

JULY 1986

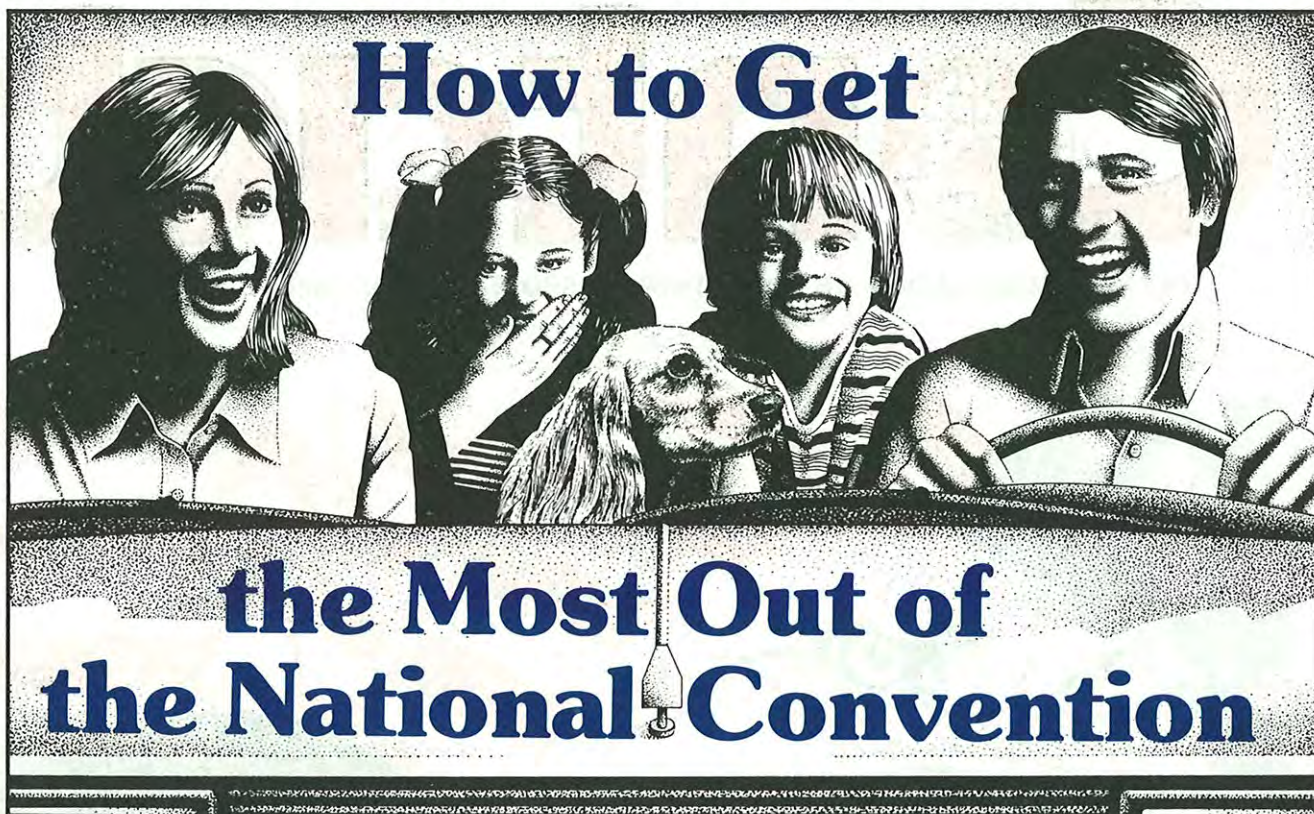
C ntact

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS



FREEDOM

- ... to change, p.16, 20
- ... from hell, p.6
- ... of a Christ-controlled life, p.10
- ... for devotions, p.8
- ... to be your best, p.5



By Larry Hampton

Each July the National Association of Free Will Baptists convenes for the denomination's annual business session. But the yearly meeting is much more than a church conference. To be fully appreciated it must be experienced.

If you are a Free Will Baptist who's never been to a "National," you owe it to yourself to attend at least one such meeting. This article will offer suggestions on how to get the most out of the National whether it's your first one or a regular part of your summer.

Early Reservations

Be sure to make a room reservation early. Don't worry about getting in one of the headquarters hotels. In fact, you may want to be sure you don't.

Most hotels are within walking distance of the convention center where worship services and business sessions are held. You may be able

to save some money by staying away from the convention center, if you don't mind walking a few blocks in July.

Business Minded

Plan to arrive early and stay through the final gavel. When you arrive in town, register. You will need to register for each of the three conventions you will participate in. This will allow a precise count of those attending each of the meetings. When you register, you will receive a copy of the Digest of Reports as well as a convention program. Look them over before business sessions begin.

If you are a layman, serve as a delegate from your local church. You will be able to vote on each item of business. When you return home, you will want to give your church a full report of the National.

Information Oriented

Pick up a copy of the convention news sheet after each evening service. You will get a recap of the day's happenings as well as prayer requests.

Be sure to take home tapes of the worship services. Share these messages with your friends who didn't

get to attend. Get tapes of special meetings you could not attend.

There's always free literature in the exhibit area. Be sure to pick up current information about our denominational work.

Plan on staying up late to visit with old friends and new acquaintances. You can sleep any time.

Three Simultaneous Meetings

The National is really three meetings going on at one time. You will not be able to attend everything, but you will want to sample the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention, and the National Youth Conference as well as the National Association proper.

Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. Free Will Baptists will head for Sunday School. Outstanding teachers from across the denomination will explain the Word of God to children, teens and adults.

At 11:00 a.m. the first worship services will be held. If you enjoy good singing, you are in for a treat. Whether a group from one of our colleges or a member of a local church sings, you are sure to be blessed. A high point of any National

is the preaching. You will not want to miss a single worship service. And, yes, there will be a Sunday evening service.

Monday Agenda

Bright and early Monday morning, competition for the youth begins. You will want to watch our first, second and third graders as they recite their scripture memory work. You will be impressed by the junior deftness as they race through the Bible in search of the correct passage. Measure your Bible knowledge against the championship Bible Tic Tac Toe and Bible Bowl teams.

The General Board meets on Monday as well. If you want an early look at the National agenda, sit in on these deliberations. However, if you prefer to attend the youth activities, you can hear the departmental reports on Wednesday and Thursday.

Monday night will provide another opportunity to worship with several thousand Free Will Baptists. If you are musically inclined, be sure to take part in the mass choir and the men's chorale. You have never heard a better group of Free Will Baptists sing anywhere.

Monday evening is also the time for the keynote service for the National Youth Conference. Expect an exciting service geared to youth. Bring your children and see that they get to all of the activities planned for them.

Tuesday Activities

Tuesday will be another long day. Free Will Baptist Music Ministries starts the day with an early morning breakfast. A special Bible Conference is the feature of the day.

While the men listen to some of the denomination's outstanding preachers, the ladies will do business at the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention. You will not want to miss the missionary service at 11:10 a.m. A missionary will be the speaker for the hour.

Tuesday afternoon is time for the WNAC Fellowship Dinner. If you can only make it to one meal function, make it this one.

Once again on Tuesday evening Free Will Baptists will gather to sing,

pray and listen to a message from God's Word. After this service, there will be youth activities. To be exact, something special is planned for the youth following each evening service.

Breakfast and Budgets

If you are an early riser, you will want to have breakfast with the Master's Men on Wednesday morning. In addition to a nourishing meal, you will receive nourishment from God's Word. The Layman of the Year is announced during this session.

On Wednesday the denomination gets down to business. The directors of the national departments give the denomination an up-to-the-minute account of their ministries. Board members are elected following these reports.

The final worship service for the week is scheduled Wednesday night. This service has often been a highlight of the entire convention.

Bible competition and Music and Arts winners will be recognized following the evening service. You may want to stay late for this extra special awards ceremony.

On Thursday morning, the National wraps up its business. Reports are concluded. Miscellaneous business is conducted and the general officers are elected.

By noon you should be ready to head home or go sightseeing. If this sounds like an exhausting week, it is. You will be physically tired but spiritually refreshed.

If you think this will be an expensive venture, you are right. However, you will receive a rich return on your investment. ▲



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Larry Hampton is principal of Bethany Christian School, Norfolk, Virginia. He will serve as official convention press officer at the July 20-24 Free Will Baptist National Convention which meets in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Contents July 1986

- 2 How to Get the Most Out of the National Convention**
Larry Hampton
- 4 Where Are the Preachers?**
Tom Keylon
- 4 Making Sense of Our Senses**
Floyd Wolfenbarger
- 5 Briefcase: The Hero Next Door**
Jack Williams
- 6 Is There Really a Hell?**
Bobby Jackson
- 8 Time Out for Devotions**
Anita Haney
- 10 The Christ-Controlled Life**
Malcolm Fry
- 13 We Need Christian Executives**
Alton Loveless
- 15 Risky Business**
Brenda McElyea
- 16 Can God Save Hard Cases?**
Berton Perry
- 18 The Biggest Man in the World**
Tim McDonald
- 20 Hindsight**
Edwin Wade
- 22 Free Will Baptist Newfront**
- 25 Currently**
- 26 On Little Lanes**
Donna Mayo
- 27 Top Shelf**
Thomas Marberry
- 28 Teen Scene**
- 29 Especially For Young Preachers**
Dennis Wiggs
- 30 News of the Religious Community**
- 31 Growing for God's Glory**
Melvin Worthington

Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Melvin Worthington
Editor: Jack Williams
Editorial Assistant: Marilyn Pritchard
Circulation: Geneva Trotter
Printed by Randall House Publications

Volume XXXIII, No. 7

CONTACT (USPS 130-660), published monthly by the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Post Office Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. Address all correspondence and subscriptions to this address. Phone 615/361-1010. Subscription rates: 1 year, \$9.00; church family plan \$7.50 per year; church bundle plan \$8.00 per year. Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee. Copyright privileges, reserved ©, 1986 Member of the Evangelical Press Association. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *CONTACT*, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202. ISSN 0573-7796.

Where Are The Preachers?

By Tom Keylon

Ministers are called of God to preach. Then why do we have churches without pastors? And why do ministers sit in churches and not preach?

Christ commands us to go and preach. Paul advised the young preacher Timothy to "Be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."

Churches today need help, and they are crying out for it. But preachers claim they are not led to go. I know that we need to pray, to contact the church, and we need to

look things over. But most of that time we spend looking things over we're seeing what we can gain by going to certain places, more than seeing the need and going because of God's leadership.

Are we obeying God's, "Go preach the gospel to all?" Let me share some facts from the 1986 Free Will Baptist Yearbook.

We have 2548 churches. We have 4458 ordained ministers and 590 licensed ministers, for a total of 5048 ministers. That's 2500 more preachers called to preach than existing churches. Somebody is not preaching!

I realize that some aren't able because of health, and some are novices who need more training. But I don't believe, and you don't either, that the majority of those 2500 extra preachers fit in the categories of bad health and novice. The majority are

waiting for the right church to come along. While they wait churches are dying. God help us realize the need.

We adopted Target 90. How can we have 50,000 new members and 100 new churches without filling the vacancies in our churches and getting some of the preachers who aren't preaching to go? We can't benefit the cause of Christ till we as preachers do what God called us to do.

We pray the prayer of Matthew 9:37-38, "Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few, Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

Let every preacher be like Isaiah when he said, "Here am I; send me." ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Tom Keylon pastors Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Allen, Oklahoma.

Directory Update

CALIFORNIA

Jim McAllister to Harmony Church, Fresno from First Church, Farmington, MO

Edward Johns to Hanford Church, Hanford

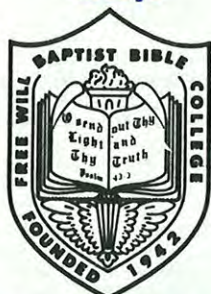
Ron Young to Tulare Church, Tulare from Lancaster Mission, Lancaster

SOUTH CAROLINA

Tony Miles to Grace Church, Manning from Mullins-Marion Church, Mullins as music director

Johnny Evans to Williams Hill Church, Hemingway from Little Bethel Church, Johnsonville

Tomorrow's Free Will Baptist leaders are at Free Will Baptist Bible College today.



Please support them.

Making Sense of Our Senses

By Floyd Wolfenbarger

Among the most treasured attributes we possess are our five senses—sight, hearing, feeling, tasting and smelling. These pearls of great worth add vitality to our lives.

Though we can live without any of them, they are a great part of what "alive" has come to mean. Together these senses integrate us into our physical environment. Without them our world would be a dark cave of aloneness.

However, these senses may also describe spiritual dimensions.

The Christian must see a vision of God. The essence of Moses' faith was that he saw "Him who is invisible." To have a vision of God means to live in the reality of His presence. We must come to know Him as real and reckon on Him in our daily lives.

The Christian must hear the Word. "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." This means that the Christian should at least listen to the preacher, but it reaches far beyond that.

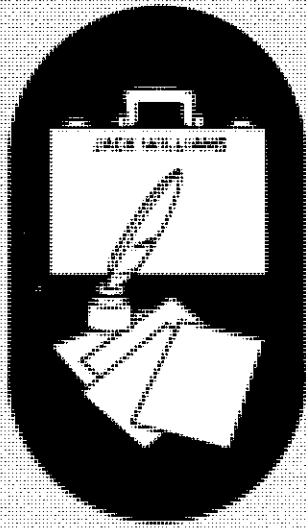
The spiritually vibrant person will fill his mind with the Word, he will hear the voice saying, "This is the way, walk ye in it."

The Christian must touch the world around him. If he has the mind of Christ, he will not go through life insensitive to the needs of others. How sad indeed to be "past feeling."

The Christ we serve touched the leper, soothed the fevered brow and lifted up the despondent. He was touched by the "feelings of our infirmities."

The Christian tastes the heavenly gift. He knows the sweet taste of heaven's manna. He has experienced the cool satisfaction of heaven's fountain. God by His goodness and righteousness has put heaven to our lips. We have found that He is gracious.

The Christian can smell the burning. The Saints are never far from the scent of hell. They never forget the urgency pressed upon them to witness. They pull the lost from the flames, hating the garment that smells of burning. ▲



The Hero Next Door

February 1944. World War II thundered across the Pacific. The night before U.S. Marines invaded the Marshall Islands, Private Richard Sorenson, 19, and his machine-gun crew talked about what their first combat might be like.

One soldier asked what to do if a grenade landed on their position. Sorenson replied, "Someone should smother it." On February 2, when an enemy grenade landed near his comrades, Richard Sorenson jumped on it and took the explosion in his chest.

The shrapnel failed to penetrate any vital organs, and Sorenson recovered from his wounds. He won the Congressional Medal of Honor for his act of heroism.

