

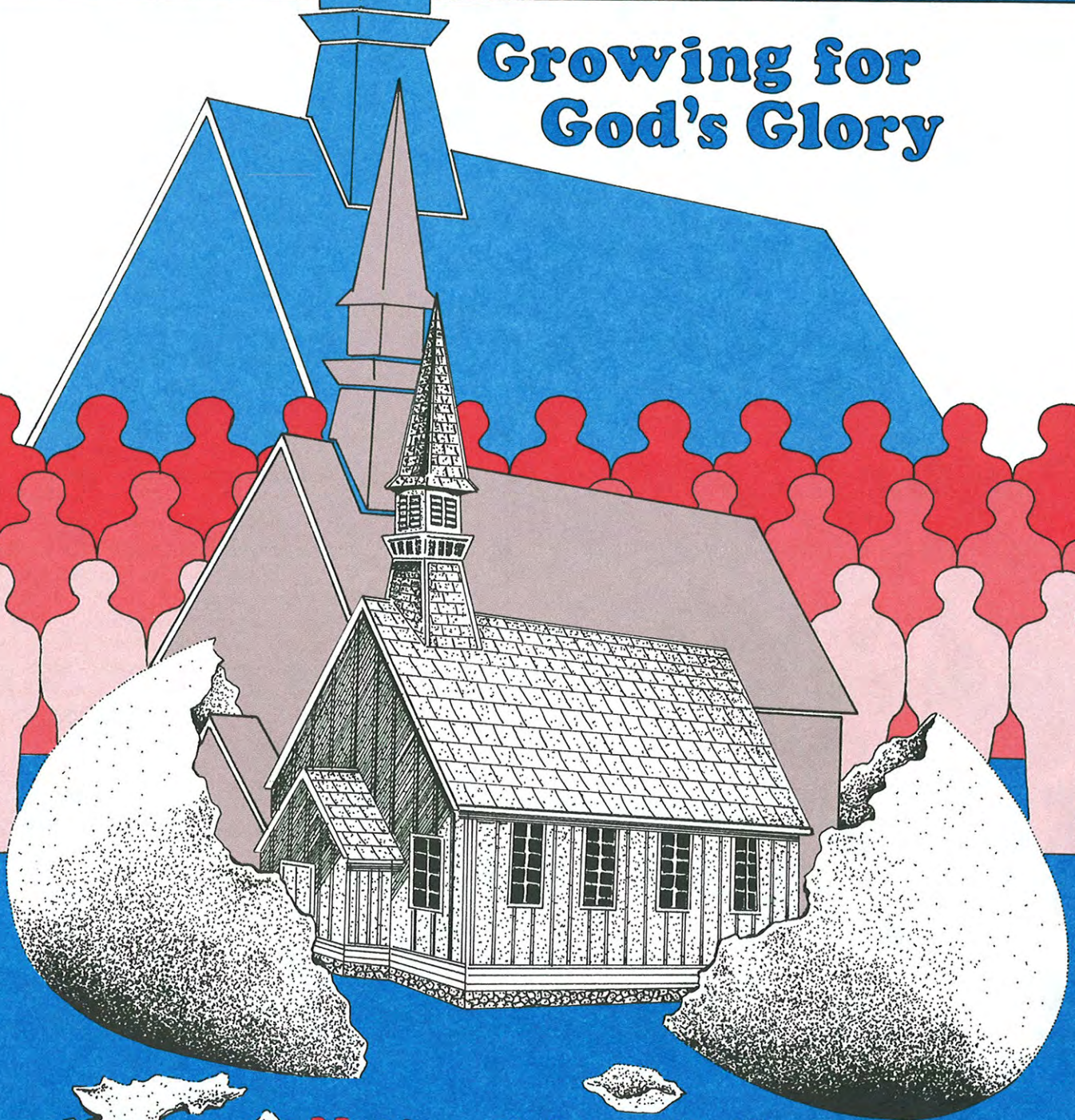
June 1990

Contact



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Growing for God's Glory



**National Association
of Free Will Baptists**

**54th Annual Convention / July 15-19, 1990
Phoenix Civic Plaza / Phoenix, Arizona**

When the invitation came to write this article, I knew that if I did I would probably have to add a disclaimer to avoid letters to the editor from my own kids. Somehow, my wife and I made it through the teenage years with our two oldest and now face it again with the two youngest. We look back on some things gone wrong, but, thankfully we did a few things right as well.

We discovered that trying to parent by the book is frustrating and usually futile. The problem is that the kids haven't read the book and constantly surprise the experts.

Many parenting books promise more than they deliver. The most notable of which are the Dr. Spock books so widely acclaimed when I

was a novice parent. (By the way, at the time he gave this expert advice, Dr. Spock was a bachelor and had no children of his own. Now that he is a father, he has changed many of his opinions on the way that child rearing should be done.)

Most of what parents encounter must be dealt with on an as-you-go, situation-by-situation, day-by-24-hour-day basis. Things change so fast there is no way to predict what any kid will do or say from one day to the next.

Being a father should be more than a welfare program for those under the age of self-sufficiency—providing free food, shelter, clothing, transportation and spending money. Fathering is more than biological involvement in the life of another human being. It involves juggling busy schedules to hear Junior's solo or his lines in the school play, to see him make a double play or catch his first fish, to console a daughter over a break-up with a boyfriend, to lead in worship and family devotions.

Give the Family Priority

Fathers need to make their families their utmost priority, second only to God. I see no reason why our time with the Lord in worship, prayer and service need interfere with our family time. I say this in all-clear conscience as a too-busy pastor because I know that these areas can and *must* overlap.

I can almost always make time for the things that I feel are important, but I can't say, "yes," to one thing without saying, "no," to something else if my schedule is already filled.

Most fathers fight a time management battle with the biggest fires or



By Sam Henderson
Finding Time to Father

the squeakiest wheels. Urgent things that come up from day to day rob us of the attention needed for the really important things in our lives—like being honey to our wives and daddy to our kids.

Watch the Pace

We must pace our lives so that we don't get too busy for the family. Pastors and other church workers are not exempt from letting the demands of the job or ministry keep them away from their God-given duty as fathers.

Why not pray together, study together, worship together and serve together? Why not work together, play together and even go about the mundane tasks of the day together as well?

A trip to the grocery store or the bank becomes a lesson in economics. Changing oil in the car becomes a much-needed lesson in preventive maintenance and stewardship. A visit to a sick friend or a brotherly visit with an absentee Sunday School class member becomes an introduction to church service and concern for others. These hours of extended communication and togetherness give children a sense of belonging and a new perspective on what's really important in life.

Give them some time alone or with their friends because they need that. But don't neglect that much-needed time just experiencing life together with them. Parents are and must be the primary source of intimacy, information and instruction for their children. If we aren't, our children will turn to worldly society to meet those needs.

Get Involved in Their World

We must participate in their world as well as involve them in ours. Some parents say that they spend a lot of time with their kids already: taking them to Little League practice or band lessons or giving rides to and from the mall or the house of a school friend who lives across town. That's because they are still dependent upon us for the means to participate in these social activities and need our continued encouragement and support.

But do parents use this time to communicate pride, acceptance and willingness to help their children? Or

do we complain about the problems, annoyances and work they are causing and how we could be doing other important things than being their personal chauffeur and valet?

Set the Right Example


We must pattern our lives so that our example promotes spiritual growth and maturity in theirs. Many parents find themselves cutting back on participation in church activities because of extra-curricular activities they and their kids are involved in. They can't come to church Wednesday night because of band practice, homework or P.T.A. They can't bring their kids out to youth activities Saturday because of a game or birthday party. Or maybe they are just too busy around the house. Or Saturday is the only day to relax.

We all need to recuperate, relax and recreate. But what kind of message do we send to our kids regarding the importance and place of the church in everyday living?

With more mothers working outside the home, time is at a premium for most families. That's more reason than ever for giving ourselves to our children. Mom's job should free dad up from having to work so much overtime or work a second job, giving him more time in the evenings with the family.

Two-income families must not forget that there are some things money can not buy—such as time, attention, love. Telling children that we love them is important, but showing them our love by giving ourselves and our time says it better.

Dads can get side-tracked easily. The way to avoid that is to give our children our full attention, not just more allowance; give them our time, not things to keep them occupied; not just give directions, but take the lead.

We must find the time to be a father to our children. If we fail as parents, it casts a shadow on the successes we gain in life at the expense of our children. 

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Sam Henderson pastors First Free Will Baptist Church, Green Rock, Illinois. He moderates the North Central Association and serves on the Illinois State Missions Board. With four children, Sam has plenty of practice in fathering.

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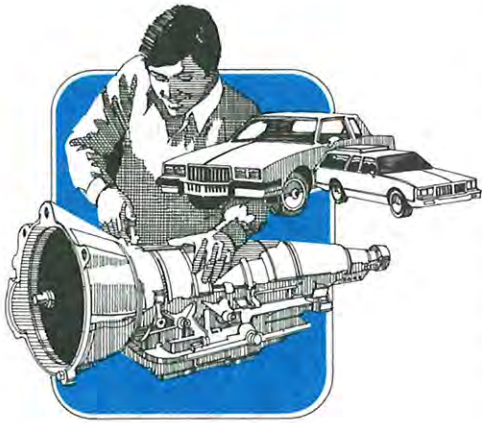
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The Sanctity of Work

By J. L. Gore



Why was man created? What was the role of work in God's purpose for man? The answers to these questions are found by considering three elements in God's purpose for man's creation.

Biblical Concept of Work

First, God made man to find fulfillment through meaningful activity—work. Many falsely assume that work was a punishment associated with the fall of man. But a careful study of biblical events indicates that man had tasks to perform *before* the fall.

"And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it" (Genesis 2:15).

Second, man's need to work remained after the fall. "Man goeth forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening" (Psalm 104:23). We get a satisfaction from working which cannot be found in any other activity. Most of us cannot be contented for long without the challenge of daily duties.

It would seem that most people would desire the curse of Adam—"In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread"—to the curse of inaction. Men soon discover that interesting work with effort is preferable to boredom with ease.

However, after the fall man's work was accompanied by frustration and failures. "Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought,

and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, all was vanity and vexation of spirit, and there was no profit under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 2:11).

Third, to the Christian, Christ restores a consciousness of purpose and satisfaction which the non-Christian does not share. "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ" (Colossians 3:23-24)

Work Not Secular or Sacred

Because any work the Christian does is to be done to the glory of



God, no work can be considered "secular" work. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God" (I Corinthians 10:31). A Christian is foolish to plan and to work in any occupation as if it were independent of God.

A man once explained how he had accepted Christ as Savior but at the same time had tried to exclude Christ from his occupation. "I thought I could separate the decision to be saved from the day-to-day decisions on how to live and work. I wanted salvation but I still expected to be the manager. This did not work. It was then that I realized that Christ is to be the Manager of all my life."

The New Testament regards life as a totality to be lived in obedience or disobedience to God's calling. Among the homemaking, shopping, cooking,

writing, selling, planning, organizing, studying, teaching, sewing, disciplining, decision-making, building, painting, driving—we find our salvation incomplete until we are won to the program as well as the Person of Jesus Christ.


Man does not live by bread alone. True, but to avoid living by bread alone does not mean that we are to live without bread at all! In the daily Christian walk unseen eternal things often express themselves in visible, temporal things.

In the biblical concept, all jobs are viewed equally as callings to be undertaken by the Christian as doing the will of God. "Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your hearts, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men" (Ephesians 6:5-7). Therefore, no job is of itself better than another.

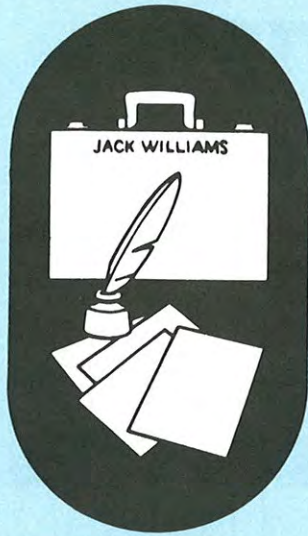
Our Jobs: Our Pulpit

Every person's job is his ministry and gives opportunity for service to Christ. Consequently, the clergy is as good as but no better than the Christian merchant, builder, clerk, secretary or teacher.

Regrettably, many Christians have no concept of their jobs as a calling. They neither expect nor pray that God minister salt and light through them in their work situations. The Christian has no mandate to withdraw from the world.

