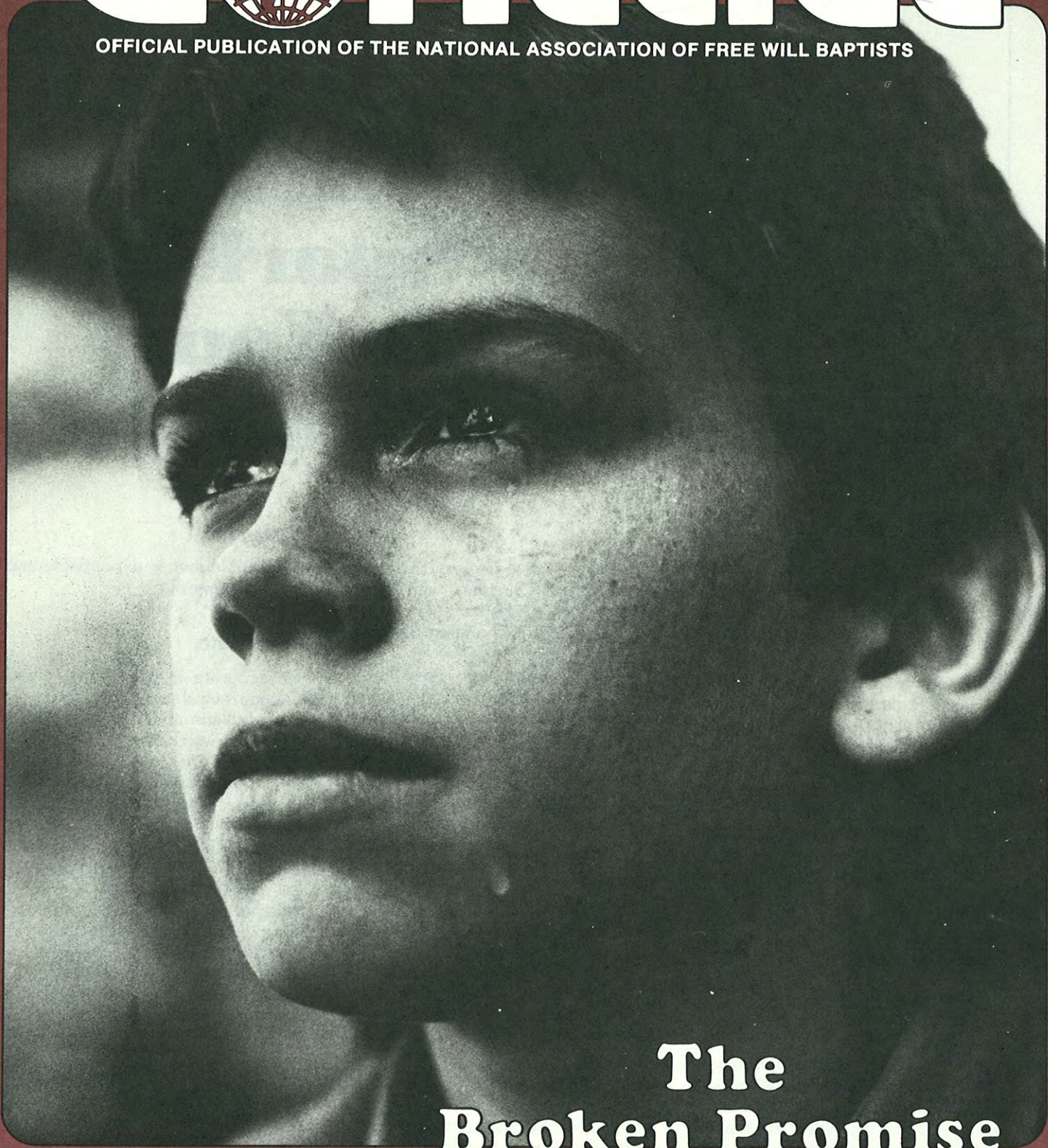


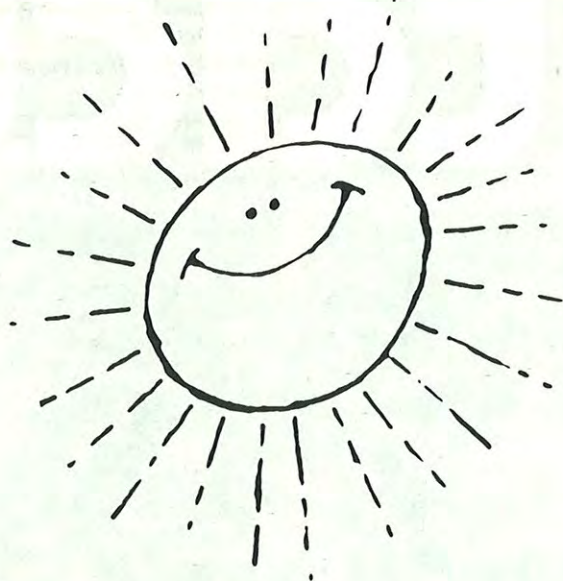
OCTOBER 1984

C ntact

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS



**The
Broken Promise**
[page 10]



Add Sparkle to Your Church Publications

By Bert Tippet

I wasn't expecting much when I asked that my name be added to the mailing list of a radio Bible teacher I heard. But when my first copy of his 16-page paper arrived, I had to look again just to be sure it was Christian!

The pictures were super, the type clean and modern. The layout sparkled. Even the paper whispered quality.

Immediately, my respect for the teacher and his radio ministry soared. Now I listen to him far more intently, because he hooked me with his literature.

And I'm no different from you. Most people judge institutions, to some extent, by their literature.

If that's true, how are people judging your church? What impression does your bulletin make on visitors? Do you have a soulwinning folder? What about stationery and revival posters?

Because of past neglect, the world often equates "Christian" with "shoddy," especially Christian publications. But that picture is changing as we are learning to do our jobs better.

Haddon W. Robinson, president of Conservative Baptist Theological Seminary, once challenged a group of evangelical editors by comparing their publications to "Christian hamburgers."

He said that if some enterprising believer was going to offer the public a Christian hamburger, competing with the other fast-food chains, he would have to be sure that his bread was fresher, his quarter-pounders a full four ounces and all the ingredients superior.

His point was clear. Anything called "Christian" must be better. That includes all Christian publications, even those produced by local churches.

Two Requirements

We begin by placing two requirements on ourselves—accuracy and

neatness. Neither is expendable and neither is expensive.

Be accurate.

Be accurate in your facts. Don't announce revival services for 7:00 p.m. in your bulletin and 7:30 p.m. in the mid-week newsletter.

Be accurate in spelling. A dictionary near your typewriter, well used, can save you considerable embarrassment.

Be especially cautious when you spell people's names. About 85 percent of all typographical errors are in the spelling of proper names, and people are known to be particularly sensitive about the spelling of their names.

Be accurate in punctuation. An up-to-date English grammar book is a good investment.

Be neat.

Even the most inexpensive publication, like the Sunday bulletin, can be neat. Neatness is usually the result of

using your equipment (typewriter, mimeograph, etc.) properly.

If your typewriter is not new, use an old toothbrush to clean out the blocked-up o's and e's. Run scrap paper through your mimeograph until the ink flow is adjusted, then put in your bulletin stock.

Typewriters and mimeographs, like other equipment, need periodic servicing. Professional servicing may not cost as much as you think, especially if you take the machine to the service center. Make a few phone calls to check competitive rates. Request only basic maintenance service, avoiding expensive, non-essential service frills.

Typesetting vs. Typewriting

Weekly or monthly church publications, usually low in quantity, do not suffer from being composed on a good typewriter, if done with care and creativity. Having type set professionally for 200 Sunday bulletins would probably be poor stewardship.

However, other publications by the church almost require that type be set. There are publications that will be printed in higher quantities and used in contacts with the general public.

Don't avoid typesetting because you're not familiar with it. Most typesetters are used to dealing with people who are not experienced in the craft.

A good way to begin would be to take a typewritten sheet of material (always double spaced) to a few typesetters and ask for a quotation on how much each would charge to set the type. While the cheapest may not always be the best, in most instances you can have an adequate job done by any professional typesetter.

When you hand the typesetter your material, he will need to know three things.

First, what kind of type do you want your material set in? He can show you samples and help you select one that's appropriate. Since he's a professional, you would do well to listen to him and avoid any typefaces he doesn't recommend.

Second, how much room should he leave between the lines of type? This is called leading (ledding). Generally, allow one or two points of lead between each line. (A point is 1/72 of an inch.)

For instance, have 10-point type set with one or two points left between the lines. This will greatly improve readability.

Third, to what length should he set each line of type? You can tell him in inches, although typesetters are used to working in picas. A pica is 1/6", so, a line of type three inches long is the same as 18 picas.

Good typesetting can give a finished, professional appearance to even simple publications.

Layout/Design

Suppose you want to publish a brochure to acquaint your visitors with your church—its history, the pastor, its special ministries and doctrine. You could type all this information on a sheet of 8½" by 11" paper and distribute it.

But, wouldn't it be more attractive if you folded that same sheet to form three panels on each side, had the information typeset, and then did an attractive layout, perhaps using a picture or two?

Many people hesitate to do their own layouts, but it's not as difficult as most think. With a little advice, you could probably do an attractive job of laying out a simple brochure.

Where can you get this advice? One good source is your typesetter. He works with professional layouts all the time and may offer you his advice in exchange for your typesetting business. But, don't impose on him. Advising you is one thing; doing your layout for you is something else.

Another good source for advice is your local newspaper. While newspaper layouts are not usually the most innovative, they are generally done by people who know their business.

Don't overlook the possibility that someone in your church could do the job. Any high school or college student who has worked on the editorial staff of a yearbook knows something about layout. Get them to help you.

Basic Church Publications

Here are some of the publications that can enhance the ministries of most churches.

Contents

October 1984

2 Add Square to Church Publications
Carl Tupper

4 Monday Morning Sermons!
Mike Jones

6 Relevance: The Church's Choice
Jack Returns

8 How Can Our Church News Printed
Bob Bell Jr.

7 Reach Out More
Fred Wulfsberg

8 Put These Features To Work
Kevin Luffman

10 The Broken Promise
Jack Returns

10 Everyday Ethics
Diane Mitchell Thomas

12 Faith
Kevin Patrick

14 Spotlight On Misses
Lynne Tolson

16 Should Your Church Start A Christian School?
Gary Murray

17 How To Start A Christian School
Gene Wilking

20 Free Will Baptist Newsprint

22 Currently

23 Be Prepared!
Edward Hughes

24 The Free Will Baptist Pledge
Calmar Sparks

26 Green Tree Bible Study
Robert E. Pruitt

28 On Little Lanes
Donna Mayo

28 Tap Sheet
Thomas Martony

28 They Still Speak
Melba Richard

31 Coping With Criticism
Melba Richard

Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Roger Worthington
Editor: Jack Williams
Editorial Assistants: Martin Pritchard
Circulation: Geneva Trotter
Printed by: Herald House Publications
From Cover Picture: Richard West

Volume XXXI, No. 10

CONTACT/1984 is published monthly by the National Association of Free Will Baptists. For articles and 1984 National Personnel (PNE) Abstract all correspondence should be directed to the editor. Subscription rates: 1 year \$2.00 (church family rate \$1.00 per year), single \$0.50. 5¢ per copy. Payment made by check only. Correspondence should be addressed to: National Association of Free Will Baptists, 1015 Church of the Evangelist, Free Will Baptist, P.O. Box 114, Elm City, North Carolina 27822. Telephone: (703) 438-1111. FAX: (703) 438-1111. E-mail: contact@nwfb.org. ISSN 0891-7722



SPARKLE (from page 3)

Sunday Bulletins

The weekly bulletin is probably the first place to begin improving your church literature program. It's an excellent vehicle for announcements.

My personal feeling is that an order of service generally is not needed, since most services move along well under the direction of the pastor and song leader.

Since every visitor gets a bulletin, keep warm, welcoming statements and information on weekly services in each one.

Watch out for sloppiness. The lowly bulletin, put together late and hurriedly, is frequently the victim of our errors and neglect.

Weekly/Monthly Newsletter

Don't publish a newsletter if you can use your bulletin to convey your announcements and messages. Save the postage. However, if you can see a ministry for a newsletter, put out a good one.

One pastor hands out his newsletter to the congregation on Sunday and only mails it to prospects he plans to visit. He says that his newsletter has helped open doors to representatives from his church.

Soulwinning Visitation Folder

The church that publishes its own soulwinning visitation folder will see more results than the church that merely stamps its name on the back of a tract.

The church folder, in addition to giving the plan of salvation, will leave in the home important information about the church: Service times, directions to the church and special features (children's church, nursery, bus service, etc.). It may also display a picture of the pastor and a personal invitation from him.

Put thought and planning into this folder. Make it one of the best pieces your church publishes. If you want a packet of attractive pre-printed folders that leave you plenty of space for your own message, write to Arthur Daven-

port Assoc., Inc., P.O. Box 18545, Oklahoma City, OK 73118.

Church Visitors Leaflet

Consider having a leaflet handy for visitors. Go into detail about what your church believes and what it offers people. List your services.

If you have planned your soulwinning folder well, it may also serve as a visitors leaflet.

Again, make this one of your church's neatest publications.

Revival Announcements

Keep them direct and simple. The old 5 w's will say it all—who, what, when, where and why. Use a picture of the evangelist.

Consider tying your revival to the season or a special event (Fall Revival, Homecoming Revival). Reflect this theme in your announcements.

Other publications a church/pastor may need are good stationery and business cards.

Our own Randall House is an excellent source of both service and advice on church publications. Write to Randall House, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217, or phone, toll free, 1-800-251-5762.

Put your best foot forward in your church publications. The world is comparing you to a high standard. Anything called "Christian" should be the best. ▲

Monday Morning Evangelist

By Mike Jones

My wife and I were returning from youth camp one Friday when the air conditioner on our car quit. It probably couldn't have happened at a better time, since we were already hot and sweaty from a week at camp and one more day wasn't so bad.

I left home at 6:00 a.m. the next Monday so I could be in town at 7:00 a.m. when the shop opened, planning to do my daily Bible reading and some studying while I waited.

Almost as soon as I sat down and began to read, a lady came in, saw me reading the Bible and asked if I was a Christian. That led to an opportunity to share with her a clear presentation of the gospel and answer some questions that were troubling her about the Charismatics.

Someone came for her later and as she left another lady came in and asked the same question. I was able to help her also.

With all the interruptions, I had just finished my Bible reading and started to work on a sermon when the cashier called and said my car was ready. When I went to sign the papers, she said that the secretaries in the office had been listening to me witness to those two ladies.

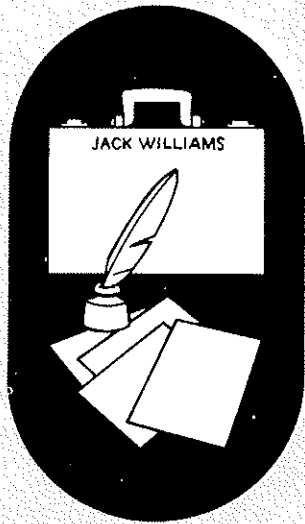
I hadn't thought of them, but the Lord gave me a large congregation Monday morning. Just goes to show that you should always take your chance to witness because you may be doing more than you think. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Mike Jones pastors Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Bratt, Florida.



