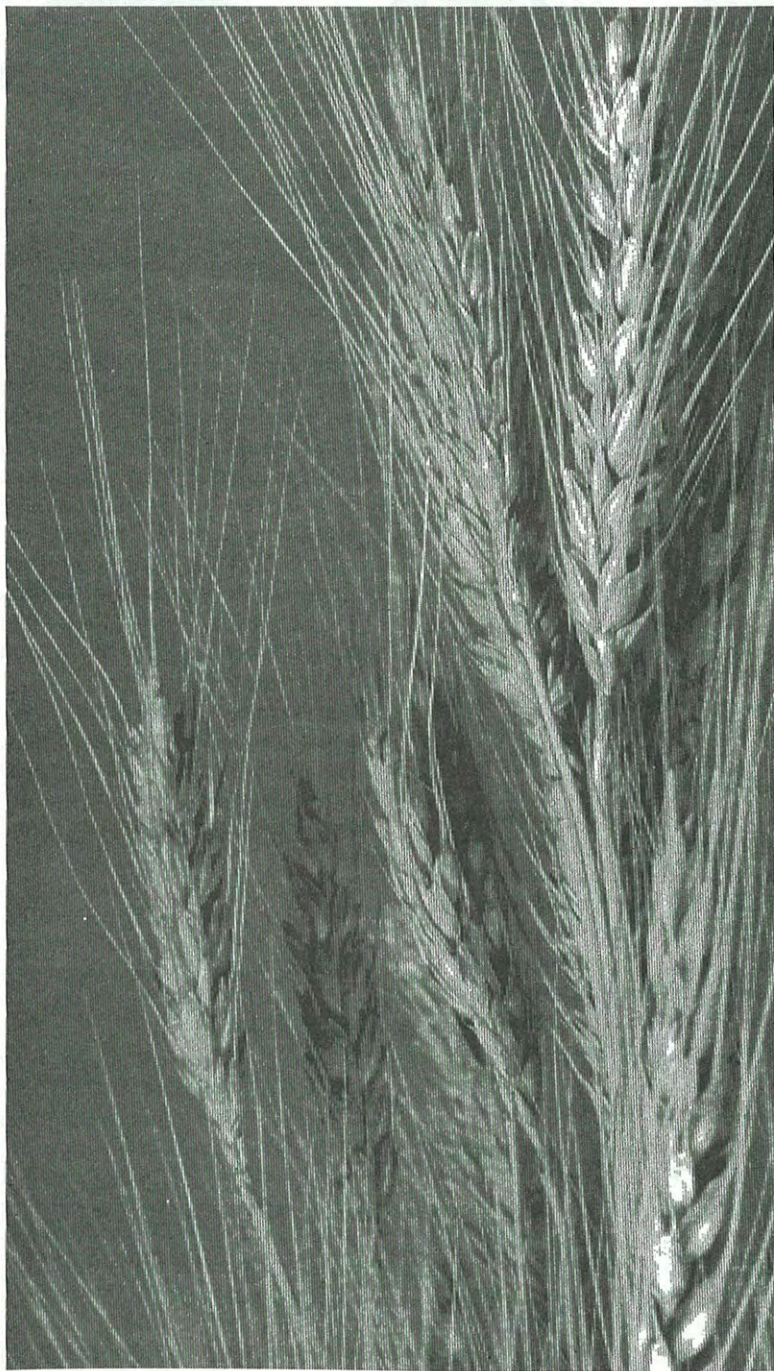


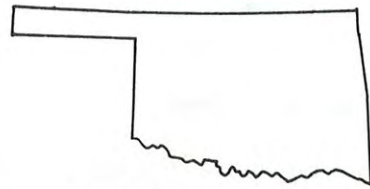
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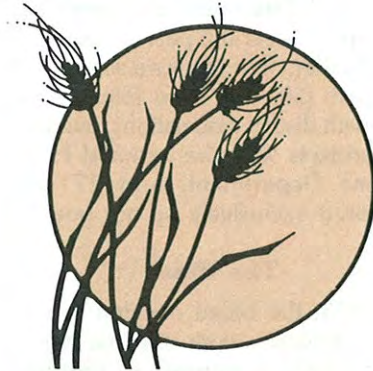
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS



Home Missions



The Oklahoma Story



Unfinished Business



Time to Build

The Oklahoma Missions Story



By Berton Perry

Oklahoma Free Will Baptists have enjoyed a rich heritage in state missions for many years. Our state board has sponsored 38 churches over the past 30 years. Of that number, five received small one-time cash gifts, 12 were jointly-sponsored with district associations, five were joint projects with the national Home Missions Department, and 17 were sponsored exclusively by our board.

The Plan

In 1971, the board decided to pool finances into one work at a time instead of sponsoring a number of part-time efforts. The Church Establishment Program (CEP) was developed.

Through this new plan, the board prayerfully selects the location of the next church and chooses a missionary. Considerations are given to doctrine, dedication, education and / or experience, previous pastoral success, denominational loyalty and support. He then spends about six months in Oklahoma churches underwriting his salary.

After moving to his new home, he visits prospects, conducts door to door surveys, locates a place to begin church services and looks for a suitable church site. The board examines property to determine location, price, access, utilities and building codes. If approved, it is purchased and a drive is launched to pay it off.

Elk City

Two years ago, Oklahoma's Union Association petitioned our board to take over a church in Elk City. In the previous five years this economically depressed city had lost half its 22,000 population and church attendance had dropped to the low teens through this exodus. The association had completed a new building there and was willing to pay for it if we would provide a pastor and oversee the work.

Larry Haggard heard our plea, was hired and moved to western Oklahoma in the spring of 1987 after six months of fund raising. The national Home Missions Department shares in this joint project.

It has been difficult to maintain continual growth and enthusiasm in this town due to high unemployment and low family income. Only three persons remain who were attending when Brother Haggard began.

During 1988, the church averaged 50 in attendance, gave over \$2,600 to outside causes, and reported 27 conversions. New converts include an unmarried couple who were drug addicts and had many complications in their lives. Now they are married—he leads singing; she sings specials and teaches Sunday School. Both are active in visitation and nursing home services. Ten have been saved as a result of their efforts.

The Director

For years the board recognized the need of a full-time director of missions. November 1, 1983, Berton Perry was employed for this position. He serves as board treasurer, promotes missions statewide, serves as pastor to the missionaries, as builder-supervisor in missions constructions and handles board correspondence from the state office in Moore. He also schedules itinerary services for foreign and home missionaries and will coordinate an annual all-state missions revival beginning in 1990.

The Pattern

Although the board has general guidelines for CEP, each work is considered individually. Each place dictates decisions concerning renting, erecting or buying a building. Our missions have started in pastors' garages, public schools, empty buildings, motels, lodge halls, YMCA's and a variety of other places.

Vinita

Two years ago, in cooperation with the Northeast Association, we reopened the church in Vinita. The building, property and parsonage were debt-free. They would provide these facilities plus \$600 per month toward a pastor's salary. An agreement was made and Kenneth Stephens, former missionary to Hutcheson, Kansas, was hired.

Vinita, located in northeastern Oklahoma, has a population of 6,700. The insecure economy there has caused the loss of many families to other cities which makes church stability difficult. Pastor Stephens has done an outstanding job in leading the church to an average attendance of 34. They ran 50 last fall and gave \$3,516 to outside causes during the year.

Woodward

The northwestern Oklahoma town of Woodward was our next project. May 1, 1988, the first service was conducted in a 10,000-square-foot former Church of Christ building. Completed in 1980 at a cost of \$215,000, the building sits on 2.15 acres in a choice location.

The previous group had not done well, so the building was abandoned and listed for sale. It was appraised for \$342,000 plus \$35,000 contents at the time of our purchase. Every item needed for worship and Sunday School was included except an altar and piano. We purchased it for \$175,000.

Twenty Free Will Baptists living in Woodward were driving 50 miles one-way to the Webb church. Their pastor, Allen Mabra, became our missionary to Woodward and these members committed to the new work.

They average 56 in attendance with a monthly income of \$1,960. Seventeen have been saved, 12 rededicated, 19 baptized, 43 new members added, and 286 first-time visitors attended. With their many advantages, we expect them to reach self-supporting status within two years.

Hugo

Our recent endeavor of faith is in the southeastern town of Hugo. The purchase of seven acres was made possible by an \$8,000 gift from Southeastern Association. The remainder of the \$20,000 was raised from Oklahoma churches. Missionary Mike Fields went

on itinerary in order to be on location in this town of 7,100 by July 1.

The Facts

Our board has sponsored 11 churches since CEP was initiated in 1971. Six have reached extended averages of over 100, and the other five have exceeded 70 for long periods. For their size, most of them are among leaders in the state in outside giving.

During mission status, each church continues under the supervision of the board and is required to give 10 percent to the Cooperative Program. Members are encouraged to support other outside causes individually. A monthly statistical report is sent to each board member. Monthly, all above \$500 is forwarded to the board's treasurer after bills are paid.

The board negotiates all loans for property and buildings during mission status. Proposed loans are placed in our budget and when the mortgage is finalized, the state Executive Board signs for the indebtedness. When a congregation is able to handle the payments, a building is provided for them. Property is deeded to the church after self-supporting status.

Estimated value of all property presently under the board's supervision is \$575,000. In churches started since 1971, there were 1,000 present on Roll Call Sunday.

What a joy to see people saved, lives changed, property purchased, buildings erected and to be part of this eternal plan of God.

The future prospects for continual church planting in Oklahoma look great. We have just begun; watch us go now!



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Berton Perry serves as missions director for the Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptists. He has pastored five Oklahoma churches since 1958 and served 16 years on the state Missions Board.

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Unfinished Business

By Paul Thompson

Six years ago I was sitting in a comfortable office at Heritage Temple FWB Church in Columbus, Ohio. For 17 years the Lord had allowed me to witness a miracle of growth and development beyond my wildest dreams.

Just across the wide corridor known as "Heritage Hall," I could see into what I still consider the most beautiful sanctuary in the country. Row after row of plush, padded pews graced an auditorium where hundreds of wonderful folk came Sunday after Sunday to worship. It was a dream come true; and I was leaving!

Debt to Pay

The Holy Spirit had called me to Arizona to repay a debt I owe to God Who gave me my ministry. To repay a debt to this great country of ours which allowed me to minister without fear of persecution. To repay a debt to Free Will Baptists who sent men like Harrold Harrison and others to help a struggling young pastor prepare a people for the miracle that became Heritage Temple.

Our work in Arizona represents not only an effort to "pay my vow," but an installment on what is part of our denomination's unpaid debt to the nation that mothered its birth, nurtured its growth and sustains its outreach to the world. It is unfinished business which dares not be neglected if we are to remain faithful to our vision of reaching the world with the gospel and extending the influence of Christ in this society. Indeed, if we do not invest heavily in extending Christ's influence in this country, the vital work of foreign missions will die for lack of domestic support.

Those who would claim that America is "evangelized to death" refuse to see

the America that has been evangelized, and is still dying. Yes, there are thousands of churches in this country. Yes, many of them are doctrinally sound. Yes, some of them still preach "repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ."

But dare we say the job is done? That others have paid our debt? That there is nothing left for us to do? Is America so evangelized that there is no need for another voice to cry in the wilderness? I think not!

Enemy to Resist

Living in the heart of a Mormon stronghold, I can tell you the cults don't believe their job is finished. In the time it has taken us to establish one Free Will Baptist church in Gilbert, Arizona, three new Mormon wards have organized and built within two miles of our location.

Looking at what is happening to the moral fiber of our nation, I can see the devil has not finished his work. In increasing numbers he murders our young before they are born or captures those who manage to survive the holocaust with chains of alcohol and drugs. He destroys our homes with infidelity, attacks our churches with false doctrine and the greater enemy, apathy, and robs us of our vision by convincing us we have him outnumbered.

Work to Finish

More importantly, I don't believe that God has finished His work in America. Isaiah had seen the best and worst of Israel. As a prophet he had watched all that was good in his country gradually die, and in its place came lawlessness, corruption and a religion void of the dynamic he so desperately craved.

Frustrated, he went to the temple and, to his surprise, caught a glorious vision of the Almighty. Not only did he catch a vision, he got a mission, a *home mission*.

I think every pastor knows the feelings that prompted Isaiah to ask "Lord, how long?"


But can you feel the burden of God's heart, when He answered, "Until the city be wasted without inhabitant, and the houses without man, and the land be utterly desolate, and the LORD, have removed men far away, and there be a great forsaking in the midst of the land."

Our mission is not accomplished until God pronounces the final amen on America, and there are no more people to reach.

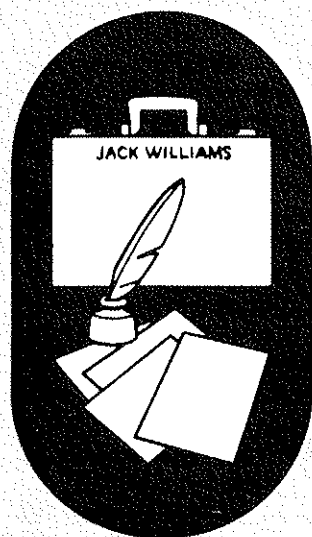
Door to Open

God has provided us with an opportunity to reach the world if only we will be faithful in touching those at our fingertips. Every year boats and planes are filled with thousands of people from all over the world who come to this country for the education and opportunity our nation provides.

Imagine what a foreign missions boon it would be if we could evangelize and repatriate just some of those folks who already know the language and culture, and would not have to overcome obstacles associated with being a stranger in a foreign land. Think again of an ever-growing network of Free Will Baptist churches stretched across the length and breadth of this great country, supporting those missionaries and keeping them on the field. As long as there is a need for foreign missionaries anywhere, home missions has an unfinished task.

As I write today, I am sitting in a converted horse stall that serves as my office at Heritage Temple FWB Church in Gilbert. Outside my door is a stack of metal chairs which are moved in and out on Thursdays and Sundays to accommodate Bible study classes. We had a great service Sunday; 72 wonderful folks came to worship. It is a dream coming true, and I'm staying! 

ABOUT THE WRITER: Home Missionary Paul Thompson pastors Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church in Gilbert, Arizona.



The Big Lie

when he breaks unexpectedly and caves in emotionally and physically.

