

MINUTES

—of the—

Gaines Creek Association

—of the—

CHURCH OF GOD

DENOMINATED FREE WILL BAPTISTS

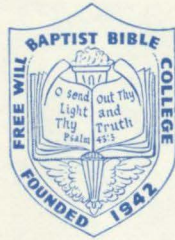
State of Oklahoma

Convened with Elm Grove Church, Thursday Night
Before the Third Sunday in August,
A. D., 1934.

OFFICERS

Elder S. A. Skinner, ModeratorHartshorne, Okla.
Rev. Geo. McClain, Asst. Mod.Spiro. Okla.
Sister Will Hughes, Clerk-Treas.,Canadian, Okla.

Next Session of the Association will be held at Scipio
Church at Scipio P. O., Pittsburg County, Oklahoma, on
Thursday Night before the Third Sunday in August,
1935.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. John H. West

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RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the Moderator or whosoever he may request.
2. Ministers present invited to seat are allowed to take part in debate on all subjects and to vote.
3. Those who speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.
4. No motion shall be discussed without being seconded.
5. When a motion has been made and seconded and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question, "Shall it be discussed?" If negative the question shall be dismissed.
6. If any proposition as motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and a vote taken.
7. Motion made and lost shall not be taken.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on any subject without special leave of the Moderator.
9. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the members present.
10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.
11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the Association if necessary.
12. In the future meetings of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons each day or other equivalent devotional exercises.
13. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.
14. Alteration may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. House called to order by Moderator.
2. Letters called for and adopted.
3. Right hand of fellowship.
4. Electing of officers.
5. Reading of Rules of Order.
6. Petitionary letters.
7. Introductory sermon.
8. Invite visiting brethren to seat in council.
9. Appointment of committees.
10. New business.
11. Report of committees.
12. Miscellaneous business.

Proceedings

— of the —

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

— of the —

GAINES CREEK ASSOCIATION

THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

The house called to order by Assistant Moderator. Singing by choir. Consolidated prayer. Devotional services by Bro. Clark. Song by choir, title—"What a Friend." Introductory Sermon by Rev. Geo. McClain, text—"Launch Out Into the Deep." One born into the family of God.

Dismissed by Rev. Drew Marchant.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

House called to order by Elder S. A. Skinner. Singing by choir. Prayer by Rev. Drew Marchant.

Election of Officers. Moderator, Elder S. A. Skinner. Asst. Moderator, Rev. Geo McClain. Clerk and Treasurer, Sister Willie Hughes. Assist. Clerk, Sister Tillie Oliver.

Motion made and carried that enter into conference to transact any business that might come before the body.

Moderator given authority by vote to appoint committees. Committee on Divine Service: Bro. Billy White, Bro. Bud Hickman, Bro. Bud Allford.

Ministers' Roll: Rev. Drew Marchant, Canadian, Okla.; Rev. Ted Disney, Canadian, Okla.; Rev. J. M. Snowden, Scipio, Okla.; Rev. J. R. Evans, Scipio, Okla.; Rev. Walter Boyd, Scipio, Okla.; Rev. George McClain, Scipio, Okla.; Rev. Clifford Myers, Scipio, Okla.; Rev. T. H. Clark, Hartshorne, Okla.; Rev. Leslie Wright, Canadian, Okla.; Rev. G. W. Masters, Crowder, Okla., Route 1; Rev. Clyde Miller, Canadian, Okla.; Rev. W. Tom Roberts, Eufaula, Okla., Route 1; Rev. J. E. Yandell, Red Oak, Okla.; Rev. S. A. Skinner, Hartshorne, Okla.

Moderator called for letters from the old churches and received the following:

1. Elm Grove—Bro. Fred Hairrod, Bro. Armstrong, Bro. Rich Popjoy, Bro. Ab Job, Sister Ab Job, Bro. John Popjoy. Pastor—Rev. Drew Marchant. Clerk—Bro. Derwood Disney.

2. Red Oak—Bro. W. F. Burke, Bro. Will Burgan, Bro. Bradshaw. Pastor—Rev. Drew Marchant. Clerk—Sister Alta Williams.

3. Nale—Sister Polly Moore, Sister Lula Woods, Sister Fannie Robertson, Bro. Alex Shropshire. Pastor—Clarence Sanders. Clerk—Sister Polly Moore.

