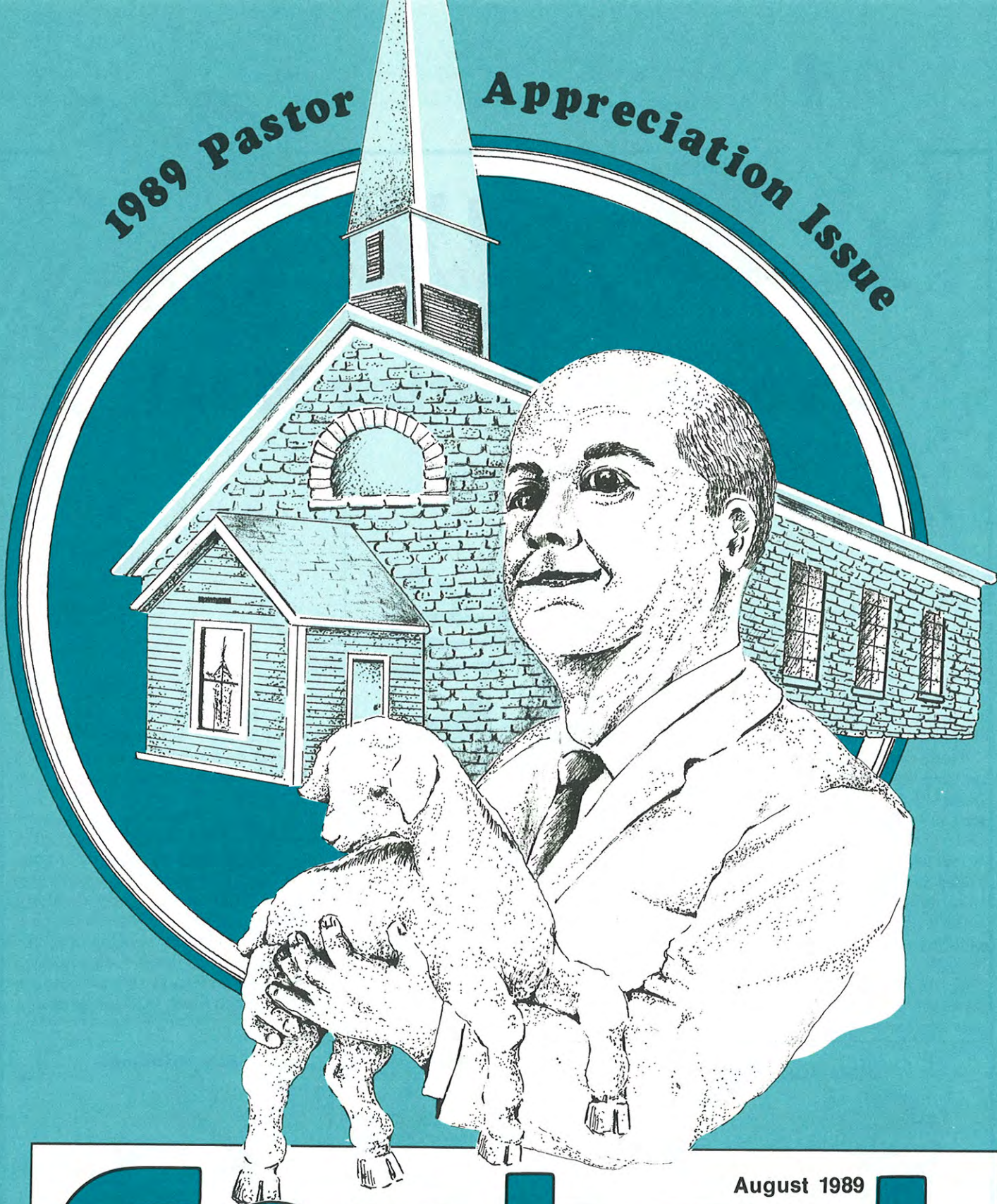


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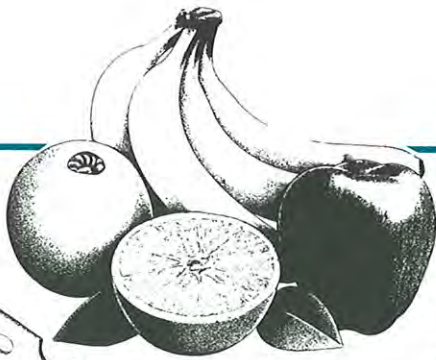
Appreciation Issue



August 1989

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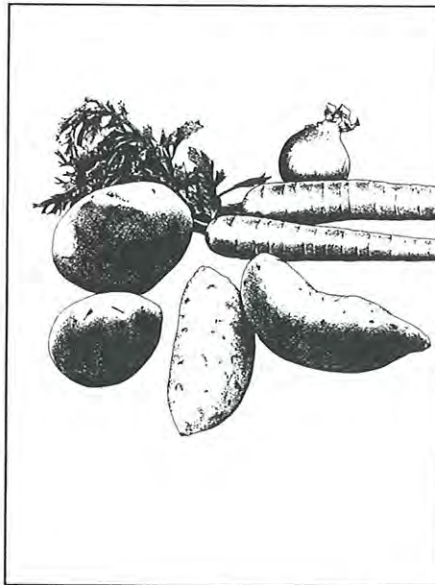
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS



Preach a Better Meal



By Dennis Wiggs



The preacher has a wealth of material to preach. His textbook, the Bible, contains inexhaustible principles and illustrations on which to build sermons. The preacher's problem is not where to find the material. He must determine the best selection.

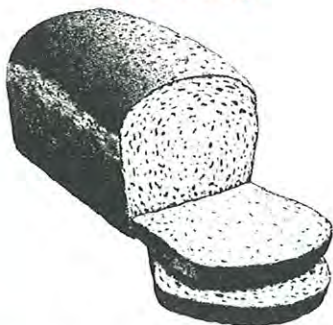
God's Word consists of 66 books, penned by about 40 writers over a period of 1,500 years. The 1,189 chapters contain about 592,439 words in the Old Testament and about 181,253 words in the New Testament. The preacher is provided with an abundance of sermon material.

And yet every Sunday some preachers serve the same meal to a congregation that craves a more nutritional diet from God's Word. Even the preacher is often dissatisfied with the sermon material. What can he do?

pulpit meal very well. He serves warmed-over sermons, tasteless leftovers and stale illustrations with a sour attitude. The result: anemic congregations.

Since God's Word, the preacher's inspired textbook, does not lack in information, inspiration and illustrations, the preacher has no excuse for neglecting to feed the congregation properly. Every meal should spiritually benefit the people who meet for worship and the ministry of God's Word. Congregations don't need junk food, just wholesome, well-balanced meals from the scriptures.

Bible Study



Study the menu book (the Bible).
Develop some new meals (the sermon).

Serve the food with enthusiasm. That's the formula for producing well-balanced messages which nourish a congregation that needs to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ. The sinner's appetite will be whetted and the saint's hunger satisfied.

The preacher who expects results must preach all of the Bible. He needs to develop pulpit meals that provide meat, vegetables, milk, bread and a little dessert. Every sermon should be nutritional and properly balanced to produce spiritual growth in the hearer.

The preacher's well-prepared meals are planned in his kitchen (his study). The ingredients are found in God's Word. The oven is the desk and prayer closet. The meals are served in the dining room of the pulpit.

Congregations are often cheated because the pastor has not prepared the

Five Principles



To serve pulpit meals that nourish the entire congregation the preacher needs

to follow these principles:

1. *Read the Scriptures daily.*

Soak the soul in the laver of God's Word. Read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation every year. Mark verses that especially speak to you.

2. *Pray for your congregation by name.*

Equally divide the names, write them in a book, and pray for each person daily. This increases the burden to preach fruit-bearing sermons.

3. *Plan ahead.*

Look at the calendar. Prepare series of messages. Keep a notebook of ideas and sermons you want to preach. There are unlimited subjects, for example:

- The Twelve Apostles
- The Ten Commandments
- The Life of Elijah
- The Life of Elisha
- The Beatitudes
- The Famous Women of the Bible
- The Famous Men of the Bible
- The Coming Events
- The Parables
- Unusual Things in the Bible
- The Life of Christ
- The Seven Utterances from the Cross
- The Statements of Christ After His Resurrection
- The Miracles of Christ
- The Six Salvation Principles of John 3:16

4. *Prepare well.*

Enter the pulpit with a nutritional, delicious meal that you just can't wait to serve. The congregation should sense that their pastor's knees are sore, his head full and his heart burdened.

5. *Preach for results.*

Properly prepared meals are well received. The believers are sheep, not giraffes. Provide the meal at their level.



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Dennis Wiggs pastors Ruth's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in New Bern, North Carolina.

The unconverted are searching. Don't hide the simple truths of salvation. The believers are hungry. Don't serve a burnt steak too tough to chew. Always give a Holy Spirit-directed invitation—not one to satisfy the preacher's ego, but a challenge for the hearer to digest the meal and use its nutrition to live a better life.

Benefits of Exposition



Expository preaching benefits the preacher and the congregation. If a pastor is preaching from the gospel of John on Sunday morning, the life of Elijah on Sunday night, and missions on Wednesday night during the first six months of the new year, he accomplishes several things:

1. He knows where to study. Precious time is not lost "looking for a sermon."
2. He can spend quality time preparing the sermons.
3. He can prepare several sermons ahead.
4. The congregation knows the upcoming passages. They can prepare their hearts to receive the messages.
5. He will preach all of the Bible. In fact, expository preaching (verse-by-verse through the scriptures) will cause him to cover subjects that he may never touch on otherwise.
6. He will be amazed at how the Holy Spirit will take this type of preaching and minister to the congregation at the least expected times.

Preaching is exciting. As the preacher practices II Timothy 4:2, he reproves (shows us we have sinned), rebukes (shows how wrong we were to sin), and exhorts (shows what we must do to set the wrong right and not do it again). He will be pleased to experience what properly prepared meals can accomplish in the hearts and lives of those who sit at his table week after week.

Shallow preaching produces shallow Christians. Properly-balanced, nutritional sermons produce fruitful believers. Both the man in the pulpit and the person in the pew benefit from the delicious, nourishing meals from all of God's Word.

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The Cocke County Revival!

By Bert Tippet

Cocke County

Where more marijuana was grown last year than any other county in Tennessee.

Cocke County

Where more airplanes were confiscated last year for drug smuggling than in all the counties in the rest of Tennessee—combined!

Cocke County

Where God seems to be moving in a remarkable way.

I have never witnessed anything like this since I started preaching in 1971.—Rev. Carl Callahan, pastor, Centerview FWB Church, Newport, Tenn.

Six Free Will Baptist young people attending Cocke County High School, in Newport, Tennessee, fell under a burden in early April 1989 for their unsaved friends. One of them, a 17-year-old senior who had been saved about three months, took the lead in laying plans for a youth crusade to be held in the high school gym. They went to Rev. Callahan with their idea. He encouraged them to pursue it, but said that he could be of only limited help since he lived 70 miles away and worked full time.

The young people secured permission to use the gymnasium for their crusade, borrowed 500 folding chairs from area churches, found and set up a public address system and mounted a publicity blitz on the town. They even began a program of training for counsellors—

about 250—to deal with those they expected to be saved during the crusade. “The only thing I did was sign a contract for a billboard,” said Brother Callahan.

On Thursday night, May 11, the crusade began at 7:00 p.m. The gymnasium was packed with young people filling the chairs and lining the walls. Rev. Callahan estimates there were about 600 present. The service began with singing, but conviction was already evident. About 15 minutes into the service young people started coming forward, weeping.

“There were about 125 to 150 at the altar,” said Brother Callahan. “Fifty to seventy-five were saved before I began preaching.” The service ran until 10:30 p.m. Afterward, a 90-year-old lady came to the preacher and said, “I’ve been praying for this in Cocke County since I was a little girl!”

On Friday, the impact of the service was still evident. Students met in the gym early in the day to pray for the service that night. The Fellowship of Christian Athletes, that is usually attended by eight or nine, had 85 present at its meeting. Hundreds of students were carrying their Bibles through the halls and into their classes. Before the day was over, 15 more had been saved.

Two students from Free Will Baptist Bible College had been called to help in the crusade—Jamie Allen from Durham, N.C. and Dennis Carter from Florence, S.C. Jamie was scheduled to preach Friday night. The gym was again full and overflowing.

As the service was about to be opened a young girl came to the stage and stepped to the microphone. She said that she was glad to see what was happening in her school. Then she began to weep. “I’m not a Christian,” she said, “and I would give anything in the world to be saved.”

Brother Callahan stepped up, took her by the arm and said, “Come right

down here to the altar and you can be saved right now!” Immediately, young people began to stream down the aisles and kneel at the altar. Brother Callahan says, “I stayed on my knees for an hour and a half, dealing with young people who came.”

Dennis Carter recalls that he had to be careful not to fall over or step on people who had come forward. “There were puddles of tears all around the altar area where they had cried,” he said.

A man who was traveling down the interstate, turned off in Newport to get directions and stopped at the high school. He was saved before returning to his car to continue his trip. Jamie, seeing that it was 10:30 by the time the altar area was cleared and that there was no need for preaching, simply gave his testimony and closed the service.

Saturday night, Dennis preached. Again, the Holy Spirit was immediately at work with 40-50 coming forward, about 20 being saved.

Brother Callahan says that from 100-150 young people began meeting each morning in the library before school starts to pray for their friends. Another crusade was planned for June. In the meantime, Brother Callahan is trying to follow up on the many who made decisions.



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

Preacher!



I am a 16-year-old preacher. Last night I preached my first sermon at mid-week prayer meeting. The people smiled when I read my text—the Ten Commandments.

Someone asked if I was nervous before I spoke. No, I was scared to death. My mouth went dry as cotton. I thought my heart would jump through my shirt when I saw a million people staring up at me. Pastor said there were only 43. Somebody miscounted.

My sermon lasted eight minutes. Some wondered why I stopped so soon, until I explained that I'd said everything I knew about the Ten Commandments. Beats me how Pastor talks for 50 minutes three times a week. I'll never learn.

Sure wish I had a car to get to my preaching appointments. My parents wonder if I know what I'm doing. My friends seem confused. They like having a preacher in science class, but then they tell me what a great dance I missed Saturday night.

One thing I know, God called me to preach.

I am a 24-year-old pastor. The Silver Rock Church asked me to pastor their congregation two years ago right after I graduated from Bible College. They said I was their first college preacher. That's all right, they were my first pastorate. I still don't understand what caused the fuss when we threw out those old song books and bought new hymnals.

Baptizing looked easier when someone else did it. Mrs. Abernathy almost drowned when she opened her mouth under water after I dropped her. Things are different now that I'm in charge. I hope the deacons remember to bring unleavened bread next time we schedule the Lord's Supper.

How can one church have so many problems? Does every member have a Jehovah's Witness for a neighbor and

Mormons for kin folks? And what did Fred mean about wanting to "help" me with my view of eschatology and end-time events? The piano player quit last week and said something unladylike on her way out.

My wife and I celebrated our third anniversary Thursday. The baby's due before Christmas. We really need a better car. I'll have to move my books down to the church to make room for a nursery. Sears approved a \$500 line of credit.

We're going to the national convention next year.

I am a 36-year-old pastor. Hard to believe I've been preaching 20 years. I've preached more than 2,500 sermons, and this is my fourth pastorate. My wife says I need to trim my 45-minute sermons and my 38-inch waist. Women worry about nothing.