Suddenly, the rock-solid leader has clay feet and talks about it. Bitterness over unrelenting pressures surface. Anger and guilt stampede friends. He who befriended others can't find a friend, because we're not ready for leaders who can no longer leap tall buildings.

Who's to blame? We all are to some degree. We dump long hours and impossible demands on the shoulders of strong, eager workers and then walk away. Maybe the leader himself deserves part of the blame for not shouting, "Enough!"

Too many Christian leaders, especially pastors, are driven men. Driven to succeed, driven because of a divine call, driven by others' needs, driven by the never-ending task. And so they push themselves unselfishly, recklessly, straining to bind up the wounded, to win the lost, to counsel the troubled, to make the iron swim.

Pressures build. Stress eats away at life's foundations. The demands of the many rush at the leader until he founders in a tidal wave of others' grief, others' needs, others' hurts.

Then one day he wakes up and has forgotten how to play, how to relax. He's a prisoner of his schedule. He's no longer a shepherd but a sheep dog yapping at shadows. He has time for everyone except himself, his family and, perhaps, his God.

He forgets that the leader's function is to lead not do it all himself, to balance quantity with quality. Ten minutes into every conversation he starts looking at his watch. He's trapped by the tyranny of the immediate.

Retired Los Angeles minister, Thomas Gibbs, Sr., said, "After 45 years in the ministry, I wonder how many times I have heard a parishioner say, 'I had something I wanted to talk to you about last week but I did not call or stop by for I know how busy you are.' Every time I heard that I shuddered and wondered if it were true. Unfortunately, it often was."

Strangely enough, the congregations of driven men frequently do

not seem driven at all. Raymond Ticknor, a Missouri pastor, observes, "The shepherds of sheep are not interested in moving ahead just for the sake of moving. When the sheep stop to graze in a grassy area, the shepherd stops. When the sheep have exhausted the food supply they bunch closer around the shepherd. The shepherd takes this as a cue to move out ahead in search of greener pastures."


The shepherd-pastor enjoys a less stressful ministry than the task-oriented pastor. The shepherd-pastor takes Peter Hanson's advice in his best seller *The Joy of Stress*, "Learn to ignore what you can't control and learn to control what you can."

Brian Simpson, writing in the British magazine *Management Today*, listed four self-defeating thought patterns that guarantee stress for leaders: "Selective envy (the grass is always greener on the other side); catastrophic extrapolation, imagining that small problems will grow with catastrophic results; homogenizing, making a general judgment and systematically misinterpreting future events to support that judgment; and projection, basing your thought on the fatally flawed belief that other people think and feel as you do."

We can de-claw the dragons that terrorize us and derail God's plans for our lives. An editorial on stress in *The Royal Bank Letter* warned, "... much of the distress that afflicts people comes from being too wrapped up in themselves."

Two months after that conversation with my pastor friend in the hospital, I called to check on his recovery and inquire what he was doing to ease tension in his ministry. He couldn't talk with me because he had someone with him. Five hours later he called back. Yes, he felt better, had started an exercise program and was watching his diet.

Then he quietly said, "But you know, my schedule is getting back in the same shape it was before, and I see no way to stop it. My secretary quit; I'm doing her job as well as mine. And we can't find a music director, so I'm my own song leader."

I wonder which one of us will visit the other in the hospital next time. 

A pastor friend was in a local hospital with heart problems. One evening as I visited with him, he said, "It's a lie, you know."

"What's a lie?" I asked.

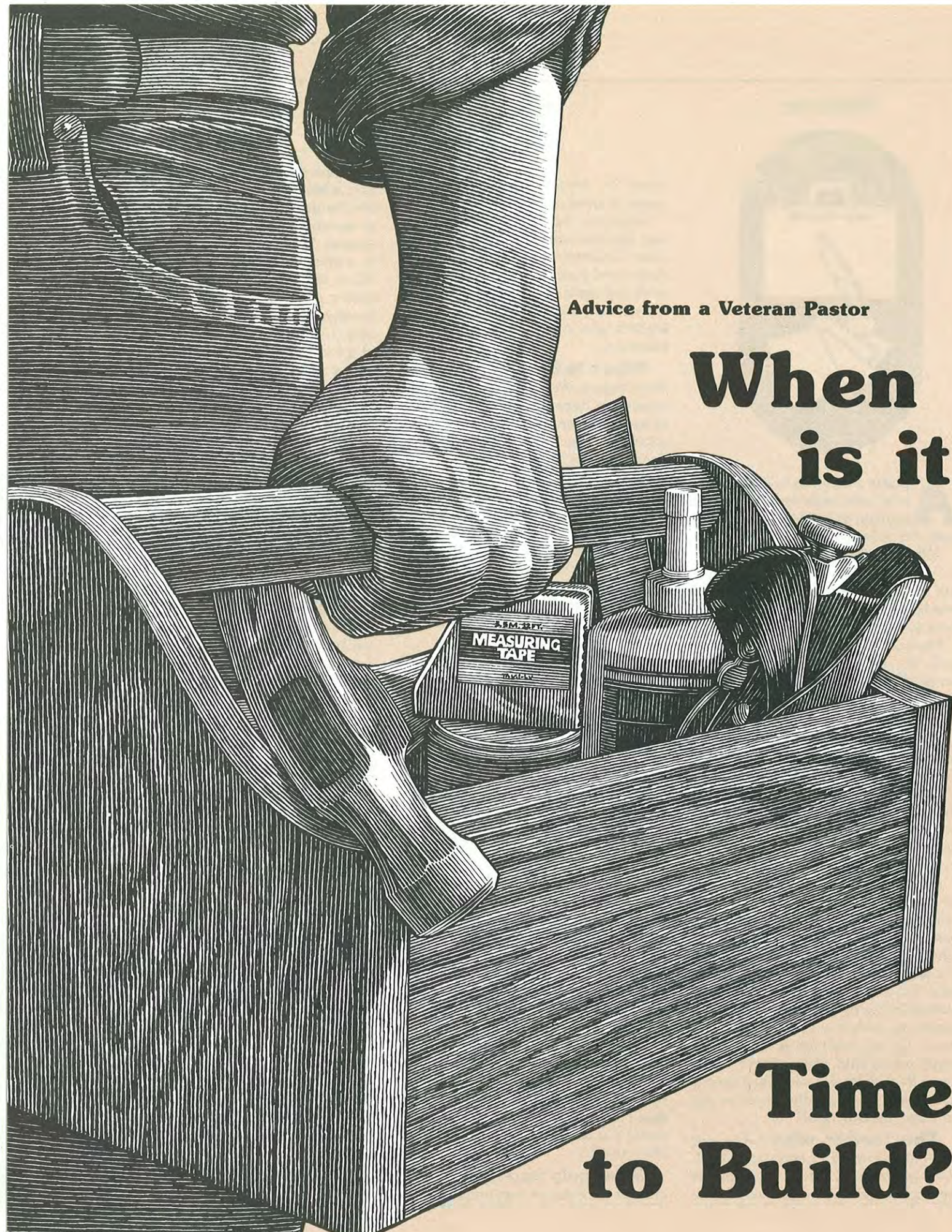
"What they told us about the ministry," he said. "We grew up being told it was better to burn out than rust out. I'm here to tell you, it's a lie."

He went on, "They laid all this heavy guilt on us about being lazy and unspiritual if we didn't run 24 hours a day. The men who told me that are having open-heart surgery today."

What made that conversation so difficult was that I knew he was telling the truth. Christian leaders can't afford to burn out or rust out. We're in this thing for the long haul with orders to finish our course. That means rethinking some priorities and conducting periodic self-inventories.

Management consultant Ted Engstrom makes a dramatic point about priorities. "... About 200 years ago, the tomb of the great conqueror Charlemagne was opened. The sight the workman saw was startling. There was his body in a sitting position, clothed in the most elaborate of kingly garments, with a scepter in his bony hand. On his knee lay a New Testament, with a cold, lifeless finger pointing to Mark 8:36: 'For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?'"

The leader who burns out often finds himself locked out as well. We don't know what to say to the man we considered a Christian workhorse



Advice from a Veteran Pastor

**When
is it**

**Time
to Build?**

By Claudie Hames

As I contemplated this article, I remembered a conversation with a friend who also pastors a Free Will Baptist church. He said, "When I return home I'm going to involve my people in a building program."

Knowing the size of his congregation and his facilities, I asked, "But do you really need another building at the present time?"

He replied, "No, but my people need to be involved in doing something." This brings us to the first point.

Build as the Church Has a Need

Who determines when the church should build? The pastor should be the one who evaluates the need. He should have the spiritual perception for church growth and Sunday School administration. Most congregations will never push a pastor into a building program. The pastor can lead them to build the buildings that are needed.

Some believe you should build only when the sanctuary or the educational facilities are packed every Sunday. Most sanctuaries will never be utilized to more than 85 percent of their seating capacity. Don't wait until your congregation overflows every Sunday and becomes uncomfortable.

Anticipate the need before it becomes acute. Make preparations early. Remember, it takes time to draw up plans, get them approved, seek out estimates and arrange finances. Preparation is the key to success.

Build Practical Buildings

It would be wise in the beginning of your construction to have a *Master Plan of Growth*. These plans could be followed as you build each building.

I encourage churches and pastors to build educational facilities first. Let your educational facilities pay for the large sanctuary later. But a note of caution here. In my eight building programs I've learned that most architects do not know anything about Sunday School administration. Most do not recognize the need for large classrooms, assemblies and other needs. This is where the wisdom of the pastor (who should know these things) can be utilized.

If you plan a Christian school or pre-school in the future, build with that in

mind from the beginning. Some churches must relocate and perhaps move several miles because a *Master Plan of Growth* was not considered.

Build Within Your Present Means

By this I do not suggest that you wait until you have all the cash in the bank. Some churches extend themselves far beyond their means to pay for what

\$ Expect the cost to be higher than planned. \$

they build. This will destroy the spiritual condition of your church. Sometimes *wants* and *needs* are far apart. Be practical. Count the cost. When building, expect the cost to be higher than planned.

Building within your present means will involve not only the building, its size and type, but also how to accomplish the actual construction. Free Will Baptist churches generally use one of the following plans:

1. Hire a general contractor.

The general contractor draws up the plans (approved by the church) and



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Claudie Hames has pastored First Free Will Baptist Church of Bakersfield, California, for 25 years. He also pastored nine years at two other California churches: First Free Will Baptist Church in Lamont and First Free Will Baptist Church in Oxnard.

does all the work. He furnishes labor and materials for a finished building.

2. Sub-contract the building.

This involves the church becoming the general contractor and obtaining bids from sub-contractors. When using this method, it is extremely important that someone in the church with building experience coordinate the work.

With this method some work can be accomplished by church members with experience in various areas.

3. Let the church be the general contractor.

In this method the church does all the work. Perhaps, members would sub out the work they did not have expertise to accomplish.

Here's an example from our latest building program to give ideas about difference in total cost. The general contractor bid \$700,000 to build our 804-seat sanctuary. This did not include \$28,000 for furniture \$10,000 for a parking lot, \$15,000 for a P.A. system and \$1,200 for landscaping.

Our church chose to sub-contract with a total cost of \$330,000. (This included church furniture, parking lot, P.A. system and landscaping.) Not every church should use this plan. You may not have the personnel to direct the program.

Build in Faith Anticipating Growth

God loves those who live by faith. We should expect growth. However, buildings do not win souls. Buses do not win souls. Padded pews do not evangelize a city. God uses people with compassion and the gospel to win souls. Don't anticipate growth just because of buildings.

However, buildings become a means to keep people comfortable while some preacher or teacher expounds the Word of God to them. Churches are sometimes limited because of the means available.

In conclusion, not only should we anticipate growth, but remember that when a church starts to build, Satan will try to destroy that church. Expect his attack to be from within the membership as well as without. Expect it; be mighty in prayer. Be watchful as you build for Jesus.



Kick Those Bad Habits

By Delilah Scott

Poor Pinocchio. By the time he told his third lie, his nose grew so long that he could not turn around in the room. He could not hide his shame and he could not run away. His nose had grown so large that he could not go through the door.

If sin caused such an outgrowth, it might be helpful in preventing bad habits. But I doubt it. I rather suspect that the minute minority would sport equally minute noses, and long noses would somehow, by fashionable standards, be not only justified but glorified.

There is, however, a growth that follows a bad habit as surely as wet follows rain: a growth as malignant as cancer, like an invisible web wrapping and rewrapping its practicing victim, capturing and engulfing. All the while, with such subtlety, this growth eats away at the Christian's vital organs of faith, character and charity, ultimately sapping life till one by one falls weakened purity, honesty, charity, fidelity, humility and with them goes testimony.

Christians may not be caught up in the malignant addictions of society, those running sores of sin that we are quick to identify and so prompt to condemn. But our enemy is just as deadly, and we must be wary of his wiles.

Identify the Offensive

While we neither smoke, drink, murder, nor spew out profanities, we certainly battle the dreaded "M"

gang—murmur, misconduct and malice.

Murmur

To indulge in a little grumbling, to utter our first complaints, to fret and whine is to contract the Pinocchio syndrome. The symptoms may be only occasional and light, but they will grow.

A whispered murmur will echo back in a shout. For to murmur is to question God. It is to doubt His guidance and care, to question His judgement and His providence. It is to no longer say, "My Father has willed this for my life and my Father knows best."

To lament and murmur is to deny the very promise of God that all things work for our good (see Romans 8:28). Periods of prolonged murmuring have even led to questioning God's existence.

Lest we think lightly of uttering our complaints, God's Word admonishes, "Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer" (I Corinthians 10:10). This is a habit we cannot afford, an enemy we cannot ignore.

Misconduct

When God's wisdom is habitually

questioned the door swings wide for misconduct to enter.

Murmur says, "Why have you brought us here?" Misconduct responds, "Let's build a god to worship!"

Discontent is the first shot fired. It projects, "If God is thus and things are such, why should I sacrifice?" Almost unconsciously with that question begins a change. Obedience to God, which preempts bad habits, turns into self-pleasure and a path away from God.

Paul told the Philippians, "Only let your conversation [your conduct, your life style] be as it becometh the gospel of Christ." He told the Ephesians to walk in light avoiding shaded areas, to be careful how they walk. He tells us what to carry with us and what to put aside, how to think, what to sing, who to imitate and what to say.

He gives the perfect prevention from being trapped in misconduct in Ephesians 4:27, "Neither give place to the devil," not a foothold, not even an inch.

