

The Free Will **Baptist Gem**

Vol. 27—No. 10

Poplar Bluff, Missouri

October, 1956

THE POTTER AND THE CLAY

I took a piece of actual clay,
And idly fashioned it one day;
And as my fingers pressed it still
It moved and yielded at my will.
I came again when days were passed,
The bit of day was hard at last;
The form I gave it, it still bore,
But I could change that form no more.
I took a piece of living clay,
And gently formed it day by day;
And moulded with my power and art
A young child's soft and yielding heart.
I came again when years were gone,
He was the man I looked upon;
He still that early impress wore,
And I could change him never more.

—Author Unknown

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Organ of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists. Serving the church everywhere. Endorsed by National Association.

Published Monthly at Poplar Bluff, Missouri

Editor: Rev. Albert Halbrook
Lutesville, Missouri

Entered in the Post Office at Poplar Bluff, Missouri, under second class mailing permit.

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One dollar fifty cents (\$1.50) per year cash in advance. Paper will be discontinued when subscription expires.

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One good reason for tithing is this verse: "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse."

One of the few things that can fly a thousand ways at once is a rumor.

HONOR ROLL**OF CHURCH FAMILY
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Cuba	Rev. Wm. Reeves
Old Liberty	Rev. Wm. Reeves
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Mountain View Church—	
Hannon Church	Rev. Harry Sterling

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.
Fredricktown	152	162	158	165	158	163		
Mt. Pisgah	39	38	41		39	50	47	
Coppermines	92	99						
First, Flat River		141	167	175	174			
Fellowship	185	185	207	196	208	191	191	187
Leadington	94	94	95	110	98	93	94	96
Desloge	96	96	93	108	96	106	109	113
Farmington	46	52						
Fourth	63	70	67	59	62	68	47	54
Southside			230	234	212	198		196
Monett	102	130	118		131	102	198	103
Old Bethel	24	24	33	31	29	35	32	29
Third Church	118							
Berkeley	156	186	196	185	175	175		
Richwoods	75	66	77	96	90	92	89	93
Neosho						51	45	
Mountain Grove						209		
Joplin							46	56

Please send us your average, too.

Use What You Have

By Rev. William Hill

Pastor of East Nashville Church

There are many Christians who have a desire to live closer to God and have His blessings upon them. They pray sincerely for God to use them, and yet, they fail to be of much service. If we notice God's method of using us, we find that He desires to build upon that which He has already given us, and He wants us to use it to the best of our ability. A noted writer tells in one of his books about someone who was asking for sugar for his tea, and he received for an answer, "Stir your cup." In other words, "Use what you have."

Jesus lays down this desire and this condition in the parable of the talents. A certain man of means took a journey into a far country and delivered his goods to his servants. To one he gave five talents, to another two, and to the third one talent. The man was to return and the servants were to give an account of their stewardship. The one who received five talents brought five others. The one who received two talents brought two others. But the one who received one talent took the talent and buried it and brought back the one talent to his Lord.

The word "talent" here indicates quantity not quality. He gave the goods to those men according to their ability to use them. The principle here is that Christ never gives to certain men certain tasks unless they have the ability to accomplish the work. He never asks a man to preach who has not the ability. He never asks a man to sing unless he has the ability. He would not ask others to do jobs unless they are capable.

I Cannot Preach

Too many Christians are like the one man who hid his talent. He did not think his talent was great enough to be put to use. Some think there is nothing for them to do because they cannot preach, teach, or sing. So they take the talent God has given to them and hide it. Sometimes we become slothful and afraid. We say, "Not much has been committed to my charge. No one even notices my part.

My talent is so small it will not be missed so I will bury it and not use it." Charles M. Crowe said, "Only when we invest to a maximum of our capacity do we get a maximum in return. It is not how much talent we have but what we do with what we have that makes the difference."

Too Small

Moses was one who felt that his talent was too small to be useful. One day Moses was in the fields keeping his father-in-law's flock when he noticed a bush burning. He went over to it and God spoke to him and told him to go to Egypt and deliver the Israelites. Moses immediately began to make excuses. He told God he was not capable and Pharaoh would not listen to him. But God said, "What is that in thine hand?" Moses said, "A rod." It was just an ordinary shepherd's staff, but if turned over to God it was enough: the rod and God.

Moses went to Egypt with the rod of God in his hand. It was called the rod of God because it was submitted to God's use. With the rod Moses smote the waters and they became blood. He raised the rod and the plagues followed. He came to the Red Sea with the rod and the waters were parted. In the wilderness he smote the rock and the water gushed forth. Yes, only a rod, but in the hands of God an instrument of deliverance.

One day Jesus was teaching a large multitude and the disciples thought Jesus should send them home for food, for they did not have enough money to buy for them. Jesus asked them what they had, and they said a small boy had five loaves and two small fishes. Jesus said, "Bring them to Me." He blessed it and fed the multitude, and collected baskets full. This is what happens when a person submits himself to Christ, though his talent seems small.

Jesus takes the small insignificant things when yielded to Him and multiplies them. Loaves and fishes—our few small possessions, how inadequate for His uses! But five multiplied by infinity is exhaustless. Always there will be baskets left over. But we must give five.

God wants young lives to be used in His service. Though your talents seem small, weak, insignificant, and useless, if you surrender your all to Him He will bless it and multiply it and other lives will be blessed. It is not your great words or popularity that do the work but only your faithfulness multiplied.

"Put More In—Get More Out"

You can make your life fresh and sweet by surrendering to God your all. Your life can be useful or useless; a blessing or a cursing; make people love you or despise you; be clean or dirty; make people laugh or weep. You can only get out of life what you put into it.

A little boy went to a rural church with his grandfather who was the pastor. As they walked into the vestibule the preacher put a fifty cent piece into a box. The boy, being inquisitive, asked, "Grandpa, what is that little box for?" The grandfather said,

"That is the preacher's box. The people pay the preacher this way." After the service the grandfather went to the vestibule and opened the box, and all he found was the fifty cent piece he put in. He began to grumble about it, and the little boy said, "Well, that just goes to show you, if you would have put more in it you would have gotten more out of it." Our lives are a lot like that. The reason we do not get more enjoyment out of helping to advance the kingdom of Christ is because we do not put our all into it.

If we fail to use the opportunities God gives to us we will lose the desire. To bury a talent may be the easiest thing to do, but it is certainly not the happiest or wisest thing to do.

