

# The Christian and AIDS

By Paul Gentuso, M.D.

number of cases caused by heterosexual contact is increasing, as are the number of pediatric cases. Fifty percent of children born to mothers with AIDS will become infected with the virus by the time they are born.

The experience in Africa and elsewhere demonstrates that heterosexually transmitted AIDS can become the prominent mode of spreading the disease. Clearly, this is not just a homosexual problem or a problem of the immoral; we are all faced with it.

## A Judgment from God?

Is AIDS a judgement from God? All sickness, suffering and death is the result of Adam's sin. Therefore, it can be said that all sickness is rooted in judgement. However, God's Word also says that a man reaps what he sows. The man who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction (See Galatians 6:7-8).

Whether or not this epidemic is a special wrath from God, specifically aimed at the perversion of homosexuality, I do not know. Regardless, the fact that over 1,000 children in the USA currently suffer from the disease demonstrates that AIDS is no respecter of age, gender or moral character.

## What's Our Response?

How are we to respond to this? To protect ourselves and our families from contracting the AIDS virus is rather straightforward. Once again, God's way is the only way. Mutually faithful, monogamous sexual relations between married partners is the only moral and the only "safe" sexual practice. The statement to our youth must be NO to premarital sex. This is mandated both by God's Word and good sense.

Aside from contracting the virus sexually or through IV drug needle sharing, the only other significant means by which the typical American could contract the AIDS virus is via transfusion of

By now everyone in America knows that AIDS is an acronym for Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome. The term AIDS means something different to each one of us. Let's take a few moments to learn some basic facts, clear away misunderstandings, and gain some insight into a problem that shows no sign of going away.

## What is AIDS?

What is AIDS? It is a disease characterized by the inability to fight off infections. It is uniformly fatal. There is no cure. It is caused by a virus, or germ, referred to as the AIDS virus or HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus).

Virtually everyone who becomes infected with the virus will come down with the disease. The virus is contracted by several means, but the common denominator is that blood or body fluid from an infected person needs to make its way to another person's blood stream to transmit the virus.

Documented means of transmission include sexual contact with an infected person; receiving a transfusion with blood that is infected with the virus; being born to, or breast-fed by, a mother with the virus; or sharing an IV needle with a person infected with the virus.

Note that even though low concentrations of the virus can be found in an infected person's saliva, tears and other body secretions, one does not appear to be able to contract or catch the AIDS virus by casual (non-sexual) contact. In fact, even among family members, no spread of the AIDS virus has been documented, except between those who share sexual relations or in the case of infected mothers breast-feeding their babies.

## **How Big a Problem?**

How big a problem is AIDS? As of April 1988, the Center for Disease Control reported 58,207 cases of AIDS in the U S A. Every state in the union has reported cases, as have the majority of countries worldwide.



In the USA, the majority of cases have occurred in male homosexuals and in IV drug abusers (70 percent and 20 percent respectively). However, the infected blood or blood products. Several aspects of this need to be considered.

First, there is no risk of contracting AIDS by donating blood, since completely disposable equipment is used to collect donated blood.

Second, since March 1985, several measures have been implemented nationwide to make the blood supply safer. All high risk donors, as determined by a questionnaire, are turned away from donating blood.

Also, all blood is screened for the presence of antibodies to the AIDS



virus. This is an indirect test for the presence of the AIDS virus. It can fail to detect an infected sample of donated blood if a person has just become infected with the virus within a short time, typically several weeks, prior to donating blood.

Therefore, the blood supply is much safer than before March 1985, but still not 100 percent. Some small risk for transfusion associated with AIDS still exists, estimated to be less than one per 100,000 units of transfused blood. As always, blood transfusions are to be done only when necessary.

There is no evidence to demonstrate that directed donations, from family and friends, is any safer than randomly donated blood. Whether or not one should set aside several units of one's own blood, prior to anticipated major surgery, is unclear. I personally feel that this would be reasonable, if your doctor thinks you are medically able to do it.

## **How Can We Help?**

What more can we do to assist in this crisis? We must understand the problem

for what it is, an epidemic that affects all of us, either directly or indirectly. Additionally, we must continue to share Jesus Christ with our family, friends and neighbors.

The Christian lifestyle automatically puts someone at very low risk for ever acquiring the disease. Therefore we must evangelize, for the sake of people's souls, as well as for their health.

We must speak out against immorality and immoral lifestyles, especially with regard to our young people. We must clearly relate to them the message of Jesus Christ and the pure lifestyle that He demands. We cannot hesitate to speak clearly and openly to our young people about these issues, or else they will have no capacity to counter the humanistic, amoral message they are receiving from the rest of society.

Colossians 3:12-14 teaches that as God's chosen people we are to clothe ourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience and forgiveness. Over all these virtues we are to put on love. That's a tall order.

In light of that, how do we respond to the needs of the 3-month-old infant with AIDS, born to an IV drug-abusing prostitute? What about the needs of the 9-year-old hemophiliac who has AIDS from transfusions of blood products? What of the 27-year-old homosexual dying of the disease?

Our Christian response, by way of our attitude, as well as our social and political action, needs to be one characterized by sensibility, sensitivity and love.



ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Paul J. Gentuso practices family medicine in Nashville, Tennessee. He is a member of Donelson Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville.

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or thousands of Free Will Baptists, no summer would be complete without a trip to the national convention. These meetings are a time of spiritual refreshing and fellowship. I look forward to each convention with great anticipation.

And yet, now that I'm serving as a Free Will Baptist pastor, I wonder if we're using our conventions to their greatest potential. I'm convinced that our denomination is generally oblivious to modern-day problems within the local church.

I propose that we use our annual convention to at least discuss some to these relevant issues. Let me list what I consider three of our most pressing problems:

## **Keeping our Young People**

It's no secret that as a denomination we're losing a number of our most precious group—our young people. Our four colleges combined are having problems matching the enrollment that Free Will Baptist Bible College had in the late 70's and early 80's. Many churches haven't had a young person answer God's call to preach or serve on the mission field in years.

who boast large youth groups and many activities. We must find a way to keep our young people enthused, involved and a vital part of the local church. A church which doesn't put much stock into programs for its youth will not see significant growth.

## **Recognizing Pentecostal** Influence

Those who adhere to Pentecostal doctrine generally believe that Baptists are "second-class Christians" due to our beliefs concerning spiritual gifts. In his booklet, "What The Bible Says About Tongues," Dr. Robert Picirilli correctly points out that "a non-Pentecostal church that tolerates tongues will soon be split."

We have indeed lost Free Will Baptist people, churches and property to Pentecostal movements. I believe we need additional insight to help pastors and church members not only realize what our doctrine teaches, but to be comfortable and confident in our doctrine. With this type guidance, perhaps one day we'll see an end to Free Will Baptist churches having problems and / or splitting over doctrinal beliefs.

#### **Getting Full Potential**

Paul compared the church to the body. He wrote that every member. whether great or small, attractive or not, had a job to do. As I look at our denomination. I believe this to be our greatest problem. Many of us simply are not pulling our full share of the load. Our missionaries are forced to return home early. Why? Because many churches don't support them financially. Our churches as a whole are not growing. Why? Because many members are not laboring for Jesus.

As a denomination, how do we get In addition, some of our youth leave full potential from our churches? As our churches to attend other churches pastors, how can we lead members to

take up their end of the rope? As laymen, how can we encourage pastors to continue in face of adversity? I believe the only way that we'll see significant growth is through a team effort, and that begins with total involvement.

How does the national convention fit into all of this? Quite nicely, in fact. Every year, a subject that is relative to many of our churches can be discussed. Perhaps the Executive Committee can seek out pastors or laymen who have had success dealing with these or other problems that the local church experiences. A committee could be appointed, research completed and the best opinions shared. Some of these problems need to be addressed from the pulpit during our evening services.

I don't have all the answers. As a young minister, though, I do have many questions. However, I'm confident that there are many pastors, deacons and church members who are as conscious of these and other problems as I am.

I'm fortunate that my church finances my annual trip to the national convention. I certainly enjoy seeing old friends and listening to good preaching. But I want to be challenged at our conventions. I'd like to be able to seek out answers that will help me be a better pastor.

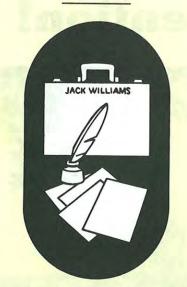
I'd like to get something that I can take home to my church, something that will help me and the church better serve Christ and fulfill the Great Commission. After all, isn't that the most important reason for having a national convention?

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Douglas Carey pastors First Free Will Baptist Church, Winter Haven, Florida. He is chairman of the Registration Committee for the national convention which meets July 16-20 in Tampa, Florida.

# **Get More Out of the National Convention**

By Douglas Carey

Briefcase



The day we left is frozen in time for me. A cold January wind whipped the car over the snowy road reminding me that I was a failure as a pastor. Three years' work gone. I was 24 years old, been preaching eight years and pastoring seven, but so ashamed I never again wanted to see anybody who knew me.

Nothing worked out like we'd intended. I drove south pulling a U-Haul trailer feeling worthless and despised. I had visited the sick, preached 400 sermons, baptized the converts, buried the dead ... and watched the attendance and income drop 40 percent.

Looking back on it now, I know that congregation tried hard. But somewhere between my second and third years, the tide turned and I ignored the undertow.

For years after resigning (Yes, they allowed me to resign when they probably should have fired me.), every time I thought about that church I remembered the man who phoned repeatedly to curse me for not visiting his elderly mother more. It didn't matter that he was a drunk who was breaking her heart. He needed somebody to blame and he knew I wouldn't hit back.

Then I replayed that afternoon when two angry women came to the parsonage, honked their car horn to call me out and proceeded to berate church members who worked with them in a nearby factory. They let me know that a *real* pastor would keep those members

## **The Failure**

in line. They swore they'd never darken the church door till I did something about it. I didn't and they didn't either. I read looking for the church problems—I was amazed at what I'd missed. Then came a reading looking for the

**Of course,** in my better moments, I remember the teenagers from our church who entered the armed forces and those who attended Bible College. How proud I was of them. And those fine deacons—better men I've never met anywhere. But none of them could change the inevitable—I had to go.

What a bitter cup for a young pastor. Depressed with my failure, I paralyzed what little effectiveness I had left. There were few tears when I announced my resignation. We all knew I must leave; the church needed somebody else. It was time. But how hard to face the reality of it and let go.

**The nightmare** finally ended. The next 18 months were the most miserable of my life. They were also months of testing, learning and healing. I learned to deal eye-to-eye with professional people in the community. My faith buffeted by cynicism and borderline poverty, I learned to value the working man's time. Impatient, I learned to wait patiently.

And a hundred times I awoke in the darkness sweating, hearing that drunk curse me for not visiting his mother more. I took two full-time jobs, working 80 hours a week to pay off debts. And God sent Christians I'd never met to minister to me. I learned the hard way, but I learned.

**When I was** in my blackest despair, alone with my uncertainties, one simple thing anchored me to spiritual sanity—reading the Bible. Not reading for sermons or lessons but reading for me, for the sheer joy of it.

Strangely enough, that's when I rediscovered the book of Acts. I started reading Acts out of anger to find out why I'd failed. I read it again. Then I switched to another version and my reading caught fire. For weeks, I read the entire book of Acts every day. The book became my life-line.

I read looking for the prayers—what prayers I discovered, what power! Then

I read looking for the church problems—I was amazed at what I'd missed. Then came a reading looking for the martyrs, another searching out the evangelism explosion, the dramatic impact of the resurrection of Christ, and on it went.

**Then an odd** thing happened. My co-workers began asking what I was reading. I bought New Testaments for 25 cents each and gave them to agnostic friends, to atheist friends, to Roman Catholic friends. They came to me curious about the Book I seldom put down. They heard my testimony, and God reminded me why I was there.

Suddenly, I felt like Daniel, strategically placed by the hand of God to serve in a hostile camp, learning truths I could not learn anywhere else. The darkness gradually lifted. The way was plain again. And God turned the page.

**One day,** an unexpected letter arrived from a church looking for a pastor. How they found me I never knew. I'd cut myself off from friends, not wishing to embarrass them with my failure.

Soon I was back pastoring, the fear and insecurity and anger drained away. God had healed me. To this day I remember those awful months wrestling with the fact that my best wasn't good enough.

**From time to time,** my phone rings and a shaky voice says, "They voted us out." Or, "I had to resign; what can I do?"

When I hear those words, I want to reach out to that broken pastor and weep with him. I listen when he tells me where it hurts, when he chokes on raw emotion—the betrayal of a trust, the fear of failure, his feeling of uselessness and loss of self-worth, the economic disaster he faces.