Malice

The most deadly "M" is malice, best described with the word "malicious" from which comes our word for malignant cancer.

Like cancer malice is indiscriminate in its destruction. It fastens itself to the vital and the good. It is best (or worst)

H. Armstrong Roberts



viewed in the desire of the enemy to destroy what Christ had Himself raised up. Malice-primed hearts wanted to send Lazarus back to the grave (John 12:10).

Little wonder God warns us, again in Ephesians, to put away from us all malice.

The richest, most beautiful words found outside the binding of the Holy Word must be, "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right."

It resembles a diet . . . a "malice-free" diet, high in charity (I Corinthians 13:13) with a strenuous exercise program of good works (see I Timothy 4:7).

"And herein do I exercise myself, to have always a conscience void of offence [or malice] toward God, and toward men" (Acts 24:16).

Eliminate the Negative

We should start by eliminating from our minds anything not true, honest, just, pure and lovely (see Philippians 4:8). If the book, the friend, the music, the magazine, the video or the TV show is vulgar, foul, laced with innuendoes or offensive, if it condones or lessens the severity of a sinful act, eliminate it.

If the conversation, the phone call, the tidbit of information is not positive or productive, eliminate it. If the thought is unclean, cruel, bitter, envious or if it might lead in that direction or if it is not in the best interest of another, eliminate it.

The next step is more difficult, eliminating from our lips unkind, unbecoming, unholy conversation. If the word is demeaning, harmful, conjures up mistrust, doubt or lust, eliminate it. If it is our Lord's name or any derivative of it spoken casually, eliminate it. If it could hurt another, then in spite of the "plain facts" or "telling it like it is," eliminate it.

Finally, we can eliminate from our lives any action that does not help another, please God or better equip us to do either of the two.

Accentuate the Positive

There are so many good things to be done that one lifetime is not long enough. Major on the positive and develop good habits, and our lives will be busy and fulfilled. Set aside daily periods for prayer and meditation, scripture reading, work duties, enrichment

projects, hobbies, family dining and activities.

The day started in prayer will be traveled in light and the time set aside to read the Word will be strength for each step taken. Around these plan work duties, set goals and make checklists to promote productivity, remembering that whatever you set your hand to do is to be done for God's glory.

We can further enrich our lives by writing, enrolling in a class, learning a musical instrument, perfecting a present skill or gift, reading edifying materials: keeping the mind clean and brisk for God and His service.

Schedule short periods of enjoyable work, a hobby which both relaxes and ultimately produces self-esteem and satisfaction. Keep these times free of pressure and deadlines so the project can help rid of everyday stress loads.

One of the most difficult habits to establish and maintain with today's work schedules, church functions and school activities is the family eating together. With the exception of worship it is probably the single most important family activity. The short amount of time spent together at the table at least once a day will create a unique bond stronger and more lasting than other activities requiring hours together.

In addition, for the sake of the family, just be together. From devotions and prayer together to simple times of relaxing, enjoying a family TV program together, fishing, playing a board game or working a puzzle—try to make a portion of every day a family mini-vacation.

Such a guided schedule will automatically eliminate many negative habits. Their time slots will be filled.

Intensify the Defensive

It may seem trite but it's true: "The best offense is a good defense."

"Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand [defend yourself] against the wiles of the devil" (Paul's S.D.I. program).

The "fearfully and wonderfully made" human body lends us the best example of self defense. The immune system, the means by which the body protects itself, is an intricate system of organs which identifies, tracks down and destroys foreign microorganisms before they can destroy it. It is able to distinguish what should be in the body from what should not.

How can the body perform such

feats? Like a computer, lymphocytes are programmed to recognize and attack only one specific invader. Some attack only cholera bacteria while others are trained to fight just the polio virus. We have at least a trillion of these patrolmen. They meet every threat from an insect bite to a rare virus in the same way.

The point is, to keep away harmful habits which debilitate our Christian walk, it is necessary to be in control and alert, to react instantly to any foe, small or great, and with force and dedication eradicate anything that should not be in our lives (See I Peter 5:8).

The contrast of those who are vigilant and those who are not is stark. The Bible provides a parade of victors with good habits and victims of bad habits:


Samson had a lust habit while Joseph practiced purity. Joseph ran from lust, Samson ran to lust.

Daniel had a prayerful habit. Saul had a prayerless habit and, failing to ask God's opinion, even resorted to seeking direction from a witch.

Cain was caught up in disrespect for God and his family while David clutched respect for God and His anointed.

Moses was content with God's provisions while the people he led habitually complained.

Our best assurance of becoming victors rather than victims of habit is defensive prevention: eliminate the negative, substitute the positive and always recognize the enemy.

With this vigilant care we will not find ourselves caught, trapped, harnessed with a full-grown Pinocchio appendage, viewing the exit but unable to go through the door. 



ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Delilah Scott is a free-lance writer who lives in Huntington, West Virginia, where her husband, Ron Scott pastors a Free Will Baptist church.



Armed intruder invades home in broad daylight.

Deliverance!

By Donna Mayo

That sunny September day was filled with blue skies and promise, much too pretty to be inside. But I was cleaning the house before my boys, ages 6 and 4, returned. They had spent the previous night with my husband's parents.

As 18-month-old Megan napped, I had a delightful time mopping the kitchen, listening to a praise tape, and enjoying the peace and privacy that a mother of three small children rarely gets. While the floor was drying, I relaxed in a rocker and browsed a catalog looking for a birthday gift for my mother-in-law.

Stranger at the Door

Megan soon woke up, and we settled down on my bed to fold laundry. The doorbell rang. I picked up Megan, dodged the shirts hanging in the doorway, and went to answer it—halfway expecting my in-laws bringing the boys home. As I approached the door, I noticed that it was unlocked from the two times I had briefly stepped out to

shake rugs and rinse the mop.

I don't have a storm door, so when I opened the door I was face to face with a man in his mid-twenties. He looked about as surprised as I felt.

He stammered, "I need some directions over here on the highway. Let me get my paper out of the car."

Megan and I came out on the porch and watched as he hurried across the yard to his car that had been left with the motor running. As the man walked back toward the porch I saw that he had a copy of *Wheels and Deals*, a local magazine featuring used cars for sale by owners. His story made sense; he was looking for a used car and needed help finding the owner's address. (He was not the first to need assistance on our country roads with no signs.)

As the man walked up the porch steps, he pulled a pistol from under the magazine and ordered me into the house.

The Attack

Fear and disbelief swept over me. I refused to go inside, and as I began

screaming, the thought, "quote scripture," flashed through my mind. But I could not think of one verse. So I said, "You can't hurt me. Jesus loves me and He won't let you hurt me."

He shoved Megan and me into the house. We went down, and I dropped her. I scrambled to my feet and picked her up, noticing blood on her forehead. It wasn't the blood, nor her heart-wrenching scream that scared me; it was the look of sheer terror in her eyes. The Lord told me to fight.

The man was wearing several gold chains around his neck. I grabbed them and tried to choke him. He twisted my arm brutally and bit me. We scuffled for his gun. Whenever the scrambling pushed me to the floor, I kicked him. All this time Megan screamed and I shouted, "You can't hurt me! Jesus won't let you hurt me!"

He looked around while continuing to twist my arm, then started dragging me down the hall toward the bedrooms. I was terrified that he would rape me, and I fought and kicked all the way. I had been yelling, "My baby! My baby!"

when I heard him say something about jewelry and, "I'm not going to hurt your baby." Relief flooded through me.

I foolishly said, "You promise? Then give me the gun." He grabbed my watch and walnut jewelry box and started opening dresser drawers. I told him the jewelry in the drawers was all costume, so he left it alone.

I was so relieved that all he wanted was to rob me that I started to offer him the cash hidden in another drawer. I remember hiding my hand with my wedding band and diamond engagement ring behind my back.

He ordered Megan and me into another bedroom and shut the door. We watched him back out of the driveway. Even though he was out of the house, for a few seconds I was afraid to open the door and leave the bedroom.

Call for Help

I quickly called my neighbor, a farmer, thinking that if he was near the phone he could jump in his truck and follow the robber, at least getting a license plate number. But his son answered, and by the time I talked to Jake, who was about to step into the shower, the robber was gone.

Jake's wife called the sheriff. Then they came and stayed with me until my husband Rick got home from his office 30 miles away. Trying to steady my voice, I called Rick and said, "Don't worry. We're not hurt. We've been robbed."

"I'll be right there," he answered. "I'll call Mama and Daddy and have them come down."

"No!" I screamed. "I don't want the boys here. Call them and tell them not to bring the boys home until we call."

The sheriff soon arrived and the questions began. While I was talking to him, the phone rang.

A Friend's Prayer

A good friend, Margene, was on the line. "Donna, is this a bad time?" she asked. "I just wanted to tell you. . . ."

"Yes," I answered, "I've been robbed. The sheriff is here now. I can't talk."

"I'll be right over," she said and hung up.

Margene arrived, took Megan in another room and played with her while I talked to the sheriff. Finally, Rick got home. I once again related the events

and described the man whose face I had tried to memorize.

When the sheriff left, Margene, Rick and I stood looking at each other, thinking, "What do we do now?" We decided to have a doctor check Megan. She had fallen from my arms several times and had some bumps on her head.

While Rick called the pediatrician, Margene said, "I can't believe this. All afternoon I have been burdened to pray for you. I couldn't even do my work. I would try and the Lord kept saying, 'Pray.' Finally, I put my work up and spent the time praying. What if I hadn't?"

I didn't even want to think about *what if*. "What ifs" can drive you crazy.

Megan checked out fine. I also had my arm x-rayed. It was only sprained.

The Aftermath

Rick, Megan and I left the hospital and went to pick up our sons. We knew we would have to tell them what had happened. You can not keep secrets in a rural community. Bracken (6), and Nathan (4), were a little scared, but mostly excited. Cops and robbers—it was like a scene from a TV show. Children see their parents in control of things, and it is hard to picture them in any other light.

Nathan said, "Why didn't you just get that paddle and spank the robber real hard when he tried to get your jewelry box?"

The three or four minutes the robber was in my house were a nightmare, but that was just the beginning. The days that followed were filled with more questions from the police, visits to two different jails to pour over files of mug shots, and a session with a TBI agent (Tennessee Bureau of Investigation) to draw up a composite. Most of all, I learned to deal with the memory and the fear.

The Hard Lessons

According to the police report, the robber only stole my jewelry box and \$2,800 worth of jewelry. But he took a lot more, including a few nights' sleep, my willingness to help someone in need and the carefree attitude I had with life.

The thief has not been caught. When or if he is, he will be charged with grand theft, armed robbery and two counts of aggravated assault. During the days that followed the attack, I learned some important lessons.

People Say Dumb Things

People, especially Christians, can say such dumb things. I knew that "he could have kidnapped Megan." I knew that "it was a wonder he didn't rape me." I knew that I was "lucky to be alive" and that "he could have killed me."

But I did not need to hear those things. Some of their warnings about getting a gun and not letting my children out in the yard only added to my fear. Comments like, "What would you like to see happen to him?" seemed geared to increase my hate.

Many people, including police sergeants and detectives, told me that I was crazy to attack an armed man. But I would do it again. I know I wasn't the victim, but rather the victor in that battle. Besides, it wasn't me. It was the Lord God Almighty who fought that fight. As David said to Goliath in I Samuel 17, "Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts. . . ."

Another dumb thing people say is that God sent the robber to my door for a purpose. What a lie! God did not send that robber. Satan did. He is the liar, thief and murderer. James 1:17 says that good and perfect gifts come from God. The robbery was not good and perfect, and it wasn't from God. It was an attack of Satan.

God's Victory

I'm thankful that the One in me is greater than Satan. That's the most important thing I learned—victory is available. God's Word works if we let it. Never have I needed it more or depended on it more in my life.

Search for Peace

The night of the robbery my pastor and his wife came over. I clung to this statement in his prayer: "Father, we know that You protected Donna and Megan from harm today, and we know that if You can protect them from danger, You certainly have the power to give Donna peace."

And God did give me peace. "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (II Timothy 1:7).

If you want peace badly enough (or victory in any area), you can have it.



"Thank God! Thank God!"

By L. A. Yandell

It was just past 5:00 a.m. The first winter rain was steadily falling, and I was engrossed in work at my desk. I was startled by a knock at the office door and heard my wife say, "This man needs some help."

I turned to see a young man, soaking wet from head to toe. His hair was plastered to his head like dripping strings. His clothes, a little on the shabby side, clung to him, revealing a tall, thin frame, shaking with chill from the cold rain. His eyes were sad, reflecting utter confusion.

His voice was weak and barely understandable as he struggled to say, "I'm . . . lost . . . I . . . need . . . help." He continued, "I . . . have . . . a . . . phone . . . number. . . . Please . . . cu-al-l."

He handed me a worn wallet with a name and phone number visible through one of the little plastic windows. I took his wallet, realizing for the first time, he had a hearing handicap which was the reason for his speech defect.

I dialed the number and a lady quickly answered. I introduced myself and told her that I had a young man with me in my office. Before I could say more, she shouted into the phone, "Oh, thank God! Thank God! We have been looking all night. I have had the cops here and they are looking. Oh! Thank God! Thank God!"

I assured her the young man was wet

but all right, and I would bring him home.

As I turned right on the street where he lived, and near his home, he recognized where he was for the first time in several hours. The look of sadness and confusion left his eyes, a broad smile lit up his face, and he began saying, "Thank you. . . . Thank you."

The whole episode lasted only about 25 minutes, but the memory . . . well, I think it will be around for a long time. I keep hearing the lady shouting, "Oh! Thank God! Thank God!"

In this Thanksgiving season there are others who will give thanks when a crisis has passed: The lost found, the job secured, the illness over, the bills paid, the car repaired, broken relationships mended, long awaited dreams come true.

Others will give thanks for daily food, shelter, clothes, the necessities of life, a measure of security, health, friendships, family, salvation and church family.

Others will give thanks for nature, the majestic mountains, sparkling streams, sandy beaches, beckoning ocean, gentle breeze, giving farms, bustling cities, singing birds, colorful flowers, friendly pets and scurrying wildlife of every species.

The psalmist said, "Oh, come let us sing unto the Lord: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before His presence with

thanksgiving and make a joyful noise unto Him with psalms" (Psalm 95:1-2).