Years later, Richard Sorenson received a letter from a college student he did not know. The student sent an essay she had written about "the most important thing in my life."

The last line read, "Richard Sorenson is a man I held in awe even before I learned his name, because one of the men he saved is my dad."

That's a great story. And it's true. Here's another one—believe it or not, every man is a hero to somebody. Some earn that title at risk of their lives. Others claim the honor in less hazardous ways.

But all heroes have one thing in common—courageous. A shining moment or period of time in which

they set utterly and completely on behalf of others without regard for personal interests or personal safety.

No one sets out each morning to be a hero. The risk is too high, the price too great. Acts of heroism occur at unexpected places, unscheduled, and usually in the name of love or duty or country.

Check it out. Heroes don't live in the comfort zone. Perhaps that's why our "me-first" generation stands in awe when a man does what's right while others around him do what's convenient.

Yes, heroes live today.

You probably know one. To me, the father who toils at a job for 50 years so his family can live with dignity deserves a medal. Bless 'em, those dads who bury themselves in anonymity until their hands are twisted and gnarled, all for the sake of their children.

The wife who believes in her husband when others think he's a fool is a heroine to him. That woman is a great woman who walks through life, head erect, whispering encouragement to the man whose dreams rest on her confidence in him.

Churches blessed with unsung heroes. Consider the much-maligned, seldom-praised Sunday School teacher who prepares lessons every Sunday year after year. Let's applaud that member who votes to erect an expensive building and then sticks

with the church through pastors good and pastors lean until the debt's paid.

Heroes don't change uniforms when the tide turns against them. They're in for the duration. They don't always make it back home, but you'll find their blood on the hillside of life where they claimed for a dream they could not re-ignish.

Nations build monuments to honor those who give their lives for their country. Children reject drugs and alcohol to honor parents who give them love and respect. Wives and husbands turn from the world's hard cry because of a spouse's unselfishness.

Communities build on the character and integrity of their citizens. Churches require members to give their all, their best, besides faith transforms scars into buildings and influence.

Heroism, you see it at every turn, ordinary people doing extraordinary deeds. I don't plan to distribute any medals nor erect any monuments because I only know in part. But there is an eternal record kept by One who knows it all.

It's still a mysterious paradox that he who saves his life loses it, and he who loses his life for others finds it. Those who play it safe forfeit everything. Take the risk. Be vulnerable.

Dare to be a hero today.

Go home and hug the kids. Speak a kind word to the pastor. Get out and vote in the next election. Pay your tithe. Be grateful for a place to work and the health to do it. Live like you know you should, even if nobody else does.

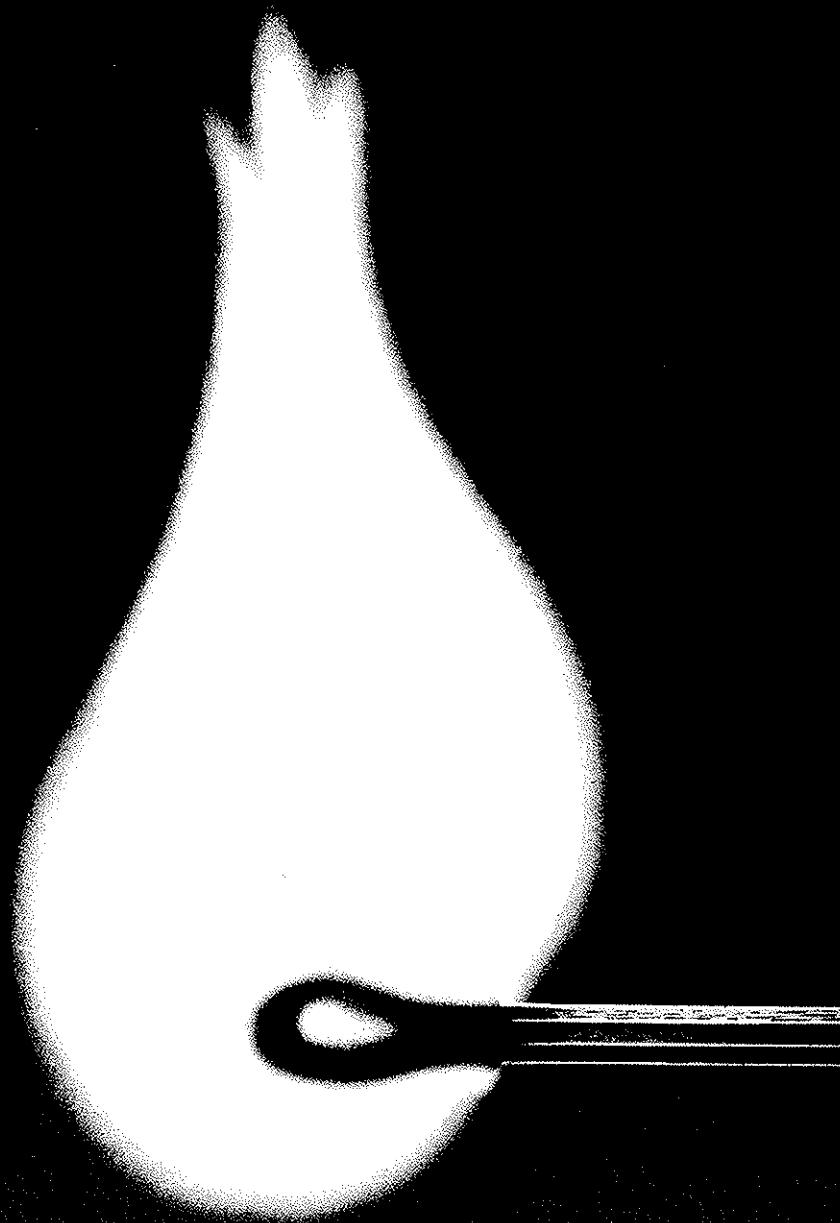
One person can make a difference. Be that person. When it comes to this business of heroism, the line is short and the price never varies. It always costs all you have—no more, no less.

A hero lives next door to your neighbor. Could it be you? A

Is There Really A Hell?

You'd Better Believe It!

By Bobby Jackson



An old man was sitting on a bench in front of a country store in rural North Carolina. Two young preachers approached him to engage in some conversation about religion. In a short time, the man felt cornered about his own relationship to God.

He removed a cigarette from his lips, blew the ashes from the lighted end, held out his hands, and brought the red-hot fire close enough to his finger that he could feel the heat.

Then he looked at one of the preachers, grinned and said, "Young man, if I thought there was a hell that had fire in it, that would burn like sticking that cigarette to my finger, I'd fall on my face in the dirt here in front of this store and cry out to God to keep me out of it. But I don't believe it!"

He is not the only man who doesn't "believe it." Most people seem to think hell is a sermon that preachers use to scare little children and excite adults, a nightmare dreamed by uncivilized man, born out of some guilt complex, a word that falls from the lips of vain men cursing and swearing.

Does hell really exist as a place of trouble and torment for some to endure forever?

Not only will denying the reality of hell not make hell go away, it brings up some unanswerable questions.

Is There Any Justice?

This world is filled with injustice. The righteous suffer; the wicked prosper. This observation troubled Asaph. He said, "...it was too painful for me; until I went into the sanctuary of God, then understood I their end" (Psalm 73:16-17).

Life on earth isn't fair. The innocent are punished, the guilty go free. The poor go hungry, the rich feast. Children are abused, hurt, de-

stroyed; those responsible never give account. Only God knows how much wrong on earth is never made right.

Someone said that the problem with justice in this world is, "A man must be made a judge. When you make a man a judge, you neither increase his intelligence nor decrease his prejudice."

If there is not a hell, there should be. Some people deserve it. Someday, somewhere, all the accounts will be settled.

Is there a hell? If not, all the millions of earth who suffered and died at the hands of injustice will cry out in eternity against a system that is forever unfair. Justice demands it.

Was Christ Really Crucified?

Did Jesus Christ actually live on earth, die on a cross and suffer as the Bible says? If so, what did He die for? Why was he crucified?

"...to save men." That's the Bible's explanation. To save men from what? A hell that doesn't exist?

If there is no hell, the suffering of Christ is unnecessary mockery. He died for nothing. Would He have paid such a terrible price to save men from a fate that didn't exist?

One need only read Matthew 27 and note the details of His crucifixion to be convinced that there is a miserable hell, and He endured indescribable pain to save men from it.

All the torments ascribed to hell in the Bible may be found at the crucifixion, being suffered by Christ on a cross.

"...send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue," cried the rich man (Luke 16:24).

"...one of them . . . took a sponge, and filled it with vinegar . . . and gave him to drink" (Matthew 27:48).

Jesus said that hell is in outer darkness. At the crucifixion darkness was over the land for three hours.

The greatest suffering that will make hell, hell is being separated from God, cast from His presence. On the cross, Jesus cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

Is there a hell? If not, the death of Jesus Christ on a cross is meaning-

less. His death adds evidence to the truth—hell does exist.

Is The Bible True?

Is it true when it speaks of heaven, but not true when it speaks of hell? Does the Bible give an accurate account of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, but an inaccurate account of hell? Is it trustworthy concerning God, Christ, man, but not to be trusted on the subject of hell?

These questions one must answer to his own consistent satisfaction. If however, as the southern black lady concluded, "The Bible is the Word of God from cover to cover and the cover too 'cause it says *Holy Bible* on it," then it is impossible to deny the reality of hell.

Regardless of what one believes about religion, churches, hereafter, if it can be agreed that Christ is at least a good, honest, truthful man, then the subject of hell must be faced. He had more to say about hell than any other person in the Bible.

Get a red-lettered Bible. That which is written in red is commonly accepted as the words of Christ. The remainder of this article could be written in red. That means Christ said it, in the Bible, on the subject—hell.

...but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire (Matthew 5:22).

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell (Matthew 10:28).

As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so shall it be in the end of this world.

The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;

And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 13:40-42).

So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just,

And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 13:49-50).

Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal (Matthew 25:41,46).

And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched.

Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched.

And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched:

Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched:

And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire:

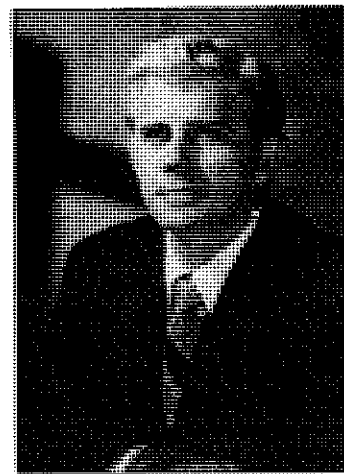
Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched (Mark 9:43-48).

Evidently Christ taught that there is a hell; it has fire in it; some are in danger of going there; they have souls and bodies (He speaks of hands, feet, eyes, bodies.) when they get there; weeping and wailing are the sounds heard there; the time is at the end of this world; it was prepared for the devil and his angels.

If it was prepared for the devil and his angels, it must not be that God originally planned for men to go there. Hell was not made for man, nor man for hell. Christ suffered hell to make heaven possible for every man.

Is there a hell? If not, the plain, clear language of the Bible is not to be trusted. Christ, in the Bible, warned of such a place.

The wonderful message of the gospel is that if you repent of your sins, commit yourself to Christ as Savior, you will not have to experience the torments of hell. ▲



ABOUT THE WRITER: Evangelist Bobby Jackson is moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

Time Out for

Devotions

By Anita Haney



The day is typical. The city could be yours. The victim could be anyone, perhaps you. Mrs. Jones' day begins as it often does—an hour late.

With only 15 minutes to perform an hour's tasks, she rolls out of bed and growls into her bathroom mirror. With one eye partially open, she staggers to the kitchen and pours cereal for her three children. She winces as she discovers she doused the Fruit Loops with buttermilk instead of the low-fat stuff. It is unanimously decided that the cat would relish the concoction.

As fate would have it, little Johnny can locate only his left Nike. Sister Sue wails and loudly proclaims that Rover ate her science project, and that the death penalty waits for any student who fails to bring the project in today. While Mrs. Jones quietly begins her nervous breakdown, child number three, Butch, announces, "The bus just passed our house...."

With uncombed hair and pink fuzzy slippers, Mrs. Jones grabs her car keys and stuffs three screaming juveniles into the car's back seat amidst thrashing coat sleeves and strewn books.

Later...grocery shopping, taking Rover to the vet, smashing her thumb in the car door, basketball practice, piano lessons, burning the meat loaf, red crayon in the white laundry, bank overdraft, baking two birthday cakes, headache, stomach-ache, thumbache...!

At 6:30 that evening, Mr. Jones appears in the doorway with a smile as broad as the brim of his stylish cowboy hat. "Hey, darlin'. How's it going?" No answer. "By the way, you *did* pick up my brown sports coat at the cleaners, didn't you?" No answer. Suicide or maybe even murder is contemplated by Mrs. Jones.

I can easily sympathize with Mrs. Jones. If she found no time to visit the cleaners, do you suppose she may have let her day and night go by

without reserving any time for God either? How easy it is to by-pass any "quiet time" with God, especially when quiet times exist only in your dreams!

Who?

Who needs a time for daily devotions? Anyone who breathes. Families need it. Parents who include a living God in their lives will likely have children who will do the same.

Include everyone. This time together will strengthen the family bond.

Individuals need it. After all, we are children of His who have need of a Father. We need a private time to hear His voice and talk with Him as well.

What?

What exactly is involved in a devotional time? Always read God's Word and include a time for prayer. These are a Christian's major sources of strength.

There are many good devotional books available which provide a scripture passage and lesson for each day of the year.

For families, this together-time is perfect for sharing things—personal prayer requests (make a list) or any problems a child may be experiencing. Don't overlook praise items, testimonies and scripture memorization.

When?

When is the best time for family or personal devotions? Only you can be the judge, for you know your schedule and circumstances.

As for me, I cannot be responsible for anything I do or say before 10:00 a.m. However, you can turn me loose at midnight, and I am an alert ball of energy. So I have found my best time for devotions at night.

But if you are a morning person, your time with God may be easily found when the alarm sounds.

I know how difficult it is to gather the children with Mom and Dad for devotions. Is it pure fantasy to expect the same time available each day for everyone.

Be assured that the moment you pick up your Bible or kneel, the devil unleashes his forces and yells, "Charge." Be prepared to fight back by maintaining your devotional time. With varying schedules and activities, it may be impossible to meet at 8:00 p.m. in the den each night.

Dad may be working overtime, Butch may be struggling with algebra, or the entire family could be lost in the Bill Cosby Show. There may have to be daily planning. Keep everyone's schedule in mind and work around the most practical time for everyone.

You may consider switching to scripture memorization and prayer at breakfast time instead of bedtime. (Heaven forbid if a morning switch is ever made in my household!)