4. Pleasant Valley—Sister Nettie Templeton, Bro. Fred Templeton, Sister Lillie Templeton, Sister Bell Patrick, Sister Lois Patrick. Pastor—Elder T. H. Clark. Clerk—Fannie McCall.

5. Wise—No Report.

6. Peaceable Valley—No report.

7. Ball Mountain—Verbal Report by Elder Masters. Then new churches called for and received.

1. Scipio—Sister Tillie Oliver, Sister Lillie Clifton, Bro. Lon Dayl, Sister Pauline Myers, Bro. and Sister Ben Stice. Moderator—Bud Hickman. Clerk—Bertha Evans.

2. Spring Hill—Bro. Joe Hobbs, Sister Cathey, Bro. Cecile Nave, Bro. Foster Sparks. Pastor—Rev. Clifford Myers. Clerk—Le-la Barnhardt.

Ulan—Bro. and Sister Farmer, Sister Bud Alford. Moderator—Rev. Bob Evans. Clerk—M. P. Jones.

4. Plainview—Bro. Jessie Quaide, Bro. Leonard Crowder, Bro. Adam Henson. Pastor—Rev. Snowden. Clerk—Ethel Ray.

5. Patrick—Bro. B. Flanery, Bro. Joe Salters, Rev. As. Robert. Pastor—Clarence Sanders.

Motion made and seconded that we adjourn till 2:00. Carried. Dismissed by Rev. Geo. McClain. Five minutes recess. House called to order by singing. Preaching by Rev. Ted Disney. Concluded by Rev. Evans. Text—"The Race of Life." And O what a wonderful message and so enjoyed by all present. Then an old time hand shake. Dismissed by Rev. Drew Marchant.

Met as pre-adjournment Friday afternoon. Singing by choir. United prayer. Right hand of fellowship extended to all delegates and visiting brethren while the choir sing that new song—Old Time Religion.

Motion made and seconded that we receive Rev. Logan as a member and turn his credentials over to the committee. Carried.

Delegates from Eureka Association—Bro. and Sister Ed Arnold. Delegates from McGee Association—Rev. J. E. Yandell.

Committee on Sabbath School: Sister Templeton, Sister Vivian Anderson, Sister Clifton.

Committee on Temperance: Rev. Drew Marchant, Rev. J. R. Evans, Bro. Shropshire, Rev. Jim Snowden, Rev. Ted Disney.

Committee on Query and Request: Elder G. W. Masters, Elder T. H. Clarke, Rev. R. L. Wright, Bro. Bill Hughes, Rev. Clyde Miller.

Committee on Ministers and Deacons Characters: Elder J. E. Yandell, Rev. Clifford Myers, Rev. Tom Roberts.

Committee on Obituaries: Sister Bertha Evans, Sister Blebans, Sister Nave, Sister Patrick, Sister H. L. Gann.

Committee on Bill of Arrangements—Bro. Bud Crowder, Bro. O. B. Ray, Bro. Bud Hickman, Bro. Rich Popjoy.

Committee on Finance—Bro. Ed Arnold, Bro. Aaron McCracken, Bro. Hobbs, Bro. Ben Stice, Bro. Bill Blebins.

Committee on Home Missions: Sister Fannie Roberson, Sister Polly Moore, Sister Bud Auford, Bro. Fred Hariod, Bro. Silacae Armstrong, Bro. John Popjoy, Bro. Ab Jobe, Bro. Salters, Bro. Bob Flanery, Bro. Bill Burke, Sister Lue Wood.

Committee on Periodicals: Bro. Jessie Quade, Sister Myrtle Stice, Bro. Nave, Bro. Fred Templeton, Bro. Sparks.

Report on Home Missions—We you committee on home missions, believe as the Church of God, Denominated Free Will Baptists, believe in visiting the orphans and widows, the sick and afflicted, and care for them in time of need.

Elm Grove has home mission and in good standing. We think all churches should have home mission. Sister Polly Moore, Chairman.

Report on Query and Request—We thing that the people of this Association should extend their heart felt thanks to this community. And that all the Christians do more in the future than they have done in he past. Elder G. W. Masters, Chairman.