We hear him and joyfully join him in giving thanks and praise to God the Giver of all good gifts (James 1:17). Or do we?

Could it be true that we have it too good to be truly thankful? Will we, at any time during the Thanksgiving season, burst forth in joyful song because He is great? Will we give praise to Him because He is good and His mercy is everlasting? Will we serve him gladly, and come before Him with singing (even twice on Sunday)?

Thanksgiving is acknowledging with gladness the benefits and mercies God has bestowed upon us and others.

Everyone needs at least two books: A Bible and hymnal.

Everyone needs to sing in at least two places: The bathroom and church.

Everyone needs to pray at least two prayers: Thanksgiving and praise.

Everyone needs to respond to the goodness of God in at least two ways: By taking the cup of salvation and serving God with gladness.

Thanksgiving is a time to acknowledge God's greatness, goodness, mercy and benefits. Let's give Him true thanks!



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Larkin A. Yandell pastors Demaree Free Will Baptist Church in Visalia, California.

Deliverance . . . (From page 11)

When I had trouble sleeping, I would open my Bible and read, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee" (Isaiah 26:3).

When I'm scared to walk through a parking lot at night to my car, I quote Psalm 91:5-6, "Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night . . . Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness. . . ."

When my neighbor and I go for our pre-dawn walks, I quote Joshua 1 all the way down my long, dark driveway: "There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life. . . . I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. . . . Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid,

neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

I believe those verses. If they don't mean what they say, what good are they?

People say, "Well, you've just got something I don't have." I don't, not if they've got the Lord. His Word is powerful. Victory is available. Some people love weakness and defeat too much. I do not mean to sound proud. I have to fight my fear sometimes, but I win with the Lord's help.

My Thankful Heart

Today I'm thankful for many things. I'm thankful that my boys were not

home to witness the attack. I'm thankful for the prompting of the Holy Spirit and a friend's obedience to pray. I'm thankful for God's loving protection, His almighty power and His peace that passes understanding.

Difficulties may come, but as Stephen Brown said in *When Your Rope Breaks*, "The Christian is playing in a ball game that has already been decided." We are the winners. I will continue to " . . . call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from my enemies" (Psalm 18:3).



ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Donna Mayo is a member of Good Springs Free Will Baptist Church, Pleasant View, Tennessee. She writes the children's column, "On Little Lanes."

On the Road Again

By Terry Stafford

Not as many people today understand the phrase, "the old home town." Just a few years ago it was not uncommon to meet people who had lived in the same community most of their lives. They would go to school, marry their high school sweetheart, get a job in a local business and raise a family. All within a few miles of home. That gave a sense of stability to the family.

But society changed. The old home town is full of people we don't know. Families are so transient that many of us don't even know our neighbors. Our jobs take us to different cities far too often. As a result, we move from town to town and state to state. A lady in our church has lived in 26 states. I have lived in five different states.

This is not just a secular problem though. It is difficult to build a church when people come and go so fast you barely get to know their names. It seems an oddity today to find an individual who has been in the same church for 10 years. This is true of church members but perhaps even more of pastors.

It has been said that the average length of ministry at a given church is three years. Counter that with the notion that it takes seven years before a minister enters the most fruitful time of his ministry in a church, and we begin to see why we have so many small churches. Of course, this is not the only answer.

Why do pastors move so often? I am cautious in writing this, for I realize I may be asked to resign, or be led to resign my church when the Lord wills. I have been in my one and only pastorate for four years. While this is not long, it is longer than the average length of service. What makes pastors so jumpy?

Visions of Grandeur

First, when a man enters his first pastorate, he has visions of grandeur. He feels good about himself because he is entering the Lord's work, embarking upon a noble career. He has visions of himself as John the Baptist crying in the wilderness. He dreams that he may be

the next Jerry Falwell or Billy Graham. He will be known as "Reverend."

Sometime during that first year or so, reality arrives. He does not command the respect of everyone he meets. He looks out and sees people dozing during one of his messages. People don't respond to his "cry in the wilderness." Sometimes, because of his own immaturity, he complains. Under the weight of responsibilities and self-pity he becomes dejected. He encounters a few skirmishes and his dream of a noble profession begins to unravel. Instead of sorting out the details and working through the problems, it may be easier to just move.

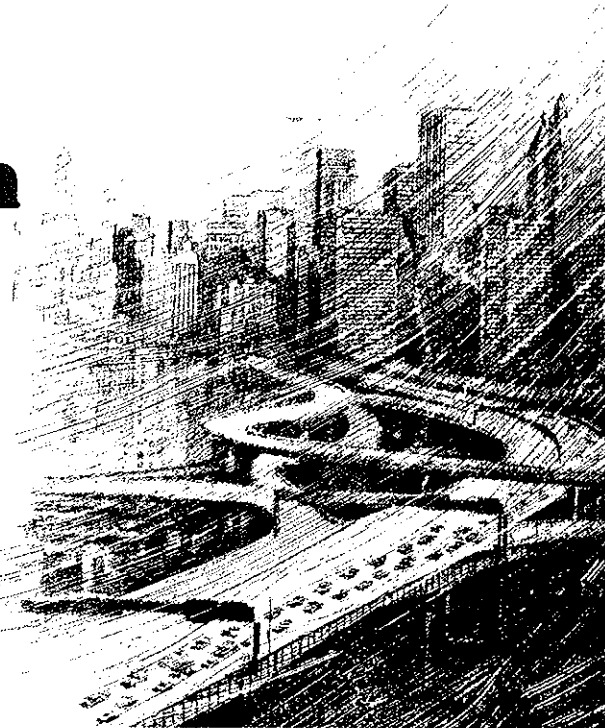
If he has not accomplished what he had hoped, he may think another new start would be good. As they say, the grass always looks greener.

Competition

Second, there's the problem Paul encountered in the Corinthian Church. Competition. Pastors seem to feel they must compete with other pastors. Pastor Blessing had 500 in Sunday School. Pastor Snoot had 35 saved and has begun his third building program. Instead of thanking the Lord for these blessings on our brothers, we begin to feel that competitive instinct kick in.

We are taught by society that a person's value is based on how successful he is. That's where we get our self-esteem. If we are not seeing the same kind of results as Brother Blessing, then we begin to think we are not being successful. If we are not competing where we are then maybe we should move to another area where we can. Most often it is pastors who put this pressure on themselves. Paul stated that all were not Apollos or Paul or Cephas. Each is called to a specific ministry. Each has an important part to play in sharing the gospel.

Some pastors are destined to minister in large congregations and constantly lead building programs. Other pastors may find themselves continually serving small congregations in small towns—never going through a major building program. People live in Alaska and Arkansas. They live in major cities



and in the small logging towns of northern Washington. One thing for sure, they all need the Lord. God has called each pastor to a specific ministry. We need to find the ministry the Lord has granted us and consider ourselves blessed that He considers us worthy.

God's Will

Last, maybe we have never been where the Lord wanted us. What are the determining factors in helping us find a church? Is it close to home? Is it located in a beautiful part of the country? Do they pay well? These reasons are used on occasion, but they are not valid. We do not experience peace if we are not following the Lord's will for us. A person can minister effectively in many places. But it takes peace and the inner conviction that you are where the Lord wants you that keeps you there.

Christian maturity is built over a lifetime. Ministries are also built over a long period of time. Like a new marriage, the pastoral honeymoon ends and a life together must be built. So too, the nobility of it all will wear off, and ministry must be built.

The pastor must remember that with problems come the opportunity for growth and ministry. We must learn to find the ministry God has for us and be content with it. Most importantly, we must be convinced that we are where the Lord wants us. People are counting on us.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Terry Stafford pastors First Free Will Baptist Church, Yakima, Washington.



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FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

CONVENTION STEERING COMMITTEE MEETS IN PHOENIX

PHOENIX, AZ—The Arizona Steering Committee met September 8 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel to make plans to host the 54th annual Free Will Baptist national convention, July 15-19, 1990. Plenary sessions of the National Association will convene in downtown Phoenix at the Phoenix Civic Plaza.

Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington said he blocked more than 1,000 rooms for delegates, ministers and visitors. The convention housing form will be printed in the April 1990 issue of *Contact* and in state papers as space is available.

The Arizona Steering Committee includes:

- Paul Thompson—Chairman
- Howard Gwartney—Hospitality Committee Chairman
- Charles Marshall—Registration Committee Chairman
- Clarence Newman and Wayne Rhodes—Prayer Committee Chairmen
- Eugene Bryant—Ushering Committee Chairman

Pat Atchley, president of the Arizona Woman's Auxiliary serves with the Steering Committee to coordinate women's activities. Roger Marshall, Arizona's Youth Representative, will assist NYC personnel in coordinating National Youth Conference activities.

The Steering Committee personnel met 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. gathering information, reviewing committee assignments and touring convention facilities. The committee will meet twice in 1990, January and May, to expedite convention plans.

HILLSDALE COLLEGE ANNOUNCES STAFF CHANGES

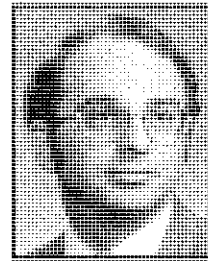
MOORE, OK—Four staff changes greeted returning students this fall at Hillsdale FWB College, according to President Jim Shepherd. Missouri pastor Tim Eaton was named vice-president of academic affairs, succeeding Dr. Thomas Marberry who returned to full-time classroom duties.

Richard McDonald, formerly of the music faculty at Free Will Baptist Bible College, was named to head the Hillsdale music program. Veteran Oklahoma pastor Jack Richey returned to Hillsdale as director of the pastoral internship program.

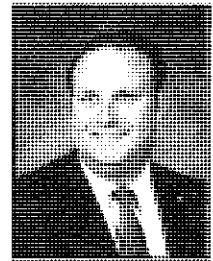
Before coming to Hillsdale as vice-president of academic affairs, Reverend Tim Eaton pastored three years at First FWB Church in Farmington, Missouri. He also pastored in Texas and Oklahoma. Eaton holds the B.A. degree from Hillsdale College and the M.Div. degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He served as clerk of the Missouri State Association and as president of the Hillsdale Alumni Association.

Mr. Richard McDonald, 37, holds the B.A. degree in Bible and music from Free Will Baptist Bible College and the M.A. in music education with a piano performance from Tennessee State University. For the past eight years, he served on the FWBBC music faculty. McDonald will also work with the Concert Choir and the New Life Singers.

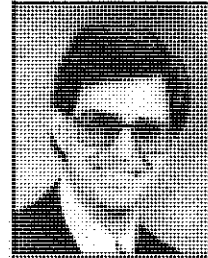
Reverend Jack Richey previously



Eaton



Marberry




McDonald



Richey

taught pastoral ministries at Hillsdale. Richey is an experienced church planter and evangelist. The Oklahoma native brings more than 25 years of pastoral experience to the college. He serves as Oklahoma's General Board Member on the national Executive Committee.

Dr. Thomas Marberry has taught 13 years at Hillsdale, six years as academic vice-president. In addition to classroom duties, Marberry will direct the external studies program. He holds the B.A. degree from Baylor University, M.Div. degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and the Ph.D. from Baylor. He also pastors Prairie Bell FWB Church in Putnam, Okla.



for . . .

- Jesus Christ**
- The Holy Scriptures**
- Family**
- Friends**
- Good Health**
- Our Church**
- Job**

newsfront

(continued)

HADDON ROBINSON TO LEAD FWBBC 'BIBLICAL PREACHING WORKSHOP'

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College will conduct a "Biblical Preaching Workshop" in Nashville, February 20-21, featuring noted preacher and author Dr. Haddon W. Robinson.

Dr. Robinson is president of Denver Conservative Baptist Seminary and the author of several outstanding books on expository preaching, including *Biblical Sermons* and *Biblical Preaching*. *Biblical Preaching* is currently used as a textbook for preachers in some 90 seminaries and Bible colleges. Dr. Robinson was honored with Bob Jones University's "Outstanding Preacher Award" and was listed among "Evangelical Leaders You Should Know" in *Moody Monthly*.

Seven sessions will feature Dr. Robinson. In addition to preaching three expository messages, he will address the following topics:

1. What is "biblical" preaching?

2. Selecting and studying a text.
3. Outlining the message.
4. Amplifying, introducing and concluding the message.

The workshop begins Tuesday morning, February 20, and concludes at noon Wednesday. The cost is \$15 per person (\$25 per couple) to attend all sessions. A comprehensive fee of \$40 per person (\$75 per couple) includes room (double occupancy), five meals on campus and the workshops. (All campus rooms are in dormitories, so couples will be housed in separate dormitories, two people per room.)

For more information or to reserve accommodations, please write or call:

Dr. Robert Woodard, Coordinator
Free Will Baptist Bible College
P. O. Box 50117
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37205
615/383-1340

OKLAHOMA PREACHER INCORPORATES UNIQUE MINISTRY

LEXINGTON, OK—Reverend Bob Thomas, an ordained Free Will Baptist minister, has organized Bob Thomas Ministries, Incorporated. Bob (35) is married to Rhonda Jernigan and has two sons, Benjamin Randell (15) and Joshua Brandon (12). Bob graduated from California Christian College in 1976 and has been preaching 20 years in California, Colorado, Oklahoma and Washington.

Thomas is positive "this new direction is exactly what the Lord wants me to do." Some unique concepts mark this ministry. Five weeks a year will be donated to home, foreign and Oklahoma state mission work—two weeks to both home and foreign and one week to Oklahoma state missions. Donated time began September 5-7 at Elk City when Thomas helped the Joint Project work add an extension to their building.

Monthly faith support will establish the ministry's base. Twenty-five percent of all monies received through monthly supporters will go to outside causes:

Oklahoma Co-op; Hillsdale College; California Christian College; Free Will Baptist Bible College; state, home and foreign missions; Free Will Baptist children's homes; and Larry Jones' Feed the Children.

A five-man Board of Directors will oversee the work. The Board includes Larry Condit, Joe Grizzle, Roger Harwell, Don Robirds and Roy Thomas. Rev. Grizzle serves as treasurer, Rev. Harwell as vice-president, and Bob Thomas serves as president.

To be placed on the mailing list, please write to Bob Thomas Ministries, Inc., Pecan Tree Estates #2, Lexington, OK 73057. Telephone: 405/872-7249.

