

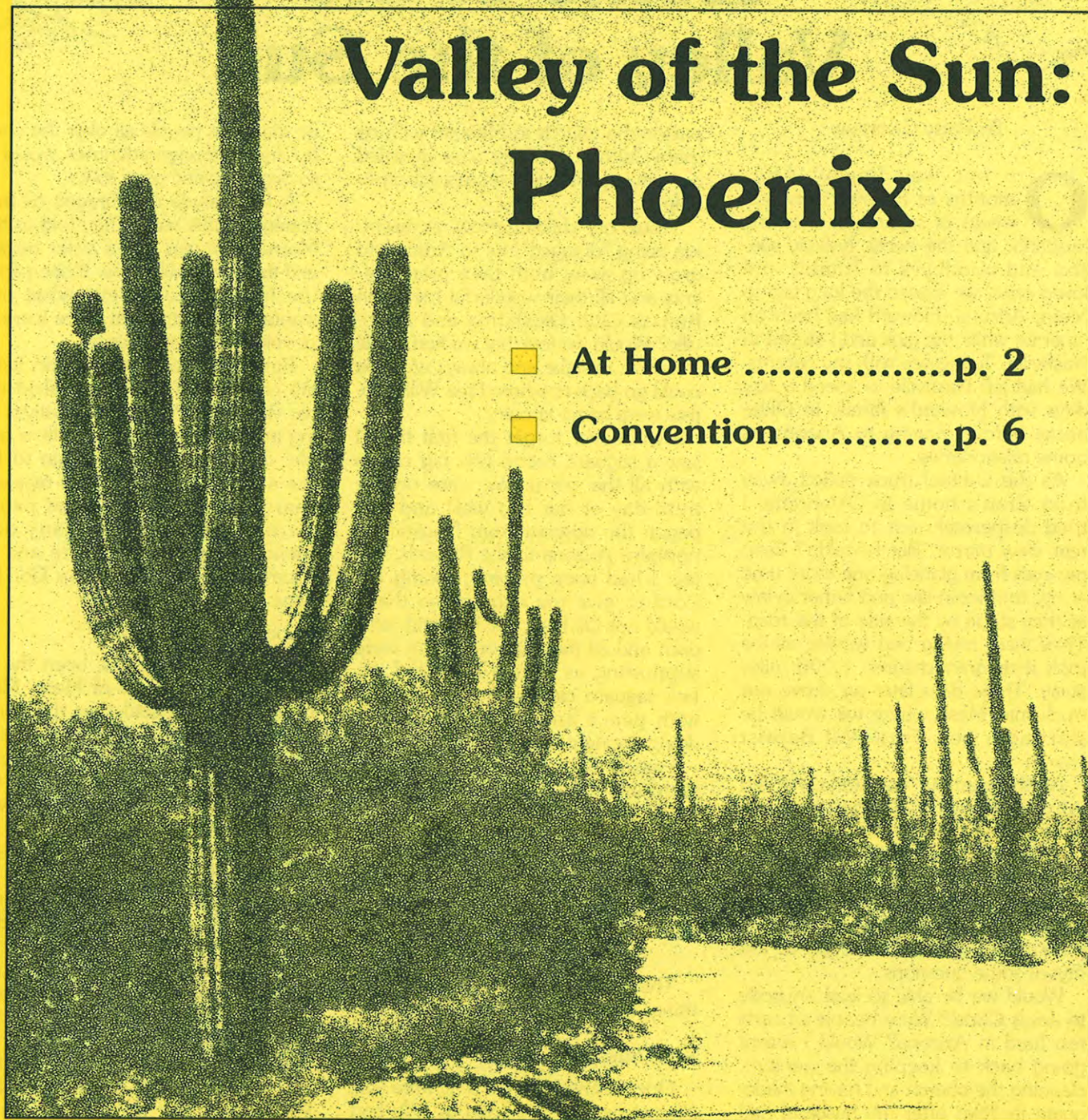
May 1990

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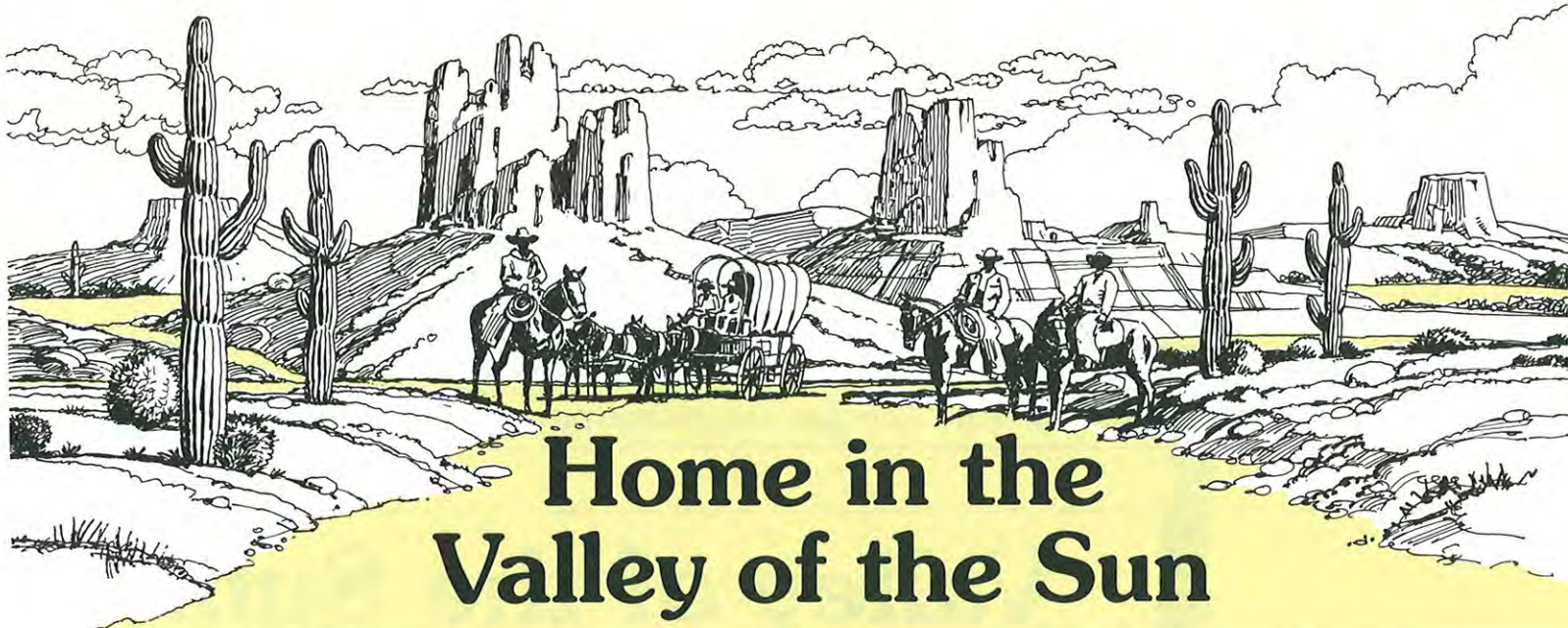
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

## Valley of the Sun: Phoenix

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# Home in the Valley of the Sun

By Patsy Gwartney

**O**n our way finally! After months of itinerate services, weeks of separation from my husband, and the hectic holiday season and goodbyes to friends and loved ones, we started the long trip to Mesa, Arizona. Howard had been on itinerate while the girls and I stayed in Nashville, Tennessee with my parents. We had left Nashville to spend a few days with Howard's family in Oklahoma before moving to Arizona as home missionaries.

As the U-Haul truck pulled away from Gran's home in Oklahoma, I tried desperately not to look in the rear view mirror. But I couldn't keep my eyes from glancing one more time at my mother-in-law and father-in-law as they stood by the side of the road. They were crying and waving as we took their grandchildren 1,000 miles away. Three days later we drove our truck into Mesa where we would be starting a new Free Will Baptist church.

All the glamour was gone. All the lofty ideals we had didn't mean a thing when I thought about moving so far away from friends and loved ones to a city that was mostly Mormon. As we rode west, I was gripped with a sense of soberness about what we were planning to do. I began to ask myself some questions.

Would we be able to lead anybody to Jesus Christ? Were people's hearts too hard in Arizona? Would I resent going back to keeping the nursery, cleaning the church and having inadequate facilities after my husband had

pastored a church in Missouri with so many faithful workers who guarded our privacy and were always willing to help?

Would our children grow up resenting being "dragged" out to Arizona to grow up away from their grandparents and all their wonderful friends in Kansas City, Oklahoma and Nashville? Would we feel that we had made a terrible mistake and always wish we could go back to where Free Will Baptists were better known?

I will never forget the first time I saw a saguaro cactus (the big cactus with all the arms). We were on the third day of our trip west and had begun the descent from Flagstaff in northern Arizona to the Phoenix Valley. I had been praying, asking the Lord to give me courage so that I would not fail Him, my husband, children and all the dear ones who were supporting us. When I spotted the first saguaro cactus, my soul flooded with peace and joy that we were doing the right thing!

I asked God to give me a verse of scripture that I could claim as we made this major move with our family. I claimed Deuteronomy 7:9. God would be faithful to help us. All He required was that we be faithful. That was three years ago.

## The Surprises

There have been many surprising things about our work in Mesa.

### FWB Support

One surprise was the way Free Will Baptist people supported us. We had

no idea that people all over the country and in foreign countries would be so generous and good to us.

A few people discouraged us from coming to this area. They told us that Mormonism was just a sister religion and that we should allow those people the freedom to believe what they wanted. A few thought there were no people living in this desert.

But most people we met on itinerate encouraged us. Many asked that we visit their friends and relatives living in this area of over a million people. Just when I would begin to feel like a total failure, we would receive a card or letter telling us that people were praying for us. Many dear friends have visited us here and rejoiced about the good things God has done.

### Converts of Mesa

Another surprise has been the response of the people of Mesa. Many people we met said that they were just waiting for someone to bring them the message of the gospel. Those with the most problems and devastation by sin in their lives were the most eager to respond.

We expected to find a nucleus of people with some knowledge of the Word of God and who had been in a church before. But God surprised us and gave us a congregation of new converts. Most people in our church have been saved since we came here. They did not read the Bible or pray and did not know what Christ expected of Christians. Consequently, we have seen an excitement and learning spirit in them. They are re-



sponsive to the Bible and anxious to mold their lives to the image of Christ.

### *Shadow of Christians*

We were also surprised by the people who lived here who were supposed to be Christians. Many of the so-called Fundamental churches in the area have no witness to the community and show no fruit of the Spirit in their lives. We have been disappointed in some people who were Free Will Baptists back East but have moved out here and done nothing to help the Free Will Baptist churches as they struggle in this isolated area.

### *Price of Land*

Another surprise for us was the price of land in Mesa. We looked at five acres close to our home that would have been perfect for our church. It cost \$1.2 million! How could they charge that much for dirt? We began to focus our ministry on



people instead of buildings and land. We believe that if we win the people to the Lord, God will help us find land for a building someday.

### **The Victories**

We have never prayed so much in our lives. People all around us have such problems in their lives: Homes broken by divorce, drugs, alcohol or financial problems. How could we explain that if they would surrender their lives to the Lord, He would bring love and peace into their homes?

### *God's Power*

We have seen Christ change lives. Hopeless situations from man's point of view have been turned around. We have seen homes put back together and husbands and wives fall in love with each other again. Men and women have been set free from the power of drugs and alcohol. Those with no purpose or meaning to their lives have found that Jesus gives them joy unspeakable.

### *God's Provision*

We are in our second building owned by a company that had financial problems and filed bankruptcy. Yet the Lord has always given us a place to meet and provided the funds to pay the rent each month. Our people are learning to tithe and depend on God to meet our needs. Each month, we must really pray and trust God, not knowing if we will be able to meet the expenses of our church. And every month God has been faithful and enabled us to pay the bills.

### **The Trials**

We had 60 people at our first service. We were so excited! But then the trials came. I thank God for them now, because He used them to develop character in our lives. Trials sometimes come from such unexpected sources.

### *Those Who Left*

Just as the Apostle Paul was disappointed by people who turned away from the Lord, we have had a few leave our church and go back into the world. Some new converts could not seem to trust the Lord and allow Him to change their hearts and desires. Some counted the cost of discipleship and decided the price was too high. Some mature Christians became bitter and could no longer support our church and its goals. Not many left, but their leaving brought us heartache and pain.

A few dropped out of our church in its infancy. We could not understand it at the time, but now we can see the purpose for God allowing our small congregation to go through some discouraging times. Now, through God's

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## Home (from page 3)

grace, we have been able to overlook minor problems that would have overwhelmed us. This is tough country. In the desert, only the toughest animals and plants survive. The hardships and trials we have experienced here have toughened us.

God was with us when a few disgruntled people left us. He was also with us the next summer when seven families in our church moved out of state. We learned that God does not always change our circumstances. He enables us to live through them. Things that would have sent me crying and asking God, "Why?" have to be ignored now. We are too busy trying to win lost people, disciple new Christians, remodel buildings and correspond with supporters to get sidetracked by problems that can create resentment in our lives.

### Howard's Voice

Then our hardest trial hit home. For two years, my husband had been coping with voice problems. At first, we thought he was tired from the itinerate services, but then it began to hinder his preaching. We consulted doctors who did allergy testing, thyroid testing, stress tests, etc. Finally, Howard flew to Nashville to visit Dr. Quisling, a well-known voice doctor. Dr. Quisling diagnosed the problem as adductor spastic dysphonia.