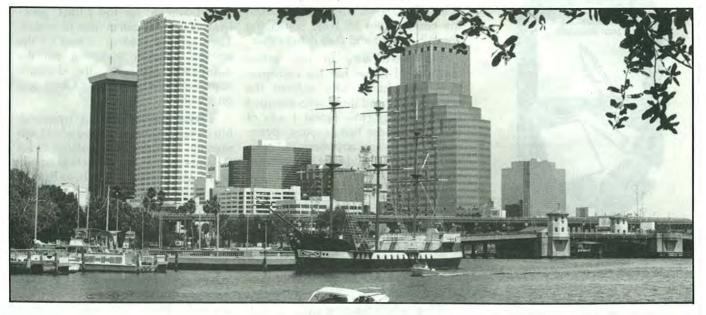
At that point it doesn't matter who's at fault. I want him to believe in himself again, to trust again, to believe that somewhere in all his darkness the glory of God will rise once more.

The night does end. The fog lifts. The hurt heals. I know, for I've been there.

## **1989 National Convention Preview**

# **The Sunshine Convention!**

By Marilyn Pritchard



lorida's 5,700 members and 75 churches host the national convention this July for the second time since the National Association organized in 1935. The convention last met in Florida in 1967 at Jacksonville where 3,000 registered.

Remember this date: July 16-20. That's when some 5,000 Free Will Baptists from 40 states will get together in Tampa at Curtis Hixon Convention Center for the 53rd annual session of the National Association. Expect plenty of preaching, singing, business sessions, good food and fellowship with God's people in the sunshine state.

Plan your arrival by air, land or sea. The runway at Tampa International Airport ends just five miles from downtown Tampa. Twelve national airlines as well as foreign airlines service the airport. Interstates 4 and 75 converge downtown. And since Tampa sits between two bays, major cruise lines sail to and from Tampa every day.

Along with the national convention, 2,000 youth meet for the National Youth Conference with Bible and Music & Arts Competition. Woman's National Auxiliary Convention convenes for their 54th annual convention with speakers, seminars, meals and fellowship.

## **Meet Tampa**

Tampa, rich in Spanish heritage and boasting a waterfront cityscape with a panoramic "window on the Bay," ranks among the top 10 all-round best vacation destinations in America. Tampa has it all: museums, amusement parks, cruises, historical sites, sports, the arts, shopping, restaurants and more.

Attractions include everything from zoos to thriller rides, short to long cruises, hurricanes (at the Museum of Science and Industry) to white tigers, performing arts to pirates, alligator wrestling to baseball, and the longest continuous sidewalk in the world.

Want to shop? Visit the Belz Factory Outlet Mall, Old Hyde Park Village, Tampa Bay Center, Ybor Square, the Market on Harbour Island, University Square Mall, Westshore Plaza and numerous other specialty stores.

Spanish culture dominates all areas of life, including dining out. You can eat paella and spicy black beans. Or if you prefer seafood, local catches will tempt you: grouper, pompano, shrimp and stone crab. If that doesn't suit your fancy, try steak American style or dishes at any number of international restaurants.

## **Getting Ready**

When the National Association of

Free Will Baptists meets in a city, it's big business in more ways than one. Every convention since 1984 brought \$1 million-plus to convention cities. Kansas City kept 1.3 million Free Will Baptist dollars in 1988. We ate more than 3,000 catered meals in each of the last four conventions. Five-year registration statistics speak loudly:

1988	Kansas City, Mo.	5,866
1987	Birmingham, Ala.	6,159
1986	Tulsa, Okla.	6,545
1985	Nashville, Tenn.	8,340
1984	Little Rock, Ark.	6,604

A national convention requires careful advance preparations. Florida's Steering Committee began preparing last September. Each member chairs a different committee responsible for specific areas of preparation:

Leroy Cutler chairs the Steering Committee proper;

J. D. Norris, the Hospitality Committee; Douglas Carey, the Registration Committee:

- Elmer Turnbough, the Prayer Committee;
- Roger Duncan, the Ushering Committee;
- Peggy Hutto, the State Woman's Auxiliary president serves with the Committee

as does former promotional secretary, Harvey Hill.

Five ministers are making preparations to address the convention theme, "Growing Through Scriptural Stewardship." Two others prepare to preach at the ninth annual Bible Conference. Moderator Ralph Hampton prepares to gavel his second national convention. Others getting ready for July include seminar leaders, banquet speakers, speakers for NYC and WNAC services.

Behind the scenes, preparations continue with hotel, catering, convention center and convention bureau personnel. Staff must secure typewriters, lease equipment, purchase supplies, print programs and digests, authorize telephone service, and many more details.

## **Meet the Preachers**

Four pastors will address the convention's plenary worship sessions Sunday morning through Wednesday night speaking on the theme, "Growing Through Scriptural Stewardship," which is the 1989 theme under the five-year theme "Growing for God's Glory."

## Sunday Morning

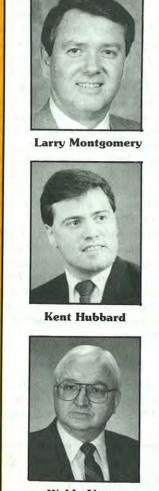
Sunday morning early birds will hear Larry M. Montgomery, pastor of Hollywood FWB Church in Hollywood, Fla., preach on the topic, "Stewardship of our Testimony." Born in Holdenville, Okla., Montgomery, 44, received B.A. degrees from Oklahoma State University (1965) and Free Will Baptist Bible College (1967).

He has pastored in four states. He served as moderator of the Illinois State Association two years, clerk of the Florida State Association three years and presently serves on the Florida State Missions Board.

## Sunday Evening

The Sunday evening service will be the NYC keynote service—and the adults are invited. Reverend Kent Hubbard, pastor of Central FWB Church, Grandview, Mo., will deliver the keynote message. Brother Hubbard was born in St. Louis, Mo., attended Saint Louis University, received his B.A. in theology from Hillsdale FWB College, and did graduate work at Bethany Nazarene College.

He pastored three Oklahoma churches before moving to Grandview Church. He served as moderator of



Waldo Young



**Delmar Sparks** 



**Milburn Wilson** 

South Grand River Association, chairman of the Oklahoma State Christian Education Board and president of Hillsdale Alumni Association.

## Monday Evening

National Association Clerk Waldo Young will wear two hats at this year's convention. Monday evening, he will speak on the topic, "Stewardship of Our Treasure." Born in Pottawatomie County, Okla., in 1932, Brother Young received his B.A. in theology from Hillsdale FWB College. He was a member of the first class of Oklahoma Bible College, now Hillsdale FWB College.

Brother Young has pastored seven Oklahoma churches and presently pastors Northeast FWB Church, Shawnee. He has held numerous positions in district, state and national associations including Oklahoma state clerk (10 years), Hillsdale College Board (5 years, and presently is on that board) and National Association clerk since 1969. He has sung with the Ministers Quartet more than 25 years.

## **Tuesday Evening**

Tuesday evening belongs to Ohio pastor Delmar Sparks who will preach on the subject, "Stewardship of our Text." Reverend Sparks pastors Westerville FWB Church. The 61-year-old Kentucky native served in the U.S. Army 1946-1947 and was ordained in Hayden, Ohio in 1953.

Brother Sparks pastored three Ohio churches before starting a mission work in Westerville in 1959, where he presently pastors. He served in several capacities in district associations, as moderator of the Ohio State Association, on the General and Executive Boards of Ohio. He represents Ohio on the National Association General Board.

## Wednesday Evening

Dr. Milburn Wilson, 52, develops the topic, "Stewardship of our Territory" Wednesday evening. Born in Francis, Okla., Wilson earned his B.S. degree from Central State University (Edmond, Okla.), his M.A. and Ph.D. from Baptist Christian University (Shreveport, La.). He received his D.Min. from Sacramento Baptist Theological Seminary (Sacramento, Calif.). Dr. Wilson is a graduate of American Institute of **Convention** . . . (From page 7) Church Growth, a member of American Association of Christian Counselors, and the American Association of Behavioral Therapists.

Brother Wilson started a church in Duncan County, Okla., and pastored two other Oklahoma churches before moving to Sherwood Forest FWB Church in El Sobrante, Calif. He also served on Oklahoma's Mission Board and Sunday School Board. He presently serves on the Golden Gate Association Executive Board, California State Missions Board and the national Home Missions Board.

## **Bible Conference**

Two speakers highlight this year's Tuesday morning Bible Conference in Holiday Inn Downtown. South Carolina Promotional Director Norwood Gibson opens the conference in the 9:00 a.m. service. This army veteran pastored McColl First FWB Church, then organized FWB Bible Church in Florence where he pastored from 1964-1980. In 1980 he accepted the position of promotional director for the state.

Brother Gibson, 61, moderated the First District Quarterly two years, and the S.C. State Association seven years. He served on the Presbytery Board of the S.C. Conference 10 years, the national Executive Committee one year, the Foreign Missions Board six years (and is presently serving his second sixyear term on that board), and the national General Board six years.

The 10:00 a.m. service finds 33-yearold Garnett H. Reid in the pulpit. The Tennessee native is professor of Bible and director of Christian Service at Free Will Baptist Bible College. Brother Reid received his B.A. from Free Will Baptist Bible College, M.A. in Bible from Bob Jones University where he is also a Ph.D. candidate.

Reverend Reid, ordained in 1978, has served as clerk of the Presbytery of Tennessee's Cumberland Association, clerk and assistant clerk of the Tennessee State Association. He has written articles for *Contact* and a series of four booklets for new converts published by Randall House.

## **Plenty of Rooms**

Convention officials blocked 1,000 rooms in four downtown Tampa hotels for the 1989 convention. Hyatt Regency Tampa, the headquarters hotel, reserved 450 rooms for our people.

Single room prices range from \$45 to \$70 while quad rates go from \$50 to \$80, depending on the hotel. This year's hotels include the following:

Hyatt Regency Tampa—450 rooms Tampa Hilton—200 rooms

Holiday Inn Downtown—200 rooms Days Inn Downtown—150 rooms

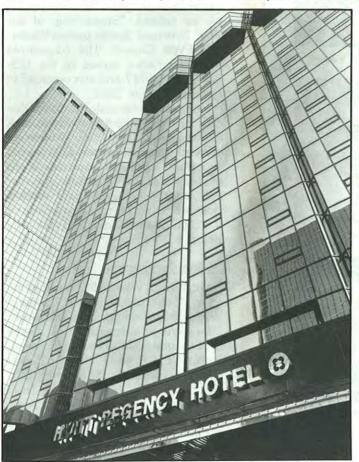
Reservations for hotel rooms must be made on the official convention housing form printed in April, May or June Contact or in one of the Free Will Baptist state papers. Oh, a word of caution: Rooms are going fast. Better hurry!

## Parking

Tampa Hilton, Holiday Inn Downtown and Days Inn Downtown provide complimentary parking for their guests. Hyatt Regency charges \$4.50 per day. Additional paid parking for 1,000 cars is available at Curtis Hixon Convention Center.

## **No Nursery**

There are no nursery facilities at the convention, but there is a Mothering Room for mothers needing a temporary



## CALLING ALL FREE WILL BAPTIST SINGERS!

Do the words *Tampa in July*, ring your chimes? When you consider the blessing of singing with Free Will Baptists from across the globe, do you experience a crescendo in your spirit?

If you answer, "yes," to one of the above questions, we need you at this year's National Association of Free Will Baptists. The 1989 meeting convenes July 16-20 in the Curtis Hixon Convention Center in Tampa. The Mass Choir, conducted by Doug Little, will lead a great host of Free Will Baptists in musical worship on both Monday and Tuesday evenings of the convention.

Rather than harp on this issue, let me invite you to harmonize with the choir. Rehearsal times will be announced in the June issue of *Contact*.

> Blaine Hughes Convention Music Coordinator

place to tend children. This year's Mothering Room is located in Curtis Hixon Convention Center. Check your program for the exact location.

The Mothering Room is not a nursery and is not staffed.

## Registration

National Convention and WNAC registrations begin 3:00 p.m. Sunday in the lobby of Curtis Hixon Convention Center. Registration closes Wednesday noon. Concessions will be open in the convention center so delegates and visitors may snack and fellowship as they register.

National Youth Conference registration begins 3:00 p.m. Sunday in Galleria B at Hyatt Regency. Most youth activities will be held in this hotel.

## Exhibits

Exhibits may be found in the Gasparilla Room at Curtis Hixon Convention Center. Nearly 50 exhibitors will display educational and denominational literature and programs.

Monday 3:00 p.m. marks the exhibits' opening, an earlier time than in the past. Booths are open daily 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., except during evening worship services (7:00 p.m - 8:30 p.m.). Exhibits close at 12:30 p.m. Thursday or 30 minutes after the final business session concludes.

## Soup's On!

Eighteen catered events ranging from a seven-member WNAC Executive Committee luncheon to the 900-seat Youth Banquet tempt 1989 Tampa conventioneers.