Why doesn't our church grow as fast as First Church across town? Should I return to grad school and pick up a master's degree? I've been to so many seminars that I know a dozen ways to do the 25 projects I can't get to.

We sure do need a second car. With three kids in school, we juggle church visitation with baseball practice and music lessons. Why do all our members go to hospitals in different towns for surgery?

The church tries hard, but my salary simply isn't enough. If we didn't live in the parsonage with utilities paid, my wife would've gone back to work long before now. We want to buy a home, but there's no money for the down payment. Why does hospitalization insurance for ministers cost so much?

They elected me to a five-year term on the state Home Missions Board. I've moderated the district association for three years now, and we're still trying to agree on a new constitution and by-laws. I'm teaching two weeks in youth camp next June. We went to the national convention on our vacation.

We still owe \$863 on MasterCard.

I am a 46-year-old pastor. One of my best friends resigned his church and left his wife and their two children. They say he ran off with a 28-year-old woman he'd been counseling. I'm reading a book on ministerial burnout. Do men have mid-life crises?

My brother retired from the military

three years ago. He doesn't understand why my 30 years in the ministry doesn't qualify me for retirement benefits. I don't either.

We could use another car. We drive three now, and we still get schedule gridlock. How do insurance companies expect people to pay premiums that cost more than car payments? Are teenagers that dangerous? Our two full-time salaries can't stretch to pay tuition for both kids in Bible College. Thank God for summer jobs.

Wish we could afford to buy a house. I can't understand why I'm so tired these days. I've got a month of meetings and hospital calls to make before Sunday. The Foreign Missions Board meets next month, so I'll fly to Nashville for the meeting.

We finished the new education building a month ago. Building programs cost more than money, I learned. We baptized our 18th convert this year. My sermons seem to end sooner these days. I've never seen so many young deacons. The local newspaper printed my article opposing parimutuel betting.

Got a letter from the IRS today, some question about charitable contributions on last year's tax returns.

I am a 66-year-old retired minister. Those last 15 years that we put money into the Board of Retirement made the difference. The Social Security check isn't much, but we'll make it.

We finally got the car we wanted. The church bought it for us after 25 years as their pastor. Wonderful people. My neighbor calls it the Red Rocker.

The new pastor sure is a fine young man, just 34 years old with a great future. Hope he gets that salary increase at the business meeting. He needs a second car. I'll take him aside next week and tell him about our denominational retirement program.

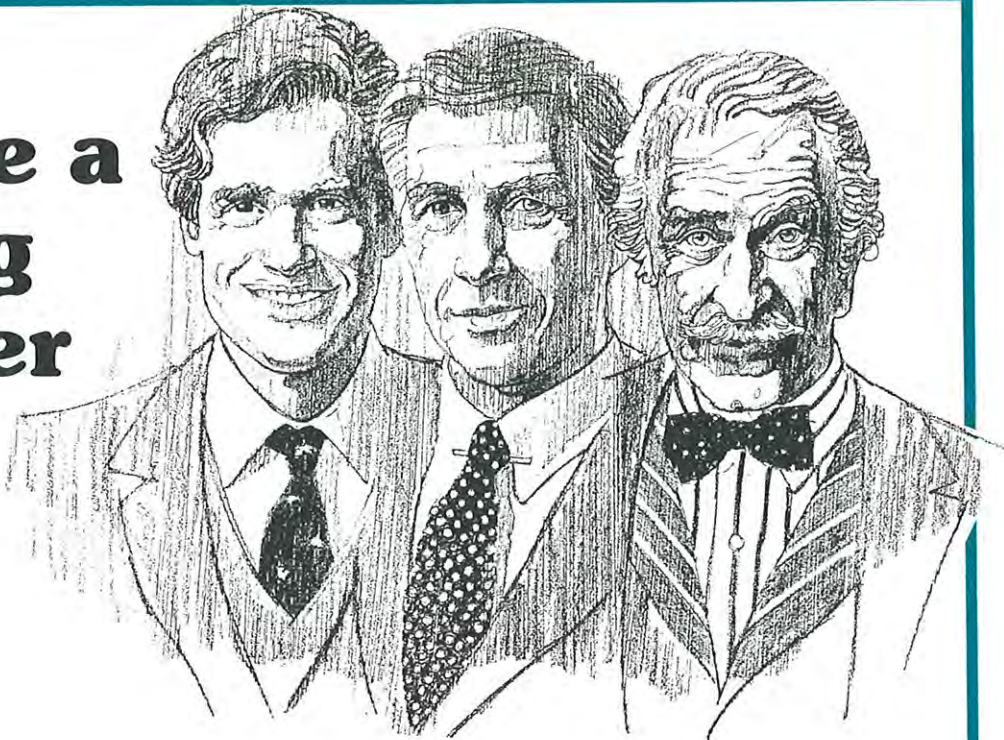
Fifty years I've been preaching. This is the first time in more than four decades that a death occurred in the community and the family called someone else. Sears phoned asking why we haven't charged anything to our account lately.

A boy, just 16, preached his first sermon at our church last night. He spoke 30 minutes and seemed so poised. God can use a young fellow like him. I hope his parents understand, and his friends. As long as he knows that God called him, he'll make it work.

Tomorrow, maybe I'll tell him about my first sermon.

If I Were a Young Preacher

By J. Delbert Akin



God gives some of His servants more years to serve Him than He does others. That's part of His plan. He has given me nearly 40 years as a minister of the gospel.

After answering the call to the ministry in 1949, I was ordained in 1950 and began my first pastorate in 1951. Since then I have pastored six Free Will Baptist churches in Oklahoma, all within 100 miles of where I was ordained. I recently returned to pastor the church at Tecumseh where I spent the first five years of my ministry.

But if I were a young preacher, what would I do differently? Perhaps these observations will give Free Will Baptists an incentive to encourage those young men starting out now who will be pastoring Free Will Baptist churches for the next 30 or 40 years.

Dollars and Sense

Those of us over 50 have seen many changes in material, social, cultural and spiritual areas of life. Greater demands squeeze the minister and his family; pressure is enormous. No wonder ministers leave the ministry for lucrative secular jobs where more attractive salaries meet the financial needs of a growing family.

What would I do if I were starting my ministry over again? Would I take a secular job and preach and pastor on the side? Or would I still want to be a full-time pastor depending solely on the church for a liveable wage to support my family? No doubt about it! I would still want to be a full-time pastor, but I would be more forthright about the needs of my family with the church and those who determine the financial program.

I have done some good men on church boards a grave injustice in the past by failing to make them fully aware of my family's financial needs. Timidity must be put aside when these pressing issues are at stake (see I Corinthians 9:7-11). It may be true that some Free Will Baptist churches want part-time preachers who will preach for part-time salaries. But unless something is done in the area of financial support for the pastor and his family, no church will have any other choice.

More churches are eager to grow and take on the responsibility of supporting a full-time pastor with a wage comparable to the secular pay scale. I do not know of any Free Will Baptist minister who preaches "just for the money" as is often stated. However, I do know that it takes a certain amount of money to meet the standard needs of every family. God will supply, but for the pas-

tor depending on his congregation for financial support, the members of that congregation must be willing to follow His directions.

While every preacher should be willing to take a secular job to support his ministry, every church with the potential to do so should also be willing to support the pastor to the extent that it will not be necessary for him to do so.

Education and Training

Another fundamental issue that every preacher must consider when he starts out concerns how much education and formal training he will pursue. How much is necessary to be effective? The need for a prepared ministry through education has grown over the years as the level of education increased in the population as a whole.

The generation I ministered to as a young man was not as well educated as the generation that young preachers face today. Because of this, I would want to get as much ministerial training as I could if I were starting over. I did not go to a seminary after completing my undergraduate program. I would change that decision now.

There is no better time to study than when you are in your youth. I would encourage every young preacher to attend a college which will give him as

much help as possible in his future ministry. One of our fine denominational schools should take preference.

Success in the ministry is not based on a college degree, but the degree of success for the minister is always based upon how well he prepared both from training and study under qualified instructors. He enters his study week by week and prepares through prayer and diligent study of the Word of God. I would be more effective in the pulpit today had I taken the time long ago to sit at the feet of God-called men in a Free Will Baptist college who could have taught me things which I have had to dig long and hard to uncover.

Building a Library

Great preachers often have great libraries. The Bible is the number one book the preacher has, but alongside it there are other books and helps to assist the pastor as he studies and prepares to preach.

I have made some serious mistakes in the selection of those other books in my library. I have bought books because they were cheap or because they were a good deal when I got them. But if I could start over again, I would make sure that every book in which I invested my money would be useful to my ministry not just to make my library larger.

I also would make sure I read and studied those books which did go on the shelves. Books are of no benefit if they are never read. A busy preacher does not have time to read everything that's published to determine which books are beneficial to his ministry. He must be willing to take advice from others and make good selections from those lists. As more books are published by Free Will Baptist writers I think every young preacher should put those books at the top of his preference list. I would not part with any I now have in my library. They will become more precious in days ahead.

One other observation about the library—make a note of every book that is loaned. A preacher's library can be scattered about by those who borrow books and forget to return them.

The Denominational Scene

Working on denominational boards and committees is a great honor for a pastor, but I have some thoughts about those duties which are important. A

young preacher must be sure that his contribution to the work of any board or committee or elected office is one that he wants to make and which he is qualified to provide. A willing volunteer can often spread himself so thin that his effectiveness is destroyed.

While I am grateful for every opportunity given me to serve my denomination, if I were able to start over, I would place some limits on things I did outside the ministry of the local church and the community. It is good for the pastor to work as closely as possible with his board and the church where he ministers. A church can be proud that its pastor serves the denomination, but the local work can suffer if he is away so much that his interests and efforts are divided.

Leisure Time and Recreation

Decisions never come easy for a preacher when they relate to the area of what he will do for fun and recreation. Can he afford to allow himself free time to refresh his mind and body? I believe it is imperative that he find some way to give his mental and physical faculties a break.

I am not suggesting a sabbatical leave where a church allows the minister a year off out of every seven with pay for study and refreshing. However, the church board and the pastor need to reach an understanding about free time and time off with pay. This would promote longer tenure for the preacher and a more productive ministry for the church.

The fireball preacher who never stops long enough to rest runs the risk of burning out at an early age. Perhaps it is time for church leaders to enforce a schedule of free time for the pastor.

Family Relationships

Another great concern throughout my ministry is my relationship to my family. I look back and remember how hard it has been to make time to be a good husband and father. I know now that those roles in my life were just as important as being a preacher and pastor.

I plead with every young preacher not to neglect spending adequate time with his family. The members of his family need his attention as well as every other member of the congregation. It will not guarantee that everything will work out for them just as he would

like, but he can one day look back and have peace of mind knowing that he did his best. The guilt of failure in family relationships weighs heavier than one can imagine.

Handling Criticism

One final note to the young preacher relates to how he handles criticism, pressure and opposition in his ministry. Let there be no doubt about it, these will come to every leader. Everyone is not going to agree with every decision that is made.

I always knew this was true, but I have not always been able to keep the proper perspective when someone lowered the critical boom on me over some divisive issue. I would liked to have learned earlier in life the first tenet of the Optimist Creed adopted by all Optimist members, "Promise yourself to be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind." Criticism can be a valuable tool for the preacher if he will use it properly.

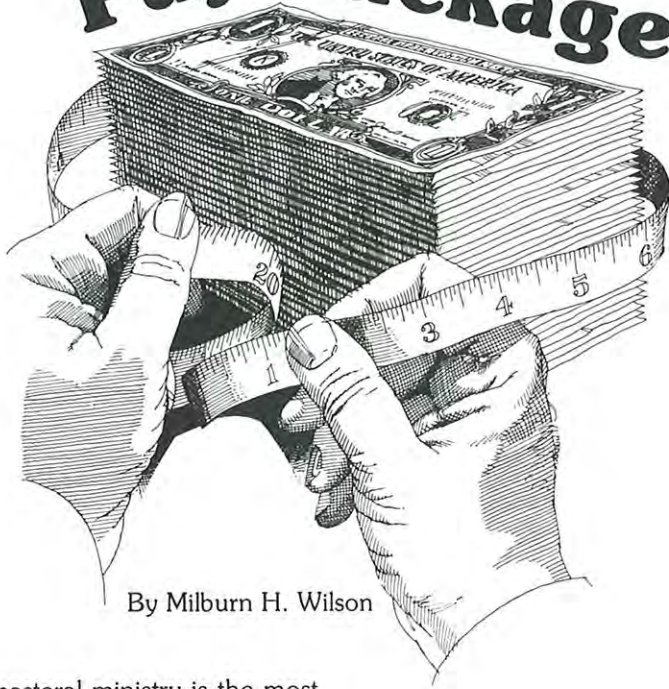
And Finally

My ministry will span the greater part of the last half of the 20th century. The young person starting now will minister far into the 21st century. The new changes and new challenges that lie ahead are yet to be revealed. My prayer is that as God continues to call young people to His service, they will not reject that call but will make the same commitment that I made more than 40 years ago. I have only one life to live. I will give it first to my Lord, to others second, and I will come last.



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend J. Delbert Akin pastors Tecumseh Free Will Baptist Church, Tecumseh, Oklahoma. He has pastored 37 years in Oklahoma. Akin taught pastoral ministries courses at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College 1987-1989. He has also served 11 years on the national Home Missions Board, 20 years on the Oklahoma Missions Board and 11 years on the Hillsdale College Board of Trustees.

The Pastor's Pay Package



By Milburn H. Wilson

The pastoral ministry is the most rewarding vocation in the world. But then I could be prejudiced since I've pastored 24 years and love it. Being a people helper is satisfying and outweighs any negative aspects of a minister's life.

While every vocation has drawbacks, few professions provide the opportunity to see lives transformed, young people charted on the right course, broken marriages pieced together, and other rewarding ministry experiences.

However, as exciting and challenging as the ministry is, we do face a dilemma in our country. Many fine churches are without pastors because fewer men are available. Our colleges cannot graduate enough ministerial students to offset the number who leave the ministry, those who die, and those who retire.

One problem is that pastors are generally underpaid, especially in small churches. While senior pastors tend to receive larger salaries in full-time church work, other staff salaries are often disastrously low. Because some churches don't seem to care and don't pay an adequate salary to their pastors, sometimes a bitter, resentful spirit toward their congregations emerges.

Budget committees, trustee boards and deacon boards must do more than pray and seek God's will in such matters. The old account about the church trustee who prayed, "Lord, help our poor humble pastor. You keep him humble and we will keep him poor" turns out to be more of a financial policy than a joke to underpaid pastoral staff and families.

Of course, it isn't just pastors whose incomes are often inadequate. Most Christian workers—Christian school teachers, associate pastors, college teachers, even state and national leaders—receive less than similar professions in the business world.

Perhaps it would be a good idea for a budget committee chairman to start planning the annual church budget by leading fellow members in a Bible study on the subject. If he did, financial inequities would be practically nonexistent. Consider Paul's statement to Timothy:

"Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in word and doctrine. For the Scriptures saith, 'Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that

treadeth out the grain'; and 'The laborer is worthy of his reward.'"

—I Timothy 5:17-18—

This is the clearest passage on the subject. Even a casual reading of these verses shows that the better the minister is at teaching the pure Word of God, the larger should be his salary. Would you believe the opposite is frequently the case! Liberal ministers who often have no Sunday evening or midweek messages command much higher salaries than the average Bible-believing pastor who preaches five to eight times a week.