This is a great day to rediscover the sanctity of work, all work. The Christian treats his work as his calling. The Christian worker walks with God on the assembly line, in the plowed field or teaching students. He brings the power of God to his corner of the world. 

ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend J. L. Gore is a joint-project home missionary to Southaven, Mississippi. He also serves on the Executive Committee of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.



Big Noises

My Volkswagen developed a loud rattle Tuesday. Early Wednesday morning the rattle got worse. Three white-collar mechanics shook their heads at how bad it could be. Sounded terminal.

After I drove the noisy 17-year-old Bug to the VW dealer, fully expecting a summons to haul it off for last rites, ace trouble shooters searched all day Wednesday and couldn't locate the rattle. I called back late Thursday. Same story.

Friday at 3:00 p.m. Charlie the service rep buzzed me. "Jack, are you sitting down?" he asked. "You're not gonna believe the trouble we found."

I sat down. Charlie continued, "We discovered that both back tires were about to fall off! Has anyone rotated your tires lately?"

Someone had. Tuesday morning just before the rattle started. Three days and \$18 later a mechanic tightened the rear lug nuts and stopped the noise. Oh, did I feel dumb.

Sometimes, the loud noise in life can be traced back to a small problem that somebody overlooked. When that's the case, it can usually be fixed with a little embarrassment, a good sense of humor and about 18 bucks.

Small problems often sound worse than they really are. But when we ignore them, even little noises pick up speed as they roll down hill and get more complicated.

Charles Swindoll observed, "This tendency to avoid problems and the emotional suffering inherent in them is the primary basis of all human mental illness."

When a small problem gets blown out of proportion, we sometimes create our own chaos. Consider what happened when Marlene, a mother of six children, walked into the house one day and spotted her children huddled together in a circle.

Marlene could hardly believe her eyes when she saw that the intense interest in the circle focused on several baby skunks. The shocked mother screamed at the top of her voice, "Children! Run, run, run!"

At the sound of their mother's alarmed voice, each child grabbed a skunk and ran. The screaming set off the danger alarm in the skunks, and each one dispelled its horrible scent spraying each child with the hideous smell.

On the other hand, ignoring a problem does not make it go away. A father and son learned that lesson on a fishing trip. Mother sent sack lunches. The hungry son pulled out an apple and took a big bite. It had a worm in it, so he spit it out and threw the apple in the lake. He bit into another apple and once again found a worm.

Finally, he took a third apple, shined it on his sleeve, closed his eyes and ate the entire apple. When he finished, he opened his eyes and smiling at his father he said, "I just pretended the worm wasn't there, and it tasted good."

Big problems may have simple solutions. Consultant Fred Smith suggests finding the essence of each situation, like a logger clearing a log jam. The pro climbs a tall tree and locates the key log, blows it and lets the stream do the rest.

Amateurs start at the edge of the jam and move all the logs, eventually

moving the key log. Both approaches work, but the essence concept saves time and effort. Almost all problems have a key log if we learn to find it.

Action Africa magazine tells how Andrew Murray found the key to a problem that had him flat on his back. Murray was in England to speak. However, while in Africa he had been thrown violently from a capsizing cart. The fall almost immobilized the great churchman and made it impossible for him to address the group.

When his hostess brought his breakfast on the day he was to speak, she informed him that a lady had called in deep trouble and was anxious for a word of advice.

"Well," said Mr. Murray, "just give her this that I have been writing for myself. It may be that she will find it helpful." This is what he had written:

In time of trouble say:

First: He brought me here; it is by His will I am in this straight place: in that I will rest.

Next: He will keep me here in His love, and give me grace in this trial to behave as His child.

Then: He will make the trial a blessing, teaching me the lessons He intends me to learn, and working in me the grace He means to bestow.

Last: In His good time He can bring me out again—how and when, He knows.

Say: I am here—By God's appointment, In His keeping, Under His training, For His time.

Some problems can be solved with common sense and \$18. Others demand that somebody climb higher and spot the key log. A few disappear if you close your eyes and bite the worm. The odd one requires that we speak softly to the skunk.

But even the worst, the loudest or the biggest unsnarls when we take Andrew Murray's counsel to consider God's appointment, God's timing and God's grace.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Theme: "Growing for God's Glory"



Ken Walker
Pastor
Second FWB Church
Ashland, Ky.



J. B. Varney
Pastor
Kirby FWB Church
Taylor, Mich.



David Joslin
Promotional Director
Arkansas State
Association



Jim Shepherd
President
Hillsdale FWB College
Moore, Okla.



Larry Powell
Pastor
Cofer's Chapel FWB Ch.
Nashville, Tenn.

54th Annual Session / July 15-19, 1990

Phoenix Civic Plaza

Phoenix, Arizona

THEME: "Growing For God's Glory"
MODERATOR: Ralph Hampton
MUSIC COORDINATOR: Blaine Hughes
ORGANIST: Todd Parrish
PIANIST: Jerry Carraway
REGISTRATION COORDINATOR: George Harvey, Jr.
HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: Hyatt Regency Phoenix
CONVENTION OFFICE: Phoenix Civic Plaza / North Press Room

SUNDAY MORNING / July 15

10:00-10:45 SUNDAY SCHOOL (Adults) Civic Plaza
Exhibit Hall-B
Presiding: J. L. Gore
Song Service: Mike Lewis
Music: California Christian College
Adult Teacher: Malcolm Fry

10:00-10:45 SUNDAY SCHOOL (Spanish) Civic Plaza
Phoenix Rooms 19-20
Spanish Teacher: Osmundo Corrales

10:00-10:45 SUNDAY SCHOOL (Youth) Civic Plaza
Primary/Junior Class Prescott Rooms 6-7
Junior High Class Prescott Rooms 8-10
Senior High Class Flagstaff Rooms

10:45 Intermission

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP (Adults) Civic Plaza
Exhibit Hall-B
Presiding: J. L. Gore
Song Service: Mike Lewis
Music: California Christian College
Offertory: Organ/Piano Duet
Solo: Malcolm Fry
MESSAGE: Ken Walker

11:00 MORNING WORSHIP (Youth) Civic Plaza
Primary/Junior Church Prescott Rooms 6-7
Teen Church Flagstaff Rooms

SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 15

1:30 Registration Orientation Civic Plaza
Phoenix Rooms 11-12

3:00 REGISTRATION for National Convention and WNAC Civic Plaza
North Lobby

3:00 REGISTRATION for National Youth Conference Sheraton Hotel
Lobby/Level 2

5:00 Usher Orientation Civic Plaza
Phoenix Rooms 13-15

5:00 Music Rehearsal Civic Plaza
Exhibit Hall-B

SUNDAY EVENING / July 15

7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
	Call to Worship: Brad Williams, Trumpet Presiding: David Reece Song Service: Danny Thomas Music: Truth and Peace McAllister Trio	
	Offertory: Southeastern FWB College Solo: Lisa Wallace MESSAGE: J. B. Varney	
8:30	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Civic Plaza North Lobby
8:30-10:00	NYC Registration Continues	Sheraton Hotel Lobby/Level 2
9:00-10:30	Children's Activities (See NYC Program)	Sheraton Hotel Lower Lobby Rooms
9:00-10:30	Youth Activities (See NYC Program)	Sheraton Hotel Grand Ballroom

MONDAY MORNING / July 16

7:00	General Board Breakfast	Hyatt Regency Curtis Room-A & B
7:00	NYC Breakfast (staff and judges)	Sheraton Hotel Gila Room
7:30-9:00	Master's Men Board	Hyatt Regency Borein Room-A
8:00	NYC Registration Continues	Sheraton Hotel Lobby/Level 2
8:00-8:45	WNAC Executive Committee Breakfast	Hyatt Regency Borein Room-B
8:30	Registration Continues	Civic Plaza North Lobby
8:30	NYC Assemblies (See NYC Program)	Sheraton Hotel
9:00	NYC Competitive Activities (See NYC Program)	Sheraton Hotel
9:00	GENERAL BOARD Convenes	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom-A & B
9:00-10:30	Foreign Missionary Orientation	Civic Plaza Prescott Rooms 6-7
9:00-11:00	WNAC Nominating Committee	Hyatt Regency Remington Room-A
9:00-11:45	WNAC Executive Committee	Hyatt Regency Board Room

MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 16

12:00-12:45	WNAC Executive Committee Luncheon	Hyatt Regency Borein Room-B
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1:00	NYC Competitive Activities (See NYC Program)	Sheraton Hotel
1:30	GENERAL BOARD Reconvenes	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom-A & B
1:30-2:30	WNAC Seminar	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom-C & D
	Theme: "Will You Carry the Invitation?" Presiding: Janie Aldridge	
2:00	Children's Activities (See NYC Program)	Sheraton Hotel Lower Lobby Rooms
3:00	Exhibit Area Opens	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-C
3:00-4:00	WNAC State Officers Meeting	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom-C & D
	Presiding: Mary Neal Speakers: June Rolen Debbie Mitchell Kay Hampton Anne Worthington	
3:00-5:00	Target 90 / City Celebration	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
5:00	Mass Youth Choir Rehearsal	Civic Plaza Ballroom
5:00	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
5:00	Children's Banquet	Sheraton Hotel Pueblo Room
6:00	Music Rehearsal	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B

MONDAY EVENING / July 16

7:00-8:30	NYC Keynote Service Speaker: Tim York	Civic Plaza Ballroom
7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
	Presiding: Paul Thompson Song Service: Dale Norrid Mass Adult Choir: Doug Little, Director	
	Session Called to Order and Moderator Introduced: Waldo Young, Clerk	
	Appointment of Committee on Committees: Ralph Hampton, Moderator	
	Welcome to Phoenix: Paul Thompson Moderator, Arizona State Association	
	Offertory: Herman Hersey, Piano Solo Music: California Christian College Solo: Cinda Thompson	
	MESSAGE: David Joslin	
8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-C
8:30	Men's Chorale Rehearsal	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B



Program ... (from page 7)

8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Civic Plaza North Lobby
9:00-10:30	Children's Activities (See NYC Program)	Sheraton Hotel Apache-A & B
9:00-10:30	TEAM Congress/Concert (See NYC Program)	Civic Plaza Ballroom
10:30	Exhibit Area Closed	

TUESDAY MORNING / July 17

7:00-8:15	Music Ministries Breakfast	Hyatt Regency Curtis Room-A & B
7:00-8:30	Home Missions Board Breakfast	Hyatt Regency Remington Room-A
8:00	NYC Registration Continues	Sheraton Hotel Lobby/Level 2
8:15	NYC Competitive Activities (See NYC Program)	Sheraton Hotel
8:30	Registration Continues	Civic Plaza North Lobby
8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-C
9:00	WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION (See WNAC Program) Presiding: Mary Neal, President	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
9:00-11:00	BIBLE CONFERENCE Presiding: Bob Thomas Song Service: Blaine Hughes 9:00 Music: Free Will Baptist Bible College Mexican Quartet Speaker: George Crowden 10:00 Music: Hillsdale FWB College Mike Lewis, Solo Speaker: Milton Hollifield	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom
11:10	WNAC Missionary Service Message: Kenneth Eagleton	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B

TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 17

12:15-1:30	Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon Speaker: Clarence Burton	Hyatt Regency Phoenix Ballroom
12:15-1:30	State Leaders Luncheon	Hyatt Regency Borein Room-A & B
1:00	NYC Competitive Activities (See NYC Program)	Sheraton Hotel
1:30	WNAC Reconvenes (See WNAC Program)	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
1:30-3:00	Master's Men Seminar Presiding: Wendell Leckbee	Civic Plaza Prescott Rooms 8-10

1:30-3:00	Theological Trends Seminar Presiding: Leroy Forlines	Civic Plaza Phoenix Rooms 19-20
1:30-3:00	Music Commission Seminar	Civic Plaza Prescott Rooms 6-7
1:30-3:00	"Double in a Decade" Seminar	Civic Plaza Flagstaff Rooms 1-5
2:00	Children's Activities (See NYC Program)	Sheraton Hotel Lower Lobby Rooms
4:00	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
5:00	Music Rehearsal	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
5:00-6:45	WNAC Fellowship Dinner Speaker: Rudene Kennedy	Hyatt Regency Regency Ballroom
5:15	Youth Service/Banquet Speaker: Jonathan Yandell (See NYC Program)	Rockin' R Ranch Mesa, Arizona

TUESDAY EVENING / July 17

7:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE Presiding: Clarence Burton Song Service: Vernon Whaley Men's Chorale: Vernon Whaley, Director Music: Free Will Baptist Colleges Offertory: Hillsdale FWB College MESSAGE: Jim Shepherd	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-C
8:30	Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
8:30-10:00	Registration Continues	Civic Plaza North Lobby
9:00-10:30	Children's Activities (See NYC Program)	Sheraton Hotel Apache-A & B
9:00-10:30	Board of Retirement Forum	Civic Plaza Prescott Rooms 6-7
10:30	Exhibit Area Closed	

WEDNESDAY MORNING / July 18

7:00	Youth Workers Breakfast	Sheraton Hotel Gila Room
8:15	NYC Competitive Finals (Bible Competition)	Sheraton Hotel Grand Ballroom
8:30	Exhibit Area Open	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-C
8:30	Registration Continues	Civic Plaza North Lobby
9:00-11:45	CONVENTION BUSINESS SESSION	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B

Moderator's Message: Ralph Hampton

Report of Credentials Committee
and Seating of Delegates
Partial Report of General Board
Partial Report of Nominating Committee

REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS
(Board members elected at conclusion of
each report.)