ABOUT THE WRITER: Bert Tippet is director of publications at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee.

Briefcase



The Critic's Choice

A few months ago I purchased an item at Sears, and discovered when I got home that the merchandise was flawed. Naturally I was irritated, but then I remembered that in more than 25 years this was my first complaint with Sears products.

I'm disgruntled with myself that the only time I considered writing a letter to Sears came as the result of a complaint. In a quarter century, I had never written so much as a thank-you note for their well-made socks, shirts and suits.

It's easy to feel righteously indignant when one purchase in a hundred turns sour. We're so used to things being right that we're unprepared to accept anything less than perfection.

That's the way we are about almost everything in life. Who compliments the electric company for five years of uninterrupted service? But let the power line go on the fritz during a Dallas Cowboys game and look out Charlie!

We don't give much thought to the meals served on time until Mom gets home late one day. Then Dad and the

kids scowl like bargain hunters haggling at a flea market. We remember longer when it doesn't fit, it hurts, it doesn't go as planned, or it's late.

Perhaps the minister's sermon sounds like he copied it off a cereal box one Sunday. We immediately forget all his good sermons, complain to other members and mumble to the pastor, "Well, you can't ring the bell every time."

Criticism is always easier to give than to take. It's a strange phenomenon that sometimes the strongest critics of others refuse to accept personal criticism of themselves.

All criticism is not bad; in fact, the majority is good and well deserved. The critic is often right. But because a man complains doesn't mean he's right; it means he's unhappy.

Even constructive criticism can be presented in a tactless manner that grates on nerves and leaves permanent scars. Criticism is like water, enough will float a ship; too much will sink it.

Some people attract more criticism than others—teenagers, government employees, welfare recipients or (name your favorite target).

Every person must expect some criticism. While there never seems to be a "right" time to get it, private criticism wears better than public rebuke.

And remember, most of us instinctively spot the flaws and overlook the

good points of children, spouses, newspapers, churches and pastors.

Two questions to keep in mind next time you feel the urge to criticize—Has this person or organization ever said, done or printed anything that I agreed with? Have I been as eager to compliment as I am to criticize?

One way to guarantee that your criticism will be heard, heeded and appreciated is to temper it with that most glorious of lubricants—honest praise.

The family, the local church, the denomination all get honest criticism. And just because most of it comes in capital letters with a forest of exclamation points doesn't make it wrong. You see, the critic expects things to go well—his job is to focus on the flaws.

To overzealous critics, we want to say, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

To most critics, however, we acknowledge that their fitly spoken words are like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

The critic who speaks the truth in love always gets a hearing.

I agree with Thomas Jefferson when he said, perhaps with his numerous critics in mind, "Every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle." ▲

You Can Get Church News Printed



By Bob Bell Jr.

So you want your church in the newspaper.

The key: Make sure you let the newspaper know what your church is doing—after being sure that it really is doing something to help the community.

Simple? Well, yes and no.

When it comes to church news, you'd better believe the old saying, "He who tooteth not his own horn, the same does not get tooted."

For more than a quarter century I was church news editor for a major daily newspaper whose top management believed in churches. Almost I

became convinced that many churches had services only at Easter and Christmas, because those were the only times we heard from them. And then they were doing only the same things that all other churches were doing at the same time. No real news at all.

First off, make sure you have a firm home base, a congregation that endeavors to be a house of God and behaves like the Book outlines.

Are visitors being given a friendly welcome without being overpowered?

Are your ushers checked out on getting late arrivals seated quickly—remember, they came to worship. There's plenty of time for greeting after the service.

Do your ushers know how to quickly and politely guide newcomers around

what is to them a strange building? Can they answer basic questions properly? Make your next deacons-ushers meeting a training session—adults don't like to admit they're not prepared.

Encourage your congregation to develop a natural friendliness and interest in visitors. Follow the Golden Rule. It still works and visitors will reflect the interest.

Now your church is functioning reasonably well and you're ready to "go public."

If you are in a smaller town, chances are better for your church to make the newspaper. Always remember that only people are able to read news-

papers; churches and institutions can't so they don't buy papers.

Make sure you have something involving people and give their names. Other people enjoy reading their names in print just as you do. A good editor knows this, too, and that's the way he sells more newspapers.

But your newspaper editor isn't interested in church news?

The quick solution is to buy space; run your weekly church newsletter in the newspaper! Don't laugh until you compare costs. It may be cheaper and is certainly much easier and quicker.

Do it well and you'll have a new "congregation"—all the subscribers to the paper. And the community will know what goes on in your church. Consider the idea.

The real solution takes time.

If you're in that kind of town, swap notes with other preachers. Enlist church leaders who are acquainted with top managers of the newspaper, perhaps friends or fellow members of community organizations. Prepare them with facts on what churches mean to the community, why they are important.

In most communities Sunday church attendance tops any other audience-participation activity. Get the facts and pass them along. Might even make a story.

The pastor is naturally the "point man" for the church in the community, and there'll be times for him to make the newspaper contact.

However, his time is limited, and in most congregations there is an individual who just naturally keeps up with what is going on and helps spread the word about activities. If you have a natural leader like that, make the most of it.

Now you're ready to fix up your first news story. The most important fact—start with that. Add the names of the people involved. Remember the basics: Who, What, When, Where, Why and sometimes How. Tell your story and stop.

Read what you've written. Did you tell the whole story? Is it complete? If not, re-write and make it complete this time.

Be sure your name and phone number are in the top margin. Someone at the newspaper may need to check with you.

A phone call to the newsroom will give you the news schedule so you'll know when the story should be there. And you can ask whether it should be brought in person or mailed.

Plan ahead.

It's one thing to operate item by item or event by event.

A better way is to sit down with a calendar for the full year looking at you. You'll find one at the office supply store, or make your own, a sheet for each month and spread on the table.

Mark in the traditional dates for your congregation. Where there are large gaps, create an appropriate event. This planning should involve various division leaders—one person probably wouldn't know the many events planned throughout the church during the year.

This coordinated planning will make for a better year for the church.

And with the calendar in front of

you, start planning your news—early. Sometimes relatively minor program changes can make events more newsworthy.

As one suggestion, a routine church supper is hardly newsworthy. Make it in honor of some quiet loyal church worker who normally gets little recognition and you have a news peg—plus added interest for the congregation.

Your imagination is the only real limit.

Get to know the members of the congregation. Some have interesting occupations, others have interesting hobbies and "calls." And you may wind up with stories that will make your church and its people known in other circles.

But remember, nothing gets in the newspaper until someone lets the editor know about it. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Bob Bell Jr. is a freelance writer who resides in Nashville, Tennessee. He served 27 years as church news editor for the Nashville Banner.

Revival Hints

By Floyd Wolfenbarger

Sometimes a pastor needs to pass on bits of information about making the most of revival. In fact, these points should be helpful anytime.

Invite friends to the services. Do not assume that they will read about it in the paper or hear about it from others.

If possible bring friends with you to the services. This is much more effective than merely inviting them. They will feel more comfortable coming with you.

If your friends drive their own car, you need to be there early. Even a friendly church will seem cold and distant if newcomers cannot find someone they know.

Introduce them to the pastor and other members of the church. This will be helpful to recognize them as your friends.

Do not miss the services. It can be harmful if your friends come to revival only to find that you stayed home. Please be faithful.

Pray for your friends who are unsaved. When an unsaved person sits beside a praying friend, the conditions are ripe for old-fashioned conviction.

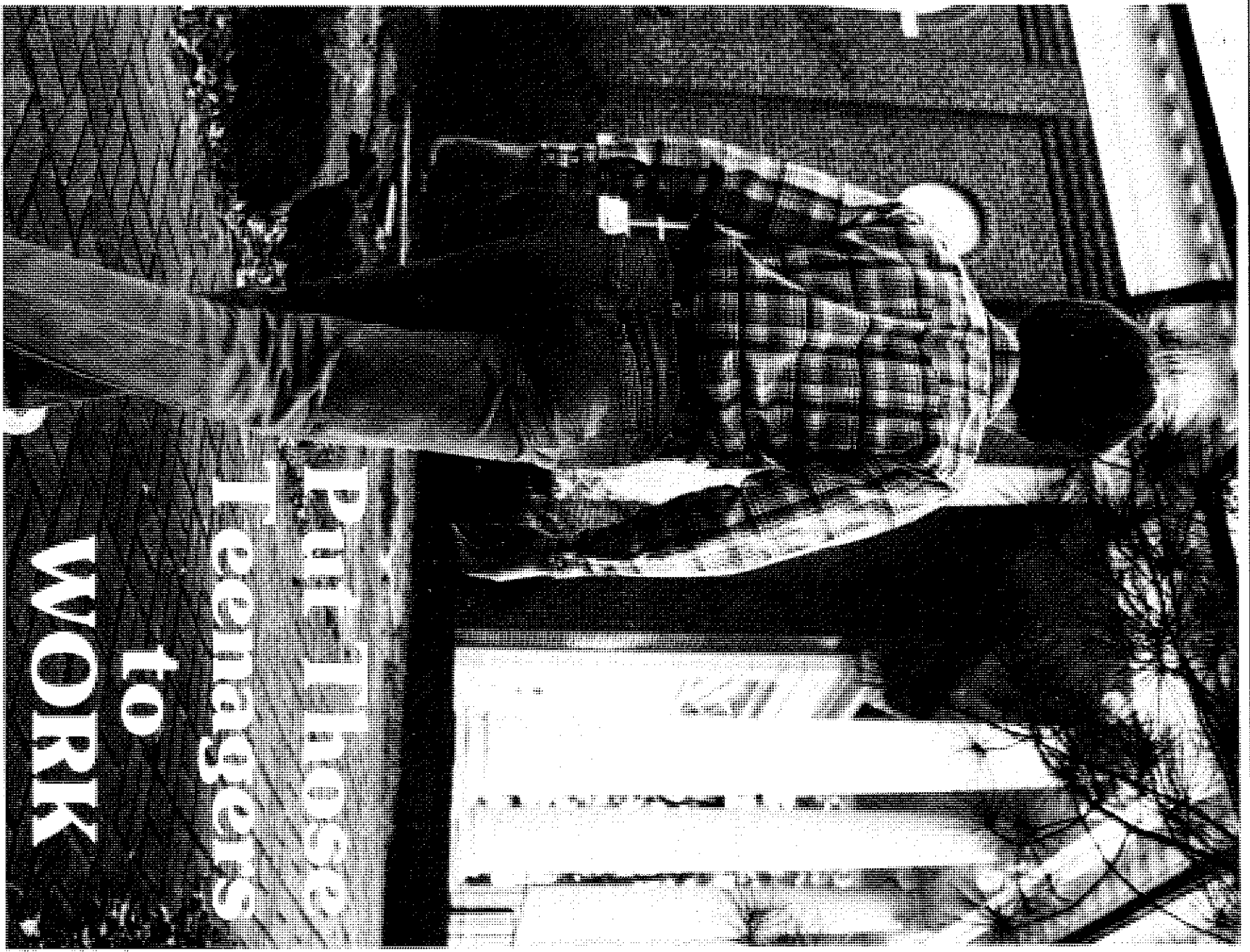
Do not allow Satan to make you a distraction. Neither teens nor adults have any business talking during the service. Parents would do well to sit with their children as a family during revival.

Allow visitors to sit along the aisle. This will make it easier if they should be led to be saved. If they go to the altar, go with them. If you are not accustomed to work at the altar, use a simple verse like John 3:16 or signal one of the deacons to assist you.

If you feel that God is dealing with your friends, you might tactfully offer to go and pray with them.

Do not hesitate to come to the altar during the revival. It is important that every church member be sensitive to the leading of God. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Floyd Wolfenbarger pastors First Free Will Baptist Church, Russellville, Arkansas.



**Put Those
Teenagers
to
WORK**

ways for the Lord. Teens add a great dimension to your church ministry.

How To Put Teens To Work

There are three main areas in which teen service may fall: 1) inside the youth group, 2) ministering to the church family, 3) ministering to those outside the church family.

By Kevin Lauthern

Teenagers are often said to be the church of tomorrow, and that's true. They're also an important part of God's work today! The cause of Christ and your church can greatly benefit from their efforts. So let's involve them.

Before we look at how teens can serve, let's look at why they should be given responsibilities.

Why Put Teens To Work?

Young people live in a now generation with little thought of the future. A dedicated teenager should not have to wait till he's 30 before he can serve.

Service allows young people to discover and develop their interests and talents. It builds confidence and gives a sense of belonging, while realizing that Christ wants them as they are. Being involved leads them toward maturity as they become aware of and responsible to the needs of others.

Working with a teenager builds a better relationship with you, the youth worker. Away from the classroom setting and activities, you can share a task together and gain insights to the teen's life. In this setting, the teens get to know and trust you. They also see us first-hand practicing what we preach.

Finally, having teenagers involved can balance the church's youth ministry. On one end we have the much-needed classroom time where our heads are given facts and our hearts are motivated. On the other end we have the films, basketball teams, hayrides and banquets—the fun activities.

Christian service allows teens the opportunity to practically apply what is taught in class while also using their bodies, time and talents in pleasing

Youth Group

There is work to be done inside the youth group. Each activity and outing could be remembered for years if you had a group photographer. Start a scrapbook for all your activities by assigning two people with cameras to the job (expensive cameras aren't necessary).

The youth can greatly assist the youth workers and keep the group informed by preparing a bulletin board of the month's activities, announcements and birthdays.

Many churches have youth group officers or boards to allow the teens opportunity for leadership and input. Youth groups can benefit from a youth newsletter to which an editor and staff can be assigned. All these jobs allow the youth to lead and become involved in the success of their own group.

Church Family

Youth can minister to the church family by becoming involved in local church ministries. Teens often find it fun and challenging to minister to children. Allow them to use their talents and personalities in children's church or Vacation Bible School.

They may surprise you at how well and easily they become puppet workers, clowns, Bible characters or song leaders. Make sure that the teens used have good testimonies.

A regular youth service featuring your teen ensemble or choir, special musicians, teen ushers, testimonies, oral readings and youth speaker boosts the confidence of your teens and gains congregational support for the group.

Take the time to show one of your teenagers how to print the weekly bulletin or weekly newspaper. Many boys enjoy machines and the responsi-

bility of working with them. It'll save someone time and give the teen a sense of accomplishment. Emphasize that it's a ministry.

A hospital patient once showed me a unique gift that the teens of his church prepared. They had placed several practical items needed in the hospital inside a shoe box. On each item was written and taped a Bible verse of comfort and God's presence. This gift spoke to the patient several times each day.

Missions Outreach

Teens can minister to those outside the church family through both their group and church ministry. A Home Missions Day can be a great idea for your teens as well as a mission work.

All you have to do is schedule a missionary to visit with your group. They can help him distribute material about the church or take a survey. After a morning of this, a cookout followed by activities could be planned.

Teens can also raise money for missionaries or needy organizations. Your teens may be interested in sponsoring an orphan on a regular basis.