The Bible says the faithful Bible teacher should receive "double honor," or as the Williams' translation reads, "Deserving twice the salary they get."

Church trustees should contemplate the logic of verse 18, "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the grain." No intelligent farmer would starve his hard-working ox; he feeds it generously so it will have the energy to keep working. Trustees should do no less for a Bible-teaching pastor.

Other scriptures to consider include I Corinthians 9:10-14 and I Thessalonians 5:12-13. The measure given in the scriptures by which to set a minister's salary has nothing to do with his education, experience, family size, personality or popularity. Instead, it is based on how faithfully he teaches the Word of God.

"Such a man should delight his congregation," the scriptures say. He is worthy of double honor or a double salary. Free Will Baptist ministers are such men.

Most ministers are not fully appreciated until after they leave a church. When trying to fill his place, the church will likely discover the kind of man they want isn't available for the salary they had been paying. Across our denomination the average pastor is underpaid by \$10,000 per year, some even more.

If our denominational giving expands for growth (missions, national agencies, etc.), the best place to start is the local church raising the pastor's pay package.

How Should the Pastor's Pay Package be Determined?

One good way is to average the top five percent of income and benefits in the congregation and pay the pastor equal to them. His pay package should contain: salary, automobile expense,

housing, hospital and life insurance, social security benefits, retirement, educational expense, expenses paid to state and national meetings.

If the pastor lives in the parsonage his pay package should be expanded enough to allow the purchase of his own home. Many pastors have bought and paid for houses for churches out of their own salary.

What is the Pastor's Role in Determining the Pay Package?

First:

He must think he deserves to be paid well for the job he does. After all, poverty is not a sign of spirituality. Also, his family deserves to live as well as other people in the church.

Second:

The pastor must have the boldness to speak up for the needs of himself and the church staff.

Third:

Keep the church well informed of church finances. Don't hide salaries and benefits from the church members.

Fourth:

Invite professionals in for stewardship seminars and teach courses on stewardship.

Compare pastor and staff salaries with other Free Will Baptist churches and other denominations.

Get the facts together; do your home work.

One well-known minister said, "No church has ever been challenged to heights of faith by studying its budget." That is true! When we look at next year's financial needs with only this year's resources, a proposed church budget can look frightening. But this is just one more opportunity for a church to trust God for a miracle.

Instead of asking, "Can we afford it?" the budget committee should ask, "Do we need it?" or "Is it right?" God has promised to supply our every need (Philippians 4:19) and that includes the pastor's and staff's salaries.

Jesus said, "According to your faith be it unto you." From a practical standpoint that means if a church trusts God to give their staff adequate salaries, He will. But if they don't trust Him, He won't.

It is precisely at this point many budget committees fail to apply the principles of faith collectively and limit

God by their unbelief. One reason some churches never see God do "exceedingly, abundantly above all they could ask or think" is because they don't take that step of faith that enlists the exciting power of God on their behalf.


Frequently a budget committee will ask, "What will the church people say if we give the pastor or staff a significant raise at the annual meeting?" A recent survey states the following responses:

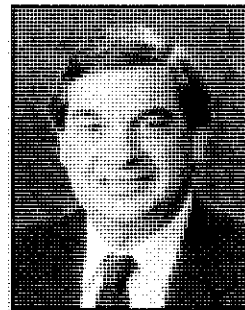
1. About 40 percent of active members say, "Praise the Lord, it's about time."

2. About 5-10 percent may respond with, "What are they trying to do, over-pay them?"

3. About 50 percent don't pay enough attention to even notice it.

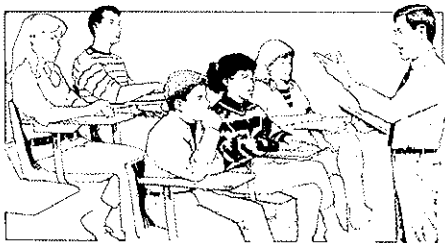
In any event, it is usually forgotten by 95 percent of the congregation within the next two to four weeks after the business meeting. But the pastor, staff members and their families remember it for the next 12 months.

Yes, it is time church leaders take a new look at the salary standards for its faithful workers. The living standards of the church pastor and workers reflect the standards of the church. Be inspired to trust God. Be generous. The biblical principle, "Give and it shall be given unto you," works two ways. 



ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Milburn Wilson pastors Sherwood Forest Free Will Baptist Church, El Sobrante, California. The church has 27 full-time employees on staff and a budget of nearly \$700,000 annually. He also serves on the national Home Missions Board.

The Next Time I Move



By Vern Gunnels, Jr.

Although most preachers do not know where their next tour of duty will take them, there is one plan of attack that I hope to initiate the next time I move. And that is, be a substitute teacher in the public schools.


Here in Marion County, Alabama, anyone with a high school diploma can pay a \$10 registration fee at the Superintendent's office, then contact each of the school business offices expressing a desire to substitute.

My wife was the first to sign up, not so much for the extra income, but for the public relations. She met not only scores of children, but teachers and other substitutes, principals, parents, coaches and community leaders. She couldn't go anywhere without some smiling little face excitedly calling out, "Hello, Mrs. Gunnels!" Friendships were established, lives touched, God glorified. And she

was an ambassador for Christ in the classroom.

Maybe your school system is different. Some are like the Omaha, Nebraska, system that told a 10-year-old boy not to bring his Bible to school and read it in class. The teacher with the principal's backing, of course, was advocating the separation of church and state to the extreme. Caution and wisdom must be exercised until you ascertain the spiritual temperature of your situation.

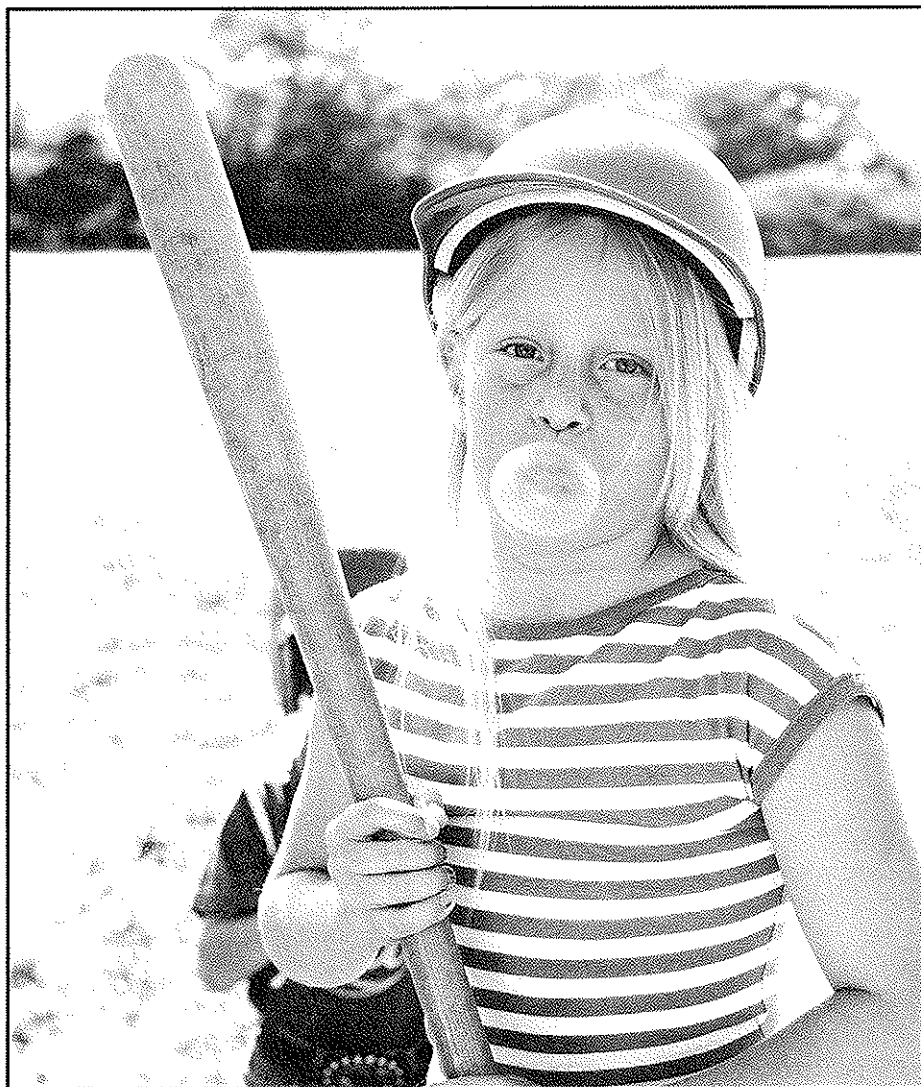
Surveys among high schoolers reveal some of their greatest concerns: fear of World War III and death rank high. Suicide is said to be the number two cause of death next to reckless driving. Where else can the Christian soldier find a better place to reveal Philippians 1:21?

Maybe I won't be so fortunate to have a cooperative school board with my next assignment. That's okay, too. But there's one thing I do know. With the Lord's help, I hope to be a substitute teacher in the public schools the next time I move. 

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Vernon Gunnels, Jr. has pastored Free Will Baptist churches in California, Arkansas and Alabama. He currently resides in Hamilton, Alabama.

Preachers' Kids Speak Out!

By Sandra Atwood



H. Armstrong Roberts

The most frequent answer was “the extra love and attention” they received as PK’s. They felt popular and loved the acceptance it brought. Many PK’s received special treatment and one PK said it opened doors for jobs for him.

A pastor’s wife said that the biggest advantage for her as a PK and for her own PK’s now is the large extended family—the extra aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, and grandparents. One PK liked the opportunity to meet the leaders who visited their home.

A few PK’s liked the chance to live in new places since “you could always start out with a clean slate.” Many liked to visit different churches. One PK especially liked going with his dad to revivals in other states.

One PK’s happiest memories were trips to National Associations, the family talk in the car and fun after they got there. Many felt that being born into a pastor’s family gave them benefits—a solid moral foundation, a good home life, and a sense of respect for themselves and others. A few said there were no advantages, only disadvantages.

PK Disadvantages

What did PK’s consider the biggest disadvantages? The disadvantage listed most often was always being in the public eye. One PK said, “Everybody is watching you—all you do, what you say, what you wear and where you go.”

Some PK’s felt that others pre-judged them and expected too much. Some felt that others left them no room for mistakes. One PK said he had “too many parents with too keen eyes.”

Another disadvantage mentioned often was the constant moving. Most did not like starting to a new school. One PK remembers feeling petrified of elementary schools. They did not like leaving familiar settings and old friends. Another PK thought a big disadvantage was the lack of recreational trips, not enough time away, none or very few vacations.

When our oldest son was 5, he wanted to play church. He made a pulpit, a file drawer set on end with a carpet square on top “so it won’t hurt my hand if I hit it.” He used two butter bowls to take the offering. Once he and his younger brother got into a fight over the piece of candy Daddy put into the offering.

For a 5-year-old he preached some interesting sermons. He did all right with Noah and the ark until he came to the part when Noah gathered the animals. Then he said that Noah used a secret word to call them in. Once when preaching about Daniel and the lions, he said, “The angel closed the lions’

mouths and that’s what ya’ll should do.”

These are precious memories for us (once our 2-year-old came to the “service” nude because the call to worship sounded as he was getting into the tub).

I interviewed preacher’s kids from ages 4 to 57 to find out what they liked and disliked about being a “PK,” what their opinions were, and what advice they would give to other PK’s and to pastors. Some were disillusioned and out of church, while others were grateful and in Bible College.

PK Advantages

The first question I asked was, “What were the advantages of being a PK?”

PK's Admire Dad

The third question: "What do you admire most about your dad?" Every PK interviewed admired certain qualities in their fathers, although they didn't always have positive feelings toward the ministry. One PK admired his dad's determination to win people to the Lord, even when he didn't get much help from the congregation. Many admired their father's consistency. Some worked at a job and built a church, too.

One said he admired his father because he kept going whether he felt like it or not. Another said he admired his father's commitment to the Word, no matter the cost. Words like hard working, loving, concerned and supportive surfaced often. The ability to put his family's needs before his own made one girl admire her dad. Most of those interviewed respected their fathers as men of God.

Advice to Other PK's

The last two questions concerned advice to other PK's and to pastors or preachers. The most common advice to other PK's: Be yourself. Please God, not others. You are human and will make mistakes. One PK advises, "Don't let what other people say or do get you down." Keep a growing, honest relationship with God and your parents. One 53-year-old PK says a close relationship with your parents makes the moves easier.

One PK says, "Realize that each job has its own drawbacks. Other businessmen and service people have to move often and be gone a lot." Some said, "Be proud of the fact that you're a PK. It's a privilege, but don't lord it over others. Don't act like you should get everything just because you're a PK."

One wise 19-year-old offered a piece of advice that will bring contentment no matter the situation, "Try to enjoy everything you do, whether you like it or not."

Advice to Pastors

Their advice to pastors: "Keep your priorities right." Put God first, your family next and then the church. Children who know they rate below the church grow up resenting it. Afraid of offending members, pastors rush to their aid when it probably could wait. One PK said, "Don't drop your plans to go fishing because Sister Matilda has a sore toe and needs you."

If people can live with marital conflict

for months, then surely they can wait until tomorrow night if tonight is the school recital. Sure, a pastor is on call. Sure, there are emergencies and times when the Holy Spirit is at work, but carefully evaluate each situation. If you want your child's respect, then keep your word.

"Spend time with your family," they advised. One PK suggested that you spend one night a week solely with your family. Ask your congregation's cooperation in this matter. Take some time to plan with your family. Listen to them. Laugh with them. Play with them. Enjoy being with them.

Pastor Charles Stanley says that some kids are not on their parents' team because the parents never got on their team. Show love to them. Look at them as a gift from God, not a burden.

A pastor's schedule can be hectic, but is usually flexible. If he plans carefully, he can take the afternoon off to be at a son's ball game.

Another PK advised, "Take a vacation together." It's such a good time to create happy memories. Only you can make your family what it ought to be. You need close family ties to weather the storms.

Several PK's said, "Let your kids be kids." Love and accept them for who they are, imperfect humans in the process of change. About half the PK's surveyed felt that their parents had high expectations, but almost all said they felt that church members had higher expectations of them. That's a difficult role to fill, especially for a kid who has a lot of learning and growing to do.

One PK admitted that he had to not only live his parents' convictions, but also the church's. A PK shared how he wasn't allowed to play sports because, according to a deacon, "People bet on sports."

PK's are normal kids who want to be like other kids. They need room to make mistakes. Sure, they will disappoint you (just as you disappoint your Heavenly Father). "Don't be unnecessarily strict," another PK advised. If you can never be pleased it will only lead to frustration and anger.

Ephesians 6:4 warns fathers not to provoke their children to wrath. "Do not exasperate them," translates the New International Version. Create an atmosphere where one can fail, learn from mistakes, and say, "I'm sorry. Will you forgive me?" to God and to others.

Another PK shared that PK's need to

be kids and not bear the burdens of the church. He said they would go to church and hear a sermon on victory but would go home to hear his dad complaining about members not there or aggravated at the job another did or didn't do. Talking about members in a derogatory way in front of your kids only causes them to lose respect for you and the members.

Another PK said, "Don't always expect your child to do a job just because he's the pastor's kid." Most of those surveyed felt that others expected them to be ready to do anything, anytime for the services or the people. Don't take advantage of them just because they are available.