Since that time, we have gone to Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota for treatments for Howard's voice. There is no cure at this time for dysphonia. Singing has always brought us a source of joy and has been an activity our whole family is involved in. Howard struggles to sing with us now, but we are so thankful God has enabled him to continue preaching. Sometimes he is easily understood, but some days it is hard for him to even talk on the telephone.

We have decided not to let this illness defeat us. We will continue to work here and trust God for the results. We have learned through this that God blesses faithfulness and character much more than talent and abilities. I have seen the image of Christ formed in my husband through his illness. He is preaching now with more anointing of the Holy Spirit than I have ever seen in his life.

## The Results

We hope you will come to Mesa, Arizona and visit us. You will not see our two daughters filled with resentment toward us for bringing them to



this valley. You will see two beautiful girls who knock on doors and invite people to church. You will see two daughters who have learned to sing their daddy's "part," who work in children's church and love the Valley of the Sun.

If you attend our services, you will not see a beautiful building with comfortable pews. You will see rented space in a shopping center with folding chairs. You will not see seasoned teachers with years of experience explaining the Word of God. You will see new Christians who are learning the Bible and have a sense of wonder at the new truths they learn each week.

You will not hear professional-sounding musicians. You will hear people who have never sung gospel music before, but want to express their love and devotion to a forgiving Savior. You will not hear a lot of "Amen's" and sit in a loud, exciting service. You will see people listening quietly, straining to understand every word their pastor is saying. You will meet people who love us, support Howard's preaching and thank God every day that He sent us to Mesa.

You will not see a preacher's wife who is constantly wanting to go back "home" to live close to her parents. You will see a woman who has learned that we are not home yet and is thankful to be married to a home missionary.

## Conclusion

What does the future hold for us? First, we would like to see our church go self-supporting. Howard and I are already thinking and praying about what God would have us to do next. We would gladly stay in the Valley of the Sun the rest of our lives. But if God calls us to another place to start another Free Will Baptist church, we will go.

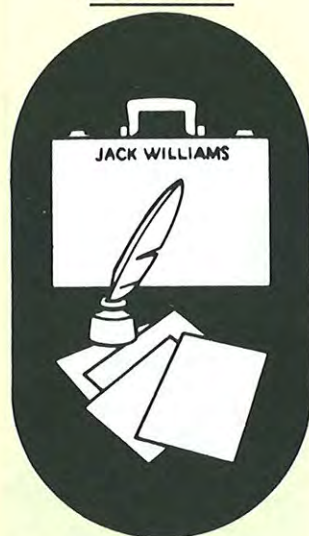
These have been the hardest three years of our lives. But we have never known such joy, comfort and the presence of the Lord. It takes a big God to confront the powers of darkness controlling the Phoenix Valley. Cults thrive here. Many people left God at the state line when they moved here. Their hearts are as hard as the Arizona soil. But we serve a great God!

**ABOUT THE WRITER:** Mrs. Patsy Gwartney is the wife of Home Missionary Howard Gwartney. The Gwartneys started East Valley Free Will Baptist Church in Mesa, Arizona.



# Let Deborah Go Home

## Briefcase



**T**he Bible draws an invisible line that women cannot cross in matters of church leadership. That line prohibits women as pastors or Bible teachers over men. Women are encouraged to teach other women and children, but men in a local church require male role models.

At the same time, I certainly don't advocate banishing women to maternity wards and kitchens. There's no sweeter sound in the church than a woman's voice, except in the pulpit or behind a lectern explaining eschatology to men.

**Political clout** does not equal a biblical mandate. For instance, it's politically acceptable to elect Margaret Thatcher as Britain's Prime Minister. That's democracy. On the other hand, it's biblically unacceptable to install her as pastor of First Church. That's the Bible. Good political leaders don't necessarily make good church leaders.

The Bible cites no qualifications for women pastors or deacons, yet posts exacting requirements for the deacon's wife and the pastor's wife. Since there are no biblical standards to meet, we are left with two intriguing possibilities. Either *any* woman qualifies as pastor or deacon, or *no* woman qualifies.

**Men in the** United States simply do not listen to women like they do

men. Don't be surprised. That same pattern holds true from Calcutta to Caracas, from Japan to Africa. Men seem to push a "Don't Listen" button when women take charge, especially in church.

The Bible praises Phoebe and Deborah who seem to be exceptions to the rule. They stand in vivid contrast to an unbroken chain of male leaders because what they did was so unusual.

And remember, the godly woman in Proverbs 31 was a business woman, not the pastor of a local church. We need the woman's view. What we don't need is the feminist view.

**Please!** I'm not anti-woman. Far from it. I value women as friends and professional colleagues. I have met many women who are my superiors intellectually and spiritually. This is no campaign to slap the little woman back into her place.

The Bible guarantees a woman's place of honor in the home as wife and mother. If she chooses to venture into the business world, that's her right. Let her learn from Lydia and Proverbs 31. The business world can be her plum.

**When it comes** to the church, women teach other women and children. They can also sing, pray, witness, vote and hold *most* offices. The same God who made men and women equal also made us different. Male and female roles in church differ in function not in quality.

This does not limit the woman's role outside the church. The Bible places no restrictions on who can teach English, history, literature, science, medicine or any other subject in educational institutions. But the church as a divine institution operates under special revelation from God. We can neither re-write nor amend that revelation.

**The church owes** a debt that can never be repaid to women in our Bible-teaching and missionary programs. To the discomfort of us men, it's clear that God did use women to do men's work when men refused.

Let's stop asking women to do what men should do—plant churches and teach men. We place godly women in impossible positions when we blur the lines and insist that they act contrary to their own natural instincts.

True, the Bible records instances when women led men. That's to the shame of men for their cowardice and to the praise of women for their courage. Yes, thank God for Deborah. But heaven help Barak who till this day is laughed at for hiding behind General Deborah's petticoat. God let Deborah go home after one battle. Why don't we?

**No one was more** tender, caring and loving to women than Jesus. He rescued the woman taken in adultery and exposed her hypocritical male accusers. He trusted Martha and Mary with His reputation. But He never named a woman apostle. Jesus welcomed their company and valued their counsel, yet He did not set women as leaders over men in His Church.

Mine is no crusade to un-ordain the few women preachers among us or un-seat women Bible teachers. Rather, it's a plea for balance, to do God's work God's way.

Jesus took women seriously. So does His Church. Men who mistreat or berate women in the name of Christianity deliberately twist scripture. The New Testament church is one where women blossom and develop their spiritual gifts.

**When we harness** men and elevate women to the places that God intended, we'll build stronger homes. We'll also grow better churches. We'll produce more effective missions programs and set in motion stewardship training that really works.

We face a greater problem than women in church leadership; it's men who refuse to accept leadership roles and then whine because women do. I think it's high time we let Deborah go home and put Barak back to work! 🌐



## 1990 National Convention Preview



# Destination: Valley of the Sun

By Marilyn Pritchard

**S**unshine and saguaro cactus! Delegates and budgets! Must be convention time. The 1990 Free Will Baptist National Convention meets west of the Pecos, north of Old Mexico and 200 miles south of the Grand Canyon. Yes, we're Arizona bound in July.

Arizona's 350 members and eight churches will host the national convention for the first time since the National Association organized in 1935.

Remember this date: July 15-19. That's when more than 4,000 delegates and visitors from 40 states caucus in Phoenix Civic Plaza for five days of worship, business, workshops, meals and special activities at the 54th National Association in the Valley of the Sun.

Some families plan to take their vacations and drive in order to see the

Great American West on the way to and from the convention. All roads lead to Phoenix. Well, at least seven do: Interstates 10 and 17, US Routes 60 and 89 and State Routes 85, 87 and 93 target Phoenix.

Plan to fly? Twenty carriers serve Sky Harbor Airport just 15 close minutes from downtown. (Note the Newsfront section of this issue for special air fares.)

Not only the national convention assembles, but 1,500 youth meet for the National Youth Conference with Bible and Music & Arts Competition. Woman's National Auxiliary Convention convenes for their 55th annual convention with speakers, meals and fellowship.

### Meet Phoenix

The Valley of the Sun surrounds Phoenix but includes much more:

Scottsdale, Carefree, Chandler, Litchfield Park, Mesa and Tempe. Formerly a retirement haven and refuge for snowbirds, the Valley of the Sun attracts businesses and tourists.

Located in the heart of the Sonoran Desert and ringed on the east by the Superstition Mountains (home of Lost Dutchman Gold Mine), Phoenix blooms like a green oasis. A sunny and hot oasis. July temperatures average 105° maximum and 78° minimum. Leave your wool coat at home.

All that sun encourages outdoor activities. The area bristles with 92 golf courses, 1,000 tennis courts, rodeos, hang gliding, hot air ballooning, jeep tours, trail rides and resorts. An abundance of man-made and natural lakes in the area invite outdoor ventures. Did you know that Arizona has more boats per capita than any other state in the nation?



Sports anyone? The Phoenix Cardinals football team, NBA Phoenix Suns, PGA's Phoenix Open Golf Tournament and Phoenix Formula One Grand Prix all call Phoenix home. Eight major league baseball teams find spring training grounds in the Valley of the Sun.

Art and culture more to your taste? World-renowned Heard Museum houses an extensive collection of primitive and modern Native American art. A permanent collection of over 18,000 works of art dating back to the 15th century occupy the Phoenix Art Museum. The Phoenix Symphony Orchestra provides classical and pop music for music lovers.

Step back into the Old West in Frontier Town, Heritage Square or Rawhide, authentic re-creations of the 1880's. Arabian horse farms in the area may ease the itch for equestrian experiences. You can mount up at one of the horse riding stables.

The Phoenix Zoo, largest non-profit, privately-funded zoo in the country houses more than 1,000 animals. Find mammals, birds and reptiles native to the Southwest at the Arizona Exhibit. The Children's Zoo, an 11-acre facility offers a petting zoo, educational playground, live animal demonstrations and picnic areas.

The Desert Botanical Garden displays 10,000 fascinating desert plants. Discover mysterious and exotic desert cactus small as a thimble or tall as 40 feet high.

You may want to visit the Pueblo Grande Museum, the Wrigley Mansion, the home of the American Fighter Aces Association and the world's most complete collection of fighter planes from World War I to the Korean War at the Champlain Fighter. Or stay a few days extra and take a side trip to the Grand Canyon.

Phoenix currently boasts the number 10 position of largest metropolitan areas in the United States.

### Getting Ready

Cities hosting the National Association of Free Will Baptists count on big business when we come to town. Every convention since 1984 brought \$1 million-plus to convention cities. In 1989 Tampa kept 3 million Free Will Baptist dollars. We ate more than 3,000 catered meals in each of the last five conventions. Five-year regis-



**Ken Walker**



**J. B. Varney**



**David Joslin**



**Jim Shepherd**



**Larry Powell**

tration statistics speak loudly:

1989	Tampa, Fla.	5,707
1988	Kansas City, Mo.	5,866
1987	Birmingham, Ala.	6,159
1986	Tulsa, Okla.	6,545
1985	Nashville, Tenn.	8,340

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

Paul Thompson chairs the Steering Committee proper;  
Howard Gwartney, the Hospitality Committee;  
Charles Marshall, the Registration Committee;  
Clarence Newman, the Prayer Committee;  
Eugene Bryant, the Ushering Committee;  
Pat Atchley, the State Woman's Auxiliary President serves with the Committee.

Five ministers will address the convention theme, "Growing for God's Glory." Two others will preach at the 10th annual Convention Bible Conference. Moderator Ralph Hampton prepares to gavel his third national convention. Others getting ready for July include seminar leaders, banquet speakers, speakers for NYC and WNAC services.

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

### Meet the Preachers

Free Will Baptist conventions always feature great preaching. This year is no exception. The preaching starts on Sunday and continues through Wednesday evening's missionary service.

### Sunday Morning

Early birds will find Rev. Ken Walker in the pulpit. Born in Portsmouth, Ohio, the 61-year-old minister graduated from Free Will



### Convention (from page 7)

Baptist Bible College with a B.A. degree. Walker, ordained in 1954, has pastored eight churches in Tennessee, Virginia, Oklahoma, Alabama, Florida and Kentucky. He presently pastors Second FWB Church in Ashland, Ky.

This U.S. Air Force veteran has served on the Home Missions Board, the Chaplain's Commission and presently serves on the Free Will Baptist Bible College Board of Trustees. He has also worked as a Home Missions Church Extension worker.

### Sunday Evening

Reverend J. B. Varney will preach the Sunday evening message. The 59-year-old Kentucky native was ordained in 1953. For the past 36 years he has pastored the same church—Kirby FWB Church in Taylor, Mich., which he organized in 1954.

Brother Varney served as Michigan state moderator seven years and as a Metro politician over 20 years.

J. B. and Etta Varney have three children, Wanda Panduka, James and Robert.

### Monday Evening

Arkansas promotional director, Rev. David A. Joslin, 53, will preach the keynote message Monday evening. The Arkansas native was ordained in 1957 and received his B.A. degree from Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1960.

Before Joslin became Arkansas promotional director, a position he has held for 17 years, he pastored six

churches in Tennessee and Arkansas, one of which he founded. Joslin served eight years on the Arkansas C.E. Board, two years on the State Executive Board and several terms on the Executive Committee of the National Association. He has been a General Board member since 1974 and on the Historical Commission since 1978 which he has chaired since 1987.

Brother Joslin edits *The Vision*, the Arkansas state paper, and writes the *Bible Scholar Teacher* for Randall House Publications.

### Tuesday Evening

Tuesday evening belongs to Hillsdale FWB College President Jim Shepherd. The 37-year-old Oklahoma native was ordained in 1973, received his Th.B. from Hillsdale FWB College in 1975 and his M.Div. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1978.