Oh, but someone says, "It seems that others can do almost anything and I cannot do anything. Everything I try to do someone else shows me up." Mr. F. B. Meyer tells the story of a little girl in a hotel in Norway who made the hotel almost unbearable for the guests by playing the same ditty with one finger on the piano. Every time she approached the instrument she emptied the salon. One day the finest organist in Norway came to the hotel. When the child began her discords, he sat down beside her and for every note she struck, he played chords of the most exquisite music. The guests stood entranced until the two had finished their strange duet. We are like that child in many ways. Sometimes it seems as though our life is one big discord. It seems that everything we try to do fails. The talent we have seems small and when we try to do something it is out of harmony or strikes a discord. But you know when we submit our lives to God, take Christ as our life-time partner, and let the Holy Spirit be our teacher, He will strike the right keys and make our discords play a beautiful melody that will bless others.

Let God Have It

God has a place for your life. God needs Christian men and women boys and girls in all walks of life. God can use Christian school teachers, doctors, nurses, singers, preachers, evangelists, or missionaries. All cannot do the same work. All of the work is impor-

(Continued on page 16)

IMPROVEMENT PLANS ADOPTED

(Plans adopted for the promotion of the improvement program for a greater Bible College, as adopted by the Board of Trustees of F.W.B.B.C. and approved by the National Association while in regular annual session July 11, 12, 1956, at Huntington, West Virginia.)

The Executive Committee met in Nashville, Tenn., August 21, and adopted the following plan:

First, to set a goal of \$50,000.000 for the erection of the first building in said improvement program. This building is to be a wing joined to the Memorial Auditorium and will be used for a dining hall, kitchen, and students' lounge. The committee hopes to raise \$50,000 by April 1, 1957. If this amount can be raised by that date, it is reasonable safe to say that this building can be ready for use by the opening of school in the fall of 1957.

Second, James F. Miller, chairman of the board of trustees, has been employed to go on the field to promote the program.

We need five hundred \$100.00 gifts to reach the first goal. Special checks made payable to "Free Will Baptist Bible College Improvement Fund" are being prepared and will be furnished to every individual, to every church, Sunday School, Women's Auxiliary, League, etc., wishing to make a gift to this improvement fund of \$100.00 or more. This does not mean that a church or a subordinate body, or an individual, could not give more than \$100.00; neither does it mean that a church or any of its auxiliaries which could not give \$100.00 would be deprived of the privilege of giving what they were able to give. If all will give as we are able to give, to raise \$50,000.00 by April 1, 1957 will be easy.

My plan as the promotional agent will be to solicit the cooperation of our pastors and lay leaders, together with the cooperation of the Associational leaders in every state. It will be impossible for me to visit every church, but I want every church and pastor to know that we are depending on you. I hope to go into many of the Associations and help to build up such organizations as will best promote the cause of our Bible College in the several Associations. If I am not able to get to your church or Association, I will be glad to give you any help that I can, from my office, which will be set up at the College Oct. 1. After that date you can

write me at 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

All of us need to understand that this improvement program is separate and apart from the general program of the College, and funds raised for this cannot be used for the operating expenses of the College.

I propose to keep our people informed on the progress we are making, through the church papers.

Humbly your servant,
James F. Miller

ST. LOUIS CHURCH ORGANIZES YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

On Thursday night, August 30th, a large group of young people assembled at South Side Free Will Baptist Church in St. Louis, and organized a Youth Fellowship. The meeting was opened by singing and prayer, after which, Mrs. Avery DeWitt, Youth Chairman of the Southeast Missouri Auxiliary Convention, made a very interesting talk on the importance of keeping the youth busy in the work of advancing our Lord's Kingdom by personal witnessing, visitation, and assisting in the ministry of the church.

Mrs. DeWitt also emphasized the necessity of the young people living fully surrendered and dedicated lives to the cause of the Lord. After her remarks the pastor, Rev. W. A. Hales, was elected temporary chairman and Miss Sharon Kellerman temporary recording secretary. Rev. Hales stated that the meeting was opened for business and the following persons were elected to offices and committees. President, Bob Denman; Vice President, Norman Hales; Secretary-Treas., Sharon Kellerman; Asst., Secretary, Pat Phillips; Choir Director, Finis Barr; Asst. Choir Director, Marilyn Barr; Pianist, Ned Templeton; Sponsors, Mr. and Mrs. Chesley Hill; Program Chairman, Wilma Barr; Asst. Program Chairman, Mac Long.

The group voted to adopt the name "Christ Ambassadors". Among some of the things the group discussed doing was that of visiting in hospitals, convalescent homes and other institutions, to hold services and distribute tracts with the inmates of the institution. They plan also to publish a weekly paper and doing many other things which will win souls to the Lord and promote interest in our church work.

South Side Church has a fine group of young people and it is believed that with such an organization its progress will be much more rapid than in the past. We solicit the prayers

of Christians everywhere, that as Christ Ambassadors we may be found faithful at all times and in all things.

—Sec., Sharon Kellerman

"THE LITTLE FOXES THAT SPOIL THE VINES!"

If you are a Christian in small things, you are not a small Christian! The so-called little sins, like the snowflakes, are cumulative in their power. Sidestepping and lowering our standards here, or compromising there, weakens our power of resistance, and we go down in defeat.

A transatlantic liner was wrecked and sank along the Irish coast. There was no apparent reason for the loss of the great vessel. Divers were sent down to the wreckage to discover the cause of the accident. The compass was brought to the surface. Inside the compass box was found the point of a knife blade which had evidently broken off when some careless sailor was cleaning the compass. It was only a little thing, but it threw the ship off its course and caused the vessel to be wrecked!

—Selected

PULPIT TO PEW

By Jim Griffith

It is election time again.

Many are running for something—running on the assumption that if you want to be elected, you have to run.

All of which reminds me of this story:

In a little town there was once an old preacher, not learned but full of sense as well as of sincerity. He preached often on the doctrine of election. So it happened one day that a local politician of some note met him on the street and said, "I hear you preach a lot about those who will be the elect to heaven. What about me? Do you think I will be elected?"

To which the preacher replied: "Well, sir, you ran for city council once and you got elected. Then you ran for mayor and you got elected to that. Then you ran for Congress and you got elected to that. And now you ask me if I think you might get to be among the elect for heaven. But I don't see how you can expect to get elected to something that you ain't running for."