PK's Who Stray

What if they choose to go their own way? I interviewed one 57-year-old PK whose father was a preacher and whose grandfather was a circuit-riding preacher. He did not become a Christian until a few years ago when a church brochure was left in his door. Never lose hope. Keep loving them and praying for them.

Last Things

The PK's gave such wise advice. One said, "Lead, don't push, your kids in walking with God."

Most PK's felt they were better prepared to live as Christians because of their upbringings. Today they are more involved in God's work. Several pastors' wives felt they knew what to expect and were better prepared to be pastors' wives. Many felt they caught their fathers' visions and had a greater concern for people and higher morals. One young man gave the best advice, "Keep on being preachers and pastors like my dad."

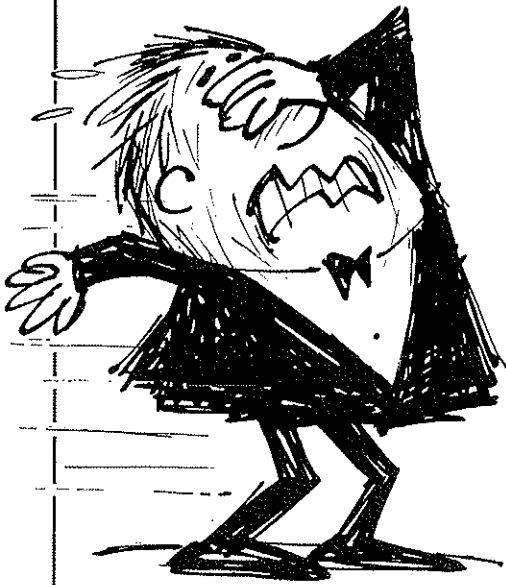
Could your son have been the one who wrote that? It's never too late to improve your relationship (even if your kids are grown and out of the house). Sit down with them and ask them to evaluate you. Read this article together. Just listen. Don't make excuses. Don't rationalize your behavior. Don't point an accusing finger back at them. Then together ask God's help to be all He wants you to be.



ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Sandra Atwood, mother of four preacher's kids, is a free-lance writer who resides in New Castle, Delaware. Her husband, Richard, pastors the Free Will Baptist Church of New Castle.

The World's Ugliest Bus

By Doug Lance



I felt pretty good that day until I turned the corner at the back of our church parking lot. That's when it all fell apart, and I caught my first glimpse of the world's ugliest bus.

Four days earlier as I left to visit my parents, the last thing I saw was Pastor Blankenship and the deacons wet sanding and painting the trim on the yellow monster we had just purchased.

The bus that day was just an old, ordinary, bright yellow school bus. It had a good body and motor with a few scratches and minor dents. Nevertheless, if anyone with taste described the bus, they would have to say "ugly." But it was "just" ugly at that point.

I remember our preacher's contagious excitement the day we got the bus. Three men from our church had gone to the National Bus Conference to learn how to start a bus ministry. The whole church got behind the idea.

Our goal was to win souls for Jesus. That was our only reason for starting a bus ministry. A small burden for the lost had become a bigger (and still growing) burden.

In order to reach our goal, we had to do something to that old bus, so that kids would want to ride it and their parents would look at the bus and let them ride it. The answer, of course, was paint.

The preacher bought paint, sand paper and tape. Several deacons volunteered to sand and tape the bus. Another member offered to paint the bus for free.

We were rolling. It all seemed great until I turned the corner that day and saw that ugly old bus with its new paint job sitting behind the church.

I never dreamed that painting an ugly bus could make it worse, but somehow we had succeeded in doing just that. It was now *The World's Ugliest Bus!*

Sure, the dents and scratches were fixed, and the trim and grill were a beautiful glossy black. But the color of the bus was awful. It looked like the last egg that a small child dyes for Easter. You know the one; it's the egg that gets dipped into the bowl where all the dyes have been mixed together. It's not really blue and it's not really green; it's Easter Egg Blue.

I got out of my truck and walked toward the bus in shock. I ran my hand over the surface in disbelief, then walked around the bus until I reached the doors. I saw the places where dents and scratches had been carefully sanded to make sure the paint went on smooth. I stepped back, and it suddenly dawned on me that looking at the color of that bus had given me a headache.

I saw movement out of the corner of my eye, the unmistakable walk of the preacher. The first thing you see when he gets close is his smile; he almost always has one. At 50 yards away I could see he had a big smile today.

"Ain't it great?" he said. "That's the prettiest bus I've ever seen, Brother. How do you like it?"

"Well, Preacher," I stammered, "It's different, that's for sure."

He said, "Oh, it will be even prettier when the lettering is done." He stood back, smiled his confident little smile and admired that bus like a man whose son just hit a home run in the big game. I didn't have the heart to tell him it was the ugliest bus I'd ever seen.

I soon discovered that I was not alone. Ray, one of our deacons, said that when he looked at the bus, he had the urge to paint 43 on its side and take it to Rockingham Speedway.

I went home a little disappointed. It seemed to me that things weren't look-

ing any too good. I just didn't like that ugly old bus.

That night I read my Bible and prayed. "Lord bless that old ugly bus. Make it run good so that it will get back and forth to church. And, Lord, please don't let people laugh when they see it. And one more thing, Lord, could You let the sunshine lighten up that color just a little?"

Between bedtime and morning, I got a new attitude about that bus. In my morning devotional, God assured me that He was going to use that ugly old bus. I remembered how God has always used the plain and ordinary (not necessarily ugly) to do His work here on Earth.

I prayed again that morning, "Lord, You know what's best for our church. Help us do our best for You and use that bus in whatever way You see fit. And, Lord, if You can use that ugly old bus, I know You can use me too." God did.

I taught children's church for over a year. We'd averaged 28 children every Sunday for that year. No more, no less. Since that old bus started rolling, we have not had less than 49 children in children's church. One Sunday we had 79.

This past Sunday 11 children accepted Jesus as Savior. They all came off the ugly bus. Since that first Sunday the bus ran, we have not gone home without seeing someone come to know Jesus. People ranging in age from to 7 to 78 years old have come to know Jesus because of that old ugly bus. Our children's church workers increased from four to nine adults. All because of *The World's Ugliest Bus.*

I pray differently now. Like, "Thank You, Lord, for that ugly old bus. Fill it up every Sunday so we can tell them about You. Thank You for overlooking the ugly scratches and dents that were on that bus, and on me to. And one more thing, Lord, could You please send us another ugly old bus just like the one we've got now?"

ABOUT THE WRITER: Doug Lance is children's church director and bus captain at Goshen Free Will Baptist Church in Mt. Holly, North Carolina.



FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

RANDALL HOUSE TO PUBLISH NEW 'WHO'S WHO'

NASHVILLE, TN—Officials at Randall House Publications announced plans to produce a second *Who's Who Among Free Will Baptists*. The decision to publish the new reference volume came 11 years after the first denominational *Who's Who* appeared in 1978. That publication proved to be a valuable source of biographical information about Free Will Baptist pastors, educators, missionaries and lay persons.

Harold Harison, assistant director of the Sunday School and Church Training Department, said that the need for a newer and larger edition is evident. "Its value has been proven to local churches seeking pastors and to national leaders searching for denominational information."

Distribution has begun of the enlarged questionnaire that provides material for the biographical entries. Ministers, missionaries, educators and active lay persons on the local, state and national levels are invited to participate.

There is no cost to be included in the new Who's Who Among Free Will Baptists. Arrangements were made with Majestic Marketing to photograph Free Will Baptists at no cost during the national convention in Tampa, Florida. Officials expect to continue that arrangement with Majestic Marketing during the 1990 national convention in Phoenix, Arizona. In addition to a free photograph for *Who's Who*, participants receive eight free wallet size photos.

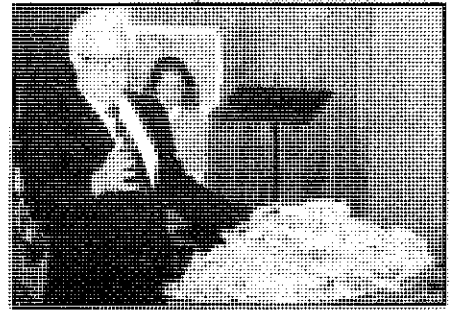
According to Randall House officials, one thousand copies of the publication must be pre-sold before they can go to press. The 500-page hardbound volume costs \$24.95 postage paid.

OKLAHOMA CHURCH TO BUILD \$430,000 FACILITY

MCALESTER, OK—Members of First Free Will Baptist Church, McAlester, voted to construct a \$430,000 building, according to Pastor Homer Young. When ground breaking ceremonies were conducted in late spring, the congregation had raised \$250,000 in a two-year drive for construction funds.

The new building includes a 400-seat auditorium, more than 3,000 square feet of educational space and an office complex. The new building will tie into the present two-story educational building. The church already has a Family Life Center which includes a full-size gymnasium, kitchen and 15 classrooms.

Pastor Young says that members have been generous in their contributions. Borrowing an idea from the late Reverent George McLain, the church gave a \$12,000 "Tub" offering during spring homecoming services. Pastor Young said he expects construction on the new



Pastor Homer Young with offering.

facility to be completed in six months.

Young remarked, "The church has chosen to remain on the west side of town where it has worshipped most of its 45-year history. One of the first buildings seen when entering town from Highway 270 West will be our new building. We hope it will add to the beauty of the town and allow visitors to think more highly of McAlester."

BILL PHILLIPS TO MODERATE IDAHO

TWIN FALLS, ID—Pastor Bill Phillips of First FWB Church, Rupert, Idaho, was elected moderator for two years at Idaho's District Association. The 17th annual session met May 19-20 at Airport Road FWB Church in Twin Falls. Delegates also recommended Phillips to the National Association as their representative on the General Board.

Thirty-five attendees heard two ser-

mons and a devotional by Idaho pastors. Pastors James O'Donnell and Bill Phillips preached from the theme verse, Galatians 6:19. Pastor Tommie Carlson brought a devotional from the same verse.

Delegates voted to conduct four meetings annually instead of two. The 1990 annual meeting will convene May 18-19 at First FWB Church in Rupert.

FWBCC GRADUATES 66 IN MAY COMMENCEMENT

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College graduated 66 students in Commencement Exercises held on campus Thursday, May 18.

Ten students received the Associate of Science in Business, seven received the Associate of Christian Ministries Degree, 31 received the Bachelor of Science and 14 earned the Bachelor of Arts. The college also awarded the Mas-

ter of Ministries Degree to the first four students to complete this graduate program.

Dr. Charles Hampton, FWBCC registrar, delivered the challenge to the graduates. Five seniors—Todd Parrish, Sherry Sifers, Kevin Riggs, Eddie Moody and Tamara Walley—gave testimonies.



newsfront

(continued)

BOBBY JACKSON KEYNOTES CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION

CERES, CA—Evangelist Bobby Jackson, former moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, delivered the keynote address at the May 18-20 California State Association. Jackson introduced the association theme "Into the World of the 90's" when he spoke on "The Challenge of Evangelism in the 90's." Reverend Jackson also spoke at the Friday afternoon California Christian College Alumni Banquet.

Three other speakers delivered major addresses: James McAllister, president of California Christian College; Dwain Crosby, missionary to Spain; Tim Wood, pastor of Campbell FWB Church, Campbell, Calif.

California Executive Secretary Nuel Brown said more than 275 attended the 46th annual state association which met in Ceres at Village Chapel FWB Church. Moderator Paul Kennedy was re-elected for his fourth term.

In other business delegates appointed a task force to study all state ministries. Reverend Brown said that cooperative plan gifts in California increased \$18,000 this past year. Reverend Francis Boyle was recognized for his service to California Christian College.

The 1990 state association will meet May 17-19 at California Christian College.

ANGE RESIGNS AS SOUTHEASTERN COLLEGE PRESIDENT

WENDELL, NC—At the annual board meeting of Southeastern FWB College on May 8-11, Dr. Joseph G. Ange resigned the presidency of the college effective July 31.

Dr. Ange told the Board of Directors that he had prayed and waited on the Lord for several months before resigning. Ange served the college four years as president. He said that he resigned in order to return to full-time evangelistic ministry.

During Dr. Ange's tenure, the college moved from Virginia Beach, Virginia to Wendell, North Carolina (Raleigh area) and located on a 61-acre site. Five new buildings were erected and one building renovated for an administration building. Eight faculty and staff members were added during those four years.

In his resignation statement, Dr. Ange emphasized the need for a younger but experienced man to pick up the reins of leadership while at the same time hold-



ing to the distinctives that make Southeastern unique.

Brother Ange has pastored 21 years. He has also conducted over 600 revivals, and preached more than 16,000 sermons.

Ange may be reached at:
Dr. Joseph G. Ange
P. O. Box 248
Knightdale, NC 27545
919/266-6609

PREACHING HIGHLIGHTS NORTH CAROLINA MEETING

SWANNANOVA, NC—Three sermons and the moderator's message focused the 27th annual North Carolina State Association on the unfinished task of evangelism and the great need for cooperation and commitment among the Lord's servants. Moderator Dann Patrick guided the business sessions of the June 5-6 gathering at Swannanoa.

Pastor Jack Lassiter (First FWB Church, Washington) spoke from Luke 7 about "Things We Can Learn From Brokenness." Promotional Director Tom Lilly used Matthew 11:7-11 to ask a series of probing questions. Oklahoma's

executive secretary Connie Cariker delivered a moving sermon on "The Tragedy in Our Churches."

Some 182 people attended the two-day meeting. The group included 97 ministers, 30 lay delegates, 3 missionaries and 52 non-delegates. Special recognition was given to Pastor A. C. Morgan (Beacon FWB Church, Farmville) who retired from the state Missions Board after 15 years of service.

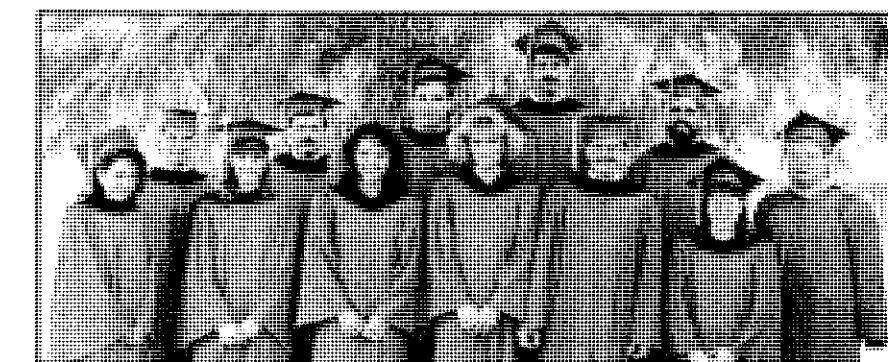
Delegates passed a \$68,000 state Promotional Department budget. The 1990 state association meets June 4-5 at Faith FWB Church in Goldsboro.

CCC GRADUATES 12 STUDENTS

FRESNO, CA—Twelve students graduated from California Christian College on May 6, according to President James McAllister. This marked the second graduating class since the school's "new beginning" in 1986.

President McAllister said, "This was a great day for California Free Will Baptists." The 12 graduates received their diplomas before a standing-room-only crowd in the college chapel. One student, Reed Resinger of Fresno, received a Bachelor of Science Degree. The other 11 earned Associate of Arts Degrees.