Shepherd served as youth minister in Ada, Okla., before pastoring four churches in Texas, Missouri and Oklahoma. He served three years as vice-president of student affairs at Hillsdale College.

Brother Shepherd has served on the Sunday School and Church Training Board since 1982. Other positions held include the Missouri C. E. and Mission Boards, Hillsdale College Board of Trustees, Texas Mission Board, and Oklahoma Sunday School Board. He has also moderated the Greater Kansas City Association and the Kiamichi Association in Oklahoma.

### Wednesday Evening

Traditionally known as the missionary service, the Wednesday evening sermon will be preached by Larry Powell who pastors Cofer's Chapel FWB Church in Nashville, Tenn. The 51-year-old Georgia native was ordained in 1960 in Colquitt, Georgia and graduated from Free Will Baptist Bible College in 1964 with a B.A. degree.

Brother Powell pastored Harmony FWB Church, Lake Butler, Fla. two years then served 13 years as a home missionary. He established the church and school in St. Croix, Virgin Islands, pastored in Puerto Rico, and established First FWB Church, McAllen, Texas where he pastored 11 years.

Powell chaired the Texas State Home Missions Board six years and presently chairs the Tennessee State Home Missions Board. He writes the *Depth* devotional guide and frequently speaks in missionary and Bible conferences.

### Bible Conference

Two speakers highlight this year's Tuesday morning Bible Conference in the Regency Ballroom of the Hyatt Regency Phoenix. Beginning at 9:00 a.m., the first session will find 54-year-old George D. Crowden in the pulpit. Born in Clarksville, Ark., Brother Crowden received his B.A. in business from Westark Community College in 1957 and a B.A. in Bible Theology from the International Bible Institute in 1989.



PHOENIX CIVIC PLAZA



He was ordained in 1968 at Hanna FWB Church, Hanna, Okla., a church he pastored for two years. He pastored First FWB Church, Henryetta, Okla., two years and organized First FWB Church, Oxford, Miss., in 1970, the church he still pastors. He moderated the Northeast Mississippi Association seven years and has moderated the Mississippi State Association since 1985.

Pastor Milton Hollifield, Sr. will preach the 10:00 a.m. Bible Conference message. The 64-year-old North Carolina native pastors Rocky Pass FWB Church in Nebo, N.C. Reverend Hollifield has pastored five churches in 42 years—40 of those years in North Carolina. He has conducted revivals in 18 states and preached in three foreign countries.

Ordained to the ministry in 1948, Hollifield invested his life in Free Will Baptist work. He served as moderator of the North Carolina State Association, moderator of the Blue Ridge Association (N.C.) and on two national boards—the Board of Retirement and the Executive Committee. His pastorates include 18 years at Swannanoa FWB Church and 11 years at Rocky Pass FWB Church.

### **Plenty of Rooms**

Convention officials blocked 1,050 rooms in two downtown Phoenix hotels for the 1990 convention. Hyatt Regency Phoenix (headquarters hotel) reserved 600 rooms for our people. Sheraton Phoenix (youth headquarters) reserved 450 rooms for us in July. Room rates range from \$56 to \$62 this year.

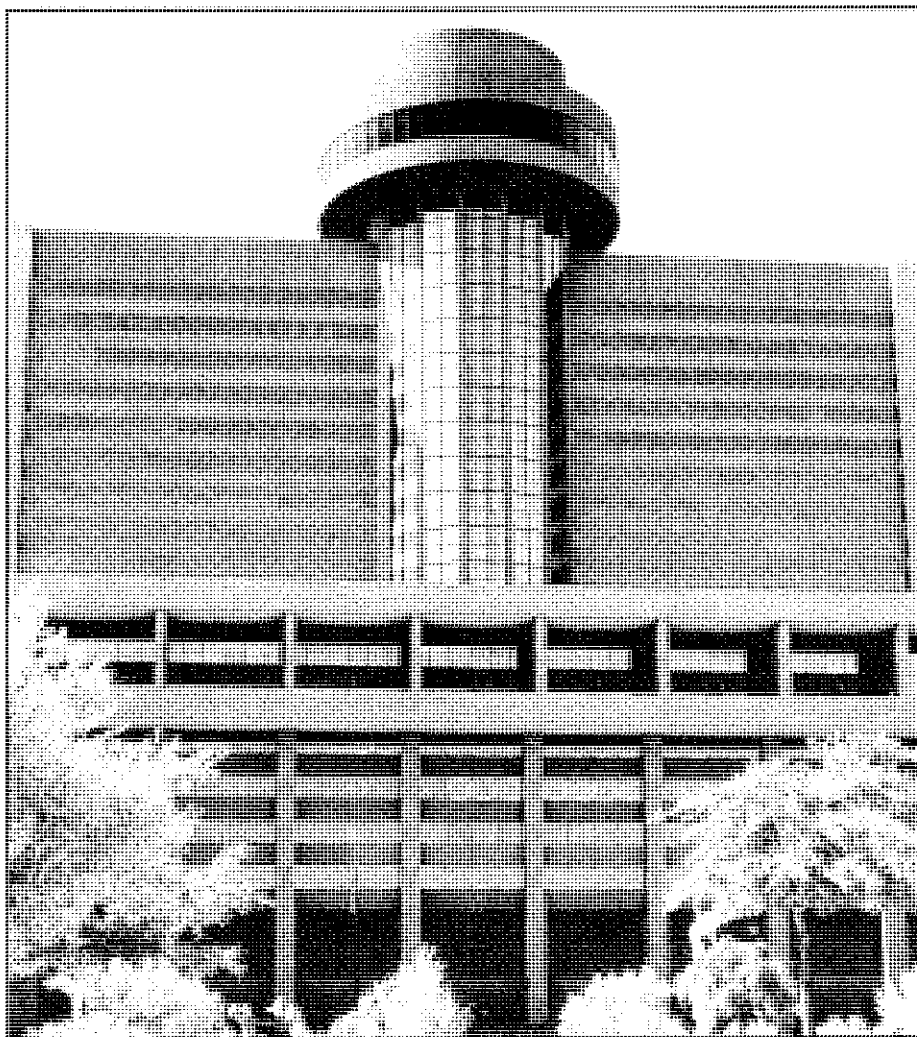
Hotel reservations must be made on the official convention housing form printed in April, May or June *Contact* or in one of the Free Will Baptist state papers. Oh, a word of caution: Rooms are going fast. Better hurry!

### **Parking**

Parking is complimentary for guests at the Sheraton Phoenix. Hyatt Regency Phoenix charges \$3.00/day with in-out privileges. Parking is also available at the Phoenix Civic Plaza.

### **No Nursery**

There are no nursery facilities at the convention this year.



*Hyatt Regency Phoenix — Headquarters Hotel*

### **Registration**

Two new changes highlight registration this year. First, Pre-Registration Forms available in this and following issues allow conventioners to register in advance. This way, they save time in registration lines once they arrive in Phoenix.

Second, we are combining registration this year for all three conventions: National Convention, WNAC and NYC. This will save time for conventioners who pre-register because they will have to stand in line only once for any or all conventions. Those who choose not to pre-register will have to stand in separate lines for National/WNAC and NYC registrations.

Only one badge will be issued per person this year, no matter how many conventions you register for: 'takes up less room on your lapel!'

Registration for the national convention and WNAC begins 3:00 p.m. Sunday in the lobby of Phoenix Civic Plaza. National Youth Conference registrants must register at the Sheraton Phoenix. If you pre-register, the need to stand in two lines will be eliminated because packets for all pre-registration may be picked up at one location. Registration closes Wednesday at noon.

### **Exhibits**

Exhibits may be found in Exhibit Hall - C at Phoenix Civic Plaza. Nearly 50 exhibitors will display educational and denominational literature and programs.

Monday 3:00 p.m. marks the exhibits' opening, an earlier time than in the past. Booths are open daily 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. except during



## Convention (from page 9)

evening worship services (7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.). Exhibits close at 12:30 p.m. Thursday or 30 minutes after the final business session concludes.

### Soup's On!

Eighteen catered events ranging from a seven-member WNAC Executive Committee luncheon to the 800-seat Youth Banquet invite 1990 Phoenix conventioners.

Use the ticket request portion of the Pre-Registration Form in this issue to order tickets in advance for the events of your choice. Your tickets will be included with your pre-registration packet to be picked up in Phoenix. **Tickets will not be mailed in advance this year.**

Be sure your order arrives before June 30. Some events sell out quickly. Remember, first come, first served!

Rudene Kennedy keynotes the WNAC Fellowship Dinner Tuesday evening. The 48-year-old North Carolina native graduated from Free Will Baptist Bible College with a B.A. degree and from Old Dominion University with an M.S.

Miss Kennedy served as superintendent of Wise County Christian School in Norton, Va. two years, dean of women at Free Will Baptist Bible College two years and worked with Virginia State Home Missions five years. She is a field representative for Moore Educational Publications as well as a teacher and retreat speaker.

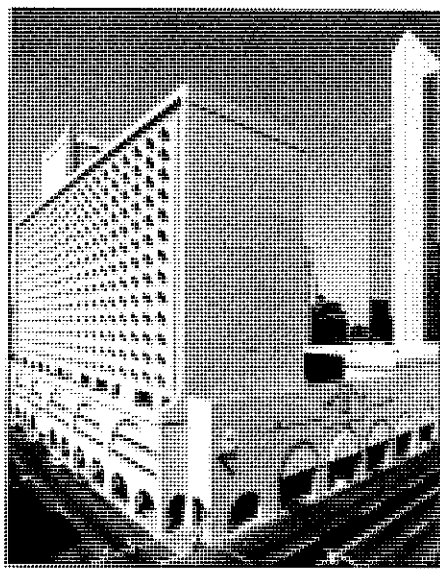
Master's Men will again have a dinner this year. At press time, the speaker was unconfirmed.

Other special meals include the Learner / Adventurer Banquet Monday afternoon, Music Ministries Breakfast Tuesday morning, Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon Tuesday afternoon, Youth Banquet Tuesday evening (it will be held at a ranch this year!), and Free Will Baptist Bible College Luncheon Wednesday afternoon.

### Business

The annual business meeting begins 9:00 a.m. Monday when the General Board convenes in the Regency Ballroom A-B at Hyatt Regency Phoenix. Moderator Ralph Hampton gavels the business session to order Wednesday morning at 9:00 in Phoenix Civic Plaza, Exhibit Hall - B.

This year's voting delegation will consider board reports, departmental budgets and board elections. Delegates are expected to approve denominational budgets exceeding \$11 million and elect more than 30 board and commission members. Each national agency and commission will submit an annual report to delegates.



*Sheraton Phoenix—Youth Hotel*

### Seminars

Monday afternoon, Home Missions Department hosts a Target 90 / City Celebration. This celebration of the Target City accomplishments will be highlighted by introductions of people won to Christ through Target City efforts. Officials will recognize the Target City home missionaries as well as contributors to the Aim for the Target campaign that helped home missionaries in the Phoenix area purchase land.

Tuesday afternoon boasts seminars for all interests: Starting at 1:30, four seminars meet in Phoenix Civic Plaza. They include Master's Men Seminar, "Double in a Decade" Seminar, Theological Trends Seminar and Music Commission Seminar.

### WNAC Notes

The WNAC program kicks off Monday afternoon with a seminar, "Will You Carry the Invitation?" in the Hyatt Regency Phoenix. Lorene Miley, Janie Aldridge and several missionaries highlight the program.

President Mary Neal (Indiana) moderates the Woman's National Auxil-

iary Convention business Tuesday in Phoenix Civic Plaza.

Then at 11:10 a.m. Dr. Kenneth Eagleton, medical missionary to Cote d'Ivoire delivers the WNAC missionary service message. Born in Nashville, Tenn., this son of missionaries Kenneth and Marvis Eagleton grew up in Brazil.

He received his M.D. at Faculdade de Ciencias Medicas de Santos in Brazil. He also attended Free Will Baptist Bible College. Kenneth and his wife Rejane have completed their first term in Cote d'Ivoire at the clinic in Doropo.


The WNAC Fellowship Dinner assembles in the Regency Ballroom at Hyatt Regency Phoenix 5:00 p.m. Tuesday.

### NYC Memos

Primary and Junior classes meet together for Sunday School and morning worship. Junior high and senior high classes meet separately. All three youth classes and the adult class meet in Phoenix Civic Plaza for Sunday School and morning worship.

The NYC keynote service meets Monday night in the Ballroom at Phoenix Civic Plaza. Evangelist Tim York preaches the evening message. The Ohio-born 29-year-old began preaching at the age of 12 and started his own radio program at age 13. He serves as Kentucky promotional secretary and directs Camp Caleb. A member of Louisa FWB Church, Tim moderates the Blue Grass Conference and is a member of the National Association's General Board.

### And Finally...

Convention preparations are nearly complete—speakers selected, programs ready to print, hotels waiting, musicians preparing. What else needs to be done? You and other Free Will Baptists need to make reservations and assemble in Phoenix this July. Mark your calendar—July 15-19—and make your plans to be with us in the Valley of the Sun. 

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



# INSTRUCTIONS for Pre-Registration Form

By completing the Pre-Registration Form you will save **valuable** time at the convention. If you pre-register, proceed to a special registration area. There you receive a packet containing your name tag (pre-printed), meal tickets you have purchased, a *Digest of Reports* and a program.