Use the ticket request form in this issue to order tickets in advance for the events of your choice. Be sure your order arrives before June 30. Some events sell out quickly. This is how it works—first come, first served.

Deputational Missionary Mabel Willey keynotes the WNAC Fellowship Dinner Tuesday evening. Mrs. Willey served as a missionary in Cuba with her husband, Thomas H. (Pop) Willey. After his death she served in Panama, retiring from that field in 1980.

Master's Men made a major change in their annual meal. Formerly a breakfast meeting, it is now a dinner. Retirement Board Chairman Ron Barber speaks at the Wednesday evening dinner. Brother Barber, a member of Bethany FWB Church in Jenks, Okla., is a lawyer.

Other special meals include the Learner / Adventurer Banquet Monday afternoon, Music Ministries Breakfast Tuesday Morning, Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon Tuesday afternoon, Youth Banquet Tuesday evening and Free Will Baptist Bible College Luncheon Wednesday afternoon.

## Business

The annual business meeting begins 9:00 a.m. Monday when the General Board convenes in the Ybor Room at Curtis Hixon Convention Center. Moderator Ralph Hampton gavels the business session to order Wednesday morning at 9:00 in Curtis Hixon Convention Center's Main Hall.

This year's voting delegation will consider board reports, departmental budgets and board elections. Delegates are expected to approve denominational budgets exceeding \$11 million and elect more than 37 board and commission members. Each national agency and commission will submit an annual report to delegates.

#### Workshops

Monday afternoon, Home Missions Department conducts their annual Camp Meeting in Curtis Hixon's Main Hall 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Tuesday afternoon, three seminars will be held around Tampa: Target 90 sponsors a church growth seminar at Curtis Hixon Convention Center. The Commission for Theological Integrity sponsors a theological trends seminar at Holiday Inn Downtown. The Music Commission sponsors a seminar in Tampa Hilton.

A new seminar concept this year is the TBIS Computer Seminar held Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Downtown. Drop in anytime.

And five times Monday and Tuesday, the Board of Retirement will sponsor 20-minute seminars in the Holiday Inn Downtown. Consult the program for exact times.

## WNAC Notes

The WNAC program kicks off Monday afternoon with two seminars, both in Tampa Hilton. One is for ministers' wives and the other is for single, career and older women. Three ladies develop themes in each seminar. For ministers' wives, Lila Faye Morgan talks on "Take My Yoke," Nora McCarty on "If Any Lack Wisdom," and Maurine Lee on "I Will Give You Rest."

For the general seminar, Yvonne Wolfenbarger discusses the single again. June Rolen addresses the career woman, and Ethel Whaley speaks to the J-O-Y (Just Older Youth) Group.

President Mary Neal from Indiana moderates the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention business session Tuesday in Curtis Hixon Convention Center's Main Hall.

Then at 11:10 a.m. Tom McCullough, missionary to France delivers the WNAC Missionary Service message. The Michigan native earned his B.A. from Free Will Baptist Bible College and is working toward a graduate degree. He and his wife Patty have completed their second term in France.

The 5:00 p.m. Fellowship Dinner meets in the Regency Ballroom at the Hyatt Regency Tuesday evening.

## NYC Memos

Primary and Junior classes meet together for Sunday School and morning worship. Place: Hyatt Regency. The Teen class meets in the same hotel for their services.

The NYC keynote service will meet Sunday night. All during the convention, Primary, Junior and Teen groups have special activities planned. Check the NYC program for events, times and places.

## And Finally ...

Convention preparations are almost complete—speakers selected, programs ready to print, hotels waiting, musicians preparing. What else needs to be done? For you and other Free Will Baptists to assemble in Tampa this July. Mark your calendar, reserve the dates—July 16-20—and make your plans to meet us in sunny Florida.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Contact editorial assistant, Marilyn Pritchard, doubles as convention office manager each July. Conventioneers probably won't see her at Tampa, but they will see the daily news update, printed resolutions and reports produced by her trusty office machines.

Meet us in Tampa!

# When a Working Mother Has Second Thoughts

By Sue Larson

hen I grow up I want to be a mommy and cook hot rolls!" I said proudly. Adults always asked the same question and I always gave the same answer. But I had no idea how difficult it would be to fulfill that simple ambition.

Things are different today. Yesterday's noisy neighborhoods are quiet, the children in day care centers. Apron-clad, stay-at-home mothers traded cookie sheets for computer terminals.

Today's families face decisions that didn't exist a generation ago. With greater opportunities and career choices available, more women head households and juggle economic pressures. Families struggle with the question of working mothers as never before.

Changes which led to the working mothers phenomenon took place gradually and caught many Christians by surprise. Families must decide if Mother will work and if so, how much and under what circumstances. Working mothers want to know if their actions have only financial and social ramifications or if there are moral and biblical principles at stake.

These personal questions can only be answered in a personal way. I had to rethink my position about working outside the home several times. Since other families and circumstances are not like mine, I don't insist that all mothers resolve their dilemmas like I did. I will simply share my story.

## **The Commitment**

When my husband and I married in the early 70's, I was prepared to do what my mother had not done—work outside the home before having children. Although we had no plans for a family right away, my ideas raised some eyebrows.

One neighbor, an old Greek immigrant, changed his mind about giving us a wedding present when he learned that I planned to work instead of "stay at home and have babies." I should have realized then that I couldn't please everyone!

For five years we worked and planned, preparing ourselves financially and emotionally for the time when we would start a family. At last, we felt ready and when our daughter was born, I resigned from a promising job to become a full-time, stay-at-home mother. Three years later our son was born.

I always planned to return to work someday, but for the time being I stayed home with the children. I experimented with part-time jobs but did not consider working full time until they were both in school.

## The Compromise

When our son registered in kindergarten, I thought about rejoining the work force. With extra time on my hands, it made sense. I had skills that needed to be used and we certainly could benefit from the added income. I easily convinced myself that taking a full-time job was the right thing to do. I don't remember if I asked God about it. I just assumed He would see it my way.

I found the right job and became a working mother. It was a good position with caring people in a Christian environment. That eased my conscience when the job took more of my time and energy. But I soon learned that women who seem to have it all do so at a price. There was no guilt-free solution to the emotional tug-of-war between duty to employer and responsibility to family.

The struggle to balance both worlds intensified when the children got sick. Through major illnesses and hospitalizations, I tried in vain to be both a dedicated employee and perfect mother. The longer I walked this tightrope, the more frustrated I became.

At the same time, our family became more dependent on the income my job provided. Soon, it was impossible to even think about not working. How could we possibly make ends meet without my salary? I was trapped.

## The Crisis

Stress forced the issue for me. Long before my mind admitted a problem, my body cried, "Enough!" Unable to measure up to my super-woman image, I found myself in a doctor's office. He diagnosed several stress-related ailments and advised me on ways to turn the situation around. As he spoke, I recalled the words of another Physician, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

For the first time since returning to work, I asked God what He wanted me to do. It sounds so simple now. Maybe that's why I missed it. My error was not in working. My mistake had been trusting my own judgement over God's perfect wisdom. I had regarded my commitment to a job more highly than my commitment to God and the responsibilities He had given me.

## The Confirmation

But what now? Could it be that God wanted me to give up my job? I admit that I was afraid. We had become accustomed to living on two incomes. Our obligations weren't going to go away.

When faced with decisions, I like to

list the pros and cons in writing. I started a chart, heading the columns "work" and "not work." To my surprise, neither column was convincing. Was there another alternative?

In the peace that only God gives, I took a step of faith and left my job. In prayer, I offered myself—my skills, my desires and my fears—to my heavenly Father. Recognizing the necessity of total dependence on God, I asked Him to lead me in the way He wanted me to go.

When I stopped working full time, I knew of only one employment opportunity that might provide a few days of work each month. To my delight, several part-time and temporary opportunities came my way. Through parttime work, God supplied our financial needs and gave me a flexible schedule for the sake of my family.

## The Conclusions

More than a year has passed since I left the ranks of full-time working mothers. From my experiences, I learned five principles about work and mothers.

1. Every mother is a working mother. Whether or not she is employed outside the home, she works and her work is important and valuable.

2. Work, in itself, is not wrong. Biblical admonitions against sloth and idleness apply to both women and men. Those who are not employed outside the home should be especially careful to use time wisely. 3. Work for financial gain or reward is not wrong—even for mothers. The biblical role model for working mothers is found in Proverbs 31. Verse 24 pictures her as a wholesaler to merchants selling handmade linens. This and other skills contributed to her family's income.

Godly mothers in early America worked alongside their husbands to raise crops and operate businesses. Our grandmothers earned funds by gathering and selling eggs or taking in boarders.

4. Work can be wrong. As Christians we know that whatever comes between us and God is wrong. Likewise, things that take priority over God-given responsibilities are wrong.

When God blesses a home with children, He extends to parents a sacred trust which we dare not neglect. Women are not the only ones vulnerable in this area. Many workaholic men sell themselves to a career and have no resources of time or energy for the family.

5. God has a plan for each person and each family. A decision regarding work can not be made according to assumption or public opinion. The world's view on the family is distorted. But God has a creative solution for the concerns of every family. We must not be afraid to ask Him for it.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Sue Larson is a member of Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Antioch, Tennessee. So far this year she has juggled two children, one husband and three parttime jobs, in addition to her local church activities.

LOCAL CHURCH DELEGA	TE'S CREDEN	ITIALS
THIS CERTIFIES THAT		
is a duly authorized delegate to the Na	tional Associatio	on of Free Will
Baptists from		
	(Name of church)	
of		
(District Association)	(City)	(State)
(District Association) Pastor	(City) Clerk or Secret	

Katherine McDonald served 26 years as food service director at Free Will Baptist Bible College. She retired December 31, 1985.

## Mother's Right-Mother's Way

By Tim S. McDonald

arch wind whipped across the back yard as two Free Will Baptist preachers (my dad and I) loaded the car. Destination, the local links.

"And just where do you think you're headed with those bare arms?" Mother asked when she saw her short-sleeved son.

"Oh, Mother, I'll be okay ...," I began.

"Wait there and don't move until I return," she said. She handed me a long-sleeved shirt and ordered me to put it on. Sheepishly, I did. It didn't bother her at all that I was 30 years old and six feet tall.

I stepped from the car minutes later, removed the shirt and promptly forgot about it. Dad remarked, "I don't know why she mothers you grown boys like that. You have families and responsibilities of your own, but I guess that's Mother's right and that is your mother's way."

Three hours later enroute home, I found the discarded shirt and put it back on just in time to meet my waiting mother. "You see, you did need that shirt," she said. Dad and I exchanged knowing smiles and maintained eloquent silence for three years because that's Mother's right and that is Mother's way.

## **The Quaker Girl**

Mother came from a Quaker family that desired no trouble and consequently caused none. She was the tall, dark-haired, bright-eyed girl all the boys pursued. Early in life Mother accepted Christ as Savior and sought God's will for her life. Her desire—not the wealthiest, the handsomest or most athletic, but God's man for her.



As a teenager Mother received a scholarship to a music college because of her skill as a violinist. When my oldest brother was born her only time for practice was during his nap. The violin always woke him. Typically, she sacrificed her music for motherhood.

I thank God that Mother accepted God's choice for her husband and chose her children for her career. Growing up in a Christian home is often life at its best. Growing up with Mother was life at its very best, though we did not realize it then.

## **The Practical Theologian**

Dad served the denomination 32 years as treasurer of Free Will Baptist Bible College. The reason he could was mother. He never had to worry about home because Mother was there.

Once a terrible storm struck as Dad drove home from work. The lights went off, power lines blew down and storm warnings were everywhere. Dad should have been home but wasn't. It was my brother's birthday. There was no Dad and no birthday present.

While reassuring us, finishing the cake and getting us light, Mother calmed her own fears and managed to gather some heirlooms to make a birth-

day present. Sensibly, Dad had waited out the storm and arrived late but safely. Mother had kept the family calm and made the birthday.

Mother was a great soul winner. Of her four boys, two accepted Christ at church and two at home. Dad was away on business when the two got saved at home. Kneeling beside her bed Mother led those sons to Christ. One now teaches at Free Will Baptist Bible College and the other is a Free Will Baptist missionary to Japan.

On one occasion all three League classes, tots to teens, ended up in Mother's room. Undeterred, she continued with her lesson on the plan of salvation. "A B C backwards—confess, believe, ask." No one above the age of accountability left that room unaware of how to be saved. I've never heard anyone present salvation's plan simpler or more effectively.

Mother was a great practical theologian. Questionable practices met with, "Would you want to be doing that when Jesus comes?" Wrong deeds or words faced, "Well, just because so and so goes to hell, do you want to go?" Mother's common-sense theology made the Bible real.