Petaluma pastor Carl Young, a long-time member of the college's Board of



Trustees, brought the baccalaureate address. Academic Dean Millard Sasser and President McAllister presented the diplomas.

California Christian College is owned and operated by the 86 churches of the California State Association of Free Will Baptists.

CANADIAN PASTOR WINS MUNICIPAL ELECTION

HARTLAND, N.B.—Canadian pastor Reverend Fred D. Hanson recently defeated three other candidates to win a seat on the Board of School Trustees in the Woodstock-Hartland district.

Hanson, a 40-year-old Free Will Baptist pastor, and father of two teens, has repeatedly expressed concerns with regard to the public school system. Over the past several years Rev. Hanson approached administration, teachers, guidance counsellors, school boards, disciplinary committees, students and parents with his concerns.

His actions won him a favorable vote of those in his constituency, and resulted in him receiving a majority vote in the recent election. His three-year term began in July 1989. Hanson says this is an excellent opportunity to be a witness for Christ, to uphold scriptural principles, and to exemplify Christian values. He requests prayer support during his tenure of public service.

Brother Hanson pastors Upper Brighton Free Will Baptist Church and the Wakefield Free Will Baptist Church in New Brunswick. He is moderator of the Atlantic-Canada Association and serves as their General Board member.

TENNESSEE CHURCH BUILDS FELLOWSHIP HALL

ERWIN, TN—The First FWB church of Erwin held dedication and open-house ceremonies for their new 3,200-square-foot Fellowship Hall valued at \$132,000, reports church secretary Jewell Dunbar.

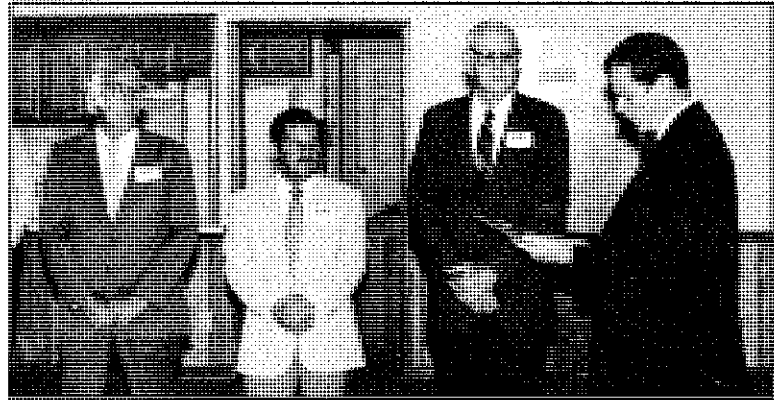
Pastor Ronnie Adkins led the Sunday afternoon dedication service, while former pastor William H. Harrison prayed the dedication prayer.

Pastor Adkins presented three plaques during the ceremony. One plaque went to the Building Committee,

another to Ricky Honeycutt who supervised the project, and the third plaque to J. M. Harris for donating many free hours of labor.

Following dedication ceremonies, the Forever Young (senior citizens group) served refreshments for more than 200 attendees.

First FWB Church is a member of Union Association's Eastern Quarterly Meeting. The Union Association has more than 80 churches in the Tennessee State Association.



Building Committee members: Edmond Anders (L), Guy Lee Whitson, Warren Dunbar (Chairman) and Pastor Ronnie Adkins.



Wayne Hartz, president of Ministerial Fellowship, presents a portrait of the late Rev. Paul Ketteman to President Triggner for Free Will Baptist Bible College. The presentation was made May 15 during chapel. The portrait was a Ministerial Fellowship project. Paul Ketteman was FWBCC Public Relations Director for 25 years before his death in 1987.

FIRE DESTROYS MISSOURI CHURCH

WAYNESVILLE, MO—Wednesday morning April 19, the First Free Will Baptist Church in Waynesville was destroyed by fire. The fire was reported to officials at 8:22 a.m. Fire Chief Danny Fry said that the building was engulfed in flames when the fire crew arrived. The loss of the building is approximately \$130,000.

Pastor Gary Parker said, "We are trusting the Lord to guide us through this and we know that He will. The congregation will hold services in an appropriate place until a new building can be built. We are not giving up! The Lord has been blessing with some wonderful services prior to this, and we believe that He will continue to do so."

Revival services that had been planned before the fire went ahead in an Army tent provided by one of the members from Ft. Leonard Wood. Pastor Parker said, "With the help of the Lord we will begin building in the near future. We anticipate being in the new building sometime this year."

NORTHWEST ASSOCIATION ATTRACTS 128

SALEM, OR—Some 128 ministers, delegates and deacons met May 12-13 at First FWB Church in Salem, Oregon, for the annual Northwest Association. Moderator Mike Criswell was elected to his third term.

Two ministers preached sermons on the association theme, "Pressing Forward." James McAllister, president of California Christian College, and Roy Thomas, director of the Home Missions Department delivered keynote addresses.

Delegates voted to reaffirm action taken by the Executive Committee to declare the credentials of Mike Mutchler null and void. Reverend Mutchler previously served as a home missionary to Portland, Oregon.

In other action, delegates elected Pastor Terry Stafford as assistant moderator and Joan Warren as clerk of the association.

ARIZONA TO HOST 1990 NATIONAL CONVENTION

GILBERT, AZ—The Arizona State Association which conducted its first annual meeting May 13 elected a five-man Steering Committee to assist in preparing to host the 1990 Free Will Baptist National Convention in Phoenix. Moderator Paul Thompson will chair the Steering Committee. He will be assisted by one layman, Gene Bryant, and three pastors—Howard Gwartney, Charles Marshall and Clarence Newman.

More than 65 people gathered at Heritage FWB Church in Gilbert for the one-day state association. Delegates re-elected Paul Thompson as moderator. The association theme was "Fields White Unto Harvest."

Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington preached the keynote message on "Basic Beliefs of Free Will Baptists."

The 1990 state association will meet May 5 in Phoenix at Community Christian Fellowship FWB Church.

MICHIGAN INVITES 2001 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

WARREN, MI—Delegates to the 33rd annual Michigan State Association passed two major resolutions that will affect their future, according to Moderator Gene Norris. The state issued an invitation to host the Free Will Baptist national convention in the year 2001.

Cooperative Channel Contributions May 1989

RECEIPTS:

State	Design.	COOP (Undesignated)	Total	May '88	Yr. To Date
Alabama	\$ 198.77	\$ 20.00	\$ 218.77	\$ 1,123.93	\$ 3,018.99
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	.00	1,191.87
Arkansas	.00	4,570.37	4,570.37	4,560.78	23,215.17
California	.00	1,702.76	1,702.76	1,288.07	7,865.04
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	743.94	.00
Florida	300.00	2,197.18	2,497.18	12.27	8,825.26
Georgia	8,309.72	1,275.61	9,585.33	7,433.08	57,772.32
Idaho	80.60	30.53	111.13	34.41	274.97
Illinois	18,878.87	2,815.07	21,693.94	7,524.21	58,321.61
Indiana	510.57	.00	510.57	540.26	2,768.25
Kansas	.00	47.26	47.26	75.23	276.06
Kentucky	.00	1,008.93	1,008.93	178.04	2,702.89
Maryland	.00	.00	.00	408.75	1,618.42
Michigan	383.00	2,591.50	2,974.50	5,868.00	25,707.70
Mississippi	51.68	490.74	542.42	95.19	2,091.72
Missouri	5,921.08	.00	5,921.08	.00	37,539.17
New Mexico	54.15	1.07	55.22	44.00	84.70
North Carolina	951.20	1,584.09	2,535.29	1,491.09	9,752.57
Ohio	570.00	2,066.00	2,636.00	2,584.60	14,391.00
Oklahoma	35,125.89	8,343.66	43,469.55	35,942.19	209,000.65
South Carolina	6,765.61	.00	6,765.61	5,867.91	50,598.16
Tennessee	825.60	1,021.66	1,847.26	1,748.79	11,259.15
Texas	8,327.24	771.09	9,098.33	5,843.49	37,263.40
Virginia	145.00	20.00	165.00	230.60	1,417.13
West Virginia	1,511.65	243.07	1,754.72	4,263.68	8,402.72
Canada	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northwest Assoc.	.00	80.06	80.06	29.40	536.58
Other (Computer)	.00	.00	.00	.02	.12
Totals	\$88,910.63	\$30,880.65	\$119,791.28	\$87,931.93	\$575,895.62

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 1,922.84	\$16,864.51	\$18,787.35	\$18,145.73	\$ 93,936.76
Foreign Missions	68,198.80	3,223.71	71,422.51	46,926.12	322,279.33
FWBBC	3,742.86	3,223.71	6,966.57	6,278.74	38,971.14
Home Missions	12,278.58	2,522.90	14,801.48	11,252.43	82,441.28
Retirement & Insurance	108.37	1,962.26	2,070.63	1,554.29	8,871.67
Master's Men	272.65	1,962.26	2,234.91	1,584.03	9,736.60
Commission for					
Theological Integrity	52.52	140.15	192.67	124.80	878.73
FWB Foundation	235.99	840.95	1,076.94	725.52	5,954.08
Historical Commission	48.70	.00	48.70	122.68	299.04
Radio & TV Commission	44.03	140.15	184.18	217.68	981.21
Hillsdale FWB College	1,670.63	.00	1,670.63	636.99	9,783.64
Other	334.66	.05	334.71	362.92	1,762.14
Totals	\$88,910.63	\$30,880.65	\$119,791.28	\$87,931.93	\$575,895.62

The National Association will consider their invitation in 1991.

Another resolution by the 124 registrants designated September as Stewardship Month for the state association. This action was taken to cooperate with the July 1988 vote of the National Association.

Some 36 ministers, 37 lay delegates

and 11 deacons met May 19-20 at Old Fashion FWB Church in Warren. Pastor A. L. Shepherd (Brighter Hope FWB Church, Ecorse) and Pastor John Vick (First FWB Church, Kalamazoo) preached to the assembly.

The 1990 state association will meet May 18-19 at Kirby FWB Church, in Taylor.

Currently ...

Members of **Calvary Fellowship FWB Church, Fenton, MO**, presented Dr. and Mrs. **LaVerne Miley** with a \$3,064 check for Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) missionaries. **Jerry Norris** pastors.

Pastor **James Sellars** reports that **Grace FWB Church, Moultrie, GA**, completed remodeling their social hall and adding a paved driveway with a drive-through shelter. The church, organized in 1987 with 27 charter members, has added 16 new members.

Free Will Baptist Bible College named 90 honor students to its spring Dean's List, according to **Robert Picirilli**, dean. Eleven students maintained a straight-A average. The Dean's List comprised 29 seniors, 21 juniors, 19 sophomores, 20 freshmen and one special student.

An anonymous \$700 gift to **First FWB Church, Russellville, AR**, allowed the church to open a fund to purchase a computer system. **Doug Little** pastors.

Must have been a great revival at **Wyan-dotte FWB Church, Mansfield, OH**. Pastor **Hertis Stone** reports 15 conversions, 15 baptisms and 21 new members.

Faith FWB Church, Oak Grove, MO, purchased property on which to construct a new building. The group also reported 11 conversions.

President **Charles Thigpen** announced that Mrs. **Helen Kette-man**, who has taught business at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Nashville, TN, for 20 years, retired after the 1988-89 academic year.

Pastor **Wylie Perkins** reports 10 baptisms and five new members at **Samantha FWB Church, Leesburg, OH**. The church also remodeled their fellowship building and plan to brick it in the near future.

Pastor **Joe Govreau** says the **Tulare FWB Church, Tulare, CA**, experienced substantial growth this year. The growth includes 17 conversions, six baptisms and 16 new members.

Two good things happened at **Ash-brook FWB Church, Fresno, CA**. The church added 21 new members and also gave \$650 for medical needs at the Free Will Baptist hospital in Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa. **Tim Rolan** pastors.

Pastor **Terry Stafford** reports a new high attendance record of 74 at **First FWB Church, Yakima, WA**.

Pastor **Tim Steele** reports 73 in attendance the first service at **Northern Hills FWB Church, Rochester, MI**. Cote d'Ivoire missionary Mark Daniel participated in the service. Steele said that the church voted to give 10 percent of its offerings to the Cooperative Plan.

The ninth annual **Randall House Softball Tournament** gets underway August 18-19 at Cedar Hill Park in **Nashville, TN**. Tournament manager **David**

Sagraves said the tournament will be limited to 32 teams. The registration fee is \$150 per team. The round robin tournament play begins at 8:00 a.m. August 18 with team pairings determined by a drawing.

Here's a good idea. **Good Hope FWB Church, Odd, WV**, sponsored a Great Bible Readout. Pastor **Jack Dempsy** said that a new Christian, Clydia Luttrell, read more than 40,000 verses in two and a half months. She received a new Bible as her reward.

The youth group at **Greenbranch FWB Church, Man, WV**, burned more than 100 hard rock tapes in the church parking lot. Pastor **Clarence Fortner** said the youths had purchased the tapes before they became Christians.

Pastor **David Crowe** of **Cookeville FWB Church, Cookeville, TN**, wrote an article on the use of "Free Will" as part of the Free Will Baptist name. The article was published in the May - June 1989 issue of *The Echo*, publication of the Tennessee State Association of Free Will Baptists. We commend Pastor Crowe for his article.

Reverend **Bill Ketchem** celebrated 43 years in the ministry this May. Special services honoring Brother Ketchem were conducted at **Grace FWB Church, Broken Arrow, OK**. Evangelist **Wade Jernigan** was guest speaker for the occasion.

Pastor **Kelly Douglas** reports a major remodeling job completed on the auditorium at **Unity FWB Church, Bradley, IL**. The work included a lowered ceiling, new dry wall, light fixtures, track lighting and carpeting.

Elmer E. Mann was named citizen-of-the year in **Surrency, GA**, by the Baxley - Appling County Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of **Memorial FWB Church, Surrency, GA**. His pastor is **C. B. Dowdney**.

Pastor **Charles Beasley** said that this has been the best year in his 21 years as pastor of **Friendship FWB Church, Twin City, GA**. The church recently added 24 new members. They also began a building program to install a baptistry, enlarge the pulpit and choir area, and add a foyer and pastor's office. The group also plans to enlarge the social hall.

Pastor **James Bruce** reports 14 conversions at **Perry FWB Church, Perry, GA**. Of the 14 conversions, 10 are from the same family. The church added 15 new members.

Wilson Chapel FWB Church, Thomaston, GA, remodeled their church by adding new siding, stained glass windows, carpet, padded pews, cement walk in front of the church. Future plans include a church steeple. **L. S. Anthony** pastors.

Wendell Gilbert moves around **Dublin, GA**, in a wheel chair. But that does not keep him from getting involved in workdays


at **First FWB Church**. Mr. Gilbert placed a lift on the side of his pickup truck for his wheel chair so he could get around town on his own. He rebuilds lawn mowers and has adapted his riding mower so that he can drive it himself. Interim pastor **Tim Hutchinson** said, "Our lawn takes at least six hours to mow. The time is cut in half with Wendell's help."


Pastor **Gary Smith** of **Hammocks Springs FWB Church, Donelsonville, GA**, taped a series of five-minute devotionals for TV station WMBB in Panama City, FL. Pastor Smith said the congregation gave a \$1,600 offering for their building fund.

Laura Belle Barnard's book *Touching the Untouchables* was featured on the Bible Broadcasting Network in **Chesapeake, VA**, on their program called "Christian Classics." The book was read aloud over the radio on a program aired three times a day Monday through Friday.