## *Filling Out the Form*

1. Fill out the top portion of the form. Please complete *all* of the information. You may register for one, two or all three conventions. You need to fill out only **one** form even if you register for more than one convention (National Association, WNAC, NYC).
  2. Fill out the first block if you are registering for the **National Association**. Fill in your *District Association*. Check only **one** of the choices. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase (Enclose check payable to **FWB Convention**).
  3. Fill out the second block if you are registering for the **Woman's National Auxiliary Convention**. Fill in your *District Association*. Check only **one** of the choices. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase (Enclose check payable to **FWB Convention**).
  4. Fill out the last block if you are registering for the **National Youth Conference**. Fill in *Name called by* (This is the name that will be used on your name tag). Complete the other information in the block. The fees are as follows:
    - \$7.50 for an individual,
    - \$7.00 each if two from same family are registering (Plan A),
    - \$6.50 each if three from same family are registering (Plan B),
    - \$6.00 each if four or more from same family are registering (Plan C),
    - \$8.00 if you do not register before June 30.

*Adults over 24 do not have to register to attend NYC.*
- Check only one of the payment plans. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase (Enclose check for registration and tickets payable to **FWB Convention**). Please indicate if you are participating in NYC competition this year.

## *Additional Information*

1. Mail completed forms by **June 30, 1990** to **Convention Registration~P.O. Box 1088~Nashville,TN~37202.**
2. Enclose one check to cover all fees and tickets.
3. Make additional copies of the Pre-Registration Form if they are needed.
4. You may purchase banquet tickets from any block, even if you do not register in that block.

### **Children's Banquet/\$7.50**

Monday, July 16/5:00 PM  
Sheraton Phoenix/Pueblo Room

### **Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon/\$9.50**

Tuesday, July 17/12:15 PM  
Hyatt Regency Phoenix/Phoenix Ballroom

### **Youth Banquet/\$12.00**

Tuesday, July 17/5:00 PM  
Rockin' R Ranch

### **FWBBC Luncheon/\$10.50**

Wednesday, July 18/12 noon  
Hyatt Regency Phoenix/Ballroom A/B

### **Music Ministries Breakfast/\$6.00**

Tuesday, July 17/ 7:00 AM  
Hyatt Regency Phoenix/Curtis Room A/B

### **WNAC Fellowship Dinner/\$14.00**

Tuesday, July 17/5:00 PM  
Hyatt Regency Phoenix/Regency Ballroom

### **Youth Workers Fellowship Breakfast/\$7.50**

Wednesday, July 18/7:00 AM  
Sheraton Phoenix/Gila Room

### **Master's Men Dinner/\$12.50**

Wednesday, July 18/5:00 PM  
Sheraton Phoenix/Pueblo Room



**National Association of Free Will Baptists  
Woman's National Auxiliary Convention  
National Youth Conference  
Phoenix, AZ / July 15 - 19, 1990**

Mail completed form(s)  
by June 30, 1990 to  
**Convention Registration**  
**P.O. Box 1088**  
**Nashville, TN 37202**

Are you participating in NYC competition this year? ☐ yes ☐ no



# Hotel Reservation

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Phoenix, Arizona

National Convention

July 15-19, 1990

- All reservation requests will be made through the NAFWB Housing Bureau—NOT WITH INDIVIDUAL HOTELS.
- Complete this housing form selecting your 1st and 2nd choice hotels and mail to the Housing Bureau. DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 1990. Send one form for each room request—duplicate this form if necessary.
- Changes and cancellations must be made directly with the hotel before 6:00 p.m. the day of your arrival.
- The hotel will require a deposit. Complete the credit card information on this form or send a check directly to the hotel AFTER you have received your confirmation.
- Information and inquiries ONLY; 800/528-0483.

### Cutoff Date:

Received by  
June 15, 1990

### MAIL TO:

NAFWB  
Housing Bureau  
505 N. Second Street, Suite 300  
Phoenix, AZ 85005

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_





CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE; (WK) \_\_\_\_\_ (HM) \_\_\_\_\_

CREDIT CARD TYPE \_\_\_\_\_ CC# \_\_\_\_\_ EXP. \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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

HOTELS	Choice	 Single	 Double	 Triple	 Quad
Hyatt Regency Phoenix (Headquarters)		\$60	\$60	\$60	\$60
Sheraton Phoenix (NYC Headquarters)		\$56	\$56	\$62	\$62

### TYPE OF ROOM REQUESTED:

SINGLE/1 PERSON \_\_\_\_\_ DOUBLE/2 PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_

TRIPLE/3 PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_ QUAD/4 PEOPLE \_\_\_\_\_

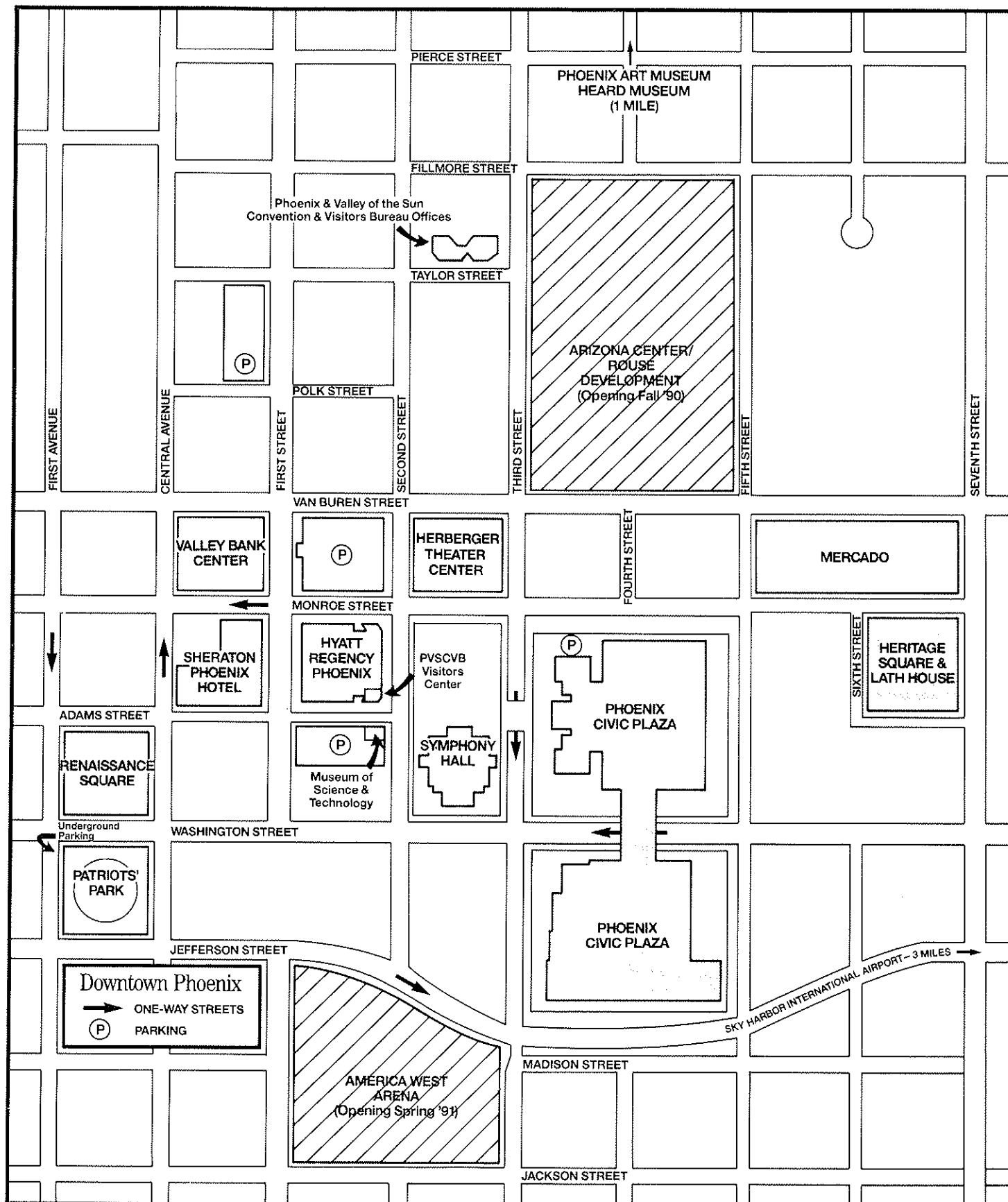
NUMBER OF BEDS IN ROOM \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE LIST ROOM OCCUPANTS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# HOTEL LOCATIONS





# MISSIONS

## LIGHTING A DARKENED WORLD

### NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE / Phoenix, Arizona July 15-18, 1990

Youth from around the country will meet in sunny Phoenix, AZ, July 15-18 to celebrate NYC '90. The theme of the 1990 National Youth Conference declares the heartbeat of Christ - Missions, and issues the Christian's goal - Lighting A Darkened World.

The Sheraton Phoenix Hotel serves as headquarters for the NYC Office and all the competitive activities.

Some conference highlights include morning devotionals, Cactus Cove Souvenir Shop, Painted Desert Art Gallery, youth afterservice activities, and many more exciting events.

#### Competition

Competitive activities begin bright and early Monday morning. Young people from across the denomination will participate in the Music and Arts Festival and the Bible Competition. This high-energy competition continues through Wednesday morning and concludes with the Awards Ceremony.



#### Special Activities

Special activities begin early Sunday morning with Teen Sunday school lessons from our new curriculum, *Turning Point* and *Horizon*, taught by the actual writers! *Dare to Care* will be presented by the National Youth Evangelistic Team during morning worship. This exciting program details our responsibility as Christians to care about a dying world. Children's Sunday school and worship will offer an exciting program about missions around the world.

The NYC Keynote Service will be Monday evening. Tim York, director of Camp Caleb, Paintsville, KY will be the featured speaker. Special music will be provided by Truth and Peace, the National Youth Evangelistic Team, and the Mass Youth Choir. If you would like to sing in the youth choir, write to NYC Office, P.O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217 for a free copy of the music.

#### Afterservice Events

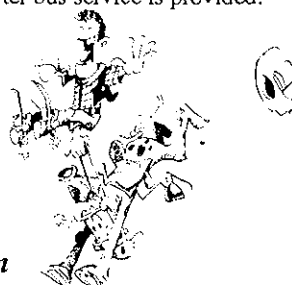
Be sure to spy in on MISSION: Impossible. This exciting, fun-filled Sunday evening activity will test your mystery-solving skills.

Join us Monday evening for the second annual TEAM Youth Congress. After the business session, a powerful, life-changing Christian concert by Mark Brawley will be presented in the beautiful ballroom of the Phoenix Civic Plaza.

#### Banquets

Scout out the Children's Banquet Monday afternoon in the Pueblo Room of the Sheraton Phoenix. Howard Gwartney and family, home missionaries in Phoenix, will present an exciting program just for children. Tickets are \$7.50.

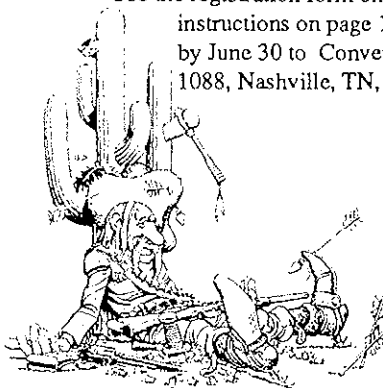
Mosey on out to the *Rockin' R Ranch* Tuesday afternoon for the Youth Banquet, on location in beautiful Mesa, AZ. Expect to experience the old west, meet real cowboys, taste a true western meal, roam the streets of town, and keep an eye out for those gun fighters! Jonathan Yandell, from Garden Grove, CA, is guest speaker for the evening service, followed by a genuine western show! Tickets are \$12.00 and charter bus service is provided.



#### Registration

All participants from grade one through age 24 must register and receive the NYC '90 registration badge. This badge is required to attend conference activities. This registration is in addition to fees for Bible Competition and Music and Arts Festival entries.

Use the registration form on page 14 and follow the instructions on page 13. Mail completed forms by June 30 to Convention Registration, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, TN, 37202.







FREE WILL BAPTIST

## newsfront

### 170 ATTEND BIBLE COLLEGE PREACHING CONFERENCE

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist preachers, as well as Bible College administrators, are calling the Workshop on Biblical Preaching, held at Free Will Baptist Bible College February 20-21, one of the greatest conferences ever held. The college registered 170 visitors from 17 states, prompting President Charles A. Thigpen to estimate it to be the largest assembly of preachers ever at the college.

Dr. Haddon Robinson, president of Denver Theological Seminary, was the featured speaker. His four workshops and three messages taught the method and illustrated the power of expository preaching. Visiting preachers felt he gave them valuable, practical help in their pulpit responsibilities.

Dr. Robert Woodard, FWBBC's pastoral studies director and chief coordinator of the workshop, said, "Seldom, if ever, have we witnessed such a positive response to any conference on our campus. The attendance was overwhelming, the fellowship was sweet and the messages were inspiring."

A complete set of audio tapes—four instructional workshops and three expository messages—is available for just \$20, plus \$2 for postage/handling. Send your prepaid order, with a check or money order, to:

Biblical Workshop Tapes  
c/o Free Will Baptist Bible College  
P. O. Box 50117  
3606 West End Avenue  
Nashville, TN 37205

### 400 ATTEND SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION

CONWAY, SC—Four hundred delegates and visitors crowded into White Savannah FWB Church in Conway February 15-16 for the 48th annual session of the South Carolina State Association. Promotional Director Norwood Gibson said the state is "enjoying its best time of unity, fellowship and worship together."

Moderator Earl Hendrix was re-elected for his eighth term. Two South Carolina pastors, John Stuttles and Wayland Owens, joined Home Missions staffer Trymon Messer to deliver keynote messages during the two-day meeting.

