

APRIL 1993

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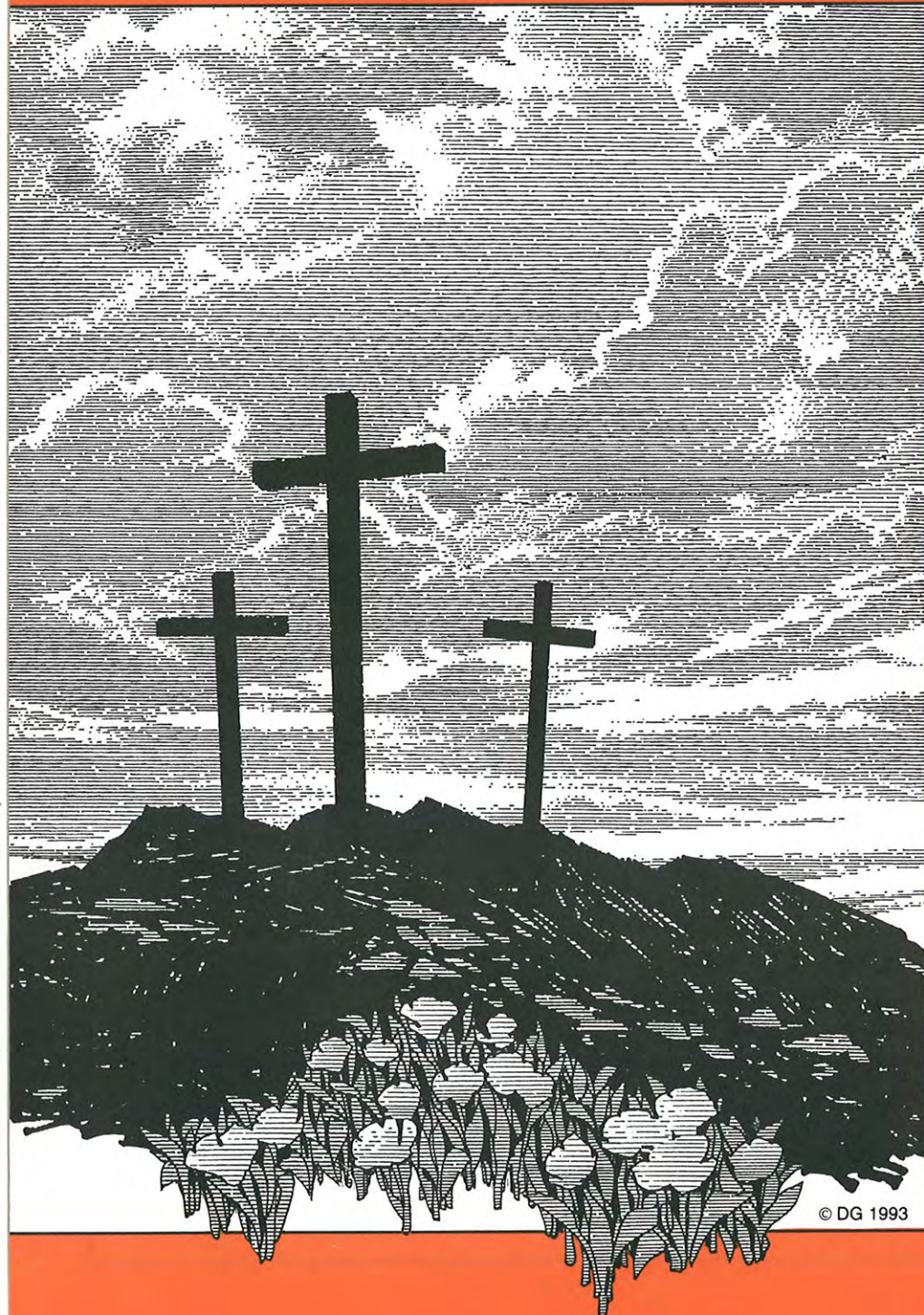
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

.....
**Front Yard
Missionary**

.....
I Remember
Pop Willey

.....
The Changing Face
of Missions

.....
The Homesick
Missionary



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APRIL 1993

VOLUME 40, NO. 4

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Editor-in-chief: Dr. Melvin Worthington
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Circulation: Dari Goodfellow
Printed by: Randall House Publications

Contact (ISSN 0573-7796), published monthly by the National Association of Free Will Baptists, 5233 Mt. View Road, Antioch, TN 37013-

2306. Address all correspondence and subscriptions to Post Office Box 5002, Antioch, TN 37011-5002. Phone 615/731-6812.

Annual subscription rates: Individual—\$12 per year, Church Family Plan—\$12 per year, Church Bundle Plan—\$12 per year. Second Class postage paid at Antioch, TN

and additional offices.

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USPS 130-660

THE SECRETARY SPEAKS



Melvin Worthington

Designated Days

The mission of the National Association is to extend the ministry of the local church by providing service for its member churches. Local churches voluntarily unite and cooperate to extend the witness of Christ and build His Church throughout the world. Recognizing the need for cooperation and coordination in fund raising, a new denominational stewardship idea, the Together Way Plan, was adopted at the July 1992 national convention.

This plan provides the focus, format, flexibility and freedom for local churches, district and state associations to equitably support all denominational ministries. The Together Way Plan is simple and when prayerfully implemented can provide a firm basis for biblical stewardship.

Distinctive Emphasis

The basic concept of the Together Way Plan is that every Free Will Baptist church has a covenant obligation to support equitably all denominational agencies. Whether through giving cooperatively or by designation, the essential responsibility is equitable support for all ministries. While some agencies have greater needs, all our agencies need to be funded.

The Together Way Plan calls on each church to give 10% of its general income for denominational causes—district, state and national. States will work toward the goal of retaining 50% of this general giving for combined state and district causes, and sending 50% to national ministries. Fair-share goals based on membership and budget needs have been established and each state encouraged to reach these goals.

Designated Emphasis

When implemented in 1994, this plan will promote four annual fundraising drives which will be supported by all national agencies. *April* has been designated Foreign Missions Month. Denominational agencies will promote "The World Missions Offering." Every Free Will Baptist should give an undesignated gift of \$20.93 to this offering. Some can and should give more.

During Foreign Missions Month the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention will receive the "Laura Belle Barnard World Missions Offering." This WNAC emphasis provides a unique opportunity for women to do something special for missions.

September has been designated as The Rest of the Family Month. Every Free Will Baptist should give an undesignated gift of at least \$5.07 to be distributed to the following agencies:

Executive Office	— \$1.45
Retirement and Insurance	— 1.78
Master's Men	— .70
FWB Foundation	— .18
Commission for Theological Integrity	— .01
Historical Commission	— .01
Music Commission	— .01
Radio and Television Commission	— .05
Woman's National Auxiliary Convention	— .88

For an annual gift of \$5.07 the rest of the family can be supported. Some churches systematically support the rest of the family, but others have never given to these national ministries.

The Secretary's Schedule

April 15-17	New Mexico State Assoc.
April 19-25	Temple FWB Church Greenville, NC

November has been designated Home Missions Month. During this month, Home Missions will be promoted and the "Benjamin Randall Offering" received. Every Free Will Baptist should give an undesignated offering of at least \$11.95 for this offering. The Woman's National Auxiliary Convention will promote the "Lizzie McAdams Offering" as a part of the Home Missions emphasis.

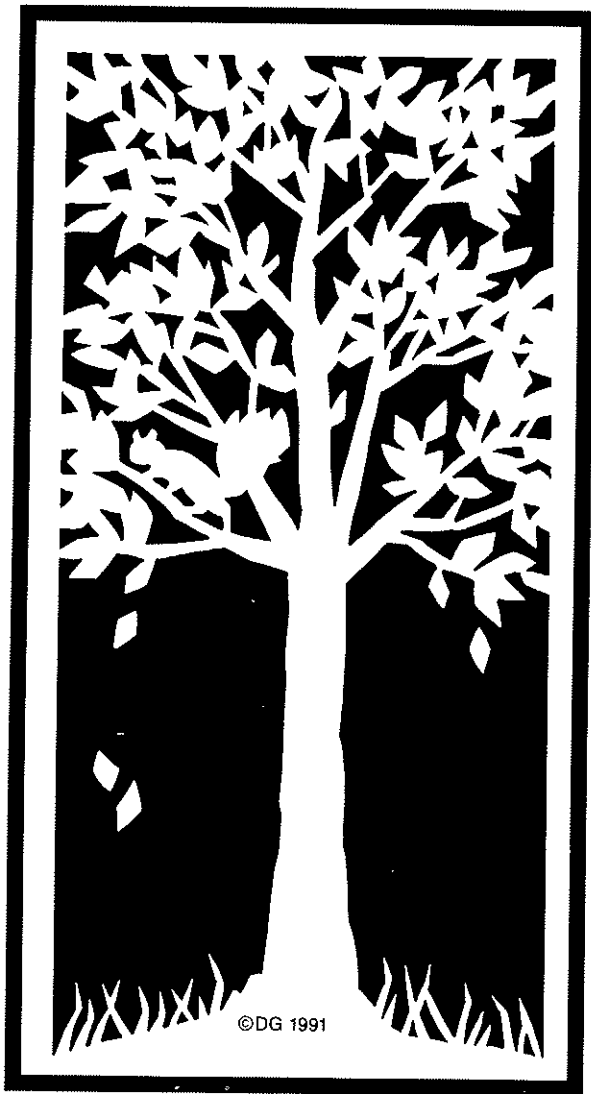
December has been designated as Free Will Baptist Bible College Month. The "Paul Ketteman Christmas Offering" will be received this month. Every Free Will Baptist should give an undesignated offering of at least \$4.90 for this offering.

If every Free Will Baptist participated in these special drives and gave the minimum gift suggested, the total would be \$42.85 per person. Think about it: for just \$42.85, less than a dollar a week, Free Will Baptists can fund all national agencies. Is this too much to ask? Is the goal unattainable? No! We can do it.

Denominational Emphasis

The Together Way Plan implies that together we stand, together we serve, together we support, together we share, together we speak, together we send, together we strengthen. Loyalty and faithfulness may not characterize the world population today, but it certainly characterizes Christians.

There you have it. The Together Way Plan provides four designated days in which every Free Will Baptist can fulfill his covenant promise. All together now, let's do it! ■



**You can be a foreign missionary
and never leave home.**

The Front Yard Missionary

By Tom Willey

*That repentance and remission of sins
should be preached in his name among all nations,
beginning at Jerusalem.*

—Luke 24:47

Those words of our Lord, spoken almost 2,000 years ago, still ring in the ears of His followers. They began to be fulfilled 50 days later at Pentecost. "Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven" who were in Jerusalem at that time, heard the exhortation in their own languages from the 120 in the upper room. Then after Peter preached, 3,000 responded to the gospel message (Acts 2). They returned to their homelands taking the message of the Savior.

During the past five decades, I have had the privilege of being part of and observing the missionary efforts of Free Will Baptists as we have sought to fulfill the Great Commission. We have sent missionaries to

India, Africa, Europe, Asia, Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America.

We have developed a capable team of missionaries that literally circles the globe. At our national conventions we enjoy fellowship with brothers and sisters, Free Will Baptists, from places with exotic names such as "Bondoukou," "Pinar del Rio," "Guadalajara," "Hokkaido," "Jaboticabal" and "Villalba." We rejoice to see what God has done "over there."

World at Our Door

But do you realize that we who live in the United States in the decades of the 1980's and 90's have the same privilege as those early

apostles in Jerusalem? We literally have people "from every nation under heaven" living in our cities, studying in our universities, working in our factories and harvesting our crops.

According to *Business Week* magazine (July 13, 1992) the decade of the '80's matched the great immigration decade of 1900-10 with 8.7 million people pouring into the U.S. We spent thousands of dollars to send missionaries to people on the other side of the world. Today, they live across the street, in the next neighborhood or down the road at a migrant camp.