Young people can also become burdened for the lost. The teens could be challenged to place a tract rack in some business near their homes and keep it supplied. The materials could include a church brochure and gospel tract.

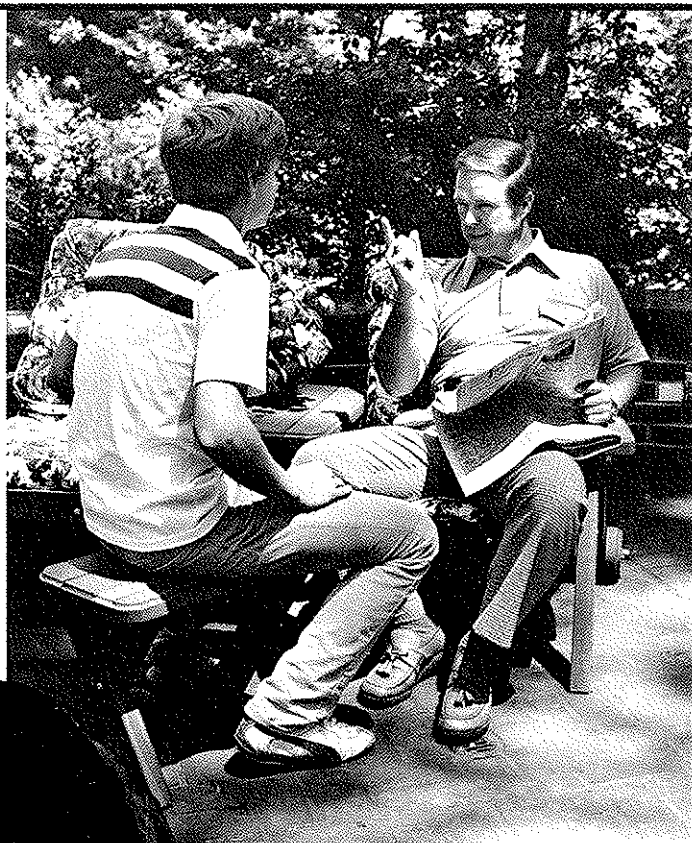
Several churches find that regular teen visitation is better attended when it's coupled with an activity. In starting a teen visitation program, remember to teach the importance of witnessing. Train them in what to say, and then take them out with you to do it.

Youth find it exciting to work in the bus ministry. They can be runners, song leaders or secretaries. Rest homes, jails, hospitals and rescue missions would welcome a group of willing teens to minister to their occupants.

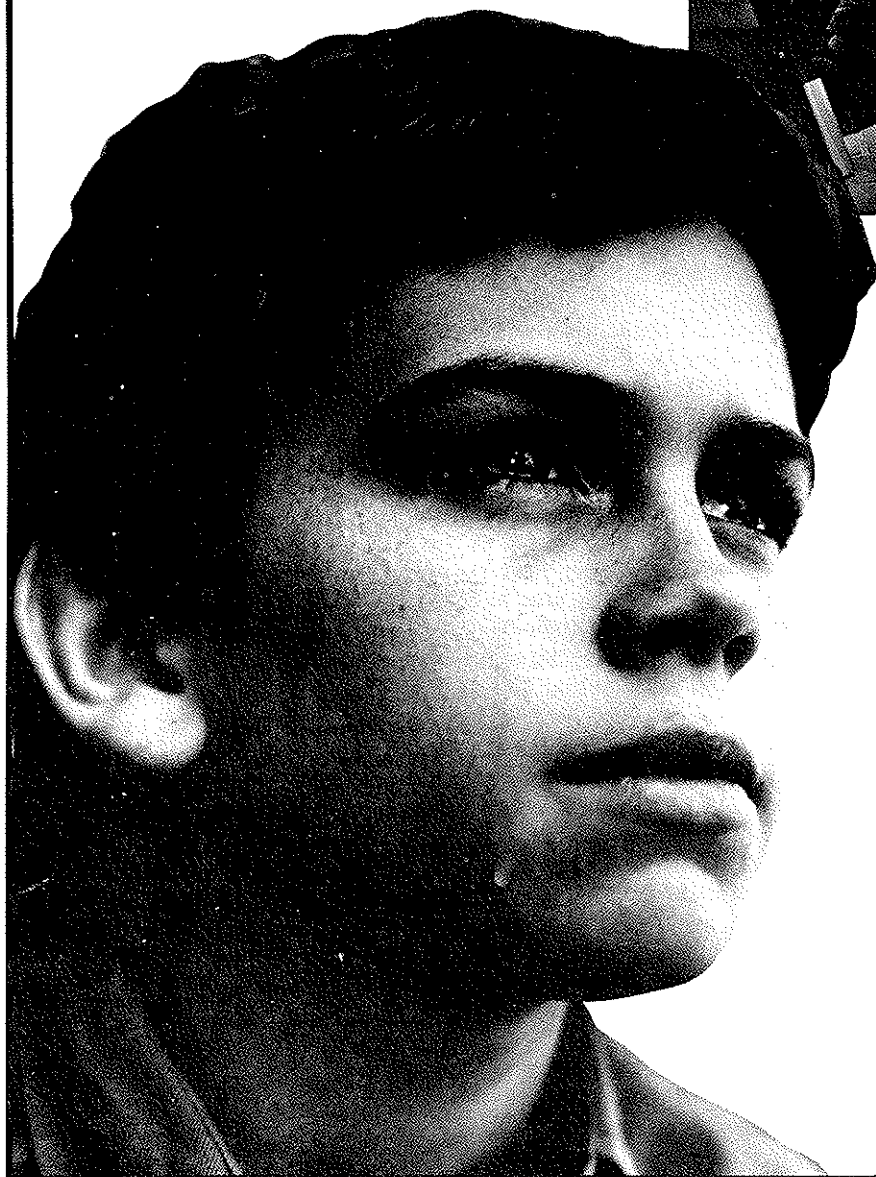
Teens, usually the fleeing and disinterested part of our church, can become involved in the church's ministry and the Lord's service. It's up to us, the pastors, parents, youth workers and teachers to show them how. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Kevin Lauthern is youth pastor at West Tulsa Free Will Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma. He graduated from Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1981.

The Broken Promise



H. Armstrong Roberts



By Jack Williams

TUESDAY NIGHT

My 15-year-old son, Brad, and I spent an hour together discussing his future, his goals, his dislikes, his abilities, his potential.

We charted a 10-year program for him from the ninth grade through a master's degree in music and a job as a professional musician. He made promises about his tomorrows regarding study and practice time.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Brad and I ran two miles after supper before going to prayer meeting. We talked about him and his plans.

On the way to prayer meeting, we stopped to help a distressed mother

and her baby. Her car had stalled and wouldn't start. We took them home. Brad saw how to be gentle with frightened people in times of stress.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

When I returned to the office from a cross-town meeting, someone handed me a message to call the principal at the junior high school where Brad attended.

The principal's first words chilled my soul—"We have problems with Brad."

He said Brad had been suspended from school on Wednesday. He had cursed a woman school bus driver, then leaped out the bus emergency door.

My immediate reaction was to deny it all. But I knew if I did the principal would think me a typical parent who always protected guilty children. It took grace to keep the words down and listen.

Brad could not ride the school bus the remainder of the year. The principal said that wasn't all, that Brad was smoking at school, that he cut classes regularly, and that he was surly and insubordinate to teachers.

Written notification had been sent apprising me of the facts. Brad was to have brought me a handwritten note on Wednesday to that effect. He had not.

The principal continued, "This is the second time in less than a year the same thing has happened. Brad was suspended last March for insubordination, too."

He said that whenever Brad was in school he was in trouble and caused trouble. That Brad was wasting his time, the principal's time, the teacher's time.

Stunned, I asked for an appointment with the principal at 8:30 on Friday morning. Then, after giving hurried instructions to the secretarial staff, I left the office to find my son.

I did not call my wife who was working four blocks away but who would be home within half an hour.

Driving home, I remembered that Brad had "missed" the bus that morning. His mother drove him to school.

I could see 25 years in the ministry shot down in flames. There was no way I could keep my job as a denominational servant. I'd have to resign. My ministry was ruined.

My son was a hypocrite and a liar, deceiving me in our most intimate moments. I wanted to leave and never come back. But instead, I went home.

Brad was not home as I expected him to be. His trumpet and school bag were gone. He was playing the role to the hilt. I went to his room, wondering where he had hidden the cigarettes, and opened a desk drawer to search.

Then I stopped. I don't know why; I just stopped, shut the drawer, went to the kitchen and waited.

Neighborhood school children were walking down the street, Brad with them. He appeared cool, almost smug. But I noticed the surprise in his eyes when he saw me.

"Why are you home early, Dad?" he asked suspiciously.

I spoke slowly, "I think you know why I'm here, Brad. How was school today?"

He paled. "It's about that fourth period teacher, isn't it? That class is boring."

I stopped him—angry, hurt, wounded by such crass hypocrisy in my own son.

"Your principal called me today, Brad," I said, watching his every reaction. "Why didn't you tell me you'd been suspended from school?"

Before he could respond, I dumped everything on him that the principal had told me. His eyes grew wide, his mouth dropped open.

"But that's not true!" he blurted. "None of it! I've done some stupid things but not that stupid. Dad, I didn't do it! I'm not suspended. I didn't curse a bus driver."

In one blazing moment of truth, I believed him. Every word. And had the presence of mind to tell him I did. He immediately calmed, and thanked me.

But the fact remained that I had gotten the call, and I had an appointment with the principal the next morning. We agreed to keep it all between the two of us until we clarified the matter. We knew something was wrong, but had no explanation.

FRIDAY MORNING

Brad met me outside the principal's office. The school bus driver who had been cursed had parked her bus near the school entrance and was also waiting outside the principal's office.

I stepped into the principal's office, introduced myself and Brad.

The principal took one look and said, "We've got the wrong Brad Williams."

He pulled some files. Sure enough, there were two ninth grade boys with the same first, middle, and last names. And nobody had noticed. Until today.

The principal was apologetic. We were relieved. Within minutes, Brad and I left the office.

Was it over? No, not really. I learned to trust my son with some of the tough issues in life, even in face of official accusations by powerful people. I've always hated circumstantial evidence; now I had a new reason to dislike it.

I'm more glad than ever for my Christian home, my warm-hearted Christian friends. And I know I'll be more eager to sympathize and help parents whose children go astray. Nothing shatters parents like a son or daughter who rebels and hides it.

And as much as my world upheaved before finally settling back down again, I hurt for that father and mother whose son did those things my son was accused of doing.

They need the kind of affirmation and support that few people are prepared to give. They need to not feel a lack of self-worth, nor see themselves as failures. Who will help them?

I learned anew just how fragile and how precious a good reputation can be, especially the reputation of a teenager.

Solomon was right, "Even a child is known by his doings . . ." (Proverbs 20:11).

Teenagers get so much bad press these days that we feel compelled to believe the worst about them without verifying the accusations.

I made myself a promise—from now on, no matter how authoritative the source of accusation, my son gets the benefit of the doubt until he tells his side of the story. ▲

Everyday Ethics



By Diane Mitchell Thomas

When did honesty and everyday right living become such a rare occurrence that it makes headlines?

A man finished paying for his purchases and walked out of the drugstore into the parking lot. A woman ahead of him reached into her purse for her car keys. The man noticed that she had dropped a piece of paper.

Thinking it was trash, he didn't call her attention to it until he nearly stepped over it and saw that she had dropped a hundred dollar bill. He picked it up. "Hey!" He frantically called after her. "Hey!" But she was driving off.

He made a mental note of her license plate number, drove to the police station and had the number traced to its owner. The woman was located and came to claim the lost money. She was so impressed with the finder's honesty that she gave him the hundred dollar bill as a gift.

The local newspaper wrote up the story and asked the gentleman why he'd returned the money when no one would have ever known he had it. "Cause my Lord would know," the black man stated. "My Lord would know."

If only those who express Christ through lips would always back up with life the example of this believer. He used the opportunity to reveal his Christianity and exemplify the Lord. Our responsibility is to follow Paul's teaching to "be an example of the believers" (I Timothy 4:2).

What example are you setting forth every day? It's impossible to show our love for Christ if we leave our Christianity on the Sunday morning pew. Every day we are given the privilege and responsibility to exemplify Christ.

Would you have returned the hundred dollars? Probably. But are you as quick to return the few cents the cashier mistakenly gives?

Are you ever tempted to stretch your 30-minute lunch break to 40 minutes when the boss is not in and you know you can get away with it? Do you give a second thought to bringing home supplies from work because

they would never miss a few from the surplus supply?

And, of course, everyone knows that a "white lie" is not as bad as the outright intentional lie. Are you ever tempted to give a caller the message that you're not at home because you don't want to be interrupted at the moment?

Have you ever altered the truth on your income tax report? Or stretched an insurance claim? Are you easily allured to television programs not suited for Christians?

The power of example, whether good or bad, is overwhelming. It stands to reason that our week-day practices carry much more impact than our quiet Sunday worship. We do need to ponder our paths and be careful for each moment of our Christian life.

Every day, let us "provide things honest in the sight of all men" (Romans 12:17). The old cliché, "actions speak louder than words," is certainly true for Christians.

Sinners watch us even when they won't hear us. Let's show them that our Christian life is a way of living every day.

Paul left us a good rule to follow in Philippians, "let your conversation (or conduct) be as it becometh the gospel of Christ . . ." (1:27). There are no exceptions to this rule.

The verse does not say to act as becomes Christ when others are watching or when the occasion fits. The ruling is simple, "Let your actions be as it becometh Christ!" Always. Everyday. Those who choose to be "Sunday Christians" are without excuse.

Let us follow the example of Christ in our every word and deed, since He is "the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

Lord let our lips and lives express,
The holy gospel we profess.
For those who watch us tend to go,
The path we tread, the way we show.

Anonymous

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Diane Mitchell Thomas is a member of Grifton Free Will Baptist Church, Grifton, North Carolina. She has been published in Co-Laborer, The Joyful Woman, and others. Mrs. Thomas writes book reviews for local newspapers. She teaches a Junior Girls Sunday School class, sings in the choir, and is active in Auxiliary activities.

A newsman's search leads him to church

By Kevin Parrish

As a newspaperman for the last 18 years, I struggled to find that elusive quality, the truth.

Since the dawn of time, mankind has struggled to understand it. The great Greek and Roman philosophers . . . Solomon as the two women seeking the same child stood before him . . . even Eve as she stood in the Garden struggling with the serpent's lie.

I loved my part in that struggle. At the risk of sounding pompous and overly noble, I pursued the truth. Every ounce of me enjoyed the time spent attempting to tell it—first at a manual typewriter, then at an electric one and finally today at a video display terminal.

As if embarked on some wondrous, almost-mystical cause since the day I graduated from high school in 1966, I loved newspapering and the pursuit of that elusive element, the truth.