LOVELESS HONORED BY CHRISTIAN BOOKSELLERS ASSOCIATION

COLUMBUS, OH—Dr. Alton Loveless, executive secretary of the Ohio Association of Free Will Baptists and whose office operates the Ambassador Bible Bookstore in Columbus, has been recognized as a Certified Member Bookseller (CMB) by the Christian



Booksellers' Association, following completion of the Dealer Certification program.

Recognized as one of the highest achievements in the Christian book-selling industry, the CMB designation is awarded following completion of rigorous studies, examination, seminars and classes covering a variety of retail management areas, including finances, merchandising, human resources, facility management, marketing management and inventory control. The completion takes several years and requires considerable time both in the classroom and on-the-job projects.

Bill Anderson, CBA president, congratulated Loveless saying, "We welcome Alton Loveless to this exclusive group of professional Christian booksellers. His dedication enhances the industry as a whole and his position in the Columbus retail community. We commend Alton for this outstanding accomplishment."

Mr. Loveless is only the fourth Ohio bookseller to earn this prestigious honor and becomes the 143rd in the International Trade Association of over 3,000 member stores. This work was accomplished while directing state association work; editing *The Ambassador*, the state 16-20 page tabloid; and presiding over the Ohio Bible Institute in both its resident and correspondence programs.

Since 1950 the Christian Booksellers Association has encouraged its members to raise the professional standards of Christian bookselling, enhance their business skills and exchange ideas. CBA provides a variety of opportunities to help Christian booksellers be better equipped for their profession.

500 ATTEND ARKANSAS STATE ASSOCIATION

CONWAY, AR—More than 500 people registered for the 92nd annual Arkansas State Association which met August 15-17 at Camp Beaverfork, according to Promotional Director David Joslin. That number included 103 ministers, 82 lay delegates, 30 deacons as well as visitors.

Moderator Carl Cheshier was elected to his 13th one-year term by delegates. During business sessions, delegates voted a constitutional change that authorizes the State Mission Board to work in neighboring states. Officials announced that Arkansas churches gave \$1.1 million to state and national

ministries in 1988.

Four ministers preached messages developing the "Confirmation of the Gospel" state theme. Speakers included David Joslin and three pastors: James Forlines of Batesville, Sam Rogers of Reyno and Jim Bundy of Belleville.

The Home Mission Board gave a plaque to Pastor Terry Forrest for his service to state missions. The Central Association Master's Men presented a certificate to David Joslin declaring him a Master's Men LifeMember.

The 35th annual Arkansas Woman's Auxiliary Convention met August 15 with 235 registrants. Missionary to Africa Norman Richards spoke to the group. The 1,050 Arkansas Auxiliary members gave \$56,000 in 1988, more than \$44,000 of which went to missions.

State Master's Men heard national director Jim Vallance speak. Mike Phillips and Frank Gregory also addressed the group. Meeting under a "Let's Get Growing" theme, the group reported giving \$673 to help rebuild the Cedars of Lebanon school in Cuba.

The first annual state youth conference attracted 120 people. Missouri pastor Kent Hubbard was the keynote speaker.

The 1990 state association meets August 14-16 at Camp Beaverfork.

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Alabama	\$ 78.22	\$ 20.00	\$ 98.22	\$ 1,100.72	\$ 4,669.20
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	.00	1,191.87
Arkansas	.00	5,444.78	5,444.78	5,169.79	37,644.15
California	.00	1,334.94	1,334.94	2,041.09	12,405.68
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	338.50	.00
Florida	.00	3,562.13	3,562.13	3,768.31	15,003.78
Georgia	7,201.12	1,421.48	8,622.60	8,035.74	84,325.21
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	.00	427.00
Illinois	10,801.30	2,464.85	13,266.15	18,385.75	76,424.55
Indiana	565.26	.00	565.26	617.53	4,117.71
Kansas	.00	70.00	70.00	174.44	445.04
Kentucky	.00	855.46	855.46	327.58	4,519.49
Maryland	.00	.00	.00	414.00	1,618.42
Michigan	2,796.04	912.65	3,708.69	3,578.97	38,658.82
Mississippi	149.27	579.45	728.72	1,112.56	3,885.07
Missouri	7,186.42	.00	7,186.42	.00	61,791.02
New Mexico	.00	.00	.00	.00	98.62
North Carolina	1,237.98	1,378.25	2,616.23	1,998.01	14,805.20
Ohio	368.00	1,689.00	2,057.00	8,788.07	22,705.00
Oklahoma	39,193.11	10,307.01	49,500.12	35,438.34	329,632.70
South Carolina	10,024.69	.00	10,024.69	11,501.10	85,370.71
Tennessee	943.26	1,027.08	1,970.34	1,711.83	17,462.69
Texas	2,724.47	228.80	2,953.27	8,997.25	60,906.48
Virginia	162.75	220.00	382.75	503.31	3,482.64
West Virginia	1,677.87	.00	1,677.87	1,295.31	23,320.30
Canada	.00	.00	.00	15.00	525.31
Northwest Assoc.	.00	.00	.00	45.19	581.00
Other (Computer)	.00	.03	.03	.00	.21
Totals	\$85,109.76	\$31,515.91	\$116,625.67	\$115,358.39	\$906,017.87

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 1,985.24	\$ 16,802.12	\$ 18,787.36	\$ 18,145.75	\$ 150,298.86
Foreign Missions	56,730.78	3,384.17	60,114.95	69,696.31	499,395.41
FWBBC	4,902.42	3,384.17	8,286.59	6,461.65	60,693.40
Home Missions	18,051.85	2,648.49	20,700.34	14,592.26	136,757.07
Retirement & Insurance	68.06	2,059.92	2,127.98	2,058.71	13,159.47
Master's Men	240.48	2,059.92	2,300.40	1,992.54	14,679.56
Commission for					
Theological Integrity	49.74	147.15	196.89	159.21	1,336.47
FWB Foundation	623.28	882.82	1,506.10	1,271.71	9,124.53
Historical Commission	46.07	.00	46.07	156.80	466.05
Radio & TV Commission	39.43	147.15	186.58	159.21	1,414.25
Hillsdale FWB College	1,720.70	.00	1,720.70	444.23	15,584.94
Other	651.71	.00	651.71	220.01	3,107.86
Totals	\$85,109.76	\$31,515.91	\$116,625.67	\$115,358.39	\$906,017.87

Currently...

White Oaks FWB Church, Macon, GA, honored Pastor and Mrs. **Billy Sharpston** with a plaque and cash gift on their 10th anniversary with the church. The church also recognized Rev. **James Potter**, a charter member, who invested most of his ministry in the Georgia Union Association.

Members of **New Light FWB Church, Morgan, GA**, helped Pastor **Ralph Lightsey** celebrate 25 years with the church.

Pastor **Lamar Parrish** reported that **Fellowship FWB Church, Albany, GA**, purchased new pews and pulpit furniture. Parrish said the purchase represents the final stage of a renovation program which started in 1984.

Double Branch FWB Church, Unadilla, GA, voted to give \$500 per semester to students from their church who attend **Free Will Baptist Bible College**. Pastor **Paul Smith** said the action was taken to encourage young people to attend the Bible College.

After averaging 795 in August, members of **First FWB Church, Bakersfield, CA**, ended on a high note with 1,160 on August 27. Pastor **Claudie Hames** said 10 people were saved that day.

The **Oklahoma Christian Education Board** sponsored a two-day convention in September featuring 20 sessions and 17 speakers. The convention met at **Lawnwood FWB Church, Tulsa, OK**. Arkansas moderator, **Carl Cheshier**, addressed four general sessions. Other sessions included workshops on teaching ministries, pastoral ministries, music and teen ministries, and general ministries.

Members of **First FWB Church, Russellville, AR**, celebrated the church's 40th anniversary with a tent meeting featuring guest speaker **O. T. Dixon**. **Doug Little** pastors.

Florida's Central Association sponsored a four-day pastors' and workers' conference in September. Sessions were held at **First FWB Church, Seffner**. Speakers included **James McAllister, Clyde Perry, Raymond Riggs, Bob Shockey** and **Vernon Whaley**.

Gateway FWB Church, Virginia Beach, VA, sponsored nine backyard Bible clubs in August. The teams conducted Bible study in 15 locations throughout the area. Pastor **Dale Burden** reported 200 in attendance with numerous salvation decisions.

First FWB Church, Walnut Ridge, AR, now airs three 60-second spots per day, five days a week over radio station KHOX-FM in Hoxie. The spots are aired along with local news. The pastor's thought each time is, "Now for a moment of Good News." The church also broadcasts its Sunday morning worship service live over the station. Pastor **Larry Hughes** celebrated his sixth anniversary with the congregation.

The East Kansas **Quarterly Conference** formally revoked the ordination credentials of **Rick Messer** on May 20, 1989. Clerk Judy Sprout sent official notification of the action to denominational agencies.

After pastoring six years in Smithfield, NC, Dr. **Malcolm Fry** returned to **Randall House Publications** where he previously served for 12 years. General Director **Roger Reeds** said that among other responsibilities, Dr. Fry will oversee editorial activities, host an annual writers' conference, conduct workshops and seminars in teacher training and represent the publishing house at Christian education conventions and conferences. Fry also pastored 15 years before his first tenure with Randall House.

The **Lompoc FWB Church, Lompoc, CA**, changed its name to **Beacon FWB Church**, according to Pastor **E. B.**

Condit. Working with the California State Mission Board, church members completed a remodeling program including a new roof, ceiling, carpeting, paint and refinished the oak pews. The church, along with members of the state mission board, conducted a visitation blitz in July and knocked on 400 doors.

Directory Update

GEORGIA

Jerry Wishum to Bethlehem Church, Cordele

Mike Edwards to Cool Springs Church, Norman Park

OKLAHOMA

Stanley Konopinski to First United Church, Choctaw from Southwest Church, Oklahoma City as associate pastor

TENNESSEE

Tommy Street to Emanuel Church, Clarksville from Adwolfe Church, Marion, VA

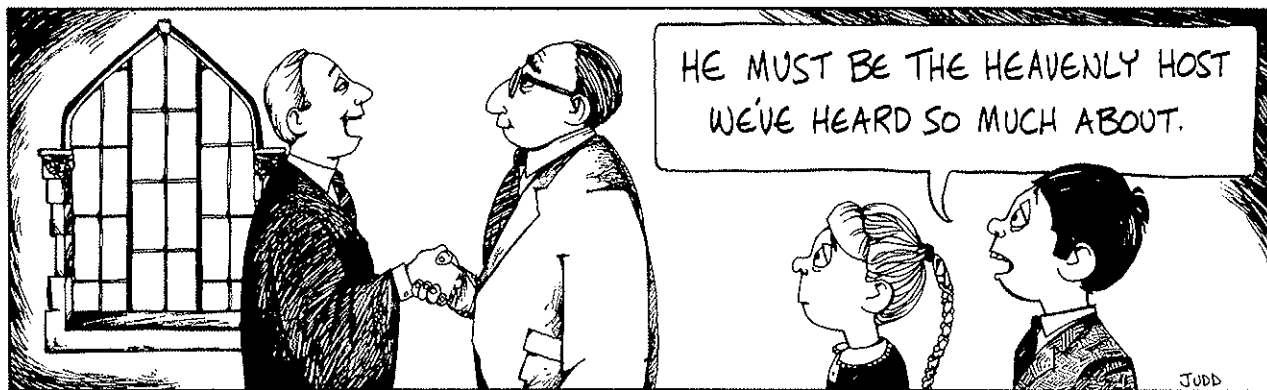
TEXAS

Don Guthrie to Plano East Mission Church from Harrah Church, Harrah, OK

Craig Shaw to Western Hills Church, Fort Worth

Stephen Hutchinson to Liberty Church, Comanche from Zion Church, Corpus Christi

BEYOND BELIEF™



The Key Principle of Stewardship

By Earl Hendrix

Normally when we hear the words, "steward" and "stewardship," we think of money. This is due mainly to the common usage of "stewardship." From the noun meaning stewardship we derived our English word "economy." For this reason stewardship and money are often closely related.

Actually, the definition of a steward is simply one who manages someone else's household; stewardship is the management of someone else's household.

A steward is a trusted servant. A believer (steward) is not his own master; therefore, he cannot function independently. His chief concern is to manage the Lord's estate to the best interest of his Lord. As a result, his total scope of operations centers upon the desire to please Him.

A good job description of a steward would be one who is wise, prudent, faithful, honest and loyal; one who has management ability and integrity; and, one who has laid aside all self-interest, thinking only of the one whose property he is administering.

The key principle of stewardship is something very few of us ever think about. "He hath purchased [the church] with his own blood." These closing words of Acts 20:28 should make an impact on our lives. Jesus Christ died for us. He purchased us with His own blood. He bought us completely. We no longer belong to ourselves; we now belong to God.


"What?" Paul writes in I Corinthians 6:19, "know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are

not your own?" There is new ownership; Someone else now owns you. "For ye are bought with a price," the precious blood of Jesus Christ (I Corinthians 6:20).

You no longer belong to yourself. You no longer make your own decisions. You no longer look at the things you have as belonging to you, but as a loan from God for His glory. "Therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's."

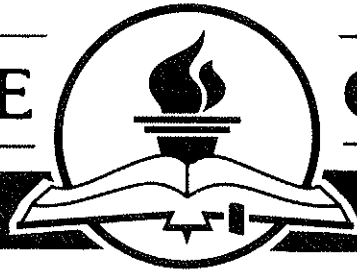
The key criteria as far as stewardship is concerned is not just, "How should I use my money for the Lord?" but, "All I have belongs to God. I have no right to anything any longer. I have been purchased. There is now new ownership." You might say your life is now under new management or sold to God through the blood of Jesus Christ.

If you and I would see ourselves as simply stewards for God's glory, meaning that we are here to manage God's household or God's business, we would look at our lives differently.

We would do as the job description of a steward states. We would lay aside all self-interest and think only of the One whose household we are managing. We would think of our time, our talents, our abilities, our personal lives, our earning power, our assets, our children, our husbands, our wives, everything we have, as belonging to God. We would think of ourselves as managing them for His glory. 

This article has been adapted from the booklet, "Total Life Management," written by Reverend Earl Hendrix and is used with his permission. He pastors First Free Will Baptist Church, Inman, South Carolina.

HOUSE



CALL

Resources for Ministry

To Children

The Bible commands us to "Train up a child in the way he should go" (Proverbs 22:6). Although this is primarily the duty of parents, the church is to aid them in this vital undertaking. Randall House Publications has resources designed to help local churches help parents accomplish this task.