God is giving us an unprecedented opportunity to reach the world from our own front yard. Unfortunately, we, as Christians and Free Will Bap-

tists, quite often fall into the trap of "xenophobia" (fear of aliens) that afflicts so many of our neighbors, instead of seeing this as an opportunity to be a foreign missionary.

What Others Are Doing

Denominations such as Southern Baptists, Church of the Nazarene, Church of God, Assemblies of God, and the Christian & Missionary Alliance, understand the great door that has opened within our own country and are making an all-out effort to reach them. Not to speak of the cults such as Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons and others that are on every street corner.

Even Madison Avenue knows the value of these people as they try to tap the \$130 billion purchasing power of the Hispanic population alone. According to *Christianity Today* (Oct. 28, 1991), "Proctor & Gamble, Anheuser Busch and myriad of other companies spent over \$628 million in 1990 targeting this one population."

I live in the city that is said to be "the picture of what most U.S. cities will be in the year 2100." The question asked by *Business Week* is, will Miami be "Armageddon or the shining city of the future?" It is no easy task!

Nearly 50% of our community is Hispanic, about 20% is African-American/West Indian, about 18% are Anglo and the remaining 12% is divided between Jews, East Indian, Asian and Eastern Europeans.

Of the thousand or so Protestant churches in Metropolitan Miami, over 250 are Hispanic Evangelicals, but the fact is our city is basically a pagan city, as less than 2% of the population attends church on any given Sunday. It's a virtual Corinth of the 1990's. Remember, this is what sociologists say your city will look like in 2100.

What We Can Do

You ask, "What can we do?"

Pray.

First, we can pray. There are no human solutions. Only as God's people unite and pray, as those 120

in the upper room. Only God has the power to transform an "evil empire" like Nineveh when people repent and seek His face.

Open Our Eyes.

Second, we need to open our eyes to see what is happening around us. It was of great interest to me that our pioneer missionary to India, Miss Laura Belle Barnard, in her retirement years was greatly concerned with reaching the large number of Mexican migrant workers who came to her small community of Glennville, Georgia, every year.

Look around in your community, maybe your church can begin a ministry to the migrants. Don't wait for the Home Missions Board to send a missionary. Get started with what you have; don't miss the opportunity that is given you.

Don't be afraid. If nothing else, find out what language they speak, get some Christian literature in their language and distribute it. Show the love of Christ through your actions. Even if they are illegal aliens, it's not illegal to preach to them, though it is to hire them.

If they are eventually sent back to their land, if you win them for Christ they may go back as missionaries to their own land. You may be the contact to start a new church in a distant land. The first missionaries to Cuba were revolutionary exiles who came to Florida during the war against Spain, were won to the Lord and returned to Cuba to preach the gospel.

When "Pop" Willey and other foreign missionaries went to Cuba years later, the soil had been prepared and the seed had been planted. To a great degree, all we had to do was reap the harvest.

Use Whatever We Have.

Third, there are a number of former foreign missionaries and "missionary kids" who know the language and culture of many of these, our new neighbors. Could it be that God has put them here to help reach the great number of people that they have given so many years of their lives to serve overseas? Encourage them and support them.

Our national and state home missions organizations must realize that this is a whole different ball game from what we have done in the past. Some of these efforts, such as with migrant workers, may never be more than a seasonal mission situation which entail long-term support. It may function only during certain months of the year but we need to be there waiting year by year as they come back.

Others will form permanent self-supporting churches in their native language, which within a number of years may become English-speaking churches as new generations become more "American."

Sponsor a Refugee Family.

Fourth, one way to get involved in an ethnic ministry is to sponsor a refugee family. God has given me a marvelous ministry for the last 12 years as we are able to assist people (from Cuba, Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Haiti, Vietnam and Russia to name a few), whom our government has determined have been persecuted in their own lands and are allowed to begin a new life in the United States.

We have seen, literally, hundreds of people who through a Christian sponsor, have come to know the true freedom that Christ offers. You can contact a World Relief office in your area if you want to get involved.

As we see our world changing around us, don't just curse the darkness. Light a light for Christ in your corner and be a foreign missionary in your own front yard. ■



ABOUT THE WRITER: Tom Willey directs the Miami Area Office for the World Relief Corporation. The 60-year-old Free Will Baptist minister did pioneer missionary work in Panama and taught at the Cedars of Lebanon Institute in Cuba.

The Changing Face of Missions

By Bill Jones



Change is inevitable. Our bodies change, revealing the wear and tear of time and stress. Society changes as a new generation replaces the old one. Technology changes, as do clothing styles, language and religious groups. Change has come to Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions, too.

Changing Faces

The "first generation" (1935-1965) of Free Will Baptist missionaries are face to face with retirement. Some of these trail blazers await us in Glory while others have had to leave their fields for one reason or another. They recognize that their time is limited and what they do, they must do quickly.

The "second generation" brings faces less lined, more training and confronted with a more complicated ministry. They focus on training leadership in an attempt to expand the fundamental ministry of evangelism and church planting.

Changing Places

While all countries change, some

changes have greater impact on the population than others. Independence in India and Côte d'Ivoire. The Communist coup in Cuba that put Castro in charge. He ended missionaries' involvement for a generation. Japan transformed itself from a defeated, bombed country to an economic giant. Third World countries discuss and vote on an equal basis at the United Nations.

People worldwide are more informed and knowledgeable. Television and radio make most areas where missionaries preach more aware of the world and current events. If a particular government decides to do so, they can jam the airways with anti-American propaganda that makes missionaries liars or worse, CIA agents!

Changing economies in these countries force changes by missionary personnel. Hunger and disease can devastate a region and compassionate missionaries will respond. Politics change. Anarchy in Somalia illustrates one extreme while revolt in Liberia illustrates what has happened or could happen in many countries.

Changing Cultures

When a missionary gets off the plane in a country other than his own, he is faced with a problem much greater than the barriers raised by color, languages or religions. He must be able to present the gospel in a way that the listener will understand who God is and what He has done, rather than adopting our Western ways.

It's the same difference faced by Paul in distinguishing real Christianity from what some from Jerusalem demanded. The Judaizers wanted everyone to be circumcised in order to become a believer. Paul contended that to be a Christian was by faith alone.

Missionaries today must be extremely careful that those who listen to them hear God's truth, not an American application.

Unchanging Call

Some things do not change. The Bible with its life-changing message and principles for every age group,

every culture, every personality—this truth never changes. Every person who would go to Heaven must be born again.

Missionaries are neither self-made nor self-called. There are many physical needs in Third World countries. But only humanitarians respond to these kinds of needs. The missionary responds to the directing influence of the Holy Spirit. He should not be influenced by the desire to travel, the excitement of living among people of a different language or culture, or the adulation that goes with being a missionary.

Instead, the call to proclaim the gospel in the regions beyond manifests itself in an unshakable assurance backed up by the discernment of others that this is God's will. Acts 13 illustrates this principle as Paul and Barnabas sensed God's call and the church at Antioch agreed with their perception.

Changing Style of Support

Most who read this would agree with practically all that has been written. But what about financing the missionary program? Do we continue the basic designated gifts to particular missionaries? Or do we seek a better way?

The shortcomings of designated support include:

1. Successful fund raising usually reflects the personality of the missionary, not the perception of the one giving.
2. Designated support endangers a missionary's effectiveness. Like the one missionary with 80% of his support primarily from one church. A problem arose in the church and the pastor left for greener pastures. The congregation split, dwindled and support for the missionary decreased from \$2,000 per month to less than \$500. He was on the field and could do nothing until furlough.
3. It leads to a kind of "control" situation. A pastor can use the threat of withdrawing support to force the missionary to agree with him in the politics of the denomination.

Missionaries and others have discussed several options. One is a

modified form of designated giving. Instead of designating funds to a certain missionary's account, one could designate money to a certain field. Income for the field would fund all missionary activities on that field.

Another alternative would be to simply support missions. All income would be placed in one fund from which all expenses would be paid.

Either of these solutions would answer the problems raised by the current method.

Unchanging Resolve

Christians have not succeeded in evangelizing the world—yet. The Bible is available in more languages than ever before. Radio has provided a means of penetrating some areas not open to missionaries. Literature ministers to believers more than ever and is instrumental in evangelism, especially in newly literate societies.

But if the five billion-plus population on planet Earth is to hear the gospel, Christians must listen more closely to the Spirit of God.

There are more lost people in our generation than in any preceding generation. And, at least in the USA, there seems to be less concern about their spiritual needs than ever before. It is true that we are doing much in a humanitarian way for the hungry, but the spiritual needs of folks get lost in our concern for their material needs. Let's get our priorities right and evangelize *our* generation! ■

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ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Bill Jones pastors Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church in Bryan, Texas. He has served on the Foreign Missions Board as a member and as chairman.

Modern missions requires more time and more money.

Why So Long and So Much?

By Ken Eagleton, Sr.



H. Armstrong Roberts

The lumbering DC-4 propeller-driven plane thumped its wheels on the runway at Sao Paulo's international airport in Brazil. Our excitement was somewhat dulled by the bone-wearying, 26-hour flight from Texas.

It did not take long for Marvis and me to pass through customs. We had three footlockers containing a few linens and our clothes. We were now in Brazil as permanent residents to join Dave Franks in starting a Brazilian Free Will Baptist denomination in that huge South American

country.

A mere six weeks earlier both Marvis and I were on staff at Free Will Baptist Bible College. With preliminary and final applications for missionary service filed just weeks before, we were approved on May 27, commissioned June 1 and de-

parted July 2, 1958.

We had three or four deputational services, no monthly support commitments and \$39 in our account when we left for Brazil. Things are different now. We live in a far more complex world.

Long Road to the Field

The young person who starts in college with a firm conviction that he is called to be a cross-cultural missionary overseas can expect an eight-year delay before he leaves for his field of service. Why? Let me explain.

Basic Qualifications

The Foreign Missions Department has experience in what it takes to be qualified to serve in a cross-cultural ministry. Every effort is made to minimize the number of missionary casualties due to family or health problems or some form of incompatibility. Getting the job done demands from the missionary more than the desire to be useful or active in the Lord's work.

The *Handbook* of the Foreign Missions Department spells out the basic qualifications for missionary service. The three main areas are spiritual; physical, psychological and marital; and educational.

Mature, consistent Christian living is a must. Evidence of concern for the lost and a display of complete dependence on God are essential. Paramount is a conviction of a Divine call to missionary service overseas.

Education

Educational requirements include a bachelor's degree for male or single candidates, area studies of the country to which the candidate is seeking appointment, reading major works on missions and usually two years of pastoral or other acceptable experience. Missionary wives must have the equivalent of 20 hours of biblical studies plus 18 hours of missions even though they are not required to hold a bachelor's degree.

The *Handbook* states: "Applicants for specialized service must also

hold degrees in their respective fields, especially doctors and nurses"

Testing

The candidate process itself starts with an initial contact with foreign missions personnel. If the prospective candidate supplies good basic information, he is invited to enroll in the internship program. This process usually is not started until he has completed his undergraduate degree.

Preliminary testing includes areas in Bible, missions, temperament analysis, personal medical history, college transcript, psychological and marriage evaluation. Each candidate must have emotional conditions that are conducive to effective, stable missionary service.

For example, one area especially sensitive to emotional strain is children's schooling. Some missionaries home school their children. Others feel they have no other option but to send them away from home to boarding school.

Weeks and sometimes months pass without parents seeing their children. Either way, emotional stability is often taxed to its limit. Therefore, the board will consider closely any prior history of psychological maladjustments.

Marriage Evaluation

A marriage evaluation is important. Husband and wife have equal status as missionaries. They must have similar convictions and dedication to missionary service. Their ability to handle domestic and financial responsibilities is evaluated.