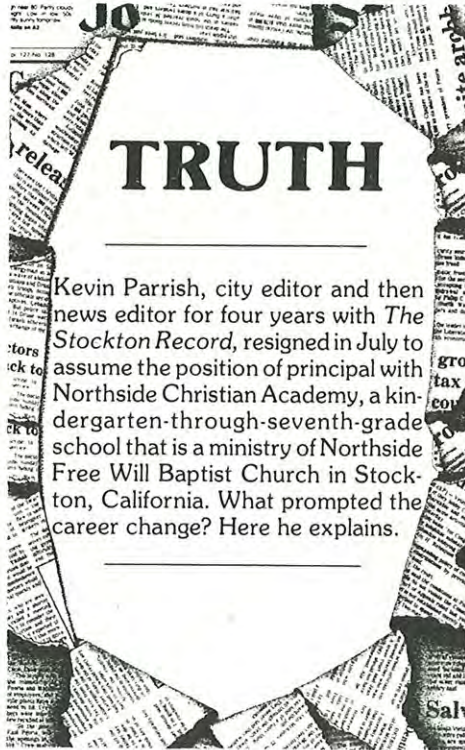
In my early years, I loved the smell and stain of ink, the heat from lead bars being melted into the Linotype pot.

As a *Concord Transcript* copyboy—and indeed I was a boy—I even loved going for coffee and donuts at 5 a.m. each day.

In the years to follow, I loved obituary writing, planning commission meetings that went on and on, feature stories about people, places and things I had never known before.

Not surprisingly, marriage changed the course of my pursuit and my life. The *Transcript* didn't pay well, so it was off to Livermore and the *Herald & News* as sports editor. Fancy title for a guy just 21 years old.

In those days, I grew to love Friday night football games, youth soccer and



Kevin Parrish, city editor and then news editor for four years with *The Stockton Record*, resigned in July to assume the position of principal with Northside Christian Academy, a kindergarten-through-seventh-grade school that is a ministry of Northside Free Will Baptist Church in Stockton, California. What prompted the career change? Here he explains.

the experiences—good and bad—that can only come when you are the boss.

At that point in my life, my job was my god. Somehow, I recognized that and—to prove something to myself and my wife—we took off for Europe in 1973 and spent 10½ months there.

It was through a sister-in-law's letter and the purchase of a Bible in Geneva, that my wife Jeri and I began to realize there really was another God, this one with a capital G.

And pursuit of truth took on a slightly different meaning.

But the journalism journey wasn't over yet. Next stop: Reno.

After 6½ years working for small-town newspapers, Reno was the big time.

A few good breaks (accidents?) and I was sitting on top of the world as a hotshot, 27-year-old city editor. Somehow all the years of hard work were paying off.

But there was this one reporter, strange sort of fellow, called himself a Christian, and through him truth nearly came into focus before a company transfer to—of all places in the Gannett chain—Fremont, Nebraska.

Managing editor this time and even though the pond was smaller, I was sure feeling like a mighty big fish. Suddenly, it seemed, I could define the truth, shape and mold the truth.

Fortunately, I found a greater truth, the source of all truth. Not in the newsroom, but on bended knee in prayer before a living, heavenly Father who had sent His Son. It was through His Son and His great love for me (and all of us) that I found what I had been looking for.

From that point on, career conflicts have cropped up from time to time and despite several excellent positions and promotions, that love of newspapering has never quite been the same.

And so, after doing the same thing for 18 years, God has called me—in a fashion just as real as if He had picked up the telephone—to do something else. This time in full service for Him.

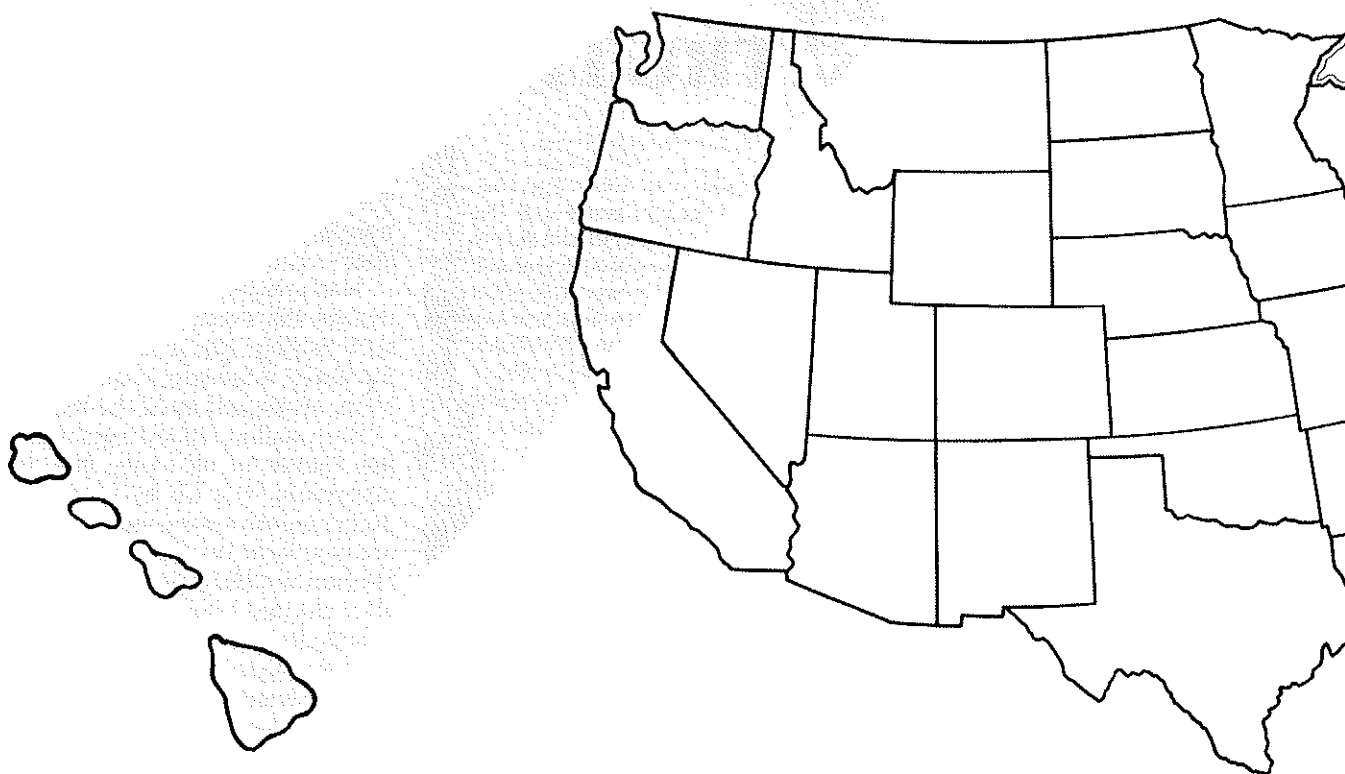
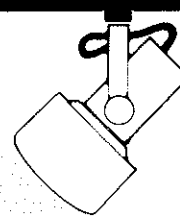
There has been tremendous satisfaction being a journalist, a certain pride (and some regret) in doing so without a college degree. But the search for truth is over.

I have found Jesus Christ—God's own Son—and He has called me to His Truth. ▲

ABOUT THE ARTICLE: This article appeared in the July 1, 1984, edition of *The Stockton Record* in Stockton, California, and is reprinted through the courtesy of the newspaper.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Kevin Parrish is a member of Northside Free Will Baptist Church, Stockton, California, and principal of Northside Christian Academy. His pastor is Reverend Richard Kennedy.

Spotlight On Hawaii



By Joyce Tafaoa

14/CONTACT/Oct. '84

The island paradise of Hawaii was granted statehood on August 21, 1959, making it the 50th state. Hawaii celebrated its 25th anniversary in August.

The only Free Will Baptist Church in Hawaii observed its 25th anniversary on August 5, 1984. The church's founding pastor, Reverend R. Luther Sanders and his wife, Helen, spoke at special anniversary services on that date.

History

In 1940, a young Christian man, Luther Sanders, joined the United States Navy to serve his country and see the world. What he found was war and many people lost.

Sanders was assigned to the aircraft carrier, Enterprise, and the ship was heading for Hawaii. At that time in history, Hawaii was a territory of the United States and a strategic point in the South Pacific with several United States military bases.

On December 7, 1941, Japan hit Pearl Harbor with a surprise attack. This threw many young men into war and into eternity. By God's grace the Enterprise was not in harbor that fateful morning on December 7. A

storm had caused heavy seas, preventing the ship's return to harbor.

God spared Sanders' life through the war. The burden for the lost and need for a Free Will Baptist church in Hawaii never left his heart. After his Navy years, Sanders attended Free Will Baptist Bible College and Bob Jones University preparing himself for full-time ministry work.

The next time Sanders crossed the Pacific was with his wife, Helen, and their nine-year old daughter, Brenda (now Mrs. Wayne Spruill).

Stepping out on faith and a promise of \$240 a month from the Home Missions Department, the Sanders family came to Hawaii to fulfill a commitment to the Lord—establish a church to His honor and glory. One military family

met the Sanders when they arrived in Hawaii. After finding an apartment to rent, they went to work going door-to-door, neighborhood-to-neighborhood.

That first Sunday in September 1959, the Waipahu Free Will Baptist Church met in a high school classroom and did so for three months. The Sanders then rented a house with a basement which was the church's next meeting place.

The congregation purchased one and a half acres in 1962. Pastor Sanders had traveled to many states selling deeds to a square foot of land to obtain money needed for the land down payment.

The property had to be cleared by hand of pig pens, chicken coops, koa trees and underbrush. The women worked alongside the men. Six Quonset huts were purchased from Barber's Point Naval Air Station and brought to the church property to be used as family dwellings, Sunday School classrooms and a Quonset hut chapel.

Today there are five rental Quonsets on the church property besides the parsonage and church plant. The property and buildings are valued at \$1.1 million.

"A Small Church With A Big Welcome" was adopted as a slogan for the new church. All who came to visit and worship in the Quonset chapel felt the warm "aloha" of the people. They also heard a convicting, gospel message, and as a result numerous lives were changed at an old-fashioned altar.

During the past 25 years 6,000 people have attended the church. Many of them are now serving the Lord in different parts of the world, several in full-time Christian service. Waipahu Free Will Baptist Church is still "a small church with a big welcome" who welcomes any willing workers.

The challenges are great in this Buddhist-oriented society in which the church strives to be a beacon to lead the lost to Christ. Come on over and help us! ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Joyce Tafaoa is wife of the church's assistant pastor, Rev. Fitu Tafaoa, Sr. She has been a member of Waipahu Free Will Baptist Church and served as church clerk for 18 years. She also teaches in Church Training Service and is president of her local Woman's Auxiliary.

Thank You For Your Contributions...



... Through the Cooperative Channel

COOP

July 1984

RECEIPTS:

State	Design.	Undesign.	Total	July '83	Yr. to Date
Alabama	\$ 109.95	\$ 1,404.86	\$ 1,514.81	\$ 769.31	\$ 8,488.24
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	121.29	259.98
Arkansas	.00	3,024.45	3,024.45	3,669.14	26,244.16
California	.00	705.32	705.32	1,055.03	7,356.52
Florida	.00	1,468.68	1,468.68	66.66	10,289.69
Georgia	3,964.25	5.00	3,969.25	3,287.81	22,954.38
Hawaii	.00	.00	.00	175.00	.00
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	.00	175.96
Illinois	4,690.59	1,614.22	6,304.81	8,553.46	53,053.63
Indiana	62.00	404.35	466.35	.00	3,735.72
Iowa	.00	.00	.00	78.95	.00
Kansas	.00	163.81	163.81	.00	1,573.35
Kentucky	.00	69.40	69.40	236.00	1,417.14
Maryland	.00	.00	.00	90.00	180.00
Michigan	4,689.67	1,310.00	5,999.67	2,255.27	31,175.36
Mississippi	.00	170.56	170.56	1,218.75	4,837.78
Missouri	1,142.07	6,376.63	7,518.70	6,762.34	44,288.38
New Mexico	39.01	14.49	53.50	911.42	826.84
North Carolina	143.40	325.00	468.40	625.00	5,647.30
Northwest Assoc.	.00	43.11	43.11	.00	43.11
Ohio	910.64	4,466.00	5,376.64	1,578.17	18,483.35
Oklahoma	19,850.46	9,896.63	29,747.09	21,402.39	225,735.12
South Carolina	.00	.00	.00	.00	10.00
Tennessee	241.85	850.57	1,092.42	939.86	14,064.62
Texas	7,974.63	871.34	8,845.97	6,013.86	35,822.56
Virginia	.00	1,112.42	1,112.42	97.98	3,433.86
West Virginia	2,792.74	87.34	2,880.08	1,827.66	32,877.56
Interest	.00	.00	.00	.00	988.07
Totals	\$46,611.26	\$34,384.18	\$80,995.44	\$61,735.35	\$553,962.68

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 155.86	\$12,931.08	\$13,086.94	\$11,603.63	\$ 91,015.35
Foreign Missions	33,162.08	4,934.23	38,096.31	29,123.65	265,845.95
FWBBC	2,498.47	4,934.23	7,432.70	5,356.94	45,348.64
Home Missions	9,392.31	3,861.57	13,253.88	9,866.60	99,516.16
Retirement & Insurance	143.76	3,217.99	3,361.75	2,289.57	19,832.26
Master's Men	62.80	2,788.88	2,851.68	1,966.04	18,380.35
Commission on Theological Liberalism	5.95	214.51	220.46	157.03	1,353.36
FWB Foundation	.00	1,287.18	1,287.18	1,104.55	8,132.40
Historical Commission	4.00	214.51	218.51	155.41	1,366.42
Radio/TV Commission	.00	.00	.00	.00	300.00
California Christian College	13.35	.00	13.35	15.49	100.11
Children's Home	.00	.00	.00	72.38	.00
Hillsdale FWB College	1,162.68	.00	1,162.68	24.06	2,576.68
Southeastern FWB College	10.00	.00	10.00	.00	30.00
Union Association, TN	.00	.00	.00	.00	115.00
WNAC	.00	.00	.00	.00	50.00
Totals	\$46,611.26	\$34,384.18	\$80,995.44	\$61,735.35	\$553,962.68

Should Your Church Start a Christian School?

By Gary Maines

Children reciting phonic rules, Bible verses quoted in unison, classes pledging to the American and the Christian flags and the Bible, structured classes, order and discipline, laughter and singing—these are the sights and sounds of Christian schools springing up across America at the rate of three a day, according to the Association of Christian Schools International. The purposes behind these schools are as varied as the schools themselves.

The Purpose

What should be the purpose of starting a school? The purpose should

be two-fold: to provide an academic education based on the foundational truths of God's Word, and to provide a means of evangelizing the unsaved.

The church may not be directly commanded by God to establish a Christian school, but parents do have the responsibility from God to see that their children are trained according to God's Word (Proverbs 22:6; Deuteronomy 6:6-9; Ephesians 6:4). We can no longer depend upon secular schools to provide right education for our children.

Although schools in America were begun the right way, exalting God and teaching students the principles of right living, that day has deteriorated



to the point that public education in America is godless and almost void of any truth.

It is an education that exalts man rather than God, and in most situations, teaches principles that are in direct conflict with the Word of God. Therefore, we must seek to educate our children apart from secular education.