Where?

Don't ever be fooled into believing you can follow King Saul in I Samuel with one eye poised on Phil Donohue



and his microphone. One of your two avenues of concentration will suffer.

To "hear" God speak and comprehend what you read from His Word, you must retreat to your "closet" (Matthew 6:6), which simply means you need a place of solitude. Either switch off the TV or radio or move to a quiet room and shut the door.

Take advantage of any valuable time away from home. A 30-minute wait in a doctor's/dentist's office can be savored and spent reading your Bible or devotional guide, especially if you foresee that it may be your only free time for the day.

Why?

Why is prayer and Bible study important? There are many reasons why, but let's look at two.

First, our Free Will Baptist church covenant commits us to daily devotions and prayer. It states, "We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions...." If you uphold the beliefs of your denomination, then you are committed to practice its covenant.

Second, fitness centers are bulging with body and health-conscious people. We sweat, swim, skip, stomp and swallow vitamins to keep our bodies in tip-top shape. We count calories and eat nutritious foods in order to preserve our youthfulness and health. Why should we ignore our spiritual health?

Spiritual malnutrition is as real as physical malnutrition. Bible reading and prayer ought to be as important for our souls as physical food is for our bodies. The results will be growth in grace and needed strength for daily Christian living (I Peter 2:2-3).

How about your devotional life? You kept your last doctor or dental appointment, didn't you? Make a daily appointment with your heavenly Father and resolve not to break it. Forget those petty excuses. Take the phone off the hook, and except for your fire alarm, ignore interruptions. If you fail, don't give up. Try harder next time.

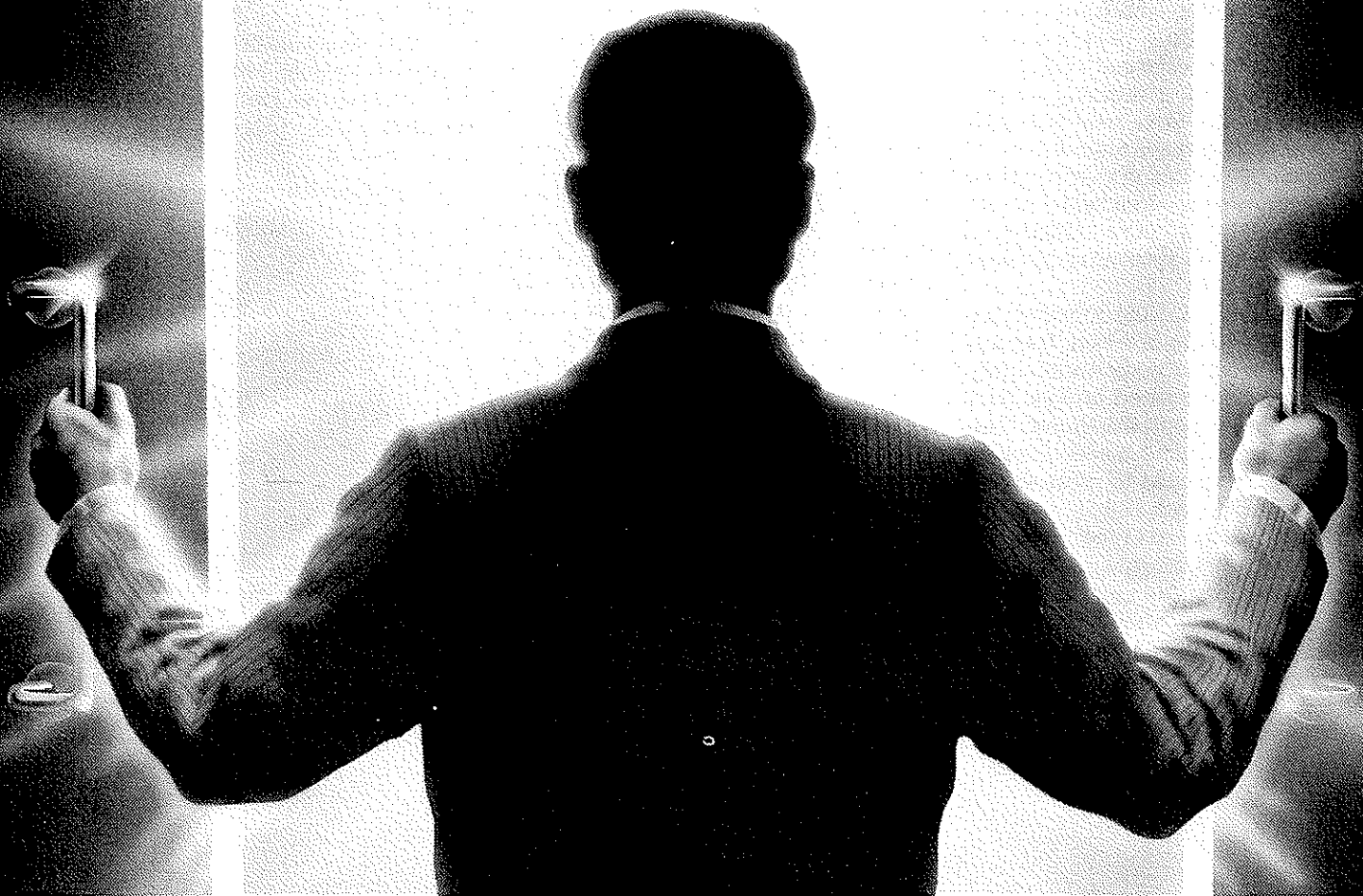
If you really want to have a personal relationship with God, you will find the time for Him. Evaluate your schedule and reserve Him your prime time! ▲



ABOUT THE WRITER: Anita Haney is a member of Forest Grove FWB Church, Knoxville, Tennessee, where her husband, Ken pastors. She is the mother of three children. Her first book, *Battling Anorexia*, was published by Randall House this month.

The Christ-Controlled Life

By Malcolm C. Fry



Part one of a five-part series on emotions and self-control.

Zap! One watches a 30-second teaching module, called a commercial, and within seconds a sponsor's nerve-soothing product turns chaos into calm. But in the real world, it just doesn't work quite that way or that swiftly. We are prone to hear, "Control yourself" or "You'll just have to get yourself under control."

For years philosophers, psychologists and psychiatrists have propagated "self-control." Aristotle said, "The self-controlled man is the man whom we should imitate."

Even the clergy has joined the crowd. Norman Vincent Peale, in his book *Sin, Sex, and Self-Control*, says "There is no easy prescription. There is only one rule that applies to virtually every case: control yourself. That is the secret: control, control, control."

What a contrast (and contradiction?) to the words of the Apostle Paul, "But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives He will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and *self-control*" (Galatians 5:22-23) - (italics by the writer.)

Christ-control, not self-control is the answer. One reason for the abundance of moral failure is that we have tried to control ourselves without the Savior. We have tried to rule ourselves without the Master.

It is only as Christ lives in us that we possess self control. Paul said, "I die daily" (I Corinthians 15:31). J. N. Darby declares, "Whatever nourishes self renders Christ less precious and our enjoyment of His love less probable."

The unyielded, uncrucified SELF is the great secret of much of the failure in our Christian lives. We have said "yes" to self, and "no" to God, instead of saying "no" to self and "yes" to the Savior. Our life is to be "hid with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3).

Characteristics of the Christ-Controlled Life

First, there is *uplifting power*. What amazing uplifting power exists even in low and mischievous forms of life. We can compare fungus, weak

as it is, yet it has the power to raise massive stone thresholds. Doors of elaborate and expensive homes could not be closed because the threshold was raised above floor level by fungus.

If such be the power of the lowest form of life, what must be the power of the mightiest life—who raised the tombstone which sin and death and hell had put upon His grave, and soared upward triumphant to the skies? What can that do for us if we but yield to it? It can lift us above our sins, above our fears, above the world and even above ourselves.

Second, there is *overcoming power*. Ever wonder why a log floats with the current? Because it's dead. Why does a fish breast the tide? Because it's alive. It's a mark of the Christ-controlled life that enables a person to run counter to the currents of this world's opinions and pursuits.

Can it be said of us, "Ye are of God and have overcome?" Why? "Because greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world" (I John 4:4).

Third, there is *expulsive power*. In nature we see old leaves, in spite of winter's storms, cling with strange tenacity to boughs of trees, but when Easter comes and the tides of sap rise out of the roots and the new life courses through the boughs and twigs, what happens?

Do the old leaves need to be torn from their places? No! They drop off themselves. The old order gives place to the new. The new life displaces the old. Only by the "expulsive power of a new affection" will your tastes be reversed. Let the life of Jesus flood your soul, and you will exchange tastes as you possess the Christ-controlled life.

Conditions of the Christ-Controlled Life

If such a life is so powerful, why is it not more widely and richly enjoyed? What are the conditions to be met before it may be experienced? Galatians 2:20 supplies the answer—"crucified." "I am crucified with Christ."

First, there is the *need of comprehension*. We need the Holy Spirit to

come upon us in His power and show us whether Christ is only at the door, when He ought to be on the throne of our being—the controller of our life.

We need the eyes of our understanding enlightened "that we may know . . . what are the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe" (Ephesians 1:19).

Second, there is the *need of crucifixion*. This is the secret. Jesus said, "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit" (John 12:24). Many are asking for more life when they should be asking for more death.

Paul said, "I have been crucified with Christ." Have you? As the crucified man becomes insensible to surrounding objects, so the man crucified with Christ becomes insensible to the ambitions and pleasures of this world and can say, "It is no longer I who lives, but Christ who liveth in me."

The poet has aptly put it:

Buried with Christ, and raised with Him too.

What is there left for me to do?

Simply to cease from struggling and strife.

Simply to walk in newness of life.

The Christ-controlled life is a life to be lived. Let Him live in our understanding, our will, our imagination, our affections, our members, our services, our prayers, our all.

Consummation of the Christ-Controlled Life

The Christ-controlled life means sharing in the very life of Christ. It means partaking of Christ's nature, not having Christ outside of us as a model, but within as a power.

To be Christ-controlled means to be possessed, informed and inhabited by Christ. At the start, at the finish and all the way in between the Christ-controlled life is a participation, a fellowship, a vital communion.

In Nathaniel Hawthorne's "The Great Stone Face," a boy named Ernest is its central character. His mother told him as soon as he could understand concerning an ancient



LIFE (From page 11)

legend of their valley. "Someday," she said, "there will arise a man, born in this neighborhood, whose countenance will resemble the great stone face which looked out from the side of that distant mountain." Ernest looked and saw that the craggy outline of the rocks indeed appeared to portray the features of a fine and noble individual.

Thereafter, every day of his life he spent time concentrating on that inspiring object. He longed for the day he might see in the flesh a face as kind and as wise as that. He carefully scrutinized various individuals in the village hoping vainly to find in them the long-looked-for hero. Each time, however, he was disappointed.

He never became discouraged in his search but went bravely about his duties with calm cheerfulness, ever playing the part of a helpful neighbor. In the process he won the love and respect of all. Until the great one of the legend appeared, he sought to do the necessary tasks of kindness and helpfulness which the unfolding pattern of circumstances demanded.

One evening, near the end of his life, as he was speaking to a group of neighbors, his face was lighted by the setting sun. Suddenly the one called "The Poet" pointed to him and exclaimed, "Look! Ernest himself resembles the Great Stone Face!"

It was true! In the exercise of his faith, in the pursuit of kindness and duty, Ernest had fulfilled the legend

The spiritual lesson is obvious. As we look to our Lord Jesus Christ, as His Spirit is allowed to take full control of and in our lives, we too become conformed to His blessed image (Romans 8:29), "For whom He did foreknow, He also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren." This is the consummation of the Christ-controlled life! ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Malcolm C. Fry pastors Unity Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, North Carolina.

TARGET 90

Thank You For Your Contributions...



... Through the Cooperative Channel

Cooperative Channel Contributions April 1986

RECEIPTS:

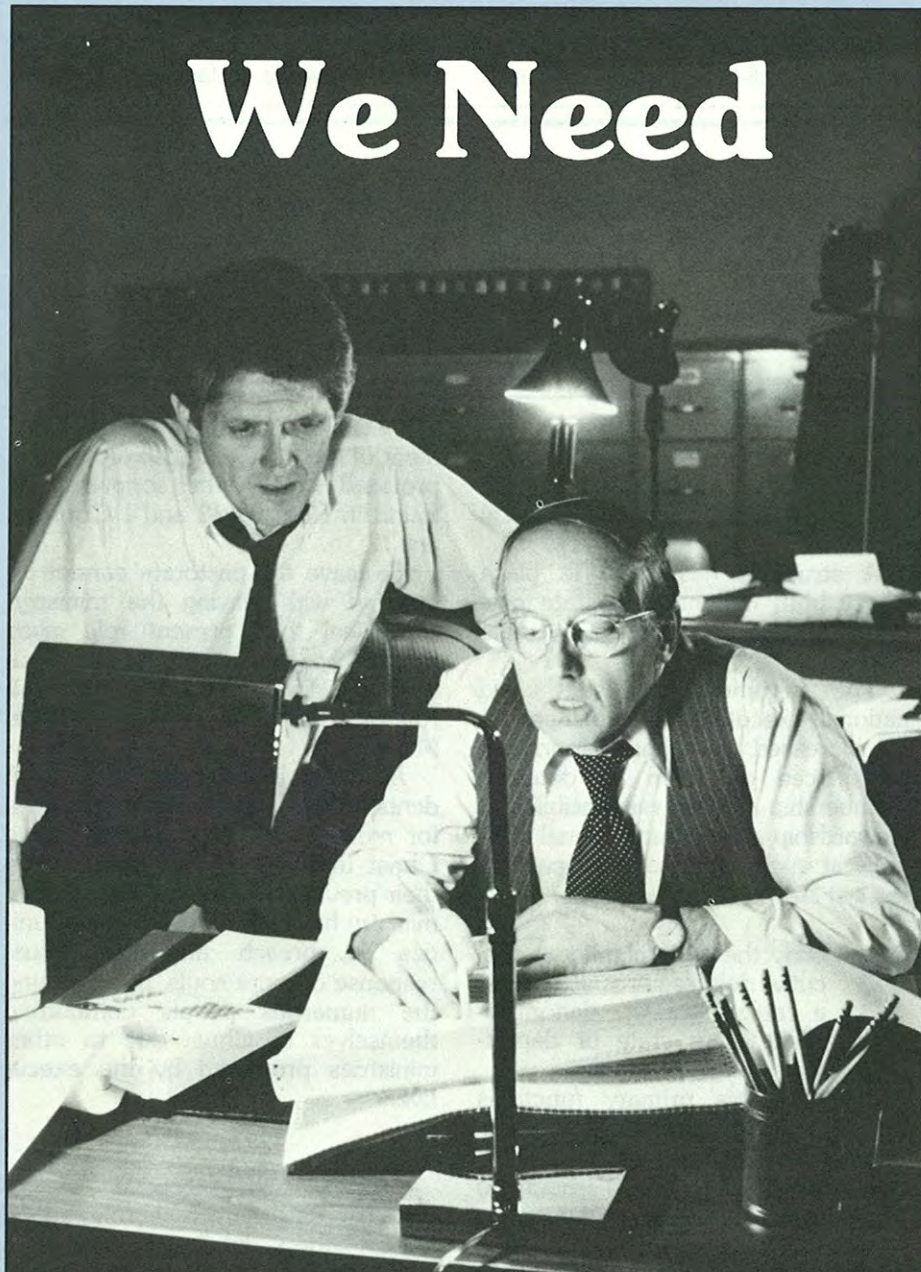
State	Design.	COOP (Undesignated)	Total	April '85	Yr. To Date
Alabama	\$ 162.10	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,162.10	\$ 1,140.00	\$ 3,560.10
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	.00	29.65
Arkansas	.00	2,988.03	2,988.03	2,792.26	16,050.04
California	.00	603.83	603.83	750.18	3,120.05
Florida	56.60	1,807.92	1,864.52	924.30	7,115.79
Georgia	2,625.28	.00	2,625.28	7,467.14	11,981.68
Illinois	5,777.78	730.53	6,508.31	4,611.75	27,533.29
Indiana	.00	.00	.00	1,147.06	1,545.21
Kansas	.00	40.98	40.98	93.19	279.51
Kentucky	2.00	739.83	741.83	61.40	1,615.73
Michigan	3,696.95	1,500.00	5,196.95	367.00	22,469.35
Mississippi	80.94	440.10	521.04	291.77	1,648.14
Missouri	1,161.93	6,461.87	7,623.80	7,818.22	28,431.15
New Mexico	19.77	9.89	29.66	37.88	87.04
North Carolina	1,834.45	325.00	2,159.45	488.00	7,788.47
Ohio	607.00	1,972.80	2,579.80	1,966.80	9,687.80
Oklahoma	30,602.01	8,426.79	39,028.80	26,966.03	164,753.46
South Carolina	140.82	.00	140.82	366.21	1,561.74
Tennessee	601.74	1,312.44	1,914.18	923.62	7,296.12
Texas	.00	.00	.00	3,451.06	31,764.93
Virginia	75.00	1,399.90	1,474.90	1,382.91	2,653.65
West Virginia	1,830.49	202.68	2,033.17	.00	12,446.99
Totals	\$49,274.86	\$29,962.59	\$79,237.45	\$63,046.78	\$363,419.89