In fact, the entire family needs to be able to adapt to a cross-cultural lifestyle. Concurrently with these evaluations, the prospective candidate/intern is fulfilling his two years of pastoral or other acceptable service.

Final Application

If the preliminary application is approved by the board candidate committee, the candidate is then asked to proceed in making final application. Further tests and ex-

ams are required. A second temperament analysis is made and complete medical exams are done. The area study of the prospective field of service is turned in and all reading requirements finished.

When all is in order, the candidate will be interviewed by the candidate committee. This committee will then make recommendation to the entire board. The board interviews the candidate with three options: 1) appointment, 2) conditional acceptance, 3) rejection.

Deputation

After his appointment, the candidate is scheduled for an orientation session before beginning deputational services. Deputation is necessary to secure prayer and financial support for his ministry.

The average missionary appointee will travel thousands of miles and speak in numerous churches and Sunday School classes by the time he raises \$60,000 in cash and \$5,000 in monthly support through faith promise commitments. This often takes as long as two years.

High Cost of Missions

Why does the missionary have to raise so much money? The denominational plan of support calls for each missionary to raise all funds necessary to underwrite his entire ministry. This includes personal allowances, field expenses and other supporting services such as information and promotional, travel home for furlough, and furlough travel in the States.

Before the missionary's departure for the field, there are expenses for deputational travel, equipment purchases, supplies, shipping, documents and plane tickets.

Field Set-Up

When he arrives on the field, the missionary pays customs, rents a house or an apartment, buys furniture, appliances, a vehicle, goes to language school for one or two years and, if there are school-aged children, pays for home schooling supplies or boarding school.

(Continued on Page 11)

I Remember Pop Willey

By Billy A. Melvin

I was about 10 years old when it happened. It was on a Sunday night in a small, white-framed church at the corner of East Main and Homan Streets in Durham, North Carolina. I was in my usual place in the front row of a side section of the auditorium—a place where my mother could keep an eye on me from the soprano section of the choir.

About the time I settled in for another typical Sunday night evangelistic service—lots of singing and fervent preaching—I saw him. Coming through a side door was an Indian, an honest-to-goodness Indian! He scared the daylight out of me.

I wanted to run to my mother, hide or do something. What in the world was an Indian doing in our church, I wondered. However, no one else seemed bothered by his presence, so I settled down, determined though to keep an eye on that Indian.

As the service progressed, I began to learn some things about the Indian. First, I learned that he wasn't an Indian at all. He was just dressed like an Indian. He was a missionary to Indians in Columbia, South America, and he had dressed like an Indian to create a bit of excitement. Well, he sure did—and his name was Tom Willey.

No Dull Moments

In later years, as a teenager, I learned more about the "Indian" and his family. In fact, the Willey family practically became adopted members of the Melvin family. My father, Henry Melvin, was a key player in the Willey family decision to open a mission field for Free Will Baptists in Cuba. I still have vivid memories of their visits to our home whenever they returned to the States on furlough, as well as the "Willey stuff" that always seemed to be stored in



our large, walk-up attic.

Those visits were great times for our family. We would enjoy hearty meals with lots of ice cream. Tom loved ice cream and, since it wasn't available in Pinar del Rio, Cuba, at the time, we consumed ice cream by the gallon.

The only time I recall a bit of tension during one of Tom's visits was the year he arrived in a big, black hearse and parked it in front of our house. He had arrived in Miami from Cuba and needed a vehicle for his deputation work. Finding the hearse at a good price on a used car lot, he concluded that it was perfect for his need—room for baggage and whenever one of the family got sleepy, they could lie down in the back! A compromise was struck with my mother when he agreed to park on a side street.

Night Stories

Tom always had stories. My sister and I would beg to "stay up late,"

so we could hear the latest experiences of Tom as he pioneered the mission work in Cuba. Tom was most animated and excited whenever he was reporting on some new valley he had discovered while on horseback where dozens of villages had no gospel witness. Often I would hear him say, "They had never heard the name of Jesus."

Then he would tell us how he was privileged to preach to the people and many would come to Christ. Almost always, there were tears in his eyes as he spoke.

Years passed and in due time, my relationship with Tom Willey changed. I realized one day that he was no longer the periodic visitor to the home of my parents. He was a visitor to my home. And it was now my privilege to extend hospitality to a "family member" and share once again the stories of Tom as my two children felt the impact of a man of God dedicated to the proclamation of the gospel.

44 Regular

Those visits with Tom were always special and great fun. He was so unconventional that the unexpected was normal whenever he was around. I still remember how I drove him from one dry-cleaning establishment to another for the better part of a day as he went in to inquire whether or not they had any suits, size 44 regular, that had not been picked up by customers. If any were found, he would always talk the proprietor into giving it to the missionary from Cuba.

Or the time he put his wash-and-wear suit in our bathtub with so much soap that I despaired of him ever getting the soap out again. His solution? He marched through the house, dripping soap and water as he went, threw the jacket and trousers over the clothesline in the backyard and proceeded to hose them

down with the garden hose. Our neighbors, who happened to be in their backyard at the time, were trying to figure out what was going on. My wife and I avoided speaking to them the following week with the hope the incident would quickly fade from their memory.

Today, Tom is with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in heaven. His last months on this earth involved a gallant fight with cancer. Cancer finally took him, but cancer was not the victor. Grace was the victor as Tom experienced a glorious entrance into the presence of God.

Three Great Lessons

Like many others, I will never forget him. He left behind a large footprint in Free Will Baptist circles, including many lessons we would do well to remember. Here are the three that are special for me.

First, he taught me what it meant to be a missionary.

He did this not so much with words as with his example. Being a missionary to him was simply sharing the gospel with others in a loving and compassionate spirit. Tom loved people and they knew it, but at the same time, he tried never to miss an opportunity to share the gospel of Christ.

Second, he taught me the importance of teaching others.

I remember well the occasion when he shared with me his deep conviction regarding II Timothy 2:2, where Paul counseled Timothy: "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

It was this strategy that provided the impetus for the *Cedars of Lebanon*, a Bible training school in beautiful Pinar del Rio, dedicated to the preparation of future pastors, evangelists and lay leaders. The wisdom of establishing such a training school in Cuba is well-documented today by the outstanding men and women who have gone forth from that institution.

Third, he taught me the importance of reporting what God was doing.

Whenever Tom came home, he was always anxious to share his experiences. It seemed as if his heart was bursting to report all that God was doing and to challenge others to get involved.

He especially loved to invade those areas where people were not too anxious to hear from those "ferin" missionaries. Nevertheless, he saw it as important work, al-

though on at least one occasion, he went to his car after a service to discover that a disgruntled church member who did not agree with his message had let all the air out of his tires!

Yes, I remember Tom Willey. Little wonder that somewhere along the way, he so endeared himself to others that he affectionately became known as "Pop" Willey, a true friend to all who knew him and a man faithful to his calling. I pray that God will raise up hundreds more to follow in his train. ■

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ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Billy A. Melvin is a Free Will Baptist minister. He has pastored in Tennessee and Virginia and served eight years as executive secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. Currently, he is in his 26th year as executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals.

(Why . . . ? from page 9)

Ministry Expenses

The missionary will have expenses connected with his own ministry. He will also have expenses that he shares with other missionaries as part of the team effort on his field, such as Bible institutes, camp programs and literature production/distribution. Operational and maintenance costs of mission equipment and property can be expensive.

In the July-September, 1992, issue of *African Breezes*, Robert Bryan wrote: "When Darrel Nichols needed to replace the shocks on his car . . . he found that the two rear shocks would cost him nearly \$800." He added, ". . . I have to have 19% more dollars (now) than I did in February.

For example, to fill up my car with gas in February cost me \$62.50; now it costs \$74.50 (and I drive a Honda!)."

Inflation

Unstable economic conditions on the fields cause the value of the dollar to constantly fluctuate. Inflation is ever-present with the consequent loss of buying power. These are the main reasons why the missionary support base calls for big investments.

In order to meet the demands of ministering cross-culturally to a society that's increasingly more complex and sophisticated, Free Will Baptists want to send their best men and women. It takes time and much work to help the missionary fulfill

his calling. It takes large sums of money to send and to keep them on the mission field. The investment is well worth it. The results will glorify God. ■

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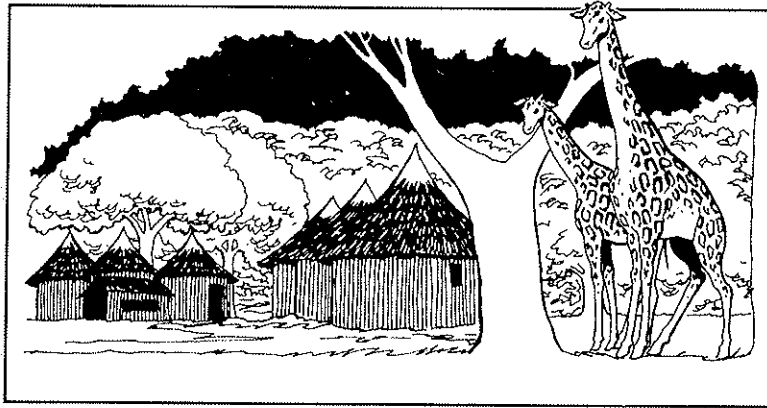


ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Ken Eagleton, Sr., is a Free Will Baptist missionary to Brazil who currently coordinates TEAM efforts. He helps select summer missionaries and conducts deputational ministry.

On the mission field . . .

Just Another Day

By Carol Pinkerton



There really wasn't anything special . . . it was just another day. And he went to work, glad to have a job with the electric company.

Just a young married man with three small children. He hadn't even had his 30th birthday yet, but life was good and he was happy.

The heavy cement pole had been hit by a car months ago, leaving it in a slanted position held only by three wires at the top and metal supports at the base. Today that would be changed.

A car drove up and parked near the pole, so he had to ask the white man to move it. He knew the white man was a missionary, but he was working and didn't have time for religious talk. The man moved his car. The worker climbed the pole and cut one of the three lines attached to it.

The pole wasn't as solid as it should have been; that's why it was finally being replaced. He talked to his fellow workers after cutting the first line and climbing down to the ground. He didn't feel

secure up there on the pole . . . "Don't be silly. We've got more work to do. Climb back up there."

So he climbed the second time and cut the second wire, but descended again since he was even more unsure of the pole. He knew it was unsafe. He could "feel" it.

The electric company had a "cherry picker." If they used it he would not have to climb up again. Getting permission to use the picker took time, and they were short of time. After much talk, he climbed up for the third time, cutting the third and final wire.

Immediately, he knew it had been a serious mistake. He should have listened to his own counsel, not his friends'. The cut wire flew away and the pole fell. He was belted to the pole and couldn't get away. It didn't take long. The force of the pole with his body attached fell to the ground. He was killed instantly.

In the twinkling of the eye, he was before his final Judge. He had thought he was too young to make a decision for the Lord. His life was just getting started. And it had been such a normal day. Then it all came to a crashing end.

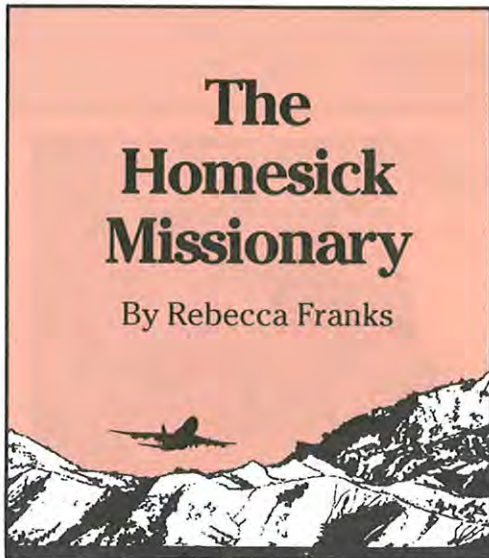
What a difference it would have made if he'd taken time to talk with the missionary. What a difference it would have made if he had listened to his own thoughts and not followed the advice of his well-meaning friends. What a difference Jesus would have made.