Teaching the Meaning of Church Ordinances to Children will assist you in explaining baptism, communion and footwashing to the youngest members of your congregation. The author has included learning activities, enrichment suggestions and field trips to enable a child to understand the rich meaning of the ordinances.

Children learn best when instruction is geared to them. Children's church provides an ideal time for children to encounter the truth of God's Word at their level of understanding.

Randall House Publications' children's church materials follow a two-year cycle. In addition to guides containing weekly Bible stories, correlated visuals with a missionary emphasis are available. A Pupil's Activity Handwork Packet has been prepared for each quarter of the cycle.

Children love puppets. That's why they are such an effective teaching tool. Randall House distributes a line of quality hand-made puppets. Your gang of kids will love our gang of puppets.

Randall House publishes a series of four books of puppet scripts. *Aunt Ruth's Puppet Scripts* are ideal for the person starting a puppet ministry as well

as for the seasoned professional. Each volume contains 13 puppet scripts packed with down-to-earth applications of Bible truths that children can understand and enjoy.

The person who does not wish "to speak for his puppets" will love *Aunt Ruth's Puppet Scripts*. Each volume comes complete with narration on cassette tape. The printed scripts are set in large easy-to-read type with plenty of white space between the lines. Both printed scripts and cassettes come packaged in a sturdy three-ring binder.

Let Aunt Ruth help you train the children in your church. Aunt Ruth (Ruth Bivens) is a writer, teacher and mother.

To the Suffering

Our world is filled with pain and sorrow. In your ministry you are frequently called on to comfort the suffering and bereaved. Randall House Publications has prepared several books and booklets to make this difficult task a little easier.

Would you like to brighten the lives of your homebound friends? Then give each one a copy of *The Sunshine Basket, Meditations for Shut-ins* by Lula Guthrie. *The Sunshine Basket* is filled with 31 messages of hope for these special people.

Cleo Pursell's writing has a ring of authenticity. Mrs. Pursell is acquainted with suffering (She has undergone cancer surgery.) and death. (Her husband died several years ago after a lengthy illness.)

Triumph Over Suffering examines "Reasons for Suffering" (punishment for sin, discipline and training, a world in pain and fruit-bearing). It also discusses "Our Response to Suffering" (self-pity, faith, patience, humility and glorifying God).

Facing Death and Dying answers the question "what is death?" Other topics covered include Coping With Death, How Can We Help?, Spiritual Death, A Christian's Death, Explaining Death to a Child, and Preparing for Your Own Death.

Both booklets are practical. They provide satisfying answers to tough questions. They are inexpensive enough that you can keep a supply on hand to share with those who need their counsel.

Both of Mrs. Pursell's manuscripts have been put on a single cassette.

Joyce Tyra married her high school sweetheart shortly after graduation. Their story-book romance ended with Ed's sudden death 26 years later. *Until Death Do Us Part* is the story of this young widow's struggle to cope with her husband's death. Mrs. Tyra's book would be especially helpful to one who has been widowed recently.

These authors have experienced the comfort of God. They are well equipped to help you comfort the hurting.

To purchase any of these ministry tools, contact Randall House Publications, P. O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217, or visit your state bookstore. ☛

MINI GRAMS

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

The Department Pages

Should Your Church Mother A Church?

By Roy Thomas

There are many perspectives and approaches to the work of home missions and church planting. One method that has proven successful is that of an older, established congregation "mothering" a new church.

The Free Will Baptist Church of New Castle, Delaware, is doing this very thing. This exciting church, which has been the only Free Will Baptist church in Delaware, is mothering a new congregation in the growing city of Dover. The mother church was started as a Joint Project of the Maryland State Missions Board and the national Home Missions Board by home missionary Vergel Maness. When the church became self-supporting, it called Richard Atwood as pastor.

The New Castle congregation had purchased a piece of property and built a small building. The Atwoods added to the building and improved the property. They won many souls to Christ and saw the church increase in attendance until the facilities were filled.

The congregation tried and failed to expand its facilities by buying adjacent property. The church then attempted to relocate, but was unable to do so. All efforts the congregation made to plan for future growth and expansion seemed futile.

Since this was the only Free Will Baptist church in Delaware, the congregation developed a burden for other churches of like faith to be started. The members began praying that the Lord of the harvest would send forth laborers to reach the masses of their state.

Since they were burdened, not only to see other churches started but to see their own church expand, they came up with a daring plan that would require

faith and sacrifice from every member. They would "mother" a church in another city.

The church became excited as it contacted former members who had moved away from the area but were anxious to be a part of a Free Will Bap-



Richard and Sandra Atwood

tist church near them. All they needed was a missionary pastor. The congregation began to pray. Who would go? The pastor, Brother Atwood, answered the call and said, "Here am I, send me!" He and his wife Sandra are now associate missionaries with the Home Missions Department.


Since that time, the Atwoods have started services in the new city of Dover, and average about 40 in attendance.

The mother church purchased eight acres and makes payments on it for the new church. Meanwhile, Brother Atwood is serving as the missionary to the new church while remaining as pastor of the mother church until a new pastor is called.

The mother church is still packed with people every Sunday, and the offerings have increased. However, mothering a church is a heavy load for this congregation which is still fairly new itself. Therefore, individuals and churches in other areas are assisting by sending to the Richard Atwood missionary account in the Home Missions Department.

Perhaps other churches could adopt this concept of mothering new churches. Some things that could be done are:

1. Choose the needy city where a new church needs to be established.
2. Locate a nucleus of Free Will Baptist families who have moved there.
3. Pray for God to provide a missionary pastor for the project.
4. Make arrangements with the Home Missions Department to make the effort a Joint Project. Begin putting funds into an account to be used in starting the new church.
5. Perhaps some members of the mother church might want to be a part of the nucleus of the new church.
6. Assist with canvassing and telephoning to locate prospects.
7. Provide volunteer labor for construction of the building for the new church.

The Home Missions Department will be happy to help your church mother a new Free Will Baptist church in a Joint Project effort. Contact the department for more information. 

ABOVE ALL

Master's Men—Man Hunt!

When: The First week of your enlistment month, if no conflicts are on the church calendar.

Why: To involve every man in your church in missions, ministry and evangelism through Master's Men.

Begin: No less than one month before the set date. (Good preparation may take up to three or more months.)

Goal: To enroll new men in your chapter or begin a new chapter during the enlistment campaign, "Above All . . . Take the Shield!"

Ideas: Use your imagination. Don't hesitate to consider some wild idea. What's wild to you may be mild to others. You're supposed to draw attention to Master's Men and make others aware of the benefits of membership.

In all your planning for enlistment, ask God's guidance as you pray and seek His direction. Make the campaign a spiritual one, not just one to get more members.

Master's Men Enlistment Week can be used to encourage men and boys to focus on what Jesus commanded by word and deed. Activities during the week release new interest and power into each Master's Men program. Leaders will be trained and men inspired—resulting in a new spirit of missions, ministry and evangelism throughout your congregation.

Make a survey of all the men, young men and boys in your church and Sunday School. Group them by ages. Determine if it is feasible to have more than one Master's Men group. (Or you might consider an Upward Bound program for the younger boys as detailed in *Contact*, August 1989.) Realizing these possibilities would mean more active leaders.

Advertise heavily in all church publications. Use the phone extensively. Use a computer to make posters and banners. Put up banners.

Host a "Let's Learn about Master's Men" meal. Invite prospects or the whole church. The speaker should be able to explain Master's Men and challenge everyone with local ministry/evangelism needs.

Sunday should be dedication time. Ask the pastor to plan a special sermon on the topic of individuals dedicating their entire lives to the Lord. Have Master's Men lead in a special time of prayer and consecration.

Use Monday and Tuesday nights of Enlistment Week to train new officers. Give your men a chance to share experiences, good and bad. Everyone will be encouraged by the victories and educated by the mistakes.

On Wednesday the officers could present to the church family the Master's Men program, planned projects and calendar for the year. Introduce the officers and tell what their responsibilities will be.

Thursday and Friday emphasize family time.

Saturday put ministry/evangelism into action. Do something to actually meet the needs of someone in

your own local church or community. There are many possibilities for Enlistment Week. The only limit is imagination. Remember the primary emphasis on all we do is to show all persons that God loves them.

Finally, follow up.

1. Contact prospects—assign them to men who are already members.



2. Plan informative and inspirational meetings. Help everyone feel the challenge of investing their lives in service.

3. Plan a specific action project. Men will respond when presented with meaningful ministry in which they can invest time and talents.

4. Continue to enlist men after the campaign is over.

5. Share the news of your activities and successes with Master's Men Department. Your special ideas might spark excitement in another church.

TAKE THE SHIELD!



Herman L. Hersey
Director



Board of Retirement

AT YOUR SERVICE

RETIREMENT CHECK LIST

READY

OR

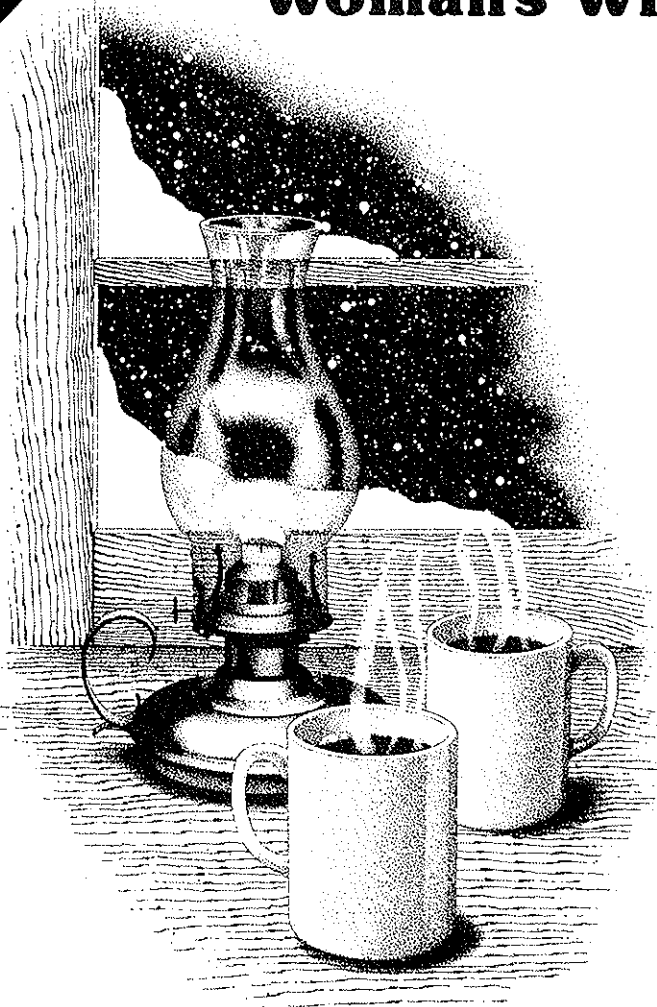
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- | | | |
|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I know approximately what my social security income will be in retirement. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I know my pension benefits in retirement. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I have a financial savings plan for retirement. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I know approximately future income from my investments — IRA and savings. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I have completed a net worth statement. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I have analyzed my cash flow — monthly and yearly. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I have discussed finances with my spouse. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I have an up-to-date will. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I have a power-of-attorney on myself. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I have my important papers — including my will — where my family can find them. I have reviewed the papers with my spouse. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I have a regular exercise program. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I had a physical examination in the past year. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I've checked my health insurance coverage, both now and for retirement. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I've checked my home for safety and maintenance. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I've discussed retirement plans — where to live, what to do with time — with my spouse. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I am involved in at least one social activity — politics, volunteer work, civic and church activities. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | I plan to continue learning after retirement. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

— Ready or Not —

Woman's Window on the World

By Mary R. Wischart



From My Window

"Let the choir lead the army." How would you like to be in that army or in that choir?

A strange command. Yet in the story of Jehoshaphat's triumph in II Chronicles 20, he gave that command. In front of the soldiers, the king sent a choir. We don't know all the songs, but we do know they sang "Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever." We do know they were instructed to praise the beauty of holiness.

"And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten."

As Thanksgiving approaches, perhaps we feel engaged in battle for the Lord. The enemy is approaching and

seems almost overwhelming. We've got our armor on, and we're marching with grim determination.

But wait, where is the choir?

No matter how grim the battle, how great the struggle, no matter what is happening in your life, God has not changed.

The beauty of His holiness remains unstained. His grace extended to our fathers and grandfathers and His hands are still outstretched in mercy to us today.

Facing a battle? Ready to march? Don't forget the praise choir.

Eunice Edwards Loan Fund

August 31, 1989—\$22,391.38
 Needed by December 31
 \$7,608.62

November: Home Missions Prayer and Offering

Make the week preceding Thanksgiving a special time of prayer for the USA. Some women will designate WNAC's 9:00 a.m. prayer time as a season of prayer. Some will have special meetings throughout the week.

Whatever the method—pray. Perhaps as never before, we need to beseech God for our country.

Check the *Co-Laborer* for special prayer booklets or order them from Home Missions Office, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202.

We also ask for sacrificial offerings this month for Home Missions. This offering is named for Lizzie McAdams, early home missionary and one of the first WNAC officers.

Often as we pray, God prompts us to act—give or go. Prayer will certainly help determine the amount of the offering. It will also help get laborers into the harvest.

Get the whole church involved in prayer and giving.

The Home Mission Office is working on \$100,000 to purchase land in Phoenix, target city for 1990. Perhaps some Auxiliaries could designate offerings to the Phoenix Land Project.


WNAC Needs

WNAC depends on support from monthly Co-Laborer Fund offerings and Emphasis Month offerings. Join those Auxiliaries which give monthly to the Co-Laborer Fund. If you haven't promoted an Emphasis Offering this year, there's still time.

The office needs to replace some equipment and furnishings. Originally the needs were as follows:

Chair at light table	\$ 100
Computer and bookkeeping software	2,000
Copier	1,500
Typewriter	500

We have received \$972.50.

Please designate gifts to Office Furnishings and Equipment. 



PULSE of Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions



The alarm clock rang at 5:30 a.m. and I arose sluggishly to turn it off. Early rising has never been one of my strong points. Taking care not to wake the children, I dressed to leave for yet another missionary service.