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$725.00	\$14,061.92	\$14,786.92	\$14,004.01	\$59,147.74
Foreign Missions	32,913.73	3,657.15	36,570.88	26,759.58	182,163.41
FWBBC	1,107.33	3,657.15	4,764.48	6,440.28	24,513.66
Home Missions	13,145.59	2,862.12	16,007.71	9,895.32	67,198.96
Retirement & Insurance	91.10	2,226.15	2,317.25	1,824.30	9,860.59
Master's Men	19.49	2,067.14	2,086.63	1,706.79	8,948.16
Commission for					
Theological Integrity	9.67	158.97	168.64	142.93	772.52
FWB Foundation	.00	954.05	954.05	781.33	4,471.05
Historical Commission	11.88	158.97	170.85	140.74	767.59
Radio & TV Commission	52.30	158.97	211.27	140.74	913.02
Hillsdale FWB College	1,180.53	.00	1,180.53	1,193.89	4,409.98
Other	18.24	.00	18.24	16.87	253.21
Totals	\$49,274.86	\$29,962.59	\$79,237.45	\$63,046.78	\$363,419.89

“Hey! What is a PRO-MO-TION-AL SEC-A-TAREY?” echoed the shout of my 8-year-old to his brother. “We’re moving! Daddy is gonna be, whatever that is, in Ohio.”

We Need



Christian Executives

By Alton Loveless

Twelve years ago we made that move from Georgia, where I had served in a marketing/management role with a large publishing firm.

I never dreamed of filling an executive position 31 years ago when I entered the Free Will Baptist ministry. The thought of being an “executive” was the farthest from my mind since I knew no one in our denomination who was one. (Records show no more than two at my conversion in 1952.)

However, a great change occurred in our denomination since that time. In fact, in 1952, the year I became a Free Will Baptist our total denominational budget was only \$165,000. Therefore there wasn’t much need for men to administrate our departments. To my knowledge the only full-time executives at the time were Free Will Baptist Bible College President L. C. Johnson, and Executive Secretary Robert Crawford.

Can you imagine the Sunday School Department with a budget of just over \$7,500? Home Missions with \$15,000? Or Foreign Missions and the Free Will Baptist Bible College with \$65,000 each? Or the Woman’s National Auxiliary Convention with \$11,000?

Compare those budgets of 34 years ago with the most recent budgets of \$3.2 million for the Sunday School Department, \$1.8 million for Home Missions, \$3.1 million for Foreign Missions, \$1.3 million for Free Will Baptist Bible College, \$160,000 for Woman’s National Auxiliary Convention. Then add other department budgets such as the Board of Retirement and Insurance, Master’s Men, Free Will Baptist



EXECUTIVES (From page 13)

Foundation and three commissions—none of which existed in 1952.

Today nine national boards and commissions made up of 68 men and women are responsible for their own ministries—110 foreign missionaries in nine countries; 122 home missionaries in 28 states, Canada, Mexico, Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico; eight military chaplains, a Bible college responsible for the education of hundreds of students, along with other administrative agencies necessary to the growth and expansion of the Lord's work!

In addition, we recently dedicated a new Spanish curriculum adding to the already 1.4 million yearly units of printed curriculum printed by our Sunday School Department.

This last year about \$10 million dollars was channeled through the national departments.

This is evidenced not only in our national offices but also in most state associations as well.

We now have 28 state associations, 22 state publications, 17 Free Will Baptist Institutes in 10 states, 75 Christian schools in 22 states, 13 full-time evangelists (some with their own evangelistic associations with national and international ministries), three other colleges (besides our national college) geographically centered across the United States.

Due to our increased expansion and growth 22 states have their own state secretaries with more than half employing full-time workers in these roles.

And for the record, nearly every state with a full-time secretary or promotional officer has a state budget exceeding the entire National Association budget of just more than 30 years ago.

This does not mean these states have fattened their own causes while starving our national programs. In fact the record speaks to the contrary. All national programs are many times stronger where strong state programs exist.

However, a transition does exist today. A stronger emphasis is given to local and state ministries. This may be due in part to the promotion

of the Cooperative Plan since its inception in 1953, which advocates sharing on each level.

The evidence is clear that those states where such a plan has been adopted have much stronger state programs than they did 30 years ago. Those states also have the greater number of full-time promotional offi-

mine, I feel they are honest and fair. Of course, it will not be possible to deal with all the questions individually, but I believe the collective approach will share the feeling of both the national and state executives who responded.

In no case did any feel they had left the ministry. In fact, most feel the

Have Christian executives left the ministry? Do they have a love for souls?

cers. Another interesting note is that compared to 1952 statistics, these states demonstrate stronger growth not only financially but in numerical growth.

A structure has fallen in place where both national and state programs are being promoted by state officers.

The argument for state and national executives is evidenced in the increased tasks and responsibilities placed on them by doubling membership and the responsibility of stewardship as denominational gifts grew at such a phenomenal pace in the last 30 years.

Today the denominational executive role requires serving as a catalyst for the denominational work in his state or department.

Some of his primary functions require that he be a forecaster, leader, planner, organizer and evaluator.

In spite of the need of leaders to fill these additional executive roles, vocal complaints are still being sounded. Such questions as: Do we need them? Has the Christian executive left the ministry? Do they have a love for souls?

Not knowing how others felt I polled those in full-time Christian executive roles. My response, while not 100 percent, represented 40 percent, which is about 30 percent more than the necessary sampling required by professional pollsters.

My evaluation represents the responses, and while the findings are

work is not only an additional fulfillment of their call, but also one that is provided for by the scriptures as found in Romans 12 and I Corinthians 12.

To leave the pastorate cannot be equated with leaving the ministry. Most feel their present role gives them a broader ministry. In fact, Paul would be disqualified should only the role of a pastor be considered "The Ministry."

As for loving souls, most respondents felt they have been responsible for more souls being won to Jesus Christ than if they had remained in their previous ministries. The greater ministry has allowed more opportunities to preach and the visual response of more souls, not counting the numerous people committing themselves to Christ due to other ministries promoted by the executive.

Only one executive felt no pressure from his role, but all others did in fact feel more was expected of them than their roles specified. Many shared that a certain amount of hostility often came from those who did not understand their position or from jealousy for the position. Also, an ignorance of the function breeds suspicion and mistrust by some.

While the word "executive" is used in most our titles, I believe that many of our people have a wrong concept of it since its meaning is "an administrator or supervisor."

Risky Business

By Brenda McElyea

You can deny it all you want, but the fact is you need somebody. It might be a father, a mother, a husband, a child, a friend, but you need somebody. We all do.

I know what you're thinking. "Who, me? I don't need anybody. I can make it on my own." Two chances of that—slim and none.

Think you're tough, huh? I know about those feelings. "Nobody's gonna get close to me. If I let them, they might touch me. And if they touch me, there's a good possibility they just might hurt me."

So instead of taking that chance, you choose to shut yourself off from others and go it alone.

But wait a minute...you wouldn't leave God out of this, would you? No way! What a great solution! You and God and nobody else. Just like He planned it, right? Just like *who* planned it?

It is unthinkable that God expects you to be totally alone as a life plan. If He meant that, would we have the Genesis account of Eve's creation? God would have said, "Adam, you can handle it."

Fortunately for us, He chose to do it differently. He chose to create us for Him. He chose to create us for each other. Want Bible for that one? Look it up in Romans 12:4-5.

Admitting you need someone is the first step in reaching out, but it's a hard thing to do. I remember when I had to do it. It was sort of like the Fonz admitting he was wrong. He almost choked on the words. I almost choked on the thought. However, once I accepted the possibility in my heart, it slid through with the greatest of ease.

Next, start developing new relationships. By the way, don't pounce on people with, "Uhh, excuse me. I've discovered that I need some-

body. Will you be my somebody?" (Even in the Christian world that doesn't work.)

Learn to relate with others as Jesus did—the natural way. Notice that's "natural," not "normal." That's because being natural is not something most of us normally do. Unfortunately, we'd rather be typical.

But being natural was something Jesus normally did. Look again at the way He related to the woman at the well (John 4:16-26) and the man born blind (John 9).

He wasn't superficial. He genuinely cared for others. He spoke about things that were relevant to their lives. Caring was a starting point for Him to move on to deeper, more intimate conversations. It can be ours too. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Brenda McElyea is a member of First Free Will Baptist Church, Johnston City, Illinois.

Most all those polled feel the greater pressures were from meeting deadlines or raising necessary funds to meet the budget of their departments, organization or state ministries.

One subject surfaced on all responses from state secretaries, that being, the role between them and pastors. In nearly every case they saw themselves as a pastor to pastors.

Many noted they were available to all their pastors and knew most on a first-name basis. While it is impossible for them to know every member in all the churches, they did believe their role was beneficial if for no other reason as a counselor to the pastors seeking help.

This fact was substantiated in a recent leadership meeting when one leading pastor called his state executive "pastor, closest friend, and only confidant." This is repeated in our states where state executives counsel discouraged pastors on a weekly basis.

One tragedy of the questionnaire is that most leaders felt alone in their role, while

many pastors considered them their source of strength. Most leaders had few or no one to share their burdens with. Many sense the loneliness of leadership.

I have never forgotten nor destroyed a reading given me years ago entitled "The Penalty of Leadership."

In part, it says "In every field of human endeavor, he that is first must live in the white light of publicity perpetually. Whether the leadership be vested in a man or in a manufactured product, emulation and envy are ever at work. The leader is assailed because he is a leader and the effort to equal him is merely added proof of that leadership.

"Failing to equal or excell the follower seeks to depreciate and to destroy—but only confirms once more the superiority of that which he strives to supplant. If the leader truly leads he remains—the leader. That which is good or great makes itself known no matter how loud the clamour of denial. That which deserves to live—lives" (author unknown).

While no leader desires to set himself above his peers, the role

forces that position. But no real leader desires to be set on an ivory tower untouched by the followers.

The needs and work are ever before us. The need for called, qualified leaders is absolute.

Our denomination has fruitful days ahead. Our churches and states are showing growth. Some areas need help. Let us in leadership roles not allow ourselves to fall short of the call given us nor fail to effectively lead our followers toward greater heights with one purpose before us—growth through the saving of sinners from hell. ▲



ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Alton Loveless is executive secretary for the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists.

Will he ever be saved? Will God ever convict greater than in tonight's service? Have the years of praying for his salvation been in vain?

Those thoughts flooded my mind that September night after the revival ended and we headed the automobile toward home. My wife, Sue, and I had often sought God with burdened hearts for his salvation after we became Christians. At times we had wondered if such a hard case as my dad would ever turn to God.

Dad had always been a hard-working, honest, respected and well-known man in the area. He was easily touched by the needs of others and often gave liberally to people with financial difficulties.

He was easy to approach in business. However, those for whom he did building and carpentry work soon learned to tell him exactly how they wanted their work done, then leave him alone to do it. He did not want to be bothered with unimportant matters, nor did he stop to pass the time of day while on the job.

He did not mince words with employees or sub-contractors who failed to stay busy and do good work. They were told in understandable language what was expected of them. This same firmness was expressed to those who attempted to lead him to Christ.

In my first 12 years of preaching, Dad seldom heard me speak. My wife and I witnessed to him numerous times. With burdened hearts and tear-filled eyes that night at the close of the invitation, we urged him to accept the Lord, but he firmly said, "No." I had preached my heart out and delivered my soul. There was nothing else to say.

We drove home as our three children slept. My wife and I sat in silence with broken hearts because Dad had rejected the Lord again. We had been traveling about 30 minutes when my wife began to cry and sob in great agony. It was evident that she was still burdened for Dad, but I had no words of comfort for her.

In a few minutes, she composed herself and said, "Berton, I have just told the Lord that if it takes the death of you, me or one of our children to bring your dad to salvation, I am willing!"

Her words brought great shock to my heart, shock which suddenly turned to fear. I silently prayed, "O, God, not that!" As we continued home, the silence was deafening.

I presided, preached and conducted my duties at the church where I pastored the next morning. We were having some serious church problems that seemed impossible to overcome or solve. There had been anger, jealousy and gossip that affected most of the congregation.