Delegates voted to change the state association meeting dates. Future ses-

sions will meet the first Thursday and Friday in February. In other action, delegates changed the Children's Home Board to a five-man board; the board previously had a member from every conference in South Carolina.

Promotional Director Gibson said that one of the significant developments in South Carolina is the fact that every conference is involved in a mission work. There are 13 new mission churches in the state. The mission church in Orangeburg has entered a building program.

The 1991 state association meets February 7-8 at Mill Branch FWB Church in Johnsonville.

### GEORGIA CHURCH TRIPLES ATTENDANCE IN FIVE YEARS

BAXLEY, GA—Attendance at Baxley FWB Church in Baxley surged from 26 in 1985 to 100 in 1990, according to Pastor Danny Ryals. The congregation averages 100 in Sunday School with a 115-enrollment. They average 110-120 for Sunday worship services.

Pastor Ryals said, "The Lord impressed the leadership that we needed

to grow! Through much prayer, work and God's blessing we have seen our church blossom." The group had 265 on Roll Call Sunday (1988), 270 in 1989 and set a goal of 400 for 1990.

The congregation welcomed 10 new members in 1990 by mid-February, and had already logged 142 in a worship service.

### Singers Needed!

The National Association of Free Will Baptists meets July 15-19 in Phoenix, Arizona. Among the highlights of a Free Will Baptist meeting is the singing. Our convention gives opportunity for congregational singing, ensembles, solos, instrumental music and, yes, the *Mass Choir* and *Men's Chorale*. But singers are needed!

The demanding national convention schedule seems to work against the extra responsibility of singing in a group. But keep in mind that of all the reasons we attend the national convention, nothing is more important than our worship experiences, and singing is a major factor in worship. We need singers!

We need pastors, music directors, choir members, missionaries, visitors—folks who will take a bit more responsibility and say by their presence in the singing groups, "I'll go the extra mile to contribute to our worship experience." Will you help us sing?

The *Mass Choir* and *Men's Chorale* will serve as worship leaders in our convention services. Join us and help make a difference in our 1990 convention music program.

Blaine Hughes  
Convention Music Coordinator



## FWBBC GRADUATE SCHOOL TO STUDY CORINTHIAN LETTERS

NASHVILLE, TN—The next session of Free Will Baptist Bible College's graduate school will focus on Paul's letters to the Corinthians, according to Ralph Hampton, dean of the graduate school. The course is titled, "Ministering in a Pagan World."

The course is scheduled to be taught at the college May 28 - June 1. Featured teachers will be Dr. Robert Picirilli, Dr. Charles Hampton and Rev. Garnett Reid.

Rev. Hampton says the study will include attention to such problems as solving church conflicts, moral purity (marriage/divorce), Christian liberty and spiritual gifts. He stresses that the study should produce a number of solidly biblical sermons that address the needs of both the unsaved and Christians.

The course may be taken for credit or non-credit. Tuition is \$250 for credit; \$125 for non-credit. Room / board on campus is \$75.

## EVANS TEAM CONDUCTS 15TH JAMAICA CRUSADE

PEDRO, OH—Dr. Calvin Evans, president and director of Evangelistic Outreach Ministries in Pedro, Ohio, led a team of 37 pastors, evangelists and Christian workers who conducted 94 evangelistic services in Jamaica, West Indies, February 3-10. The meetings were conducted in 14 churches of Western Jamaica. Meetings were also conducted in 17 schools. A total of 4,978 persons made public professions of faith.

Thousands of gospel tracts and booklets were distributed and hundreds of free Bibles were distributed to students and new converts.

Free Will Baptists numbered in the evangelistic team included Glen Sluss, Mike and Judy Carter, Woody White, Harlan Marcum from Kentucky; Ralph Dean from West Virginia; John Burgess from Virginia; Homer and Dortha Willis from Tennessee; Calvin, Calvin Ray, Pam and Angie Evans from Ohio.



*All these raised money in FWBBC Christmas drive.*

## BIBLE COLLEGE CHRISTMAS DRIVE TOPS \$153,000

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist Bible College's 1989 Paul Kettelman Memorial Christmas Fund Drive brought in \$153,375.72, exceeding the \$135,000-goal by more than \$18,000 according to Bob Shockey, FWBBC student support director.

Members of the college family also surpassed their goal of \$75,000 by raising \$83,642.57 for the school. At

least 132 FWBBC students and employees participated and 75 raised \$500 or more. Greg Smith, a sophomore from West Plains, Mo., brought back \$4,273.50 from First FWB, his home church.

In the 14-year history of the drive, it has generated nearly \$1 million for the college, the total presently standing at \$972,590.13.

## DISCOUNT AIR FARES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION AVAILABLE

NASHVILLE, TN—The National Association of Free Will Baptists has made special travel arrangements for attendees and their families who will be flying to the 1990 national convention in Phoenix, Arizona July 15-19, according to Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington. Veeson International Travel Agency in Nashville has again been selected the agency of record to provide conferees with discount travel services.

Veeson Travel has secured large discounts for air travel to Phoenix. The fares Veeson offers cannot be purchased through another travel agency or directly with the airline. These are contracted group airfares. First class tickets may also be booked if desired.

Veeson Travel has contracted for travel dates starting three days prior to the convention and three days after the convention should any attendees wish to extend their trip out West.

To book airspace at the offered discounted rates, call VEESON TRAVEL's toll free number, **1-800-456-1360**. Callers must identify themselves with the Free Will Baptist National Convention. Advise the Veeson agent of your name, number of passengers traveling, city of originating flight, correct mailing address, telephone number (home and business). For easy billing, have a current credit card ready at the time of the airline booking. Veeson Travel will process and mail the tickets to you.

For any pre- or post-convention trips in the area, Sally Davenport, David Foster or Janice Jakobik will work out your requests. Veeson Travel also has contracted group rates for rental cars during your visit. You may request these at the same time you are booking your airline reservations. All services from Veeson Travel Agency are free.



Sixteen months after the first service at **Fellowship FWB Mission in Manning, SC**, Pastor **Bennie Turner** reported 28 in attendance. He also described the conversion of 56-year-old **Richard Davis** and his 81-year-old father-in-law. The group plans to organize when attendance reaches between 40 and 50, and then petition the South Carolina Conference for membership. They plan to build and hope to secure land by the end of 1990.

Congratulations to 16-year-old **Josh Beem** who was named the **White's Creek High School** recipient of the National Conference of Christians and Jews Brotherhood-Sisterhood Award. The 10th grader was cited for his community work and church work, and his involvement with senior citizens. He is a member of **Cofer's Chapel FWB Church, Nashville, TN**. **Larry Powell** pastors.

Representatives from 14 schools (11 Christian and three public) attended the February Christian Schools Conference at **Free Will Baptist Bible College**, according to Dr. **Ken Riggs**. Visitors came from seven states and the Virgin Islands. Mrs. **Joanne King**, principal of **Cramerton Christian Academy, Cramerton, NC**, was the featured speaker.

Reverend **J. E. White** will celebrate 61 years in the ministry this summer. The 85-year-old **Arkansas** minister has conducted more than 600 funerals. Reverend and Mrs. White reside near **Warren, AR**.

Four years ago **First FWB Church, Kingstree, SC**, established the "All 66

Bible Club." The program encourages members to read the Bible through each year. Pastor **Wayland Owens** said that 14 members read the Bible through in 1989.

Members of **First FWB Church, Greenville, SC**, burned the mortgage to make their church debt free. What members burned was a double mortgage—the original long-term loan to construct the first building and subsequent loans for additions and remodeling purposes. The church also paid \$15,000 for an acre across the street on which to construct a family life center this year. **Bobby Bowser** pastors.

**Mt. Carmel FWB Church, York, SC**, purchased a 12-passenger van to begin a bus ministry. The first Sunday of operation the bus ministry brought 23 people to Sunday School. **John Cody** pastors.

Pastor **Jerry Owenby** commended members of **Bethel FWB Church, Ft. Mill, SC**, for giving \$1000 to foreign missionary **Carlisle Hanna**. Pastor Owenby said members voted to give \$1000 from their limited building fund.

Students at **Maranatha Christian School, Florence, SC**, gave more than \$1,500 to missions, according to school principal **Dale Edwards**. The school is a ministry of **First FWB Church**. South Carolina Promotional Director **Norwood Gibson** accepted the check in a chapel service from **Josh Poston**, a student who raised the most money. **Jan Baxley's** fourth grade class raised more than \$635.

**Hillside FWB Church, Florence, SC**, conducted homecoming services with 175 in attendance, according to Pastor **Floyd Seay, Jr.** During the service Pas-

tor Seay presented a plaque and gift from the church to Mrs. **Lillian Clayton**, widow of the late **Paul Clayton**, a former pastor of the church.

**New Prospect Christian School**, a ministry of **New Prospect FWB Church, Pamplico, SC**, raised more than \$6,000 for school activities through a bike-a-thon. Bikers rode 20 miles and walkers covered five miles. Rumor has it that Pastor **Joe Cagle** rode his bike the entire 20 miles but then was trapped between some third graders and couldn't get out!

Reverend **Wiley Gregory**, a retired Free Will Baptist minister, died of leukemia December 27, 1989, in **Ventura, CA**. The 79-year-old minister was converted on the first Wednesday night in 1948. He was called to preach the next year and ordained in January 1950. Brother Gregory preached the first Wednesday of every new year to celebrate his spiritual birth. He pastored five churches in California over a 40-year period. He retired in 1977 due to bad health.

Pastor **Glen Hood** of **Mile High FWB Church, Denver, CO**, said the congregation set a goal of 100 in attendance for 1990. They now need a new goal, since attendance surged to 103 in early February. The group has started a new building program and are in need of more room.

Pastor **Leroy Holman** reports six baptisms at **Maranatha FWB Church, Ardmore, OK**.

Members of **New Hope FWB Church, Kent, WA**, heard seven sermons one Sunday morning. It happened January 28 when the flu stopped Pastor **Lloyd Plunkett**. He secured a substitute who also got sick. He then did the only thing left—he tossed it to seven laymen who delivered seven mini-messages Sunday morning and still got out in time for lunch.

Moderator **Fred Hanson** of the **Atlantic Canada** Association of Free Will Baptists writes that the bi-monthly periodical, *The Gospel Standard* will no longer be published. Citing increased printing and postage costs as well as decreasing subscriptions, Reverend Hanson announced the decision.

Pastor **Jim Summerson** reports an average weekly attendance of 431 in January with a high of 454 at **Mt. Calvary FWB Church, Hookerton, NC**. That's an increase of 60 for the church. Assistant Pastor **Don Holland** said, "One thing that makes our 454 high Sunday attendance so unusual is that the town of Hookerton only has a population of 428." Now that's what you call winning your town!

## LOCAL CHURCH DELEGATE'S CREDENTIALS

THIS CERTIFIES THAT \_\_\_\_\_

is a duly authorized delegate to the National Association of Free Will

Baptists from \_\_\_\_\_

(Name of church)

\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

(District Association)

(City)

(State)

\_\_\_\_\_ Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk or Secretary

IMPORTANT: This form properly signed and accompanied by a \$10 registration fee entitles a local church delegate to register for voting privileges.



## People Are Operating FWBBC For A Day!

by Ronald Creech, Director of Development

Several years ago, Mr. Lawrence Tart, a strong layman in North Carolina, asked FWBBC's public relations director, Paul Kettelman, what it would cost to operate the college for one day. Mr. Kettelman figured the cost at \$1,165. Mr. Tart sent the college a check for that amount and became the first person to actually underwrite the cost of one day's operation at FWBBC!

Now, the cost has risen from \$1,165 to \$2,534.25. Many churches are already giving more than this each year. Some, no doubt, could raise their giving to that with a little more effort.

Also, some families are giving more than that each year. Others, with some effort could go up to enough to operate the college for one day, two days or even more.

I captured Brother Tart's idea in a brochure and mailed it to our churches and to a few families several months ago. I challenged them to operate the college for one day, if possible.

I have been absolutely encouraged at the response.

Already, without any follow-up, the response has totaled nearly \$50,000!

In our new program, *Together We Can*, Dr. Thigpen and Bob Shockey are working with churches and families that gave less than \$500 to the college last year, and I am working with those that gave \$500 or more. I really do believe that a number of our families and churches can operate FWBBC for one day each year if they make the decision to do so and lay some definite plans.

One church that agreed to do it just voted to double what they were already giving in their budget to bring it up to the amount. Some churches have spread the total over 12 months and are sending checks monthly.

Families have already sent us checks for \$2,534.25. Others that were giving more than that have gone



Ronald Creech honors Mrs. Bob King and her daughter, Janet, as Mr. and Mrs. Henry Morgan look on. The Morgans operated FWBBC for a day in memory of the late Rev. Bob King.

up to the next level.

For all of that, we are very, very thankful to God, to our churches and to these families!

**I**n April, we recognized Mr. and Mrs. Henry Morgan, members of the Cross Timbers FWB Church, in Nashville, for being the first people this year to operate the college for day. Mr. Morgan worked for Ford Motor Company, which matched his gift to the college. They operated FWBBC that day in memory of Rev. Bob King, the late pastor of Cramerton FWB Church, Cramerton, NC, who was a long-time friend of their family. Rev. King's wife, Joanne, and daughter, Janet, were in chapel that day to share in the announcement.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Wright, a couple in Fresno, CA, operated the college on April 14 in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Bert Tippet, who work at the college. Bert was Mrs. Wright's pastor when she was in high school and she came to FWBBC as a result of his guidance. This year, the Wright's daughter,

Christine, is a freshman at the college.

In another case, a church has decided to operate the college in memory of a young man who was killed while preparing land for the new church site.