It would have been the difference between Heaven and Hell.

The cherry picker truck came later. A new pole was placed. The young man's wife is now a widow with three young children. The day that began just like a normal day was, in reality, his first day of eternity! ■



ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Carol Pinkerton is a Free Will Baptist missionary to Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa.



“¿Tiene nostalgia?”

I looked in astonishment. “No, I’m not pregnant.” *Was she asking if I was pregnant?*

“¿Tiene nostalgia para Estados Unidos?”

Oh! That’s what she meant! Homesick . . . I’ve only been here a month. I laughed to myself. Homesick already? After it took me two years of deputation to get here?

“No, I’m not homesick. I don’t get homesick.”

Homesick. Only once in my life could I remember feeling it. Dad made the long drive to Nashville, Tennessee, as so many Free Will Baptist preachers do. We drove till about 2:00 a.m. The next day after a “morning” rest, he dropped me off at my new home—a space about four feet by 10 feet.

My things which had stuffed the car now loaded my bed, and he drove off. With him went my family, my best friend, a high school valedictorian, and my security. Never would my life, my home be the same.

I waited until I got back to my room. Then the flood came. For the first time in my life I was truly afraid and alone. I felt “nostalgia.”

“ . . . Well I guess I need to go.”

“ . . . Yes, we’ve got to get to church. [Pause] . . . We love you.”

“ . . . Love you too.”

I gently hung up the receiver. “Something is not right.”

My spouse looked at me strangely. “What?”

“They’re not telling me something. Oh, I don’t know—something is just not right.”

“They were in a hurry to get to church.”

“That’s not it.”

“If talking to your parents is going to make you depressed, maybe you should not pay for an international phone call.”

“Something is not right. I know my mom and dad.”

Don’t I? Nostalgia was back. After 10 years away from home, and three months on the mission field, I could feel it. The emptiness inside, the uncertainty of the future, the open wounds left from the rugged scissors of life cutting family ties. The pain of separation.

As strange as it seems, life changes. You know you’ve changed. But you never expect others to change in your absence. When you see the children again, you expect to see them as they were the last time. It’s always shocking to see how much they’ve grown, though it would be stranger if a child didn’t grow.

No . . . Time doesn’t stand still in our absence, although we are shocked to find that life goes on without us.

The words of a missionary before she boarded the plane ring clear in my mind and will for the rest of my life: “I never know if they’ll still be here when I get back.”

When I return in four years, will my dad still be strong and know all

the answers to life’s problems? Will my mother still run around like a teenager with excitement and glee, cooking, cleaning, talking furiously when all the children show up for the same occasion?

In four years, I will be different. I will be grayer (or better at not showing it). I will have more answers. Time will change me, as is normal with people and time.

But then, they too will change. They will be older. They will be retiring and embarking on the life of “jubilado” as it is called here. More than just physical appearance will change, which is perhaps the hardest part to accept.

They will *be* different, *think* different and *act* different. People, things, events, circumstances will mold them into something unfamiliar, unknown, foreign to me, while I’m thousands of miles away becoming Uruguayan.

“Why God? I want my mom and dad!”

“If any man come to me, and hate not his father and mother . . . he cannot be my disciple.”

“Why God? Why me? This homesick, weak, imperfect specimen of flesh.”

I know dozens of women who would be better missionaries. They are better at giving themselves, have more self-control, have stronger character. Why me?

So often I come home from studying Spanish and want to hide under my bed and never hear another word of that gibberish again.

“Why me?”

“Because you were willing to go!”



ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Rebecca Franks is a first-term Free Will Baptist missionary to Uruguay. Her parents, Reverend and Mrs. Thomas Coxwell, pastor Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church in Columbia, Alabama.

A Modern Parable

The Prodigal Son

By Diane Mitchell Thomas

You may think you have heard this story before. But don't accuse me of plagiarism, for, alas, what I tell you is true. I have two sons. The older one forsook the will of God, ignored God's call on his life and journeyed down the road to Neuhoff Hog Farms. There he found employment, enjoyed his independence and weekly paycheck which he spent on a Mazda MX 6, much collision and liability.

Life was a riot except when he would get into the barn and his Father's voice sounded above the deafening squeals of hundreds of hogs.

"My son, do you remember that I have called you to preach?" He turned a deaf ear to God (for my son is truly hearing impaired) and immersed himself harder in his work. Still, the voice pierced his heart, and his spirit was restless.

"My son, I have called you." (For God's voice will be heard even though you turn off your hearing aid.) He pretended not to hear the voice and began talking to the pigs while he worked, and still he could not shut out the words, "My son."

One day he stopped, leaned against his spade and looked about his surroundings. He cast his eyes downward to the mire at his boots and came to himself.

"I have the lowliest job in America," he thought. (Can you think of one more humble than shoveling after pigs all day?) "Surely my Father has better plans for me and I perish for my lost peace."



"Father," he cried. "I have sinned against Thee, and am not worthy to be called your son, but please, Father, make me Your servant."

I heard the Mazda from a great way off. (It's a turbo.) I did not run to kiss and hug him. (When one works at a hog farm you quickly learn to wait until after he showers to fall on his neck.)

"Mom and Dad," he told us, "I have returned (he quit) from the hog farm and I need to go to college so that I can prepare to serve God."

We rejoiced and his dad grilled fat, juicy steaks, (my son refused pork). I went to the mall where I purchased seven shirts, five pairs of slacks, four ties and clothed him.

My husband and I sang in our hearts, "This our son was dead and now he is alive. He was lost and is found." We danced around the house and made merry.

This story really is my own. My son preached before he left for college. The power of God was so great that as my younger son listened to

his brother, he was not jealous, but made his way to the altar, answered God's call on his own life and said, "Father, make me Your servant as well."

My husband and I refrained from dancing in the church house but did resort to a high five and many "Hallelujahs."

Prodigals. They still come home.

■
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ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Diane Mitchell Thomas is a member of Grifton Free Will Baptist Church in Grifton, North Carolina. She also serves on the WNAC Study Committee.

Hotel Reservation

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Louisville, Kentucky

National Convention

July 18-22, 1993

- Requests for reservations made after 6/18 will be returned to you with a list of availabilities.
- All reservation requests will be made through the NAFWB Housing Bureau—NOT WITH INDIVIDUAL HOTELS.
- Complete this housing form selecting your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice hotels and mail to the Housing Bureau. DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 1993. Send one form for each room request. Duplicate this form if necessary.
- Changes and cancellations must be made in writing to the NAFWB Housing Bureau in Louisville.
- 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.

Cutoff Date:
Received by
June 18, 1993





MAIL TO:
NAFWB Housing Bureau
400 South First Street
Louisville, KY 40202
or FAX to
502/584-6697

YOUR NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE (WK) _____ (HM) _____
 CREDIT CARD TYPE _____ CC# _____ EXP. _____

By signing below, I authorize the hotel confirmed to charge my credit card for one night's deposit, which is non-refundable 48 hours prior to arrival.

NAME ON CREDIT CARD _____ SIGNATURE _____

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

HOTELS	Choice	 Single	 Double	 Triple	 Quad
Hyatt Regency—Headquarters Hotel		\$79	\$79	\$79	\$79
Galt House East—NYC Headquarters (All-Suites Tower)		\$79	\$79	\$79	\$79
Galt House		\$69	\$69	\$69	\$69

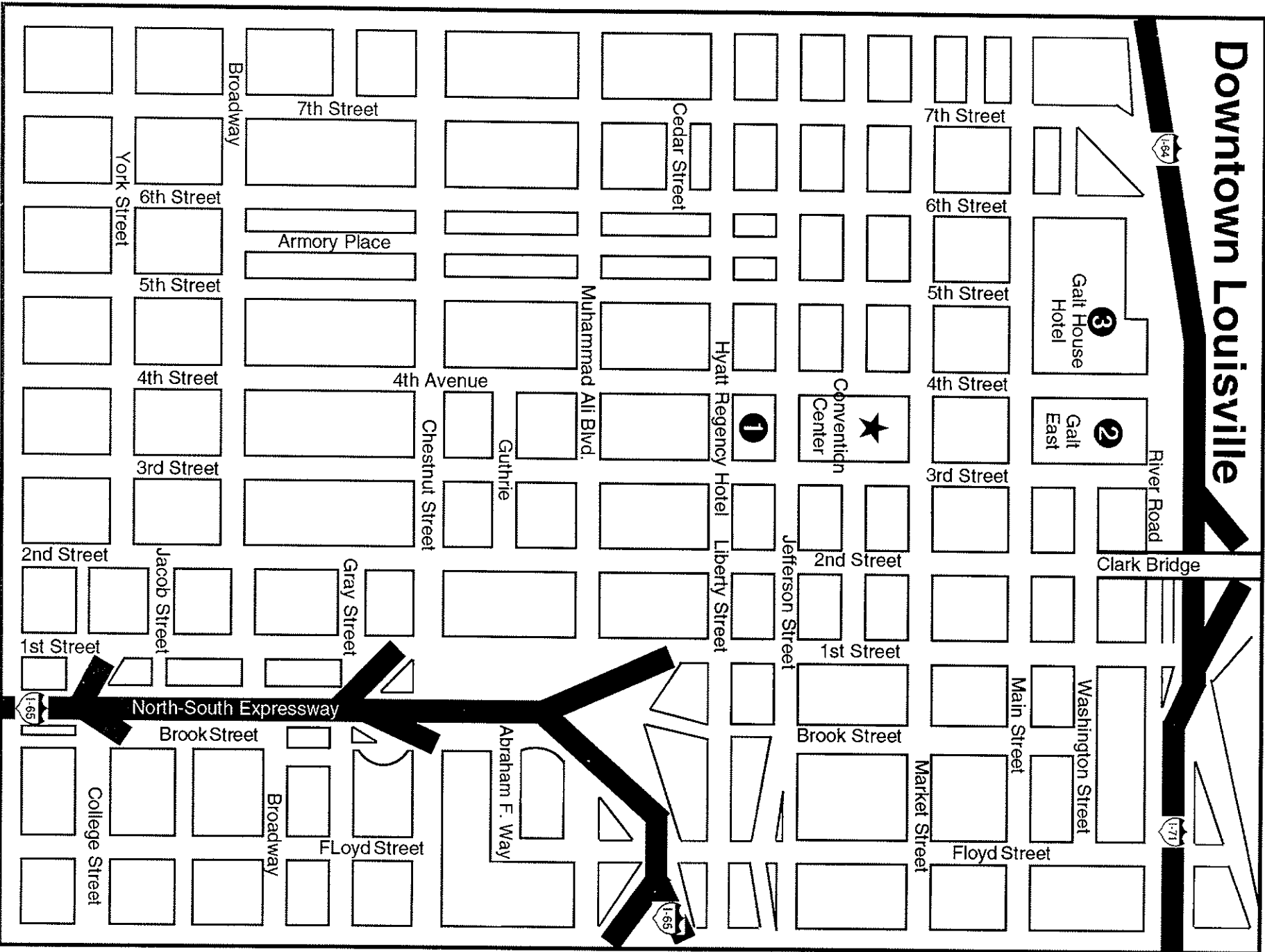
ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

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:

Downtown Louisville



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). **Fill out one form for each person.**
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 meal 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**. Check only *one* of the choices. Indicate the number of meal 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**. *Only those in first grade up to age 24 need to complete this section!* The fees are:
 \$11.00 per person, or
 \$12.00 if registering on-site.
 Adults over 24 do not pay NYC fees.

Indicate the number of meal tickets you wish to purchase (Enclose check for registration and tickets payable to **FWB Convention**). **NOTE:** Before July 19, Youth Banquet tickets will be sold only to those in grades seven to age 24 and youthworkers accompanying their group. Others may purchase tickets at the convention after this date.