The Need

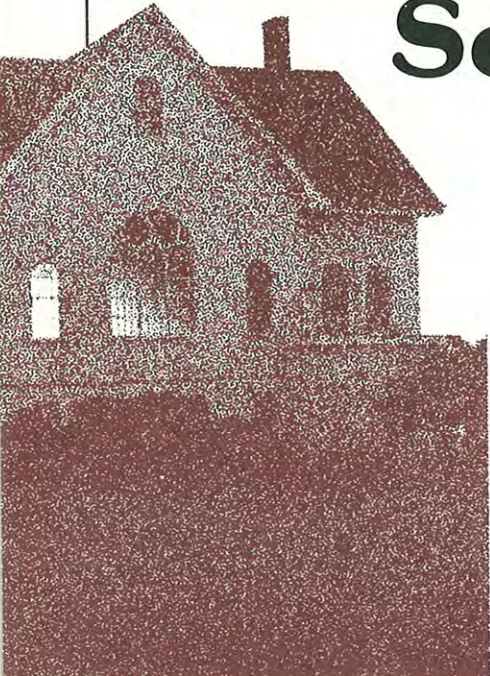
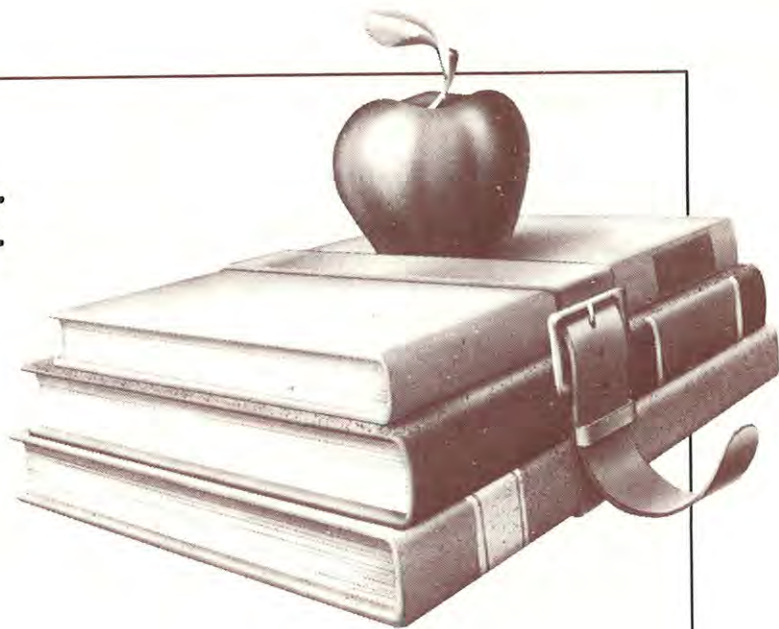
There is a desperate need for Christian schools in every community in America. It is not practical for every church to start a school, but every church should see that a school is begun that is sound academically as well as firmly based upon the Word of God.

Too many schools are started that are weak academically and anemic

(continued on page 19)



How to Start a Christian School



with that program. The school should be recognized as compatible to the church program and never in competition with it.

The church authorizes a working board. The work of the board has a strong effect, for it touches everyone involved in the school. It will be the responsibility of this board to establish sound policies, work effectively with people, take financial responsibility, project long-range planning, and determine God's will.

The board's first objective will be to gather information. Members may be delegated certain priorities on which to gather information, then bring their findings to the full board for decision.

The richest source of information is other Christian schools. Encourage them to be candid in their problems and failures (*everyone has some*).

Publications may be very valuable. For example, *Effective Christian School Management*, Bob Jones University Press; *The Successful Christian School*, A Beka Book Publications; and *Manual of Administration for New and Young Christian Schools*, Association of Christian Schools International.

Contacts should be made with the proper people. These contacts should be cordial and professional. Those contacted will include local school officials, city officials, and the state department of education.

Sooner or later, for better or worse, you will have to deal with these people. Make it sooner and for the better. Ask

for a copy of laws and ordinances to be sure they exist and apply to church schools.

Establish The Program

Decisions must now be made on the basis of the information gathered. Unfortunately, most Christian school boards develop policy only as it is needed.

Without clear, written policies communicated to all concerned, no direction is provided to the school and its administration. At this point, certain priorities must be established.

Philosophy: The Bible is the sole authority on all issues.

Personnel: The first of personnel to be hired would be an administrator. Of course the chief administrator would be the pastor, but most pastors do not have the time nor desire to be in charge of day-to-day school operation.

Additional staff must be qualified spiritually and academically. Don't assume because a person is saved he will make a good teacher. Specific job descriptions and requirements should be established for each position to be filled. The school will only be as good as the people hired.

Finances: Every school costs money. To cover initial expenses, money should be consistently set aside before school opens. Christian schools have three sources of income: tuition, church contributions and gifts.

By Gene Wilfong

The birth rate of Christian schools across America is phenomenal. Some are growing in strength and productiveness, while others flounder or even die.

Many Christian schools are born with birth defects which prove severely crippling or even fatal. What is involved in the birth of a healthy Christian school?

Prepare The Program

It is not enough for a Christian leader to desire Christian education for his own children. The entire congregation and leaders must know the biblical basis for Christian education.

The pastor should present a picture of the total church program and the relationship the school would have



How To Start (from page 17)

Tuition should be based on the school needs, local economy and church contribution. Church contribution will be determined by the financial stability of the church. Gifts (fund raising) are somewhat unreliable as dependable income. Even the first year, a simplified budget should indicate minimum income and maximum expenses.

Scope: The next step is to determine how many grades to offer. Once again, the local circumstances dictate. Keep in mind that not all members will send their children and not all churches will support your effort.

Curriculum: In setting up curriculum, a school should consider several factors, including finances, personnel, and facilities. No prescribed curriculum is universally accepted. However, some basic guidelines can serve as

reference points in evaluating the curriculum.

Curriculum must be based upon a Christian philosophy. It should be comparative in scope and sequence with the state's curriculum. It must incorporate sound pedagogical principles. It should be sufficient preparation for various colleges.

Organize The Program

A great deal of the responsibility now shifts to the administrator. It will be his responsibility to enroll students, prepare the facilities, and orient the staff in preparation for opening day. All of this is done concurrently.

It is impractical and improbable that a school program be so designed as to open its doors to any and all students, even those from Christian homes. Enrollment is limited to the extent of the policies adopted regarding conduct and academic standards.

It is far better to accept limitations rather than promising goods which cannot be delivered. Although it is the administrator's responsibility to interview parents and students, church leaders should encourage members and friends to enroll.

It is also the responsibility of the administrator to see that the facilities are ready for use. Christian school facilities should reflect and enhance the overall quality of the institution. Thorough planning and consistent upkeep are the keys to maintaining quality facilities.

Curriculum and supplies must be ordered well in advance. An adequate inventory should be maintained without tying up needed funds.

It will be necessary that sufficient time be allowed for staff orientation. The pastor should initiate the sessions. A staff handbook is usually available so information can be in the possession of every staff member. Specific responsibilities and limitations are outlined to emphasize the interdependence of the staff.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

ARKANSAS

Gerald Dean to Elnora Church, Walnut Ridge

Jerry Shinn to Faith Church, Dierks from St. Joe Church, Atkins

Mike Mize to Mt. Calvary Church, Conway from Bright Light Church, Bryan, TX

Dwayne Roper to Yorktown Church, Star City from Blackland Chapel Church, Oil Trough

W. H. Bostic to Pine Hill Church, Star City from Charleston Church, Charleston

Rue Dell Smith to Bethlehem Church, Van Buren from East Side Church, Muldrow, OK

Lester Harp to Blackland Chapel Church, Oil Trough

Larry Montgomery to First Church, Berryville

Tim McDonald to First Church, Jonesboro from Oakwood Church, Woodlawn, TN

Jim Mullen to Faith Church, Jonesboro from Garland Church, Garland, TX
Darrell Pearcy to South Sebastian Church, Mansfield

Frank Gregory to Mt. Bethel Church, Rosebud

Jim Bundy to Wilson Church, Bellville from Elnora Church, Walnut Ridge

FLORIDA

Sherwood Mullen to Calvary Church, Jacksonville from Grace Church, Orange Park as assistant pastor

ILLINOIS

Raymond Capps to New Hope Church, Ina

Clifford Hicks to Rescue Church, Whittington from Oak Valley Church, Geff

MISSOURI

Alvin Hook to Verdella Church, Liberal

Grover Terry to Eastern Gate Church, Springfield from Marshfield Church, Marshfield

Jerry Fields to Berkely Church, Berkeley from Faith Church, Corning, AR

Rick Dabblemont to Cuba Church, Cuba

OHIO

Eddie DePriest to Blackfork Church, Blackfork from Symmes Valley Church, Pedro

OKLAHOMA

Kent Hubbard to First Church, Locust Grove from First Church, Tulsa

SOUTH CAROLINA

Tim Hackett to Fairview Church, Spartanburg from First Church, Dothan, AL

Homer Arrowood to South Avenue Church, Lancaster from First Church, Mt. Holly, NC

TEXAS

Roy Wilson to Northcrest Church, Victoria from South Heights Church, Searcy, AR

OTHER PERSONNEL

Larry Bryan to Trinity Church, Greenville, NC as youth pastor from Randall House Publications as printing preparation manager

Promote The Program

Promotion of the program should be continuous. Newspaper and radio spots can be effective in familiarizing a wide area in a relatively short time. Flyers and brochures should be attractive and of good quality.

A staff-board dinner is an excellent way to encourage loyalty. This could include recognition of those instrumental in starting the school as well as a consecration of those committed to the work.

Some Christians have gotten the idea that starting a school is a simple matter. The information presented here should convince those that this is not the case. In fact, it has been difficult to determine what to omit without leaving gaps. It takes time, money, expertise, and above all—God's blessing to start a Christian school.

There are no short cuts. Yet nothing can be more Christ-honoring than a ministry effectively educating Christian young people to live for Christ. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Gene Wilfong is principal of Farmington Christian Academy, Farmington, Missouri. The 1968 Free Will Baptist Bible College graduate has been in Christian school work for 16 years.

Should Your Start (from page 16)

spiritually. These schools do much to hinder the cause of Christ and the purpose of the Christian school movement because of their inability to provide quality education from limited resources.

We, as Christians, must learn to work with other Christians who are fundamentally sound in order to provide the best for our children. The argument is often, "A Christian school of any type is better than the best public school." This statement has some validity, but if we can do better than mediocre, should we not seek the best for the glory of God if it is within our capabilities to do so?

If it is God's will for us to have a Christian school, then it is God's will that it be the best kind of school.

The Plan

We do not have to argue the point that there is a need, but we have trouble setting out to meet that need. Any church that is endeavoring to aid parents in meeting the need of training their children will be diligent in seeing that a Christian school is begun. That particular church may not start alone, but should find other churches, Free Will Baptist or other fundamental groups, that share the same desires.

The strength in numbers can be very effective in establishing a school that's able to provide not only a quality education academically and spiritually, but will be able to offer many of the "extras" that smaller schools are not able to provide. There must be a willingness to work together and not a selfish desire to say, "My church has a school," but an unselfish desire to give in order to reach our children with the truth that will only come through the Christian school.

The statement has often been made in recent years that, "The hope of America and its young people lies within the walls of the classroom of Christian schools."

The time has come when we must labor together and unify ourselves to meet the task that lies before us. Facilities, faculty, staff, finances, etc., are major obstacles, especially if we go at it alone, but if we join forces and work together we are able to count the cost and finish the job.

Certainly many churches in our Free Will Baptist denomination are doing the job and many are doing an outstanding work, but how much more effective can we be if together we strive for the same goal rather than separately?

The Outreach

The Christian school has become an effective means of evangelism. Children often come to Christian schools from homes that do not know Christ. In the Christian school the student is taught daily from God's Word in a direct manner, and also in each subject area the student is exposed to an integration of that subject as seen through the eyes of God.

By means of a God-centered curriculum and a teacher who is qualified academically and equipped spiritually, the Holy Spirit has tremendous freedom to do His work. Every day students are won to Christ in Christian school classrooms. Although these children may not have been enrolled for that primary reason by their parents, God's work is still being accomplished.

Through the ministry of the Christian school we are not only seeing students saved, but doors are opened into homes where fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters and others are exposed to Christ and His love for them. And through this open door many come to the saving knowledge of Christ.

Therefore, the question arises, "Where will the new converts attend church if we share this ministry with

other Free Will Baptist churches or other fundamental groups that are not Free Will Baptist?" Again, this is one of the selfish motives that has held us back and hindered the work of God and His desire to bless.

Should we not be more concerned with winning the lost into "His Church" rather than squabble over which local church they attend? Our desire through the ministry of the Christian school should be to meet the academic and spiritual needs of our children, and then to evangelize and disciple them for His service.

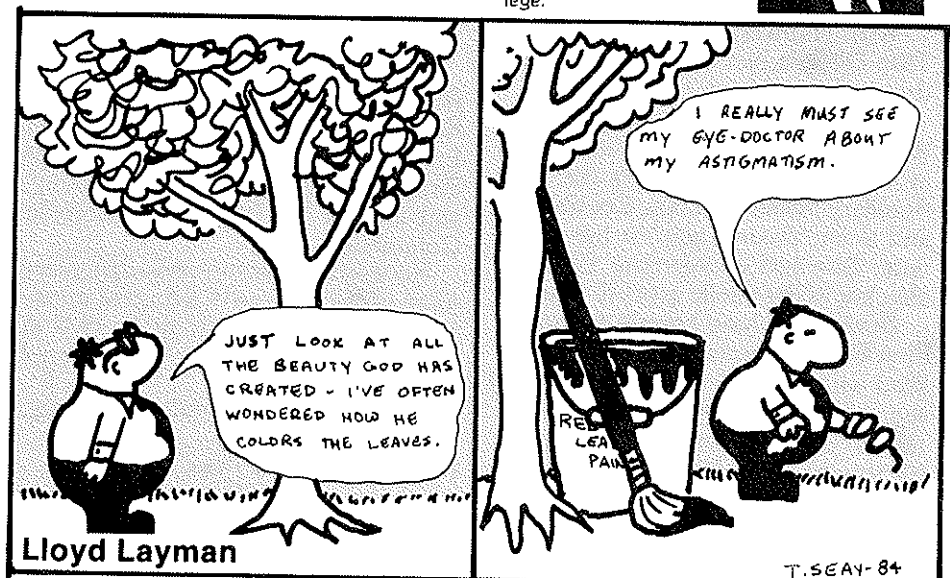
Conclusion

Many churches and pastors have not seen the need and must be educated in this area before they will act. Free Will Baptists in most situations have risen to the cause when they realized the need. The time is now.

Free Will Baptists from all rank and file must join together to meet the need before us. Our most valuable possessions, our children, are at stake. They are the only things given to us by God that we may take into eternity with us. Will we sit idle or argue over who should do the job while Satan claims the souls of our children?

A Christian education is not a benefit for a few children, but a necessity for all, if we, as parents, are to fulfill our responsibilities to God. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER:
Gary L. Maines is principal at Bethany Christian School, Norfolk, Virginia. He is an alumnus of Free Will Baptist Bible College.





FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

OKLAHOMA CHURCH HONORS 77-YEAR-OLD BUS CAPTAIN

McALESTER, OK—Mrs. Tillie Oliver, 77-year-old bus captain for First FWB Church, McAlester, was honored in special ceremonies in June by the church family.