What do you mean when you sing: "I'll go where you want me to go, dear Lord?" The Gospel is not taking the world because man is not taking the Gospel to the world.

The Thief on the Cross

Rev. Ollie Latch

Luke 23:42-43

In many ways, this is a very important event. None of the sayings of Jesus on the cross loom larger on our horizons than this one, and not one of them call us back to consider it more often than this one does. The reason for its importance is that it provides the answer for one of our most pressing problems, that problem of what it takes to be saved. In this incident we find the answer to the jailor's question, and the question of the whole human race, "What must I do to be saved?" It is in this light that I wish to discuss the matter with you.

I—How It Does Not Come

Human philosophy and rationalism run head on into this passage when they try to discount the Bible method of salvation. This passage tells, by implication, some of the things which will not bring salvation, things which men have often sought to use in the place of the Bible method.

Salvation does not come by good deeds. This thief was a confessed sinner. His life had been filled with evil deeds. He was a murderer. He had absolutely nothing from his past to commend him. All his deeds were evil, and he was, by his own confession, dying justly. Not only was his past a moral hopelessness, but his future offered nothing whereby he could produce good deeds. He was dying, and nothing short of a miracle could save him from death. Before him was no hope that he could produce good deeds. If he must have them to be saved, then there was no hope for him. Nevertheless, his ears, already dimmed by death, heard a sweet assurance of paradise before nightfall.

Salvation does not come by ceremony. This man was never baptized. This man never received the communion. This man never joined the church, or the missionary society. He had no Sunday School training, had no certificates attesting to the fact that he had been schooled. If baptism were necessary to his salvation, he was lost. If mass or initiation or what have you in ceremony were necessary to his salvation, he was lost. He had no access to the ordinances and no hope of obtaining such access. Yet he died with the promise of paradise ringing in his ears.

Salvation is not obtained by good character. This man had no character

which could in any sense be called good. He had made thieves and murderers his consorts. Early in the morning he too railed on Jesus, taunting him with his goodness. There was no character here worth saving, in the eyes of society. But many a person whom the world has marked as characterless will go into heaven while many honest men will go to hell. This characterless wretch died with the assurance of salvation in his heart.

Salvation does not come by accident. It was no accident that this man and his Master met at such an opportune time. Seven hundred years before, the Holy Spirit had revealed by Isaiah the prophet that Jesus would die among criminals. The council said, "He was a friend to sinners and criminals, now let him die with them." How could they know that they were playing a part in a divine plan to bring a wretched lost man in touch with his Saviour? Pilate said, "These two must die, so crucify Jesus with them. Make one job do it all." May have looked like an accident there, but I say that God knew and planned for this man to meet Christ before he died. Oh no, friends, salvation is not something you accidentally stumble upon. Your salvation had been deliberately planned for long before you came into the world.

II—It Is By Grace Through Faith

God in his infinite grace decreed that this man should not die without an opportunity to be saved. He decreed the same for the other thief. God wills not the death of any, but that all should come unto repentance. Grace brought the thief and his Saviour together on Calvary, and grace brought you and Christ together. It is God's grace that provides the means, the method and the opportunity for us to be saved. For by grace are ye saved through faith. God's grace means unmerited favor. He does not save you because you deserve it, but because his love wants to save you.

Now Paul says that salvation is by grace through faith. God supplied the grace, and the thief supplied the faith. Early in the morning he too, railed against Jesus. But as the long day wore on, he began to sense that the man who hanged beside him was innocent. He saw him dying without dread or fear. He saw him look with love and pity on his tormentors. He heard him pray for those who hurt him. He saw and heard the same things that made the Roman centurion say, "Surely this was the son of God." And he began to believe.

When he began to believe, he could then reach for the saving hand.

He reached for that saving hand by acknowledging his sin. He said to his fellow thief, "We indeed justly." This is an utter repudiation of himself. He freely acknowledges that he is lost, that his sins are many, and that there is no longer excuse to hide them. As long as we are too proud, too self-assured to admit that we have sinned, we will remain lost. But the very moment we believe, that is the moment we are ready to cry out, "I have sinned. Forgive me." That is what this poor man did. That is what saving faith causes us to do.

He threw himself entirely on the mercy of Jesus. It was as though he said, "Now Lord, I know I have been wrong. I am sorry. There is nothing I can do about the past. I must leave it to you. Please remember me in mercy when you come into your kingdom." It takes a lot of courage to admit you are wrong. It takes a lot of grace to throw yourself on the mercy of our Lord. But when you do, you are always amply repaid and effectively forgiven. Jesus can't refuse to hear you. He is bound by all the ties of divine love to hear you. And he has made you a promise, "He that comes to me I will in no wise cast out."

What a change came over the life of this man. But an hour ago he was only a dying thief. He had seen an open fountain, both of love and blood. Now he was a cleansed person, on his way to paradise. He was safe in the infinite grace of God. He was a sinner saved by grace, just as is any other Christian. When he entered paradise he went there singing. What better song to think he might sing than "Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see."

KILL THE SPIDER

An old deacon who used to pray every Wednesday night at prayer meeting, always concluded his prayer thus: "And, Lord, clean all the cobwebs out of my life." We all know what he meant—the cobwebs—those things in his life which ought not to have been there but had gathered during the week. Well, it got too much for one fellow in the prayer meeting. He heard the old deacon one time too many! The fellow jumped to his feet and shouted, "Lord, don't do it! Don't do it! Kill the spider!"

—Goshen Church Bulletin, North Belmont, N. C.

—The Free Will Baptist

From the Editor's Desk

We are happy to present to you this October issue of the Gem. It has been a pleasure to serve you as Editor. You have been faithful in sending material to be edited; but, no doubt, many failed to write because of the transition from one editor to another. We want you to continue to send in your material; however if possible, send it before the 20th of each month. The edited material must be in the hands of the printer at Poplar Bluff by the first of the month.

There was a total of 1121 Gems printed for September, for which we are thankful. There are thirty-one churches on the Honor Roll of the Church Family Subscription Plan. We, too, are grateful for that. But that isn't enough. Our State Statistician, Miss Leona Thompson, reports one hundred and thirty-two churches for Missouri. We need one-hundred and one more on the Honor Roll.