Additional Information

1. Completed forms must be mailed to **Convention Registration~P.O. Box 5002~Antioch, TN~37011-5002** and received on or before **June 18, 1993**.
2. Enclose **one check** to cover all fees and tickets.
3. Make additional copies of the Pre-Registration Form if they are needed. **Only one person per form please.**
4. No refunds mailed after **June 18, 1993**.

Children's Banquet/\$7.00

Monday, July 19/5:00 PM
Convention Center/Room 117

Music Ministries Breakfast/\$9.50

Tuesday, July 20/7:00 AM
Convention Center/Room 208

WNAC Fellowship Dinner/\$15.00

Tuesday, July 20/5:00 PM
Hyatt Regency/Regency Ballroom

FWBBC Luncheon/\$13.00

Wednesday, July 21/12:00 Noon
Galt House East/Weatherby Room

Youth Workers Reception/\$5.00

Monday, July 19/9:00 PM
Convention Center/Room 116

Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon/\$12.00

Tuesday, July 20/12:00 Noon
Convention Center/Rooms 207-208

Youth Banquet/\$12.50

Tuesday, July 20/9:00 PM
Galt House East/Grand Ballroom

Master's Men Dinner/\$18.00 (\$20.00 on-site)

Wednesday, July 21/4:45 PM
Hyatt Regency/Regency Ballroom

Pre-Registration Form

for
National Association of Free Will Baptists
Woman's National Auxiliary Convention
National Youth Conference
 Louisville, KY / July 18 - 22, 1993

Only one person per form.

Please Print

Name: _____ Phone #: _____/_____
FIRST or NAME DESIRED ON BADGE LAST

Address: _____ Male Female

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Church: _____ City: _____

Hotel (if known): _____

Completed form(s) must be mailed to
Convention Registration
P.O. Box 5002
Antioch, TN 37011-5002
 and received on or before **June 18, 1993.**

You may register for all three conventions on this form.

Check the appropriate boxes.

<input type="checkbox"/> Register me for the National Association . I have completed the following information.																												
DISTRICT ASSOCIATION: _____ (Check only one of the following:) MINISTER: <input type="checkbox"/> Ordained (MIO) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensed (MIL) <small>(I certify that I am a member in good standing with the above named church and association which belong to the National Association.)</small> MISSIONARY: <input type="checkbox"/> Foreign (MIF) (Country) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Home (MIH) DELEGATE: <input type="checkbox"/> Ordained Deacon (ORD) <input type="checkbox"/> State (STD) <input type="checkbox"/> Local Church (\$10.00) (LCD) <input type="checkbox"/> National Board Member (NBM) <input type="checkbox"/> National Officer (NTO) VISITOR: <input type="checkbox"/> (VIS)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Meal Tickets:</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><i>Quantity</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth Workers Reception</td> <td style="text-align: right;">_____ x \$5.00 =</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Music Ministries Breakfast</td> <td style="text-align: right;">_____ x \$9.50 =</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon</td> <td style="text-align: right;">_____ x \$12.00 =</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FWBBC Alumni Luncheon</td> <td style="text-align: right;">_____ x \$13.00 =</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Master's Men Dinner</td> <td style="text-align: right;">_____ x \$18.00 =</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Delegate Fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local Church Delegate</td> <td style="text-align: right;">_____ 1 x \$10.00 =</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">SUBTOTAL</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </table>	Meal Tickets:		<i>Quantity</i>	Youth Workers Reception	_____ x \$5.00 =	_____	Music Ministries Breakfast	_____ x \$9.50 =	_____	Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon	_____ x \$12.00 =	_____	FWBBC Alumni Luncheon	_____ x \$13.00 =	_____	Master's Men Dinner	_____ x \$18.00 =	_____	Delegate Fee			Local Church Delegate	_____ 1 x \$10.00 =	_____	SUBTOTAL		_____
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(Check only one of the following:) DELEGATE: <input type="checkbox"/> Local (\$3.00) (WLD) <input type="checkbox"/> State (WSD) <input type="checkbox"/> State President or Field Worker (WPF) <input type="checkbox"/> National Officer (WNO) VISITOR: <input type="checkbox"/> (WVI)	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Meal Tickets:</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><i>Quantity</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>WNAC Fellowship Dinner</td> <td style="text-align: right;">_____ x \$15.00 =</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Delegate Fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local Delegate</td> <td style="text-align: right;">_____ 1 x \$3.00 =</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">SUBTOTAL</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </table>	Meal Tickets:		<i>Quantity</i>	WNAC Fellowship Dinner	_____ x \$15.00 =	_____	Delegate Fee			Local Delegate	_____ 1 x \$3.00 =	_____	SUBTOTAL		_____												
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Grade just completed: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: ____/____/____ Parent's (or Guardian's) Name: _____ Youth Leader's name: _____ Are you a youthworker? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Registration Fee</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pre-Registration Fee</td> <td style="text-align: right;">_____ 1 x \$11.00 =</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">On-site registration fee is \$12.00. Adults over 24 do not pay NYC fees. You must register for NYC to purchase meal tickets (unless age 25 and up).</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">Meal Tickets:</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><i>Quantity</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Children's Banquet (grades 1-6)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">_____ x \$7.00 =</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth Banquet (must be in grade 7 to age 24 or on accompanying youthworker)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">_____ x \$12.50 =</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: right;">SUBTOTAL</td> <td>_____</td> </tr> </table>	Registration Fee			Pre-Registration Fee	_____ 1 x \$11.00 =	_____	On-site registration fee is \$12.00. Adults over 24 do not pay NYC fees. You must register for NYC to purchase meal tickets (unless age 25 and up).			Meal Tickets:		<i>Quantity</i>	Children's Banquet (grades 1-6)	_____ x \$7.00 =	_____	Youth Banquet (must be in grade 7 to age 24 or on accompanying youthworker)	_____ x \$12.50 =	_____	SUBTOTAL		_____						
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SUBTOTAL		_____																										

For Office Use Only		
Date Rec'd _____	CK/MO # _____	AMT \$ _____
CK _____		

Make Checks payable to FWB Convention. No refunds mailed after June 18, 1993.	GRAND TOTAL \$ _____ <small>Check/Money Order MUST accompany this form.</small>
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NEWSFRONT

Rev. Joe Braddy, Missouri Leader, Killed

FREDERICKTOWN, MO—The Reverend Joe Burney Braddy, assistant moderator of the Missouri State Association died in an automobile accident January 20, 1993. The 52-year-old minister was pastor of First FWB Church in Fredericktown at the time of his death.

According to the Missouri State Highway Patrol, Rev. Braddy's vehicle was struck by another car which apparently ran a stop sign. The accident occurred about 10 miles north of Fredericktown.

Ordained to the ministry in 1966, Rev. Braddy pastored churches in Arkansas, Oklahoma, Iowa and Missouri. He was well known in local and state outreach. During his ministry in



Missouri, he served as state association clerk, assistant moderator, Executive Committee member and General Board member. He designed and promoted Missouri's retirement program for pastors.

Mr. Braddy graduated from

Oklahoma State University with a B.S. degree. He also attended Tulsa University, and graduate school at the University of Arkansas. He was a recipient of the "Outstanding Educators of America Award."

Funeral services were conducted January 23 at First FWB Church in Fredericktown. Reverends Nathan Ruble and Clarence Burton officiated. Interment followed in Green Forest, Arkansas.

Reverend Braddy is survived by his wife, Patsy; two sons, Christopher of Lebanon and Kurtis of Houston, Texas; one daughter, Pamela Hedgepath of Mountain Grove; three sisters and two grandchildren.

Bible College Spring Enrollment Up

NASHVILLE, TN—An exceptional surge in spring student enrollment drove the total to 322 at Free Will Baptist Bible College. In January, the college enrolled 300 regular students, equaling the first semester enrollment. Then 22 more students enrolled for a special night course. Most of these were area pastors and music directors. They brought the spring semester total to 322.

Significant growth was seen in the numbers of students from Tennessee (41%), Virginia (50%), California (67%), Texas (67%), Florida (67%) and Kentucky (80%). Registrar Charles Hampton says, "We thank the Lord for a net increase of 41 students

over last spring and for the significant state growths."

The total number of students enrolled for the year is 343, not counting the 22 night course students—an increase of 12% over the 307 who enrolled in 1991-92. The 1992-93 student body represented 25 states, the Virgin Islands and five foreign countries (Pakistan, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, China and Uruguay).

By states, the enrollment for the year is:

Alabama	29
Arkansas	14
California	5
Colorado	3
Delaware	2
Florida	10

Georgia	16
Illinois	23
Indiana	14
Kansas	1
Kentucky	12
Louisiana	3
Michigan	7
Mississippi	7
Missouri	17
New Mexico	1
North Carolina	32
Ohio	12
Oklahoma	3
South Carolina	10
Tennessee	87
Texas	10
Virginia	12
Washington	3
West Virginia	3
Virgin Islands	1
Foreign	6

Layman of the Year Ordained to Preach



OLIVEHURST, CA—Reverend George Brunkhorst, named Layman of the Year in 1985, was ordained to preach the gospel December 19, 1992. The 63-year-old minister assumed pastoral duties at Olivehurst FWB Church in September 1992 and was ordained three months later on Saturday before Christmas.

Brother Brunkhorst was a member of Capitol FWB Church in Sacramento for 23 years, 10 years as an ordained deacon. One hundred ten people attended the unusual ordination ceremony at Olivehurst Saturday night.

Brunkhorst is the first Layman of the Year to be ordained to preach. He is also one of the oldest men to be ordained. During the July 1992 Free Will Baptist National Convention in Indianapolis, he was elected to a six-year term on the Master's Men Board.

Evangelist Wade Jernigan preached the ordination message. Sacramento pastor Larry Condit gave the charge. Others ordaining council members included California ministers Jay Constant, Lewis Howell and J. R. Griggs.

Bible College Adds New Programs

NASHVILLE, TN—Two new programs for music students will be offered at Free Will Baptist Bible College this fall. The first is a music major with a performance emphasis that can be directed toward training in voice, keyboard or guitar. The purpose of this program is to prepare students for graduate studies in music, or for a music ministry.

The second addition is a major in church music with an additional concentration in pastoral ministry studies. The program aims to prepare men who will both direct the church's music program and serve as associate pastor, able to preach and carry out other ministries to assist the senior pastor. The program will be full-featured in both areas, with pastoral theology, homiletics, Christian education and music. The final semester will include a supervised internship.

Dr. Vernon Whaley says, "The exciting thing about the performance degree program is that it should prepare students for graduate studies in music without their having to make up any more work." He adds, "The program for associate pastors provides both the musical training and the vision of pastoral ministry that will equip young men to work effectively alongside our Free Will Baptist pastors."

These two programs take the place of the old major in church music, according to Dr. Robert Picirilli, academic dean.

The Bible College is also offering new programs in Accounting and Sports Medicine. The Accounting major is part of a Bachelor of Science program in Business Administration. The Sports Medicine major is also a Bachelor of Science program, preparing students to be athletic trainers.