Years later when I returned to Christ, those practical warnings ringing through my soul were a major factor in my recommitment. A loving warning about hell may seem cruel to some, but I thank God and Mother that she did what was right.

## **Love's Velvet Glove**

Most people saw Mother as kind and compassionate. Her tempered-steel Christian character was applied with love's velvet glove.

She showed us love daily. She could always find the lost baseball or mend the

torn one, demonstrate how to handle the push mower, how to doctor a sick animal or replace a fallen bird in its nest "without touching it with your hand or the mother won't have it back." Mother made the world's best ham sandwiches and never failed to scrounge a few dollars for gas money so we would not be embarrassed on a date.

Love was not only demonstrated to us but demanded of us. Genesis 33 must have been Mother's favorite chapter. Whenever we boys came to blows, enter Mother, whereupon like Jacob and Esau we had to make up. Hugging your brother's dirty, sweaty neck and kissing his cheek when you want to choke him and bite off his ear will teach you volumes about humility and brotherly love. I love my brothers— Mother never let it be otherwise.

Mother's example taught us that love is founded in character. Once when she was making us clothes, she ran a sheared off sewing machine needle through her finger. Dad was gone, so my brother David raced for help. When help arrived, Mother had already pulled the needle through her finger with pliers and was cleaning it with rubbing alcohol. Grit was more than Hollywood fiction around our home.

Mother must be human for the Bible says none are perfect. I recall but one disagreement between Mother and Dad. Mother thought we should do something. Dad simply said, "No, Katherine, we just can't," and went to work. Mother sat, cried and sipped coffee all day. We boys went quietly, fearful of what was coming next.

Dad's return from work found Mother immediately in his arms weeping, apologizing and asking forgiveness for her obstinacy. He sat Mother in a chair, told her to dry her eyes; nothing was wrong, and he was deeply grieved that so small a thing had troubled her.

I'll never forget the trifling difference of opinion that was insignificant to everyone but Mother. Her delicate love runs deep.

When I cross Jordan's stormy banks and enter the Promised Land, I know where to find Mother. She will be standing on the awards pedestal in Heaven's Hall of Great Mothers.

That's Mother's right and that has always been Mother's way.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Tim McDonald pastors Marvin's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Marianna, Florida.

## REQUEST FOR TICKETS TO MEAL FUNCTIONS 1989 National Convention

Number	Meal	Total
<b></b>	Learner / Adventurer Banquet \$7	\$
	⊅7 Monday, Juły 17 / 5:00 p.m. Holiday Inn Downtown / Crown Ballroom	
	Music Ministries Fellowship Breakfast \$6	\$
	τuesday, July 18/7:00 a.m. Days Inn Downtown/Grand Ballroom III	
	<b>Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon</b> \$7.50 Tuesday, July 18 / 12:15 p.m. Days Inn Downtown / Grand Ballroom II, III	\$
	<b>WNAC Fellowship Dinner</b> \$13.50 Tuesday, July 18 / 5:00 p.m. Hyatt Regency / Regency Ballroom	\$
	<b>Youth Banquet</b> \$8 Tuesday, July 18 / 9:00 p.m. Hyatt Regency / Regency Ballroom	\$
	<b>Youth Workers Fellowship Breakfast</b> \$7 Wednesday, July 19 / 7:00 a.m. Hyatt Regency / Esplanade Suite	\$
	<b>Free Will Baptist Bible College Luncheon</b> \$10 Wednesday, July 19 / 12:00 noon Tampa Hilton / Bayshore Ballroom	\$
	<b>Master's Men Dinner</b> \$12.50 Wednesday, July 19 / 5:00 p.m. Days Inn Downtown / Grand Ballroom	\$
DIEACE	Total Enclose	d \$
PLEASE NAME	PRINT:	
		1
Make chec P.O. Box 10 not send ca	ks payable to TICKET SALES. Mail request to TICK 088, Nashville, TN 37202. Please send check or mone ash. All requests must be received by <b>JUNE 30, 19</b> <b>IO TICKET REFUNDS AFTER JUNE 30, 1989</b>	ET SALES, y order. Do <b>89.</b>



FREE WILL BAPTIST



## OKLAHOMA PASTOR TO PREACH FWBBC BACCALAUREATE



NASHVILLE, TN—Reverend Bob Ketchum, pastor of Grace Free Will Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Okla., will preach Free Will Baptist Bible College's Baccalaureate message in Nashville on Sunday evening, May 14, according to Dr. Robert Picirilli, dean.

Rev. Ketchum is a 1962 graduate of the Bible College. He founded Grace FWB Church in 1975. He also pastored First FWB Church, Owasso, Okla., and Shady Grove FWB Church, Clarksville, Tenn.

He is moderator of the Oklahoma State Association and a trustee of Free Will Baptist Bible College.

## SOUTH CAROLINA HONORS MISSIONARIES

INMAN, SC—Delegates to the 47th annual South Carolina State Association gathered for a special banquet in honor of South Carolina's home and foreign missionaries. The recognitions included plaques to Sherwood and Vada Lee for 20 years' service in Africa, and certificates of appreciation for all state home missionaries.

## Cooperative Channel Contributions February 1989

## **RECEIPTS:**

State	Design.	COOP (Undesignated)	Total	Feb. '88	Yr. To Date
Alabama	\$ 124.17	\$ 1,020.00	\$ 1,144.17	\$ 178.95	\$ 1,608.85
Arizona	120.00	162.76	282.76	.00	650.62
Arkansas	.00	4,062.52	4,062.52	3,289.35	9,612.29
California	.00	1,735.96	1,735.96	1,131.41	2,928.04
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Florida	107.50	2,294.33	2,401.83	2,613.04	3,006.40
Georgia	9,625.42	1,297.02	10,922.44	1,249.50	30,649.21
Idaho	59.52	46.32	105.84	.00	134.84
Illinois	25.00	77.60	102.60	12,443.88	18,719.80
Indiana	551.13	105.08	656.21	1,092.78	1,122.08
Kansas	.00	.00	.00	60.19	100.86
Kentucky	.00	286.86	286.86	156.75	384.54
Maryland	.00		.00	170.06	.00
Michigan	3,049.95	364.50	3,414.45	4,066.11	8,911.45
Mississippi	41.60	529.66	571.26	498.92	833.81
Missouri	8,299.97	.00	8,299.97	8,925.51	15,632.39
New Mexico	11.90	5.94	17.84	24.44	17.84
North Carolina	1,805.22		2,910.92	1,808.60	4,496.29
Ohio	389.00	2,240.00	2,629.00	2,580.50	4,975.00
Oklahoma	39,154.42		47,196.47	40,598.11	85,442.50
South Carolina	22,079.03	.00	22,079.03	75.34	22,079.03
Tennessee	1,974.78		3,461.90	2,124.15	5,499.88
Texas	25.00	.00	25.00	11,591.65	9,179.38
Virginia	202.52		372.52	175.50	558.32
West Virginia	1,768.56	.00	1,768.56	3,245.22	3,905.68
Canada	.00		, .00	.00	.00
Northwest Assoc.	275.27	49.25	324.52	.00	324.52
Other (Computer)	.00		.03	.00	.03
Totals	\$89,689.96	\$25,082.70	\$114,772.66	\$98,099.96	\$230,773.65
DISBURSEME	ENTS:	·····			
Executive Office	\$ 2,363.31	\$16,424.03	\$18,787.34	\$18,145.75	\$ 37,574.70
Foreign Missions	58,234.48		60,225.96	52,149.69	130,366.55
FWBBC	6,173.23		8,164.71	5,106.70	15,783.00
Home Missions	19,056.96	,	20,615.51	15,971.14	31,996.20
Retirement & Insurance	207.70	,	1,419.94	1,145.47	3,435.08
Master's Men	350.64	•	1,562.88	1,922.70	3,755.62
Commission for	200.04	-,	,,00		
Theological Integrity	61.30	86.58	147.88	149.76	345.88
FWB Foundation	1,242.54		1,762.06	835.41	2,716.78
Historical Commission	53.82		53.82	147.39	127.36
Radio & TV Commission			138.63		403.68
Hillsdale FWB College	1,552.31		1,552.31	2,007.74	3,507.74
Other	341.62		341.62		761.06
Totais	\$89,689.96	\$25,082.70	\$114,772.66	\$98,099.96	\$230,773.65

Moderator Earl Hendrix gaveled 137 delegates, ministers and visitors through two days of business. South Carolina's Beaver Creek Association hosted the February 16-17 meeting at First FWB Church in Inman.

Attendees heard three major messages by pastors Tommy Bryson (Elm City, N.C.) and John Cody (York, S.C.), and Ivory Coast missionary Sherwood Lee. State leaders felt that one of the most important decisions by delegates was the vote to establish a South Carolina General Board.

The 1990 session will meet February 15-16 at White Savannah FWB Church in Conway.

## Hotel Reservation NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Tampa, Florida	Natio	nal Convention	July 16-20, 1989
<ul> <li>All reservation requests will be NOT WITH INDIVIDUAL HOTEL</li> <li>Complete this housing form sele mail to the Housing Bureau. D JUNE 30, 1989. Send one form necessary.</li> <li>Changes and cancellations musp.m. the day of your arrival.</li> <li>The hotel will require a deposit, form or send a check directly confirmation.</li> <li>Information and inquiries ONLY</li> </ul>	S. EADLINE FOR Ri for each room req at be made directly Complete the cre to the hotel AFTE	and 3rd choice hotels and ESERVATIONS IS FRIDAY, uest—duplicate this form if with the hotel before 6:00 dit card information on this	<i>Cutoff Date:</i> Received by June 30, 1989 <b>MAIL TO:</b> NAFWB Housing Bureau 100 S. Ashley Drive, Suite 850 Tampa, FL 33602
YOUR NAME			
ADDRESS			ZIP
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ARRIVAL DATE DEPARTURE DATE			

HOTEL REQUESTED (Please indicate 1st, 2nd and 3rd choices.):

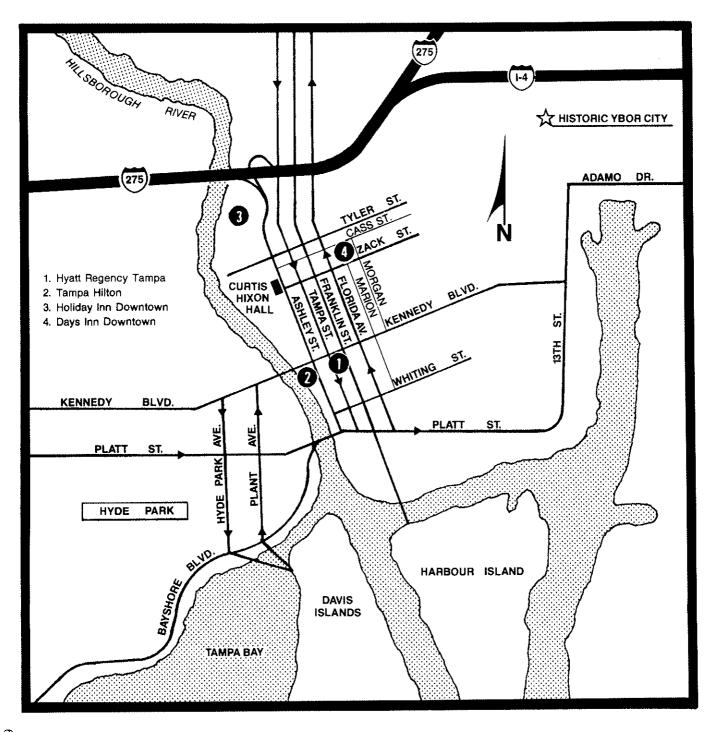
HOTELS	Choice	Single	Double	Triple	Quad
Hyatt Regency Tampa (Headquarters)		\$70	\$70	\$80	\$80
Tampa Hilton		\$55	\$55	\$55	\$55
Holiday Inn Downtown		\$50	\$50	\$50	\$50
Days Inn Downtown		\$45	\$45	\$52	\$52

## TYPE OF ROOM REQUESTED:

SINGLE/1 PERSON	DOUBLE/2 PEOPLE
TRIPLE/3 PEOPLE	QUAD/4 PEOPLE
NUMBER OF BEDS IN ROOM	1

## PLEASE LIST ROOM OCCUPANTS:

## HOTEL LOCATIONS



# Sonste denomine in Tampa, FL.

Youth from across the denomination will convene in Tampa, FL, July 16-19 to celebrate Sonshine '89. The theme of the 1989 National Youth Conference declares Christ as the true Light and our responsibility to be Light Bearers.

Some conference highlights include SonRise morning devotionals, SunShine Shop, Lighthouse Art Gallery, Learner/Adventurer Banquet, youth after-service activities, an Evening on the Riverfront, Youth Banquet, and many more exciting events.

The Hyatt Regency Hotel will house the NYC Office and all the competitive activities.