Pastor **Harold Blankenship** of **Goshen FWB Church, Mt. Holly, NC**, reports 60 conversions since January. Sunday School attendance averages 232 and morning worship service 311.

Reverend **Joel Arthur Joslin** celebrated 67 years in the ministry. Brother Joslin founded the **Catcher FWB Church** in **Van Buren, AR**. The 87-year-old minister began preaching in 1922.

Pastor **Bobby Shepherd** said members of **First FWB Church, Batesville, AR**, have paid half of the \$10,000 spent to pave their parking lot. 



**informed
prayer
is effective
prayer**

**MISSIONS
HOTLINE**

**(615)
361-5005**



Woman's Window on the World

By Mary R. Wisehart

WNAC Needs

Special thanks goes to individuals and Auxiliaries for \$200 sent to help buy office furniture and equipment.

We still need the following:

Computer and bookkeeping software	\$2,000
Copier	1,400
Typewriter	500

From My Window

"God met Moses at his work place." My pastor set me thinking with that statement a few months ago. I began wondering how we really expect to meet God.

Perhaps we limit God to a Sunday service or some special time or place. Perhaps we expect to meet God only in some extraordinary experience.

When Jesus walked on the earth, He participated in the ordinary lives of people. He went to weddings, funerals, dinners. He ate with people and participated in fishing with His disciples.

Shouldn't we, then, expect to meet God in the everyday routine of our lives? Is He not concerned about us in the work place as we fulfill our daily responsibilities?

Surely God wants to meet us at every turn of the road, in every experience of our lives. He is in the work place with us.

What about our service to God? Is it limited in our thinking to something we call sacred? Our work itself should be offered to Him as a sacred sacrifice of love. Our everyday responsibilities and routines require our best as we offer them up to God.

Most of our waking time is spent "at work." God surely wants to meet us in the work place.

As we work or play, we should be sensitive to His presence and His voice.

Do we recognize God when He meets us in the work place?

August—

WNAC Emphasis Month

August is Emphasis Month for Woman's Auxiliary.

Our theme this year, "Arise and Build," suggests building in several areas. One is in the support for our national office.

Emphasis Month gives the whole church an opportunity to support the women's organization.

Last year Emphasis Month offerings totaled \$12,317.31. In 1987, the offerings reached \$10,588.58. Emphasis Month offerings have been increasing over the years.

We're still short of our goal of \$5 per member annually. Last year Emphasis Offerings and Co-Laborer Fund offerings totaled \$25,870.03. With 10,388 members these two funds should give us \$51,940.

Eunice Edwards Fund

A Loan Fund for Churches Abroad

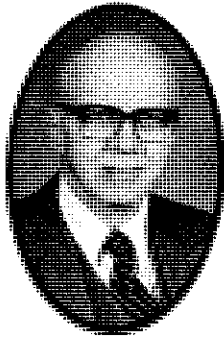
Goal: \$50,000 by 1991

Total, May 30, 1989: \$20,376.39

Provision Closet Needs

King size sheet sets, mattress covers, bedspreads
 Queen size flat sheets, sheet sets
 Corelle ware service for 8
 Hand towels
 Tupperware cereal bowls, juice tumblers, maxi-caketakers





Herman L. Hersey
Director



Board of Retirement

AT YOUR SERVICE

The Department Pages

Thinking of Retiring?

Questions: Be sure retirement is what you really want. Are you ready for the changes it will require?

Can you afford it? Do you have viable plans for post-retirement years likely to extend into your 80's or longer?

Many retirement counsellors aren't convinced that retirement is good for everybody, barring health or physical problems.

They strongly recommend that anyone considering leaving a job think realistically of what it will be like not having the job to go to and what it will be like without the fellowship of other workers, many of them companions for many years.

Consider the pluses and minuses of retirement. Be sure your pluses are not a form of self-deception, brought on, perhaps, by gray skies, dropping temperature readings and prospects of rain, snow, ice and slush.

Sometimes the minuses—the negative aspects of retiring—can lead to a better decision for you.

What should you do now if you plan to retire?

You can't wait until you retire to apply for social security benefits—not if you want benefits to begin immediately.

Ordinarily, it takes two to three months to process

applications, even if all goes well. Social Security officials warn that applications for benefits should be filed that long before retirement so that benefits can begin shortly after income from work stops. Anyone expecting to retire December 31 should visit the nearest Social Security office to

Lacking the required certificates, write for a copy immediately because searches and responses can take two weeks or more.

The Social Security office can suggest where you should write, usually a county or state registrar's office.

Notations in family Bibles, military

Whether or not you apply for social security at age 65, you should apply at least three months in advance of your 65th birthday to be covered by Medicare.

begin the required paperwork no later than November 1, perhaps even in October.

What you need. Often applicants aren't prepared when they file for Social Security. Second and even third visits may be necessary.

To save time, and perhaps speed benefits, have these things with you when you sit down with a Social Security official:

1) *Your Social Security Card* or a record of its number. If your spouse is eligible for benefits, you will also need her card or number.

2) *Proof of Ages of You and an Eligible Spouse.* Normally, this will be a birth or baptism certificate recorded before age five.

records, affidavits and other acceptable age proofs will be suggested by Social Security in lieu of birth or baptism certificates if you run into serious trouble.

3) *If Married, a Wedding License.* If married more than once, you had better be prepared with all pertinent marriage papers and, if divorced, divorce papers.

Maybe you won't need them to straighten out benefit claims, but you should be prepared.

4) *A W-2 or Self-Employment Tax Return* from the previous year.

5) *Immigration or Naturalization Records* if born abroad.

6) Maybe it won't be necessary, but it could be wise to have *Military Records* if you were in the armed forces.

Ready or Not

Free Will Baptist Bible College **REPORT**

3606 WEST END AVENUE
P.O. BOX 50117
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37205-0117
(615) 383-1340

Student To Student:

ADVICE TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Fifteen students from Free Will Baptist Bible College are touring for the college this summer. Before leaving Nashville, they were asked, "What advice would you give to high school students?"

Here are some of their responses:



Having a daily quiet time is the most important thing in the world! Choosing your friends wisely is also important. If you do not have good

Christian friends, then pray specifically for some. Stay faithful to church and fight sin!

Linda Boone
Junior
Decatur, GA



The greatest thing we, as Christians, can do is surrender our lives to Christ. This does not automatically mean God wants us to preach or go to

the mission field, but we must be willing to do just that, if it is God's will.

Deron Peak
Junior
Ocoee, FL



Do not wait until you are a "mature adult" to serve the Lord fully! God can and wants to use you now. Also, stand up for what you believe. You will not regret it.

Katie Hamm
Senior
New Castle, DE

Living for the Lord is not all sacrificial, but is very much beneficial. He doesn't ask His children to undergo an ordeal or problem alone. He will

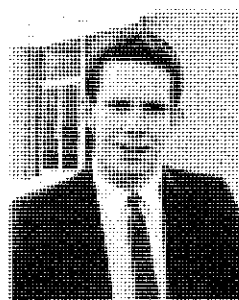
never give us more than we can bear.

Faith Van Winkle
Junior
Fulton, MS



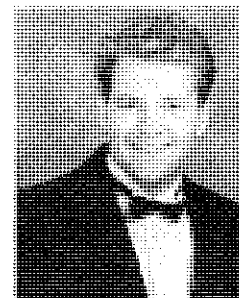
I have been a Christian for several years, but I am still growing closer to God. Never become satisfied with where you are in your Christian life!

David Outlaw
Sophomore
Nashville, TN



Never compromise your standards, because your friends will come to respect you for them!

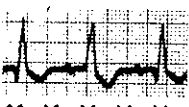
Cindy Clingan
Sophomore
Smithville, MS



Really get into God's Word on a daily basis. God meant His Word to be bread for daily use, not cake for special occasions.

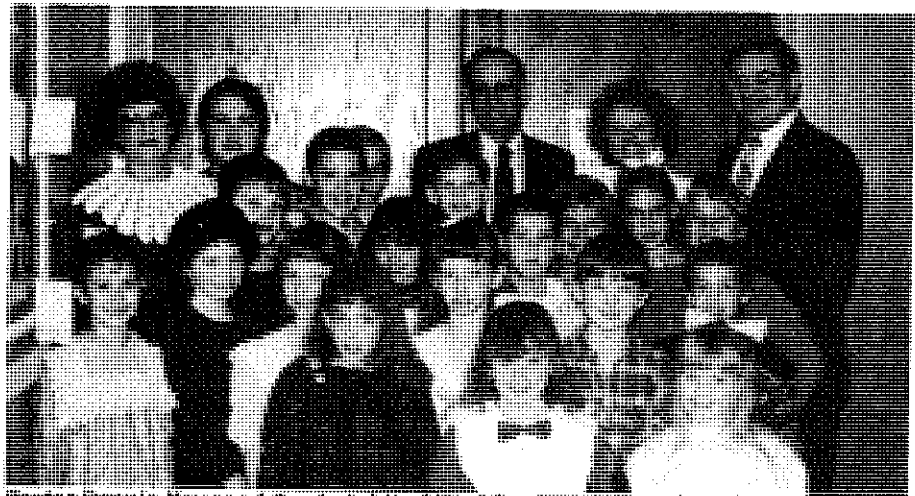
Dickey Anderson
Senior
Joelton, TN

Write today for a 1989-91 Catalog!



Two Bits for Missions

by **Don Robirds**
Director of Communications for Foreign Missions



Pastor Dennis Haygood (back right) of Mt. Olive F.W.B. Church in Guin, Ala., stands with teachers Leonard Franks of the Junior Sunday school class, Carolyn Pugh and Carolyn Franks of the primary class, and with students from both classes. Combined, the two classes raised \$1,064.25 for missions through coin holders.

use of the coin folder is its adaptability to any age group. Adults and children alike can effectively raise money through this means. And nobody really feels the "pinch" often expressed by those who have faced fund-raising appeals.

When Tom and Patty McCullough of France went to the First F.W.B. Church in Russellville, Ark., they were blessed by the efforts of the children who had raised \$90 through the coin holders. As a whole, the church raised \$583.85 in quarters for the McCulloughs' account in addition to a large offering.

Pastor Doug Little called the foreign missions office on different occasions to order more coin folders (provided free of charge) for this special event. He stated, "The thrilling thing about the quarter folders is that everyone together can give a lot and never miss the loose change. It doesn't detract from tithing, building fund, or other giving projects, but it does make a significant difference."

Ten students in the junior-age Sunday school class raised \$855.

In the January-February issue of *Heartbeat* magazine the First F.W.B. Church of New Castle, Ind., reported raising \$501.66 for missions through a special "quarters for missions" campaign in which they placed the quarter holders on a large poster board.

Over and over again the simple little coin folder has come through with a significant amount of gifts yet it involved a minimal amount of effort and practically no sense of expenditure.

So, don't devalue the quarter too much. It's reaching around the globe! Employ it in your church!

Don't ever sell the quarter short! Even though it has dwindled to the "insignificant" category, it still has value. Like the nickel and dime of a few years ago, the twenty-five cent piece now makes a phone call, buys a stamp, operates a gum machine, etc.

Who misses a quarter these days?

A positive factor favoring the use of the coin folder is its adaptability to any age group.

You can't buy a coke or candy bar with it. And it takes at least two at the laundromat to dry a load of clothes. So, it generally takes several pieces of the silver-coated bust of George Washington to be able to do much at the present.

But foreign missions has

benefited significantly by this medium-sized coin!

When Foreign Missions Month rolled around this past April, many churches took the opportunity to challenge the people to fill quarter folders for missions. With each folder holding five dollars worth of coins, it just takes 20 to make \$100.

One of the most effective efforts of using the quarter holders to help missions came earlier this year from the Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church of Guin, Ala. Pastor Dennis Haygood reported \$2,350.50 of the \$3,253.70 offering for their missions conference came through quarter holders. Dave Franks' account received \$2,102.35 from the conference.

Ten students in the junior-age Sunday school class filled quarter folders to raise \$855. Even the toddler class raised \$250. Another \$209.25 came from the primary class.

A positive factor favoring the



FOUNDATION

Herman L. Hersey
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Capital Gains—Capital Losses

Real Estate
Houses—Lands—Farms
Collectibles
Stamps—Coins—Paintings
Stocks
Business Inventories
Cattle—Livestock—Crops

John and Mary Free Will Baptist own a tract of land they want to give toward foreign missions ministries.

They can either sell the land and give the money, or they can give the property outright.

Either way, wouldn't the end result be the same?

Not necessarily. There could be a big difference in the dollar amount of the gift.

Over the years most property appreciates in value. If John and Mary sell the land for more than they paid for it, they must pay capital gains tax on the appreciation. The tax rate depends on the length of time of ownership.

However, if the Mission Board (any church agency) or the Foundation sells the property, there will be no capital gains tax.

On the other hand, should John and Mary sell the land for less than they paid, they sustain a capital loss. The loss is deductible from their income.

In that case, they should sell the property themselves, take whatever deduction is allowed, and then give the cash to missions.

John and Mary may choose to give their gift through the Free Will Baptist Foundation—either the cash gift or the outright gift of property.

The Foundation works with and for the national Foreign Missions Board (with all church-related organizations,

from local to national levels) in planned giving.

A qualified Foundation representative can give John and Mary the information and assistance they need to make a wise decision on how to give. The representative will work with their accountant, attorney and/or tax consultant.

Our office can sell or manage property, invest funds, disburse funds—do whatever is necessary to carry out John's and Mary's wishes.

Furthermore, the Foundation can offer them several options for giving their gift: a trust, endowment, life income agreement, annuity or a combination of these.

And, we can make it easy and efficient for them to support more than one ministry through the same gift.

If they need an increase in income from assets, we can help them solve that problem too.

We can help them to give as they want to.

We can help you to give as you want to.

Call us at 615/361-1010 or write to Free Will Baptist Foundation, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

The Foundation is not engaged in rendering legal service or advice. Advice from legal counsel should be sought.

How should one give a gift?
Should one give a gift outright? Is cash always best?

Does it really make a difference as long as the gift is given?

ABOVE ALL

A Great Idea from a New Chapter!

Master's Men welcomes the men of River Rouge FWB Church in Michigan as one of 19 new chapters this year. The men had been meeting on a monthly basis this past year, calling themselves Master's Men. They decided to be part of the national effort, joining in May.

Director Jim Vallance presented a charter and membership packet to the men during services May 21. Pastor Ray Wilson allowed time for Vallance to speak. Vallance attended the Michigan State Association that weekend. He challenged the men to develop their lives in the will of the Master.

In February several men began a major effort to involve the boys of the church in greater service for the Lord. Talk and plans consumed several months before the actual beginning date. That's how *Upward Bound* began.

Upward Bound

This program is centered in Proverbs 3:6, "In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and he shall direct thy paths." The men started with four boys. In four months the program grew to average 24. Here's their statement of purpose:

"An organization for young men sponsored by the Master's Men at the River Rouge Free Will Baptist Church.

"Its purpose is to provide its participants with an active program revolving around the Lord Jesus Christ, church, home and the outdoors.

"Each individual is made aware of the importance of having a personal relationship with the Lord through the plan of salvation and daily search of the scriptures.

"Its members should be a living testimony to others by encouraging and instilling the same principles in all family members.

"Kindling a burning desire to serve the Lord, and making its members aware of the beauty of all God's creation.

"To enjoy nature, mastering outdoor skills such as hiking, camping, canoeing, archery, horsemanship and other outdoor activities.