Report on Obituaries—We your committee on obituaries beg leave to report as follows: We sorrow because of the loss of our dear brothers and sisters in Christ.

Bro. Bob Heskett, Bro. Henry Evans, Sister A. H. Kelton, Rev. T. C. Wilkerson of Scipio Church. Sister Bertie White of Nale. Sister W. E. Blevins, Sisters Summers of Canadian. Sister H. L. Gann, Chairman.

Report on Bill of Arrangements—We you committee on bill of arrangements report as follows: We adopt the last year's report in the Eureka Minutes, which is as follows: We endorse last year's report with the following amendments: Be it resolved, that we forbid our members of the various churches of the Association from going to public swimming pools, play parties, dances, Sunday ball games or any such things as would hurt our Christian influence. Any one guilty of such must make acknowledgment to the Church.

Be it resolved tha all Freewill Baptist Ministers make a report of their success to the Association. We also furtehr request the Association omit the appointment of a committee to report on ministers and Deacons credentials unless necessity demands.

Be it resolved that the doors of all Church property belonging to the Free Will Baptists be opened to all ministers, in good standing with the Association. Be it further resolved that our young ministers be ordained when they prove themselves. II Tim.

Taking into consideration surrounding circumstances, and seeing the necessity of a rule governing the ministers, be it further resolved that the Association forbid its members, deacons and lay members of the several districts of the Association speaking disrespectfully of

one another, and any one found guilty of such conduct shall be liable to charges, and dealt with as may be deemed necessary.

Be it resolved that we recommend our ministers to not vary from the regular customs of Free Will Baptists in regard to receiving and dismissing members. Furthermore, Moderators of the churches to impress upon the Church the great necessity of observing the rules of the Association.

Be it further resolved that any minister taking evangelistic work it shall be the duty of each Church to assist him in the work of this Association. The Association shall empower the Moderator and Clerk with the authority to furnish the evangelist with recommendations, if he is found worthy.

Be it further resolved that we forbid any of our ministers to preach Sanctification or Holiness as a second work of grace, separate and apart from regeneration, or conversion. Rev, Bud Hickman, Chairman.

We your committee on books and periodicals, beg leave to report as follows: That we take the Bible to be used as our discipline. The only infallible rule of our doctrine, faith and practice, and urge our members to use it as such. We recommend that our members take a Free Will Baptist paper. We urge that all obey the church covenant and never miss a chance to speak a word for the Lord. Myrtle Shice, Charman.

We your Committee of Ministers and Deacons Credentials, beg leave to report as follows: We find all ministers and deacons in good standing for which we thank God, but find some of their credentials are mis-worded and ask that they be reworded. Elder J. E. Yandell, Chairman.

We your committee on temperance beg leave to report as follows: Temperance implies that we be free from intoxicating drinks of any kind, that we use our efforts to get rid of whiskey and its makers. when it occurs in our observation, by communicating with the enforcement officers of our land.

That we should not contract indecent habits in our divine services, such as some deceivers of our country are doing to an excess, and thereby the influence of the true gospel is weakened, That we adhere to temperance in the highest Bible sense with all card parties, checker games, Church swimming pools, Sunday ball games of anykind, or using tobacco or snuff to excess or any other habits that disqualify us from the service of the Lord. Rev. J. R. Evans, Chairman.

We your committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to report; We believe that it is the duty of each church to maintain a Sunday School and let it be understood we as children of God recommend Union as a basis of all the people of God to do the will of our Father in Heaven. That we use Free Will literature if possible, and that we unite with our efforts to keep our children in Sabbath School, that it may be the means of bringing them to Christ. Sister Clifton, Chairman.

Committee on Resolutions beg leave to report as follows: First, Be it resolved that the Churches and Ministers adhere strictly

to the rules and regulations of this Associations. Second, Be it resolved that no Minister shall become a member of this Association, until he has first become a member of some church of this Association in good standing. Third, We recommend that our churches pay their pastors a reasonable sum for their labor. Fourth, Be it resolved that body grant the Clerk and Moderator the right to have the Minutes printed where they see fit. Fifth, Be it Resolved that we carry no names of ministers in minutes or on record, that is not in good standing. Sixth, Be it resolved that our Deacons abstain from carnal care and be more attentive to their church service. Seventh, Be it resolved that churches be more cautious and more strict, as to character and ability of ministers and deacons before considering ordinance. Rev. Walter Boyd, Chairman.