Executive Office: Melvin Worthington
Home Missions: Roy Thomas
Master's Men: James Vallance
Board of Retirement: Herman Hersey
Sunday School and Church Training: Roger Reeds
Foreign Missions: Eugene Waddell

11:00 NYC Awards Ceremony Sheraton Hotel
(See NYC Program) Grand Ballroom

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / July 18

12:00 REGISTRATION CLOSES

12:00-1:15 Free Will Baptist Bible College Hyatt Regency
Luncheon Regency Ballroom-A & B

1:30 CONVENTION BUSINESS Civic Plaza
Reconvenes Exhibit Hall-B

Scripture Reading and Prayer
Assistant Moderator: Carl Cheshier

1:35 REPORTS OF NATIONAL DEPARTMENTS
(continued)
Free Will Baptist Foundation: Herman Hersey
Free Will Baptist Bible College: Charles Thigpen
Commission for Theological Integrity: Leroy Forlines
Radio-Television Commission: Sandy Goodfellow
Music Commission: Bill Gardner
Historical Commission: David Joslin

2:00 NYC Ministry Seminar Sheraton Hotel
(See NYC Program) Grand Ballroom

2:00 Children's Activities Sheraton Hotel
(See NYC Program) Lower Lobby Rooms

3:30 General Board Final Report
Partial Report of Nominating Committee
Election of General Board Members

4:00 Business Session Recessed

4:00 Mass Adult Choir Rehearsal Civic Plaza
(or immediately following Exhibit Hall-B
business session)

5:00 Master's Men Dinner Sheraton Hotel
Speaker: Neil Gilliland Pueblo Room

5:00 Music Rehearsal Civic Plaza
Exhibit Hall-B

WEDNESDAY EVENING / July 18

7:00-8:30 WORSHIP SERVICE Civic Plaza
Exhibit Hall-B

Presiding: Connie Cariker
Song Service: Larry Clyatt
Mass Adult Choir: Doug Little, Director

Music: Mexican Quartet

Recognition of Missionaries: Roy Thomas
Eugene Waddell

Missions Offering: Connie Cariker

Offertory: Free Will Baptist Bible College

Solo: Bobby Thomas

MESSAGE: Larry Powell

8:30 Exhibit Area Open Civic Plaza
Exhibit Hall-C

9:00 NYC Awards Ceremony Civic Plaza
Exhibit Hall-B

10:30 Exhibit Area Closed

THURSDAY MORNING / July 19

7:30-9:00 Sunday School Board Hyatt Regency
Breakfast Borein Room-B

7:30-9:00 Foreign Missions Board Hyatt Regency
Breakfast Remington Room-A

8:30 Exhibit Area Open Civic Plaza
Exhibit Hall-C

9:00 CONCLUDING BUSINESS Civic Plaza
SESSION Exhibit Hall-B

Scripture Reading & Prayer
Assistant Clerk: Keith Burden

NYC Report: Jim Lauthern
WNAC Report: Mary R. Wisehart
Report of Committees:

- Registration
- Budget
- Resolutions

Nominating Committee Final Report
Election of General Officers

11:45 Adjournment

12:15 Exhibits Closed (30 minutes after
convention adjournment)

SPANISH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS IN PHOENIX

NASHVILLE, TN—As a courtesy to Spanish-speaking delegates to the National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, Pastor Osmundo Corrales will teach a Spanish Sunday School class during the regular Sunday School hour, July 15, at Phoenix Civic Plaza, Phoenix Rooms 19-20.

Reverend Corrales pastors Resurrection FWB Church in Culver City, California. He also serves as moderator of the Hispanic Association.

NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

23rd Annual Conference / July 15-18, 1990

Sheraton Phoenix Hotel / Phoenix, Arizona

THEME: "MISSIONS—Lighting a Darkened World"

DIRECTOR / BIBLE COMPETITION COORDINATOR: Jim Lauthern

MUSIC AND ARTS FESTIVAL COORDINATOR: Dean Jones

CHILDREN'S COORDINATOR: Lisa Jones

REGISTRATION COORDINATOR: June McVay

REGISTRATION ASSISTANT: Jill Pointer

(NYC operates under the auspices of the Sunday School and Church Training Department.)

SUNDAY MORNING / July 15

10:00-10:45	SUNDAY SCHOOL	Civic Plaza
	Primary/Junior Class	Prescott Rooms 6-7
	Junior High Class	Prescott Rooms 8-10
	Senior High Class	Flagstaff Rooms

10:45 Intermission

11:00-12:00	MORNING WORSHIP	Civic Plaza
	Primary/Junior Church	Prescott Rooms 6-7
	Teen Church	Flagstaff Rooms

SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 15

3:00	NYC Registration	Sheraton Hotel Lobby/Level 2
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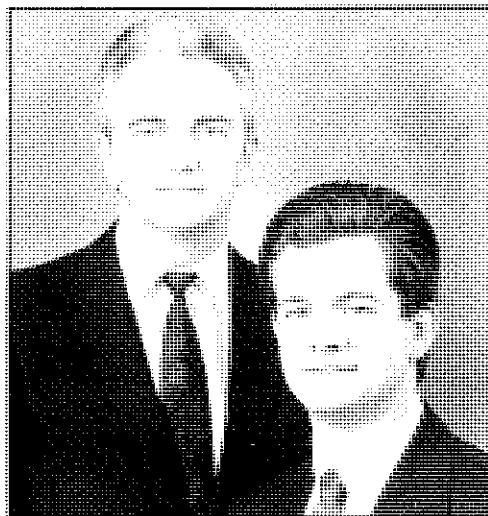
SUNDAY EVENING / July 15

7:00-8:30	Convention Assembly	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
8:30-10:00	NYC Registration Continues	Sheraton Hotel Lobby/Level 2
9:00-10:30	Children's Activities	Sheraton Hotel Lower Lobby Rooms
9:00-10:30	Youth Activities	Sheraton Hotel Grand Ballroom

MONDAY MORNING / July 16

7:00	NYC Breakfast (staff and judges)	Sheraton Hotel Gila Room
8:00	NYC Registration Continues	Sheraton Hotel Lobby/Level 2

8:15	Morning Devotional Time	Sheraton Hotel North Ballroom
8:30	NYC ASSEMBLIES	Sheraton Hotel
	Music and Arts Assembly	North Ballroom
	All Entries and Coaches	
	Bible Bowl	Navajo-C & D
	All Teams and Coaches	
	Bible Tic Tac Toe	Navajo-A & B
	All Teams and Coaches	
	Sword Drill/Memorization	Hopi-B
	All Entries and Coaches	
9:00	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	Sheraton Hotel
	Music and Arts Section 1	North Ballroom
	Vocal Ensembles	
	Music and Arts Section 2	South Ballroom
	Keyboard	
	Music and Arts Section 3	Apache-A & B
	Oral Communications	
	Individual Entries	
	Bible Bowl	Navajo-C & D
	Bible Tic Tac Toe	Navajo-A & B
	Bible Sword Drill	Hopi-B
	Grade 4	
10:00	Bible Memorization	Hopi-B
	Grade 1	



Lauthern

Jones

MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 16

1:00	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	Sheraton Hotel
	Music and Arts Section 4 Vocal Ensembles	North Ballroom
	Music and Arts Section 5 Vocal Solos	South Ballroom
	Music and Arts Section 6 Oral Communications Individual Entries	Apache-A & B
	Bible Bowl	Navajo-C & D
	Bible Tic Tac Toe	Navajo-A & B
	Bible Sword Drill Grade 5	Hopi-B
2:00	Bible Memorization Grade 2	Hopi-B
2:00	Children's Activities	Sheraton Hotel Lower Lobby Rooms
5:00	Children's Banquet	Sheraton Hotel Pueblo Room
5:00	Mass Youth Choir Rehearsal	Civic Plaza Ballroom

MONDAY EVENING / July 16

7:00-8:30	NYC Keynote Service Speaker: Tim York	Civic Plaza Ballroom
9:00-10:30	TEAM Congress/Concert	Civic Plaza Ballroom
9:00-10:30	Children's Activities	Sheraton Hotel Apache-A & B

TUESDAY MORNING / July 17

8:00	Morning Devotional Time	Sheraton Hotel North Ballroom
8:00	NYC Registration Continues	Sheraton Hotel Lobby/Level 2
8:15	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	Sheraton Hotel
	Music and Arts Section 7 Vocal Ensembles	North Ballroom
	Music and Arts Section 8 Instrumental	South Ballroom
	Music and Arts Section 9 Oral Communications Group Entries	Apache-A & B
	Music and Arts Section 10 Oral Communications Puppetry	Pueblo Room
	Bible Bowl	Navajo-C & D
	Bible Tic Tac Toe	Navajo-A & B
	Bible Sword Drill Grade 6	Hopi-B
9:30	Bible Memorization Grade 3	Hopi-B

TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 17

1:00	NYC COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES	Sheraton Hotel
	Music and Arts Section 11 Choirs/Chorales	Grand Ballroom
	Music and Arts Section 12 Oral Communications Puppetry	Pueblo Room
	Bible Bowl	Navajo-C & D
	Bible Tic Tac Toe	Navajo-A & B
2:00	Children's Activities	Sheraton Hotel Lower Lobby Rooms

TUESDAY EVENING / July 17

5:15	Youth Service/Banquet (Buses load at Sheraton Hotel, 5:15 and return to hotel at 10:30)	Rockin' R Ranch Mesa, Arizona
9:00-10:30	Children's Activities	Sheraton Hotel Apache-A & B

WEDNESDAY MORNING / July 18

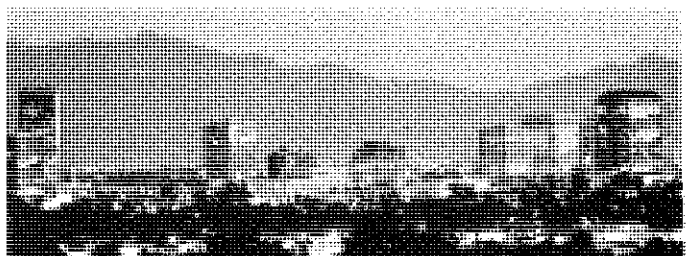
7:00-8:00	Youth Workers Breakfast	Sheraton Hotel Gila Room
8:00	Morning Devotional Time	Sheraton Hotel Grand Ballroom
8:15-11:00	Bible Competition Finals	Sheraton Hotel Grand Ballroom
8:15	NYC Registration Continues	Sheraton Hotel Lobby/Level 2
11:00	NYC Awards Ceremony (Bible, Arts, Writing)	Sheraton Hotel Grand Ballroom

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON / July 18

2:00	NYC Ministry Seminar	Sheraton Hotel Grand Ballroom
2:00	Children's Activities	Sheraton Hotel Lower Lobby Rooms

WEDNESDAY EVENING / July 18

7:00-8:30	Main Convention Service	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B
9:00	NYC Awards Ceremony	Civic Plaza Exhibit Hall-B