The Sunday evening service in the Curtis Hixon Convention Center will be the youth keynote service. It will feature the mass youth choir, a presentation by the National Youth Evangelistic Team, and a challenge by Kent Hubbard.

Wednesday will be unique this

year. It will begin with a breakfast for all youth workers. The afternoon will feature ministry seminars on puppetry, clowning, and youth evangelistic teams. The youth will gather to organize an exciting new youth congress called TEAM. The conference will conclude with the Awards Celebration on Wednesday after the evening service.

All participants from grade one through age 24 must register and receive the NYC '89 registration badge. This badge is required to attend conference activities. This registration is in addition to fees for Bible Competition and Music and Arts Festival entries.

Adults (25 and older) do not

have to register for the conference. Preschool children are admitted free. Pre-registration is \$7.50 each. After July 1, a 50-cent late fee will be added.

The family plan is available to give a price break to families with two or more children. The following restrictions exist: 1. Only those who pre-register may take advantage of the family plan. 2. Registration forms for members of the same family must be mailed together to receive a discount. 3. Only children registered for the conference are counted in determining the fee. The family discount is: two children, \$7.00 each; three children, \$6.50 each; four or more children, \$6.00 each.

To register for the conference, complete the 1989 registration form and mail to: NYC '89, Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217. Registration forms are available free upon request from the NYC Office.

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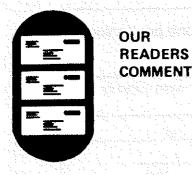
## Currently .

The **Northwest Association** requested that we publish the following news item: "The Executive Board of the Northwest Association of Free Will Baptists revoked the ordination credentials of **Mike Mutchler**, former home missionary to Portland, Oregon, on February 20, 1989. Mutchler has withdrawn his church from the Free Will Baptist denomination."

Pastor **Terry Stafford** reports a growing youth group at **First FWB Church**, **Yakima**, **WA**. The youth group, started one year ago with four girls, sponsored a recent gathering to share testimonies and watch a Christian film. Nineteen people attended; three were saved. The group also plans a youth newsletter.

The **Glennville**, **GA**, Chamber of Commerce honored former Free Will Baptist missionary to India **Laura Belle Barnard** with its "1988 Community Builder Award." The award cites Miss Barnard's efforts in ministering to migrant workers. The award message said in part, "... we thank you for not sitting back in complacency to watch two different cultures merge. Thank you for helping us to realize that we must be the one to make the greater impact through the sharing of our Christian American values with all people who come into our area."

The 1988 Paul Ketteman Memorial Christmas Fund Drive at Free Will Baptist Bible College raised more than \$180,000 for the school, according to Bob Shockey, director of student support. Gifts



## PRAISES MEXICO REPORT

Melvin's writing in regard to Mexican missions (March issue, p. 31) is the best report about Free Will Baptists in a foreign field since the days of Pop Willey. In fact, Pop's insistence on making the work almost totally native is the proper approach.

That same program is paying off in Mexico. God be praised that He has raised up men (native Mexicans) who are carrying on the work.

Using few Americans to somewhat direct and with natives trained to take over makes for strong missions. God has blessed.

Dr. Wade Jernigan, Pastor First Free Will Baptist Church Asher, Oklahoma were recorded by 40 members of the faculty / staff and 112 students.

Smyrna FWB Church, Smyrna, TN, organized a Master's Men chapter with seven members. Pastor **Carlos Kelsey** also reports seven members added to the church in 1989, and a total of 16 since last October.

Pastor Larry Williams says no one is too old to get baptized. Williams pastors Spring Grove FWB Church, Jesup, GA. Among several converts he baptized was a 76-year-old woman. Sunday School attendance averages 130.

An unusual senior citizens rally occurred at **First FWB Church, Albany, GA.** The four-hour rally was led by writer / composer Jim Parks from the Zondervon Corporation. Parks and the attendees produced a senior citizens recording, "Reflection," during the session. **Billy Hanna** pastors.

**Byron Deel** was named "Coach of the Year" by the Southland Christian Athletic Conference. Mr. Deel coaches the **Free Will Baptist Bible College** basketball team, the Flames, which finished the season with a record of 18 wins and 10 losses, placing second in the conference. Coach Deel said that team members participated in 19 services while on the road to play basketball. They preached, taught classes and sang in services.

The **Missouri Christian Education Board** sponsored a combination married couples / singles seminar March 31 - April 1. Singles heard Missouri pastor **Kent Hubbard** speak six times. **Harold** and **June Critcher** of Nashville, TN, ministered to the married couples.

Oops! We only made three mistakes in one sentence (March issue) about activities at **Monterey FWB Church, Monterey, TN.** First, it was 10 conversions not nine like we reported; second, it was 10 baptisms, not six; third, the pastor's name is **Mark Barber** not Frank Barber. Sorry about that, Pastor Barber. We hope this repairs the damage, frankly.

Pastor **Wade Jernigan** reports 68 in attendance at a "Ya'll Come Sunday" at **First FWB Church, Asher, OK.** The church also moved a 14 x 70-foot mobile home on the grounds for a fellowship area, Sunday School classes and temporary pastor's guarters.

Evangelist **Homer Willis, Nashville, TN**, reports that a 40-member team ministered in **Jamaica** in a concentrated crusade. The group ministered in 14 churches and three public schools with 790 professions of faith reported. More than 13,000 people attended the combined services.

Hillsdale FWB College, Moore, OK, will sponsor an alumni and friends homecoming June 16-17 at the Sheraton Hotel in Norman. Friday evening activities will celebrate the college's 30-year anniversary.

**First FWB Church, Russellville, AR**, targets more lay involvement in 1989. Pastor **Doug Little** began a 12-session seminar in March. The sessions cover a wide range of subjects including goal setting, recruiting helpers, avoiding burnout, working with difficult people and other topics.

Members at **First FWB Church, Rock Hill, SC,** conducted ground breaking ceremonies for a new church plant and parsonage. Pastor **Joe Faile** said that when the building is complete the church will relocate on four acres just off I-77. The construction will include a parsonage as well as a 4,000-square-foot auditorium to seat 275, choir rooms, baptistry, vestibule, five classrooms, nursery, fellowship room and storage area.

**Community FWB Church, Florence, SC,** established a Christian singles program called "Caring Christian Singles." The program exists to help men and women through the crises of divorce and with other spiritual, mental, emotional and physical needs that follow that experience. **Mickey Lloyd** heads the program. The group provides a support ministry of five telephone counselors.

Missionary pastor **Ray Cribb** led members of **Socastee FWB Mission Church, Socastee, SC,** in a \$30,000 building program to construct a 3,000-square-foot building. The structure, located on 3.75 acres, includes an auditorium to seat 150 and three classrooms.

Yes, that's a new Oldsmobile that Pastor **Earl Hendrix** is driving. No, he did not buy it on his salary. Members of **First FWB Church, Inman, SC**, gave Pastor Hendrix the keys to a 1989 Regency Brougham 98 Olds. By the way, this marks the fourth new car the church has given Pastor Hendrix. (Does your pastor need a new car?)

Pastor **Dale Burden** of **Gateway FWB Church, Virginia Beach, VA,** marked 16 years of daily radio broadcasts to the Tidewater area. In 1973, more than 4,000 programs ago, Pastor Burden began the radio program.

Members of **New Home FWB Church, Tulsa, OK**, gave more than \$19,000 to outside causes in 1988. Pastor **Roy Dale Smith** said that amount is over 25 percent of the church's total income for the year.

Members of First FWB Church, Mt. Vernon, IL, purchased a Ford van to update their bus ministry. Howard Flota pastors.

80

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## Honor Someone You Love

## FWBBC's Book of Remembrance

Free Will Baptist Bible College |

> by Rev. Bob Shockey Director of Student Support

W ould you like to have your loved one in the Book of Remembrance at Free Will Baptist Bible College, in Nashville, Tennessee?

Many friends of the Bible College have said, "I want my loved one remembered by the College." They have done so by sending a gift, in memory or in honor of that loved one, to help prepare young men and women who are seeking God's will so that they may circle the globe with the truth of God's Word to the untold millions.

Such an investment in the lives of young people is one of the best ways I know to perpetuate what you and your friends and loved ones know to be the answer to the needs of millions who are going, one by one, into eternity without a Savior.

You may want to honor a loved one, friend, or your pastor when you send your gift. His name will be placed on our Honor Roll and a beautiful card will be sent to that individual, telling them that you have honored them by sending a gift to the Bible College for the education of young people who will be serving the Lord throughout the world.

Today would be a good day to sit down and write that note to us and to send a generous gift.

Please feel free to tell us how much that loved one, that friend or that pastor has meant to you and, perhaps, how they have influenced your life for Christ. In doing this, you will be

sharing your heart with us. I will put your note in my permanent remembrance file.

Thank you for your love and concern for those who mean so much to you. Thank you for sharing, in their honor, with the hundreds of young people now training at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Just send your gift, with a note telling in whose memory/honor it is given, to:

Free Will Baptist Bible College 3606 West End Avenue Nashville, Tennessee 37205

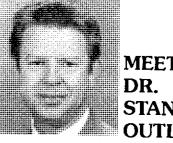
## Summer Camp'89 HAVE YOU SIGNED UP YET?

Free Will Baptist Bible College's Summer Camp '89 is just around the corner! If you know a young man or woman who has completed grade 9 and wants to enjoy a week of growth, fun and fellowship, encourage them to attend one of the four camps that make up FWBBC's Summer Camp'89.

Music Camp Drama Camp Basketball Camp SALT Camp

The dates are June 19-24. The cost is just \$145.

Write or call today for more information.



MEET **STANLEY** OUTLAW

THE DEDRICH STREET

Stanley Outlaw has come a long way since being saved at the age of 14 at Corinth Free Will Baptist Church in Midland City, AL.

He enrolled at Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1960 and graduated in 1962. He went on to Bob Jones University, where he received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees.

Both during his student years and since, he has enjoyed a rich pastoral ministry. His education has never put him out of touch with the Free Will Baptist people he loves ... and who love him.

He returned to FWBBC in 1966 to teach Bible. His specialty is the Old Testament, He teaches such classes as Bible Survey, Hebrews, New Testament Greek, Daniel, Revelation and Genesis/Exodus.

He enjoys playing basketball and tennis, and does woodworking to help him relax.

He is sponsor of the John Bunyan Society on campus and teaches a Young Married Couples Sunday school class at Donelson Free Will Baptist Church, where he and his family are members.

Stanley and his wife, Gloria, have one son, David, who is a freshman at FWBBC.

Stanley's favorite verse is Philippians 3:10, 6



## The 'Com-Call' Difference

By Roger Reeds, General Director

By pushing one number on your

touchtone phone you may talk directly to our operator. By pushing another

number on your phone you will be able

to input your order directly into our

computer. The computer will then print

out your order for our shipping

order more quickly. Once you have

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automatically print a picking ticket for

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your order down and then puts it into

At the present time you must give your order to the operator. She writes

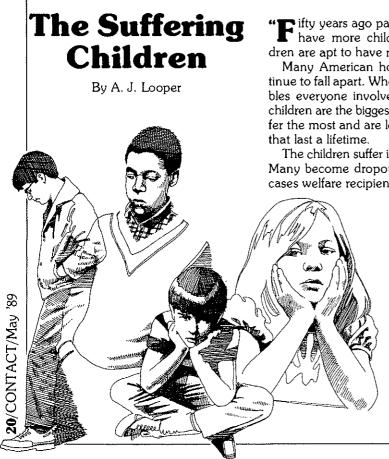
can then get underway to you.

Com-call will help expedite your

department.

**R** and all House Publications moved into the computer age 20 years ago. Our first computer was a huge monster. Each time we bought a new computer it got smaller. The version we have today is about the size of a clothes hamper. Its capacity is far greater than ever before. The abilities afforded us are mind boggling. These abilities are passed on to our customers in cost savings.

We are initiating a new system that will benefit our customers. It is called "com-call." Here is how it will work. We will blend your use of our Watts line with our computer. When you dial our Watts line number you will be given a choice.



the computer as soon as she can. She is often interrupted by phone calls, so the process is slow at best.

Another factor of com-call is that you will be able to place your order anytime. It will be available to you 24 hours each day, seven days each week. Our operators are only available to you eight hours each day, five days each week.

Randall House Publications wants you to have the best service possible. Com-call is being added to improve that service. You can be sure that, if there are other means to improve our service to you, we will be glad to add that service.

6

"F ifty years ago parents were apt to have more children, today children are apt to have more parents."

Many American homes today continue to fall apart. When a home crumbles everyone involved loses, but the children are the biggest losers. They suffer the most and are left with problems

The children suffer in their education. Many become dropouts, and in some cases welfare recipients.