Directory Update

Arkansas

Joel Kircher to First Church, Fort Smith

California

Bill Burgess to Pioneer Church, Ontario from Liberty Church, Cottonwood

Georgia

David Harper to Colquitt Church, Colquitt
Russell McAlister to Highway Church, Bainbridge

Joseph Wallis to Travelers Rest Church, Newton

Harvey Herndon to White Plains Church, Lucille

Christopher Jackson to Brunswick Church, Brunswick

Oklahoma

Ernest Harrison, Jr. to First Church, McAlester from Beacon Church, Raytown, MO

John Bullard to First Church, Wewoka

Danny Barks to Eastside Church, Duncan from First Church, Duncan

Kent Hubbard to Southern Oaks Church, Oklahoma City from Central Church, Grandview, MO

South Carolina

Reedy Saverance to Lebanon Church, Effingham

James B. Rice to Oates Church, Oates

Ralph Brown to St. Johns Church, Lake City

Texas

Jerald Bass to Western Hills Church, Fort Worth

Travis House to Trinity Church, Santa Fe

Jimmy Howell to First Church, Nacogdoches

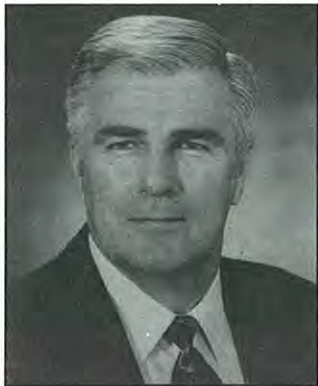
West Virginia

Robert Legg to Loudendale Church, Charleston, from Eastside Church, Houston, TX

Other Personnel

Rusty Russell to Peace Church, Wilson, NC, as minister of music and youth

Evangelist to Address Southeastern College Graduation



WENDELL, NC—Free Will Baptist evangelist, Van Dale Hudson, of Amory, Mississippi, will deliver the commencement address May 13 for Southeastern Free Will Baptist College.

Reverend Hudson is in his 25th year of full-time evangelism among Free Will Baptists. He has conducted over 900 revival meetings, authored nine books and has an extensive monthly tape ministry.

Southeastern College will graduate 18 students at the commencement. Devin Hudson, Evangelist Hudson's son, will be among those graduating. Three will receive Bachelor's degrees in Bible; four will receive Bachelor's degrees in Bible Studies; six will receive Bachelor's degrees in Christian Education and five will receive Christian School of Business diplomas.

Graduation exercises will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the First Free Will Baptist Church of Raleigh.

FWBBC Scholarship Fund Receives \$2,000 Matching Gift

NASHVILLE, TN—Mrs. June Trimble recently contributed \$1,000 to Free Will Baptist Bible College for the Business Administration Scholarship Fund. Her gift was matched by her employer, Johnson and Higgins of Tennessee, insurance brokers who support educational and other worthy causes in Tennessee.

Mrs. Trimble's gift is in memory of her husband, Wade Trimble, who died January 10, 1993. Mr. Trimble was active in church and denominational outreach for many years. In his last major project, Wade Trimble supervised the build-out of the National Offices Building.

The gift honors Mrs. Rebecca Deel who became Wade's "adopted" granddaughter when she was a little girl. Now, Becky is a

professor in FWBBC's Business Department, and is pursuing a Doctor of Arts degree at Middle Tennessee State University. The gift is also in honor of Mrs. Trimble's son, Randy Ledbetter, a Bible College graduate who is now associate pastor at First FWB Church in Russellville, Arkansas.

Those who wish to assist needy FWBBC business students may contribute to this scholarship fund. All donations are tax deductible and the contribution stays in the fund forever—only the interest is used for issuing scholarships. Checks should be made payable to Free Will Baptist Bible College and sent to:

Business Administration Scholarship Fund
Free Will Baptist Bible College
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37205

Discount Air Fares to National Convention Available

NASHVILLE, TN—The National Association of Free Will Baptists has made special travel arrangements for attendees and their families who will be flying to the 1993 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, July 18-22, according to Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington. Ambassador Travel in Nashville has been selected as the agency of record to provide members attending the convention with discount travel services. We are working with the same people as we did last year. They have merged with another travel agency in Nashville.

Ambassador Travel has secured discounts for air travel to Louisville. These fares cannot be purchased through another travel agency or directly with the airlines. These are con-

tracted group airfares. First class tickets may also be booked if desired.

To book your airspace at the offered discounted rates, call Ambassador Travel toll-free at **1-800/489-2004**. This is a different number than last year. Ask for **Janice Jakobik** and identify yourself with the Free Will Baptist National Convention.

Advise the Ambassador agent of your name, number of passengers traveling, city of originating flight, correct mailing address, telephone number (home and business). For easy billing, have a current credit card ready at the time of booking. Ambassador Travel will process and mail the tickets to you.

All services from Ambassador Travel are free.

Capital Stewardship Campaign
January 1993
Update

State	Goal	Gifts
Alabama	\$ 97,290.00	\$ 1,000.00
Arizona	1,565.00	1,800.00
Arkansas	97,880.00	17,649.73
Atlantic Canada	2,000.00	.00
California	21,925.00	.00
Colorado	1,005.00	755.00
Florida	26,365.00	.00
Georgia	48,620.00	8,220.30
Hawaii	235.00	.00
Idaho	450.00	.00
Illinois	20,600.00	100.00
Indiana	10,020.00	1,000.00
Iowa	340.00	.00
Kansas	1,640.00	.00
Kentucky	45,150.00	740.00
Louisiana	120.00	1,020.00
Maryland	8,675.00	150.00
Michigan	19,250.00	1,553.00
Mississippi	19,815.00	338.00
Missouri	77,025.00	18,854.75
Montana	35.00	50.00
Nebraska	130.00	.00
New Mexico	760.00	.00
North Carolina	75,285.00	1,250.00
Northeast Assoc.	1,125.00	.00
Northwest Assoc.	1,385.00	.00
Ohio	52,115.00	.00
Oklahoma	117,505.00	150.50
South Carolina	23,350.00	100.00
Tennessee	100,040.00	20,182.05
Texas	14,705.00	4,185.00
Virginia	30,975.00	405.00
West Virginia	58,840.00	320.00
Other	<u>23,780.00</u>	<u>1,888.85</u>
Totals	\$1,000,000.00	\$81,712.18

Louisiana District
Meets In Shreveport

SHREVEPORT, LA—Forty people attended the second annual First Louisiana District Association, according to Promotional Director Larry Russell. The January 16 meeting convened at Heritage FWB Church in Shreveport.

Moderator Ron Parker was re-elected after leading delegates through the association's day-long business session. Arkansas Promotional Director David Joslin preached during the 11:00 a.m. worship service on the "Marks of Distinction." He developed six areas of distinctiveness—salvation, separation, service, suffering, sacrifice and shame.

Cooperative Channel Contributions
January 1993

RECEIPTS:

State	CO-OP		Total	Jan. '92	Yr. To Date
	Designated	(Undesignated)			
Alabama	\$ 18,528.48	\$.00	\$ 18,528.48	\$ 178.78	\$ 18,528.48
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Arkansas	24,829.07	.00	24,829.07	8,173.70	24,829.07
California	213.47	1,199.07	1,412.54	730.54	1,412.54
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Florida	1,121.30	514.33	1,635.63	625.15	1,635.63
Georgia	9,602.12	1,410.68	11,012.80	15,698.54	11,012.80
Hawaii	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Illinois	4,420.46	1,720.87	6,141.33	9,096.44	6,141.33
Indiana	500.00	152.80	652.80	612.48	652.80
Kansas	.00	49.10	49.10	15.77	49.10
Kentucky	.00	100.00	100.00	50.00	100.00
Louisiana	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Maryland	150.00	75.00	225.00	1,005.27	225.00
Michigan	12,674.95	884.68	13,559.63	10,594.66	13,559.63
Mississippi	400.27	408.30	808.57	694.59	808.57
Missouri	10,768.31	.00	10,768.31	11,207.60	10,768.31
Montana	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
New Jersey	.00	.00	.00	30.00	.00
New Mexico	16.31	8.15	24.46	15.78	24.46
North Carolina	422.42	300.00	722.42	1,128.17	722.42
Ohio	783.87	2,721.60	3,505.47	2,344.36	3,505.47
Oklahoma	41,269.68	.00	41,269.68	50,164.13	41,269.68
South Carolina	16,653.43	233.10	16,886.53	12,567.84	16,886.53
Tennessee	7,240.49	2,097.64	9,338.13	7,643.81	9,338.13
Texas	15,651.83	1,036.84	16,688.67	.00	16,688.67
Virginia	405.00	1,033.63	1,438.63	369.01	1,438.63
West Virginia	3,646.74	155.42	3,802.16	2,711.93	3,802.16
Canada	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northwest Assoc.	.00	30.45	30.45	35.80	30.45
Other (Computer)	.00	.00	.00	.09	.00
Totals	\$169,298.20	\$14,131.66	\$183,429.86	\$135,694.44	\$183,429.86

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 11,191.43	\$ 14,131.66	\$ 25,323.09	\$ 25,323.08	\$ 25,323.09
Foreign Missions	92,888.54	.00	92,888.54	73,276.73	92,888.54
FWBBC	10,050.65	.00	10,050.65	6,363.56	10,050.65
Home Missions	37,986.62	.00	37,986.62	19,640.57	37,986.62
Retirement & Insurance	2,596.05	.00	2,596.05	2,001.21	2,596.05
Master's Men	2,531.36	.00	2,531.36	2,123.24	2,531.36
Commission for					
Theo. Integrity	178.93	.00	178.93	86.84	178.93
FWB Foundation	1,429.12	.00	1,429.12	1,209.77	1,429.12
Historical Commission	160.01	.00	160.01	81.40	160.01
Music Commission	160.01	.00	160.01	71.23	160.01
Radio & TV Commission	178.90	.00	178.90	76.43	178.90
Hillsdale FWB College	4,502.78	.00	4,502.78	206.96	4,502.78
Other	<u>5,443.80</u>	<u>.00</u>	<u>5,443.80</u>	<u>5,233.42</u>	<u>5,443.80</u>
Totals	\$169,298.20	\$14,131.66	\$183,429.86	\$135,694.44	\$183,429.86

Delegates heard reports from the Resolutions Committee, Encampment Committee, Bible College Student Scholarship Fund Committee and the Credentials Committee.

Devotional speaker James Hannah briefly addressed the subject, "God's Arms." FWB Ex-

ecutive Secretary Melvin Worthington flew in from Louisville, Kentucky, in order to bring greetings and report on National Association programs and activities.

The 1994 session will meet January 15 at Victory FWB Church in Pineville.

CURRENTLY...

The **Georgia** State Historical Society and the Board of Christian Education sponsored a joint field trip to the Zion Bible School near **Blakely**. Zion Bible School was a forerunner of Free Will Baptist Bible College. Historian **Damon Dodd** spoke to the group during lunch on early FWB heritage.

Members of **New Home FWB Church** in **Tulsa, OK**, celebrated 65 years of service to the community. Almost 200 people gathered for the special day. Pastor **Roy Dale Smith** said more than 100 visitors attended Sunday School during the month, 30 of them first-timers.

Pastor **Lester Horton** has an extensive ministry beyond the walls of **Fairwood FWB Church** in **Fairfax Station, VA**. One of those far-reaching dimensions is his radio outreach. He recently added a 10,000-watt station in central Virginia to his "The Light of Life Broadcast."

First FWB Church in **Tifton, GA**, reports 10 new members, according to Pastor **Benny Smith**.

It took a year to finish, but members of **New Hope FWB Church** in **Coolidge, GA**, dedicated their new fellowship hall. Pastor **Bobby Whittaker** said the 720-square-foot structure cost \$8,000 to construct and is debt-free.

Pastor **Billy Barlow** has baptized 17 converts in the past year. Members of **First FWB Church** in **Topeka, KS**, tripled their attendance in one year to almost 70.

There's a new name in Free Will Baptist publishing these days. Editor **Ottis Hensley** reports that the state paper has a new name—*The West Virginia Messenger*.

After one year as pastor at **Calvary FWB Church** in **Salem, IL**, **Len Scott** reports 14 baptisms and 20 new members. The church celebrated Scott's first anniversary by thanking their pastor and going self-supporting.

Members of **Verdella FWB Church** in **Liberal, MO**, burned the mortgage after five years. Pastor **Don Anderson** had led the congregation through a \$250,000 building program. Missouri Executive Secretary **Nathan Ruble** delivered the morning message.