I had not used wisdom in dealing with the situation which brought bitterness between some of the people and toward me. This made me want to leave the church for greener pastures. A number of "discouraging words" shared with me during the day did not help our burdened hearts for Dad.

Most of that week, I was miserable, especially at night when pastoral duties could not keep my time occupied. Those sleepless nights were spent begging God to either allow me to resign or work out the problems in our church.

Saturday about 2:00 a.m. the burden became so great that all I could say was, "Lord, I don't know what else to say! O God, Help me!" I felt that relief must come or I would die.

Suddenly the burden was replaced with floods of spiritual joy, the overwhelming presence of God, and an overflowing of soul beyond description. In an unmistakable way, the Spirit of God assured me that Sunday would be a day in our church like we had never experienced.

During those nights of agonizing prayer, I do not recall one time praying for Dad, but God assured me that Dad would be saved the following Monday if I would go witness to him.

Saturday morning, I shared that assurance with my wife first, then with those of our association who were meeting for the quarterly conference. God's presence was so real during the sharing of this assurance that no one expressed doubt.

Sunday morning God was present in such power that the service lasted until 2:00 p.m. The Sunday evening

Can God Hard C

By Ber



service continued past 11:00 p.m. as God's presence was fearfully present to convict, forgive and heal spiritual needs. Two people were saved Sunday morning and in the next three months, 32 were saved.

I shared God's assurance of Dad's salvation and my intention to go speak to him with my people on Sunday. At the close of Sunday night's service, one of the ladies said, "Preacher, please

...d Save Cases?

n Perry



don't go alone tomorrow!" When I asked why, she replied that she felt uneasy about me going alone.

A few moments later a deacon walked up, not knowing what had just been said, and stated that he wanted to go with me the next day. We agreed on a time, and I promised to pick him up the next morning. I wondered why these two were so concerned about me going on this short trip.

It must have been near 1:00 a.m. before we went to bed. I had never been more exhausted from the excitement of the day and loss of sleep.

My head had just touched the pillow when a horrifying thought sat me up in bed. My wife asked what was wrong, but I mumbled, "Nothing." I had suddenly remembered what Sue said in the car eight nights earlier.

There's probably no one on earth that Dad loves more than his only son. It will take my death to bring him to God. This is why the two at church are concerned about me! My wife must know this too!

With little sleep, a fearful night, and silently praying, I said, "I am a Christian, God, but I am not ready to die. I'm only 32! My children need me, my wife needs me."

When we arrived at the house Dad was building, he and his men were eating lunch. I walked up and said, "Dad, if you don't get saved today, I will die! I am a Christian, but I don't want to die and leave my family!"

Without another word, I stood hysterically crying for a few moments, for emotion took complete control. I turned and walked back to the car where my deacon friend waited.

The Lord seemed to say, "Wait in the car until 2:00 p.m." I related this to the deacon and we sat in near silence seeing Dad glance our way occasionally.

About 1:30 p.m. it occurred to me that if Dad were not saved by 2:00 I would die there in the car. This must be why the Holy Spirit directed me to wait until that time.

I began having severe chest pains and experiencing difficulty breathing. My lungs burned, my mind raced, and fear took control. Just before 2:00, God gave the grace for me to utter a prayer of willingness.

Silently I said, "Lord, I don't want to die now, but if that is necessary to bring Dad to salvation, Thy will be done."

If the deacon had not been there, I believe that I would have died. Without one word between us, he knew what I was experiencing and asked God to allow him to share the fear, agony and burden.

At 2:00 p.m., I asked him to start the car. We drove out of sight from the

house, then he stopped and fell across the steering wheel weeping uncontrollably. "You knew, didn't you?", I said. He nodded his head in agreement.

My wife was relieved when I returned. Although neither of us had shared the thought, both believed that I would not return alive. We still have not discussed it thoroughly, for it is too painful.

That evening just before dark, Dad walked to a small pond about a quarter mile from the house wrapped both arms around a large oak tree, pressed his forehead against the rough bark, and said, "God, I don't know much about praying, but please don't kill my boy for my sin! Save me."

Last week I went by to visit Dad for a couple hours. He was 77 last May and still growing in the Lord. He knows the Lord and His Word. The past 17 years have been a great blessing to me as I watched Dad change. His faith and dedication to the Lord blesses my soul.

As I drove away from his house, the memories returned. This is the first time they have ever been written. Some who have heard the story asked me to share it with our denomination. It has been difficult to write. Either Satan or my own insecurity has almost caused me to put the pen down and throw these pages in the trash.

Some will say that this account is ultradramatic and untrue, or that some of these things may have been my imagination. They do seem a little unreal now, but they are true.

There may be someone reading this who is about to give up on a hard case. God is still able to save, and God can still send revival, but it will be costly.

My life was spared, but this is not always the case. God gave His Son that we might be saved, and many others have died throughout the years that others might be saved. Be careful what you tell God. Be sure that you really mean it. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Berton Perry is Oklahoma's full-time State Mission Director (since 1983). He has preached 28 years in Oklahoma churches.

The Biggest Man in the World



Rev. and Mrs. E. B. McDonald

by Tim S. McDonald

18/CONTACT/July '86

Sometime in the fall of 1981, my 3-year-old son and I were visiting with the owner of a local country store.

"Nathan," he asked my son, "is your daddy the biggest man in the world?"

"Uh Huh!" came the immediate response.

The owner, a good friend whose dad was also a Free Will Baptist

preacher, turned to me and said, "When I was his age my dad was the biggest man in the world too! Brother Tim, when you were Nathan's age was your dad the biggest man in the world?"

Looking him in the eye, I declared, "My dad is still the biggest man in the world." And I spoke the truth.

My native Tennessee is a land of larger-than-life-heroes such as Davy

Crockett, Sam Houston and others. But none of them holds a candle to my dad. He was always bigger than any problem life threw at him, at least from what we boys saw.

Dad, known as Reverend E. B. McDonald to others, spent 32 years as a respected and (if his retirement accolades are accurate) productive employee of Free Will Baptist Bible College. This success, however, was

not what mattered to my three brothers and me. We never saw the denominational worker or the business man; the only man we saw was Daddy.

The Bible says that the head of the home is to be a provider. Dad did just that. A typical week for him included five days at the office, evenings and Saturdays in the yard and garden. Sundays meant teaching Sunday School and League (now CTS), preaching twice and visiting during the afternoons.

Some Sunday nights as we pulled into our drive ending the day's 80-mile round trip, I'd hear him smilingly sigh, "It's hard on a poor man." Now I understand what he meant.

Dad could never have been the man he was and is, if he had not married the great Christian lady who became the mother of his four sons. Because of his provision of a loving and caring mother, we are what we are today.

But the greatest provision Dad made for us was for our souls. We never lacked for the right example. He was always there showing us his love in his own way.

Once, when I was eight, I was bedridden for a week with a high fever. The doctor announced, "Hospital tomorrow morning if it doesn't break." I woke just before dawn to my parents' prayers as they bathed me in alcohol. As the sun crested the horizon, the fever broke. I will never forget that example of provisional love.

To me, Dad is the epitome of spiritual success, for all his sons accepted Christ at an early age. We had the background and foundation for total Christian living. Dad, as the head of the home, saw to that.

Dad's success didn't end with providing. He is the best teacher I've ever known. He taught us about life. Unlike many parents, he did not "unprepare" his children by providing a red carpet into life.

We learned the truth—that life is often harsh, cold and brutal and that you must have strength of character to withstand the hard knocks. Things were never *made* tough for us, but we were allowed to see reality. We were prepared to face difficulties, knowing from experience how hard life could be. We also knew that temptation

could be rejected and any obstacle overcome.

We learned that even when you worked hard and did your best, success was not guaranteed. When you came up short, you dusted yourself

Reverend E. B. McDonald retired in 1985 after 32 years as treasurer at Free Will Baptist Bible College. One of his sons, Reverend Tim McDonald, writes about the private side of a public servant.

off, refused to complain and did better next time.

Anyone acquainted with Dad knows that he walks with a limp. Not once in my life did I hear him complain about his leg. Not once! That was the standard, the character we saw displayed daily.

We learned that a great part of life is love. Here again, we saw Dad's example, how he loved Mother and his boys.

This was the creed around the house: you never struck or told a brother to "shut up." You didn't talk back to Dad, not but once anyway. You never even *thought* about being disrespectful toward Mother because "She is your mother." Dad loved us too much to let us destroy ourselves by such actions.

The Bible tells us that parents are responsible to train their children. Dad's the greatest trainer in the world. He had to be to bring four sons to Christ and manhood through the civil and spiritual turbulence of the 1960's.

Dad taught us the way to live and trained us to live that life. We learned obedience by example. We were to do as we were told, and what we were told was what Mother and Dad did.

Whether in public worship or private practice their training and living were always consistent. We never saw false or double standards. We respected everyone and spoke ill of none. No slighting or derogatory remarks were tolerated. Yes sir, yes ma'am, please and thank you were expected in conversations with "your elders."

Dad taught loyalty by example. Once when my brothers and I criticized an acquaintance, Dad put a quick stop to it.

He said, "I remember waking up in the Cardiac Care Unit, only then realizing I was still on earth. The only thing I could see was that man fighting off sleep in the wee hours after two days of hard work, and all just to encourage

me to live. It'll take a lot more than this before I'll ever say anything." Needless to say, we hushed our unjust criticisms.

Loyalty to Christ and His Church was the key to our training. Sunday and Wednesday night meant church, no debate about it. Christ lived and died for us, therefore, we would live for Him and do whatever it took to show ourselves faithful. I'll never forget those training days and the pattern of life.

That's the bottom line. We did right, and that makes Dad the most successful man in the world. Any other success would have meant nothing to us had Dad not succeeded at home. He took care of his most important business first—the business of being a father and leading his boys to Christ.

My dad's name won't make *Fortune* 500, but he's achieved a far greater accomplishment. He's four for four in Christian sons while spending 32 years as a full-time Christian worker.

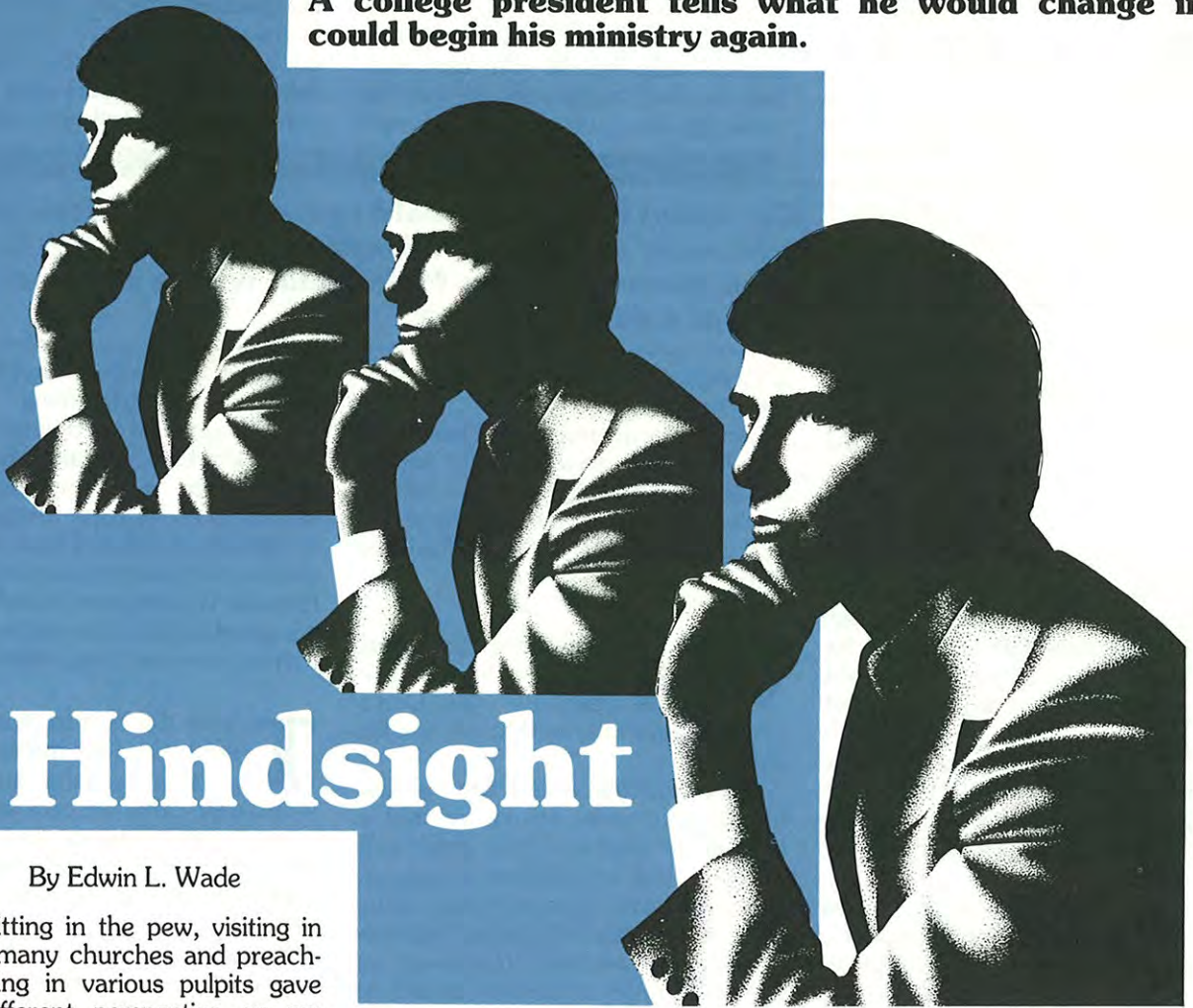
During the 1982 Bible Conference at Free Will Baptist Bible College, I looked for Dad in the crowded Activities Building. But try as I might, I simply could not spot him. I finally realized why. Whenever I look for Dad, I automatically look for the biggest man in the building.

When I get to Heaven, and I will if I use the tools and follow the teachings he provided, I'll have no trouble spotting Dad standing beside the most beautiful lady (Mother), motioning his boys to come stand next to him beside his Savior.

My prayer for the men of our denomination is that we be the "Biggest Man in the World" to our children and lead them to Heaven. ▲

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Tim S. McDonald pastors First Free Will Baptist Church, Jonesboro, Arkansas.

A college president tells what he would change if he could begin his ministry again.



Hindsight

By Edwin L. Wade

Sitting in the pew, visiting in many churches and preaching in various pulpits gave me a different perspective on my years in the pastorate. It caused me to reflect on my procedures and think what I would do differently if I pastor again.