Mrs. Oliver, long-time champion of youth work, convinced Pastor Jerry Pilgrim in 1982 that the church should have a bus outreach to the children of McAlester.

When the church purchased a 12-passenger van, Tillie Oliver volunteered to solicit riders. Then, when 25 children began riding the van to church, Tillie urged a broader vision and secured the purchase of a large bus.

With Thom Sherman as bus driver, Tillie Oliver's bus now brings 40 children to church every Sunday.

Mrs. Oliver also teaches the Adult Woman's Sunday School Class, sings in the church choir, chairs the local Auxiliary Mission Action Committee, and is an "Avon Lady" in her spare time. She has a part-time job as a checker in the family grocery store.

During the June honors service at First FWB Church, the Junior Choir, filled with members of her bus route sang choruses for Mrs. Oliver.

Mrs. Cleriece Christian presented a corsage to Mrs. Oliver, thanking her for "being an inspiration, for her tireless dedication, and for never retiring from the service of compassion."

ARKANSAS INVITES 1994 NATIONAL CONVENTION

CONWAY, ARK—Less than a month after hosting the 48th annual National Convention, Arkansas Free Will Baptists voted during their State Association to invite the 1994 National Convention back to Little Rock.

Meeting at Camp Beaverfork near Conway August 14-16, more than 500 delegates, ministers, deacons and visitors to the 87th annual State Association agreed to extend the invitation. The National Convention will vote on the 1994 site in two years.

In other action delegates examined reports from state agencies and heard Promotional Director David Joslin report that Arkansas Free Will Baptists gave more than \$966,000 to denominational outreach during 1983. He said state giving in 1984 should top \$1 million.

State CTS Director Jim Pursell reported 1,094 campers in the four-week camp sessions with 167 conversions and 213 rededications.

The association theme, "The Bible," was developed by four Arkansas pastors—Raymond Chronister, Gary Mitchener, Rue Dell Smith and David Winfrey. Delegates gave a \$909 Wednesday evening missionary offering.

The state Mission Board confirmed that the West Helena property, a former state mission project, was up for sale, since a pastor could not be secured and members were unable to operate financially.

Delegates passed two major resolutions—one citing Free Will Baptist

opposition to legalized abortion and gambling and called for members to reject political candidates who promoted legislation favoring either issue.

The second major resolution authorized officers and the state program committee to inaugurate a Tuesday afternoon preaching conference preceding the state association effective 1985.

Moderator Carl Cheshier and Clerk Wendell Leckbee were re-elected.

The State Woman's Auxiliary met on Tuesday, August 16, for its 31st annual session. State Auxiliary President Linda Harvey reported 193 registered for the conference.

Missionaries Sandra Bishop and Patsy Vanhook addressed the worship service and banquet respectively. Genelle Scott was elected state president.

The 10th annual Master's Men meeting and banquet attracted 96 men to Bowen's restaurant in Conway. CONTACT Editor Jack Williams spoke to the group. Earlier during the state meeting, Promotional Director David Joslin presented a plaque of appreciation to Williams from the Arkansas State Association.

State President Tommy Rogers reported 335 members in 32 chapters. The 1985 project is to furnish a tool shed for Camp Beaverfork. The group also agreed to raise \$1,000 for National Master's Men debt retirement.

REVEREND H. L. KNIGHTON WITH THE LORD

ALBANY, GA—The Reverend H. L. Knighton, 78, died July 31 in Albany. Funeral services were conducted at First Free Will Baptist Church, Albany, with interment in Barkhill Cemetery in Columbus.

Reverend Knighton served 51 years as an ordained Free Will Baptist minister. He was ordained May 28, 1933 at St. James FWB Church in Phenix City, Alabama.

He pastored six churches in Alabama and Georgia during his ministry—First FWB Church (Albany), St. James FWB Church (Phenix City, AL), Turners Chapel FWB Church (Butler,

GA), Providence FWB Church (Columbus, GA), First FWB Church (Thomaston, GA), and Macedonia FWB Church (Colquitt, GA).

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Sarah Harrell Knighton of Albany; two daughters, Mrs. Robert Thomas of Slocomb, Ala., and Mrs. Herman Higdon of Albany; two sons, the Rev. J. W. Knighton of Evergreen, Ala., and Thomas L. Knighton of Albany; a sister, Mrs. Ruby Lunsford of Phenix City, Ala.; a brother, Claude Knighton of Phenix City, eight grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

SHOCKEY NAMED CAMPUS PASTOR AND CHRISTIAN SERVICE DIRECTOR AT FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE



NASHVILLE, TN—Reverend Robert L. (Bob) Shockey, 57-year-old Eastern Kentucky native and church planter, joined the Free Will Baptist Bible College staff in late August as Christian service director and campus pastor.

President Charles Thigpen says, "We feel that Bob can motivate stu-

dents in their Christian service activities. He has set a splendid example in evangelism and church planting."

Reverend Shockey brings more than 20 years' pastoral experience and almost two decades of energetic, denomination-wide influence to his new position. In addition to pastoring seven churches in Kentucky, Alabama and Tennessee, Shockey has conducted hundreds of revival campaigns and evangelism conferences in the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Virgin Islands.

He organized two home mission churches and led them from first-convert stage through building programs to full-time ministries. Bible College officials said that Shockey's experiences as soul winner and evangelist will be an asset as he directs Christian service activities for more than 500 students.

Shockey logged seven years as a National Home Missions Board member and three years as the Board's

promotional secretary. He served five years as general director for the National Home Missions Department. During his years as general director, Reverend Shockey also functioned as director of evangelism and director of chaplaincy for the denomination.

For two years Shockey has been president of Bethel Bible Institute, a Bible training school based in Paintsville, Kentucky. He will continue in that capacity until other arrangements can be made for the institute.

Bob Shockey is an alumnus of FWBBC. Converted in 1954, he started preaching in 1955 and was ordained in 1956. He was soon elected to numerous local and state posts by his peers, and was named Kentucky's Pastor-of-The-Year in 1964.

He is married to the former Betty Anne Gambill of Jenkins, Kentucky; they have two daughters.

CALIFORNIA CONGREGATION DEDICATES BUILDING

COTTONWOOD, CA—Members of Liberty Free Will Baptist Church, Cottonwood, conducted dedication services July 22 at their new building site, according to Pastor Mike Gaggia.

The debt-free building, located north of Cottonwood overlooking Interstate 5 at 4145 Rhonda Road, sits on a 17-acre plot.

Pastor Gaggia gave the 13-year history of Liberty Church, whose roots go back to 1971. Evangelist Wade Jernigan, former president of California Christian College, preached the dedicatory sermon.

The 125 people present for the dedication services also participated in Deacon Nathaniel (Bill) Patton's ordination.

Pastor Gaggia, originally from the Los Angeles area, was converted after moving to Redding, California. Shortly after his conversion, he answered the call to preach and was launched into the Liberty Church program.

GEORGIA CHURCH NOTCHES 100 YEARS

COLQUITT, GA—New Salem Free Will Baptist Church, Colquitt, celebrated its centennial anniversary July 29 with all-day services, dinner on the grounds, special memories and prayers of consecration.

Former pastors Harris Nix, Coy Watson and W. S. Driggers brought special greetings to the congregation. Georgia Executive Herbert Waid also shared in the centennial activities.

New Salem Church emerged from brush arbor meetings in the 1880's to a formal beginning May 11, 1884, with six charter members under the pastoral leadership of Reverend J. I. Hill.

The building construction began the third Saturday in August 1884. The first services were conducted in the new pine log building in the fall of 1885.

Members moved two miles northwest of the present site in 1910 and erected a frame building at the Hand

School. They later purchased another building from Union Primitive Baptists and moved it back to the present location.

In 1949 a new building was constructed at a cost of \$5,000 as well as the life of a faithful member, Richard Roland, killed by a falling timber as the old building was dismantled to make way for the new. Several additions and improvements upgraded the building since 1949. The congregation built a parsonage in 1964.

During the first 100 years, 30 ministers pastored New Salem Church, six of whom served two or more terms. Reverend H. L. Catrett pastored the church on four different occasions for a total of 18 years.

Pastor Bob White, with the church since 1981, left one week before the centennial celebration to begin home missionary work in Kentucky.



Pastor **James McAllister** of **Farmington FWB Church, Farmington, MO**, has started weekly radio programs on Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on Station KREI in Farmington, and at 9:15 a.m. on Station KFTW in Fredericktown.

There's a new church in **Salem, IL**—it's **Calvary FWB Church** which began services June 24 with a total of 62 people present. The new church averaged 47 its first four weeks, according to Pastor **Cliff Donoho**.

Members of **First FWB Church, Inman, SC**, gave more than \$21,000 on June 17 in a Commitment Day effort to start the 9,000-square-foot general purpose building which will contain a gymnasium, eight classrooms and office space. The \$125,000 structure will be used by the church for Sunday School and for recreational activities for the Inman Christian Academy. **Earl Hendrix** pastors.

First FWB Church, Topeka, KS, baptized nine and had six new members join the church. **Rick Messer** pastors.

First FWB Church, Monterey, TN, expects to complete construction of a new sanctuary some time in October. The church was established in 1945. Current pastor, **Jack Taylor**, has served 17 years.

Pastor **Wendell Trussell** preached a sermon on the effects of rock and roll music on the lives of young people. The sermon resulted in the youth of the church

tossing rock music, records and tapes into a huge bonfire.

Things may be rougher on our **Canadian** brethren than we first thought. Members of **Upper Brighton FWB Church** in **New Brunswick** conducted their Mother/Daughter Banquet at the Lion's Den in Somerville. However, not to worry, Pastor Fred Hanson said the event was such a success that the Father/Son Banquet was also scheduled in the Lion's Den.

Pastor **J. B. Smith** says construction on the new auditorium at **First FWB Church, Chester, SC**, will be completed in October. The building will contain a 350-seat auditorium and two all-purpose meeting rooms. The new construction gives the church a total of 22 classrooms. Pastor Smith is approaching his 20th year as pastor.

Four years ago, **First FWB Church, Florence, SC**, relocated within the city. They were able to sell their former property and begin construction of a large new facility. Pastor **Willie Justice** said construction was expected to be completed by late August. The 12,000-square-foot facility was constructed at a cost of approximately \$250,000. The building houses nine classrooms, fellowship hall, kitchen and four offices.

The **Beaver Creek Association** in **South Carolina** sponsored a missions walk-a-thon to help with the first phase building program at **First FWB Mission Church** in **Anderson, SC**. The walk-a-thon netted \$10,000.

Bethel FWB Church, Baxley, GA, gave more than \$1,000 to the **Rick**

Bowling family, missionaries to **Uruguay**. The senior ladies of the local Woman's Auxiliary also presented the Bowlings with a handmade quilt. **Jackie Cabaniss** pastors.

The Adult 4 Sunday School Class at **Donelson FWB Church, Nashville, TN**, voted to raise \$2,500 to purchase a car for missionary Ken Eagleton. **Harrold Harrison** leads the Sunday School class. **Robert Morgan** pastors.

Peace FWB Church, Indianapolis, IN, purchased a 66-passenger Ford bus, according to Pastor **Archie Ratliff**.

While the summer Vacation Bible School was underway at **Maranatha FWB Church, Ardmore, OK**, youngsters were encouraged to bring coins for the offering. Pastor **Leroy Holman** said that during the week the youngsters brought 48 pounds of coins for a missions offering.

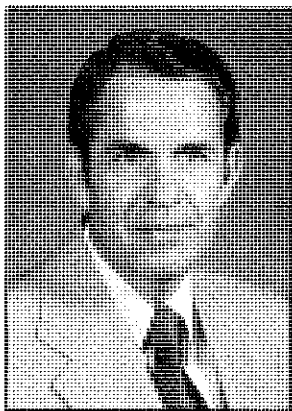
Pastor **Richard Cordell** said the **Guin FWB Church, Guin, AL**, registered a record attendance for July—408, and on one Sunday had seven saved, five baptized, five join the church and many others at the altar.

Free Will Baptist Bible College Professor **Ken Riggs** has written a 20-page booklet/tract titled "How To Live Right." The booklet analyzes six principles of Christian living. In his introduction Dr. Riggs says, "The Christian life was not intended to be lived alone." Copies of the booklet may be ordered for 25¢ each from Dr. Riggs at P.O. Box 50117, Nashville, TN 37205. ▲

newsfront

(continued)

SOUTHEASTERN SETS MISSIONS CONFERENCE



Aldridge



Sebastian



Adkisson

NORFOLK, VA—Southeastern Free Will Baptist College will host its second annual Missions Conference November 11-13, says Dean Lorenza Stox. The conference begins Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. and concludes with the Tuesday evening service. Music, testimonies and messages will highlight this year's conference.

Speakers include Jimmy Aldridge, veteran missionary to the Ivory Coast, Home Missionary Bill Adkisson, presently ministering in New Mexico and Pastor Gordan Sebastian, National Home Mission Board member and pastor of Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina.



Free Will Baptist Music Ministries

Be Prepared!

Be Prepared!

Be Prepared!

By Blaine Hughes

Max shouted, "You kids better hurry!" as the family scurried to ready itself for the Sunday evening service. It was 6:35 and in 25 minutes the service would begin. Cathy, the most recent teenager, was still, after 15 minutes, consulting with herself as to the color blouse she would wear.

The Max Linden family arrived at church on time. In fact they were three minutes early. As Max entered the side door of the church he surveyed the back of the pews for an available hymnbook. You see, newly-elected song leader, Max Linden, was about to swing into action.

He made his way toward the pulpit area attempting to "think music," but there were the hindrances of Mrs. Hunt's three-year-old playing a version of "When They Ring Those Slightly Tarnished Golden Bells" on the treble end of the piano, while Mrs. Snow's four-year-old chose to play a concerto by standing on great A foot-pedal of the big, new expensive church organ.

Max was uncomfortable as he took his position behind the pulpit to lead his first hymn of the evening. As the

strains of "We'll Work 'Till Jesus Comes" entered the mind of the song leader, his heart asked the question, "Work at what?"

It was not work to carry on a church music ministry which required the selection of an initial song and then resorting to the familiar bail out, namely, "Anybody here got a selection you want us to sing?" It wasn't work to inform Julie Price—from the pulpit, mind you—she would be expected to sing after the offering. Ah, yes! The offering.

The offering was a fun time. To prelude the offering, and during the prayer, Mrs. Hunt the pianist and Mrs. Snow the organist would flash hand signals to one another that would make a third-base coach jealous. But the real fun was during the offering.

While the pianist and organist struggled through their selection, Mrs. Olney would allow her two-year-old to transport the offering plate from one end of the pew to the other. Occasionally the little tyke would make the trip without disturbance, but the norm called for coins rolling this way and that.

Now back to Julie Price. The practice of being called on at the last minute was traditional, but Julie was always caught off guard. She thumbed nervously through the hymnbook and made her selection just as the ushers made their familiar trip to the communion table. Then Julie would ask for prayer because she had no time to

prepare, and who could bail her out of this mess anyway but the Divine?