Report on Finance—We your Committee on Finance beg leave to report as follows: Plain View, \$2.00; Elm Grove, \$2.50; Pleasant Valley, \$2.25; Spring Hill, \$2.00; Nale, \$2.00; Patrick, ; Scipio \$2.25; Ulan, \$2.00; Ball Mountain, \$1.00; Red Oak, \$2.00. Total, \$18.00. We your committee ask that no letter be accepted in the Association without the finance .W. E. Blevans, Chairman.

Motion made and seconded that we reordain Bro. Logan on account of misworded credentials. Carried.

Motion regular made and carried that we give the Clerk, Sister Willie Hughes, the right to reword the credentials of all the Ministers and Deacons of this Association.

Motion regular made and carried that we give the Moderator of this Association power to appoint delegates to go to the old Eureka Association. Delegates: Rev. Bud Hickman, Rev. J. R. Evans, Tommie Roberts.

Motion made and carried that we send delegates to the State Association. Delegates: Rev. Geo. McClain, Rev. Drew Marchant, Rev. Willie Sanders, Rev. Wright.

Motion made and carried that we send \$2.00 for State Minutes. Rev. Geo. McClain, Chairman of Del.

Motion made and carried we adjourn till 2:00 o'clock. Five minutes recess. Called together by singing. Preaching by Rev. Walter Boyd. Concluded by Elder J. E. Yandell. Dismissed by Rev. Drew Marchant.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION

Met at preadjournment. House called to order by Moderator. Singing by choir. Prayer by Rev. G. M. Everetts.

Motion regular made and carried that we receive Rev. G. M. Everetts as a visiting delegate of the General Baptist Church, of White River Association. Welcomed Bro. Everetts with a hand-shake of brotherly love.

Plain View asks that these brethren be ordained as Deacons: Bro. Mott Lee, Bro. Aaron McCracken, Bro. O. B. Ray.

Elm Grove asks that Bro. Ted Disney be ordained as a Minister. Ordaining Council consists of five, namely: Elder S. A. Skinner,

Elder T. H. Clark, Elder J. E. Yandell, Rev. Geo. McClain, Rev. Bill Blevans.

Scripture reading by Elder J. E. Yandell. Proceeded to ordain same after which the right hand of fellowship was extended and great love was shown to all.

Motion made and carried that no Evangelist be sent out to the field for the ensuing year.

First fifth Sunday will be at Plainview, second at Patrick, Third at Spring Hill, Fourth at Nale.

Delegates for the Roberts McGee Association: Rev. Geo. McClain, Rev. Walter Boyd, Rev. Bill Blevans.

Regular moved and seconded that we receive the report on Query and request and discharged the Committee. Carried. See report.

Report of the Association Clerk: Received \$15.00 for which I had 250 minutes printed and sent to the different churches. I have attended and kept a record of every fifth Sunday meeting but one. No money on hand now. Sister Willie Hughes, Clerk.

Motion made and carried that we accept minutes as read.

Motion made and seconded that the Clerk decide how many minutes we need. Carried.

Motion made and carried that we adjourn for the year and have old time hand shake. Dismissed by Rev. Geo. McClain.

Met Saturday night for church worship. Singing by choir. Prayer by Sister H. L. Gann. Devotional service by Rev. Drew Marchant. Special song by Sister Patrick, Sister Templeton, Sister Patrick. Preach by Rev. Tommie Roberts, followed by Rev. G. M. Everetts. Text: Mother's Love. Several born into the family of God. Dismissed by Rev. Clyde Lewis.

SUNDAY MORNING

Singing by choir. Prayer by Rev. Ab Jobe. Sunday School was well attended after which Memorial Sermon was preached by Rev. Drew Marchant. Concluded by Rev. G. M. Everts. Old time hand shake and brotherly love shown to one another. Lunches served on the ground with plenty of ice water.

SUNDAY EVENING

Singing by choir. Prayer by Bro. Barlow. Preaching by Elder Skinner, followed by Elder Clark. Dismissed by Rev. Drew Marchant.

Moderator Elder S. A. Skinner

Clerk Sister Willie Hughes

We thank Mr. H. L. Gann and others for their help and co-operation during this Association. Love and thanks to all.