"Providing its membership with a common bond of working and living for the Lord.

"Encouraging each young man to grow and mature spiritually, physically and mentally . . . to ensure that the flame of Christianity burns brightly for other young men to find their way to accept Christ as their Savior."

Is it working? Yes! What happens in a meeting? The boys are encouraged to memorize scriptures and earn points. The points are redeemed for camping gear. This spring and summer begins a vigorous schedule of outdoor activities led by the men. Most of these boys have lived within the inner-city region of Detroit. Few have had the pleasures of camping, hiking and enjoying nature. Some have never seen animals except dogs and cats. Does it cost anything? So far, the men have absorbed the cost of equipment. They wanted to outfit the boys by rewarding their study efforts.

The boys are awarded points for faithful attendance at all church services, for bringing others, and receive awards when they show proficiency in such activities as camping, fire starting, first aid, fishing, canoeing, cooking and swimming.

Other areas will be added as the program matures.

Is it worth it? The men's group that had struggled to get a half dozen men out for the meetings now has 12 members (including 3 LifeMembers and one LifeCommitment). And they have about 20 boys and teenagers there too. Several boys and one father have been saved in the first four months. The dads are showing interest in church, and in the men's meetings. Yes, it's worth it.



For more information about *Upward Bound* write to either of these men. They will send you a bunch of information. Just keep in mind that it's worth a buck or two for them to copy all the pages.

Fred Price, Director
10 Elton
Ecorse, MI 48229

Gary R. Wilson, Assistant Director
18738 Valade
Riverview, MI 48192

"Above All . . . Take the Shield" Campaign results:

19 New chapters
198 New members
45 New LifeMembers

21 Weeks

5 New LifeFriends
38 LifeCommitments

TAKE THE SHIELD!

MINI GRAMS

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



Home Missionaries Needed for New Fields

By Roy Thomas

The national Home Missions Department needs a few good men! Dedicated workers who have the pioneer spirit are needed to enter new territories, win people to Christ and plant Free Will Baptist churches. It takes special men and women with dedication, experience, training and an adventuresome spirit to be national home missionaries. Please pray that God will call this kind of workers to the following areas:

ARIZONA—One more couple is needed to complete the Target City Project adopted by the National Association. The denominational goal is to send five couples to the Phoenix area by July 1990 when the National Association meets there.

LOUISIANA—Bordered by Arkansas, Texas and Mississippi, the state of Louisiana has only six Free Will Baptist churches. Shreveport, especially, needs a Free Will Baptist church.

MISSISSIPPI—The Mississippi State Mission Board is seeking a couple for the city of South Haven, a state line suburb of Memphis, Tennessee.

MONTANA—Only two Free Will Baptist churches exist in this state, both of them located in the city of Billings. There are several large cities such as Missoula, Great Falls, Kalispel or Helena, the state capital, where we need to start Free Will Baptist churches so that Montana can have a district association of churches.

NEW MEXICO—No home missionary is working in this state presently. It would be an encouragement to the other churches in the state and would help strengthen the Free Will Baptist work if we had a dedicated missionary who would go to one of the cities of New Mexico and stay until the job is done.

TEXAS—The Texas State Mission Board wants to start a new church in

San Antonio. Texas has many other large cities without Free Will Baptist churches.

VIRGINIA—There is no home missionary working in the state of Virginia at this time, and there are no Free Will Baptist churches north of Interstate 81.

WASHINGTON—Several pastors have called the national Home Missions office about families from their churches who recently moved to Olympia, the state capital. A Free Will Baptist church is desperately needed for that growing city.

Will you pray that God will call laborers to these cities and many other growing areas not mentioned here? Are you willing to go? For information on the qualifications for national Home Missionaries, write the Home Missions Department, Post Office Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

Top Shelf



Thomas Marberry



Dr. D. James Kennedy, *Your Prodigal Child* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1988, hardback, 235 pp., \$14.95).

Parents throughout history have faced the heartbreak which comes from a rebellious child. One of Jesus' most beautiful parables tells the story of a prodigal child who went away from his father's house, squandered his inheritance, and ended up living a life of sin and degradation. At least the rebellious child of this parable realized his predicament, repented and returned to his father's house. Many prodigal children do not come to such a happy ending; they continue to reject the heritage they received from their parents.

The abuse of alcohol and drugs among American teenagers contributes greatly to this problem of prodigal children. Parents across our country struggle with a son or daughter whose life has been wrecked by substance abuse. Such a child not only wrecks his own life, he generally wrecks the lives of those around him. Christian parents are not exempt from this problem which often continues for years and even decades.

In this book, Dr. Kennedy provides outstanding insight and guidance to assist parents and others who face this terrible problem. First, Kennedy reminds us that help is available. The strength

and power of God are always available to parents who are often at their wits' end. The help of the church and the assistance of trained Christian counselors can and do make a difference.

Even if such help is not able to change the conduct of the prodigal, it can help the parent to deal with the situation much more effectively. To be frank, a prodigal son or daughter must not be allowed to destroy the lives of other family members.

Second, the author reminds us that guilt is often a serious problem for the parents. Parents blame themselves when a child goes astray. Kennedy argues that every individual must accept the responsibility for his own actions. In most cases, a child becomes a prodigal not because of gross failure by the parents but because of his own sin and rebellion. A trained counsellor can help parents unload this burden of guilt.

Third, the writer gives practical suggestions for dealing with the prodigal when he does return home. For example, parents should not establish rules which are legalistic and unbiblical, but they should insist that the child (no matter what the age) adhere to minimum standards of conduct while in their home. The parent should not support or condone immoral or illegal activity. In some cases, the parent should insist that the child undergo a treatment or rehabilitation program before returning

home. Professional treatment may be necessary in cases of addiction to alcohol or other drugs.

The parent needs to keep the lines of communication open and continue to love the child unconditionally. Dr. Kennedy offers suggestions on how to accomplish these goals. He also offers advice on how to relate to younger brothers and sisters of the prodigal. The fact that one child wanders away does not mean that the others must follow in that path.

This book can be of great value to families which are facing this tragedy. It can also be of great value to pastors and others who offer help and counsel to these families. It presents ideas which are thoughtful, insightful, biblical and down-to-earth. If your church does not have a library, you should buy this book and start one.

Directory Update

GEORGIA

Marvin Castle to Macedonia Church, Colquitt

James Pelt to White Plains Church, Blakely

Jimmy Stubbs to Weems Road Church, Columbus

MISSOURI

Vernon Long to Leadington Church, Leadington from Victory Church, Jackson, TN

NEW MEXICO

Bill Adkisson to First Church, Albuquerque

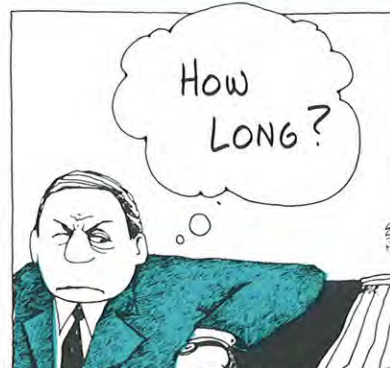
OKLAHOMA

Joe Conn to Lake Area Church, Cleveland

Randy Wilson to First Church, Locust Grove

Greg Aery to Cincinnati Church, Tulsa

Beyond Belief



© 1988 Roger Judd



ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

The Chocolate Temptation

The chocolate pie filling was shiny and warm as Mrs. Lane poured it into a golden brown crust. Jeff hungrily watched his mother beat the egg whites, add sugar and spread the meringue on top. Then she put the pie into the oven to brown.

"Can't I have just one piece?" begged Jeff.

"No, honey, I'm sorry, but this pie is for Mrs. Douglas. She hasn't been feeling well, and I thought this would cheer her up." Jeff took one more deep whiff of the delicious aroma that filled the kitchen and then walked sadly into the den where Megan was watching TV.

Mrs. Lane kept an eye on her pie. She wanted the tall, stiff peaks of meringue to be perfectly browned. As she took the pie out of the oven and set it on the counter to cool, she heard some bad language coming from the TV in the den.

"What are you watching?" asked Mrs. Lane going to the door.

When Megan told her mother the name of the program, Mrs. Lane told her to turn it off. "Aw,

Mom, it's not so bad," argued Megan.

"I don't want you hearing that kind of language," said Mrs. Lane.

"Oh, I wouldn't say those words," said Megan quickly. "I don't pay any attention to them. I just want to watch the show."

"No," said Mrs. Lane firmly, "it's trash. And I can't let you use your ears for trash cans."

Megan clicked off the TV. Out the window she saw Marty walking across the yard. He had been playing with Jesse Reynolds, a boy who lived down the street.

"Mom, guess what!" cried Marty running in the house and slamming the door. "Jesse's dad is taking him camping this weekend. They invited me to go. I can go, can't I, Mom? I can't wait."

"Marty, you know your dad and I don't like you hanging around Jesse and his family," said Mrs. Lane.

Marty was stunned. He couldn't believe his mother was about to say, "No," to this camping trip.

"The Reynolds are not Christians, Marty," continued Mrs. Lane, "and if you are around

them very much, you'll start to act like them."

"But, Mom, they're not that bad," pleaded Marty.

"Marty, I've heard the awful way Jesse talks. I know his parents drink, and I can't let you be in that kind of environment."

"But I won't do those things," said Marty.

"I know you think you won't, Marty, but your mind is like a computer. Eventually, what you put in is going to come out. I want you to get your Bible and read Proverbs 6:27-28," said Mrs. Lane.

Marty went to his room for his Bible. He came back into the den and read, "Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned?"

"I wouldn't be a very good mother if I let you play with matches, would I?" asked Mrs. Lane.

"No, Ma'am," answered Marty, looking down at the floor.

"Sin burns worse than fire, Marty. I can't let you go with Jesse. I'm sorry, but I have to do what I think is right," said Mrs. Lane.

Megan was still pouting about the TV show, and no one had noticed that Jeff had slipped quietly into the kitchen.

When Mrs. Lane went to check on him, she found him with both hands in her chocolate pie. His little round face was covered with chocolate and meringue. He had eaten almost half of it.

When Jeff peeped up over the pie plate and saw his mother, he didn't know whether to smile or cry. So he scooped up another handful of chocolate goo and crammed it quickly into his mouth.

"Jeffrey Lane!" cried Mrs. Lane. "Just look at you!"

Mrs. Lane's shrieks brought the twins in from the den. They started laughing when they saw their brother, but when they saw how upset their mother was, they covered their mouths to stifle their giggles.

"Jeff, you knew I was going to take that pie to Mrs. Douglas. I told you that you couldn't have any of it. You disobeyed me," said Mrs. Lane.

Jeff started to cry. "But I didn't mean to eat it, really."

"What?" asked Mrs. Lane as she began wiping Jeff's hands and face with paper towels.

"I really wasn't going to eat it," sobbed Jeff. "I just came in to look at it. I was just going to take a sniff and say 'hello.' I didn't mean to."

"Mom, give him a break," said Megan. "Your chocolate pies are just too tempting."

"I'm real sorry," cried Jeff, his lower lip quivering.

"Jeff, you should have stayed away from temptation," added Marty.

Mrs. Lane looked at Marty. "Did he know what he was saying?" she wondered to herself.

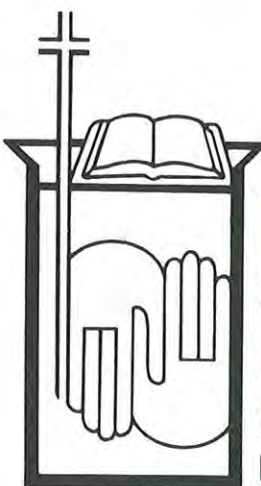
Just then Marty realized how this lesson applied to him. He thought about the Bible verses he had just read. "Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?" Then he said, "Can a boy sniff a chocolate pie and not take a bite?" he said.

Mrs. Lane smiled. It would be worth the trouble of making

another pie if her children had learned something from this.

"Since it's ruined," said Megan, getting three spoons from the drawer, "we might as well finish it off."

Megan handed one to Marty, and then offered one to her mother. Mrs. Lane sat down in the chair with a sigh and helped the twins eat the rest of the pie.



National Ministries Sunday

Missionaries are ready to go—Preachers need training—Students need collegiate education—Laymen ask for direction—National Ministries are ready to fulfill their potential.

The 1989 gift goal for National Ministries tops \$6.6 million. In order to meet the goal each Free Will Baptist should give \$32.37 above regular gifts.

Your \$32.37 gift will be divided among National Ministries according to the Cooperative Plan formula.

SEPTEMBER 24, 1989

Total Budget \$6,616,602

My Share \$32.37

**National Ministries Offering
P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202**

TEEN Scene

TEAM is the national organization of Free Will Baptist youth. TEAM stands for Teens Equipped and Active in Ministry. Special recognition was given to a youth group and an individual at the first meeting of TEAM during the National Youth Conference in Tampa, Florida, in July.

Youth Group Award—Unity Church, Illinois

On June 15, 1988, four teens and two adult sponsors left Bradley, Illinois, and traveled to Phoenix, Arizona. During their 10-day trip they saw the Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest, and went river rafting. But this was not a sightseeing vacation trip. It was a missions trip.

They had spent months raising funds for the trip. There were rock-a-thons, spaghetti suppers and pizza suppers. They had a rent-a-teen special event and conducted a Sunday evening service. All this totaled more than \$1,500 and allowed them to give a \$100 offering to missions before they left for their trip.

Their ministry was with the East Valley FWB Mission in Mesa, Arizona. The group stayed in the home of missionaries Howard and Patsy Gwartney.

Kenny Pell and his wife, Vickie, were the adult sponsors. Brother Pell was serving as pastor of the church at that time. The youth members were Tina Most, Kevin Douglas, Kristy Douglas and Kristen Kuiken.

The youth group provided special music for church services at the mission. They knocked on about 1,000 doors and distributed literature. They also did church survey work for the mission.

We commend this group for their involvement in ministry. They have proven that you don't have to be a large youth group to be effective and do great things for the Lord.

Individual Award—Bryon Duncan

For several years Bryon entered the national Creative Writing Competition. Although never a national winner, he enjoyed the opportunity to express himself as a Christian through his writing.

Debbie Cavitt, his writing coach, submitted his entries for 1989. They included a poem, an essay and nine handwritten pages of a short story. The short story was never completed.

On Saturday, February 18, Bryon was fatally wounded when his shotgun accidentally fired as he was hunting with his father, uncle and grandfather. He was 15.

Bryon was a fine young Christian man. He loved his Lord, his church and his youth group. He was involved in various

phases of ministry and faithful to his local church, Southeast FWB Church, in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Reverend Ron Carner had been the pastor since Bryon was three years old. He saw Bryon grow from a young child into an active and involved teenager.

As a tribute to Bryon we are printing his poetry entry for this year.

My Prayer

Thank you for everything you ever did and will ever do,
not only for me, but for everybody.
And Lord, thank you for being a friend in the darkest of
times.

Help me to carry this burden known as life
and let me shine through as a Christian.
I am asking for strength and renewal on a daily basis.
I know what wondrous glories you have
and will reveal to me as I walk with you,
living from day to day.

Lord, show me and guide me through the paths of
righteousness,
and don't let me fall; for I am as a sheep and you the
shepherd.

You know a lot more than I could ever know,
so let me do your bidding
and let me be a cornerstone on the living waters for you.
Help me all the days.