Forty-five people attended the first service at **North Five FWB Church** in

Lebanon, MO. The church organized November 1, 1992. **Alvis Paul** pastors.

More than 350 people attended "Children's Home Day" at the **FWB Children's Home** in **Turbeville, SC**. Superintendent **James Wilhide** said guests brought commodities valued at \$3,000 and more than \$5,500 in cash to the home. The home recently completed major renovation including the administration building, dining hall and dormitories.

The **Gloryland FWB Mission Church** in **York, SC**, averages more than 40 in attendance after one year. Pastor **Phil Lemmons** said 29 people attended the first service. The group purchased a van to transport people to church and are in the process of purchasing 1.6 acres on which to build.

The Master's Men chapter at **Fellowship FWB Church** in **Manning, SC**, mean business. They organized October 30, 1992, and one week later undertook their first project—construction of their new church! Pastor **I. Bennie Turner** said the group averages about 40 in Sunday School.

Members of **White Savannah FWB Church** in **Conway, SC**, dedicated their new 7,000-square-foot sanctuary. Pastor **Ray Cribb** said the \$20,000 remodeling project added two classrooms and a children's church sanctuary.

Pastor **Leroy Lowery** reports completion of a \$19,000 renovation at **Southside FWB Church** in **Darlington, SC**. The work included installing central heat and air, carpet and new paint.

Pastor **Joe Wilkes** and members of **First FWB Church** in **McCall, SC**, invested \$10,000 in a 960-square-foot construction project. For their effort they received a fellowship hall complete with equipped kitchen, two classrooms, pastor's study and church office.

He's 77 years old and pastors a Free Will Baptist church in **Texas**. His name is **Owen Barger**. Congratulations to members of **First FWB Church** in **Weatherford** for placing a veteran minister in the pulpit. And congratulations to a minister who is more interested in preaching than retiring.

The annual **Oklahoma FWB Ministers' Retreat** met February 1-3 at a camp-

ground near Oklahoma City. Pastor **Carl Cheshier** of **Fort Smith, AR**, and the adult drama team from the **Cavanaugh FWB Church** in Fort Smith were featured on the retreat program. The event is sponsored by the Christian Education Board.

Pastor **Allen Mabra** reports six conversions, four baptisms, and six new members at **Woodward FWB Church** in **Woodward, OK**. The group averages 144 in Sunday morning worship attendance.

After 36 years in the ministry, Reverend **Bill Robinson** plans to retire. Robinson said he hopes to supply pulpits while pastors are away attending conferences, revivals or taking vacations. His last pastorate was **Canton FWB Church** in **Canton, NC**. The Robinsons relocated to **Bainbridge, GA**.

Ohio evangelist, **Clovis Vanover**, reports that he preached 39 revivals in 1992 and witnessed 280 conversions.

Members of **Rittman FWB Church** in **Rittman, OH**, gave Pastor **Grover Bolden** a money tree to show their love and appreciation. The church reports four conversions, five baptisms and seven new members.

Congratulations to Pastor **Dale Burden** of **Gateway FWB Church** in **Virginia Beach, VA**. This marks the 30th anniversary of the publication, *The Arrow*. Pastor Burden also began the Gateway School of the Prophets in February to encourage and instruct men in the ministry. The school meets one night a week.

Pastor **Greg Hollifield** of **First FWB Church** in **Mobile, AL**, won honorable mention in the 1992 Small Church Preaching Awards for one of his sermons. In addition to receiving \$25 for his effort, Hollifield's sermon, "A Matter of Who, Not Why," will be listed in the book, *Shining Lights*.

When the former **Texas** state missionary, **Ruel Connor**, died, he remembered a number of Free Will Baptist ministries in his will. They included **First FWB Church** in **Bowie**, **Pleasant Mound FWB Church** at **Buffalo Springs**, and the **West Fork District Association** youth camp. ■



WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Woman's Window on the World

By Mary R. Wisheart

From My Window

"Don't go out undressed." Maybe it was because I had dashed out yesterday without a coat—and repented all day because it was cold. Anyway, that statement jumped at me as I flipped the radio dial.

Behind the scenes at a Hyatt hotel, I kept seeing signs directed to employees: "Check your appearance." Next to the sign, stood a full length mirror.

Before I go out to face people, do I check my appearance as a Christian? Or do I go out undressed or partially dressed?

Colossians 3:12 directs us to put on mercies, kindness, humbleness, meekness, longsuffering and finally to add the ornament of charity—love—to set off all the others.

How would it be, if each morning I look in the full length mirror of God's Word to make sure I'm fully dressed? Ready to treat with kindness and patience all my fellowmen. Wearing genuine humility and meekness so that my attitude is right toward myself and others. Cloaked with mercy so that no one suffers from my reactions. Adorned with love that attracts others to God who is love.

That is what I should be wearing. Met any half-dressed Christians lately? Did you check your appearance this morning? Don't go out undressed.

Convention '93

Pre-register for the 1993 WNAC meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, July 19-20.

Get your Fellowship Dinner tickets early. The guarantee is low—only 850 tickets. The price is low—\$15.

Darlene Spangler of Los Gatos, California, is the Fellowship Dinner speaker. Darlene is from Equipping for Excellence, Christian education consultants. She has worked in Christian education in churches, spoken at retreats and conferences and taught evangelism seminars. She teaches in the Christian Education Department at San Jose Christian College.

WNAC's 1993 Theme

WNAC's theme for 1993 is "The Grace of

Giving" based on Jesus' words in Acts 20:35. Seminars in Louisville will help women with giving themselves and evaluating the resources they have for giving.

Seminars will meet Monday, July 19, at 1:30 p.m. in Regency South of the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

State Officers Invited

WNAC extends an invitation to all state officers (district and local officers where there is not state or district organization) to attend the meeting with national officers in Louisville.

Officers will meet at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, following the seminar in Regency South of the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Women Observe Week of Prayer

April 5-9 Free Will Baptist women will observe a week of prayer for missions. This year women will be giving special attention to unreached people groups.

The Laura Belle Barnard World Mission offering follows the week of prayer. WNAC's goal is \$40,000. Reaching the goal will give Free Will Baptists an opportunity to minister to people no one is reaching for Christ.

Brazilian Pastor Ready for Graduate Work

Pastor Neto in Brazil began graduate work in March. WNAC has made the \$1,000 scholarship available for his use.

The Foreign Student Scholarship fund exists to help students like Pastor Neto train for Christian service. ■



BOARD OF RETIREMENT

Do You Really Want to Retire Early?

So you want to take early retirement . . . you're not sick or disabled . . . but someone's encouraging you to . . . or you're being pressed by a fellow employee who wants your job slot . . . or your dream is to travel, golf, fish . . . or you're afraid you might die before you get your share of the social security payout . . . or you're just burned out . . .

Well, think twice before you make a move. It may not be so simple nor even wise. Be honest with yourself. Test the motive factor.

Are your reasons for early retirement valid? Most retirees say it is important that you retire "to" as well as "from" something. Settle for nothing less than the best God plans for you and your spouse.

Look objectively at the longevity factor. According to T. Rowe Price Associates, IRS, Social Security Administration, if you retire at age 55, you and your spouse may expect 34 years of living ahead of you; at age 60, possibly 30 years; at 65, a possible 25; and even at 70, a possible 21 years. It's equal to another adult lifetime. You committed one time around to a productive life for the Lord. What about the next quarter century? What do you want to accomplish?

Get counsel on the financial factor. Calculate—recalculate. Are you financially able to retire early? Can you and/or your spouse live for 20 or more years on a fixed income that decreases as inflation takes its bite? If not, are you or your spouse prepared to get back into the job market at age 68 or 70?

What about health insurance? Medicare kicks in at age 65. Until then you have to arrange for continuing health insurance. Is your spouse younger than you? How many years younger? Will your spouse have to continue working to keep health insurance?

Are you prepared to take lower social security payments? Once set, it's locked in.

According to Alan Zevin, a certified financial planner with IDS Financial Services Inc. in Raritan Borough, N.J., if you retire at age 63 instead of 65 you'll receive only 86.6% of what your monthly payment would be at age 65. At age 62 you'll receive only about 80% of what you would receive at age 65. For example, if your monthly payment at age 65 is \$700 then opting for it at age 63 you receive about \$607. At age 62 you would

get about \$560.

Are you prepared to take a lower annuity payment at early retirement? Annuity payments are figured on the ages of you and your spouse as well as on your retirement fund balance.

Figure the growth your continued contributions and compounding interest would be for another two, three or four years. Extending your work years could mean a significant increase in your annuity.

Do you really want to retire early? Only you and your spouse can make that decision. But you do need to take a long look before you do.

■

FOREIGN MISSIONS



Give It All Away

By Geneva Poole

"My main fear is that you will never have anything," was the soft-spoken reply of my grandfather when my dad asked for his daughter in marriage.

"Why do you say that," came Dad's quick reply.

"You both are so freehearted, you will give all you make away."

He was right about my parents' generosity. I can testify to their continuing freehearted spirit until their death, and God blessed them for it. Missionaries and missions became an ever-present part of our home and a real part of our lives.

Missionary Exposure

My childhood mind was greatly impressed by the adventures of taking the gospel to people in various parts of the world. Such servants of God as the Thomas H. Willeys, the Harold Stephens, Miss Laura Belle Barnard, the Dan Cronks, the Carlisle Hannas and the Lonnie Sparks challenged me as I sat in church or around our dining table. I owe these opportunities to my parents, and God used them to speak to my tender heart about foreign service. They proved my parents were willing to give their children to the Lord for whatever service He desired.

I remember the time Mom shared with me an incident which took place while I was in the hospital with polio. One night after everyone else was asleep, she was troubled in spirit, knelt down by my bed, gave me to the Lord and asked for healing if He could use me. She ended our conversation with "I know God has something special for you to do, because He answered my prayer."

At 13 years of age, I answered the call to missions after a missionary service at my home church. The desire to be a servant on foreign soil was placed in my heart by God that night, and it never dwindled even through my high school days.

Life was not always easy for my parents, but they were conscious of God's call upon my life. They willingly sacrificed to send me to Free Will Baptist Bible College to prepare for missionary service. Those two and one-

half years with two children in college were not easy for them. They faced 13 hospital bills during my last year and finally bore funeral expenses for my sister.

One year later, marriage and entering missionary service were sanctioned by my parents. Until their death, Mom and Dad continued to help in many ways—through prayer, monthly financial support, housing in the U.S. and the use of their car. These were just a few of the things which demonstrated their perpetually generous spirit.

When the Lord took them home to be with Him, they had accumulated a few things in spite of their freeheartedness. They left a small inheritance to each child.

Since I was aware of the hard work put into accumulating that money, it was difficult to know how to use it. We definitely wanted to use our part wisely. After a time, the money was slowly dwindling with very little to show for the way it was spent.

Generosity Perpetuated

Finally we decided to use the remaining portion to buy a house, remodel it and start another church here in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil. This gave us peace of mind and heart, and soon we were busy with this new project.

Today, in Ribeirão Preto, a church stands as a monument to the faithfulness of a couple, Mr. and Mrs. John Hicks, who loved the Lord and His work on foreign soil. ■

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

"But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

—Matthew 6:19, 20

Missionary Geneva Poole labors with her husband, Bobby, in Ribeirão Preto, Brazil. They have been working in Brazil since 1960.



MASTER'S MEN

Layman of the Year 1992 Nomination Form

It's time to submit a nomination for Layman of the Year 1992. As pastor, you can nominate one layman from your church or Master's Men chapter. The layman does not have to be a member of Master's Men, only a member of a local Free Will Baptist church.

Nominations must be received by May 14, 1993. A layman will be selected from the nominees by the Master's Men Board. Board members will vote for the man they feel best demonstrates attributes of a dedicated, serving layman. The compiled votes of the board members will determine the Layman of the Year.