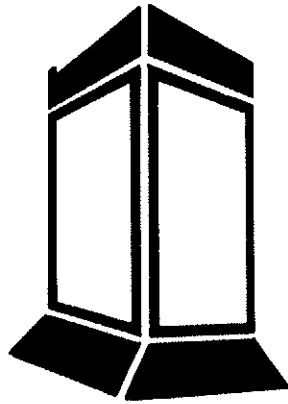
As Max prepared to hear the pastor's message, his mind troubled him. His thoughts turned to the expectations expressed to him by his bosses when he was hired for his dairy delivery route two years ago.

"Max," they said, "if you expect to be successful with this route and promoted in this work, you must be prepared for your route every morning. Paperwork should be completed at the end of your work day, and your route requirements for the new day should be reviewed prior to the beginning of your route."

The statement that made the greatest impact on Max, however, related to attitude: "The quality of your work, Max, will reveal your attitude toward the importance of the task." Max realized they were requesting him to do more than simply take a good attitude toward his work. The employers were telling Max it would not be long before his attitude toward work and the company would reveal itself in his day-by-day performance.

"If the quality of my work reveals my attitude toward the dairy company," reasoned Max, "then the quality of my music program must reveal my attitude toward the One for Whom we're singing." If his dairy route required preparation and planning, so must his music ministry.





The Free Will Baptist Pulpit

Reverend Delmar Sparks, Pastor

Westerville Free Will Baptist Church, Westerville, Ohio

The Christian's Warfare

II Timothy 2:3-4

INTRODUCTION

We Christians are in continual warfare. We must not be deceived by the enemy. Three things will be helpful in winning the victory.

- I. We must recognize the enemy. (He comes in many forms.)
 - A. As a roaring lion (I Peter 5:8). Persecution will come.
 - B. As a friend (Matthew 16:23). "Get thee behind me Satan," Jesus said to Peter.
 - C. Angel of light (II Corinthians 11:13-14). He (Satan) tries to deceive us through false teachers (I John 4:1-3 and II John 9).
- II. We must know our weapons.
 - A. Our weapons are not carnal but mighty through God. These spiritual weapons will pull down strongholds—cast down imaginations and high things (pride, ego, philosophies of the world) bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ and thus victory (II Corinthians 10:3-5).
 - B. Know and use the whole armor—The offensive weapon (i.e. the Sword of the Spirit as well as the protective armor, i.e. the girdle, breastplate, feet shod, shield and helmet.)—Ephesians 6:14-17.
 - C. Discipline for a soldier is one of his greatest weapons—add to your faith these seven things (vv. 5-7) and you shall win! (II Peter 1:4-10)

III. We must know where the battles will be fought.

- A. The world (I John 2:16). All that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes and pride of life. The battle for the mind rages—there is bombardment everywhere you go—at work, at home, at play. We must make use of our defensive armor.
- B. The church (James 4:12). Wars and fightings among you; I Corinthians 1:11—Contentions as to who *their* preacher was; I Corinthians 3:3—Whereas there is among you envying, strife and divisions are ye not carnal.
- C. Within us (I Timothy 6:10-12). Coveting "things" we ought not have—flee these "things"—follow after righteousness—fight the good fight of faith.

CONCLUSION

When we identify the enemy, we can silence his greatest weapon (deception). When we learn to effectively use the weapons that have been issued us, it matters not where the battlefield is—the world, the church, or within us. The victory is ours through Christ Jesus our Lord. ▲

Music (from page 23)

Two types of preparation are required: preparation of planning which demand forethought, organization and implementation; and preparation of training which calls for placing the musician in arenas designed for learning—music seminars conducted by local ministers of music, community college classes, one-on-one consultation with more experienced music directors, self-study techniques, and perhaps even private lessons with a

tutor. The former preparation suggests upgrading of the program while the latter demands preparation of the person.

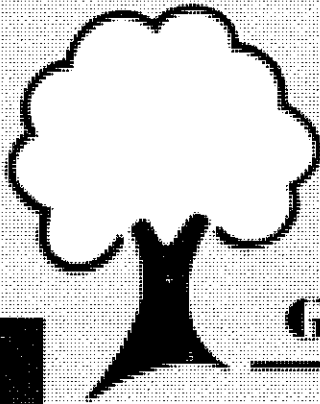
One word of caution. Our reason for producing good music is to glorify God. Let's avoid the tendency to make that which is good become an end in itself, and take every step possible to insure that it is a means to an end.

I agree with J. B. Phillips when he states in his book *Your God Is Too Small*:

... it is natural and right, of course, that the worship we offer to God in public should be of the highest possible quality. But that must not lead us to conceive a musically "Third Programme" god who prefers the exquisite rendering of a cynical professional choir to the ragged bawling of sincere but untutored hearts. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER:
Blaine Hughes is Minister of Music and Youth at Peace FWB Church, Wilson, North Carolina.





Green Tree Bible Study



Robert F. Piccirilli

Colossians 1:1-14

Paul's Pastoral Prayers For His People

Colossae was a small town 100 miles up the Lycus River from Ephesus. As far as we know, Paul had not been there (1:4; 2:1).

Evidently Epaphras planted the church (1:7), probably during Paul's two-year stay in Ephesus when "all who dwelled in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 19:10).

All was not well among the Colossians. False doctrine had sprung up, evidently a mixture of Christian, Jewish and Greek ideas.

Some of the major errors in this heresy were: (1) Christ was regarded as a deity less than fully God; (2) other angelic beings were revered; (3) some Jewish ceremonies were observed; (4) an ascetic kind of self-denial was taught.

Epaphras went to Paul for help (4:12). He could hardly have come at a worse time—hamony speaking. For Paul was a prisoner in Rome (4:3, 18). The faithful apostle responded without regard for his personal circumstances.

The Colossians were as one of his churches, and the spiritual welfare of his churches was always a prime concern. So he wrote Colossians, from Rome in about A.D. 60, to send by Tychicus (4:7-8).

The formal Colossian opening (1:1-2), typical of Paul, follows a letter-form common in his time, including these standard items: (1) identification of the writer (v. 1); (2) identification of the addressees (v. 2a); and (3) words of greeting (v. 2b). Then the body of the letter begins.

The first section of Colossians is 1:3-14, likewise typical of Paul. He often followed the formal opening with an expression of appreciation and prayer for his readers. These commendations and pastoral prayers also served as gentle exhortations about Christian living.

Gratitude for the Colossians' Christianity is expressed in 1:3-8, including (1) their faith, love and hope (vv. 3-5a); (2) their response as fruit of the gospel (v. 5b, 6a); (3) their experience of the grace of God (v. 6b); and (4) the preacher who brought the gospel to them (vv. 7, 8).

Note verse 6: "all the world" is the proper province of the gospel only because Jesus died for all the world.

Prayer for the Colossians' Spiritual Progress is offered in 1:9-14. Of all such prayers in Paul's letters, this is one of the best. The things he prayed for serve as a good model for all of us in Christian service, and as expressing ideals for the Christian life.

He prayed for their knowledge of God and His will (vv. 9b, 10). The word (Greek *gnosis*) suggests full knowledge that is not merely intellectual but experiential.

He prayed for their wisdom and spiritual understanding (v. 9c). This true wisdom is linked both with knowing God's will (above) and with a proper walk (below); this is understanding how to apply God's will to real life.

He prayed for their walk to be worthy of the Lord Jesus (v. 10a). Such right living will both be pleasing to God and produce the fruit of good works.

He prayed for their strength in endurance (v. 11). The nature of the strengthening is according to God's glorious might. The aim is the Christian's perseverance and longsuffering. The accompaniment is joy (although some interpreters take "with joy" to be the start of the next verse).

He prayed for their gratitude to God (vv. 12-14)—and reminded them what they had to be grateful for: their part in the saints' inheritance (v. 12), their translation from the dominion of darkness to that of "the Son of His love" (v. 13), and their redemption from the penalty and power of sin (v. 14). ■



ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

A Hairy Dilemma

"Is everybody ready for the Lane family reunion?" asked Mr. Lane at breakfast. "Only one day away."

"I am," answered Megan eagerly. "I can't wait to see all the cousins."

"I'll be ready if I can decide what to wear," said Mrs. Lane. "I may go to the mall after breakfast and shop for a new outfit."

"Can I go?" asked Marty. "Tony said he scored 25,000 playing Pac-Man yesterday. I've got to beat him."

"You may go, all right," answered Mr. Lane, "but not to the video arcade—to the barber shop. You look like a sheep dog."

"I want everyone to look his best for the reunion," added Mrs. Lane. "Aunt Nola's new son-in-law is a professional photographer. He's going to take a Lane family picture."

The Lane family finished breakfast and piled into the car.

"Wait a minute," said Marty climbing out of the back seat. "I forgot my cap."

"Oh brother," said Megan. "He wears that goofy baseball cap everywhere."

Marty returned with his cap and the Lanes were off. Mr. Lane and Jeff decided to shop with Mrs. Lane for a new outfit while Marty and Megan went to the barber shop. Mr. Lane handed Marty \$10 for his haircut.

"And bring me the change," he called as the twins started down the mall.

On the way to the barber shop Marty spotted the video arcade. "Look, Megan, no one is playing Pac-Man. I betcha I can beat Tony's score."

"We don't have time" warned Megan. "The barber shop may be crowded, and we're supposed to meet Mom and Dad in an hour."

"It'll just take a minute," said Marty. "Besides, I've only got one quarter." The twins entered the exciting world of flashing lights and beeps. Marty deposited the quarter. "Shucks," he said when the game was over. "I scored 20,000. That's 5,000 less than Tony. I bet I can beat him this time, though."

"This time?" questioned Megan as she followed Marty to an ice cream stand. Marty took the \$10 his father had given him and handed it to the cashier.

"I'd like some change, please," he said.

"Marty!" exclaimed Megan. "You don't know what you're doing."

"Sure I do," said Marty. "A haircut can't cost \$10."

Marty played a second game but didn't beat Tony's score. "I know I can do it," he sighed. "Just one more," he told Megan.

Marty played one more. And then another and another.

"Marty," said Megan sternly, "we're going to be late. You better come on."

"In a minute," said Marty who was so intent in his game he ignored his sister's warnings. When the game was over, Marty said, "Just one more."

"That's what you said the last time," said Megan. "I'm going out in the mall to wait."

Megan waited and waited. Marty finally came out grinning from ear to ear. "I did it!" he cried. "I beat Tony! I scored 30,000!"

"Hooray," said Megan without much enthusiasm. "We better hurry if we're going to get your haircut and meet Mom and Dad. We've only got 20 minutes."

They dashed to the barber shop. There were two others ahead of Marty, so the twins sat down to wait. Looking around the shop, Marty saw a sign above the barber's chair—"Haircuts—\$5."

"Oh no," shrieked Marty emptying his pockets. "I've only got \$3.50 left."

"What?" cried Megan. "How many times did you play Pac-Man?"

"I don't know. I thought it was only seven or eight. I guess I sorta lost track. What am I going to do?" moaned Marty. "Dad will kill me."

Megan shrugged her shoulders.

"Next," said the barber looking around. "I believe it's your turn, Son," he said looking at Marty.

The twins went up to the barber. "Mister," said Marty slowly, "I sorta got a problem." Then the words came tumbling out. "You see, my dad gave me \$10, but Tony Phillips scored 25,000 playing Pac-Man, and Aunt Nola's new son-in-law is a photographer, and I've only got \$3.50 left."

"Sorry, kid," said the barber pointing to the sign. "Haircuts are \$5."

"Well couldn't you just cut off \$3.50 worth?" asked Marty hopefully.

Again the barber said, "Sorry, kid, but the shop is filling up with paying customers."

Marty and Megan walked out slowly.

"Do you think Dad will notice that I didn't get it cut?" asked Marty taking off his cap.

"Are you looney?" asked Megan. "Of course he'll notice."

"Maybe I can leave my cap on," said Marty.

"And how long do you think that'll last?" asked Megan. "You know Mom. You won't even make it through lunch."

"I know, Megan," said Marty hopefully, "you can cut it for me when we get home."

"Me?" cried Megan. "I've never cut anybody's hair in my whole life."

"It can't be that hard, please?" begged Marty.

"OK," said Megan. "I'll try."

The twins hurried down the mall to their parents and Jeff.

"Let's see that new haircut," said Mr. Lane reaching for Marty's cap.

"No!" screamed Marty holding on to his hat.

"What's the matter?" asked Mr. Lane in surprise.

"Uh, well, uh, nothing," stammered Marty.

"He's just a little, uh, well, he's embarrassed," offered Megan.

"Oh, dear, I do hope the barber didn't mess it up," said Mrs. Lane. "What with the reunion tomorrow and everything."

"Don't worry, Mom," said Megan. "It'll be fine."

When they got home, Marty missed out on lunch—his mother wouldn't let him eat with his cap on. Megan gobbled her sandwich and dashed to Marty's room.

"Are you sure you want to go through with this?" said Megan, combing up a handful of Marty's hair and

placing the scissors edge next to it.

"I don't have any choice," said Marty. "Cut."

Marty shut his eyes, and Megan began snipping away. Marty's sandy locks fell to the floor in heaps. "Hey, this is fun," said Megan.

"It is not," grumbled Marty.

"Be still," said Megan. "You made me mess up."

"You better not mess up my hair," said Marty. He flinched every time he heard the scissors snip. "Ouch!" "That hurt."

"I can't help it," said Megan. "Don't be so wiggly." Megan made a final stab at getting the bangs even, and then she handed the mirror to Marty.

Marty gasped when he saw himself in the mirror. His uneven bangs were much too short, and there was a rooster tail on the crown of his head that stood straight up.

"Megan!" screamed Marty. "Look at me!"

"I did the best I could," said Megan who was close to tears. "I couldn't help it."

"I know," said Marty calming down. "Besides, I've always got this." Marty placed his baseball cap on his head.

When Marty refused to take his cap off at supper, Mr. Lane's patience wore thin. "Marty," he said, "take that cap off."

Megan held her breath. Marty removed his cap. Mr. Lane jumped to his feet. Mrs. Lane was hysterical. "Marty, your hair. Who on earth? Did that barber? And the reunion tomorrow . . ."

"Now, Laura, just calm down," said Mr. Lane. "Marty, you've got some explaining to do."

After Marty explained, Mr. Lane just shook his head. "First, you wasted all that money on Pac-Man, but what I can't believe is that you didn't come to me and explain. What did you think I'd do? Boil you in oil? Listen to me, Marty, and you too, Megan. You can always come to me when you're in trouble. Always. No matter what you've done, you can always come talk to me and ask for help. Understand?"

"Yes sir," answered the twins feeling very relieved.

"Now you two run along," said their daddy giving them each a quick hug. "I want to discuss this with your mother."

"Those two," said Mrs. Lane when

the twins left the room. "What are we going to do with them?"

Mr. Lane shook his head. Then he grinned. "At least he beat Tony's score, and I'm sure in 20 years or so we'll look back at the Lane family portrait and laugh."

Just then the phone rang. "Who was that?" asked Mrs. Lane when her husband came back. Mr. Lane sighed.

"You'll never believe it," he groaned. "That was Tony. He scored 35,000 playing Pac-Man today."