We have some very fine missionary material in this issue from Rev. Raymond Riggs, our Promotional Secretary Treasurer of the Foreign Missionary Board, which we hope you will read, and that it will inspire you to greater efforts in behalf of missions. Incidentally, too, Rev. Riggs writes that he enjoyed the visits to our Missouri State Association while in session at the Youth Camp. His August report shows that Missouri gave \$785.07 for that month. This brings our total to \$4,340.12 on our quota of \$9,900.00 with a balance of \$5,559.88. May the Lord bless you as you give to both our Home and Foreign Missions.

MISSOURI GOES FORWARD

Beyond any doubt the move to place a mission team on the field for the purpose of organizing new churches in the State was one of the most important, forward steps in the history of the State work. If the doctrine and religious convictions of Free Will Baptist are as important as we claim to be (and they are) then it is necessary that we have a Free Will Baptist Church in every village of the whole world. This move by the State Association is certainly a great step in that direction.

The days of merely going into a place, conducting a revival and organizing a church from the results of that revival are practically over. This system worked in generations past but we are now faced with a different

situation. As our fathers were responsible for working out the most effective methods in their generation, so does God hold us responsible for working out and using the most effective methods in this generation. In many cases the most effective method for our time is to place a full time worker on the field to be worked and keep him there until a church is organized and well on the way. Where this system is used a church can be organized in almost any town. This is the plan which has been adopted by the Missouri State Association.

This will take much careful and prayerful planning on the part of those who are responsible for directing this work. They certainly need your sincere, earnest prayers. There are other ways also in which you can help. Everyone's whole-hearted co-operation is needed to make this work successful.

After having received the challenge at the Missouri State Association to become your State Missionaries, our first assignment was in Springfield, where we are now working. We have been trying to do some planning for the future and we need your help. So would you please help us by sending us the names and addresses of everyone you know who has moved into, or near, any town in Missouri which has a population of 5,000 or more? Of course, we are primarily interested in contacting those who are Free Will Baptist background, and not affiliated with a church where they now live. Please give all the information which you feel is necessary in helping us make the contact with them should we be sent by the State Home Mission Board to their town to start a Free Will Baptist Church. After you have completed your list please mail it to—Lester C. Jones, 536 S. Scenic Drive, Springfield, Mo. I will be looking for a letter from you bearing the requested information. Your co-operation in this matter is of great importance if we are to reach souls for Christ through the organization of new churches.

Brother Pastors, would you please make announcements in your churches concerning this matter of obtaining these names and addresses?

Your State Missionaries,
Rev. and Mrs. Lester Jones

Salvation is free, but you must take it to get it. But advice is the cheapest thing existing; you don't even have to take it to get it.

WHERE WILL THE NEXT STATE ASSOCIATION CONVENE?

By O. T. Allred

We have enjoyed another very successful session of the Missouri State Association and now the responsibility of making Christ known to those held in the bondage of sin, both at home and abroad, is the responsibility of every child of God.

I would like, however, to call the attention of our churches to the responsibility of inviting the next session of the State Association. While the Youth Encampment Board and the entire community surrounding the Camp enjoyed the sessions at the Camp, it has been passed around in the past to the different parts of the State; and each church and community where it has convened has received a real spiritual uplift by having the Association meet with them.

If there is some church, or group of churches, located near each other that would like to have the State Association convene with them next year you may make your request known to the State Executive Board, Rolla Smith, Chairman, 601 Buckley St., Flat River, Mo.

I would like to say further that our churches out over the State have been very good to finance the entertainment of the State Association and this year, with our Publicity Committee at work, we feel certain that the finance will be taken care of by the various churches in the State.

"SIZE ME"

Rev. Frank Brosend

An Arizona missionary teacher related this incident. "When I was teaching English in a Chinese home the older students knew very little English. One of the students turned to her young son and asked him to tell me, 'I want to make American clothes for my son. Will you teach me?' I replied to the boy, 'Ask your mother what size pattern shall I buy.' They talked together for a minute; then he turned to me and said, 'She says pattern size me'."

How many a person has said, "Pattern size me." We hear on every hand, "I, I, I, I did. I said. I told 'em." They were saying, "Size me, I am the one you should pattern after."

But God sent us a pattern. Read John 13:15. "I have given you an example (pattern) that ye should do as I have done to you."

That pattern set by the Son of God has never been changed.

GOD GAVE ME A SECOND CHANCE

Roger C. Reeds
(Former Missouri Boy)

I quit school at the ripe old age of 13.

I didn't have to, of course. I wanted to.

I was just beginning my four years at high school, an experience most young people look forward to as the best in life. To me it was the worst. A terrible inferiority complex put two strikes against me. I was an avid sports fan, but too bashful to try out for any of the teams.

Each day at school was more than the one before, but only because I made it so. On the first day, I went to the school cafeteria for lunch. Everyone was scrambling for a table on one side of the room. Not wanting to attract undue attention to myself, I walked over and took a seat at some unoccupied tables on the other side of the room and waited for the waitress to come take my order. She never came.

Became an Uproar

The lunch room became an uproar with laughter. An employee saw my perplexity and came to inform me that I was sitting in a section reserved for the faculty and that I had to serve myself rather than be served. No words can describe my humiliation.

I began to play hooky. This was easy since both of my parents worked. After seven weeks of spasmodic attendance, I quit. I had my parents' permission, of course. Perhaps they didn't realize the value of education since they had both been denied it. I didn't know what I would do with my life. I had no goal.

In the summer I loitered, but with the coming of fall I decided to begin making my own way. I set out, still equipped with my inferiority complex, to get a job. After circling the block several times, I finally mustered enough courage to go into a printing shop and ask for work. To my surprise and pleasure I was hired.

Lied about Age

I was a messenger boy in the shipping department. The shipping clerk was a Scrooge type of character who made me quake many times with his booming voice. Of course I had to lie about my age to get the job, and noticing that I wasn't yet shaving, the boss asked me to bring a birth certificate. I lied again and told him it was lost and I was applying for a new one. He finally quit asking me and I kept my job.

In fact, I stayed with it until I was 16. By then I was an office boy and my salary had climbed from \$12 to \$22 a week. I decided to transfer to a factory and learn a trade, but after working at it a few weeks I found I didn't like it so I took the road of least resistance and quit.