I drove for an hour then stopped at a Hardee's for breakfast. The restaurant wasn't open yet so I had a few moments to wait and consider the day before me. It was August 27 and I was going to First Free Will Baptist Church in Weleetka, Okla., and Richmond Avenue Free Will Baptist Church in Allen, Okla. Normally, anticipation of the day's services would be joyous for me because I have dear friends in both churches. But that day I was a bit sad.

That day, August 27, 1989, had been marked for our return to Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast). However, instead of boarding a plane with my family to return to our field of service, I was still working to raise vital funds necessary to the missionary effort.

That day, August 27, 1989, had been marked for our return to Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast).

The restaurant opened and as I settled down to a breakfast of hot biscuits and gravy I thought of Cote d'Ivoire. There I would breakfast with my family on freshly picked pineapple and toast made from Ghana bread baked in beehive-shaped clay ovens.

Later, I would round up my interpreter and a few other African Christians and head for the newly opened mission works nestled in the rain forest.



Left Behind!

By Darrel Nichols

A glance at my watch and the need to be on the road again brought me back to my present reality. I realize support seems to trickle in slowly and it is likely to be at least three months before we can catch that plane. Not an encouraging thought.

The morning service at Weleetka was a blessing and those good friends who have supported us from the beginning opened their hearts to increase their support. After a nourishing lunch in the home of Pastor C. L. Thomas I was on the road again for the next service.

I reflected. It had already been eight months since our departure from our home village of Goumère. The dedicated laymen had been taking care of the new missionary works in Amanvie and Fisa as well as carrying on the work in Goumère. And they were doing it alone.

Several months ago missionary Ledge Ferguson held services in Goumère. Together, the leaders of the church asked

Ledge, "When will our pastor return?"

When indeed will we return? I pondered the situation as I drove south on Highway 75. Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions is dedicated to the purpose of establishing new churches. Yet, out of the missionary families serving in Cote d'Ivoire, we are one of the few whose sole function is church planting. And, now we are delayed in our return due to lack of funds!

If only a pastor could imagine how he might feel if he were separated from the church he loves for a year and a half by the need to raise funds for that work, he would understand how we feel. Also, if a church could imagine their pastor far away in another country, unable to minister to his people and uncertain about his return, perhaps they would realize how our African brethren must feel.

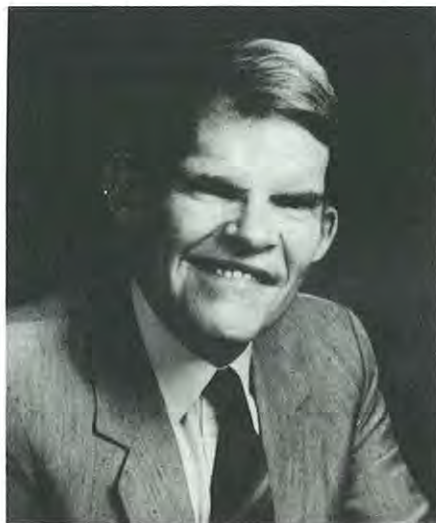
The leaders of the church asked Ledge, "When will our pastor return?"

We had another good service at Richmond Avenue and the people opened their hearts to missionary support. But, as the final prayer was offered a glance at my watch sparked a painful thought: The Sabena Airlines transatlantic flight we should have been on had just left without us.

As I drove the 150 miles home late that night I wondered just how many more flights would leave us behind. Well, no matter how many it takes, we will catch one some day. We know that God has called us and we are determined to do His bidding. 🌐

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

HADDON ROBINSON TO BE FEATURED IN "BIBLICAL PREACHING WORKSHOP"



Dr. Haddon Robinson

"Our motivation for having this workshop is seen in the biblical command to 'Preach the Word'" (IITim. 4:2).

—Dr. Robert Woodard
Pastoral Studies Director
Free Will Baptist Bible College

Because of its commitment to minister to the denomination's preachers, Free Will Baptist Bible College will hold a "Biblical Preaching Workshop" in Nashville, Feb. 20-21, featuring noted preacher and author Dr. Haddon W. Robinson.

Dr. Robert Woodard, who is directing the workshop, says, "We have chosen Dr. Robinson to lead the workshop because of his tremendous ability as a preacher and as a teacher of preachers."

FWBBC's Dean, Dr. Robert Picirilli, calls Dr. Robinson "one of the most outstanding people in this field."

Dr. Robinson is president of Denver Conservative Baptist Seminary and the author of several outstanding books on expository preaching, including *Biblical Sermons* and *Biblical Preaching*. *Biblical Preaching* is currently used as a textbook for preachers in some 90 seminaries and Bible colleges. Dr. Robinson was honored with Bob Jones University's "Outstanding Preacher Award" and was listed among "Evangelical Leaders You Should Know" in *Moody Monthly*.

Dr. Robinson will be featured in seven sessions. In addition to preaching three expository messages, he will address the following topics:

1. What is "biblical" preaching?
2. Selecting and studying a text.
3. Outlining the message.
4. Amplifying, introducing and concluding the message.

In pursuing these themes, Dr. Robin-

son will take preachers back to the basics of sermon preparation and delivery.

Stressing the importance of the preacher's pulpit ministry, Dr. Woodard says, "No pastoral task is, in our opinion, more basic or important than preaching. We are confident that God will use this workshop to help us become more courageous and effective preachers of His Word."

The workshop begins Tuesday morning, Feb. 20, and concludes at noon Wednesday, Feb. 21. The cost is \$15 per person (\$25 per couple) to attend all sessions. A comprehensive fee of \$40 per person (\$75 per couple) includes room (double occupancy), five meals on campus and the workshops. (All campus rooms are in dormitories, so couples will be housed in separate dormitories, two people per room.)

For more information or to reserve accommodations, please write or call:

Dr. Robert Woodard
Workshop Coordinator
Free Will Baptist Bible College
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205
615/383-1340

1989-90
Welcome Days

Fall: Nov. 30-Dec. 2, 1989
Spring: April 5-7, 1990

Jack W. Stallings, *Humanism* (Nashville: The Commission for Theological Integrity, 1982, 32 pp., paperback).

Lonnie Skiles and Leroy Forlines, *Prophets of Prosperity* (Nashville: The Commission for Theological Integrity, 1982, 25 pp., paperback).

Harrold Harrison and Leroy Forlines, *The Charismatic Movement* (Nashville: The Commission for Theological Integrity, 1989, 42 pp., paperback).*



Thomas Marberry



The Commission for Theological Integrity is an agency of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. It exists to promote the continuation of sound doctrine within our denominational ranks. One of its major responsibilities is to provide Free Will Baptists with timely and accurate information about contemporary theological trends which may cause problems for individuals and churches within our ranks. I want to call your attention to three booklets published by the Commission which can be of great value to us.

In the first booklet, Jack Stallings confronts the diverse and widespread philosophical system which is commonly known as "humanism." Humanism is not really new, but it has played an increasingly larger role in our society in recent years.

Humanism is a system of thought which gives preeminence to human concerns, desires and values. It places little or no emphasis on God and His teachings. As a general rule, humanists are either atheist or agnostic in orientation. They seem determined to abolish traditional systems of morality. In some cases, they seem to desire that religious expressions be restricted or limited in order to produce a more secular society. This is a dangerous movement, and Jack Stallings presents a well-documented analysis and evaluation of it.

The second booklet critically examines the "Health and Wealth" gospel which has become so prominent in recent years, especially among popular TV and radio preachers. The basic assumption of this movement is that God always blesses his children with physical health and material prosperity. Any kind of suffering, then, must result from lack of faith.

Such thinking is contrary to the Christian faith. Jesus Himself had very little in the way of material possessions. He

never promised His followers that they would prosper in this world. The authors make a penetrating analysis of the promises made by this movement. They examine its presuppositions in the light of scripture and find them wanting.

The third booklet examines the charismatic movement which has had a dramatic effect on Christianity around the world. The first chapter, written by Harrold Harrison, surveys this history of the modern charismatic or pentecostal movement. He also lists the leading organizations, individuals and writings which continue to play important roles in the growth and development of this school of thought.

The second chapter, written by Leroy Forlines, analyzes and evaluates the theology of this movement in light of scripture. Mr. Forlines' basic thesis is that the miracles described in the book of Acts and other New Testament writings reflect a transition period in church history. These miracles certainly happened, and they were of great value as

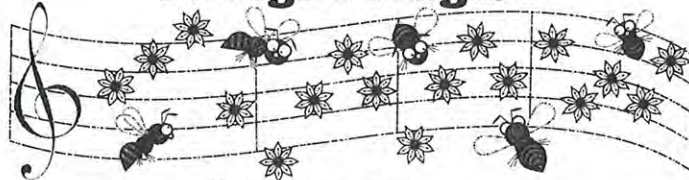
"signs" in the development of the early church. They do not, as the charismatics argue, reflect the typical Christian experience. Forlines argues that speaking in tongues and other similar phenomena should be understood as temporary. They do not indicate the presence of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer today.

These authors and The Commission for Theological Integrity have done an important service to our denomination in producing these booklets. They are brief, readable and reasonable in cost. We should make more use of them in training our people. They can be ordered from Rev. Leroy Forlines, Free Will Baptist Bible College, P. O. Box 50117, Nashville, TN 37205.

*One copy of each booklet may be obtained for \$3.00 plus 30 cents postage. Quantity prices are also available.



Twilight Magic



By M. J. Pritchard

Trees muffle the late evening traffic grumbling just beyond the back yard. Sort of. At least they hide it from view. Crickets and cicadas, oblivious to the noise, create their own special music. A few robins, heads cocked, pursue after-dinner snacks, while other birds, settled for the evening chirp sleepy good nights across the treetops.

Fireflies decorate the dusk like premature Christmas lights eager to shed their gold-green droplets on the evening air. Sometimes a mottled brown rabbit deigns to share the evening with me, nibbling grass or loping across the yard in search of a long-eared friend.

And just at twilight, before it gets too dark, an opossum, grey and clumsy,

snuffles along the back edges of the yard, looking for breakfast as he starts his nocturnal day. He doesn't know I'm here watching from the swing. Or he does a good job ignoring me. He trundles along in his ungraceful way, nabbing a tidbit here, a morsel there—whatever opossums eat. He haphazardly yet thoroughly combs the back one-third of the yard as he waddles to and fro.

Mosquitoes, hungry for my attention (or is it my blood?), nibble on my hands and arms until they finally drive me indoors. But not before my soul finds a fragment of peace from its Creator among His creatures in the back yard at day's end.





ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

Living Thanks

Megan, recovering from a bad cold, lay on the couch listening to her mother read a story to Jeff. "Do we have any homework?" she asked Marty as he came in from school.

"Yeah, but it's easy," answered Marty. "All you have to do is write down each letter of the alphabet and something you're thankful for that starts with each letter. I finished mine at school."

Megan sat down at the kitchen table to make her list. Marty joined her with a snack. As he crunched a big red apple, Megan began writing. "A—I'm thankful for apples," she giggled.

"And for *B* you have to put *brothers*," Marty teased.

Megan wrote it down. "*C* is for our car, *D* is for . . . hmm. What did you put for *D*?"

"For *D* I put *dog*," answered Marty.

Megan thought for a minute. "I know. I'll put *Daddy*." Megan continued until she had a word for each letter of the alphabet. Mrs. Lane came into the kitchen.

"Read me your list," said Mrs. Lane as she peeled potatoes for supper.

Megan read over her list and quickly closed her notebook.

"That's nice," said Mrs. Lane. "I just hope you are really thankful for those things. You made your list so quickly, I don't see how you could have given it much thought."

Next, Marty read his list to his mother. He had listed some of the same things that Megan did. For the letter *F* he had written *food* and for *T* he had written *toys*.

"What's for supper?" Marty asked as he put his paper back in his notebook.

"Stew," replied his mother.

"Stew! Yuk. I hate stew," groaned Marty.

Mrs. Lane sighed, but she didn't say anything. Instead, she changed the subject. "Marty, please go feed the dog."

"Why do I always have to feed the dog?" grumbled Marty as he went outside to get the dog's dish.

When Marty finished, he joined Megan in the den to play a game. Only a few minutes had passed when Mrs. Lane heard the twins arguing.

"That's not fair," shouted Megan.

"That's what the rules say," demanded Marty.

"Is not!" argued Megan.

"Is too!" Marty shot back.

Mrs. Lane came into the room. "I'm tired of that arguing. If you two can't play together happily, just put the game away."

"I'm tired anyway," said Megan. "Can I watch TV?"

"Yes, you need to lie down and rest," answered Mrs. Lane. Megan turned on the TV, and her mother tucked a warm blanket around her.

A commercial for new vans came on the television screen. "Wow! Look at that beauty. I wish we had a van like that," sighed Megan.

"Me too," added Marty. "The Johnsons have a new van, and it even has a TV in it. I'm tired of our old car."

The next commercial was for a video game. "That's what I want for Christmas," said Marty. "I hope I get it. I'll just croak if I don't."

Suddenly Mrs. Lane turned off the TV. "Kids, you just finished making lists of things you are thankful for. Now listen to yourselves. Marty, if you were truly thankful for food, you wouldn't gripe about what we're having for supper. If you were thankful for

your dog, you would feed her without grumbling. If you were thankful for your toys, you wouldn't be wishing for more.

"And Megan, if you were thankful for your brother, you would try to get along with him and play a game. If you were thankful for our car, you wouldn't be wishing for something newer and nicer. If you two had to do without some of those things, maybe you really would be grateful for them."

"I'm sorry," said Megan. "I just wasn't thinking."

"Me too," said Marty.

Mrs. Lane started back to the kitchen. "There's a big difference in giving thanks with your lips and living thanks in your heart."

Megan tried to watch TV, but the program about outer space didn't interest her. Her eyelids were getting heavy. Soon she was fast asleep.

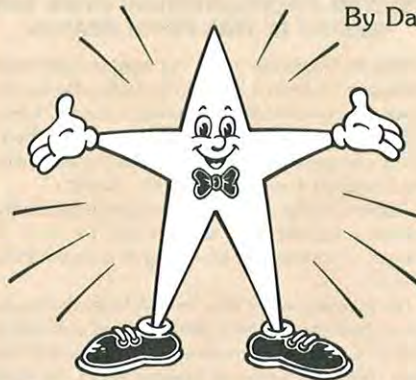
Suddenly Megan was zapped from her warm, comfy couch to the flying saucer she had seen on TV. She found herself zooming through a swirling haze in a spacecraft with red and purple flashing lights and alien bee beeps.