We are encouraging people to do this in memory or in honor of anyone. We plan to present a nice plaque to the family or church that operates FWBBC for one or more days, and to recognize them in chapel. If possible, we would like to have a representative chapel on that day.

We also plan to make a permanent recognition on campus for the families and churches that operated the college for a day.

Please consider it at your church. If it is at all possible, please pray about it and consider it as a family.

An investment in the training of young people is one of the best investments than can be made in the Lord's work. They will be in places of leadership tomorrow, after many of us have passed off the scene.





**FOUNDATION**

Herman L. Hersey  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

## Revocable Living Trust

By William W. Evans

**T**here is no area of Christian stewardship more important than estate planning. Yet, thousands die every year without planning the best means of carrying out their wishes.

One estate planning method highly promoted today is the Revocable Living Trust. Articles recommending this planning tool often appear in publications like *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes*, *Money*, *Time* and *Newsweek*. It is not, however, recommended for everybody but it certainly deserves consideration.

A Revocable Living Trust is an agreement into which an individual or couple may transfer all or part of their major assets: real estate, savings accounts, certificates of deposit, money market accounts, stocks, bonds, insurance policies and even some businesses.

In most states the individual or married couple may serve as trustee(s) of the trust during their lifetime(s) and thus retain control of their assets. They continue as beneficiaries of the trust assets and have the freedom to make any changes they wish in the trust document including total revocation.

### Advantages of a Revocable Living Trust

1. *A Living Trust avoids probate cost.*

Since the purpose of probate court is to establish what a deceased owned and who receives his property, probating items in a Living Trust is unnecessary because those questions are already satisfactorily answered.

2. *A Living Trust is often settled more quickly than a Will.*

Normal probate proceedings take at least six months and can take several years. Settlement of a Living Trust after one's death is usually much faster.

3. *A Living Trust is a private transaction not open to public record.*

Probate proceedings including the estate inventory and distribution are a matter of public record. Items transferred from the decedent's estate by means of a Living Trust are not made public.

4. *A Living Trust is more difficult to challenge in court.*

Wills are often challenged and set aside by courts due to litigation from disgruntled heirs. One never knows during his lifetime if his will can successfully withstand a court test. A Living Trust, on the other hand, is already a functioning legal instrument, since it is set up and in force during one's lifetime.

5. *A Living Trust provides for management of assets in the event of your "death or legal incapacity."*

If a person, especially one without a living spouse, becomes "legally incapacitated," a court usually names a conservator. In some cases two conservators are appointed; one to look after the person, the other to manage the person's estate. By having one's assets in a Living Trust, which names a successor Trustee, these assets are not at the mercy of the court's appointment.

### Disadvantages of a Revocable Living Trust

1. *The funding process.*

Before a Living Trust can actually manage or control any assets, each individual item must be legally titled to the trust. This involves legal documents and processes which frequently require additional time and effort and must be regularly attended to.


2. *Familiarity within the commercial world.*

Many attorneys, certified public accountants and financial institutions discourage the use of Living Trusts. Some have little or no knowledge of these instruments while others have a biased attitude toward the will and probate process.

3. *Living Trusts generally manage only major estate items.*

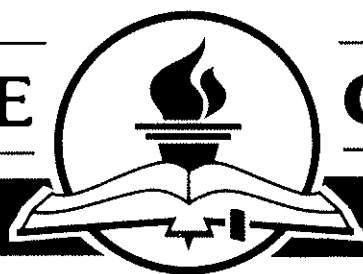
In most cases a Living Trust would not manage your personal items, private cars or checking accounts.

### Conclusion

Should you use a Revocable Living Trust in your estate plans? In deciding, some general questions should be asked: Are you and your spouse 50 or over? Is your estate valued at \$50,000 or more? Are you willing to carefully title and catalog new assets? If you answer yes to these questions you should consider using a Revocable Living Trust. 

**ABOUT THE WRITER:** William (Bill) W. Evans, a Free Will Baptist minister, is director of Trust Services Department with World Literature Crusade / Every Home For Christ, Canoga Park, California.

HOUSE



CALL

## Church Training: The Place for Growth

By Malcolm C. Fry

**T**o succeed, a person must follow certain rules whether he or she drives a car, bakes a cake or plays in a baseball game. The scriptures teach that the Christian life is one of continuing growth. Starting with the new birth, a Christian grows into full spiritual maturity in Christ if God's purpose is accomplished. However, such a process requires consistent development, constant enlargement and increasing understanding and wisdom.

What better place to achieve spiritual growth than the church. The Church Training hour is an ideal time to participate in Christian growth experiences.

At least four ways exist by which a babe in Christ can grow in his Christian experience. A baby needs to breathe, to eat, to be comforted and to exercise. Church Training is the prime time and place for worship, fellowship and training for every child of God.

### *1. Breathing physically compares to prayer spiritually.*

When we pray to God we exhale, and when we stop and listen to His voice we inhale. To be productive, prayer must work both ways. People who count for Christ are people of prayer. A prayerless Christian is a powerless Christian. We are to "Pray without ceasing" (I Thessalonians 5:17). Special prayer periods are helpful. Church Training is a good time and place for communion with God and His people through prayer, music, worship and fellowship.

### *2. Eating is essential to growth, both physically and spiritually.*

Jesus Christ is the Bread and Water of life. If we fail to partake of daily spiritual nourishment, malnutrition results. Peter urged new Christians to "desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (I Peter 2:2). Absolutely nothing can interfere with this daily diet.

The Bible must be read, studied, meditated upon and even memorized. Failure to do so will bring difficulties to the Christian. The Bible is magnified in all worthwhile programming and activities pertaining to Church Training. What better place to gather together in sharing and heeding God's Word than Church Training?

### *3. Comfort, protection, warmth—all are needed physically and spiritually for continued growth.*

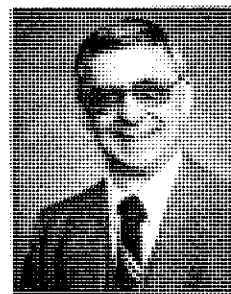
Just as a baby needs a blanket to keep him warm, the Christian—new or old—needs fellowship with other Christians. Fellowship will comfort, protect and keep warm the child of God. What better place for fellowship than the church—Christ's organization and organism on earth? Sunday night and/or Wednesday is the time for worship, Christian training and fellowship with other Christians. Nothing should take the place of attendance at Church Training and church!

### *4. Exercise is another requirement for growth.*

To the Christian, this means witnessing. We are ambassadors for Christ (see II Corinthians 5:20). Every

Christian should share his faith with others. During Church Training one learns how to witness. Witnessing can be accomplished in two ways—by life and by word. People are thirsty for the Water of Life and hungry for the Bread of Life. What better place to learn to love Christ and one another than at Church Training.

No individual can live without breathing, without eating, without minimum comfort, and without proper exercise. No Christian can be effective without their spiritual counterparts! These rules and principles are simple, but they work. Maintained regularly and properly, they will give any growing Christian peace of mind, happiness and the satisfaction of living the full and complete Christian life.



Randall House Publications publishes Church Training materials for everyone from nursery children to senior adults. If you want to examine our Church Training curriculum, write Randall House Publications, P. O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217 and ask for a free sample.



# MINI GRAMS

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

## Fifth Family Approved for Target City!



The Harveys: George, Cindy and Linda.

Yes are turning toward Phoenix, Arizona as Free Will Baptists prepare to meet in the Valley of the Sun for their annual convention July 15-19. The Home Missions Department is especially excited about the convention in Phoenix because this huge metropolis is the denomination's Target City.

The goal for the Home Missions Department and the entire denomination was to send five missionary families to Phoenix to start new churches by the time the convention met in July 1990. The Home Missions Department is happy to announce that George and Linda Harvey and daughter Cindy are the fifth family employed as Target City missionaries.

The Harveys will move to Phoenix as soon as they complete itinerate services and raise their support. They hope that by the time the National Association convenes in July they can find a place to live while attending the convention.

Others are turning their eyes toward Phoenix because they have staked their claim on some land out

there. A number of churches joined the *Aim for the Target* campaign to raise \$100,000 for land for the mission churches. The churches plan to raise \$1,000 each and present it to the Target City missionaries at the national convention.

One church raised its \$1,000 by using the special *Target City Quarter Folders* ordered from the Home Missions Department. This church averages 66 in attendance. They simply asked each member to fill a quarter folder three times. This produced \$990, and one man gave the other \$10.

Quarter folders will be sent on request to any church or individual who wants to participate in the *Aim for the Target* campaign. Special recognition will be given at the national convention to those who assist in this project.

It will be exciting in Phoenix in July to see these five missionary families receive checks for land as an expression of the love of Free Will Baptists everywhere. Meet us in July in the Valley of the Sun!

## Where Love Abounds

By Alton Loveless

While conducting Sunday School teacher seminars in a beautiful Independent Baptist Church in Elyria, Ohio, I was startled to read the donor plates on the end of each pew.

What stunned me so was the last plate: "Donated to the Glory of God, Free Will Baptist Church."

Surprised, I started reading more

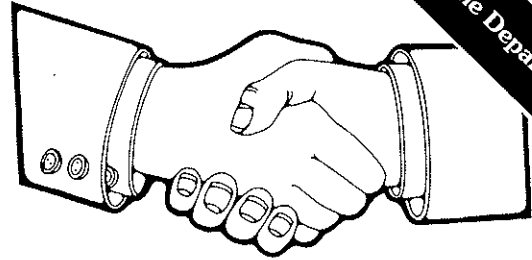
donor plates and saw another one from a second Free Will Baptist church in a different town. By that time I turned to the pastor who saw my amazement. Before I could question him, he responded with, "When love abounds, grace does much more abound."

I learned that those two Free Will

Baptist churches had been responsible for the pastor's salvation and up-bringing.

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

# MASTER'S ANDATE



## Master's Men Changed Our Church

By Pastor Eddie Hodges

**B**rother Eddie, I would like for us to start a Master's Men chapter." That's what Dennis Walley, a layman in our church, said. I had been in church work 14 years and had never seen one in action. I always thought it would be nice to have a chapter but never got one started. Now I had a layman with a burden to get the men together.

The church had a chapter before I came but it had gone inactive. One problem was that everyone was expected to present a lesson. As one man put it, "That scared me so I didn't go back." The earlier chapter had also been dominated by a couple of men. A Master's Men chapter is a team effort. Everybody needs to feel part of it.

Dennis had a good Master's Men background and started us toward our own chapter. Before long we had six men who met together and decided to become LifeMembers of Master's Men. It changed those six men and the church as well.

Exciting spiritual growth began to take place. Men were challenging each other with spiritual growth. No longer was I pulling men toward maturity. The fellows began pushing each other.

I witnessed a boldness among the men to tackle new ministries in the church. I observed a greater willingness to serve. Men who at one time sat on the pews Sunday morning began teaching our children's church and leading our congregational singing.

I noticed a greater sense of purpose among the men. No longer was it just our church we were concerned about but the Free Will Baptist denomination as a whole. This was brought about partly by reading the study


lessons written by various Master's Men.

The vision of what Master's Men was became clear when four of us attended the Master's Men National Retreat at Camp Linden. Men from across America were there encouraging one another in the Lord. Since we started our Master's Men chapter, I have had more men going with me to the quarterly meetings of our association.

Small talk is usually carried on before and after church. At our Master's Men meetings we get to know each other better and enjoy good fellowship. We started a prayer chain so we can pray for one another's needs. All the fellows play golf, so we get together and play from time to time.

Our Master's Men has made the men more sensitive to one another. The Master's Men fellowship strengthens the bonds between all the fellows who are part of it.

I love going to meetings in the church where I can sit back and just be one of the guys. Every now and then I am addressed as the pastor but I had rather just be a brother in the Lord at those times. Jesus spent much time with His disciples. He listened to the men he was training. Master's Men gives me time each month to hear what my men are thinking.

When I first started preaching, I thought the preacher had to know it all and do it all. After 14 years of ministry, I found out that I did not know it all. I am now working on how not to do it all. Master's Men is helping in that regard. Master's Men is a group ministry for men to help them become more like the Master. I thank God for our chapter! 

*ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Eddie Hodges pastors Hendersonville Free Will Baptist Church, Hendersonville, Tennessee.*





Herman L. Hersey  
Director



Board of Retirement

## AT YOUR SERVICE

### Life Insurance: Know What Your Policy Provides

**T**he Life Insurance Marketing Research Association, an industry organization, several years ago reported—and deplored—the confusion among policy-holders about the insurance they had and what they could expect from it. The association did not blame agents. The report said, in fact, that the more agents tried to explain the complexities of insurance, the more prospects became confused.

Another study made for the Trade Commission in New Jersey found that 62 percent of the policy-holders surveyed could not tell interviewers what kind of insurance protection they had, mentioning only the name of the insurer. Asked about coverage, according to the FTC report, respondents frequently were able to answer only: "Sure I've got life insurance, about \$20,000 worth."

You need to know more than just that about your life insurance.

#### Read Your Policy

Get out your policy or policies and read them over carefully, possibly for the first time in decades, since you bought the policy. (Incidentally, are your policies readily available and is their location known to your spouse and to at least one relative or friend?)

You should refresh your memory about what form of insurance you have (it will be specified at the top of the policy) and whether the policy is up to date—that is, whether the coverage, in terms of today's dollars, is adequate but not excessive and that

the beneficiary designations are correct. Have there been deaths? A divorce?

If you have any questions or find changes that should be made, call or see your agent. Most are helpful and responsible, but you should keep in mind that salesmen have a product to sell and commissions to bank. Some let this influence them in answering the questions you ask. Listen carefully and be wary.