More Sensitive

I would be more sensitive to the needs of people in the pew. Many times I tried to lay a guilt trip on the congregation for not responding to my expectations, never considering they may be hurting inside. But Jesus came so that believers could have abundant life. He desires that we receive eternal life which includes a quality life now as well as eternity with Him.

I would take into consideration the week's frustrations that the people in the pew encountered. I would keep in mind physical and mental fatigue, financial problems, family health problems or the heartaches caused by a rebellious child. I would attempt to strengthen and encourage through

the Word. I believe I can minister most effectively by edifying and strengthening faith through the Word.

More Prayer and Study

I would spend more time in prayer and study. I remember that I felt better about myself when I did so. When I spend time in the Word and in prayer, I can stand before the people knowing more about the mind of Jesus. I can speak with a more positive spirit. I can speak with greater confidence and authority.

I am convinced that the impact of the Word is powerful. The more effectively I present the Bible the more influence it has on the hearer.

"For the word is quick and powerful and sharper than any twoedged sword..." (Hebrews 4:12). The riches of the Word lie deep. Once dug out and proclaimed, they, through the

work of the Holy Spirit, enrich the soul of the hearer.

The truth and depth of the Word is discovered through meditation, research and prayer. Consecrated prayer in study brings deeper understanding. It also keeps the heart and mind in tune with God and prepares me to meet the day's challenges.

More Trust

I would place more trust in the Holy Spirit to work in the hearts of people. I often found myself acting as the agent of change in the conduct and service of individuals.

True, there are those times when the pastor must be specific in what must be done. However, when the Word is preached and taught effectively, the Lord Himself speaks to the

person through the Holy Spirit and brings about lasting convictions in the person. It is my job to teach and love them. It is God's job to make them good.

A philosophy that I learned and adopted before I left the pastorate came from Zechariah 4:6, "...not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts."

If the people to whom I minister are to experience true and solid growth, there must be a moving of the Holy Spirit in their hearts. It will not come through my might or power. I cannot make people do things. I can only pray, lead and teach, and allow the Holy Spirit to do His work. This power belongs to the believer as a partaker of divine nature.

More Credit for Others

I would give more credit to others. Recognition always motivates people toward greater accomplishments. The key to every pastor seeing his goals accomplished is the involvement of his people. A good word at the right time encourages this involvement. Therefore, workers in the church need to be recognized for the things they do.

Recognition applies as well to a minister's wife and family. It is not right to keep them boxed in and stifled. In the beginning of my ministry I learned a valuable lesson. My wife had worked hard to produce a Christmas program. It went well. In my concluding remarks I completely forgot to recognize the good job she had done. I felt terrible when it came to my attention. But it was too late.

As the pastor I am to do the work of an undershepherd. I want to see people saved, watch them grow in the Lord, and minister to them in times of need. If these things get done, what difference does it make who gets the credit?

In the process, I would try to lead more than administer. By leading, I mean involving and utilizing the talents and abilities of others. By administering, I am speaking in the sense of attending to all the details myself.

Rather than proceeding as if I had to think of every idea, I would seek out the opinions of others. Rather than working out the details of a project myself, I would seek out the

creative talents of others and allow them to take over, even if they do louse up occasionally. After all, why shouldn't they be allowed some mistakes? They allow me some.

On one occasion toward the end of my pastorate, we were behind on the church bills. I asked the church for a 15-man ad hoc committee to work on it. These men represented as many families. At our meeting, the problem was presented. The facts were given and discussion opened.

After a while, one member of the committee, who was a relatively new Christian, stated, "I have a certain amount of extra money I could give. If each one here gave that amount we could take care of the problem." In unison, each one complied and the problem was solved.

More Compassion for Critics

Again, I would show more compassion toward those who oppose me. There are obviously times when individuals must be dealt with sternly, especially when the ongoing of the church is at stake. However, most cases can be handled in a different manner.

The scriptures give us some valid principles that may be used. Jesus said in Matthew 5:44, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use you, and persecute you."

Proverbs 15:1 states, "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger."

James 1:20 says, "For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God." If executed and applied, God promises results through these and other principles.

Criticism does not always mean opposition. Sometimes it may bear out a point that needs attention. I remember a certain time when it was being said that our church was not friendly and that generally the church was not accepting new people into its fellowship.

As these comments were aired I began building up a defensive attitude. One day a well-meaning member spoke directly to me about it, and I proceeded to tell her what was wrong with the critics. I should have

listened. Looking back on the occasion I know she was right.

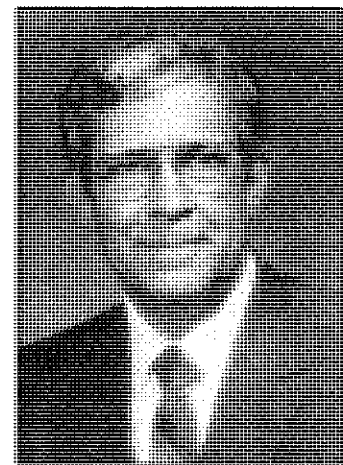
More Ministry to Youth

Lastly, I would work harder to understand and minister to youth. Youth today face different pressures and issues than I did. We are living in different times and in a changing society. There are lingering uncertainties about the future. I need to better understand them and their problems.

As a pastor, I was prone to be critical of their lack of commitment. I was content with traditional methods. They questioned many of them. However, right or wrong they were there. They were open to guidance and spiritual help. Who else is there to give them an unchanging gospel that will meet today's complexities of life except the church? When they fail to get answers from us they turn elsewhere.

A church that meets the needs of youth and young married couples will be alive and active, for it will be teeming with the vigor of youth. For the past 11 years my time has been occupied working with college youth. I am convinced that we who have some maturity can invest our time wisely by devoting it to the building of lives.

These principles are basic to ministering to people. Honest evaluation is helpful anytime. As a minister of God I owe Him the best I can give. If I fail as His instrument, the people do not receive what God desires. ▲



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Edwin L. Wade is president of Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, Moore, Oklahoma.



FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

MEN'S CHORALE RELEASES FIRST RECORD

NASHVILLE, TN—The 75-voice Free Will Baptist Men's Chorale released its first record this spring, a 10-song album titled "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship." Chorale director and project organizer Dr. Vernon Whaley said, "This music will be prized by every Free Will Baptist family."

The record, released under the Integrity label, features men from 15 states including pastors, music directors and laymen. Dr. Whaley said the record represents a wide range of musical tastes from Stamps/Baxter to contemporary.

A medley, led off by "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand," is dedicated to the memory of Reverend Floyd Wolfenbarger, a Free Will Baptist pastor who died in May 1985. Dr. Whaley feels that the chorale's a capella arrangement of "Just a Little Talk With Jesus" will be a favorite.

Dr. Whaley has directed the Free Will Baptist Men's Chorale at the National Association for nine years. He served six years on the music faculty at Free Will Baptist Bible College and now serves as minister of music at Southern Oaks FWB Church, Oklahoma City.

The record sells for \$8.95, postage included. Cassette tapes are \$9.95. The records/cassettes are available from any member of the chorale and from Free Will Baptist bookstores. They may also be ordered from The Randall/Palmer Company, 104 S. Ramblin Oaks Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73160.

22/CONTACT/July '86

MISSOURI PASTOR TO HEAD CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

FRESNO, CA—The Reverend James W. (Jim) McAllister, pastor of First FWB Church in Farmington, MO, has been named president of California Christian College by the College Board of Trustees.

Reverend McAllister, 49-year-old Missouri native, assumed duties at the Fresno campus in late June. In addition to serving as CCC president, he will also pastor the Harmony FWB Church in Fresno.

McAllister said the Board agreed that he could launch his California ministry with a three-dimensional outreach. He will administrate the college, work with the Harmony Church to make it a "lab church" for training CCC students, and conduct 10 church growth seminars annually in the state. He also said he plans to visit each of the state's quarterly meetings once a year.

The new president said he hopes to "give the California churches exactly what they say they want—an institution to train pastors, missionaries and lay workers for local churches." He expects to re-open night classes this fall.

Reverend McAllister has been pastoring 29 years. He previously pastored New Hope FWB Church, Kansas City, KS (1957-1962); Central



FWB Church, Kansas City, MO (1963-1969); First FWB Church, Monett, MO (1970-1974); First FWB Church, Farmington, MO (1974-1986).

He is a widely-used speaker in evangelism and church-growth conferences. He served as moderator of the Missouri State Association, assistant moderator of the Kansas State Association, chairman of the Missouri State Missions Board, member of the national Home Missions Board, and other responsibilities. He has organized four churches.

Reverend McAllister attended Central Missouri University and Kansas City Bible College, graduating from Trinity in Evansville, Indiana.

Jim and Helen McAllister have four children.



Pastor and Mrs. James Mutchler stand in front of newly completed \$38,000 parsonage at Pleasant Valley FWB Church, Warren, Arkansas.

NORTH CAROLINA CHURCH BURNS NOTE

CANTON, NC—Members of Victory Free Will Baptist Church, Canton, NC, burned the note on a \$10,000 debt this spring and redirected finances to foreign missions, according to Pastor Elmer Keener.

Reverend Keener said the North Carolina congregation was paying \$121 monthly (including \$900 annual interest) on the \$10,000 note when he assumed pastoral responsibilities.

Keener said, "We felt that God was not pleased with this high interest since the church offerings were so small. We started a drive to free the church of this debt."

The church celebrated the note burning with an all day service. The next month they began sending money to foreign mission work.



Members of Victory FWB Church, Canton, NC, burn mortgage.

ILLINOIS JUNIOR NAMED FWBBC STUDENT PRESIDENT

NASHVILLE, TN—Dean Jones, junior education major from Marion, IL, was elected student body president for 1986-87 by the students at Free Will Baptist Bible College. Serving with him are Keith Orr, vice president; Michelle Vincent, secretary/treasurer; and Kevin Riggs, chaplain. Dean Jones is a member of the Arnold View FWB Church and a 1982 graduate of Marion High School. He earned an associate degree from Southern Illinois University before coming to the Bible College.

Jones served as business manager on the 1986 yearbook staff and has traveled for two years as sound manager for the Evangel Players Drama Team. He is vice president of his junior class, a Christian Service group leader and a prayer captain. Keith Orr, the new vice president, is also a junior and comes from Creal Springs, IL. He is a member of the Arnold View FWB Church and has served as president of his junior class and vice president of his campus society.

Michelle Vincent is a junior from Amory, MS. She is a member of the First FWB Church of Amory and is majoring in education. She is assistant editor of the 1986 FWBBC yearbook.

Kevin Riggs is a sophomore from Nashville. He graduated from Woodbine Christian Academy and is a member of Richland FWB Church. His major is pastoral training. He served as chaplain of his freshman class and is president of his sophomore class.

CHURCHES PLACE FWB HISTORY BOOK IN LIBRARY

MCMINNVILLE, TN—Three McMinnville, Tennessee, Free Will Baptist pastors presented a copy of William Davidson's book, *The Free Will Baptists in America 1727-1984*, to the McMinnville public library.

Mrs. Cheryl Priest, librarian, accepted the book from pastors Dennis Deweese (Cumberland Chapel FWB Church), Kenneth W. Kirby (Victory FWB Church) and Robert Bryant (McMinnville First FWB Church).

Reverend Kirby said he hopes that other Free Will Baptist pastors and churches will follow their lead and place Free Will Baptist books in public libraries in their communities.



Pastors Dennis Deweese(L), Kenneth Kirby and Robert Bryant present FWB history to Librarian Cheryl Priest.

newsfront

(continued)

REVEREND EDDIE ALTIS WITH THE LORD

CABOOL, MO—The Reverend Earl Edward (Eddie) Altis, 53, died April 12 in St. John Regional Health Center at Springfield, MO, following a short illness.

Reverend Altis was ordained as a Free Will Baptist minister in 1963 and was active in denominational activities. He served as pastor, assistant pastor and youth advisor in Missouri and Colorado churches.

He helped organize the Missouri Church Training Service, and served as editor of the *Free Will Baptist Gem*. He also served on the staff at Oklahoma Bible Institute (now Hillsdale FWB College).

Reverend Altis, believing that anyone could rise above his circumstances, committed himself to aiding Free Will Baptist youth in education. He earned the B.S. degree from Southwest Missouri State University in 1961, the M.A. degree from the University of Denver in 1964, and an Advanced Studies Certificate in 1974.

He is survived by his wife, Judy Shrewsbury Altis and son, Daniel, both of Cabool; his parents Vern and Hazel Altis, also of Cabool; a sister, Ethel Lou Cole of Houston, and a host of friends and relatives.

Funeral services were conducted April 15 at Providence Free Will Baptist Church. Reverend Rolla Smith officiated.

61 NEW LIFEMEMBERS AT MASTER'S MEN CONFERENCE

LINDEN, TN—Nearly half of the 132 men present at the eighth annual Master's Men Conference April 17-19 committed themselves to become LifeMembers, according to Director James Vallance.

Master's Men LifeMembers pay a one-time \$100 membership fee. Mr. Vallance said that the program has become a strong financial foundation for the continuing Master's Men ministry. Commitments to LifeMembership topped 78 by May 1.

Men from 15 states attended workshops and preaching sessions at Camp Linden during the three-day

"Show Forth the Praises!" meeting. At least 15 workshops provided men with information concerning discipleship, witnessing, church growth and related areas.

Director Vallance expressed concern about involving more in the 1987 conference set April 23-25. He said the group will consider three late-fall mini-conferences in 1987 which would gather in geographic locations advantageous to the men:

Northeast (Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, West Virginia area)

Southeast (Georgia, Alabama, Florida, South Carolina area)

Midwest (Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, Louisiana area)

NEW MEXICO ELECTS LLOYD MORRIS MODERATOR

ARTESIA, NM—Delegates to New Mexico's 18th annual state association elected Hobbs pastor Lloyd Morris as moderator during their April 18-19 session which met at Artesia FWB Church in Artesia.

Reverend Morris, who pastors First United FWB Church in Hobbs, succeeds outgoing moderator Bill Adkisson who accepted an out-of-state pastorate.

The 45 delegates and visitors heard Free Will Baptist Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington speak twice. Hillsdale FWB College president Edwin Wade also addressed the state meeting.

Anne (Mrs. Melvin) Worthington spoke during the Woman's Auxiliary banquet on "Tranquility in Troublesome Times."

Delegates adopted the Target 90 program and appointed Cleeta Adams to coordinate the New Mexico effort.

The 1987 state association will meet April 17-18 at Hobbs FWB Church in Hobbs.

FWBBC BUSINESS STUDENTS PLACE IN STATE COMPETITION

NASHVILLE, TN—Joy Price, sophomore business major at Free Will Baptist Bible College, won first place in Tennessee state accounting competition for the second year in a row. Kelly Dutton, freshman business student, placed third in job interview trials.