When the saucer landed with a thud, Megan cautiously opened the hatch and peered around at the strange surroundings. The view was not like anything she had ever seen. Megan didn't know where she was, but it couldn't have been the planet Earth. There were no rivers, lakes, oceans, mountains or grass. There were no buildings, streets or cars. And there were no people. Nothing. Nobody.

Megan climbed out of the

Where's Your Light?

By David Copeland



Children have a way of saying and doing things that can sting the consciences of adults.

I remember such an occasion when I was youth pastor in Tulsa, Oklahoma. In one service some preschoolers were paraded up on the stage and asked to sing a few songs for the adults.

These 3 and 4-year-olds were standing there with their index fingers pointing proudly in the air in preparation for singing, "This Little Light of Mine."

Then I noticed the face of a little girl looking out at that audience of adults. Her face showed puzzlement and disappointment. It was as if she was looking for something but was unable to find it.

spacecraft and began walking. She had to find something, somebody. As she walked, the emptiness before her seemed to grow larger. She was getting hungry but there was no food. She was getting cold but there were no warm clothes to wear. She was getting tired but there was no home to offer her rest. She was getting lonely but there were no people.

It seemed to Megan that she walked for hours. "I don't like it here. I want to go home." Megan collapsed on the ground crying. "I want to go home."

Mrs. Lane ran into the den. She shook Megan, "Megan, Megan, wake up. Everything is

Unable to contain herself any longer, she shouted to the congregation, "Where's your light?" You see, we in the pew had neglected to point our index fingers skyward. Half amused and half embarrassed we "let our lights shine."

Yet, this little girl's question convicted me. "Where's your light?" Many look to believers and ask that same probing question.

Perhaps this question is being asked by children in our homes to their parents. "Dad, Mom. Where's your light?" Maybe it is a fellow worker or student asking. What about that neighbor next door?

The great tragedy is that the question has to be asked. For we who claim to be followers of Christ should all be living in compliance to His words, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

Where's your light?



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend David Copeland pastors Chapel Lane Free Will Baptist Church, Searcy, Arkansas.

okay. You were just having a bad dream."

Megan's blue eyes popped open. She was shaking. Her mama held her close. "There, there, it's okay," said Mrs. Lane soothingly. "It's okay."

"Oh, Mama, the flying saucer zapped me. And I was all alone, and I didn't have anything. It was awful," cried Megan.

"That's some dream," said Mrs. Lane.

"Mama, you're right," continued Megan. "If you don't have things for a while, you really are thankful for them when you get them back. I've learned the difference. I'm not only going to give thanks, I'm going to live thanks."





NEWS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY

CHRISTIAN PITCHER'S COMEBACK ENDS WITH FRACTURED ARM

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (EP)—The inspirational comeback of San Francisco Giants pitcher Dave Dravecky ended prematurely when his throwing arm was fractured in his second major league baseball appearance of the season.

Pitching in the sixth inning against the Montreal Expos August 15, Dravecky, 33, felt a sharp, painful pop in his throwing arm, the same one on which he had cancer surgery last October. X-rays revealed a stress fracture of the humerus bone. Dravecky, who was credited with the win in the Giants 3-2 victory, was out of action for the rest of the season, and there is some question if he will ever pitch again.

Last season Dravecky, a Christian, was placed on the team's disabled list for a stiff shoulder, but was later discovered to have a cancerous tumor in a primary muscle in his pitching arm. Following successful surgery that removed half of his deltoid muscle (which helps slow the arm at the end of the throwing motion), Dravecky was told he'd never pitch again. Still, after rehabilitation, Dravecky returned to the Giants lineup August 10 with an emotional seven-inning, one-hit performance, in which he earned the 4-3 win over the Cincinnati Reds.

After Dravecky's victory and 12 standing ovations from the 34,810 fans at Candlestick Park, Giants manager Roger Craig said, "I've seen a lot in baseball . . . but I've never seen such drama as this one. It was unbelievable just sitting there. I was the biggest fan in the park and I'm sitting there trying to manage the thing. What he did has to be an inspiration to people who are ill, who are handicapped."

Through his experience, Dravecky says he has found peace in Jesus Christ and wants other cancer patients to know that with faith and hope they might have "the courage to continue to fight."

Prior to his return to professional baseball, in an interview with *Second Look* magazine, Dravecky said, "Certainly my situation with the tumor hasn't been one of the most positive that I've experienced, yet I know that God can use it for His glory. They key is having the right attitude, allowing God to be your source of strength, and showing a willingness to accept the next step God has for you."

He continued, "Although we may experience disappointment, God never disappoints. My role, as the one experiencing the disappointment of the impact this has on my career, has been to know that He is in control, while also realizing that He uses other people as well to help pull me through."

Dravecky concluded, "Although at times things might not be the way we would want to see them, God is always there to take care of us and give us strength."

PRAYER CONFRONTATION DOES NOT RESULT IN FIRE FROM HEAVEN

BERLIN, Germany (EP)—A prayer confrontation between Christians and Moslems in a Berlin city park did not end with fire raining upon the Christians or the earth opening up to swallow them, to the surprise and chagrin of the Moslems who had predicted such cataclysmic events.

In fact, nothing much that was apparent to the physical eye occurred as a result of the June 17 prayer confrontation, according to a *Baptist Press* report.

In February of 1989 a Turkish hoja, the leader of an Islamic mosque in Berlin, issued a challenge for a "prayer confrontation" to Christians in the city. After six weeks of praying about the challenge, the Christians accepted it, and asked that believers in Europe and the U.S. pray for them.

The Christians, representing several denominations, met about 200 Turkish Moslems in a city park in the afternoon on the day agreed upon. The groups formed semicircles facing each other. The hoja read from the Koran and told listeners that Jesus was a prophet but that he did not die on the cross and was not God.

He went on to read a passage from the Koran, the Moslem holy book, which teaches that if non-Moslems hear the message of Islam and do not convert, then the Moslems are to gather to pray that God will curse them.

When the hoja was finished, one of the Christian leaders read several passages from the New Testament, including Matthew 17:1-5, the biblical account of the transfiguration in which the voice of God identified Jesus as "my beloved son." The leader explained that the Christians would not pray for a curse upon the Moslems, but instead that the Moslems would discover God's love and His blessing.

The hoja offered a rebuttal to what the Christians said, and finally a German Baptist pastor talked about Jesus and explained that the only way to heaven is through Him.

The hoja issued an invitation for the Christians to stand and make a public acceptance of the Islamic message. No one stood, so the hoja directed the Moslems to pray for curses upon the Christians.

The Moslems, some wearing tiny hats symbolizing trips to Mecca, knelt to pray. The Christians also prayed and afterward led singing with guitars.

"I believe we are not going to have to wait a long time before we see some harvest from that," said one Christian man afterward.

"Theirs was a message of doom if we don't come to Islam and ours a message of love and forgiveness," one woman observed.

Such "prayer confrontations" are becoming more common, with similar invitations having been offered by Moslems to Christians in South Africa and England, according to Bill Wagner, head of the Muslim Awareness Committee of the European Baptist Federation. "Some groups within Islam have latched on to the idea of the 'power encounter,'" Wagner said. "Their approach is similar to that of Elijah's on Mount Carmel [in I Kings 18]."

"Spiritual encounters of this type are an increasing phenomenon in the present world," Wagner said. "I believe that Christianity can expect more challenges to come."

CHRISTIAN INMATES PREPARE 'LIVING ROOM' FOR AIDS PATIENTS

BALTIMORE, MD (EP)—Christian inmates in the maximum-security Maryland State Penitentiary in Baltimore are investing their time in helping inmates throughout the state who have been diagnosed as having the AIDS virus.

Maryland corrections officials had been under fire regarding their policy for handling AIDS patients. Under the policy, all inmates with AIDS were transferred to the infirmary at the prison.

The Rev. Robert Abbey, a Prison Fellowship Ministries (PFM) volunteer, presented this problem to inmates at a Bible study, and they responded quickly, insisting that they be allowed to help solve the problem. Eddie Codelia, PFM area director in Maryland, raised \$7,500 for the project through Central Presbyterian Church in Baltimore. A special fund there provided paint, furniture and recreational equipment for AIDS patients.

Christian inmates volunteered to decorate and refurbish a cell block, and thanks to their efforts, Maryland State Penitentiary has a new AIDS unit.

ABORTION BATTLE MOVES TO HOSPITAL BLOOD BANK

FAIRFAX, VA (EP)—The hospital blood bank in Fairfax, Virginia, is one of the newest battlegrounds in the war over abortion. Christian pro-life activists asked churchgoers not to donate blood to a local hospital that performs abortions, while pro-abortion groups are working to counter the campaign.

The group Christians Against Abortion has secured agreements from more than 100 churches to stop giving blood to Fairfax Hospital, located just outside Washington.

The group's leader, Richard Enrico, says people have begun to question whether they should "give blood to a hospital that is shedding innocent blood." Instead, the churches are asking their members to give blood to a hospital in nearby Arlington, Virginia.

Fairfax hospital officials reported that their blood supply dropped by five percent because of the boycott, but has begun to stabilize because of efforts by pro-abortion groups, such as the Pro-Choice Alliance and National Organization for Women.

In other blood supply news:

Blood plasma infected with the AIDS virus has been detected in commercial supplies, researchers reported. A study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* said blood tainted with the AIDS virus may not be detected by a standard screening process.

Article author Dr. Jean Pierre Allain, of Abbott Laboratories in North Chicago, said the discovery means blood contaminated with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) could infect persons receiving transfusions.

Allain and fellow researchers studied 35,000 blood plasma samples over a two-year period and found seven to be HIV-infected. The current licensed test doesn't detect the AIDS virus until the body's immune system has reproduced antibodies to fight the virus, usually about a month after infection, according to Allain.

Allain said he and his colleagues had developed a test that can cut the detection time to two weeks. "At this stage the HIV is highly infectious, higher than at any other stage," he said.



THE SECRETARY SPEAKS
By Melvin Worthington

Back the Boycott



THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Free Will Baptists

Delegates to our 1985 national convention passed a resolution commending Donald Wildmon's American Family Association for efforts to clean up TV programming.

Wildmon serves as executive director of Christian Leaders for Responsible Television (CLear-TV). CLear-TV involves approximately 1,600 Christian leaders, including heads of over 70 denominations and scores of bishops and leaders from nearly every denomination in America. It is one of the largest and most diverse groups of Christian leaders ever to address a single social issue.

The Problem

Programs monitored from April 27-May 24, 1989, by CLear-TV indicated an increased emphasis on sex, violence, profanity and anti-Christian stereotyping. Repeated efforts to get advertisers to stop sponsoring such programs have been ignored.

CLear-TV gives Free Will Baptists a practical way to express opposition to continued moral decline in prime-time TV programs. On July 17, the organization called for a one-year boycott against products of the Mennen Company and Clorox Corporation.

CLear-TV wrote companies advertising on network television, including Mennen and Clorox, three times informing them of plans to monitor network programming and their intention to ask for a one-year boycott of one or more of the leading sponsors of sex, violence, profanity and anti-Christian stereotyping. CLear-TV offered them a list of programs with ratings for sex, violence and profanity. Both companies

acknowledged receiving the correspondence.

The Potential

According to CLear-TV, the Mennen Company and Clorox Corporation were the leading sponsors of sex, violence and profanity during the monitoring period. Results from the monitoring, done by 3,000 monitors in 33 states, showed that Mennen and Clorox ignored the request of CLear-TV.

If Mennen and Clorox sales drop during the boycott period, then they and every other advertiser on television will get the message that the American public is opposed to, filled with outrage at, and demands and end to offensive programs.

This strategy works. Three TV programs, scheduled to air during the period CLear-TV monitored, were cancelled because not enough companies were willing to sponsor the shows. This is a battle for the minds and morals of our children and country. Entirely too much television programming undermines the Judeo-Christian values that Christians and other Americans hold dear and work hard to teach our children.

We endorse the boycott and encourage you to join us in this effort.

The Secretary's Schedule

November 1-3	Florida State Assoc.
November 3-4	Mississippi State Assoc.
November 9-11	Alabama State Assoc.
November 13-15	Tennessee State Assoc.
November 16-18	Georgia State Assoc.
November 19-22	First FWB Church Jesup, Georgia
November 26	Thompson Memorial FWB Church Vineland, New Jersey

Simply refuse to purchase any of the products from now through July 1990. Mennen and Clorox will not go out of business, but if enough people participate, they will get the message.

The Products

Clorox products which CLear-TV is asking concerned individuals to boycott include 13 household products ranging from Act laundry detergent to Clorox bleach. The list also includes cat litter, food products and charcoal.

Mennen products include Speed-Stick deodorants, toiletries from after shave to skin bracers, as well as a wide range of personal care products.

Many Free Will Baptists stock an array of Mennen toiletries in their bathrooms and a number of Clorox household products in their utility rooms. We plan to eliminate them from our house as long as their products promote programs that destroy the values we cherish. I believe the majority of Americans share our concern. Join with me in backing this boycott. Seize this opportunity to let your voice be heard.

The Packet

Boycott promotion packets have been prepared for you. The material in this packet is designed to help you in your efforts to aid Christian Leaders for Responsible Television in making the boycott successful, thus reducing the amount of sex, violence, profanity and anti-Christian stereotyping on television. Order your packet today and back the boycott. Packets may be ordered from:

Christian Leaders for Responsible Television
P. O. Drawer 2440
Tupelo, MS 38803



CONTACT

P. O. Box 1088

Nashville, Tennessee 37202

Second class postage paid at Nashville, Tennessee

November Is National Home Missions Month

THANKSGIVING



53 Home Missionary Families

15 Mexican National Pastors

8 Tentmaker Families

Missionary Builder, Blueprints

Church Extension Loan Fund

Mission Outreach to Canada

Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands

7 U.S. Military Chaplains

Evangelism Conferences

Follow Up Literature

A Time To Remember

HOME MISSIONS

Your gifts and prayers help build Free Will Baptist churches in the North American continent and U.S.A.-owned islands. We challenge your church to give a special offering, and you as individuals to give sacrificially during November — National Home Missions Month.

**November 19: National Home
Missions Sunday**

National Home Missions Department
P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN 37202