By now I was old enough to join my father at the factory where he had worked for 25 years. Too, I had acquired somewhat of an ambition. I wanted to be like dad, work in a factory, marry a good woman like mom, and bring home a regular paycheck. It wasn't long until my income doubled and soon tripled. But I was beginning to see the mistake I had made in leaving school.

Work Became Drudgery

What had been my ambition now became my doom and I thought it was too late to do anything about it. It looked like I was to work in a factory all the days of my life because of my mistake in quitting school.

Mom had tried to talk me out of quitting. She had wanted me to go on—to make something out of myself. I couldn't erase those thoughts that I might have become a doctor or a lawyer, and each day at the factory became a drudgery. I had already learned how to drink and gamble.

One Sunday morning something happened that was to change my whole life. I met God. Up to that time, God had been left out of my life. Ours was not a church-attending family. I knew little of the Bible and nothing of the doctrine of the church. But on that Sunday I went forward at the invitation of the minister and received Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour.

Came to God

There was nothing remarkable about it. I received no vision. I simply believed. I didn't at the time fully understand what it was all about, but I knew I had sinned. I had messed up my life and now I was coming for God to straighten it out. He did. That night I joined the same Free Will Baptist church where I had been introduced to God.

Things were different at the factory the next day. The four brick walls that I had come to loathe were still there, but they looked brighter. What had been a daily drudgery was more pleasant. Not long after my conversion I was offered a different job at the factory. The foreman had decided that I could make a good crane operator and I began the break-in period which lasted six weeks.

This job gave me quite a bit of leisure time and I decided to read the Bible through. I began with Genesis and read right on through the Pentateuch. The more I read, the more engrossed I became. It was the greatest Book I had ever read.

Called To Preach

Somewhere along the way in this reading I got the idea that God wanted me to preach. The idea seemed a little foolish at the time for I still had not conquered my inferiority feelings. The more I read and the more I prayed, the more convinced I became that this was God's will for my life.

I discussed it with my pastor and then finally made a public announcement at church that God had called me to preach. There were doubters and they cannot be blamed. They knew my timidity.

I sold all my possessions, including a battered 1935 Ford of which I was very fond and headed for Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee. A Bible college combines the curricula of the seminary and liberal arts college into a four-year course. At 20, I was picking up where I left off at 13. After my first year, I returned to my home state and secured my high school diploma via a state-sponsored equivalency test for such people as me who make the mistake of quitting school. I am now the proud possessor of a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Bible.

Now a Pastor

It is a golden opportunity that has been given me by God. He gave me a second chance in life and education. I shall ever be grateful to Him and intend to serve Him the rest of my life. I am married now, somewhat wiser, have two lovely children, and the joy of being a pastor. It is my hope to see my children through the years as they receive their diplomas from grade school, then high school, and finally from one of our Free Will Baptist institutions of higher learning.

If you have been on the verge of making the same foolish mistake I made, don't make it! Stick it out. The results will be rewarding.

I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith. (II Timothy 4:7) That was Paul's testimony. What is yours?

The things of earth may gratify the natural man, but Christ alone can satisfy any man.

A LADY TAKES THE LEAD

The Free Will Baptist Denomination as we know it today has been somewhat slow in getting the real vision for foreign mission work.

In 1935 when the Eastern Conference and the Western Conference of the Free Will Baptist Churches of America were contemplating merging into a National body, it seems that a meeting was being held in the Black Jack Free Will Baptist Church in North Carolina. There were a great number of delegates from all over the various states where Free Will Baptist work was known to be.

In those days the local church served as the host and entertained all of the delegates. Many homes would care for as many as twenty or twenty-five people. Some would find sleeping quarters in the barn and others doubling up in the homes. However, the fellowship that existed in those days was something unexcelled. There are still several people who remember that eventful Convention and how the Lord honored with His intimate presence.

During this Convention a very attractive, well educated, neat young lady challenged the denomination to send her to India. She was well qualified to have assumed any position as private secretary with any executive in this country. However, the Lord had laid on her heart to go to India as a missionary.

At that time the denomination had no work in India. Of course we had had work there but in the merger of 1910 the work was swallowed up by the Northern Baptist Convention. The Spirit of the Lord was on the meeting as Miss Laura Belle Barnard from Glennville, Georgia offered herself to take the lead in spearheading our foreign mission work in this heathen land. Up to that time the Free Will Baptist Denomination was rather dormant here in the states. It was most difficult for local congregations to exist. We had very few if any full time pastors. We had no educational program and the spiritual life of the church as a whole was at a rather low ebb.

Miss Barnard went to India and after studying the language and after having fellowship with other Christian missionaries in India, she began a Free Will Baptist work. The work started in a small way in the form of a school. But during these years the Lord has greatly blessed the efforts of this "leading lady" and God has given us a real work in India. Today we have a Christian Day School, we

have a new Church in India with a full time National Pastor. We have property in India valued at between twelve and fifteen thousands dollars (that is in South India where Miss Barnard is located) and then too from this we have opened up a new field in North India where there are four missionaries in the person of Rev. and Mrs. Daniel R. Cronk and Rev. and Mrs. Carlisle Hanna.

The people of the Free Will Baptist Denomination are indebted to Miss Barnard for having been the first to go into this area with the Gospel as represented by the Free Will Baptist Denomination. From that day until this our denomination has been growing. We believe that much of it is due to the fact that we have obeyed the Lord in lifting up our eyes and looking on the fields.

Miss Barnard has asked that her duties as missionary be relieved after this year. This request of course will be granted contingent upon someone to fill her place in India. This is a very definite matter of prayer as the Indian Government has rejected so many visas for new missionaries. We are hoping however that it will be possible to get a replacement in for Miss Barnard. We trust that you will pray much for this project that the Lord will enable us to get in a young couple that may man the South India Station.

In addition to the work in Kotagiri proper, as a result of this missionaries activity, many of the surrounding villages have been reached with the message of salvation.

Miss Barnard is no longer that young lady that she was but she still is a wonderful person and even though Father Time has caused the years to creep up, we believe that there are many more useful years of Christian service in her life.

As a result of this spearhead led by Miss Barnard, our denomination has been challenged time and time again to our responsibility to bring the Gospel to those who have never heard. No doubt much credit is due her for the missionary revival that has been sweeping our denomination within the last several years. Today we have four missionaries in Japan, we also have seven American missionaries in Cuba along with some 50 or more Nationals who are representing the Lord Jesus Christ and the Free Will Baptist Denomination. There are over two thousand members of the Free Will Baptist Church in Cuba.