WOMAN'S NATIONAL AUXILIARY CONVENTION

55th Annual Session / July 16-17, 1990

Phoenix Civic Plaza

Phoenix, Arizona

THEME: "The Great Invitation"
SCRIPTURE: Revelation 22:17
HYMN: "The Woman's Hymn"
MUSIC COORDINATOR: Lisa Wallace
ORGANIST: JoAnna Felts
PIANIST: Karrie Murfin
REGISTRATION CO-CHAIRMAN: Pat Atchley and Dixie Guild
HEADQUARTERS HOTEL: Hyatt Regency Phoenix

SUNDAY AFTERNOON / July 15

1:30 Registration Orientation Civic Plaza
Phoenix Rooms 11-12

3:00 REGISTRATION Civic Plaza
North Lobby

MONDAY MORNING / July 16

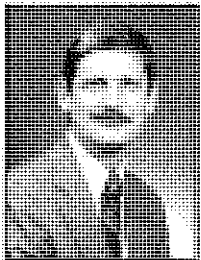
8:00-8:45 WNAC Executive Committee Hyatt Regency
Breakfast Borein Room-B

9:00-11:00 WNAC Nominating Committee Hyatt Regency
Remington Room-A

9:00-11:45 WNAC Executive Committee Hyatt Regency
Board Room

MONDAY AFTERNOON / July 16

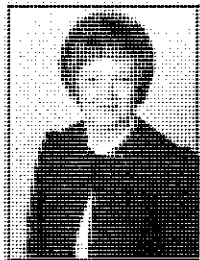
12:00-12:45 WNAC Executive Committee Hyatt Regency
Luncheon Borein Room-B



Eagleton



Kennedy



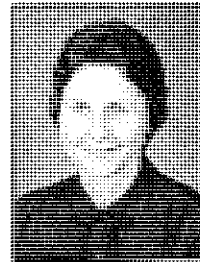
Neal

1:30-2:30 WNAC Seminar Hyatt Regency
Regency Ballroom-C & D

Theme: "Will You Carry the Invitation?"
 Presiding: Janie Aldridge

3:00-4:00 WNAC State Officers Meeting Hyatt Regency
Regency Ballroom-C & D

Presiding: Mary Neal



Aldridge



Miley



Wisehart

Speakers: June Rolan
 Debbie Mitchell
 Kay Hampton
 Anne Worthington

TUESDAY MORNING / July 17

9:00 WOMAN'S NATIONAL Civic Plaza
AUXILIARY CONVENTION Exhibit Hall-B

Presiding: Mary Neal

Congregational Singing: "The Woman's Hymn"
 Devotion: Bessie Richards
 Special Music: Davelle Halliburton

Welcome: Pat Atchley
 Creative Arts Awards: Lorene Miley
 Credentials Committee Report/Seating of Delegates
 Executive Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Mary R. Wisehart
 Resolutions Committee Report
 Appreciation Committee Report

11:10 WNAC MISSIONARY Civic Plaza
SERVICE Exhibit Hall-B

Congregational Singing
 Offering
 Special Music: Sextet
 Message: Kenneth Eagleton

12:00 Recess

TUESDAY AFTERNOON / July 17

1:30 Congregational Singing Civic Plaza
Registration Committee Report Exhibit Hall-B
 WNAC Missionary Feature: Lorene Miley
 and Missionaries

3:00 Adjournment

5:00 WNAC Fellowship Dinner Hyatt Regency
Regency Ballroom

Invocation: Alton Loveless
 Speaker: Rudene Kennedy
 Benediction: David Reece



I Love Free Will Baptists!

By Douglas Little

The Free Will Baptist National Convention is one of the highlight weeks of my year. My wife and I participate every year with thousands of other Free Will Baptists in this exhausting but exhilarating melee. For me the national week means hard work in meetings and services, with not much sleep to distinguish one day from the next.

But now that I'm rested, I reflect on the annual convention with a renewed sense of love for this bunch of believers called Free Will Baptists. Here's why....

I love Free Will Baptist people.

You meet all kinds at the national which showcases the diversity in our denomination. Sometimes we squawk about our differences, but we're deeply bound to an all-transcending mission and unity of faith. Free Will Baptists know as well as any how to laugh, sing and eat. I love seeing old friends, making new ones and celebrating the dynamic that makes us us.

I love the Free Will Baptist program.

It stirs my juices to hear reports about our denominational ministries. I believe we've got our priorities right concerning education and missions. I love being part of a group that's

unashamedly evangelistic in mission and committed to the integrity and inspiration of the scriptures. I'm proud of what we're doing, knowing well that we've got a long way to go but grateful for what we've accomplished this far.

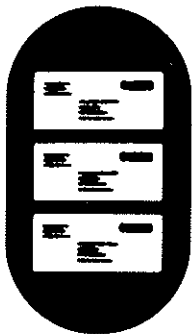
I love Free Will Baptist progress.

I am excited about the bold steps to move our denomination into the 21st century. The progress will always be slower than I'd like, but there are signs of a growing vision for us: a new mission work in West Germany, plans for an international fellowship, a research study of the undergraduate educational needs of our youth, an invitation to unaffiliated Free Will Baptists of all races to meet with us in July, a bold program of stewardship education. Believe me, we're making progress.

I am grateful for God's call on my life and the opportunity to serve Him as a pastor. I do not apologize for being Free Will Baptist. I am what I am by calling and by choice. And I love it.



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Douglas Little pastors First Free Will Baptist Church, Russellville, Arkansas. He also serves on the Free Will Baptist Bible College Board of Trustees.



OUR READERS COMMENT

ADD THE SIXTH WRITING STYLE

The March "Briefcase" suited my fancy almost to a tee. But you failed to mention the sixth style of writing—the Jack Williams style.

I fully agree on the five writers and the five styles of writing that you set out. But in my opinion no one in the field of religious journalism tops your style. You are the master of the metaphor—the savant with the simile—the modern-day John Bunyan with the allegory.

I have been amazed at your ability to bring a hungry man at your door asking for a handout,

to the foot of the Cross to meet Jesus; a woman troubled with problems too great for her to cope with and show a better side equal to Mary or Dorcas. And you can take an overburdened, misunderstood pastor whose people have lost patience with his bumbling and stumbling and turn him from a humble penitent to a winner for Jesus.

I want to include, at least in my categorizing, the sixth writing style and call it simply the Jack Williams style. May the Lord give you many more years of valuable service to Him and your denomination.

Dr. Damon C. Dodd
Colquitt, Georgia

READER LIKES CARTOON

Beyond Belief in the April issue is delightful. Most of us aren't quite so candid but probably share the sentiments of the cartoon character.

You have enriched my missiological perspective. I am properly grateful.

Reverend Larry Hampton
Randall House Publications
Nashville, Tennessee

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.

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:

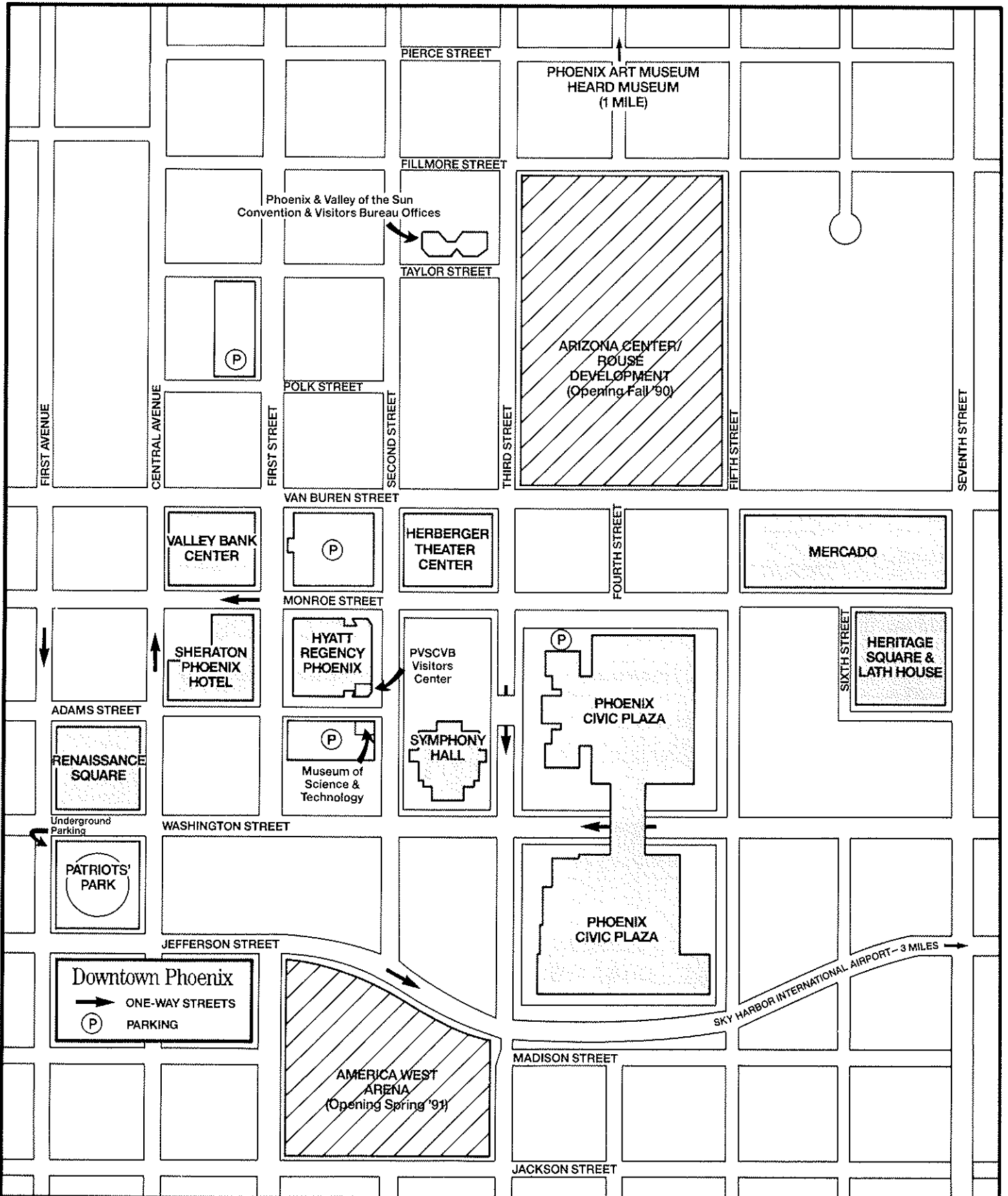
SINGLE/1 PERSON _____ DOUBLE/2 PEOPLE _____

TRIPLE/3 PEOPLE _____ QUAD/4 PEOPLE _____

NUMBER OF BEDS IN ROOM _____

PLEASE LIST ROOM OCCUPANTS:

HOTEL LOCATIONS





FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

200 ATTEND ILLINOIS STATE ASSOCIATION

SALEM, IL—More than 200 people registered at the 30th annual Illinois State Association which met March 16-17 at Calvary FWB Church in Salem, according to Clerk Larry Cook.

Moderator Larry Clyatt was re-elected. He gavelled delegates through two days of reports and business. The Board of Missions presented a plaque to retiring pastor J. Reford Wilson for his service on the board while pastoring in Illinois.

Delegates heard four sermons developing the state theme, "Having

Their Gifts Differing." Illinois pastors Sam Henderson and Burt Hall teamed with national agency personnel Melvin Worthington and Jimmy Aldridge to complete the preaching program.

Officials reported that Illinois minister David Poteet will start a new church in Chicago.

The Honorable Leonard Ferguson, mayor of Salem, welcomed delegates to the city.

The 1991 state association meets March 15-16 at First FWB Church in Johnston City.

CORRECTION

The March 1990 issue erroneously reported that First FWB Church of Wichita, Kansas, sent the most people to the Nov. 30 - Dec. 2, 1989 Welcome Days at Free Will Baptist Bible College (page 16). The church that sent the most people was Westside FWB Church in Wichita.

We regret the error and are happy to set the record straight.

CONVENTION TO FEATURE SPECIAL 'OLD TIME CAMP MEETING'

NASHVILLE, TN—One of the highlights of the national convention for several years has been the Old Time Camp Meeting sponsored by the Home Missions Department. The meetings are held on Monday afternoons from 3:00 to 5:00. Since Phoenix, Arizona is the Target City adopted by the National Association, Monday afternoon at the convention will feature a unique "Target City Rally."