Base your nomination on accomplishments for the 1992 calendar year. Do not nominate a

minister or full-time church worker.

Two awards will be presented during the Master's Men Dinner at the National Association this year in Louisville, Kentucky. The Layman of the Year 1992, and the Runner-up Layman of the Year 1992 will be introduced and receive plaques. Each nominee will receive a certificate of honor from the Master's Men Department.

Remember, nominations received after May 14 will not be processed. The Board needs time to review all entries. Mail the completed nomination form to: Master's Men · P. O. Box 5002 · Antioch, TN 37011-5002.

Nominee's Name _____
Last First M.I.
 Age _____ Birthday _____ - _____ - 19 _____ Telephone (____) ____ - _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Occupation _____ Wife's Name _____
 Name of Church _____

(Use extra pages if needed. You don't have to comment in each space. These are suggested areas to aid your preparation of the nomination form.)

Here are my reasons for nominating this layman. Offices held during the last calendar year in the local church, district/quarterly meeting, and state/national work:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Accomplishments, work performed, honors received (church or civic) during the last calendar year:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Evangelistic efforts in local church, district, state and national levels during the last calendar year:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Pastor's Signature: _____

Telephone Number (____) ____ - _____

(Use extra pages if needed.)

TEEN SCENE

AMERICA'S FUNNIEST FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Here is your opportunity to participate in an exciting activity during the National Youth Conference in Louisville, Kentucky! Most of you are familiar with the television show with a similar name. Well, we are looking for a video entry from your youth group. We want your youth group to submit an entry of your funniest members doing their funniest things. You may include the whole group or just one individual. Entries should be five minutes or less, good quality, and on a VHS tape. We will select the funniest entries for final showing during our Sunday evening afterservice activity. Grand prize winners will be selected by the audience and prizes will be awarded to the top winners. Send your entries, no later than **June 1, 1993**, to:

**Funny Video
National Youth Conference
P.O. Box 17306
Nashville, TN 37217**

CALLING ALL CHURCHES!

We need your help with a mammoth project. The Youth Ministries Division is compiling a list of youth workers in our denomination. We are looking for a contact person in *every* Free Will Baptist church. Part-time, full-time, paid, volunteer, youth worker, Sunday School teacher, whatever. We need someone from **your** church! We need to communicate and share information with those who work with our young people. We currently have about 600 names. Make sure your church is on the list! Please call (615)361-1221 ext. 344 or write: **Youth Ministries Division • P.O. Box 17306 • Nashville, TN • 37217.**

NEWSFLASH!:

Jeff Caudill, West Wayne FWB Church youth director, reports their youth group recently participated in a chain for life demonstration. They joined an estimated 1000 people who braved a frigid Michigan Sunday, in January, to hold signs stating "*Abortion Kills Children.*" The chain was linked at a busy intersection near a city mall.



Robert E. Picirilli

Homosexuality, the Kingdom of God and Deliverance

In this series of four articles we have found that both testaments agree in their testimony: homosexual practice is contrary to the revealed will of God, one among many forms of sexual sin.

The final passage on the subject, I Corinthians 6:9-11, gives both confirmation of this and exquisite hope. We can subdivide it into two main points.

1. Those who maintain the practice of homosexuality in resistance to God's loving provision of redemption from sin will not inherit the kingdom of God (vv. 9-10).

First, however, the verses fairly cry out for us to make again an important point: homosexuals will not fall short of the kingdom of God alone or in some special way. Paul simply links this sin with many others. Indeed, there are 10 in the list, although the list is by no means complete.

Fornication is first, and is apparently the broadest word that names any form of sexual practice outside heterosexual marriage. *Adultery* is sexual sin that violates the marriage relationship.

Idolatry is having any God except the God of the Bible, the Father of Jesus Christ. *Thievery* includes various forms of stealing, and *covetousness* is appropriately linked with it since this inordinate desire to possess things often leads to theft.

Drunkenness involves allowing alcohol to replace one's self control and the control of God's Spirit, and the improper use of drugs belongs in the same category. *Reviling* is verbal abuse, slander. *Extortion* is

literally "seizing"—robbery in any shape or form.

Included in this condemnable catalog are two nouns that refer to homosexual practice. The first, *effeminate* (Greek *malakos*, "homosexuals" in the NKJV), does not mean the same as our English "feminine." It refers to those technically called "catamites," the more passive partners in homosexuality.

The second, *abusers of themselves with mankind* (Greek *arsenokoites*) refers to "sodomites," the more aggressive partners in homosexual activity. Both those who pursue and those who submit are alike guilty. When the kingdom of God appears in its final and glorious form, they will be absent.

2. People who are willing can be delivered from this sin and any others (v. 11).

This is one of the most encouraging verses in the Bible: "Such were some of you," Paul says; and the past tense conveys the important point. They were, but they are no longer. Believers at Corinth had been delivered from these sins by the redemptive work of Christ. In this "were" there is hope for any sinner.

This saving transformation is detailed by three other past tense verbs. They were *washed* in the "washing of regeneration" (Titus 3:5), the cleansing of the spirit from sin.

They were *sanctified* when they were converted, referring to initial sanctification, set apart from sin for the indwelling and work of God in their lives.

They were *justified*, forgiven and given right standing before God as the final judge of all. And all of this in and by the person and authority of

Jesus and the applying work of the Spirit.

It may well be that deliverance from some sins is harder than from some others. I am not sure what we should say about that. But with God all things are possible, and homosexuals—like thieves and idolaters—can be delivered.

In the final analysis, all of us are sinners, held in bondage by our sins. And all of us have hope in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ applied by God's Spirit when we renounce our own self-idolatrous way and submit to God's revealed will by putting faith in Christ.

In other words—and we really need to communicate this to homosexuals today—we are not saying anything basic about them that we have not said about ourselves. ■

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Thomas Marberry

Evangelical Affirmations

Kenneth S. Kantzer and Carl F. H. Henry, eds.
 (Grand Rapids: Academie Books, 1990, 535 pp., paperback, \$14.99)

This book is a collection of essays on different subjects by leading evangelical scholars of our day. It grew out of a consultation on Evangelical Affirmations which was co-sponsored by Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and the National Association of Evangelicals.

The term, "evangelical," is difficult to define today. To some, the term simply denotes one who has had some type of "experience with the Lord." To others, the term describes that part of the Christian community which endeavors to preserve the heritage of the Protestant Reformation together with all that that entails.

In the first part of the book, members of the consultation sought to enumerate characteristics essential to evangelicalism today. They concluded that there are certain basic beliefs to which one must adhere to be considered an "evangelical."

First, they affirmed that evangelicals believe the gospel as it is presented in scripture. The heart of the gospel is the good news that salva-

tion does not result from human works or efforts. Salvation was made possible by the life, death and resurrection of Christ; and it must be received through personal faith in Christ.

Second, they affirmed that evangelicals adhere to all the historic doctrines of the Christian faith. As they noted, "These doctrines emerge from the Bible and are summarized in the Apostles' Creed and the historic confessions of evangelical churches."

Third, evangelicals affirm that the Bible is the final authoritative source of all doctrine. Evangelicals believe the Bible to be totally true in all it teaches. The participants specifically rejected the teaching that the truthfulness of scripture may be limited only to matters of faith and practice.

The major portion of the volume is a transcript of the keynote address by Charles Colson, a series of essays written by leading evangelical thinkers and responses by other leading experts. These essays address a variety of concerns in the Christian world.

Let me comment on two of the

most important. In his article, "Who Are The Evangelicals?" Carl F. H. Henry examines traditional teachings of the Christian church and argues that the evangelical movement must conserve them. He gives an insightful analysis of the question of inerrancy and concludes that the inerrancy of scripture is part of the traditional teaching of the church.

Kenneth S. Kantzer examines the need for Christian ethics in the modern world. He summarizes the major approaches to Christian ethics seen today. He responds to several objections raised against Christian ethics in our modern secular society.

There is no doubt we live in an ever changing world. Every generation of Christians must respond to the question, "What does it mean to be a Christian in this day and time?" This volume helps us do that. This book is not easy reading and you may not agree with everything you read. It will, however, help you to be a more effective and knowledgeable representative for Christ in today's pluralistic society. ■

Beyond Belief



THE SECOND LINE IS FOR THE AMOUNT YOU ACTUALLY INTEND TO GIVE, AND LINE THREE WE'LL FILL OUT...



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Jack Williams

Why is Foreign Missions so Foreign?

Foreign missions! I can almost hear the pounding drums deep in a forbidden jungle, the throaty growl of a big cat poised for the kill. The staccato speech of merchants hawking trade goods in open air markets 6,000 miles away. And there's our faithful missionary toiling into the night to translate a scripture portion before morning. Surely God is at work here.

That's heady stuff. That's the romance of missions. That's why we speak of foreign missions with a holy hush but yawn at yet another Bible study in our local church.

Wait a minute. That's not fair. Let's reduce foreign missions to its lowest common denominator. Delete the "special call" to service. Eliminate the distance, the educational requirements and the second language. Do away with the new culture. And visas. And faith promises and plane tickets. And dump the exotic foods and the colorful customs.

There. The mystery's all gone. Now, what's left? The basic job of the church—tell people about Jesus.

You mean that's it? That's what foreign missions is all about? Yep, that's the bottom line. Walk out your door to the neighbor's fence and talk one-on-one about Jesus.

When we put it like that, anybody could be a missionary, you say. That's right. Foreign missions is just another job.

Now that we know what foreign missions is at its most basic level, let's add back in those elements that make foreign missions *foreign*.

Where did we lay that "special call" to missionary service? Ah, there it is. Fetch it from under the oak tree. Hmmm. Seems almost alien, doesn't it?

That's the intrigue of a special call to foreign missions. It does not come from this world. It's somehow eternal and originates in a place where priorities are set by an Unseen Hand. The missionary call means a new agenda.

Nobody volunteers to leave home, family, job, culture, language, the fast track and a great retirement program . . . unless God stirs the process. That's what a Divine call to missions is all about. God reprograms ordinary men and women. It sounds almost biblical in its epic proportions. It is.

Let's toss a second language into the mix. How humiliating. Here's this God-called, highly-trained, theologically-articulate, missionary who wows stateside congregations but can't say, "Good Morning" in Lobi or Japanese without making children laugh as he mutilates syntax and grammar.

Doesn't God have a better plan than this? Nope. But this is embarrassing. Sure is. And it takes too long. Right again. It seems so inadequate that the God who created the tongue waits months, even years, for me to learn a language well enough to read John 3:16 aloud. Uh huh. That's foreign missions.

Culture! Oh, deliver me from mixed-up cultures. Sorry, that's part of missions. Why can't everybody understand that God intended people to eat three times a day, worship twice on Sunday and wear neckties?

These people don't respect clocks. They've never seen a piano, and even if they had an overhead projector they don't have electricity to operate it.

And we haven't even talked about faith promises. Or inflation rates. Or prayer support.

Maybe missions is more *foreign* than we first imagined. It seemed so simple in Acts 13 when Paul and Barnabas left Antioch to plant churches "out there." But was it?

Paul and Barnabas had a clear, Divine call to leave Antioch. They had a group of churches who supported them financially and prayerfully. They had solid educational backgrounds and theological stability. When they completed that first missionary journey, they were accountable to the sending and supporting churches.

Foreign missions. There's really no magic. It's God's way to get God's people to take God's message to the rest of God's world.

So I'll never be formally commissioned to go to Africa. Or South America. Or Japan. But somebody will. It's my duty to do my part. And what is my part?

I can pray for those who go. I can pay so they can stay where God sends them. I can witness where I am in a culture I understand with a language that I can speak.

Does that make me a missionary? It sure does! The Great Commission is my commission. Paul went to Asia. William Carey went to India. Pop Willey went to Cuba. Surely, I can go next door. ■

CONTACT

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