The work in North India under the supervision of Rev. Daniel R. Cronk

is making great stride. Then too, we have one Free Will Baptist Missionary in Africa and with an assigned field to our denomination of over 200,000 people without a Christian witness. We hope to send at least four couples to this area within the next year. In order for us to do this we must have your prayers and increased financial support to meet the obligations. Truly these are perilous times and the Lord expects His people to enlarge our forces as rapidly as we possibly as we can and to get as many people under the blood of our Redeemer, ere the end of time.

—Raymond Riggs

AN HONEST RALLY DAY

Elijah, by a great rally at Mt. Carmel recovered Israel from apostasy. On a famous Rally Day Ezra read, from dawn until high noon, the Book of the Law in the ears of the people gathered as one man.

An honest Rally Day would start an era of fresh activity in all our churches and Sabbath schools.

SPITE FENCE

On a prominent boulevard in Chicago there stood for many years a fence eighteen feet high, created by a woman who imagined her neighbor was peering into her windows. While it effectually cut off the inlook, it shut the sunshine out of her own yard, ruined the lawn and cast a shadow on the house. Spite and resentment always cast a shadow over the life that shuts God's sunshine out.

THE BUSY MAN

If you want to get a favor done by some obliging friend, and want a promise safe and sure, on which you can depend, don't go to him who always has much leisure time to plan; but if you want your favor done—ask the busy man.

The man with leisure never has a moment he can spare. He's always "putting off" until his friends are in despair. But he whose every waking hour is crowded full of work forgets the art of wasting time—he cannot stop to shirk.

So when you want a favor done, and want it right away, go to the man who constantly works sixteen hours a day. He'll find a moment sure, somewhere, that has no other use, and help you, while the idle man is framing an excuse.

—Author Not Known

Courage is not the absence of fear—it is the mastery of it.

AFRICAN CHALLENGE

Shall we occupy the land? Should we accept the challenge? Must we help to dispell the darkness? Are we able to meet this demand? These and many other questions will perhaps run through your mind after you read this article. Actually, they are foolish questions in the light of the Great Commission, and we believe every Free Will Baptist should stand at attention and then March, in obedience to the Command, "Go ye into all the world!"

Even though this is not the full report from Bro. and Sis. Stevens we want to share this preview with you. May it stir your heart to genuine prayer and consecration for the unfinished task ahead. Then too, we would like to know your general re-action if you care to write to us.

Raymond Riggs

* * * *

Methodist Mission
Dabou
Ivory Coast
August 7, 1956

Dear Bro. Riggs:

Greetings to you from the Ivory Coast in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Our eyes have seen things in the past few days which have made us increasingly grateful for what that Name means to us.

The survey of the Bondougou Circle of the Ivory Coast has been completed with no mishaps. We felt His presence went before in every circumstance. I will not attempt to give a detailed account here, we are working on the report to the Mission Board, which will include quite a number of typewritten pages; this report will be sent by air mail within three of four days.

During the course of our Ivory Coast survey we felt it very unnecessary to attempt any other survey at this time. As you will see from the report absolutely nothing is being done for Christ in the Bondoukou Circle. The other prospective field in the Portuguese Cabinda, which is much smaller, at least has a positive witness in Rev. Alwin Rees of the C. M. A.

Another reason for our not proceeding with the Cabinda Survey was the lack of funds. We had not anticipated the very high cost of everything in the Ivory Coast. For instance, Gasoline is 80 to 85 cents a gallon.

As you know the French people are largely Roman Catholic and we rather expected the government officials would not be very eager to see Protestant missionaries coming into the

district. We felt God had gone before in a very wonderful way for as we talked to the French Commander of the Bondoukou Circle he welcomed us with obvious eagerness and made all his statistics available to us as well as many helpful suggestions. He invited us to his home for a cocktail, we accepted the invitation on the grounds that he give us lemonade. Later in the week he had us in for supper as well.

The Ivory Coast is a section of French West Africa and one missionary has put it very well when he said the whole area is a land of "spiritual destitution." The Bondoukou (pronounced "Bunduku") Circle which has been ceded to the National Association of Free Will Baptists is 150 miles wide and 250 miles long with 185,000 people speaking four major languages. Among such a great host of people there is only one little ray of witnesses for Christ. A very little church at Koun bears that witness. That church has existed since 1922 when a man from Koun went away to a coastal town to work. There he heard the news of Christ in a foreign language and came back to Koun to tell the news. Through these 34 years many appeals have been sent for missionary help but to this date that help has not come.

The condition of the Koun Church is sad but not nearly so sad as the areas more central where the Mohammedians came down from the north 500 years ago. In the town of Bondoukou there are four large Mohammedian Mosques and here is located the seminary for training Mohammedian young men. The French commander quite frankly told us we had come too late to have a chance in the town of Bondoukou. Having been there I can see his point of view but of course he knows not the power of God. For example during our hurried stops in Bondoukou we arranged an open air meeting in the market and even though we had to use two interpreters God used the message and three men gave their hearts to Christ. There was a willingness to listen and an apparent heart hunger on the part of some.

The Lobi people have settled in the northern section of the circle and we spent two days among them. The state of heathendom in which they live surely pulls at ones strings. The complete nakedness of the women's bodies is a slight picture of their soul condition. Only a very small portion, 28,000 of the very large Lobi Tribe live in the Bondoukou Circle. The en-

tire tribe still carry on such heathen practices as:

1. At the age of 15 every boy and girl are sent into the forest in pairs completely unclothed and there they must learn of each other for one month. This is not marriage at all. It is merely part of the ceremony of initiation into the Lobi tribe. Unless a youth goes through this full ceremony which involves far more than this he is never considered a member of the tribe.

2. Babies which get sick and thin are said to be turning into an animals so are carried away from the home and deposited in an ant hill to be eaten alive by the ants.

3. Twin girls or twin boys are allowed to live, but mixed twins are automatically killed at birth.

The mortality rate among children is astonishing. One missionary working among the Lobies further north told us that many of the women who had given birth to 12 or 13 children had not raised even one. It was his recommendation and our observation that the medical work among the Lobies would be the most effective way of reaching them for Christ. The Lobi people do not live in villages as do the people in the southern portion of the Circle, therefore they could never be reached in mass. It must be a house to house ministry, and probably medical and school work.

