesh. God's judgment to those who sow to the flesh is clearly stated in Galatians 6:7, 8. He who mingles with the dance hall crowd is mingling with those whose hearts are full of lust and sin and evil desire.

10. The principles laid down in Scripture oppose dancing. No one will deny that dancing is an amusement of the world. In Romans 12:2 the Christian is exhorted to "be not conformed to this world." No clearer command is found in Scripture than is given in II Corinthians 6:12: "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness and what communion hath light with darkness." This should settle the question with all honest Christians. —T. A. J. Basley

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Our families need to be undergirded with a faithfulness and dedication to one another which accepts failures . . . and still loves . . . which forgives and still encourages . . . which trusts Christ and still keeps praying for continual help.

The problems of our world are largely the result of family failures. We have undersold the family in our society. We have failed to be understanding in family relationships, and we have failed to undergird our families with prayer, Bible study, and faith in God.

I urge you: begin to give your family a Christian home.

I beg you: give yourself to God and Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, right now.

The author is pastor of Belcaro Evangelical Free Church, Denver, Colorado. Used by permission, *Evangelical Beacon*. (Copyright 1968.)

For detailed information on this year's National Camping Program, write ... Free Will Baptist National Camping Box 1088 Nashville, Tenn. 37202



National Layman's Board Secretary Herbert Peppers presents check for \$1,129.52 to National CTS Director Samuel Johnson. Local Master's Men chapters raised this amount for purchase of maintenance equipment at Hillmont, National Leadership Training Camp. FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

SUMMER SESSION

May 20-June 6

Academic Level and Load Limit

Full college credit will be allowed by Free Will Baptist Bible College for all courses taught during the summer session and will be applicable toward a degree or diploma. However, the courses may be taken without the intention of working for college credit. In such cases, the higher level of work required for college credit need not be maintained.

A total of four semester hours may be earned during the summer session. Classes will meet every day except Sunday.

Provisions for Room and Board

College dormitories and dining hall will be available to all students, married or single. A limited number of rooms will be available for married couples, though no provisions can be made for cooking.

Expenses

Registre	ation	fee		 	1.6	•		.\$	5.00
Tuition									
Room									22.50
Board									36.00
Total			 	 * 3			ş.	.\$	127.50

If you plan to attend, please notify the College as soon as possible. Arrangements will be made for your arrival on Monday, May 19. You may register when you arrive. Classes begin Tuesday, May 20.

> FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE 3606 West End Avenue

CONTACT P. O. Box 1088 Nashville, Tennessee 37202

THE PROJECTED master plan for Oklahoma Bible College is designed to provide educational facilities for 1000 students on a thirty-six-acre campus three miles south of Moore. Construction on the new men's dormitory began in March.

A women's dormitory and a multi-purpose building will complete the initial campus expansion. The women's dormitory is scheduled for completion in the fall of 1969. Construction plans for the multi-purpose building have not been finalized; however, the building will house a kitchen, dining hall, chapel-auditorium, and library. When the initial phase of the building is completed, the College will have needed facilities to instruct a student body of 200 in all areas of academic work, according to President J. D. O'Donnell.

Other campus buildings slated for future construction are classroom units, housing for married students, faculty housing, physical education plant, playing field, and chapel which will seat approximately 1500.



Projected Master Plan for Oklahoma Bible College