The rally includes a special choir composed of home missionaries at the convention, and music by the Howard Gwartney family, Carolyn Adams and others.

The rally highlight will focus on the

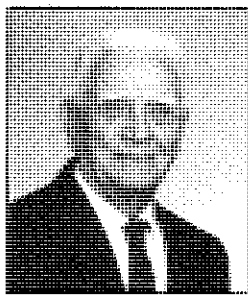
five Target City missionaries as they introduce the congregations they have gathered since moving to the Valley of the Sun. Also featured will be testimonies of people saved because of the ministry of the Target City missionaries.

Recognition will be given to those who participated in the "Aim for the Target" campaign, an effort to present each Phoenix missionary with a check for their land funds at the convention.

There will also be time on the program for preaching as the "Son" is taken by Free Will Baptists to the Valley of the Sun.

DR. J. P. BARROW, BIBLE TEACHER, WITH THE LORD

NASHVILLE, TN—The Free Will Baptist denomination lost one of its most loved Bible teachers when 91-year-old Dr. J. P. Barrow died March 11 in Nashville. Best known for his



years as a Bible instructor at Free Will Baptist Bible College, Dr. Barrow taught at the college from 1944 to 1963.

He began his education in North Carolina against almost insurmount-

able odds. When he was young he worked in the fields and only attended school a day or two at a time. At age 21 he went to Ayden, where he started in the lowest grade available in the school, the sixth grade.

By 1924 he had graduated from Moody Bible Institute. He then spent seven years at Northern Baptist Seminary, earning three degrees—Th.B., Th.G. and B.D. After he started two Bible schools in Smithfield and Goldsboro, N.C., Dr. Barrow pursued another bachelor's degree at Wheaton College, a master's degree at Winona Lake School of Theology and a Ph.D. at Burton Seminary.

J. P. Barrow was a man of many books, his home stacked floor-to-ceiling with reference material gleaned from a lifetime of study. He possessed a keen sense of humor balanced with a deep reverence for that which con-

cerned God and God's work.

Reverend John Gibbs who officiated at the funeral said, "Dr. Barrow was a good example of the righteous man mentioned in Psalm 1. He spent his productive years serving God, teaching and preaching the Word. He was not a materialistic man and did not allow himself to be pressed into the mold of this world."

Dr. Barrow is survived by his daughter, Juanita Thompson of Tennessee; a son, John Owen Barrow II of California; brothers Taft Barrow of Colorado, N. Bruce Barrow of North Carolina; three sisters, Charlotte Gray, Myrtle Brown and Mattie Barrow of North Carolina.

Funeral services were conducted March 14, 1990, in Nashville, Tennessee. Interment followed at Hull Road Free Will Baptist Church in Snow Hill, N.C.

RECORD 880 ATTEND DEDICATION AT TENNESSEE CHURCH

COOKEVILLE, TN—Some 880 members, guests and government officials participated in the dedication of a Veterans' Memorial at Cookeville FWB Church, according to Pastor David Crowe.

The March 25 ceremony attracted U.S. senators and congressmen as well as local government and law-enforcement officials. The Veterans' Memorial stands in front of three flag poles on the church grounds. Flags that had flown over the capitol in Washington, D.C., and the state of

Tennessee were hoisted alongside the Christian flag.

Pastor Crowe said the 880 attendance almost doubled the church's previous high of 481. He said that inclement weather probably kept some people away. The 10:00 a.m. dedication service was broadcast live over a local radio station.

Reverend Crowe has begun his fourth year of leadership as pastor of the Cookeville Church. The March 25 service culminated a month of patriotic emphases in the community.



Pastor David Crowe (third from right) leads Veterans' Memorial dedication.

PASTOR NAMED ARKANSAS CTS DIRECTOR

CONWAY, AR—Pastor Jackie Bill Brown was named Arkansas Church Training Service Director by the state CTS Board on February 6. He assumed his duties in March.

At the time of his appointment Rev. Brown was pastoring Hillside FWB Church in Mansfield. The 33-year-old minister will coordinate state CTS programs as well as direct operations at Camp Beaverfork near Conway.

Rev. Brown said, "As CTS Director I will visit in our churches and associations to persuade more young people to become involved in youth camp."

Brown is an alumnus of WestArk Community College (Fort Smith) and the University of Central Arkansas (Conway). He has worked in Little League programs, coached softball, basketball and football teams, and served as president of the Mansfield Parent-Teacher Association.

For the past five years he took his vacation to attend Camp Beaverfork. While there he functioned as a dorm counselor, athletic director and teacher.

Jackie and Kay Brown have two children—Christopher (11) and Catrina (9). Kay is an alumnus of Hillsdale FWB College.

FREE WILL BAPTIST BOOK DEALERS MEET

NASHVILLE, TN—Free Will Baptist book dealers from seven states met in Nashville March 13-14. All sessions were conducted at Randall House Publications.

Rev. Warren Willke, owner of The Christian Armory, in Columbus, Ohio, was the featured speaker. The Christian Armory consists of three Christian bookstores. Together they

comprise one of the largest religious bookstore operations in the world.

Rev. Willke led seminars on store-sponsored workshops, direct marketing, curriculum sales and handling daily store operations. He stressed service to the church throughout his presentations.

Dr. Alton Loveless is president of the Free Will Baptist Book Dealers

Fellowship. He is associated with the Ambassador Bible Bookstore in Columbus, Ohio.

Other officers include Warren Livingston, Vice-president (Manager, Lebanon Bible and Book Store, Lebanon, Missouri) and Becky Beverly, Secretary-Treasurer (Manager, Randall Bookstore in Nashville).

MAN SHOTS WIFE, KILLS SELF AT CHURCH

BYNG, OK—A 31-year-old man walked into the morning worship service March 11 at Byng FWB Church in Oklahoma, shot his estranged wife in the head twice and then turned the gun on himself, according to Pastor David McDougal.

The woman, Tawanna Jo Lynch, 32, was shot with a .22-caliber revolver. She was taken to a nearby hospital in critical condition. Her hus-

band, David Lynch, was dead at the scene.

Deputy John Christian said, "He came in through a side door, walked across the back and up the side aisle and made a statement to her before he shot her."

The couple, who have two children, had recently filed for divorce. They had been separated about a month. Deputy Christian said that

Tawanna Lynch had received a temporary protective order, and that David Lynch had been arrested in February for violating that order.

The shooting occurred as ushers were about to receive the morning offering. Some 55 churchgoers watched as the tragic incident occurred.

The bus ministry at **Williams Road FWB Church, Columbus, Ohio**, has grown from four riders to 57, according to bus director **Veril Adkins**. **James Blair** pastors.

Pastor **Merit Smith** reports three baptisms at **Germany Hollow FWB Church, Wheelersburg, Ohio**. The church also installed a new furnace.

The word from **Divine FWB Church, Cleveland, Ohio**, is six conversions, four baptisms and four new church members. **Bobby Hudnall** pastors.

The congregation at **Unity FWB Church, Cleveland, Ohio**, completed a new sanctuary, according to Pastor **Lester McMahan**.

Members of **Pleasant Valley FWB Church of Ohio's County Conference** honored **Eliza Stamper** who served 38 years as church clerk and 41 years as church pianist. Mrs. Stamper was converted at the age of 14. She is the mother of 12 children. **Larry Joseph** pastors.

Pastor **Glen Rader** reports six conversions and three rededications at **Newton Falls FWB Church, Newton Falls, Ohio**.

The bus ministry at **Union FWB Church, Wheelersburg, Ohio**, resulted in 12 conversions, according to Pastor **George Grice**. Officials reported 10 children and two mothers saved.

Greater Columbus FWB Church, Columbus, Ohio, reports six conversions, six baptisms and six new members. **James Young** pastors.

Dr. **Ken Riggs**, professor at Free Will Baptist Bible College conducted a family life seminar in May at **Ambassador FWB Church, Cincinnati, Ohio**. The seminar was sponsored by the **Tri-State Conference**.

Pastor Doug Little said that **First FWB Church, Russellville, AR**, is committed to one goal during 1990. That goal is to add 25 new believers to the church. To that end, the church has been called to prayer morning and evening for 40 days and 40 nights.

Pastor **Reuben Cason** encouraged members to bring visitors to their spring revival. **Bobbie Drew** brought 18 visitors, **Brad O'Neal** brought 11 and **Lucille Hatchell** brought 10. Cason pastors **First FWB Church, Darlington, SC**. The congregation started a college Sunday School class. Pastor Cason preaches on radio station WOLS in Florence, SC, each Sunday at 7:30 a.m.

Pastor **Patrick Palomo** reports 47

conversions and 16 baptisms in seven months at **South Union FWB Church, Bakersfield, CA**. The church recorded attendance marks of 62 in Sunday School and 85 for worship services.

Congratulations to Home Missionary **David Burgess** who produced a top quality brochure for distribution. Some 15,000 brochures were distributed on behalf of **Cornerstone FWB Church, Normal, IL**. The two-color, six-panel brochure answers four questions about the church and presents a mini-sketch of Free Will Baptist beliefs.

The Woman's Auxiliary at **Cofer's Chapel FWB Church, Nashville, TN**, assumed responsibility for witnessing to a cottage of 12 and 13-year-old girls at Tennessee Preparatory School. The school is a child-caring program for boys and girls who are "dependent, neglected, unruly or in danger of becoming delinquent." **Mary Wisehart** and **Lorene Miley** have reached out to specific girls and had them in their homes.

Members of **First FWB Church, Waco, TX**, voted to close the church in February 1990. Members also voted to donate the church property and \$19,000 in cash to the **West Fork Youth Camp**. Church trustees presented the property and a check to the Christian Education Board of the West Fork Association. The church property has been appraised at \$38,500.

The time came and Pastor **Gordon Sebastian** asked members of **Peace FWB Church, Wilson, NC**, to try something new. He asked members to try two Sunday morning worship services for six months as an alternative to investing \$150,000 to renovate.

Three **Arkansas** churches sponsored a 10-mile walk-a-thon for Home Missionary **George Harvey, Jr.** in March. Some 30 people participated in the event and raised more than \$1000 for the Arizona-bound missionary. **Kevin Doggett** coordinated the event. Participating churches included **Pleasant Valley FWB** and **First FWB Churches of Warren** and **Spring Hill FWB Church of Banks**. Pastors **Doug Ferguson**, **Roy Grice, Jr.** and **Billy Wilson** cheered the fund-raising endeavor.

Mt. Vernon FWB Church, Russellville, AR, organized a Master's Men chapter with 15 charter members, according to Pastor **Earl Stapleton**. Nine men are now LifeMembers or have a LifeCommitment to Master's Men. The men have

remodeled the church fellowship hall, aided elderly members during winter months, and traveled out of state to assist in building new Free Will Baptist churches.

Reverend **Roy Grimmet**, a Free Will Baptist minister for 60 years, died January 7, 1990. Brother Grimmet was ordained at the age of 27. Two of his sons are ordained Free Will Baptist ministers. He was a member of Green Branch FWB Church, Mann, WV.

Pastor **Linzell Walls** reports the organization of a youth group at **Lyburn FWB Church, Lyburn, WV**, that averages more than 70 in attendance. Members also completed a fellowship hall within the past year.

Horton Heights FWB Church, Nashville, TN, celebrates its 35th anniversary June 24. Former member Dr. **Billy Melvin** will address the morning service. Pastor **Chris Real** said the church plans afternoon activities as well as a noon meal for guests.

More than 800 attended a rally at **Pleasant View Christian School, Pleasant View, TN**, and raised almost \$16,000 for Free Will Baptist Bible College. The rally was sponsored by churches of the **Northern Quarterly Meeting** (Cumberland Association). **Terry Boyd** moderates.

Camp Beaverfork, the youth camp for **Arkansas** Free Will Baptists closed out the 1980's with a remarkable record, according to Arkansas promotional director **David Joslin**. The camp recorded 1,187 professions of faith and 1,785 rededications. Camp officials registered just under 10,000 campers for the decade.

When members of **Bethany FWB Church, Timmonsville, SC**, voted to purchase a church van, a layman in the church loaned the needed money at no interest. Pastor **Rick Cason** said, "We praise the Lord for men who take such an interest in the Lord's work."

Members of **Twin Oaks FWB Church, Fredericktown, MO**, added 2,800 square feet to their existing building. The addition includes classrooms, assembly area, dining hall and kitchen as well as a pastor's study and church office. **Bob Thebeau** pastors.