CONSTITUTION

From the long experience, we, the members of the Free Will Baptist Church of Christ, being regularly baptised upon a profession of our faith in Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union and communion among us and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this constitution for our better church government.

1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by different churches in our union not exceeding three delegates from each church and on producing letters shall be entitled to seats.

2. Letters from different churches are to express the number in fellowship, the manner received by experience, letters of recommendation, the number dismissed, excluded, restored and those who have died since the Association.

3. The members thus chosen and convened to be denominated the Gaines Creek Association of Free Will Baptists, being composed for sundry churches in the Gaines Creek Association—the ass'n having no power to lord it over God's heritage nor to have any ecclesiastical power over the churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly.

4. The Association to have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who are to be chosen by suffrage of the members present.

5. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association who are to petition by letter and delegates and if upon examination they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

6. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has first been discussed in its own church.

7. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

8. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association in proportion to the number of members in each church, the distribution being at the discretion of the Association.

9. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association on a book to be kept by the Association for this purpose.

10. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the close of the Association.

11. Amendments to the Constitution may be made when necessary by a majority of the members present.

Resolved, that we earnestly request all of our ministers and deacons and churches composing this Association to co-operate with

each other and to assist in every way they can to help further the gospel and that each church should help their pastor and if an evangelist should visit any destitute place and organize churches that we urge upon the people to assist the Evangelist so he can go and preach the word.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost and these three are one in divine essence, power and glory. Romans 1:20, John 1:17, 17:21.

2. We believe that the Scripture of the Old and New Testament is the word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. Second Timothy 3:16, Matt. 5:18.

3. We believe that God created man good and gave him Holy Commandments whereby he should live holy but man voluntarily disobeyed the Commandments of God, transgressed the law and fell under the just condemnation of the same, whereby all mankind are sinners, not by constraint but by choice, being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the fall, and that man is unable to save himself with his own power, but we see Jesus for the suffering of death crowned with glory, that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man. Gen. 3:17, Heb. 2:9.

4. We believe that Christ by His death, suffering and resurrection purchased our pardon and offered it freely to all mankind upon principles of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent therefore, "Look unto me and be saved, all ends of the earth for I am God and there is none else". Matt. 4:17, Isa. 45:22, Acts 20:20-21.

5. We believe that adult persons must be regenerated and born of the spirit of God. Jonah 4:11, Mark 10:14. Deut. 1:39.

7. We believe that all Christians must preserve in grace and be faithful to the end if they inherit eternal life, for blessed are they that do His Commandments that they may have the right to the tree of life and enter through the gates into the city. Rev. 22:14, Matt. 24:13.

8. We believe that baptism by immersion is the apostolic mode; even the burial of a believer in water, and that Christ, who is our life, showed his humble example to His children and bids us walk therein. John 3:22, Romans 6:34-45, Matt. 28:19-20, Matt. 3:16.

9. We believe that God in His goodness displays His power of grace in great degree in calling and qualifying His servants by the teaching of the Holy Ghost and by the instruction of His word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation without price. He bids us freely come and nothing prevents the salvation of any but their stubborn rebellion and sinful refusal to come. I Cor. 12:13, Eph. 3:7, Rev. 22:17.

10. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper and washing the Saint's feet are divine ordinances and should be observed by all His children. Mark 14:22-23, John 13:4-14, Matt. 28:19-20, I Tim. 5:10.

11. We believe that none have a right to baptism, only those who have a living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ, and none have the right to administer the same only those who have come under the hands of the presbytery of elders, and each church ought to have a pastor, deacons, and clerks chosen by the church, ought to have office during the good pleasure of same in dealing with disorderly members, reference should be had to the 18th chapter of Matthew and other scriptures relative to dealing with disorderly members. In all cases a majority shall rule, except in receiving members, and then it must be unanimous. Titus 1:5, Acts 14:23, II Cor. 6:6.

12. We believe it is the duty of each church to assemble themselves together once a month and that it is the duty of the pastor of the church when sitting forth the Lord's Supper and washing the Saint's feet to let a man "examine himself and so let him eat." I Cor. 11:28, John 13:14.