The success of any missionary endeavor is determined by the extent to which the nationals (Africans) are willing to take the responsibility of Christ's commission to tell their own people. We feel God has initiated a very wonderful beginning in this regard. At the little Koun Church we found a young man about 19 years of age who has been away to a government school for six years and is eager to go to Bible School. We talked with the Christians at Koun and they feel he is essential there to hold the church together. Also due to the recent death of his father, family responsibilities make it impossible for him to go at present. In school he has learned to read and write French, therefore we are having a Bible correspondence course in French sent to him. I believe he is a very keen and promising young (Free Will Baptist) pastor. Pray for him, his name is David.

We found another young man, in Bondoukou with his wife and two children, who has come from Nigeria with a big African Trading Co. He is a fine Christian and speaks English well. He is eager to serve God and after I had talked with him we made

a plan for him to leave his work and enter a Bible School in English, in the Gold Coast (next province to Ivory Coast) as soon as preliminaries can be taken care of. You will be hearing more from us about the arrangements and since there is no church here to help him perhaps some individual, class or church will be happy to send him through Bible School. His name is Dari.

I feel sure that those two men well trained can put a great forward thrust into the work in these beginning years.

We were of the opinion that the work should be spearheaded from the south where there is a written language and a group of Christians. We covered the district quite thoroughly and even though we would much prefer the coming missionaries to do so. We felt it wise to proceed with the choice of two sites for the first two stations. We decided to place our request before Government authorities when we learned it would take at least a year for the land to be granted. We approached the local chiefs concerned and then we went on to the administrator. The administrator notified the chiefs and at an appointed time he met with us and the chiefs at the site and upon agreement the applications were submitted. One chief wanted a gift of seven dollars and the other fourteen dollars. These gifts were given for the sake of good relations. Each site is a five acre site. One is located just south of the village of Koun and the other is just south of Goumbere, a larger village. The two stations will be 65 miles apart and are in two entirely different language areas.

As to recommendations for the opening of the work we will go into detail in the larger report. It will suffice here to say that our expectation must be from God, the Lord of the harvest. The first one on the field should be a builder who could construct the four stations in the four different areas. There should be two couples on each station. It is plain to see that missionaries working in French West Africa need an unusual amount of "Grey matter". A good knowledge of French is essential and the language of the people is a must.

All of the missionaries should attend one or both sessions of the Wycliffe Summer Institution of Linguistics. At least two of these missionaries should possess exceptional ability in linguistics as two of the languages are still unwritten.

Mr. Timyan has suggested that the candidates might be able to get their French study in much better surround-

ings and at much smaller cost in Switzerland at the Emmaus Bible Institute. He suggested that you contact them immediately about the possibility of the Sparks enrolling there for French. He thinks their term opens in September. In the case the Sparks could go to Switzerland this fall then they could probably manage the Wycliffe summer course in England next June. The address of the Bible Institute in Switzerland is Emmaus Bible Institute, Vennes, Par Lausanne, Switzerland, Mr. E. De Bendit.

French West Africa is a land of inflation at the present time and any undertaking here will be at extremely heavy financial cost. In spite of these adversaries I feel sure that God's people in the Free Will Baptist Churches of America are going to enter this effectual open door and make His precious Name known among a people who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death—in the Bondoukou Circle of Africa.

Harold J. Stevens

SPARKS TO BE COMMISSIONED FOR AFRICA

As you perhaps know, Rev. and Mrs. Lonnie Sparks are the first approved candidates for Africa and their Commissioning service will be conducted during the Missionary Conference to be held in the Bible College Auditorium, October 9-10. We hope to have the Sparks on their way to language school by January 1. Please pray with us to that end.

THINK ON THESE

Longfellow could take a worthless sheet of paper, write a poem on it, and make it worth \$6,000—that is genius.

Rockefeller could sign his name to a piece of paper and make it worth millions—that is capital.

Uncle Sam can take gold, stamp an eagle on it, and make it worth \$20—that is money.

A mechanic can take material worth \$5 and make an article worth \$50—that is skill.

An artist can take a five-dollar piece of canvas, paint a picture on it, and make it worth \$1,000—that is art.

God can take a worthless, sinful life, wash it in the blood of Christ, put his Spirit in it, and make it a blessing to humanity—that is salvation.

—The Preacher's Magazine

You sing: "I'll go where you want me to go; I'll do what you want me to do." Words so big; life so small—Is your all on the altar of sacrifice laid?

TEN SENTENCE SERMONS ON SCRIPTURAL GIVING!

1. The Willing Giver—Abraham in the offering of his son.

2. The Big Little Giver—the widow who in giving two mites gave most of all.

3. The Givers Who Were Not Niggardly—the Macedonians, who gave up to their ability and beyond.

4. The Unpretentious Giver—the Good Samaritan, who made no show of his giving.

5. The Sacrificial Giver—David, who in buying the threshingfloor of Araunah would not give to the Lord that which had cost him nothing.

6. The Voluntary Giver—Zaccheus, the man who did not wait to be asked to give.

7. Givers Who Had Nothing to Give—Peter and John: "Silver and gold have I none," but gave themselves.

8. The Covetous Givers—Ananias and Sapphira, who held back a part and suffered dire penalty.

9. The First Givers—the Wise Men, who came from the heathen world!

10. The Giver Who Did Not Count the Cost—Mary, who gave lavishly of the gifts of love.

—Roy F. Miller

CONTROLS

You cannot control the length of your life, but you can control its width and depth. You cannot control the contour of your countenance, but you can control its expression.

You cannot control the other fellow's opportunities, but you can grasp your own.

You cannot control the weather, but you can control the moral atmosphere which surrounds you.

You cannot control the distance that your head shall be above the ground, but you can control the height of the contents of your head.

You cannot control the other fellow's faults, but you can see to it that you yourself do not develop or harbor provoking propensities.

Why worry about things you cannot control? Why not get busy controlling the things that depend on you?

—Highway of Happiness

True riches are made, not of abundance of what you possess, or which too often possess you, but in the godly use of your all, whether great or small.

From The Field

Newport, C. C.

Dear Worker in Christ:

It is with God's help that we again send to you a small gift for foreign missions. We know that it isn't much, but we send it with our prayers that God will bless you all that are doing His Work.