Members of **Rock Chapel FWB Church, Norwood, MO**, raised more than \$2,000 for Home Missionary **Vergel Maness**. Pastor **Gary Mitchener** reports six baptisms.



FOUNDATION

Herman L. Hersey
Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Growing and Giving Together in September

September is Stewardship Month. We hope that pastors and churches have already started preparations. But individuals and families must plan ahead too if they expect to enjoy the spiritual benefits of growing and giving together this year.

Let me suggest three ways we personally can get ready during the next three months for a meaningful stewardship growth and celebration in September.

First, take a stewardship inventory by answering honestly these five questions.

1. Do I tithe regularly? Consistently?
2. Do I tithe my gross income, the total I earn before deductions? Or do I tithe only my set income, what I actually receive after deductions?
3. Do I teach my children to tithe their allowances, gifts and earnings?
4. Do I give offerings above my tithe?
5. Do I give willingly and cheerfully as unto the Lord?

Second, review the scriptures as they relate to stewardship of your income, your money. Here's a list to get started.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Deuteronomy 15:11 | Luke 12:15 |
| Proverbs 3:9-10 | I Corinthians 16:1-2 |
| Proverbs 15:16 | II Corinthians 9:6-9 |
| Proverbs 28:17 | I Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19 |
| Malachi 3:8-10 | Hebrews 13:5 |
| Matthew 6:31-34 | I John 3:17-18 |
| Matthew 22:20-21 | |

Third, outline a plan for laying aside your gift and your family's gift for the National Ministries Offering September 30.

The National Ministries Offering is the one offering annually when every Free Will Baptist adult and child can by giving one gift support our worldwide outreach through all the national ministries.

This offering should not replace regular cooperative plan gifts, personal designated gifts or budgeted church gifts. Rather it is a once-a-year sacrificial gift, a gift given on this special day, September 30, when we unite across our denomination, growing and giving together.


This is a good time for families to plan and grow together, a time when children learn to be good stewards

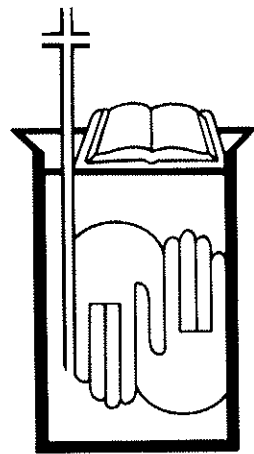
and make stewardship decisions, a time when families can draw closer to God and to one another.

Children especially enjoy watching their gifts grow as their offerings are placed in a special fund or bank. Make National Ministries Sunday a meaningful experience and memory that will endure to eternity for you and your family.

The 1990 gift goal for each of us—every Free Will Baptist, every family member—is \$34.81. For example, a family of three gives an offering of \$104.43.

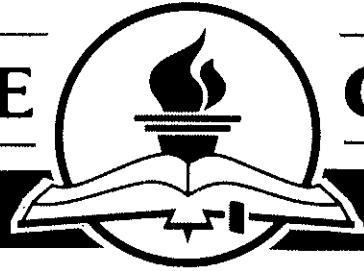
This is how we came up with that amount. The total number of Free Will Baptists was divided into the total 1990 budget of all our national departments. Just think, working together we can meet the financial needs of every national ministry with one united offering.

I hope you, your family and your church will join with Free Will Baptists around the world in growing and giving together on September 30. 



National Ministries Sunday

HOUSE



CALL

Very Beneficial Summer Ministry

Summer time can be prime time for ministry. Many churches use Vacation Bible School to anchor their summer ministry. Do you plan to make use of this excellent opportunity for teaching and evangelizing children, youth and adults of your community? Don't answer that question until you read Max Hickerson's list of VBS benefits.

1. VBS helps Christians find and use their gifts.
2. VBS provides a means of knowing the church members, their children and their friends.
3. VBS assists in doing the work of the church.
4. VBS prepares older youth with Christian leadership experience.
5. VBS is a time to teach the ordinances of Christ.
6. VBS is a vital tool for Bible memorization.
7. VBS combats the summer slump in attendance.
8. VBS involves the pupils and teachers in Christian growth.
9. VBS sharpens the teachers' skills.
10. VBS creates a joyous atmosphere!

Howard Castle suggests several alternatives to consider when scheduling your Vacation Bible School.

Evening VBS—Make the program a family affair, held at night, and designed to involve the entire family in Bible study.

Satellite VBS—A VBS program with special outreach emphasis need such as an inner-city location, housing project, mobile home court, etc.

Day Camp VBS—A week or two of all-day activity in a public park, forest, farm or refuge. The VBS curriculum is used, but the program is greatly expanded with sports, crafts, field trips and special features.

Family VBS—VBS with a home emphasis. Parents are provided with a student book and teacher's manual for every age level represented in the home. The parents then use the materials with their children whenever possible—in worship, special family night activities and so forth.

Traditional VBS—Ah, yes. Don't forget this option. Calling students (all ages) to the church each morning for a week or two of VBS still works in a majority of situations. Whatever option you choose, remember—VBS is supposed to be filled with fun and exciting learning experiences.

Curriculum is the heart of your VBS. Al Jones offers this six-point

checklist to guide you in your curriculum selection.

1. Is it Bible-centered in content? Does it present the scriptures as God's inspired revelation?
2. Is it pupil-centered in approach? Is the material graded so that the lesson is appealing and helpful to the pupils of each age level?
3. Is it complete? Does the course include worship, memory work, recreation, handwork, stories, music and Bible lessons? Does it provide all the information you need?
4. Is it easy to follow? Are each day's activities outlined in detail? Can the inexperienced teacher follow the course step by step?
5. Is it timely? Is the approach up-to-date? Does the lesson material teach the child to live for Christ today?
6. Is it correlated? Are all of the activities—worship, memorization, handwork and recreation—built around the central theme?

When you are ready to order your VBS curriculum, call Randall House Publications. Our toll free number is 1-800-251-5762 (in Tennessee, call 1-800-624-6538).



MINI GRAMS

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

The Desperate Need for Land Let's Get Mission Churches Out of Rented Buildings!

By Roy Thomas

There is an urgent need to plant churches in the large cities of America. Half of all Americans live in 50 metropolitan areas. Over 75 percent of America's population lives in a city larger than 50,000 while most Free Will Baptist churches are located in the country or small towns.

Even though we can be proud of the job our forefathers did in evangelizing our country in their day, this is a different time with new challenges and problems. We must meet the challenge of establishing churches in cities where the majority of the people lives.

God has called home missionaries to face the challenge of the cities, and Free Will Baptists have faithfully supported each one. But those who dare to labor in metropolitan areas face the tremendous obstacle of the enormous cost of land.

The Church Extension Loan Fund (CELFL) makes it possible for most missionaries to erect buildings large enough to house a congregation that

can maintain a self-supporting church, but this first requires a piece of land on which to build.

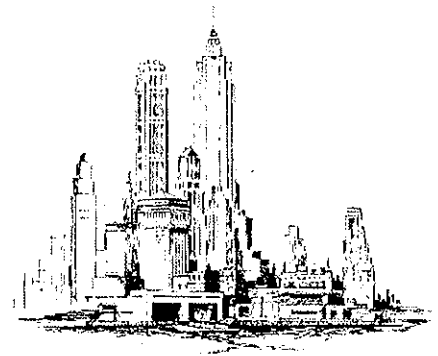
Land in most cities is expensive ranging from \$25,000 to \$75,000 per acre. When city planning boards require a church to have at least five acres, this creates a gigantic hurdle for the mission congregation.

While the infant church is saving all it can for a down payment on land for future building, it also struggles with high rent payments on its present meeting place. This monthly rent is usually expensive. One home missionary pays \$2,350 per month for rent on the meeting place, and this is the cheapest he can find!

If the mission church could somehow get its own land and a building, the money being spent for rent would pay for its own facilities. This would cut years off the time required to establish a church in the city and save thousands of dollars. Many times new people the missionary wins are lost from the mission church when they

become disillusioned by the hopelessness of the situation.

The Home Missions Board has a plan to introduce at the National Association in Phoenix that will address this problem. Dr. Richard Adams heads up this plan and will have details to share with Free Will Baptist churches and pastors. We are asking Free Will Baptists everywhere to help us pray as we seek to find the solution to this difficult problem.



Directory Update

ALABAMA

John Reed to Belk Church, Belk from Prospect Church, Dunn, NC

CALIFORNIA

J. L. McAlister to Countryside Church, Visalia

GEORGIA

William Smith to Mission Church, Tifton from Zion Church, Blakely

KANSAS

Steve Robinson to First Church, Wellington from First Church, Miami, OK

NORTH CAROLINA

Johnny Hudson to New Beginning Church, Saratoga from Immanuel Church, Sharpsburg

Mike Trimble to Emmanuel Church, Washington from Fellowship Church, Dunn

Tim Stout to White Oak Hill Church, Bailey from Mount Olive Church, Mount Olive

Willie Summerlin to Sandy Acres Church, Columbia from Patmos Church, Leary, GA

OKLAHOMA

Clyde Tucker to Chickasha Church,

Chickasha from Corning Church, Corning, AR

Gary Shipley to First Church, Picher
Jerry Anderson to Liberty Church, Oklahoma City

OTHER PERSONNEL

Dale Welch to Liberty Church, Gainesville, GA as assistant pastor

Percy Cunningham to Pitt Memorial Medical Center, Greenville, NC as chaplain from White Oak Hill Church, Bailey as pastor

Roger Hood to FWB Home for Children, Greeneville, TN from Pleasant View Christian School, Pleasant Hill, TN

Former Missionary Dinner Speaker in Phoenix

Neil Gilliland, former lay missionary to Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa, will speak at the Master's Men Dinner. Gilliland, now employed at Free Will Baptist Bible College, speaks Wednesday, July 18 at the Sheraton Phoenix, 5:00 p.m.

Tickets cost \$12.50 each. Master's Men chapters are invited to purchase tickets for their pastors and tickets for missionaries. Each year about 40 tickets are made available to furloughing missionaries.

Convention Ushers, Workshop for Deacons

North Carolina layman and former Master's Men Board chairman, Raymond Lee, leads the Master's Men in ushering this year's national convention. Lee guides the efforts of 100 laymen who work behind the scenes to provide important services. Usher volunteers are needed beginning Sunday morning. Be a part of the blessing; help usher this year.

Master's Men will receive offerings, count votes during business sessions, distribute song sheets, news sheets and other reports, seat latecomers and find lost children...in short, they are unsung heroes who help make the convention happen. Hats off to the Master's Men ushers!

Tuesday afternoon, July 17, the Master's Men sponsor a workshop for deacons. This year marks a historic first as deacons become standing delegates to the National Association. Workshop plans include analyses of a deacon's duties to the church and his responsibility to the Lord. Ideas will be shared to help increase his effectiveness. Board Chairman, Wendell Leckbee, an Arkansas layman will lead the workshop.

Michigan Organizes

More than 40 Michigan men organized a state Master's Men outreach Thursday, May 17. The organizational meeting took place at First FWB Church in Hazel Park preceding the state association. This marked the first effort to organize leadership on anything other than local church levels.

Men from 11 Michigan churches gathered in River Rouge March 24 at Rouge FWB Church to plan the organization. Director Jim Vallance, invited to speak about benefits of a state organization, said, "This is the largest group I've seen attend a meeting to discuss organization. Michigan laymen can be proud of the involvement shown here. Men should be the strength of every Free Will Baptist church.

Life Lists Expand

The LifeMember list exploded with 44 new names the first three months of 1990. According to Director Jim Vallance, "That rate is nearly double the average since we began the concept of LifeMembership in December 1985."



The LifeMember list includes 418 men with 37 Life-Friends among the women and 65 LifeCommitments making monthly payments until they achieve the full \$100 deposit for LifeMembership. Recently the Riverview FWB Church in Bettendorf, Iowa, became the first local congregation to gift the Endowment Fund and be listed as a LifeFriend Church.

Some 20 memorial gifts have been received through the past four years. The most recent gifts memorialize Rev. Billy Samms (WV), C. E. "Gene" Westberry (GA) and Dr. Matt W. Mattson (TN).

The principal of the Endowment Trust is held by the Free Will Baptist Foundation and will never be spent. However, the interest earned is placed in the Master's Men General Fund to finance daily operations.