Mrs. Lane buried her face in her hands. Then she looked up at Mr. Lane and they both burst out laughing. ▲

CONTACT SUBSCRIBER SERVICE

Attach your mailing label to all correspondence.

Mail coupon to:

CONTACT Magazine
P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, Tn. 37202

Please check below:

- Change of address. Affix current mailing label; enter new address below. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks.
- New Subscription. Fill in coupon below.
- Renewal. Affix current mailing label; check coupon below.

Name _____

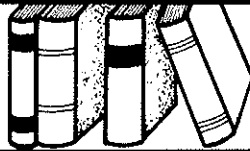
Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

- Please send a one year subscription of CONTACT—\$6.50
- Payment enclosed. Bill me.

Top Shelf



Thomas Marberry



Myron Rush, *Management: A Biblical Approach* (Wheaton: Victor Books, 1983, 236 pp., paperback, \$7.95).

Leadership is one of the most important needs in any organization; the church is no exception. If a church is to be effective, it must have good leadership. If it lacks good leadership, it cannot accomplish what it should.

God presents a philosophy of management and leadership in the Bible which will work in any organization (including the church). The philosophy of management presented in the Bible emphasizes that people form the greatest resource of any organization.

In order for an organization to function effectively, there must be open communication and a team spirit. People within an organization need to be needed; they must be encouraged to

use their creativity for the benefit of the organization.

The world sets forth a philosophy of management which is quite different from the biblical philosophy. According to the world's philosophy, management consists of getting work done through others. People are the means through which an end is accomplished. They are controlled, manipulated, and perhaps exploited.

Rush points out that most pastors and other church leaders do not have specific training in leadership and management. They are trained in theology and related subjects. Even those who have had training in management may not understand the biblical philosophy of management. Their only training has often been in a worldly approach to leadership.

Rush contends that a biblical approach to management is the best approach for any type organization. A biblical approach is especially important for churches and other Christian organizations.

The author of this volume gives a great deal of sound, wise counsel to leaders and potential leaders. He presents the type of attitude which a good leader needs. He shares helpful information on developing team spirit and keeping channels of communication within the organization open.

Considerable attention is devoted to delegating authority, managing time, and measuring performance. One chapter deals with resolving conflicts which arise within the organization.

In my opinion, this book should be required reading for all church leaders. Many churches are not living up to their potentials because of improper leadership and management.

This book is also worthwhile reading for Christians who are employed in business and industry. Biblical principles of leadership will work in any organization, large or small, religious or secular. ▲

AUGUST ISSUE ENCOURAGES PASTOR

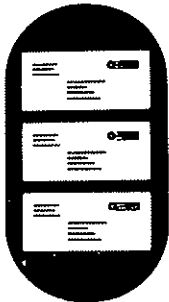
I just finished reading the August issue and as a result, I have been greatly challenged and encouraged. The entire issue was comprehensive and practical.

Melvin Worthington's article, "The Priority of Preaching," should be read and applied by every pastor in the denomination. My wife especially enjoyed the article by Judy Puckett, "There's a Woman in the Parsonage."

Pastoring can be a difficult task, and I really appreciate your thoughtfulness and wisdom in developing such an uplifting and informative issue.

I'm glad to see the magazine used as a tool with which to build and not a weapon with which to destroy.

David L. Boggs, Pastor
Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church
Columbus, Ohio



OUR READERS COMMENT

TO THE POINT

I am pleased with CONTACT.

Lura Gebhart
Tulsa, Oklahoma

READER COMMENDS OLDER ADULT ARTICLE

I commend Rev. Lee Whaley's article in the June issue titled "Ministering To Older Adults." I have learned that smiling at elderly people, squeezing a hand in encouragement or giving a glass of water or a cup of coffee says more than the most elaborate oration.

We don't have to wait to perform great tasks, but we can let simple gestures express our love and care to the elderly people.

Reverend Arnold Woodlief
Marianna, Florida

BOOK REVIEWS MINISTER TO MANY READERS

Dr. Thomas Marberry performs a valuable service to Free Will Baptists each month when he pens the "Top Shelf" column in CONTACT.

His selections are varied, the summaries concise, and the review usually whets my appetite. No doubt, his time is taxed enough without this writing responsibility. However, he is ministering to the saints.

Continue the fine work, brothers.
Reverend Daryl Ellis, Pastor
Bethel Free Will Baptist Church
South Roxana, Illinois

They Still Speak

By Melba Hibbard

There's a four-year-old boy who lives in my house. His name is Timmy. Since I'm his mother, you probably think I'm prejudiced, but this kid is smart.

He asks a thousand questions a day, which, I'm told, is common for boys his age. But what's surprising is that he usually answers most of them himself. His curiosity is out of control and he never misses a detail. Timmy's quite a boy.

We were living in Stockton, California, attending Northside Free Will Baptist Church when John and Kay Metcalf came to share with us their burden for the people of Brazil.

I was excited to see Kay since I had known her as a young girl in California. She attended Concord Free Will Baptist Church and I attended El Sobrante Free Will Baptist Church not far away.

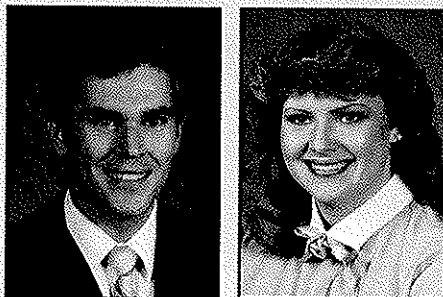
We regularly attended CTS rallies and youth camp together. Since our paths had crossed many years before, I was anxious to see Kay again.

The service that night was a memorable one—Kay sang. I remember our pastor saying, "Now some people can sing and some people can *really* sing."

John spoke concerning Brazil and his burden to be a missionary to those needy people. Our hearts were moved and as we left we picked up a prayer card and a commitment card, vowing to help them any way we could.

We also picked up a missionary quarter folder for Timmy. We thought it would be good for him to learn at an early age to give to missions.

Timmy badgered everyone who stepped foot in our home for a quarter to put in his missionary quarter folder. He would run to his room and get the folder while guests



The John and Kay Metcalf story is still unfinished . . .

dug to get a quarter for this insistent little boy.

Kay Metcalf had glued their picture to the front of the folder, so Timmy would show the picture and tell them he was going to send these quarters to the Metcalfs so they could go to Brazil. He watched with pride as his folder began to fill.

And then we heard the news of John and Kay's car crash. (I don't like to call it an "accident," because I believe in God's plan there are no accidents.) My heart was broken as I thought about the parents and brothers and sisters and the grief they must be feeling.

But I didn't tell Timmy. His folder wasn't full yet and I didn't quite know what to say. I knew I would be bombarded with questions, but I really had no answers. So I waited.

Then we received the May issue of CONTACT. I was reading the news release that showed the picture of John and Kay's car. And I read the editorial, "Home Before Sundown." Tears streamed down my face and I wondered in my heart "Why them, Lord?" Timmy noticed my tears.

"What's wrong, Mom?"

"I'm just sad. Come here. Let me show you something." He nuzzled up to my side and I put my arm around him. He immediately recognized John and Kay's picture.

"That's the missionaries I'm saving quarters for!" he exclaimed with a

mazement. He couldn't believe that this magazine had his missionaries in it.

I showed him the picture of the car and began to tell him what had happened. "God decided it was time for them to go to Heaven to be with Him," I told Tim.

"He came down and got them?" Timmy asked.

"Yes."

"He touched them and said, 'Come with me?'"

"Well, yes."

Timmy's eyes got big. "Did Jesus do magic?"

"Not really. It wasn't magic; it was a miracle. That's just the way God works." I groped for answers.

Timmy proceeded to ask questions about the car and how it had all happened. "Well, why are you sad then, Mom?" he questioned.

"Aren't you sad?" I asked.

"No. Because they are with God and I'll get to see them again someday."

"That's right, Timmy," was all I could say. His assurance overwhelmed me.

Several days passed. His quarter folder is full. He continues to ask a question here and there. I can't tell what kind of an impact the deaths of John and Kay have had on this four-year-old mind, but I'm sure it will be lasting.

The pieces to the puzzle of life are many, some being bigger than others. But the deaths of two missionaries, his missionaries, will never leave him.

The other day I said, "Timmy, we can send in your missionary quarter folder now. We'll send it to the Foreign Missions Department, and they can use it like they want, okay?"

Very indignant, Timmy answered, "No, Mom. I'll see John and Kay in heaven. I'll just give it to them when I see them." ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Melba Hibbard is a member of Mountain View Free Will Baptist Church, Mountain View, California, where her husband, John, pastors. Mrs. Hibbard is a graduate of California Christian College.

THE Free Will Baptist Bible study journal!

DIMENSION

Dimension is—

- Practical
- Stimulating
- Informative
- Scholarly
(but not dry!)
- Published quarterly

Edited by Dr. Robert Picirilli, dean of the Graduate School of Free Will Baptist Bible College.

To subscribe, clip and mail the coupon below with your subscription check.



Please enter my subscription to *DIMENSION* for:

one year (\$7.50) two years (\$14.00)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____



free will baptist
BIBLE COLLEGE

3606 West End Avenue Nashville, Tennessee 37205
P.O. Box 50117 615-383-1340



THE SECRETARY SPEAKS

By Melvin Worthington

Few people are exempt from criticism for very long. Criticism in America has intensified with special interest groups often smearing those who disagree with them.

Jesus lived in a malestrom of criticism. He even warned followers to beware when all men spoke well of them.

Effective Christian living requires that we learn to cope with criticism. To the degree one is dazzled by praise and commendation, he will be devastated by persecution and criticism.

Types of Criticism

All criticism is not unchristian, unfair, unjust, unnecessary nor unfounded.

Constructive criticism flows from the honest and humble heart of one who is concerned. It produces positive results, since its motivation is to help, not hurt, an individual.

Corrective criticism not only points out that which is incorrect or inappropriate, but suggests specific ways to implement improvement. It helps those involved to focus on alternatives.

Careful criticism flows from measured consideration of the facts as well

Coping With Criticism



as the people involved in a given matter. It is discreet and diplomatic with a spirit of compassion, consideration and contemplation. What to say and what not to say is vital to the effectiveness of this kind of criticism.

Cheerful criticism is good therapy for both critic and criticized. It is not a matter of life and death, but an expression of preference. Cheerful criticism presented with a thoughtful, tender spirit often makes a dynamic impact since it comes across as a suggestion rather than a demand.

Careless criticism usually comes from those who do not know the facts, who speak before they think, who believe rumors and require that others do likewise. This harmful criticism demeans others and ignores Christian principles. Love must put the best interpretation on individuals and incidents until the facts prove otherwise.

Censorious criticism arises from a sinful, selfish and stubborn heart and manifests a spirit of prejudice and pride. Unreasonableness, unkindness and an unyielding spirit prompt this type criticism. Whatever is necessary to destroy another can be justified by those who practice such criticism.

Temptation in Criticism

When criticism comes, some respond in *fear*. "The fear of man bringeth a snare." Out of fear some yield to intimidation. Fear forces compromise.

When faced with criticism, believe God and don't allow critics to dominate your life.

When criticism comes, some respond in *frustration*. They strike back, seeking to justify and defend their actions and motives. Frustrated Christians sometimes say and do things they regret for a lifetime. They ruin their testimonies by hasty remarks or actions. Trust God to vindicate you.

When criticism comes, some respond by *fighting*. Retaliating is the operative word here. Jesus left us an example of how to act under pressure from critics. He did not fuss nor fight. Fighting a critic is usually about as successful as Br'er Rabbit hitting the tar baby.

When criticism comes, some respond in *faith*. It is still easier to talk about trusting God than to trust Him. Our responsibility in criticism is to tell the facts and trust our Father. Romans 8:28 is hard to improve on as a guideline when criticism comes.

Taught Through Criticism

Criticism enables the Christian to *humbly examine* what he is doing and why he does it. It leads to *honest evaluation*. Have my motives been right? Is my position on this matter in line with the principles, precepts and practices of the scriptures?

Criticism further leads to a *happy explanation*. Refusal to debate or dis-

cuss a matter of disagreement benefits no one. Criticism usually results in a happy explanation of the facts which might have been disregarded, distorted or denied. Misconceptions, misinformation and misrepresentation can be dispelled and disarmed by a thorough explanation.

Criticism tries, tests and tempers the sons of God. Do not reject criticism. Do not retaliate when criticized. Recognize criticism as the Triune's tool to teach, temper, test and try you in order that you might be conformed to the image of His Son. ▲

Secretary's Schedule

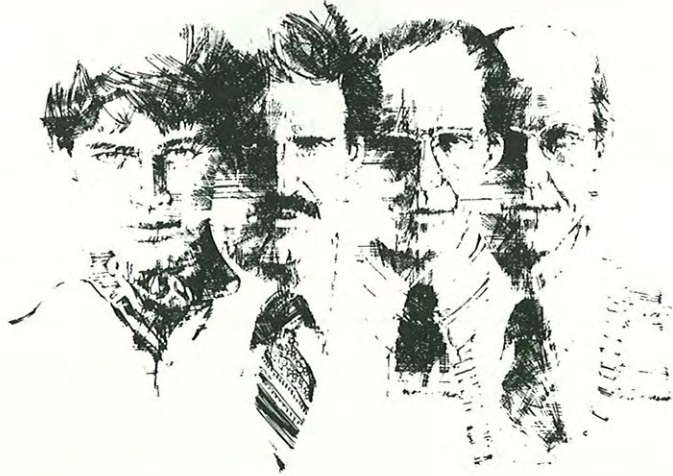
- Sept. 30-Oct. 5** Akron FWB Church
Akron, OH
- Oct. 7-12** Southern Oaks FWB Church
Oklahoma City, OK
- Oct. 14** Madison, Ave. FWB Church
Tulsa, OK
- Oct. 15-18** Oklahoma State Association
Civic Center, Muskogee, OK
- Oct. 26-28** Music Retreat
Camp Na-Co-Me
- Oct. 29-31** Tennessee State Association
Donelson FWB Church
Nashville, TN

CONTACT

P.O. Box 1088

Nashville, Tennessee 37202

Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee



Share Our Load

October 7, 1984

The Master's Men emphasis this year is "Sharing The Load." Our men have accepted responsibilities this year:

Project Brazil '84

Over \$8,000 given to build the 52 bed Metcalf Memorial Dormitory.

National Convention

Ushering and security costs cut \$4,000 by the efforts of our Master's Men.

Debt Retirement

Department debts have been paid so the office now meets current expenses.

Help Needed

The last half of the year is very slow financially. Your



help is vital to the ministry of Master's Men Department.

One Sunday each year is designated for churches to give a special offering to this ministry.

Your offering enables Master's Men to meet the annual budget, to achieve goals, and to continue the work.

Be an active, lively, positive force in the work of Master's Men.

Help us "Share The Load" with an offering on Master's Men Day.

All offerings and gifts may be sent to:

Master's Men
P.O. Box 17306
Nashville, TN 37217
Phone 1-615-361-1221

Information is available for:

- Charter Application
- National M. M. Conference VII
- The Master's Hands
- Project Tool Shed
- Project Book Shelf
- Planning An Effective Master's Men Day

MASTER'S MEN DAY '84