Competitions were held April 10-12 in Pigeon Forge, TN, under the sponsorship of Phi Beta Lambda (PBL), the national organization of college business students.

Miss Price, from Bonifay, FL, is a member of the St. John's FWB Church. She will be listed in the 1986 national Who's Who of Phi Beta Lambda. She was state PBL historian last year and president of the FWBBC business club.

Miss Dutton is from Wakeman, OH, and is a member of the Good Hope Baptist Church of Oberlin.

Coming Next Month

Pastor Appreciation Issue

- I Married A Preacher
- The Preacher With Four Heads
- When A Pastor Dies
- The Best Pastor In Town

Pastor **Jerry Norris** announced plans to begin a radio program in September at **Calvary Fellowship FWB Church, Fenton, MO**. Norris said the 30-minute program will air on two stations and feature special music by church musicians as well as a seven-minute challenge from the pastor.

Pastor **Gene Gilbert** reports six baptisms as a result of a revival at **St. Mark FWB Church, Phenix City, AL**. Attendance surged to a high of 92 as Evangelist **Odis Whitehead** from Marianna, FL, preached.

Pastor **Boyce Ray Mullins** says that **First FWB Church, Marion, OH**, broke attendance records Easter Sunday for the second consecutive year. After witnessing one conversion at the sunrise service, the 382-member congregation saw five people in the altar during morning worship services conducted by Sunday School Superintendent **Cecil Gilliam**.

Pastor **Daniel Harper** said that 354 attended Friend Day at **Noble FWB Church, Noble, OK**.

After one year at **United FWB Church, Bryan, TX**, Pastor **Frank Cope** reports attendance growth from 50 to over 100. Cope said attendance has dipped beneath the 100 mark only twice since November 1985.

Members of **First FWB Church, Beaufort, NC**, hosted the Free Will Baptist Bible College choir concert in March. Pastor **Henry Van Kluyve** said 400 attended the service. The church presented a \$1000 check to the choir.

Some 152 people attended the April 18-19 Sunday School Revival at **Camp Beaverfork near Conway, AR**. The group included 38 ministers, 15 Sunday School superintendents, 73 teachers and 26 assistant teachers. The conference was sponsored by the Arkansas Sunday School Board. The 1987 conference, scheduled for April 4-5, lists a three-man slate of speakers—**Roger Reeds, Jim McAllister, Elmer Towns**.

Pastor **Earl Hendrix** celebrated 19 years at **First FWB Church, Inman, SC**.

More than 30 faculty, staff and preacher boys from Free Will Baptist Bible College spent April 25-27 in **North Carolina's Coastal and Pamlico Associations**. The weekend preaching mission was part of a Friendship Tour scheduled by the college.

Another group of six faculty members and students from Free Will Baptist Bible College preached in 13 **Canadian FWB churches** May 16-19.

The pastor's study was refurbished at **Victory FWB Church, Goldsboro, NC**. Pastor **George Lee** said the congregation provided new cabinets, typing desk, wall covering, carpet, chair and other office accessories.

Pastor **Gene Parton** said that members of **Arnold View FWB Church, Creal Springs, IL**, presented a \$1000 check to **Keith Orr** who serves as a summer missionary to Spain.

Pastor **Ed Hutchinson** challenged members of **Shelby FWB Church, Shelby, NC**, to give \$1000 for the scheduled North Carolina Day in March. Members raised just over \$1000 for North Carolina State ministries. **Robert Wagner**, 15, presented the funds to Promotional Director **Tom Lilly**.

South Carolina's **Beaver Creek Association** honored ministers who served 25 or more years in the association. Moderator **James Childers** presented plaques to the ministers with their names and length of service engraved on them. One minister, **H. J. Sawyer**, 84, logged more than 50 years in the association. Other ministers receiving plaques included: **Paul Reid, L. H. Clayton, Donald Seay** and **Jodie Wilson**.

South Carolina Promotional Director **Norwood Gibson** spoke at **Mill Branch FWB Church in Poston Corner-Johnsonville, SC**, as the congregation celebrated 23 years in the community. **Sonny Harris** pastors.

Pastor **James Crowe** reports a new fiberglass baptistry installed at **Eastside FWB Church, Florence, SC**.

Lockhart FWB Church, Lockhart, SC, broke ground in March for a \$250,000 building. Pastor **Ronnie Adkins** said the building, located on a 5.5-acre site west of Lockhart, will be completed in August.

The Primary and Beginner Sunday School classes at **White Savannah FWB Church, Conway, SC**, raised \$901 for missionaries Carlisle Hanna, Rick Bowling and the South Carolina Children's Home.

Pastor **Gene Adams** said members of **Community FWB, Florence, SC**, conducted ground breaking ceremonies for a \$95,000 church building. The new structure will include an auditorium, baptistry, six classrooms, a pastor's study and sound room. More than 100 attended.

Pastor **Dann Patrick** reports 14 saved and an attendance of 880 on March 23 at **Faith FWB Church, Goldsboro, NC**.

First FWB Church, Pearl, MS, hosted the second annual Mississippi Pastors and Workers Conference April 25-26. Three speakers addressed the state-wide gathering on church growth ministries: **Roger Reeds**, Sunday School and Church Training Department; **George Crowden**, pastor of Oxford FWB Church, **Frank Owens**, bus director at First FWB Church, Florence, AL. **Terry Booker**, chairman of the Mississippi Board of Conferences, praised host pastor **J. L. Gore** and the Pearl congregation for their hospitality.

Pastor **Bobby Peters** of **Ozark FWB Church, Ozark, AL**, reports 32 conversions in five weeks. The group broke ground for a \$56,000 expansion in May. ▲

TARGET 90



ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

Trust and Obey

"Marty! Megan! Time for supper," Mrs. Lane called out the back door.

"In a minute," said Megan. The twins were playing badminton and didn't want to quit.

Finally, Megan said triumphantly, "My point and my game!"

"So what?" replied Marty. "I won the first one."

"That makes it one apiece," said Megan. "We're tied."

"Then we have to play a tie-breaker," said Marty. He couldn't stand for Megan to beat him at anything. The twins began the third game.

Mrs. Lane set the table and looked out the window. Marty and Megan were still playing. She knocked on the window and motioned for them to come in. The twins saw her, but the score was tied at four, and they just couldn't quit.

Mrs. Lane took the biscuits from the oven and called Mr. Lane and Jeff to the table.

"Aren't we missing something?" joked Mr. Lane as he counted five place settings and only three people.

"I've called the twins twice," replied Mrs. Lane. "But they're so busy playing badminton that it went in one ear and out the other." As Mrs. Lane went to the door to call them for the third time, Marty and Megan burst through the door and nearly knocked her down.

"You two go wash up," ordered Mr. Lane. "Then we'll talk."

When Marty and Megan came back to the table they knew they were in trouble.

"Your mother called you to supper, and you didn't come. Is that right?" asked Mr. Lane.

"Yes, sir," answered the twins.

"Then you should be punished. I think a fair punishment would be no dessert. Don't you agree?" said Mr. Lane.

Marty and Megan gulped as they looked at the banana pudding their mother had prepared. The meringue was piled high and cooked to golden brown perfection. But they had no choice. They had to agree with their daddy.

"Yes, sir," they said.

Mr. Lane continued, "In the first place, your mother worked hard to fix a good supper, and it's rude to keep her, as well as the rest of us, waiting."

"And in the second place," said Mrs. Lane, "when your daddy and I tell you to do something we mean then—not when you feel like it."

"That's right," said Mr. Lane. "You may not always like what we tell you, and you may not understand why, but you'd better obey and quickly. Got it?"

"Yes, sir," answered the twins again.

That was Thursday night. Would Marty and Megan learn from their mistake? Saturday they were put to the test.

The Lanes left early that morning for Mrs. Douglas' farm to help her pick apples. The children had looked forward to this for days. They loved Mrs. Douglas and always had fun when they were together—even when they worked.

The morning was warm and bright, and everyone set to work. Marty and Megan climbed up in the trees. Mr. and Mrs. Lane used ladders. Mrs. Douglas and Jeff gathered apples from the ground and sorted them into piles for making applesauce, apple butter and apple cider.

Mrs. Douglas was a great storyteller, and she seemed to remember hundreds of funny and exciting things about apple-picking days gone by. Before they knew it, it was time to stop for lunch.

Mr. Lane loaded the bushel baskets into the back of Mrs. Douglas' pick-up truck.

"Mom, could we finish the trees we're picking now?" asked Megan

"Then when we come down for lunch, we won't have to climb back up these."

"OK," agreed Mrs. Lane. "Go ahead and finish while we get everything ready."

Mr. and Mrs. Lane, Mrs. Douglas and Jeff piled into the truck and bounced down the hill from the orchard to the creek. Mr. Lane and Jeff threw rocks into the creek, while the ladies unpacked Mrs. Douglas' picnic basket. She had packed fried chicken, sandwiches, potato chips, pickles, fudge brownies and lemonade.

"We're about ready here," said Mrs. Lane to her husband. "Want to go back for the twins?"

"Sure," he answered. Mr. Lane got back into the old pick-up and chugged up the hill to the orchard. The twins had already climbed down from their trees. Their daddy started

to call them, but then he spotted something else.

What he saw made him tremble. He swallowed hard. Then calmly and quietly, but firmly, he said to his children, "Marty, Megan, don't say a word. Just listen. Very quietly get down on your hands and knees and crawl over here to me. Right now."

What a strange request! What do you think Marty and Megan did? They immediately fell to their knees and crawled over to their daddy. He scooped them into his arms and dropped them into the back of the truck. Then, grabbing a hoe, Mr. Lane ran back to the tree where Marty had been picking apples and knocked a large rattlesnake to the ground. Mr. Lane chopped the snake's head off.

Megan screamed when she saw the snake. She and Marty both shook when they realized how close they came to the rattlesnake. Mr. Lane ran back to the truck and hugged his children tightly.

"Thank goodness you obeyed," he said. "I didn't want you to be loud or move too quickly and startle the snake. He was on a limb right above your heads."

The three Lanes sat down on the tailgate to slow their racing hearts.

"Tell me," asked Mr. Lane, "what did you think when I told you to get down and crawl to me?"

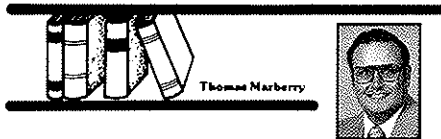
"I thought you'd done lost your mind," answered Marty bluntly. "Or maybe trying to trick us."

"All I could think of was that banana pudding the other night," said Megan. "I'd already peeked into Mrs. Douglas' picnic basket today, and I didn't want to miss out on her fudge brownies."

Mr. Lane laughed along with the twins as they drove down the hill to the creek. When they told the others what happened, Mrs. Lane stopped and prayed, "Thank you, Lord, for keeping my twins safe. And thank you for teaching them to obey."

Then Mrs. Douglas began singing softly, "Trust and obey, for there's no other way, to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey." ▲

Top Shelf



Anita Haney, *Battling Anorexia (A Deadly Trap)*, (Nashville, Randall House Publications, 1986, paperback, \$5.95)

This is a book about personal growth and the blessing of God in the midst of great trials and difficulties. Mrs. Haney, the wife of a Free Will Baptist pastor, fought a life and death struggle with anorexia nervosa.

Anorexia nervosa is a psychiatric illness which causes a person to become obsessed with being thin. This obsession drives a person to eat a totally inadequate diet; sometimes those with the disease starve themselves to death in their quest to be thin. Those who survive the disease usually require extended treatment and counseling in order to recover completely.

The author describes how this disease affected her husband, her children, her parents and her fellow Christians. The consequences of this type of disease can be mentally, emotionally, physically and financially devastating.

She describes in a tender and touching way how this disease affected her personal life and her relationship with God. Not many authors can describe their deepest thoughts and emotions in such a frank and revealing manner.

This book is a testimony to the grace of God as that grace works in the lives of Christian people. One of the strongest and most beautiful characters in the story is the author's husband, Ken. His faithfulness in standing by his wife is a testimony to the grace of God. Her parents, her children and the members of their church provide a tremendous outpouring of strength and comfort.

Mrs. Haney tells the story of spending several months in the psychiatric ward of a major metropolitan hospital. In some ways it is a sad story; that is certainly not the kind of place one wants to be. Yet, the doctors, nurses and others reflect a

genuine care and concern for a young woman who is gravely ill. One doctor in particular represents the healing profession at its best.

There are many lessons we can learn from this book. Let us never think that just because we are Christians we are exempt from illness, either physical or mental. Let us never think that we can walk through this life alone. We need caring Christian friends and relatives and the strength which they can give. We need the grace and power of God in our lives. We need the healing powers of modern medicine.

This is both an entertaining and thought-provoking book. Do yourself a favor and read it. ▲



OUR READERS COMMENT

SEES ENCOURAGEMENT AS GIFT

I wanted to write and admit that we do not often think of encouragement as a spiritual gift. I am in agreement with Yvonne Winkler-Longer that it is a gift to be mentioned in her article entitled "Those Who Comfort And Encourage" in the April issue.

Yet when Paul speaks of gifts, he tells us in Romans 12:8 that if it is to encourage others, we should do so. The ministry of encouragement is within the reach of each of us.

Reverend Sammi Woodard
Martinez, Florida

ARTICLE ON TARGET

Talk about a bird dog being in the right place! Glenn Patrick's Article on "If I could change one thing" (May issue) was right on target! I believe that what he wrote is the greatest need of the hour for us as Free Will Baptists as we face the future and the prospects for growth.

The problem is in the past. Those who preach and practice the necessity of the pastor, the nurturing of the local church and the activity of soul winning are experiencing real growth. Those who are not are experiencing little or no growth. There may be an exception here or there, but they are the exception, not the rule.

I thank Glenn for writing it and just for printing it.

Reverend Jim Scarborough, Pastor
Mt. Calvary Free Will Baptist Church
Henderson, North Carolina

TEEN Scene

Oklahoma

In September 1985 a Youth Evangelistic Team began at Bethany FWB Church in Broken Arrow under the direction of Terry VanWinkle. The team has conducted two services at Bethany and plans a summer trip to Missouri at a youth camp and also for a youth service in Monett.

The team is composed of 18 Bethany Church youth. They rehearse during the Wednesday evening youth meeting. The meeting began as a Youth Production Class. They later decided to call themselves a Youth Evangelistic Team. As a result of this ministry, attendance and enthusiasm among Bethany youth have increased.

The Greater Tulsa Association also started a Youth Evangelistic Team in March. The team directors are Phil Akin, youth pastor at East Tulsa FWB Church and Terry VanWinkle, youth pastor at Bethany FWB Church. Ten young people, grades 9-12, make up the team. The youth represent eight churches in the Greater Tulsa Association. They will be featured at the NYC Keynote service in Tulsa.