Vallance noted, "The Trust has grown by an average of \$10,000 each year. My goal is to see it expand to \$1 million. Interest from that amount will nearly underwrite the department's operating budget."

TAKE THE SHIELD!



Herman L. Hersey
Director



Board of Retirement

AT YOUR SERVICE

Do We Hear the Cry?

In most instances I try not to present an issue or need from a negative viewpoint. Sometimes, however, the facts are on the downside and can only be presented that way. Our falling short on God's direct command to care for the needy and for those who preach the gospel compels me to say it "just like it is." For there is no way we can defend our failure to obey. There is no way this issue can be seen in a positive light until we repent and do right.

In our November column I printed a checklist titled, "Ready or Not for Retirement." Around Christmastime I received a copy of that form from one of our elderly pastors. He had checked several items and jotted down these comments.

"My social security is now \$477.

"My pension benefits are—none.

"I am involved in at least one church activity. I preach every Wednesday at the nursing home where my wife is.

"Not very much of the above [form] applies to me. What do you have for folks like me?"

I have known this 70-year-old brother for almost 40 years. He is a college graduate who ministered in our churches since 1940. He organized two churches and assisted with

the organization of six others. He served on three national boards as well as several state boards. He pastored six churches other than the two he organized and after retirement served as assistant pastor for another church.

Now he is too old to continue. No longer able to serve. Meanwhile, our congregations continue to build bigger and better facilities, invest in more comfort for ourselves, provide social directors for our youth, install more sophisticated sound systems, schedule more entertainment and fellowship activities. Many of our churches boast of a large staff, larger buildings and budgets, great success and growth.

But little thought and even less benevolence is shown to the ministers we have used and cast aside like worn out garments.

Read the letter our brother (he is your brother as well as mine) wrote to me. It is reproduced unedited. You evaluate it. I know what I should do as an individual and I'm doing it. But you tell me what 2,500 congregations and 250,000 Free Will Baptists should do as a body.

I leave these thoughts and the letter with you. May God open our eyes and hearts.

Dear Brother Hersey, one among many of my special Christian friends,

It has been a long time since I saw you last, but I remember the many times of fellowship we had together. Wish we could see each other more. I very much appreciate the good work you are doing in your department. We did not have all of this when I was in my prime.

What can I do now to share in some of the benefits? I need extra income from somewhere. My wife, being helpless and in a nursing home is a heavy burden. Her social security goes to the nursing home. I get \$477.00 a month and as you know money doesn't go far today.

What plan do you have for helping poor fellows like me? Anything you can do will be appreciated. Thank you and may God continue to bless you and yours.

In Christ's Name,



Woman's Window on the World

By Mary R. Wischart



From My Window

"We could simplify our lives," my friend Beverly said. "All we need is a few things practical and beautiful."

Recently I had lunch in a thatched roof hut with a dirt floor. As a guest, I had the privilege of sitting at the table on a bench and eating steaming hot soup with a piece of fried bread and sipping a drink made from corn.

The open fire glowed and the smoke went out, mostly, through a space between the thatched roof and the woven wall.

Our host and hostess sat on the cowhide bed and the neighbors came in to greet us with a handshake and stand watching us eat and drink. The hostess had said, "We want to give you something. It's not real food; it's only soup."

I felt a lump in my throat as I ate the beans, bananas and the roots that tasted something like potatoes and squash. These were my Christian brothers and sisters among the Guaymi Indians in Panama. They wanted to share with their Christian sisters from the United States.

A few things practical and beautiful my friend said. I thought, "There are advantages to living in a thatched roof hut with dirt floors—no mopping, vacuuming or waxing for one thing." Plenty of practical things. A cowhide bed for sitting and sleeping with no need to worry about the bedspread or comforter. But where is the beauty?

Then I remembered how the hostess requested to change her dress before I took a picture. The dresses are

made with six to eight yards of bright material and lavishly decorated with bright contrasting colors in rows of triangular appliques. She disappeared for a few minutes and then returned with a fresh red dress and her dark hair sleek and shining. "That's it," I thought. "These women have created their own piece of beauty and they take it with them wherever they go."

Funds Arrive for New Computer

The WNAC office needed a computer for bookkeeping. We asked for funds to cover the expense.

A few days ago \$975 for office equipment came in from Mississippi. A few days later the computer came. It is a faster and better computer than the one already in the office with an enhanced keyboard and a color monitor.

The cost? It totaled exactly \$925. The check more than covered the cost.

By March 31, WNAC had received \$2,220 for office equipment.

The Co-Laborer Fund

Because WNAC's magazine is titled Co-Laborer, sometimes women get the CoLaborer Fund confused with the magazine.

The Co-Laborer Fund is the general fund for WNAC. It is the money to pay rent, salaries, utilities, postage, supplies, telephone and all the things necessary to operate an office.

In 1989 expenses for WNAC operation equaled about \$14,000 per month. Most money for this operation comes from literature sales and magazine subscriptions. The office does, however, need other funds to keep up with expenses.

Also, we need to think of moving toward the future, meeting needs of our younger women, launching into new areas of work.

We also need to remember that expenses continue to rise. This year, our rent went up 16 percent. We needed to raise the rent for all the departments so that we could cover expenses in the National Office Build-

ing. Other expenses keep rising as well.

As an organization, we are responsible for covering expenses in the national work and making it possible for the work to grow.

Every Auxiliary should make a contribution to the Co-Laborer Fund. Each year when local, district and state organizations set goals and determine a plan of work, the Co-Laborer Offering should be considered in the plans.

Eunice Edwards Fund

April 2, 1990—\$25,686.34

Meet Kay Hampton, Member of the Executive Committee

"I always felt a loneliness, a void, an emptiness. Then I found Christ and He filled that emptiness," says Kay Hampton of her conversion experience. One July night when she was 15 she accepted Christ as her Savior at Second FWB Church in Ashland, Kentucky. Since then, she says, Christ has been her best friend.

Since 1970 Kay has served as president, field worker, mission prayer and study chairman, and treasurer in the local, district and state work. She is currently president of the Cumberland District Convention and treasurer for Tennessee State Convention.

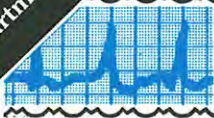
WNAC elected Kay to a second term as a member at large of the Executive Committee in 1989.

Born to Everett and Kathleen McCain on March 1, in Portsmouth, Ohio, she grew up in Kentucky. After graduating from Russell High School, Flatwoods, KY, Kay attended Free Will Baptist Bible College. She met her future husband, Larry Hampton, there.

Kay and Larry and their two children, Mark and Allysa, live in Nashville.

Kay is a member of Cofer's Chapel FWB Church where she has served as Sunday School teacher, CTS leader and director, VBS director, and coach for Bible memorization.

She is employed as bookkeeper in the Foreign Missions Office.



In spite of the reign of terror by General Manuel Noriega, a faltering economy, and looting and destruction, the Free Will Baptist churches in Panama are alive and well.

The 1990 Convention of Free Will Baptists convened at the Betania church in Panama City. The convention was held in January right on the heels of the American invasion "Just Cause."

Moving testimonies were given of how God's hand of protection prevailed during the invasion.

Two hundred visitors and delegates came from as far away as Las Tablas in the interior. In spite of the 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. curfew that

They are pleased that Noriega has been removed from power and that a new government sensitive to the needs of the people is now in power.

This was my first trip to Panama. I was accompanied by Milton Hollifield, pastor of Mt. Nebo Free Will Baptist Church in Swannanoa, N.C. Hollifield had been Steve Lytle's pastor.

Milton and I were privileged to visit many churches as well as attend the convention. We were in the First FWB Church and Betania church in Panama City; Parita FWB Church, Las Tablas FWB Church, and Rio de Jesús FWB Church in the interior; and, finally, in the San Miguelito and Agua Buena FWB churches outside Panama City.

nian brothers are good preachers and warmhearted. The people sing with zeal and testify freely of the Lord's goodness. Unlike many of our stateside churches where few participate at public worship, their worship services encourage participation from as many as possible, young people as well as adults.

Their worship services encourage participation from as many as possible.

We have three missionary couples assigned to Panama—the Bunches, Inscos, and Lytles. Only the Lytles are on the field at this time. Without question our missionaries are still needed in

The Church in Panama— Alive and Well

*By Fred Warner
Director of Missionary-Church Relations*


was in effect people came by car and bus to worship the Lord and conduct business.

Even at the convention it was obvious that the people were thrilled to be together again. Moving testimonies were given of how God's hand of protection prevailed during the invasion. Most Panamanians applaud the action the United States took.

Everywhere we went we found people serious in their worship of God.

Everywhere we went we found people serious in their worship of God, fervent in spirit, and appreciative of our missionaries. Our Panama-

Panama, especially in the areas of church planting and training. However, the Panamanians themselves are church planters and capable of reaching their own people.

By some, Panama is called "the land of rumors," but I'm convinced it is no rumor that Panamanian Free Will Baptists mean business when it comes to serving God. 

My Life Has Been Revolutionized!

by Bruce Robertson

You would expect someone who had just been saved to testify of a "revolution" in his life. But this testimony comes from the fresh experience of one who was saved 20 years ago!

The excitement of conversion was, for me at least, a very intense experience. I grew rapidly from the start. God became very real to me. Hungry for understanding, I spent many hours in the Scriptures. I became involved in church life, took a class in Sunday school and witnessed enthusiastically wherever I found a listening ear. All this was as it should have been.

My response to God was natural and childlike. I was a practicing disciple of the Lord Jesus. My whole life was centered around my newfound relationship with Him. He was fully in control and I had His joy. Life was new (II Cor. 5:17)!

Then, slowly, I noticed that I was "out of step." Others appeared to be patronizing me, as though my spiritual zeal was somehow becoming offensive. I began to feel like a novelty that was growing tiresome to those around me. It is hard to be different; there is pain, isolation, stigma.

The inevitable happened. I took my eyes off Jesus and my continu-

ing growth relationship with Him, focusing, instead, on conforming, not to His image (Romans 8:29), but to the image of those around me. I "settled down" and found myself a comfortable religious niche. I stopped being a disciple and became a "good church member." I wanted to fit in, to conform to tradition, to be like everyone else. The sad truth is, I lost my identity as a disciple and I stopped growing.

Gross sin could not have inflicted more distress. With my priorities wrong and my vision obscured, suffering from an acute identity crisis, I lost the sweet, settled peace that had characterized my life earlier. I continued to teach a Sunday school class and to do everything else I was allowed to do, but mere activity didn't help. I only became more frustrated, knowing my life was stagnant. I felt empty and miserable.


It is at this point that some unfulfilled and frustrated Christians do one of two things. They either give up and drop out of church or they start church-hopping. Some eventually find a more stimulating church and begin to grow again. Others migrate into churches that encour-

age more emotional expression, seeking fulfillment that way. But I stuck it out, hoping for a better day.

The tragedy of my life is 16 lost years. I was a branch bearing green leaves, but no fruit. I was dying on the vine!

I finally realized I was resisting Him and had to do something. It was only when I surrendered myself totally to His direction and sought His guidance that He led me to Free Will Baptist Bible College. The rest is glorious!

With a joyful certainty, I can tell you I have been set free. I have returned and I am on track again! God brought the prodigal home! I know who I am.

At Free Will Baptist Bible College, God has done the pruning necessary for the "bud" to open. Soon, there will be clusters of fruit to attest to His marvelous grace: Amazing grace, indeed! 

Bruce, from Fort Smith, AR, is finishing his senior year at FWBBC, completing majors in Bible and teacher education. He and his wife, Margie, have a daughter, Sonja.



Free Will Baptist Bible College's
SUMMER CAMP '90
June 18-24, 1990

- X Music Camp
- X Drama Camp
- X Basketball Camp
- X SALT Camp

Write or call today for information!



Thomas Marberry



Philip Yancey, *Disappointment With God* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1988, 261 pp., hardback, \$14.95).

This book examines three questions which many Christians are afraid to ask even when they are alone. These questions are: Is God unfair?, Is God silent?, and Is God hidden?

The natural inclination of Christians is to answer all three questions with a resounding, "No." We are convinced that God loves us and cares for us. We are equally convinced that God is good, wise, just, holy and perfect. If we are not careful, we may assume that anyone who asks such questions like these lacks genuine Christian faith.