The children suffer from lack of love, and this hurts deeply and creates emotional problems. In our county a few days ago a seventh grader took her life.

Mental health programs are filled to capacity and cost the government millions of dollars yearly. Most mental health patients can't pay their way.

In broken homes with lack of love, children are hyper, unruly and hard to get along with. A mother will give up her children hoping someone can help them. Are there answers? Yes, but not many. Studies are in progress on how to deal with unruly children, but the answer is not give them everything they want.

When American homes become more stable then we will see a change in our society. When people start turning to God and becoming more concerned, then we will see a change.

Until then, let's do what we can and pray that God will soon send revival to the American home. 0

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend A. J. Looper serves as superintendent at the Free Will Baptist Home for Children in Greeneville, Tennessee.



## Foundatior

Herman L. Hersey Executive Secretary-Treasurer

TRe Denarta en Artes

We all know that someday we will die.

But it is something we don't like to think or talk about.

Nevertheless, a day will come when we will be separated from our spouses, our families, our friends. That's painful to think about.

Some couples take a day (or weekend) each year for a What-if Day—what if one of us dies this next year. They spend the time together reviewing their priorities, going over their wills and talking about preparation for that unexpected but sure-to-come day.

Some of you have already faced such a day. You lost your spouse. Others of you are single. You need a What-if Day also. Plan to meet with one or more of your children, a parent or near-relative or best friend.

This is an excellent idea for several reasons: 1. It sets a definite time when you talk over these matters. 2. You are able to review plans, add to or update them. 3. It can be a time to show appreciation to your spouse or loved ones.

Begin with this suggested list.

**Funeral Arrangements.** Have you purchased a cemetery lot? Where will the funeral service he held? At which funeral home? Who will conduct the service? Do you have any special scripture, hymn?

**Finances.** Are your debts under control? Should adjustments be made in your budget? What about savings? Investments? Pension Accounts?

**Insurance.** What types and amounts of coverage do you have? Permanent or term insurance? How long could your family live on that amount? How much insurance do you need?

## **Have A What-if Day**

**Wills.** Do you (or both of you) have a will? Any conflicting provisions? What changes need to be made?

**Trusts.** Do you have one? Is it adequate? Do you need one? What kind?

**Retirement.** What about projected social security and pension annuities? Where will you live? What if one of you becomes disabled? Dies before retirement? Should the surviving spouse move? What about the children's education?

**Stewardship.** What are you leaving as a lasting memorial to the Lord? Have you made a bequest in your will? Should you establish an endowment?

**Records and Papers.** Where are they? Are they up to date?

It is a good idea to enter information in a notebook. Don't rely on your memory. Keep detailed records of all policies, deeds, investments, etc., along with where they are located.

Why don't you set a date for your What-if Day? Make that sure-to-come day less stressful for loved ones by preparing for it. Eventually everyone hears the summons as Hezekiah, "Set your house in order, for you shall die ... (Isaiah 38:1)." The first endowment gift to benefit the national Home Missions outreach through the FWB Foundation was made recently. It is an openended endowment and anyone is free to add to it. Designate your gift for FWB National Home Missions Endowment and mail to FWB Foundation, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

## ABOVE ALL



Meet one of the six new chapters to join in January and February:

Faith FWB Master's Men, Adamsville, Alabama.

Our Master's Men have every reason to be proud of their accomplishments. Chartered just two months ago, our membership is 14 enthusiastic brethren. These men represent 70 percent of the total number of men eligible.

The men were organized even before the first worship service was held in the newly-constructed sanctuary. With the leadership of Pastor Ray Ritch, each man vowed to accept the challenge of personal responsibility and involvement.

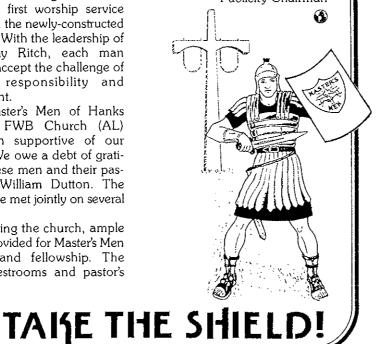
The Master's Men of Hanks Memorial FWB Church (AL) have been supportive of our ministry. We owe a debt of gratitude to these men and their pastor, Rev. William Dutton. The groups have met jointly on several occasions.

In planning the church, ample space is provided for Master's Men to meet and fellowship. The kitchen, restrooms and pastor's study were completed by the men. Yet to be completed are five Sunday School classrooms.

Putting the finishing touches on our new home, landscaping, paving and maintaining four acres of property will provide numerous local projects for months to come.

We ask each chapter to pray for Faith FWB Church, and ask God that our men might truly become Men for the Master.

-Written by Ernie Winchester, Publicity Chairman



#### LifeMember List Nears 300

LifeMembership began December 1985. Since then, 291 laymen, pastors and missionaries placed their names on the growing list. Among the women, 30 are LifeFriends. And 41 more men indicated their intentions to become LifeMembers. They are making monthly deposits until the \$100 fee is attained.

Write or call Master's Men Department for information about LifeMembership.

#### **New LifeMembers**

Roger Heard, AR Delbert Hughes, AR Greg Cross, CA Charles E. Austin, GA Marvin Frey, CA Dan Funk, CA Jack Metcalf, OK Donnie Bailey, TN Eckard Bennett, Jr., TN Dwan Carter, TN Doug Chamberlin, TN Rev. Alfred Cutshall, TN Roger Dickerson, TN Vestal Estepp, TN Dewey Hensley, TN Joe Hicks, TN Ronnie Kilgore, TN Dwight Mitchell, TN Faye Mitchell, TN Kenneth G. Ricker, TN Ralph Shipley, TN Ricky Shelton, AR Benny Lariscy, GA G. C. Stevens, TN Gary R. Wilson, MI Brad Goforth, CA Rev. Herman Hersey, TN J. B. Minnick, OK Eldon Hannah, Jr., AR Billy E. Merriman, IL Rev. J. B. Varney, MI Lester England, TN James Thames, OK Richard Shaddox, OK Shelby Satterfield, OK Kenny Hamby, OK Roy Hamby, OK C. C. Ogilvie, OK Elmer Downing, OK Ronald Downing, OK Rev. Joe T. Hurst, TN Randy Schmidt, CA Harold L. Hancock, OK Joe I. Romero, OK Jimmy T. Toombs, TN

#### **New LifeFriends**

Lillie L. Metcalf, OK F. Onita Vaughan, TX Effiegene Stapleton, AR Ferrel Johnson, IL Charlotte Mvers, IL Darlene Spry, MI LaVerne Vallance, WV Lara Jane Vallance, TN

Department of Home Missions and Church Extension of the National Association of Free Will Baptists

## **Thank You!**

## To the Missionary Builder and his Volunteer Crew

By Roy Thomas

A n exciting part of the Home Missions Department's program of church planting is the work of our missionary builder, Howard Gwartney, and his crew of volunteer workers. The efforts of the Master's Men Department with the "Master's Hands Program" have resulted in a growing list of volunteer lay workers who assist the missionary builder with the construction of Free Will Baptist church buildings.

The volunteer crew of both men and women comes from various sections of the country. Most of them are retired couples. They usually arrive on the job site late Saturday afternoon in their motor homes or travel trailers in time to set up for services at the mission church Sunday morning. The Home Missions Department purchased the crew an electrical service so they can have ample electricity for utilities in their living quarters and power for tools they use in building.

The volunteer crew has the privilege of worshipping with the mission church in Sunday services. Then work begins in earnest on Monday morning. Meals are usually provided by women from the mission church. There is a lot of fun, fellowship, eating, some fishing and other recreation, and a tremendous amount of work, which results in a new Free Will Baptist church building constructed in just a few days.

This crew is strictly volunteer. They provide their own travel expenses and work without pay. On almost every job a new couple joins the caravan. They are making a great impact on our home missions program, and are saving home missions churches thousands of dollars in construction costs.



They have built churches for home missionaries in Lawton, Okłahoma; Pineville, Louisiana; New Durham, New Hampshire; Atlanta, Georgia; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Gainesville, Florida; Omaha, Nebraska; Elkhart, Indiana; Phoenix, Arizona; Hamilton, Ohio, plus other buildings for self-supporting churches.

The Home Missions Department wishes to pay special tribute to these

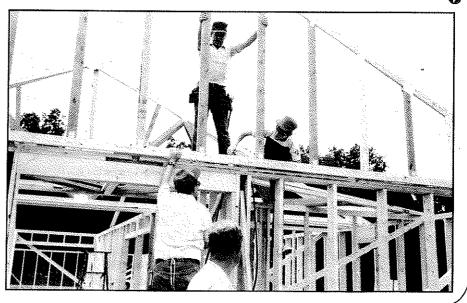
dedicated people who have worked long hours on these buildings. Those who have worked with Howard and Nelda Gwartney include:

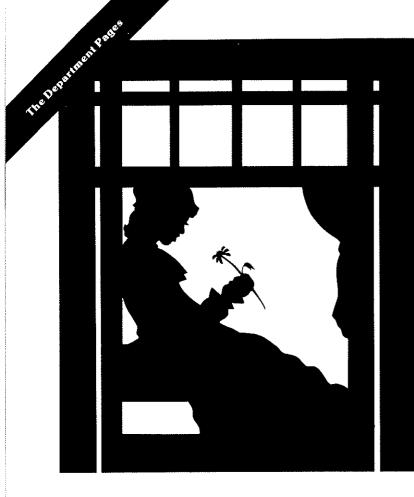
THE DESSETTING IN DESSE

Danny and Mildred Rider, DeSota, Mo. Waymon and Betty Ray, Tulsa, Okla. James and Bessie Bryant, Cochran, Ga.

John Fowlkes, Vilonia, Ark. Carl Smith and sons, Vilonia, Ark. Jim and Ruth Orr, Benton, Ky. Harvey and Chris Jones, Tulsa, Okla.

If you would like to be part of this exciting ministry and assist our missionary builder in the construction of Free Will Baptist church buildings across America, contact the Home Missions Department, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202; telephone 615/361-1010; we will let you know about future jobs.





## From My Window

The woman stepped from her car into the swirling water and was drowned.

In our area, we had about five inches of rain within a few hours. The drains simply could not handle the water.

People were on their way to work. This woman must have been on her way and in a hurry. In her haste, or was it unbelief, she ignored the warning saying the street was closed. "She drove right through the barrier," a policeman said; "I can't think why."

The police were standing by on that dangerous flooded street. When the car stalled in the water, they went in to rescue the passengers. But the woman stepped from her car and was swept away. A passenger stayed in the car and was rescued. If only the woman had waited. If only she had remained in the safe place.

God puts up warning signs for us also. How many times we ignore the barriers and dash right on through. How much sorrow we could save if we heeded the signs.

God has lovingly placed the barriers there for our protection. And He loves us so much that He will wade in to our rescue, even after we have ignored the barriers.

Still just one false step. Just a few seconds of our lives. Just ignoring God's barriers one time. Stepping out of His safe keeping for just one moment.

That may be all it takes to destroy us or end our usefulness in God's service.

#### Reminder

District presidents and field workers have a special invitation to join state presidents and field workers at the preconvention meeting July 17.

The WNAC Executive Committee has made special plans for the meeting and is hopeful that many district officers will attend.

## **Foreign Students Scholarship**

The Foreign Student Scholarship this year is divided among three Mexican students attending Free Will Baptist Bible College.

WNAC will close out the account for these students as the semester ends May 18. Please see that treasurers get the funds in before the end of April, if

# Woman's Window on the World

By Mary R. Wisehart

possible. After that date, only funds designated for Mexican students will go to their accounts.

Funds coming in for the scholarship fund after April will go toward 1990's project—students at the Bible institute in Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa.

## **Eunice Edwards Fund**

February 28, 1989-\$18,764.10

## **Provision Closet Needs**

Kingsize sheets, mattress covers, bedspreads Blenders Coffee makers Corelle Ware for eight Towel sets

## Building

This is a year for building

Let's build WNAC membership. That's done by adding members in local Auxiliaries. Enlist all the women in your church to help with the work. If you lack enlistment ideas, check the leaders' helps in the *Co-Laborer* magazine. A booklet, *Enlistment Challenge*, is available from WNAC for 75 cents, plus 35 cents postage. Compiled by Cleo Pursell, it's filled with helpful suggestions.

Let's build by starting new Auxiliaries. Perhaps your church or a church near you does not have an Auxiliary. WNAC sends a complimentary packet to any group interested in organizing. Just send the request to WNAC, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

Let's build up one another in Christ. Every meeting, every study course, every activity should help us grow and mature as Christians.

What are your building goals for this month?



Herman L. Hersey Director



Board of Retirement

# AT YOUR SERVICE

## Housing vs. Parsonage Survey Report Part II

In Part I of our survey last month, we reported on housing benefits for pastors under options one and two. Part II covers the third option—housing allowance.