13. We believe that the sanctification and Holiness is a Bible doctrine, that immortality is God dwelling in the light, so when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption and this mortal shall have put on immortality then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written. "Death swallowed up in victory." That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another and to study the happiness of the people of God in general and to be singly engaged to promote the honor and glory of God. Gal. 6:10, I John 2:9.

14. We believe in the resurrection of the dead of both the just and the unjust; the resurrection of the just to glory and immortality in the presence of God; the unjust to the everlasting shame and banishment from the presence of God. Matt. 25:31, I Cor. 15:42-45, Thes. 1:10, Rev. 20:12-13.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we humbly trust, by divine grace to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and having thus obtained justification by Faith in His name, we, as members of the several churches that constitute Gaines Creek Association of Free Will Baptists, adopt the following as our Church Covenant:

1. To watch over each other in love, to pray for each other as members of a common faith ever striving to keep the unity of spirit in the bonds of peace.

2. We will not speak evil of each other nor will we persecute or expose the faults of the weak members of our church; but will endeavor to be governed by Paul's instruction to Timothy, "That we will approve, rebuke and exhort" each other as members of a common brotherhood.

3. We are commanded to do good unto all men, especially to those who are of the household of faith. But we should remember that our relations to each other are closer and the obligations more binding than that of a common bond of Christian Charity. In adopting this Covenant, we became as a family and assume in a Christian sense the care and responsibility that the members of a family should feel for each other.

4. We will attend the stated meetings of our church unless we are providentially hindered, or uncontrollable circumstances prevent us. And we will contribute of our means as the Lord has prospered us for the support of our pastor and other necessary expenses of our church. And we will prefer the service of our own church to that of any other and will pray for our pastor while he is preaching the word of God to us.

5. We will not injure our influence in the house of the Lord by occupying seats among the ungodly and sinners; but will occupy seats near the pulpit and use the natural powers which the Lord has given us to praise His holy name. We will sing with those who sing and pray with those who pray.

6. We will not be guilty of the sin of Sabbath breaking by making visits to our neighbors, which is a double sin against the law of God for in so doing we fail to attend the house of the Lord and hinder those who might wish to do so. Let us remember the law of Moses which condemns Sabbath breaking, and the words of the inspired apostle which says, "Forsake not the assembling of yourself together as in the manner of some is."

7. We will not neglect secret and public prayers and those of us who are heads of families will strive to dedicate our household to the service of God by teaching our children the great necessity of the Christian religion as the only hope of happiness after death. We will adopt the covenant of Joshua, the servant of the Lord, and say, "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

LETTER OF DISMISSAL

This is to certify that.....is a member in good standing of the Free Will Baptist Church of Christ at....., and as such we recommend him (or her) to the fellowship of God's people, and is dismissed from us when united with another church.

Done in Church conference this.....day of.....
....., 19.....
....., Pastor Clerk

FORM OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

- 1—Call Church Conference.
- 2—Call for peace of Church.
- 3—Call for visiting brethren to seats in Council.
- 4—Reading of minutes of previous meeting.
- 5—Unfinished Business.
- 6—New Business.
- 7—Are any sick or in distress?
- 8—What has been done for the support of the Ministry and other incidental expenses?

TRUE HAPPINESS

"I would be true,
For there are those who trust me;
I would be pure,
For there are those who care;
I would be strong,
For there is much to suffer;
I would be brave,
For there is much to dare.

"I would be friend to all—
The foe, the friendless;
I would be giving,
And forget the gift;
I would be humble,
For I know my weakness;
I would look up—
And laugh, and love, and lift."

Happy is he that condemneth not. Rom. 14:22.

Behold, we count them happy which endure. James 5:11.

But if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye. 11 Peter 3:14.

If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye. 1 Peter 4:14.

My dear friends, these few lines have been written with the hope that some one will be made happier by reading them and in closing I will add this verse:

"If I have planted hope in any human heart,
If someone's load has lighter grown
Because I have done my part;
If happily I have caused a laugh.
To chase some tear away;
Or if tonight my name is named
Where someone kneels to pray;
I claim the days have been well spent,
Not lived in vain, and am content.
Or if some lonely little child
Has known my comradeship and smiled,
Then humble though I be, I know
I have been helping God, and so,
Serene, I claim my rest,
Just glad to know I have done my best."

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