—Bryon Duncan—





Green Tree Bible Study



Robert E. Picirilli

Acts 2:23; 4:28

God's Sovereignty and Man's Responsibility

In the last three of these articles I have dealt with three of the key passages that speak of God's sovereign will in respect to salvation. Acts 2:23 and 4:28 do not relate directly to election of individuals to salvation, but they are important for understanding the way the New Testament presents the interplay between God's eternal plan and man's moral responsibility. In both verses, the crucifixion of Christ is presented on two sides: (1) as by the plan of God, and (2) as at the hands of wicked men.

God's side is indicated, in 2:23, as "delivered up by the having-been-determined counsel and foreknowledge of God"; and, in 4:28, as "things your hand and your counsel foreordained to come to pass." Without taking space for detail, I think it is clear that God's eternal counsel (plan), foreknowledge, and foreordination are being closely linked. Christ's death is in accord with that eternal plan.

Man's side is indicated, in 2:23, as "you, by the hand of lawless men, slew [Him], nailing [Him] to a cross"; and in 4:28, by "Against Jesus were gathered together both Herod and Pilate, together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel."

There is fine interplay here between Divine and human responsibility. On the one side, Jesus' crucifixion was according to God's eternal plan. On the other hand, blame and responsibility—


worthy of condemnation—are emphatically placed on the men involved. Peter was not conscious of any contradiction between judging men liable for moral agency in the crucifixion, and regarding that same event as carefully provided for in the eternal plan of God. As Calvinists are accustomed to observe, since both facts are affirmed without sense of contradiction, there must not be a contradiction.

Only we hasten to add that, if there really is no contradiction, then God's "foreordination" of the events *must* be in such a manner that those events are *not necessary* but *contingent*—that is, the men really could have acted in other ways. If, in fact, those who crucified Jesus *had* to do so, if God's foreordination by its own efficacy made their actions unavoidable, then they were not free to do otherwise—*could* not do otherwise—and were therefore not responsible.

But if the men involved are to be blamed, and they are, then their acts were therefore contingent and the actors were free to crucify Him or not. Insofar as their moral responsibility was concerned, they really could have chosen not to do so. And none of these observations contradicts in the slightest the fact that all their actions were known to God from eternity as *certain*, and that He in fact foreordained the events by choosing in His perfect knowledge and wisdom to set in motion the course of

events and circumstances that He knew certainly would lead to what happened, thus incorporating all the events into His perfect plan.

Calvinists themselves (although they may reject the way I have just expressed this) are quick to avow something very similar, insisting that God's foreordaining of wicked acts was done in such a way that He did not "cause" those wicked acts and thus become author of sin. Well: if, in fact, He can foreordain wrongdoing without causing that wrongdoing (and I certainly agree), then that admission will serve us well as we apply this same principle to the relationship between the Divine and the human in *any* actions where moral agency is involved. And if His foreordaining of the crucifying acts did not cause those acts, it likewise did not make those acts *necessary*, although they were *certain*—which simply means nothing more than that something will be the way it will be.

This is exactly the model we should apply to the relationship between God and man in salvation. From eternity, God has known who will be His and elected them to salvation. All of this has been incorporated in His plan. But each one is really free to receive or reject Christ, and morally responsible for the decision. The best way to express this, then, is that God has elected *believers*, and this puts God's sovereignty and man's freedom in fine balance. 



CITY DROPS BAN ON BEACH PREACHING

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TX (EP)—Town officials in South Padre Island, Texas, dropped their threats to apply anti-solicitation laws to beach evangelists after people involved with that ministry took their case to federal court.

The city had said that preaching on the beach would be treated as soliciting, and would need to meet city conditions, such as application in advance, payment of a permit fee, and acquisition of liability insurance. City Attorney Paul Cunningham said evangelistic activities would require a permit.

Street Reach Ministries, which planned the outreach, contacted Christian Advocates Serving Evangelism and Free Speech Advocates, two legal defense organizations that work with religious causes. These groups helped Street Reach Ministries file a lawsuit arguing that ordinances directed at commercial activities should not be applied to religious speech.

U. S. District Judge Filemon Vela of Brownsville, Texas, said at a hearing that the beaches of South Padre Island are a recognized public forum for free speech activities. In response, officials of the town agreed that "preaching and passing out religious literature were not violative of the town's ordinances."

D. JAMES KENNEDY TO ENTER MOVIE BUSINESS

FT. LAUDERDALE, FL (EP)—Evangelist D. James Kennedy has an answer to the "sex, blasphemy, and sadism" of Hollywood's movies. He's going into the movie business himself.

Kennedy, who pastors the Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, plans a feature film that will show a different reality than Hollywood generally shows. "I know that there are various kinds of reality in this country, including the reality of the toilet," he said, "Well, how about the realities of morality and courage and devotion?"

Dan Scalf, executive producer of the movie project, says donations are exceeding expectations. He believes the movie could be ready by the end of 1990.

A topic for the initial film of Kennedy's project is still being finalized, and a budget has been set at \$13 million—about average for a Hollywood film. Howard Kazanjian, producer of *Return of the Jedi*, will produce the film. Tim Penland, who has experience in marketing films to the Evangelical market, will oversee marketing and production of the film. Repeated calls to Penland's office went unreturned.

Can a film with an Evangelical viewpoint make it in the secular movie marketplace? Kennedy points to the success of the Oscar-winning *Chariots of Fire*. "That's the kind of uplifting movie we'd like to make," he concluded.

DOMINO'S PIZZA DONATES TO PRO-LIFE ORGANIZATION

DETROIT, MI (EP)—The owner of Domino's Pizza, a giant 500-store franchise operation, donated \$50,000 to Operation Rescue, the pro-life direct action group that stages massive sit-in protests at abortion clinics, often closing them for hours at a time.

Domino's Farms, the parent company of the pizza chain, also donated \$10,000 to the group.

Domino's Pizza owner Tom Monaghan, who also owns the Detroit Tigers, has been speaking out against abortion in recent years. Domino's Pizza spokesperson Kerry McNulty said of the gift to Operation Rescue, "I don't know why he chose that particular group," but speculated it was "out of personal conviction."

The National Organization of Women (NOW) is trying to mount a feminist boycott of Domino's Pizza. "One day we were buying it, and the next day we were mad at them," explained NOW press liaison Colleen Dermody. "This is serious. Feminists live on Domino's Pizza." The boycott was also promoted in a recent issue of *Ms.* magazine.

A broadcast of a Minneapolis talk radio program offered a look at how the boycott is being received. A caller urged participation in the boycott, and said he would take his one-pizza-a-week business elsewhere. A few minutes later the father of five teenagers called to say that while he didn't prefer pizzas from Domino's he would now be taking them his nine-pizza-a-week business to show support for the gift to Operation Rescue, and to make up for people like the first caller.

DRUNK DRIVING ANSWER IS ABSTINENCE, SAYS LEADER

EVANSTON, IL (EP)—Abstinence will keep drunk drivers off the road, says Rachel Kelly, president of the National Women's Christian Temperance Union. In an opinion piece in *USA Today*, Kelly explained that keeping the next generation from drinking is the key to halting alcohol-related traffic fatalities.

"The real answer lies in educating our kids not to drink—not even to start, total abstinence," she argued. "I can't stress strongly enough the importance of education. Every decision we make about our lives is a matter of right and wrong—a moral decision. And we've got to fight our social ills, including alcohol, on a moral basis."

Kelly said, "It's not the falling-down drunk who's killing people on the highways . . . It's the social drinker—the person who can afford both to drink and drive. It's not the poverty-stricken person in the ghetto who's causing this carnage. It's the social drinker, the person who has money."

Kelly called for greater parental involvement in teaching kids to not drink. "Everybody is crying about the carnage on the highways, but thousands of parents stand by and let kids drink themselves to death," she noted. "We permit our young people to be brainwashed by alcohol advertising, with its constant insinuation that drinking, having fun and being athletic are synonymous."

She concluded, "We've got to get back to our old-fashioned morals—and parents have got to stop blaming everybody else, especially teachers. It's the parents position to teach children right and wrong—including what's wrong about alcohol."

INDIANA PASTOR AND FAMILY MURDERED IN PARSONAGE

LAKEVILLE, IN (EP)—An Indiana pastor, his wife, and two children were found murdered in their church parsonage April 30. Police said all four appeared to have been shot at close range by the same weapon.

The body of the pastor, Robert Pelley, 38, was found in the hallway that Sunday morning; his wife and two daughters, ages 6 and 8, were found in a family room. The couple's three other children were away for the weekend when the attack occurred, according to police.

Police said they believe the killings were not motivated by robbery or burglary. "We have some ideas of a motive, but we're not going to discuss this yet," said Charles Feirrell of the St. Joseph's County Sheriff's Department.

There have been no arrests, no weapon was found at the scene, and the idea of a murder-suicide has apparently been ruled out. Pelley was the pastor of the Olive Branch Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

OLIVER NORTH JUROR SAYS PRAYER WAS TURNING POINT

WASHINGTON, DC (EP)—An emotional prayer led by retired bus driver Caswell Hartridge was a turning point for the jury that found Oliver North guilty on three charges and not guilty on three others.

Each of the jury's 12 days together began with prayer, but juror Earl Williams said the prayer offered the morning the jury sent out its verdict was a significant breaking point in the decision-making process.

Williams said determining North's intent in some of his action was the most difficult part of the jury's job.

North was acquitted of the most serious charges he faced in connection with the Iran-Contra affair. He was found guilty of one count of obstructing Congress, one count of destroying documents, and one count of receiving an illegal gratuity.

PRO-LIFERS ORDERED TO PAY \$800,000 FOR PICKETING ABORTIONIST'S HOME

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX (EP)—Nine demonstrators who picketed an abortionist's home have been ordered to pay more than \$800,000 in damages for causing mental anguish to him and his family, and for gross negligence.

"I believe in the right to picket, and I am an advocate of the First Amendment to the Constitution," claimed Dr. Eduardo Aquino, who sued the protesters. "But anyone who abuses those rights should be penalized." Aquino said pro-life demonstrators have picketed his abortion practice since 1982, and began picketing his home in March of 1988, prompting the lawsuit.

Jurors ruled that the peaceful protests caused mental anguish to Aquino, his wife, and their four children. They awarded \$140,000 for past and future suffering of Aquino and his wife, \$170,000 for past and future suffering of their children, and \$500,000 in punitive damages for gross negligence in picketing a family home.



THE SECRETARY SPEAKS
By Melvin Worthington

Servants Who Serve



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Free Will Baptists

Francis W. Dixon says, "A minister may be good, not so good, or even bad, and it leads us to ask the question, 'What are the qualities or marks of a good minister of Jesus Christ?'"

In I Timothy 4 Paul gives five basic principles for those who would be good ministers of Christ.

Discern the Time

The competent minister must understand the times in which he lives. Times, tools and techniques all change, but the truth of God remains the minister's standard by which all philosophies, programs, people and practices can be measured.

Dedicated to the Task

Paul instructs Timothy (I Timothy 4:6-11) to warn the brethren about false teachers who pervert truth. By doing so he would be an excellent minister of Jesus Christ. Timothy's task included exposing the error and preaching the truth.

The Master's ministers must clearly and correctly preach the Word to those under their charge. Understanding the times allows a minister to do his task with enthusiasm and earnestness. He will not get sidetracked but will maintain an allegiance to the immutable Word of God. Ministers must not get caught up in the spirit of the age. Eternal rather than earthly values become their focus for life.

Display the Truth

In I Timothy 4:12 Paul told Timothy not to act in such a manner that people

could despise his youth. Timothy could silence all criticism by Christ-like conduct. The first responsibility of ministers is to display in their own lives the truth they believe and teach. Without this their preaching, teaching, visiting and comforting will produce little results.

Albert Barnes concludes, "A minister should so live, that if all his people should closely follow his example, their salvation would be secure, and they would make the highest possible attainments in piety."

Ministers should live clean and holy lives. At all times and in all trials ministers must show believers how to live for the glory of God. There should be nothing which would give hint of scandal. The minister sets the example through precept and practice.

Ministers have a sobering and special mandate to set an example for other believers. Failure at this point has had devastating effect on church, community and country. Moral values once firmly held and honored have all but disappeared. The ministry itself is not viewed as it once was. Part of the blame for attitudes of people toward the ministry can be attributed to the failure of ministers to set examples for others to follow.

Secretary's Schedule

August 7-13	Evergreen FWB Church Iola, Texas
August 15-17	Arkansas State Association
August 30-Sept. 2	Preacher's Retreat Ewing, Ill.

Develop One's Theology

The development of the minister's theology (I Timothy 4:13-15) plays a significant role in effective ministry. Ministers must be good students, even scholars. Paul addresses this when he tells Timothy to give attendance to reading—public and private, to exhortation and to doctrine.

Barnes is correct when he says, "It should be apparent to all persons who attend on the stated preaching of a minister of the gospel, that he is making steady advances in knowledge, wisdom, and piety, and in all things that pertain to the proper performance of the duties of his office. If a man really makes progress it will be seen and appreciated by others; if he does not, that will be as well understood by his hearers."

How tragic when ministers take short cuts and neglect a systematic study of the Word. We need Free Will Baptist ministers who will take the time to develop their theology and not simply parrot what others are saying.

Discipline Thyself

Paul concludes by challenging Timothy to take heed to himself and his doctrine (I Timothy 4:16).

Ministers need to exercise discipline over their minds, money, ministries and morals. Effective ministers avoid any conduct in the areas of family, finances, friends and fashions which gives the devil opportunity to bring reproach on their ministry or themselves.

The minister who does not discipline himself has nothing to say to this generation. Those who do speak without moral and intellectual discipline soon discover they have no audience. The minister must be something before he can say anything.

CONTACT

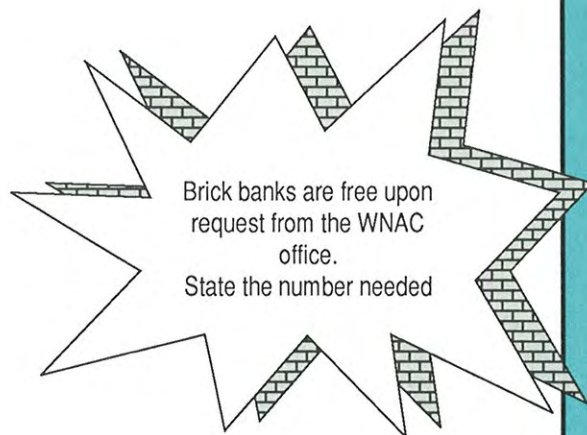
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August is
EMPHASIS MONTH
on the
Auxiliary Calendar

ARISE & BUILD



Each year the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention suggests each Auxiliary sponsor an Emphasis Program before the entire church. The purpose is threefold:

ENABLE the WNAC to continue its services to our women in the state, district and local Auxiliaries.

ENLIGHTEN the church as to what the Woman's Auxiliary is accomplishing in the church and denomination.

ENLIST all women to become more actively involved in the total program of mission study, mission prayer and mission action.

The July-August issue of *CO-LABORER* magazine is rich with suggested materials for this program:

"Our Place on the Wall" by Diane Thomas

"Keepers of the Gate" by Myra Hill

"So Built We the House" (an installation) by June McVay and Jane Atchison

"Tools for Building" an object lesson

For your free copy of *CO-LABORER* and trial subscription, write:

Woman's National Auxiliary Convention

P.O. Box 1088

Nashville, TN 37202