The laity who favor a housing allowance note these advantages:

-The pastor can choose where he wants to live.

—The initial investment for the church is less.

-Some members' concern about the pastor's family "taking good care of our property" is eliminated.

-Between pastors, the church need not maintain a house.

-A housing allowance is easier to budget.

—The pastor is able to save toward future housing.

Those lay people who do not prefer housing say:

-Owning a home, the pastor could be reluctant to follow God's leadership to relocate.

—The pastor should receive a sufficient salary to include his costs of maintaining a home.

-Because pastors move frequently they shouldn't buy or rent. (But, they need some type of housing benefit in case of disability or for retirement.)

Pastors who prefer a housing allowance comment:

-I would prefer to buy a home and build some equity and security.

 I feel more at ease living in my own home.

-A pastor's wife needs a house she can feel is hers.

-A housing allowance is tax-free.

—Mortgage interest and property taxes are deductible.

—The pastor becomes part of the community and stays longer when he buys a home.

—Owning a home gives the pastor's family a sense of belonging and privacy.

Other pastors point out disadvantages:

-Changes and transitions in pastorates are sometimes slowed or hindered when he owns property.

—A fluctuating economy can raise problems of financing, buying and selling.

## a caring



Board of Retirement Father's Day Offering June 18, 1989

-I could not find a buyer for our house when we moved to another state. We lost our investment of \$40,000.

The Department Asses

—A housing allowance may not be adequate for payments and upkeep.

-In my area, property and taxes are extremely high, and the average pastor cannot meet the payments.

-Some pastors have problems coming up with a down payment.

—Owning a home in short-term tenures is a disadvantage but may be an advantage in long-term tenures.

—There are other ways to build up savings for future housing other than by buying a home.

One pastor sums up the difficulty housing options present for the pastor: "I'm 50 years old. I feel I need to purchase a home, but I do not want a home to hinder my moving when God says move. I recall once when a home may have hindered me when I moved from a pastorate. Hundreds of homes in the area I was leaving were up for sale."

Next Month: Putting It All In Perspective

- Parsonage—housing provided rent-free by the church.
- Parsonage plus equity—housing provided rent-free by the church with a cash amount set aside for the pastor as equity that would have accrued in buying a home.
- Housing allowance—a budgeted cash payment indirectly to the pastor for housing.



**Follow the Leader** 

arty and Megan watched the big clock on the wall. In five minutes the bell would ring.

"Before you go," began Mrs. Curtis, "I'm going to change our seating arrangement. Get all your books out of your desks and stand in line in front of the blackboard. Then I'll assign each of you a new desk."

The students got their books and lined up. Mrs. Curtis began telling them where their new seats would be. She did this several times a year so the children could make friends with each other.

When Mrs. Curtis finished assigning seats, Marty was sitting by Tony on the front row. Megan was sitting behind Margaret Hunley in the back of the classroom. Megan didn't know Margaret very well, but everyone knew that she was an "A" student. Margaret had long red hair which she usually wore in two pigtails. She had freckles across her nose and wore glasses.

When the bell rang, Megan said, "I don't know if I'll like sitting so far back in the room."

"It'll be great," said Margaret. "Just watch me. You'll see."

The twins walked home from school and bounded in the back

door. "How was school today?" asked Mrs. Lane.

"Great," answered Marty. "Mrs. Curtis switched our seats today, and I get to sit by Tony."

"That's nice," answered Mrs. Lane with a smile. "What about you Megan? Whom are you sitting by?"

"Margaret Hunley," answered Megan.

"I don't believe I know her," said Mrs. Lane.

"She's new this year," replied Megan. "She's cute, never gets in trouble, and makes straight 'A's."

"Maybe she'll rub off on you," teased Marty.

he next day at school Mrs. Curtis told the class to get out their science books. "Turn to page 47," she said.

As Megan got her science book, she watched Margaret get not only her science book but a library book. Margaret opened the science book to page 47, then hid her library book behind it and began reading.

"What are you doing?" asked Megan.

"I always do this," answered Margaret. "I hate science." Science wasn't Megan's favorite subject either. So she did what Margaret did.

Mrs. Curtis went down the rows letting each student read aloud. But Megan became so interested in her book that she did not notice when Mrs. Curtis stopped the reading and started asking review questions.

"Megan Lane, didn't you hear me?" asked Mrs. Curtis firmly. "I've asked you three times. What do we call the study of plant and animal life?"

"Uh-h-h, no ma'am. Uh, I don't know," stammered Megan. She did know the answer, but she was just too flustered to think straight.

"Margaret, do you know?" asked Mrs. Curtis.

Margaret looked up from her library book and answered in her sweetest voice, "Yes ma'am. The study of plant and animal life is called biology." Megan felt her face burning.

After science class was over, Mrs. Curtis said, "I'm going to the office to make some copies. While I'm gone, you may practice your spelling words. You may whisper, but no loud talking. And no one is to get out of his seat.'

Mrs. Curtis left, and there was a soft buzz as the students whispered their spelling words to each other. he buzz was suddenly interrupted by Margaret Hunley. She took an orange out of her lunch box, stood up beside her desk, and yelled across the room, "Hey, Joey, catch." Then she tossed the orange over three rows of desks and the heads of 13 third-graders.

Joey caught the orange and said, "Lay off, Margaret. You're going to get us all in trouble." He attempted to throw the orange back to Margaret, but Ryan intercepted it, and the game was on.

"Here's your orange," teased Ryan, holding it out to Margaret. Then he whizzed it by her head and Mike caught it.

"Let's play keep away," said Mike.

"Girls against boys," said Margaret.

The boys and girls yelled and ran after that orange. Before long, there was not just one orange but three oranges, four apples and a tangerine sailing around the room. Students were running, jumping over desks, yelling, wrestling and scrambling on the floor. Three desks were overturned and fruit was flying in all directions.

"What on earth?" gasped Mrs. Curtis as she entered the room. Immediately, the room grew quiet and still.

"I can't believe what I just saw," said Mrs. Curtis. "No recess and everyone write your spelling words 20 times each."

No one, except maybe Margaret, had really meant to be bad. They had just followed her. But if they had thought about the consequences beforehand, none of them would have done it. But they still had to sit quietly and write and write and write their spelling words until their fingers ached.

On the way to lunch, Megan heard Margaret say innocently, "Mrs. Curtis I saw the whole thing. I can tell you what happened if you want me to. It was that...."

"That won't be necessary, Margaret," said Mrs. Curtis.

"Next time you have to leave the room, I'll be glad to take names for you," offered Margaret.

"We'll see," said the teacher.

That made Megan furious. "Can you believe that?" she asked Marty on the way home. "She started the whole thing!"

"Boy, she had me fooled," said Megan when the twins were telling their mother what happened. "It was all her fault."

"No, it wasn't," said Mrs. Lane. "You can't blame Margaret for what happened." The twins looked surprised.

"But it was her fault," insisted Megan. "No," said Mrs. Lane, "You two just followed the wrong leader." Marty and Megan looked at each other.

"You know how to play follow the leader, don't you." asked Mrs. Lane. "Everybody does exactly what the leader does. You two made a mistake when you took your eyes off your real Leader and followed Margaret."

"Our real Leader?" they asked.

"Jesus," explained Mrs. Lane. "Whenever you follow people, they will disappoint you. But you keep your eyes on Jesus, He'll always lead you right."

In Matthew 4:18-19 Jesus saw Peter and Andrew fishing. What did Jesus say to them? Will you follow Jesus no matter what your friends do? Ministry is ...

By Dean Jones

**M** inistry—one of those hard-todefine words, like love, peace, joy or justice. Each person's definition may differ, yet in our hearts we know what we think ministry is supposed to be. But do we really understand the meaning of the word?

Perhaps Mr. Webster can help us. "Ministry . . . to perform service, to furnish, to give things that are needed, a servant, an attendant, one who acts under the authority of another." That sounds almost scriptural for a dictionary writer. I think he got the point and perhaps we need to get it too.

John A. Holt knows the answer: "Ministry is giving when you feel like keeping, praying for others when your own soul is hungry, living truth before people even when you can't see results, hurting with other people even when your own hurt can't be spoken, keeping your word even when it is not convenient, it is being faithful when your flesh wants to run away."

Holt definitely lights up our subject. Ministry is so much more than doing good deeds and wearing a smile. Ministry means giving when our minds tell us there's no earthly reason to continue, going even though our bodies slump and stagger.

You see, there is no earthly reason to minister or to give or to go. The reason is greater than earthly or physical. It is supernatural and from above; our reason for ministry is love.

Ministry means thinking more of others than we do of ourselves, because of our love for Christ and His love for the world. It's giving, praying, living truth, hurting, keeping your word and being faithful.

Look around. There are opportunities to minister everywhere in our families, our churches, our communities. Those opportunities represent people searching for a vanishing touch of love.

People are my ministry; they are your ministry too. Be a bearer of love . . . be a minister today.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Dean Jones serves on the Youth Ministries Division staff at Randall House Publications. He coordinates the Music and Arts Festival for the National Youth Conference and directs the Youth Evangelistic Team music.

## Coming soon ... TEAM

Would you like to be a member of TEAM?

TEAM is a national organization of junior high and senior high Free Will Baptist youth. It will officially organize on Wednesday afternoon, July 19, during the National Youth Conference in Tampa, Florida.

TEAM stands for Teens Equipped and Active in Ministry. The purpose of TEAM is to organize and equip Free Will Baptist youth for active involvement in effective ministry. This purpose is broken down into five goals.

They are: 1. To promote youth involvement on local, state, national and worldwide levels. 2. To equip youth for victorious living in today's society. 3. To assist in planning the National Youth Conference. 4. To stimulate participation in missionary projects. 5. To develop national youth publications.

All youth are invited and encouraged to be a part of this national organization. Youth will meet and elect one teen from each state to be a representative on the TEAM Congress. A president, vice president and secretary will be elected from this representative TEAM Congress. Four TEAM captains will also be selected to involve youth in education, NYC planning, missions and publications. The officers and captains will form the TEAM Executive Council.

The officers, captains and state representatives will serve one-year terms that will begin at NYC '89 in Tampa, Florida, and conclude at NYC '90 in Phoenix, Arizona, at which time new representatives will be elected. Each state representative will be responsible to help coordinate and promote local, state and national youth projects, as well as provide ideas and input from his / her state.

Youth need to be involved in planning and developing programs for youth. The idea is to develop a network of Free Will Baptist youth across the country. This is an opportunity for the voice of youth to be heard from across our denomination.

TEAM will be sponsored by the Youth Ministries Division of Randall House Publications. The division will provide resources and support in order to get TEAM into action.

The TEAM program will be as important as the youth of the denomination want it to be. What can you as an individual do? Here are a few suggestions:

-Determine to be a member of TEAM at NYC this July.

-Encourage other youth to become involved with TEAM.

-Think about who you want to represent your state on TEAM Congress.

-Pray that this organization will be effective in involving Free Will Baptist youth.

A team is only as good as its individual members. Get involved. Be a TEAM member!

If you have ideas or questions concerning TEAM, or if you would like to be considered as a TEAM captain, please write to:

TEAM Youth Ministries Division P. O. Box 17306 Nashville, TN 37217

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**Directory Update** 

#### ARKANSAS

Ron Parker to Bethlehem Church, Van Buren from Lifegate Mission, Tyler, TX

#### CALIFORNIA

Phillip Bender to Newark Church, Newark

E. B. Condit to Lompoc Church, Lompoc

J. L. McAlister to Earlimart Church, Earlimart

#### GEORGIA

Harris Nix to Stoney Hill Church, Reidsville

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

Jack Ward to North Spartanburg Church, Spartanburg from First Church, Marion, NC

## TEXAS

Bill Crank to Lifegate Church, Tyler

#### **WEST VIRGINIA**

Carl Whittaker to Ghent Church, Ghent Robert Thompson to Kilsyth Church, Kilsyth

Robert Coms to Lillybrook Church, Coal City

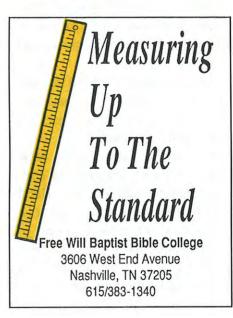
Raybon Cook to Naoma Church, Naoma

Charles Daniels to Mt. Tabor Church, Beckley

Harold Taylor to Cool Ridge Church, Cool Ridge

#### **OTHER PERSONNEL**

Jeff Nichols to Calvary Fellowship Church, Fenton, MO, as youth minister







Robert E. Picirilli

**Ephesians 1:3-14** 

## The Blessings of Election: Ephesians 1:3-14

**Green Tree Bible Study** 

f Romans 8:28-30 is used by Calvinists against us Arminians, even more is Ephesians 1:3-14, a marvelous passage—one long sentence about God's election of His people. A careful study of the passage yields the following analysis.