#### What You Need

Analysts generally estimate that your coverage should be five to seven times your annual income, more or less depending on how many dependents you have. You and a working spouse may have smaller insurance needs than a family with a working father or mother, a spouse at home and two, three or more children.

It will help in estimating insurance needs if you work out what your family's living costs are for a year and multiply that by the number of years your dependents will be with your spouse and you. Add money that you need to accumulate in college funds for your children. The total will be a guesstimate of the insurance you might need. It will be, at least, something to work with.

#### Remember

The more you spend on insurance, the less you will have for savings and investments. This is something that

you should perhaps consider with a banker, broker or a financial advisor. Except for single-premium life insurance, don't use your life insurance policy for savings. Generally, Savings Bank Life Insurance is one of the best life insurance deals around if you live or work in a state where such insurance is sold. Savings Bank Life Insurance's low cost has been applauded by Consumer Groups, Publications and Newspapers.

You can get a free and very helpful Consumer's Guide to Life Insurance by writing to the American Council of Life Insurance, 1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20004. It's a good idea to read the guide before discussing insurance with an agent.

Age can be an important factor in whether you carry life insurance—and how much you need. As years pile on, you may find that life insurance coverage can be reduced to a minimum, putting money saved on premiums into a reserve of secure investments and savings. Whether you can and should do something like this will depend on how much you have accumulated already to cover contingencies in your older years.

—Ready or Not—



### From My Window

"Tomorrow," I said, as I drove by the tulip tree in the garden. "Tomorrow I must get a picture of the tree."

Deep purple and pink blossoms were simply singing against a clear blue sky. The tree was really gorgeous. Every bud on every limb seemed to be open to the sun. Underneath, fallen blossoms made a carpet of pink.

Traditionally, I got a picture of this tree in full bloom. I picked up some film that afternoon and got my camera ready for tomorrow.

The next day I drove by the garden, not sure what I would see. Not a single bit of the lovely pink color appeared anywhere on the tree or underneath. Instead the tree was covered with ugly brown, dead blossoms. The temperature had dropped to 15 de-

## Woman's Window on the World

by Mary R. Wisheart

grees during the night. And the beauty was gone.

No matter how much I longed for it, I couldn't bring back the beauty. Tomorrow! Why not today?

### Meet Delois Loveless, Member of the Executive Committee

Members at large of the executive committee serve as valuable assets to WNAC. They represent the women of the convention and help with the planning and policy making for the convention.

In 1989 Delois Loveless was elected for a 2-year term as a member at large.

She comes to WNAC with 16 years experience as a district field worker and 15 years experience as a state field worker. In her local Auxiliary she serves as mission action chairman.

Delois was born April 14 in Poca-hontas, Arkansas to William and Marie Draby. Although she attended church infrequently before, she started going to services at the Pocahontas Free will Baptist Church in 1953. Under the ministry there of Reford and Jean Wilson, she gave her life to the Lord.

Presently Delois is co-manager of the Ambassador Bible Bookstore in Columbus, Ohio. She attends the Heritage Temple Free Will Baptist Church.

Delois is married to Alton Loveless, promotional secretary for Ohio. She writes the woman's page in the state paper and is a frequent speaker at retreats and conventions.

The Lovelesses have two sons, Randall and Steven, and one "very cute" grandson. Delois prefers to call her two daughters-in-law daughters-in-love.

Delois likes to read and cross-stitch, but has very little free time for either. She enjoys travel, and considers trips to our mission works in France and Spain one of the highlights of her life.

### The Eunice Edwards Fund

March 10, 1990  
\$25,352.01

### Register Early for the Convention

Try pre-registering for the convention and get your Fellowship Dinner tickets early. If you pre-register and order your tickets, all you need to do at the convention is pick up your packet with your tickets, name badge and other materials.

### Come to the Reunion

You have a personal invitation to the National Retreat this year at Ridgecrest, September 20-22. It's a ten-year reunion.

Check for registration forms in January *Contact*, *Co-Laborer*, your state paper, or write to WNAC for more information.







## OUR READERS COMMENT

### COMIC STRIP 'NOT FUNNY,' SAYS TENNESSEE READER

This letter concerns the comic strip, "Beyond Belief," in your February 1990 issue. Mr. Judd states that nicotine addiction and caffeine addiction are on an equal level. I differ strongly with Mr. Judd's assumption.

These two addictions are not equal. According to the American Cancer Society, smoking kills over 300,000 Americans each year. It causes lung cancer, throat cancer, heart disease and other serious illnesses. Nicotine addiction is on the same level as alcohol addiction and illegal drug addiction. It has killed and is killing millions of people in the world. Smoking is also a bad testimony for any Christian who indulges in it.

I have no strong opinion on coffee drinking, although I must say I have never seen a Christian affected by it in the way Mr. Judd shows the people in the strip. Perhaps coffee drinking has killed some people, but if that is true, the number is small. Eating red meat has probably also killed some people, but I don't think that is enough of a reason to say that Christians should not eat red meat.

I have only been a Free Will Baptist for about two years. I understood that the Free Will Baptist denomination is fundamental and conservative. I have not seen this come through in your magazine. Where are the articles on abortion, movies, TV, decline in public education, decline in morality in government, decline in morality in general, decline in morality among Christians, etc.? Why do you hardly ever have articles on Bible prophecy?

Gene Miller  
Johnson City, Tennessee

### READER DISAGREES WITH 'CHRISTIAN LIBERTY' ARTICLE

While there is much to commend Dr. Picirilli's article, "Christian Liberty: The Two Faces" in the February 1990 issue, there are some troubling omissions. No one questions the fact that some standards vary due to their regional / cultural nature and toleration is called for.

However, some practices among us are not matters of varying acceptable standards but simply worldly imitations with no biblical basis other than condemning them for what they are. Specifically, the public exposure of the flesh by any form of apparel (swimsuits, shorts, etc.) hardly deserves toleration. Rock music and its cousin, "Christian Rock," violate biblical guidelines of musical order and propriety. Hollywood movies are for the most part more vulgar, explicit and irreverent than ever, making theater attendance a questionable practice and selected viewing of TV and video rentals a must.

## Cooperative Channel Contributions February 1990

### RECEIPTS:

State	COOP		Total	Feb. '89	Yr. To Date
	Designated	Undesignated			
Alabama	\$ 57.74	\$ 20.00	\$ 77.74	\$ 1,144.17	\$ 174.80
Arizona	0.00	0.00	0.00	282.76	0.00
Arkansas	19.50	6,656.76	6,676.26	4,062.52	12,110.92
California	0.00	5,593.05	5,593.05	1,735.96	6,937.67
Colorado	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delaware	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Florida	0.00	1,079.43	1,079.43	2,401.83	4,442.17
Georgia	8,059.21	2,272.04	10,331.25	10,922.44	24,593.57
Idaho	54.87	0.00	54.87	105.84	54.87
Illinois	0.00	59.13	59.13	102.60	13,956.02
Indiana	819.05	246.84	1,065.89	656.21	1,065.89
Kansas	0.00	171.10	171.10	0.00	281.06
Kentucky	614.00	0.00	614.00	286.86	686.63
Maryland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,165.10
Michigan	3,236.58	1,737.50	4,974.08	3,414.45	16,278.48
Mississippi	46.03	622.83	668.86	571.26	1,307.01
Missouri	7,685.09	0.00	7,685.09	8,299.97	17,976.88
New Mexico	18.01	9.01	27.02	17.84	27.02
North Carolina	275.00	2,160.25	2,435.25	2,910.92	5,307.86
Ohio	659.44	2,034.00	2,693.44	2,629.00	5,305.44
Oklahoma	35,794.56	9,366.27	45,160.83	47,196.47	93,050.12
South Carolina	7,507.94	144.61	7,652.55	22,079.03	18,268.98
Tennessee	1,140.30	1,823.72	2,964.02	3,461.90	4,750.38
Texas	5,328.23	342.23	5,670.46	25.00	12,369.65
Virginia	251.25	0.00	251.25	372.52	484.85
West Virginia	2,105.48	0.00	2,105.48	1,768.56	4,175.04
Canada	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Northwest Assoc.	0.00	0.00	0.00	324.52	48.66
Other (Computer)	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.06
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 73,672.28</b>	<b>\$ 34,338.78</b>	<b>\$108,011.06</b>	<b>\$114,772.66</b>	<b>\$ 244,819.13</b>

### DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 4,290.89	\$ 15,875.79	\$ 20,166.68	\$ 18,787.34	\$ 40,333.35
Foreign Missions	46,181.34	4,246.48	50,427.82	60,225.96	131,450.58
FWBBC	2,888.24	4,246.48	7,134.72	8,164.71	17,237.23
Home Missions	16,693.60	3,323.35	20,016.95	20,615.51	36,255.49
Retirement & Insurance	496.15	2,584.83	3,080.98	1,419.94	5,934.30
Master's Men	527.00	2,584.83	3,111.83	1,562.88	5,970.69
Commission for					
Theo. Integrity	40.68	92.31	132.99	147.88	246.68
FWB Foundation	825.72	1,107.78	1,933.50	1,762.06	3,340.64
Historical Commission	36.54	92.31	128.85	53.82	238.41
Music Commission	18.27	92.31	110.58	3.82	213.59
Radio & TV Commission	20.43	92.31	112.74	138.63	226.43
Hillsdale FWB College	1,352.34	0.00	1,352.34	1,552.31	2,742.36
Other	301.08	0.00	301.08	337.80	629.38
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 73,672.28</b>	<b>\$ 34,338.78</b>	<b>\$108,011.06</b>	<b>\$114,772.66</b>	<b>\$ 244,819.13</b>

Is Dr. Picirilli suggesting these are not worldly and carnal any longer and should be regarded as acceptable standards to be tolerated?

Romans 14 and I Corinthians 8-10 only appeal for toleration of issues that are not condemned by other biblical principles (things to eat, times of worship, etc.). The above issues hardly fit this category but belong to I John 2:15-17.

These issues stifle revival among us and reveal a lack of hunger and thirst for righteousness. To cry against their widespread practice is not biting and devouring one another. It is what Free Will Baptists traditionally called good preaching.

D. L. Dwyer  
Southeastern Free Will Baptist College  
Wendell, North Carolina



## Top Shelf



Thomas Marberry



**E. M. Blaiklock, *The Archaeology of the New Testament*, revised edition, (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1984, 186 pp., paperback, \$6.95).**

The Late E. M. Blaiklock was probably the greatest biblical scholar produced by the country of New Zealand. He was a versatile scholar with a variety of interests including Latin, Greek, biblical history, classics and archaeology.

In this volume, the author demonstrates how archaeological discoveries enable us to interpret the New Testament books with a much greater degree of precision than has been possible since biblical times.

Archaeological discoveries help us to understand the customs, attitudes, ideas, hopes and fears of people in biblical times. In many cases they give us the only picture we have of how the common people lived and worked in ancient times. In some cases they shed additional light on important people and events mentioned in the Bible.

The papyri discoveries, for example, help us determine with much greater certainty the meaning of many Greek words found in the New Testament. These discoveries consisted of large numbers of private papers such as letters, wills, contracts,

receipts and other written documents from this time period.

These documents were written on papyrus, a common writing material made from reeds, and then thrown away when they were no longer needed. For almost 2,000 years these priceless pieces of trash remained covered with sand in the trash dumps of ancient Egypt.

In modern times these writings have been discovered, published and studied by Greek Scholars around the world. The scholars discovered that these documents were written in the same dialect of the Greek language used by New Testament writers. There is now no doubt that the New Testament books were written in the same type language which the people ordinarily used in trade and commerce. They were written to be read and understood by the people. These ancient documents contain many of the same words used in the New Testament, and they help us determine more precisely the meaning which was attached to them by New Testament writers.

Blaiklock also explains how archaeological discoveries help us understand other aspects of New Testament history. We now have a better picture of how early Christians worshipped and the persecutions they

suffered. We even have a better picture of how crucifixion was done in the first century.

This is an interesting, enlightening and readable book. It is a good introductory volume for the reader who has only a limited understanding of archaeology. It deserves a place in pastoral and church libraries



## Directory Update

### ARIZONA

David Taylor to First Church, Tucson from First Church, Wilburton, OK

### ILLINOIS

Clifford Hicks to Nason Church, Nason

### NORTH CAROLINA

Clyde Nations to Swannanoa Church, Swannanoa from Fairview Church, Marion

### SOUTH CAROLINA

Jimmy Bell to Mill Branch Church, Johnsonville

Johnny Evans to Freedom Church, Ladson

Larry Hughes to Community Church, Florence from Liberty Church, Manning

Carlton Gasque to Vision Church, Conway

Bennie Turner to Fellowship Mission, Manning

Doyle Pruett to North Spartanburg Church, Inman

### OTHER PERSONNEL

Todd Shelton to First Church, Jesup, GA, as youth director and minister of music from Sulligent Church, Sulligent, AL



## BEYOND BELIEF







## ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

# Someone's Watching

**I**'m going to the grocery after breakfast," said Mrs. Lane at the table one Saturday. "You kids may go with me or stay here with Daddy," she said.

"Has the new toy store opened, Mama? Can we go there too?" asked Megan.

"It's open," said Mrs. Lane. "In fact, I saw in the paper this morning that they are having a grand opening today. Clowns, balloons, popcorn..."

"Yippee!" cried Jeff.

"Can we go, Mom, can we?" asked Marty.

"Sure," said Mrs. Lane. "Are you planning to buy something, or do you just want to look around?"

"Well, I've only got a couple of dollars," said Megan. "But if I see something, I might buy it."

"I'm not going to spend my money," said Marty. "I'm saving for a new video game. But I'd still like to look around."