The fact is, however, that all three questions are legitimate and deserve serious consideration. They grow out of the inevitable frustrations and difficulties in life. The first question grows out of the fact that God does not consistently punish evil people and reward good people. Bad things do happen to good people.

The second question grows out of the fact that God does not always reveal His will clearly and completely. Even when He does, that does not guarantee that things will always turn out right.

The people of Israel received direct guidance from God in the exodus from Egypt but the wilderness years were filled with unbelief and disobedience. Solomon, known for great wisdom which God gave him, really fouled up his life. Elijah saw a singular demonstration of God's power on Mt. Carmel but trembled in fear a few days later.

The third question grows out of the harsh realities which all people, including Christians, experience in life. The mortality rate for both Christians and non-Christians is 100 percent. True, God sometimes extends life through physical healing, but often

Cooperative Channel Contributions March 1990

RECEIPTS:

State	COOP		Total	Feb. '89	Yr. To Date
	Designated	Undesignated			
Alabama	\$ 65.92	\$ 1,020.00	\$ 1,085.92	\$ 78.07	\$ 1,260.72
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	541.25	.00
Arkansas	.00	4,088.47	4,088.47	4,121.97	16,199.39
California	.00	1,165.17	1,165.17	2,223.70	8,102.84
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Florida	.00	851.45	851.45	1,998.19	5,293.62
Georgia	7,679.58	718.00	8,397.58	8,359.87	32,991.15
Idaho	52.08	.00	52.08	29.00	106.95
Illinois	12,473.76	2,519.23	14,992.99	9,370.19	28,949.01
Indiana	462.44	.00	462.44	533.90	1,528.33
Kansas	.00	97.88	97.88	85.48	378.94
Kentucky	.00	60.65	60.65	519.42	747.28
Maryland	.00	150.00	150.00	344.04	1,315.10
Michigan	4,118.59	3,310.00	7,428.59	7,685.60	23,707.07
Mississippi	34.40	260.66	295.06	379.38	1,602.07
Missouri	8,656.96	.00	8,656.96	7,575.67	26,633.84
New Mexico	.00	.00	.00	.00	27.02
North Carolina	943.00	651.00	1,594.00	1,536.09	6,901.86
Ohio	639.90	2,125.10	2,765.00	3,110.00	8,070.44
Oklahoma	27,646.23	7,555.36	35,201.59	35,742.85	128,251.71
South Carolina	12,924.81	63.59	12,988.40	10,321.00	31,257.38
Tennessee	1,068.11	780.13	1,848.24	1,851.00	6,598.62
Texas	5,049.46	166.35	5,215.81	15,479.09	17,585.46
Virginia	221.40	.00	221.40	437.31	706.25
West Virginia	3,694.77	122.62	3,817.39	1,003.46	7,992.43
Canada	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northwest Assoc.	.00	28.80	28.80	132.00	77.46
Other (Computer)	.00	.00	.00	.06	.06
Totals	\$ 85,731.41	\$ 25,734.46	\$ 111,465.87	\$ 113,458.59	\$ 356,285.00

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 4,918.43	\$ 15,248.25	\$ 20,166.68	\$ 18,787.35	\$ 60,500.03
Foreign Missions	58,965.28	2,411.81	61,377.09	58,606.93	192,827.67
FWBBC	4,894.65	2,411.81	7,306.46	9,085.81	24,543.69
Home Missions	12,956.03	1,887.52	14,843.55	19,480.09	51,099.04
Retirement & Insurance	642.22	1,468.06	2,110.28	1,646.25	8,044.58
Master's Men	620.71	1,468.06	2,088.77	1,826.68	8,059.46
Commission for					
Theo. Integrity	65.40	52.42	117.82	164.68	364.50
FWB Foundation	657.51	629.18	1,286.69	899.62	4,627.33
Music Commission	23.76	52.42	76.18	2.27	289.77
Historical Commission	61.17	52.42	113.59	50.78	352.00
Radio & TV Commission	56.87	52.42	109.29	153.77	335.72
Hillsdale FWB College	1,392.13	.00	1,392.13	2,332.66	4,134.49
Other	477.25	.09	477.34	421.70	1,106.72
Totals	\$ 85,731.41	\$ 25,734.46	\$ 111,465.87	\$ 113,458.59	\$ 356,285.00

He does not. No doubt many people died in Palestine during the years of Jesus' public ministry, but the gospels record that he brought only two of them back to life. No doubt there were many sick people at the Pool of Bethesda, but Jesus healed only one of them.

We must understand that God is under no obligation to "prove" Him-

self to us. We cannot bargain with Him. A fervent desire for a miracle may, in fact, reflect more a lack of faith than it does the presence of faith.

This is an extremely well-written, thought-provoking and challenging book. It will upset some of our apple carts, but some apple carts need to be upset.





Mark Stone/TN

TEEN Scene



Paula Kring/OK



Diane Walls/MO

The 1990 National Youth Evangelistic Team is composed of twelve high school youth from nine states. The youth were winners or top scorers in the 1989 Music and Arts Festival in Tampa, FL. The team will present a youth musical as they tour Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma, and Tennessee during June. They will also minister at the National Youth Conference in Phoenix.



Eric Thomsen/FL



Melissa White/AL

DAVE to Care



Donnie Price/IL



Donald Myers/CO



Larae Clyatt/IL



Chad Shockley/KY



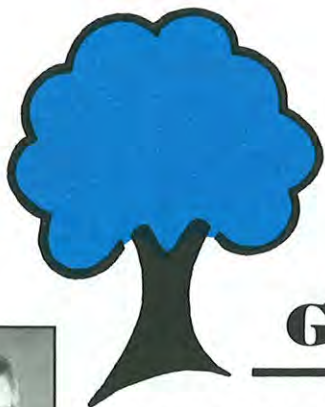
Angie Wolfenbarger/TN



Tim Bess/OK



Jamie Harris/TX



Green Tree Bible Study



Robert E. Picirilli

Luke 12:16-21

Parable of the Wise Fool

We usually hear this called the parable of the *rich* fool. But regardless of the apparent contradiction of words, he was a *wise* fool. Anyone who decides what he wants out of life, figures out how to get it and succeeds in his quest will be judged wise.

The parable itself, given his decision about storage for his bounty, proves his wisdom. He had his old age well provided for, and in a time when there was no social security or medicare! Most people in his community—even some Christians?—would have pointed to him as an example for their sons to emulate. No doubt he was a wealthy, powerful, influential man.

The world, anyway, calls that wisdom. Only in God's eyes was he a fool. God's measure is not like man's. And on the night he died God wrote a word that stands as a final, sobering judgment on the life of a man who thought himself—and whom others thought—wise.

Why would God call a wise man a fool? One finds the reasons in the account. For one thing, he thought too much of *things*. You can see his consuming interest in the key words: ground, fruits, barns, goods.

Has anyone ever spoken more tragic words than his, "Soul, you have much *goods* laid up!" Misguided wretch, he thought the welfare of his soul was found in the accumulation of things.

For another thing, he thought too much of *himself*. Just reading v. 17-

19 impresses us that he had "I" trouble; every other word is "I" and "my." Well, what's wrong with that? "If a man doesn't look out for himself, no one else will!" What's wrong is that in loving himself supremely he destroyed himself. That kind of self-love always does.


Furthermore, he thought too much of *this life*. See his philosophy in v. 19: "You have much goods laid up for *many years*." All he cared about was the "many years" of the present life that he thought he had. Never a thought for eternity. And so he was twice a fool; he didn't even have this life left!

What makes a person a "fool"? Even in the world's eyes, it's misplaced values, valuing what isn't valuable. God uses the same standard, only He knows what really is valuable and what isn't.

The man in this parable was a fool because he didn't have true value in perspective. He valued possessions, when nothing that is in the world can really be possessed; it is passing away. He valued selfish pleasures and knew not that he was snuffing out his very life, depriving himself of the only true pleasure. He missed the very meaning of this life by thinking that it is found in itself.

We have to put the parable in its context to get the lesson sharply pointed. Jesus told it to illustrate what He said in v. 15: the meaning of life is *not* found in the abundance of things possessed. And he summarized

the point in v. 21: this is what happens to a person who seeks earthly treasure for selfish indulgence instead of devoting himself to being rich with God.

The truth is that many who never achieve worldly wealth are just as guilty of this man's foolishness as he was. And even we Christians sometimes play around with this kind of foolishness. The only solution, the only true wisdom, is to seek God and the things of the kingdom of God (v. 31). There is where meaning is found. 

Vacation Prayer


By M. J. Pritchard

Father, I needed this time off, this vacation. Thank You for allowing it.

Thank you for days of total quiet—no going out to this place or that, no schedule to meet, no deadline to reach, no agenda to fill.

Thank You for time with You: refreshing, renewing, rebuilding.

Thank You for sleep-late mornings. For slow breakfasts. For time to read the Word when all is quiet. For time to exercise, time to read, time to listen to Your Word on tapes.

Thank You, Lord, for this time off.
Amen 



THE SECRETARY SPEAKS
By Melvin Worthington

Choose a College



“**W**e rank 24th,” said the young lady across the aisle from me on a recent flight to Oklahoma City.

“What do you mean?” I asked.

She said the university she attended ranked 24th in the country academically. She let me read a book which ranked various colleges in America; I was overwhelmed by the options and opportunities open to young people today.

Thoughts flooded my mind as I reviewed my experience in selecting a college 40 years ago. What criteria did I use? Reflection on my educational experience brought into focus three things: the call, criteria and choice.

The Call

The bottom line when choosing a college is the *will of God*. Regardless of other factors in the selection process, the will of God must be given priority. Nothing else can be substituted for this conviction.

Another factor is the *work of God*. Having accepted Christ as my Savior, now what work has He called me to do? All Christians do not have the same gifts or calling. Determining God’s call for service enables students to choose a college that can equip and prepare them for their life’s vocation.

The final factor is the *witness for God*. God calls every Christian to be a witness. The field is the world. The Lord frequently places choice servants in heathen settings and equips them for unique ministries—Daniel, Joseph, Esther, Moses, Paul and others.

The Criteria

When choosing a college, consider *academics*. Is the college academically sound? Does the faculty possess degrees from accredited institutions? Does the department chairman have an earned doctorate in his field of expertise?

Attention should be given to *accreditation*. Colleges need to be accredited by regional as well as specialized or professional accrediting associations. Bible colleges and Christian liberal arts colleges need to pursue such accreditation. Accreditation simply confirms that a college can do what it claims.

Free Will Baptist young people deserve the opportunity to attend an accredited Free Will Baptist college. I am not surprised at dwindling enrollments at Free Will Baptist colleges in light of the accreditation factor.

Attention should be given to the *atmosphere*. What sort of educational climate exists on campus? How diverse is the student body? How distinctive is the college? Do the requirements and regulations produce healthy, holy and humble spirits? Do

the staff and faculty serve as models for students?

The *agenda* of the college affects the student’s choice. It’s unreasonable to expect those called to disciplines other than pastor, missionary, Christian day school teacher or minister of music to attend colleges which do not provide programs in their fields of study.

Free Will Baptist colleges must re-examine their agendas if we realistically expect to meet educational needs of our young people. If we refuse to address the educational needs of our youth, then we must not cut off, censure, criticize or condemn them for choosing colleges which do meet their needs in the will of God.

The *affiliation* seems to be an important criterion when choosing a college. Denominational schools have the inside track with many of the denomination’s youth. And that’s the way it should be. Loyalty to the movement will provide some students to attend our colleges in spite of limited academic programs. But we can not depend solely on this fact.

The Choice

The selection of a college and the educational experience at that college makes a significant impact on a student’s life. This is one of the most important choices in life. I encourage students to seek counsel from their parents, pastors and peers and then make their decisions based on their calling.

Please your parents if you can. Please your pastor and your denomination if possible. But by all means, please God.

The Secretary’s Schedule

June 3	Faith FWB Church Goldsboro, N.C.
June 4-5	North Carolina State Assoc.
June 4-7	Missouri State Assoc.
June 6-8	Texas State Assoc.
June 8-9	West Virginia State Assoc.
June 14-16	Virginia State Assoc.
June 15-16	Kentucky State Assoc.
June 21-23	Maryland State Assoc.
June 22-23	Ohio State Assoc.
June 28-July 1	Atlantic Canada Assoc.

CONTACT

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Father's Day Offering

Honoring Our Founding Fathers

June 17, 1990



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National Association of Free Will Baptists

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