Tennessee

David Outlaw, a native of Nashville, TN, placed first in religious prose at the American Association of Christian Schools (AACS) competition at Bob Jones University. David competed against students from 16 states, in grades 10, 11, 12. David, a 10th grader at Woodbine Christian Academy in Nashville, attends Donelson FWB Church. His parents are Dr. Stanley and Gloria Outlaw. David is a member of the Nashville area YET team.

The competition at Bob Jones University is considered national level competition. Students must place first at district and state levels



July 13 National Convention Day of Prayer and Fasting



before reaching the national. David won the Tennessee Association of Christian Schools (TACS) competition at the district and state levels.

David didn't think he would win. He said, "The competition helped me realize God didn't want me to use my talents to show off but rather to serve Him. It's not me the people are listening to, but the message. The message is more important than the technique. I encourage others to enter into this kind of competition even if they don't feel they have the talent for it. Dramatic ability can be developed by anyone who is willing to work at it."▲

Especially
For Young
Preachers

Read Three Books at a Time

"Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge" (Proverbs 23:12).

The busy preacher must read his Bible, the most important book in his possession. He must read it, meditate upon it, preach it, live it.

But other reading is profitable also. The young preacher should read at least three books at one time. Here are some suggestions.

1. Keep a book in your car. Probably light, easy reading--a biography or how-to-do-it book. Or maybe a devotional book. While traveling or visiting you may be delayed by a draw bridge, traffic jam or auto breakdown. You may arrive at the bank too early. Don't waste time. Be prepared with a challenging book. "Redeem the time."

2. Read a second book at home--in the bedroom, bathroom or den. Try to read a chapter a day.

3. Place the third book in your study. After studying or counseling, stand up and read a chapter in that book. Walk around the office and read.

By reading three books simultaneously, you'll surprise yourself by how many books you read in a year. Keep a list of the books you read in a notebook.

Always keep a stack of books on your "wait list." As you finish one of your three books, replace it with another. Do not hesitate to read some books twice. A.W. Tozer's books can be read over and over again.

Shop second-hand book stores. Subscribe to discount book clubs. Borrow books from the library or another pastor friend. Swap books. Set a goal to read a certain number of books each year. You'll be pleased by how much simultaneous reading expands your ministry. And you can accomplish this in only a few minutes each day.

Next Month: Your Library

Dennis Wiggs



TEACHER OF THE YEAR CREDITS FAITH IN CHRIST

BRAINERD, MN (EP)—Teacher Guy Doud, winner of the most prestigious award in teaching, doesn't attribute his success to his education, background or personal qualities. "If there is any credit to be given for the success that I've enjoyed as a teacher, it has to go to Jesus Christ," says Doud, who was named National Teacher of the Year by the National Education Association. "If it weren't for Him I would not have the same philosophy and attitudes that I have."

Doud, who serves as an elder in his church, doesn't limit his religious life to church activities. "My Christian commitment directly affects the way I teach," he explains. "My goal is to be as good a Christian at home and in school as I am in church on Sunday morning."

While some limitations are placed on religious expression in public school settings, Doud doesn't feel hampered in his Christian witness. "There's no limit to how you can live or show your Christian love. There's a limit in what you can say in terms of proselytizing. You can't start preaching to kids, quoting the Bible at them. But I would rather see a sermon than hear one any time."

Doud knows the impact a teacher with Christian convictions can make in a school; as a high school student, he became a Christian through the influence of a language instructor. "He'd been a missionary in New Guinea," Doud recalls. "There was something so alive and real in his life, and I knew he had something special. Whatever it was that he had, I wanted. His compassion...I believe the only true source of love is Jesus. And my teacher lived his Christian conviction in the way he treated his students and ran his classroom."

Compassion characterizes Doud's teaching career. Students feel free to approach him with problems, including potential suicides, sexual abuse, teenage abortions. Last year a Brainerd student committed suicide, and kids from other classes came to see Doud, just to talk about life.

"I see kids with lots of problems," says Doud. "I don't think it's ever been harder for a kid to grow up than it is today. When I see kids exhibiting obnoxious qualities, I realize that they're crying for help. One of my favorite verses is 'Whatever you do unto the least of these my brethren you do unto me.'"

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS INGORE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

WASHINGTON, DC (EP)—Most high school textbooks completely ignore the history of religious liberty in the United States, according to a recent study by Dr. Charles Haynes.

At the request of the Americans United Research Foundation, Haynes analyzed a representative sample of texts used in high schools. Haynes said of a text titled, *Exploring Our Nation's History*, "One might conclude from reading this text that religion and religious freedom are of no consequence in most of America's history." Of the text *A Free People*, Haynes said, "In over 600 pages this book does not discuss the freedom of religion."

Haynes concluded that "American history books...do not deal adequately with our tradition of religious freedom. The many struggles concerning religion in schools, the problems of Catholic and other immigrants, the significant religious 'awakenings,' the emergence of new religious groups, church-state debates and many other related themes [are ignored]."

CHRISTIAN LEADERS MEET WITH TELEVISION EXECUTIVES

TUPELO, MS (EP)—Executives from ABC, CBS and NBC met with representatives of Christian Leaders for Responsible Television (CLRTV) April 1 and 2 in New York City. The purpose of the meetings, according to Dr. Billy Melvin, executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals and chairman of CLRTV, was to establish a dialogue with the networks and to hear their response to the Statement of Concern drafted by CLRTV earlier this year.

CLRTV is a diverse group of more than 1600 Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox leaders working together to decrease the amounts of sex, violence and profanity in network programming. The Statement of Concern calls on the networks to reduce the levels of sex, violence and profanity by 35 percent in the 1986 fall season. It also calls for an "immediate end to the anti-Christian stereotyping presented in network programming."

The statement says, "There is a growing concern that television has actually begun to destroy the fabric of society and reduce the quality of life." It pledges its signers to "monitor the situation and to engage in serious dialogue with sponsors to encourage them to join in the reduction of this moral pollution...Should the networks and advertisers refuse to take appropriate steps to stem the tide of filth that is now evident, then we will seek other means of combating the forces of corruption that are now engulfing us."

The networks agreed to respond to the group's concerns in writing, according to Melvin. "The next effort of the group will be to meet with the corporate sponsors," said Melvin, who promised that contacts would begin immediately.

CIVIL LIBERTIES GROUP OPPOSES PRAYER AT TEACHER WORKSHOP

COLD SPRING, MN (EP)—The Minnesota Civil Liberties Union (MCLU) has filed a lawsuit seeking a permanent injunction to stop the Cold Spring, Minn. school district from opening teacher training workshops with prayers. The suit, filed in federal court on behalf of a teacher, claims that the prayers amounted to an unconstitutional establishment of religion.

Cold Spring Superintendent of Schools Patrick DeSutter said he hadn't been notified of any lawsuit, and hadn't heard anything from the MCLU since he wrote to them one year ago requesting specific information on their complaint. DeSutter, who is named in the MCLU lawsuit, was not with the school district in 1983, when the incident took place, and said that since that time prayers have not been used in teacher training workshops.

Why is the MCLU trying to stop the schools from doing something they're not doing anymore? "We know they haven't done it for two years, but that isn't the issue," explained MCLU Executive Director Matthew Stark. "The issue is that they had a pattern previously and they haven't agreed to not do that again. That's the basis of the suit. We want them to be told by a court that they cannot do it."

Stark also said that while no invocation has been offered at teacher training sessions during the last two years, clergy have been present. Stark objects to this practice. "All that they've done is shift away from prayer," claimed Stark. "Having the clergy there is to give an aura of religiosity."

DeSutter suggested that the MCLU might be more interested in getting publicity for their views than in resolving a specific problem in Cold Spring. "It's a rather disappointing way to get attention, if that's what they're trying to do," he said. "It's kind of offensive to me that an organization that is presumably dedicated to the preservation of freedom would choose to use the press in such a way as to try their case in the media without giving anyone factual data. If their motives are really what they say they are they would have responded to my request for information a year ago and they have not done that. One really does have to question their motives."

FIRST NEW TESTAMENT PUBLISHED IN YAKAN

ZAMBOANGA CITY, Philippines (EP)—The International Bible Society has published the first complete New Testament in the Yakan language, which is spoken by approximately 60,000 people in the Muslim areas of western Mindanao and neighboring islands in the Philippines.

Previously the Yakans had only Scripture portions, the first of which was published by the Bible Society in 1977.

Dietlinde Behrens, of Germany, was the translator. Behrens is affiliated with Wycliffe Bible Translators. International Bible Society is a principal publisher of tribal language translations produced by Wycliffe.



Growing For God's Glory



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Free Will Baptists

THE SECRETARY SPEAKS

By Melvin Worthington

We adopted the Target 90 Campaign during the 1985 National Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. This five-year growth plan has as its goal 50,000 net membership increase and the planting of 100 new churches by 1990.

We can grow. Free Will Baptists can plant churches. The Target 90 Campaign will stimulate individual, local church, district, state and national growth outreach.

In order to grow we must determine God's guidelines for growth. Guidelines for growth include a philosophy for growth, personnel for growth and a program for growth.

Philosophy for Growth

Any growth philosophy among our churches must be *biblical*. All methods, motivations and means must be measured by the Word of God which is our rule of faith and practice.

A growth philosophy includes *balance*. This means that we avoid tangents and extremes. It also means that we emphasize evangelism, education, edification, establishment and encouragement. Paul's missionary journeys in Acts amplify this principle of balance.

Another ingredient is *breadth*. The field is the world. What we do locally is part of a world-wide work. Christ is calling out a multitude from every nation under heaven. There can be no economic, racial, cultural or educational barriers.

The final ingredient is *bonding*. We must be knit together in the bond of love. We are not all the same. Different personalities, practices and procedures are realities in the church.

Personnel for Growth

God chose men to get the message of redemption to a lost world. This means workers who are called, commissioned, committed and consistent.

Christian workers are called by God. Jesus commanded His disciples to "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into his harvest." This indisputable truth cannot be overlooked when we consider personnel for growth. Time must be spent praying that the Lord will thrust workers into His work.

Christian workers are *faithful*. Paul said, "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."

Christian workers are *fearless*. Paul spoke the Word with boldness. The disciples spoke the Word with boldness. Paul requested prayer from the Ephesian church that he might boldly make known the gospel.

The Secretary's Schedule

July 14-19	Pre-Convention Meetings Tulsa, Oklahoma
July 20-24	National Convention Tulsa, Oklahoma
July 24-26	Post-Convention Meetings Tulsa, Oklahoma

Christian workers are *fervent*. Deep feeling, emotional enthusiasm, eagerness and excitement characterize the Christian worker. The love of Christ compels them. The lost condition of sinners breaks their heart.

Program for Growth

The Great Commission sets forth the program for growth. The first ingredient of the program is *evangelism*. The task of reaching the unsaved with the gospel is the foundation for everything else.

Then comes *education*. We must teach and train men to observe and obey the Word of God. This means building them up in the faith, helping them develop their natural abilities as well as their spiritual gifts.

Encouragement waters a good program for growth. In Paul's epistles he encourages, commends, consoles and challenges his readers. Those encouraged shoulder the responsibility for others and the program of God.

Goals for growth in God's program include statistical growth—adding to the church, stewardship growth—abounding in the grace of giving; spiritual growth—growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ; service growth—always abounding in the work of the Lord.

May we determine to do God's will according to His Word as we do His work according to His way.

It's time. Let's grow for God's glory! ▲

CONTACT

P.O. Box 1088

Nashville, Tennessee 37202

Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee

MASTER'S MEN...

a Free Will Baptist "Men"istry

...MORE THAN MEN!

Do you wish you knew more about...

1985

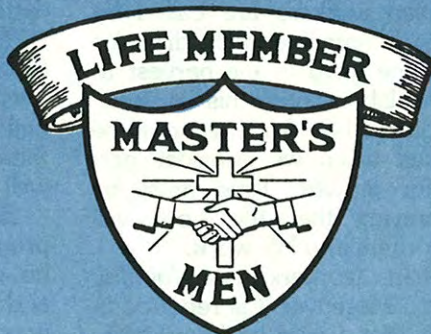
- ...Laying up treasures of disciples.
- ...Called to a Cross, Called to a Yoke.
- ...Ye must be born again!
- ...Learn of me.
- ..."He it is that loveth me."
- ...Hiding His word in my heart.
- ...Lord of All.
- ..."Please take me...."
- ...Fruit of the righteous.
- ...Would there be enough evidence?
- ...Give as unto the Lord.
- ...Not if, when...you pray.

1986

- ...Guilty or not?
- ...Faith--Faithful--Faithfulness
- ...Better than sacrifice.
- ...A Servant heart.
- ...A desire to witness.
- ...Becoming "Of full age."

??
 ????
 ? ?
 ? ?
 ?
 ?
 ?
 ?
 ?
 ?
 ?
 ?
 ?
 ?

You would have known more about all these attributes and attitudes of a disciple just by being a member of your Free Will Baptist Master's Men "Men"istry. These are the monthly topics studied since the beginning of the "DECADE OF DISCIPLESHIP" in January 1985. Join now and get in on the next 102 lessons.



**All
 Together
 To
 Advance
 Christ's
 Kingdom**

Now you can be a part of the layman's work. Master's Men is growing places of service for every Free Will Baptist layman. Be part of new efforts for the Master.

NEW 1985-1995
 Study through the next ten years with the "DECADE OF DISCIPLESHIP" materials. Read the Bible through each year with the Master's Men and use the monthly study lessons written by Free Will Baptist laymen. Learn to be a better follower of the Master.

NEW
 More effort is placed on emphasizing the "Servant role" of every believer. The Master's Hands Projects have helped our Free Will Baptists ministries by paying for the construction of the Metcalf Memorial Dormitory in Brazil (1984). Also, the Master's Men built two Home Missions churches (1985) with more scheduled in this year.

NEW
LifeMember status began January, 1986 for men who are committed to serving the Master until He says "Well done." Men have joined for life to show their desire to be in the "men"istry. LifeMembers are "lively stones" in the building of the living church.

NEW
 A new emphasis on helping finance the ministry of Master's Men began with the establishment of the Master's Men Trust Fund. LifeMember funds and other designated gifts are deposited in this irrevocable trust to provide interest for the General Fund. The principal amount will remain until the Lord returns, supplying needed help.

Nothing is "free" in the Lord's work except salvation. Your help is needed for Master's Men. Give a needed gift of at least "30 Silver pieces" to help Master's Men grow places of service!

**Master's Men Department
 PO Box 17306
 Nashville, TN 37217**

Master's Men...more than men...men ALIVE!