The new toy store was in the same shopping center as the grocery store. "You can look at the toys," said Mrs. Lane, "while I get the groceries. Keep an eye on Jeff and meet me back at the car in an hour."

**M**arty, Megan and Jeff ran to

the toy store. A clown stood at the door handing out balloons. "Register for a free \$25 gift certificate," said another clown. "One to be given away each hour of our grand opening."

"Let's sign up," cried Megan.

"Wow, I'd sure like to win that," said Marty. "I know just what I'd buy."

The store was crowded, but the little Lanes didn't mind. They walked up and down each aisle looking at books, games, puzzles, stuffed animals, dolls, bicycles, trucks and tractors. Finally, they came to the video department.

"Look at all the games!" exclaimed Marty. Video games stretched from the floor to the ceiling all the way down a long aisle. There were hundreds. "This basketball game is the one I want," said Marty as he pulled one off the shelf.

"How much does it cost?" asked Megan.

"It's usually about \$25," said Marty. "Let's see. Where's the price on this?" Marty found the price tag. "Yeah, it's \$25 ... wait." Marty's eyes got big. "This one is marked \$2.50."

"What?" said Megan. "Let me see." Sure enough, the

price tag read "\$2.50."

"It must be a mistake," said Megan.

"Maybe it's on sale for the grand opening," said Marty weakly.

"Sure, Marty," said Megan sarcastically. "Ninety percent off."

"I guess they just priced it wrong." Marty was about to put it back on the shelf. "But I wonder if they'd catch it at the checkout?"

"Even if they did," said Megan, "they'd probably have to sell it to you for \$2.50. After all, that's what it's marked."

"We can try," said Marty.

"Do you really think you should?" asked Megan.

"What could be wrong with it? It's not stealing or anything," said Marty. "I *am* going to pay for it."

**M**arty, Megan and Jeff went to the checkout counter and stood in the long line. The cashiers were all hurried, and when it was finally Marty's turn to pay, the busy cashier didn't even pick up the game. She glanced down at the price tag and rang up \$2.50. Marty handed her three dollars and quickly pocketed the change.



He grabbed the game and started to leave.

"Wait!" called the clerk. Marty froze. He was sure he had been caught. "Don't you want a sack?" asked the clerk.

"Oh, sure," said Marty. "Thanks." He took the sack the clerk handed him, dropped in the game and sighed. "Whew. Let's get out of here," he said. Marty, Megan and Jeff hurried to the car and met their mother.

"How did you like the store," asked Mrs. Lane.

"Mom, it was neat," said Megan. "They have everything."

"I got a new coloring book," said Jeff.

"I bought a jigsaw puzzle," said Megan. "It has three puppies in a basket on it."

Marty was quiet.

"What about you, Marty?" asked Mrs. Lane. "Are you still holding onto your money for a video game?"

"Uh, well, no ma'am," said Marty. "I bought one today."

"You did?" I didn't think you had enough money," said his mother.

"They were on sale," said Marty.

"That's nice," said Mrs. Lane, whose mind was really on all the traffic.

**T**hat afternoon Megan worked on her puzzle and Jeff colored several pages in his coloring book. Marty tried to play his game but he kept looking over his shoulder. He felt like somebody was watching him. He tried to convince himself that he had not done anything

wrong. "I did pay for it, so it's not really stealing," he told himself. "Besides, it was the store's mistake."

Marty finally put the basketball video game away. He wasn't having much fun with it. He went into Megan's room to see how she was coming with her puzzle.

"What's the matter with you?" asked Megan. "Mama's always real happy when she finds bargains."

"I just feel sorta . . ." Marty couldn't think of the word.

"Guilty?" supplied Megan. "Oh, you'll get over it."

**B**ut Marty didn't get over it. His conscience bothered him all weekend. Finally, on Sunday afternoon Marty went in the den to talk to his daddy. Mr. Lane was reading the paper. "Daddy, can I talk to you for a minute?" asked Marty.

"Sure, Son," said Mr. Lane, putting down the paper. "What's up?"

Marty told him the whole story. "I really didn't steal it, so why do I feel so bad?" concluded Marty.

"Son, maybe you didn't *steal* it in the strictest sense of the word. But you know you didn't pay a fair price for the game, now don't you?" said Mr. Lane.

"No sir, I didn't," admitted Marty.

"It was marked wrong and you took advantage of their mistake, didn't you?" asked Mr. Lane.

"Yes sir," said Marty.

"Well," said Mr. Lane, "what do you think you should do about it?"

"I guess take it back," said Marty.

"I think so too," said his daddy.

"Daddy, I'd really like to get it over with. Would you take me down there now?" asked Marty.

"Sure, Son. I don't usually shop on Sunday, but I definitely think this would be okay," agreed Mr. Lane.

**A**t the toy store Marty took a deep breath and marched up to the customer service counter. He explained to the man working that he had bought the game the day before for \$2.50. "I just don't feel right keeping it," said Marty. "I'd like to return it, please."

"Well, Sonny, that's no problem at all. I really do admire your honesty. Here's your refund," said the man.

Smiling inside and out, Marty took his \$2.50 and ran back out to the car. He had thought that the basketball video game would make him happy but it didn't compare to the happiness of having a clean conscience. Once again, Marty had the feeling that someone was watching him. But this time he didn't mind. In fact, he rather liked the warm feeling of God's smile on him.

On Monday when Marty came in from school, his mother met him at the door. "Marty, guess what!" she said excitedly. "The toy store called. They drew your name and you won a \$25 gift certificate."

"Hot dog!" screamed Marty, jumping up in the air. "And I know just what I'm going to buy!"





## Green Tree Bible Study



Robert E. Picirilli

Luke 11:5-8

### Parable of the Importunate Friend

**O**f the parables unique to Luke's gospel, this is one that is subject to two entirely different understandings of its one main point. My own view is that the most common understanding is not correct.

First, we must not forget one of the basic rules of understanding: take note of the parable's *context*. It occurs in connection with teaching about prayer, in the well-known passage about asking, seeking and knocking. In the parallel passage in Matthew (7:7-12) this parable is not used as an illustration. Here Luke prefaces the "ask—seek—knock" part with a parable about an "importunate" man who goes to his friend's house at night with a request.

The parable itself sets forth a very life-like situation. Unexpected guests arrive and catch the host a little shorthanded. It is after hours and the stores are closed. But he has a friend nearby and, even though it is in the middle of the night, he goes to awaken his friend and ask for the loan of some food.

Into that situation Jesus inserts a telling question, and the first thing we need to realize is that—regardless of the punctuation—the question includes the *whole setting*: all the way from "Which of you" through v. 7. The question, then, is this: Who of

you, in such a situation, would go to a friend's house and he would ask you to go away and not bother him?

All you have to do is think about it: the answer is clearly, "No one." If you're caught in such circumstances and go to a friend's house, even at midnight, he will *not* respond in such a way but will rise and give you what you need. Most certainly a *friend* will act so; probably even a mere acquaintance would!

That's Jesus' point: "Ask, and you will receive" (v. 9). What v. 8 says is that even if he wouldn't as a friend, he would because of the "importunity."


So the question is, what does "importunity" mean? The Greek word is *anaideia*, a compound. The major root (*aideia*) is itself a compound that means "not looking (up)." In other words, it refers to what the KJV calls "shamefacedness"—a sense of modesty and shyness. The word here in Luke 11 is the negative of that, literally "without shame."

In other words, the word translated "importunity" means "without a sense of shame, immodest, bold." To bother someone in bed at midnight requires boldness, shamelessness. What Jesus says is very straightforward, then: Even if that friend wouldn't get up and respond out of

friendship (which he would, of course), he still would do so because of your boldness. (It may well be that even an utter stranger would!) Therefore: *ask and you will receive!*

Usually I have heard "importunity" interpreted as "persistence." Well, of course, "shamelessness" might take that form. But there is no need for that in the interpretation of this parable.

In fact, for several good reasons that idea is to be discarded: (1) it doesn't fit the parabolic situation, since friends would not thus reject such a request; (2) it doesn't fit our situation with God, since He doesn't have to be continually begged about our true needs; (3) the word itself simply means "shamelessness"; (4) whenever Jesus begins questions with "Who of you . . . ?" the answer is invariably "No one." (On this last point, compare the questions in Matthew 7:9-10.)

What's the point of the parable, then? Simply this: we can pray to our Father in heaven knowing that He is even more than a friend. When we bring our needs to Him, we can be assured He will respond. That is our confidence in prayer. 





**THE SECRETARY SPEAKS**  
By Melvin Worthington

# Who are We?



**W**ho are the Free Will Baptists? When did they come into existence? Where did the movement begin? How do they differ from other Baptists?

A former moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists gave a simple answer when asked what constitutes the difference between Free Will Baptists and other Baptists. He replied, "Two words—Free Will."

## The Beginning

The denomination traces its American beginning to two men: Paul Palmer and Benjamin Randall. Palmer organized the first Free Will Baptist Church in Chowan, North Carolina in 1727. Randall planted a Free Will Baptist church in New Durham, New Hampshire in 1780. Though the churches planted by Palmer and Randall taught the doctrines of free grace, free salvation and free will from their inception, no organizational connection existed between them.

The Randall movement merged in 1911 with the Northern Baptists. The merger cost Free Will Baptists leaders, property, mission programs, schools, members and almost half of the 1,100 churches. Those who rejected the merger reorganized in 1916 to form the Cooperative General Association of Free Will Baptists.

By 1921 the Palmer movement had organized into a General Conference and was not affected by the 1911 merger. By 1920 Free Will

Baptists had formed three regional associations—the Cooperative General Conference in the Far West (1916), the Tri-State Conference in the Mid-West (1919) and the Second Triennial Conference in the South (1920).

The movement as it exists today was organized in 1935 at Cofer's Chapel FWB Church in Nashville, Tenn., when representatives from the General Conference and the Cooperative General Association met. Initial membership totaled 80,000. The General Conference brought 64,126 members, 817 churches and 721 ministers. The Cooperative Association added 16,000 members, 241 churches and 563 ministers.

## The Beliefs

The basic beliefs of Free Will Baptists are clearly set forth in our *Treatise*.

**The Scriptures**—The Bible is the inspired, infallible, inerrant and immutable Word of God.

**The Sovereign**—God is omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, immutable, just, righteous and holy.

**The Savior**—Christ is our Maker, Messiah and Mediator.

**Salvation**—Man is sinful but salvation by grace through faith is available for all persons. Faith and repentance are conditions for salvation.

**Security**—Believers can and should persevere. It is possible for a Christian to commit apostasy. A saved person can depart from the faith and be lost.

**Sunday**—The first day of the week commemorates the resurrection of Christ. It provides a day of rest, reverence and remembering.

**The Saints**—The local church is an organized body of believers who assemble together to worship God and observe the ordinances of the gospel according to the scriptures. Only believers in Christ are baptized and admitted into the church.

**Support**—Paying tithes and giving offerings are the scriptural means to financially support the Lord's work.

**Second Coming**—Christ will return. Saints and sinners will be resurrected, followed by residence in Heaven for saints and residence in Hell for sinners.

**Sacraments**—The New Testament teaches three gospel ordinances—baptism, the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet.

## The Blessing

Free Will Baptists have a distinguished and distinctive heritage. The question Free Will Baptists need to answer is not, "Who am I?" but "Who are we?" As a denomination our greatest days are ahead as we obey God. Let me extend an oft-heard invitation: "Come thou with us, and we will do thee good."

## The Secretary's Schedule

May 1-6	Sherwood Forest FWB Ch. El Sobrante, Calif.
May 18-19	Michigan State Assoc.
May 22-25	Convention Planning Trip Phoenix, Ariz.
May 27-June 1	First FWB Church Decatur, Ill.
May 28-29	RCMA Board Meeting Corpus Christi, Texas



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# Summer Camp '90

## At Free Will Baptist Bible College

Nashville, Tennessee

June 18-24, 1990

(For Grades 9-12)

### Basketball

This camp, for boys, will build on the foundation of basketball fundamentals and help young men develop their personal court skills.

Each player will receive a video analysis of his play. The camp will include 3-on-3 contests, shooting contests, and will emphasize team play. The camp will also teach a Christian philosophy of competition—one that stresses honoring Jesus Christ, on and off the court.

The FWBCC coach and members of the *Flames* basketball team will work with you, helping you to become the very best that you can be.



### Music

Develop your music gift under the guidance of FWBCC's music faculty and its assistants. This is for both vocal and instrumental musicians.

Music campers will have special private and group lessons. They will enjoy the attention of people who are highly qualified to hone their music skills to a fine edge.

The week will be climaxed by a special performance involving all campers.



Write for a  
free brochure!

### Drama

Both stage performance and play production will be taught by the college's speech and drama teachers, who have produced many outstanding programs.

You will learn effective lighting techniques, how to apply make-up (including beards for biblical plays), how to find and/or make costumes and much more. You will be shown how to develop stage presence and to play effectively to the audience. Coaches will help you to perfect your acting skills and show you how to direct a play using the young people in your own church!

The week will climax with a special performance.



### SALT

This exciting camp focuses on Scriptural Action and Leadership Training (SALT).

It is for those who want to sharpen Bible study skills, nurture a devotional life, develop themselves as disciples and deepen their Christian foundations. SALT is ideal for those who are committed to serving Christ.

While helpful to those who feel God is leading them to the mission field or into the ministry, SALT is certainly not to be limited to them. This camp is for anyone who is a serious Christian.

SALT will be a special help to young people who plan to attend a secular college/university, where their faith may face harsh challenges.



**Free Will Baptist  
Bible College**

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