- 1. Preamble, v. 3. Salvation blessings have their source in God.
- God's eternal plan to bless us, vv. 4-6. These verses look back into God's decisions ("decrees") made before creation. Three times "us" occurs as object of a verb, thus providing for the following outline:
  - a. God elected ("chose") us, v.
    4. (1) He elected individuals, as the "us" implies. (2) He elected "in Christ." Individuals are chosen in saving union with Christ. (3) He elected "before the foundation of the world" was laid. (4) He elected us to be holy and faultless in His presence, in love: the final objective.

Paul does not say directly whether this "election" has any conditionality attached to it or not. Other passages of scripture show, directly, that election is election of believers-like I Corinthians 1:21. See also John 5:21: 6:39-40, which declares that God's will is to save believers. And this fits precisely with what Paul does affirm, here, that persons are elected "in union with Christ," a union that is established by faith. See vv. 12-13, below.

b. God foreordained ("predestinated") us, vv. 5-6a (1) He foreordained us to a position as His sons and heirs ("adoption"). (2) He foreordained us "by Jesus Christ." (3) He foreordained us "according to the good pleasure of His will." There is no ground or reason in man himself. (4) He foreordained us as an act of grace and thus "for the praise of His glorious grace," the ultimate purpose.

We find, therefore, the same thing we found in Romans 8:28-30 (see the previous article). "Predestination" looks at *what* happens to the saved rather than at *who* is saved. "Election" sees the saved as people God has chosen; "predestination" refers to what He has planned for them.

- c. God gave us grace, v. 6b. "Made us accepted" is actually the Greek verb that has the same root as the noun for "grace" (charis); literally, then, "His grace, which He graciously bestowed on us in [Christ] the Beloved One." All salvation blessings flow to us, from eternity, in union with Christ.
- The realization of these blessings in time, vv. 7-14. While the previous verses look into eternity past, now Paul looks at our present experience, at what "we have" (v. 7) as a result. True,

some clauses will repeat the reminder that this is grounded on the eternal decisions of God (vv. 9b, 11b), but the passage as a whole looks to our experience in time.

- a. Redemption in Christ, vv.
  7-8. (1) The means of redemption: Christ's blood.
  (2) The nature of redemption: the forgiveness of sins.
  (3) The basis of redemption: God's rich grace.
- b. Revelation of the mystery of His will, vv. 9-10. In Paul, a "mystery" is something requiring God's revelation for man to know. (1) This is a making known of His eternal will respecting salvation. (2) It takes place in time. (3) The basis is His sovereign good pleasure, purposed in Christ (looking back to eternity). (4) The goal is that Christ be Head of all.
- c. Inheritance, vv. 11-14. (1) We were made the Lord's inheritance, as v. 11 should probably be read; cf. Deuteronomy 32:8-9. (2) This is part of what was "foreordained" for the elect (looking back to eternity again). (3) The basis, again, is the sovereign purpose of God, who works all things after the counsel of His will. (4) The ultimate goal is the glorification of God. (5) Faith is the condition for the experience, as vv. 12-13 make clear. This confirms what was said above. God's condition for applying salvation, in time, shows that the decree in eternity was to elect believers, to administer salvation conditionally. (6) The presence of God's Spirit with the believer is the official stamp of God's ownership of him. (7) That Spirit also guarantees to the believer the inheritance God has promised His elect.

NEWS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

## RELIGIOUS BOOKS BANNED FROM CLASSROOM LIBRARY

DENVER, CO (EP)—A federal judge ruled that fifth-grade teacher Ken Roberts may not include religious books in his classroom library, and must hide his Bible in his desk during school hours.

Kathleen Madigan, the principal of Berkeley Gardens Elementary School in Denver, ordered Roberts to remove his Bible and religious books, claiming that they violated the constitutional principle of separation of church and state.

The judge ruled that two religious books—The Bible in Pictures and The Story of Jesus—can not be kept in a 250-book classroom library from which students choose books to read during a daily reading period. U. S. District Judge Sherman Finesilver said the books could abe kept in the school's library, but not in a classroom. Finesilver said that young students might be swayed by the actions of their teacher, and said the presence of a Bible or religious books in the classroom might influence the children in an unconstitutional way.

The judge also upheld the school district's order requiring Roberts to hide his Bible during the school day.

#### CLEAR-TV WILL CALL FOR BOYCOTT OF CERTAIN TELEVISION SPONSORS

WHEATON, IL (EP)—A coalition of approximately 1,600 Christian leaders will call for a boycott of the leading sponsors of sex, violence, profanity and anti-Christian stereotyping on network TV. The coalition, Christian Leaders for Responsible Television (CLeaR-TV), will monitor television from April 27 - May 24 and promote a one-year boycott of one or more of the leading sponsors of objectionable material following the monitoring period.

CLeaR-TV claims to be "one of the largest and most diverse groups of Christian leaders ever to participate in a single social concern." The group includes the heads of 70 denominations, presidents of 53 Christian colleges, more than 200 Christian broadcasters, heads of several large parachurch organizations, and other church leaders.

Dr. Billy Melvin, executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals, serves as chairman of CLeaR-TV. He says the group will notify network advertisers of its intentions, and "will offer to work with any advertiser that wishes to avoid being selected for a boycott."

Melvin adds, "For three years CLeaR-TV officials have made numerous attempts to reduce the sex, violence, profanity and anti-Christian stereotyping by the networks. We have met with representatives of the networks, and a number of corporate executives, and have corresponded numerous times with all network advertisers. Our actions have mostly been ignored. We now feel it is time to take stronger action."

## 'DISTURBING PEACE OF HINDUISM' LANDS TWO IN NEPALI PRISON

KATMANDU, Nepal (EP)—Two men with Operation Mobilization, one an American, were arrested in Nepal and charged with "preaching Christianity and causing a disturbance to Hinduism" late last year. Upon conviction, the charge against the men carries a mandatory six-year sentence. The two are still in Nepali prison for the offense; reports indicate that the two may be incarcerated for up to a year before they face trial

Dave McBride, 33, of Columbia, Pennsylvania, and Canadian Merv Budd, 22, were in Nepal on tourist visas while serving with Operation Mobilization. They were arrested at Phidim October 27 in eastern Nepal at the end of a five-week trek through the Himalayan foothills.

Nepal, a country of 16 million, is the only officially Hindu kingdom in the world; Christian evangelism is strictly prohibited there. Presently 193 Nepalese are in prisons awaiting trial on charges of evangelism or "changing religion." It is unlawful for Nepalese to convert from the religion of their fathers.

McBride and Budd made regular trips from Katmandu in the eastern half of the country, which is wedged between India and Tibet, across the countryside to encourage local believers and distribute Christian literature. They took along Nepali colporteurs to help sell the literature. An Operation Mobilization spokesman described the practice as "low-key evangelism."

As they neared the end of their trek they stopped at a police check post as required. Police discovered the literature and the two were arrested and charged.

## JESUS' FILM HELPING FULFILL THE GREAT COMMISSION

SAN BERNARDINO, CA (EP)—The Jesus film, a major motion picture about the life of Christ based on the Gospel of Luke which has been played thousands of times since its release nearly a decade ago, was translated into 20 new languages during 1988, bringing the total number of translations to 123.

Since the time of its release, used by Campus Crusade for Christ and over 160 missions agencies in evangelistic outreach efforts, an estimated 325 million people have seen the film worldwide and more than 30 million people have indicated decisions to trust Christ as their personal Savior after viewing the film, according to a news report from Campus Crusade for Christ International.

The motion picture has been shown in virtually every situation, from modern U. S. theaters and television to Asian villages where film teams carry projection equipment and generators to people who have never seen a film, and often have never heard of Jesus Christ.

Shortly before the release of "The Last Temptation of Christ" last August, Campus Crusade founder and president Bill Bright offered to buy the film from Universal Studios in an attempt to block the blasphemous depiction of the life of Christ from release. The movie company refused, running a full-page advertisement in *The New York Times* in response to Bright's offer.

When "Last Temptation" was released in Chicago, WCFC-TV aired "Jesus" three times to counter the Universal film. A half-page advertisement in the *Chicago Tribune* sponsored by 35 churches challenged readers, "Don't resist the temptation to see the true story." According to reports, over 800 callers responded to an invitation to phone the station where counselors answered phones; 202 indicated decisions for Christ.

"I have long followed the work of missions and national church efforts striving to win people for Christ," said Ted Engstrom, president emeritus of World Vision and chairman of the International Committee of Reference for New Life 2000. "I have never seen a tool so effective, so wonderfully penetrating to the heart of man, as this film."

Currently, the film is being translated into 46 more languages.

## **BEYOND BELIEF**





THE SECRETARY SPEAKS By Melvin Worthington

he quality of life enjoyed by Americans is held captive by prime time television and cable TV. Yes, television has unlimited potential for good and informs people across the nation about important events almost instantaneously. While television could be a university of the airwaves and window on the world, it has become an electronic garbage can.

## **Powerful Influence**

We can no longer ignore television's powerful influence in shaping lives. That power to shape lives and influence minds carries with it the responsibility to improve the quality of life rather than despise, disillusion or denounce values which promote a better society.

Television affects the minds of viewers. It plants seeds which will ultimately produce a harvest. Evidence indicates that television destroys the fabric of our society by manipulating the minds of viewers. Values and traditions are continually attacked and undermined. This seems to be a deliberate attempt by television writers and producers to reshape, redefine and restructure values which have been characteristic of the nation.

Television affects the morals of viewers. Violence and vice flood our homes through television. Television is seen as a purveyor of gratuitous sex and violence undermining moral values and reflecting a perverted, corrupted caricature of human existence.

Television affects the marriages of viewers. The results are devastating. Acts of adultery and sexual deviance, considered immoral by Christianity and virtually every other organized religion in the world, continue to be depicted as normal and acceptable. Television undermines society in the name of entertainment and monetary profit. This blatant disregard for the rights of others is reprehensible.

**I've** 

Had

Enough!

## **The Personal Insult**

I am insulted by the mind-set and messages conveyed by today's television programs. America is drowning in an electronic flood of sex, violence, nudity and profanity. Still, TV writers and producers continue to churn out programs that deliberately insult and offend common decency, honesty, fairness, human rights and Christian values.

It's time TV viewers spoke up. Enough is enough! The public has too long remained silent. Television viewers need to act immediately to reverse this unhealthy trend in TV programming.

## **The Practical Instrument**

The practical instrument which can help reverse the trend in television

## Secretary's Schedule

May 7-12	Pine Prairie FWB Church Huntsville, Texas
May 13	Arizona State Association
May 14-17	Center Point FWB Church Center Point, Ala.
May 19-20	Michigan State Association
May 23-26	Convention Planning Trip Tampa, Fla.
May 29-30	RCMA Board Meeting Tampa, Fla.

programming is already in place. Organized in 1985, Christian Leaders for Responsible Television (CLeaR-TV) provides an instrument for those who want to help revise the trend in TV programming. CLeaR-TV, composed of approximately 1,600 Christian leaders, adopted a plan of action to deal with deterioration of TV program content. Plans call for monitoring TV networks from April 27 - May 24. Following this monitoring, one or more sponsors of violence and vulgarity will be targeted for a one-year boycott of their products.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF

Free Will Baptists

Donald E. Wildmon, executive director of the American Family Association (formerly NFD), serves as executive director of CLeaR-TV. For information on how you can make a significant difference in the quality and content of prime-time television programming, please contact:

> Donald E. Wildmon, Executive Director CLeaR-TV Post Office Drawer 2440 Tupelo, MS 38803 Phone: 601/844-5036

## **Personal Involvement**

Personal involvement can make a difference in the programming of this powerful industry. Contact CLeaR-TV for more information; inform church members; call program sponsors. Enough is enough.

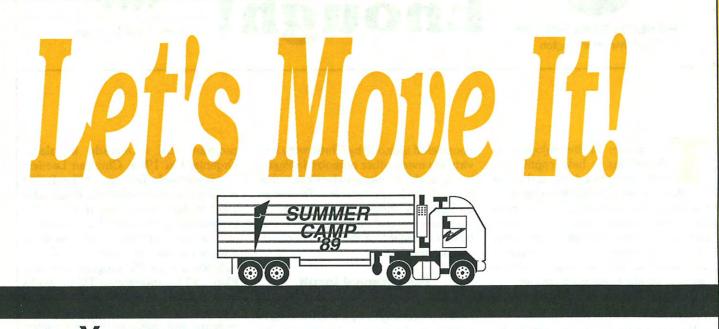
We have a choice: Turn it off, tune it out, turn it on or take over and change its course. I've had enough and I want a change!

## CONTACT

P. O. Box 1088

Nashville, Tennessee 37202

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