I think I told you this before, but if I haven't I would like for you to know that we here at Holly Spring Free Will Baptist League have put aside to give each quarter 10 percent of our offering, praying that it may be of help to you.

We also have a Missionary Prayer Band here at our league and each Sunday night, before we have our program, we have prayer for our missionaries. Sometime we pray for some special one and sometime for all the missionaries; always we pray that God will bless and take care of them as they go about doing His work.

I know that each month I get a letter from the mission board telling us all about things you are doing, but I was wondering if maybe there were some special things that we might be praying for in our prayer for in our prayer band? So if you would let us know about some of these things we would like to have prayer about them at different times in our prayer band.

We will be praying always for you who are working there at the board and may God bless you.

Yours in Christ,
Alice Dean Quinn

Abashiri City,
Hokkaido, Japan

Dear Bro. Riggs:

Just a note to let you know that we have arrived safely in our new home and we are busy trying to get settled back down to normal living.

We managed to rent a very good cement block house and at very reasonable rent so we are thankful for that.

We are trying to get ready for winter. They say it is quite severe here. A jacket feels quite comfortable even now.

The town has forty-two (42) thousand people with really no witnesses. There is a Catholic Church and an Episcopal Church. None of the towns around have any witness of any kind. This morning we attended the Episcopal Church. The church has been here forty (40) years and there were only ten (10) people in atten-

dance. There was very little gospel presented in the service. It seemed almost to be a mockery of the true gospel. But the pastor is very friendly and speaks English. He studied in Philadelphia.

There is really a great harvest field here for us to work in. Please pray that the Lord will give us strength to do the job well. Also, please pray that He will raise up workers and helpers for us.

Our first impressions of this town are fine. I'm sure we are going to be happy here. I'm sorry but our address is different from what I sent you before. It is:

Wesley Calvery

19 Shin Machi
Abashiri Shi
Hokkaido, Japan

Dear Bro. Riggs:

I received your letter today in regard to a church over here, and I was very glad to get it. I had just received one from Rev. George W. McLain from Campbell, Calif.

We have the Youth For Christ group started here; in fact, it has been going two years now, but we are working with it and have been since we have been here in Germany. There are several such groups in this part of Germany and we are seeing many souls saved through them. We have been allowed the opportunity to preach to the different groups and find that there is a lot of the young people here who have an earnest desire to find the Lord and to worship Him in the Spirit.

As to the beginning of a Free Will Baptist Church here, there is nothing that I would enjoy more because I believe that we must work while it is day and help all we can to win the lost to the Lord. There are several denominations here, among them Southern Baptists and the Church of Christ. Then, of course, there is the Lutheran Church which is the most prominent one here.

I do not know how we could go about trying to establish a church here, but I am sure that it could be done, and I am willing, in fact, I would be pleased, to do anything that I can to help this work because I have been called into the ministry, and I must do all that I can to promote the Gospel and win lost souls to Him.

There is one way that might gain an entrance for us to work in and that is this: We have retreats here that are held every week and these Corp. by mostly civilian ministers. If we could get one of our ministers

from the States here to preach one of the retreats, then we might be able to find out if we can organize a church and how. I will be glad to do all that I can to help. I will endeavor to find out any information I can about the retreats and just how the ministers are selected and if I can get any information I will send it to you. I am interested in getting the tracts "The Free Will Baptist Church History, Doctrine, and Information" that the Home Mission Board put out. Can you give me information on them?

Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain yours in the Lord.

Sgt. B. C. Hutchison, Jr.

Dear Bro. Riggs:

Enclosed you will find a check for \$10.00 which we wish to be used as half-support of a missionary student in Cuba.

This is from the Woman's Auxiliary of the First Free Will Baptist Church here in Portsmouth, Virginia. The women have voted to take as a project the half-support of a missionary student in Cuba.

We pray that this will be used for this purpose and pray that the Lord's blessings be upon them in the winning of many souls.

The Lord helping us, you will be hearing from us every month.

Pray for us. We need the prayers of the Christian people.

In His service,

Mrs. E. V. Welton, Pres.
110 Detroit Street,
Portsmouth, Corginia

CREDITABLE OCCUPATION

Teachers we know may well find a moral in this report, and a suggestion on how to occupy their vacation time.

From the Hillside, N. J. Times, comes the story of the teacher who supplements his salary by operating a bulldozer during vacations. Not long ago he made an application for credit to purchase a home, stating he was a teacher.

It was turned down.

The teacher resubmitted the application, this time putting his occupation as bulldozer operator.

The application was promptly approved.

—Watchman Examiner

Man tries to hitch God to his little home-made wagon while God stands by pleading that we be willing for Him to hitch us to His mighty conquering chariot.

Woman's Auxiliary

THE LOVE OF GOD

Gussie Hamblen

"But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him." (I John 2:5) We would be of all men most miserable, in this sinful world, if it were not for the love of God. This love of God in our hearts should cause us to speak to the unsaved about their lost condition.

Jesus said, "Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled." (Luke 15:23) If the unsaved miss heaven they will have missed everything worth while. But Jesus with His great love is saying, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28).

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world, the love of the Father is not in him." (I John 2:15). The people that wear the name of the Lord Jesus should love the Father. If we love him we will not be sleeping on the job and living a self-satisfied, unholy and selfish life. We should be putting forth a greater effort to bring the lost to Christ and living a close consecrated life every day of the week. We should love the brethren, "Hereby preceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." (I John 2:16.)

The love of God in our hearts makes us happy. The Lord makes us sit in heavenly places on earth. Praise the Lord for the heavenly places at our National and State Association. God's love will sustain us when sorrow and disappointment come. Let us look to Him for the Bible says "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1)

Let us live the very best we can on this earth, visit the aged, sick, and the widows and orphans in their affliction and occupy until Jesus comes again.

May the Lord bless and keep you happy in his service.

RICHWOODS AUXILLIARY

Dear Co-Workers:

We are a faithful few working for the Lord and trying to win the lost. We would like to report some of the things we are doing.

We gave a bake sale and the proceeds went for the purchasing of a power mower for our parsonage as we have one acre of ground to keep mowed. We, also, had a social to help build a couple of class rooms and work shop combined.

We meet each Tuesday evening at the church and pray and plow and work. Pray for us at Richwoods.

—Cor. Sophia Ackerson

NORTHEAST MISSOURI AUXILIARY

Our District Auxiliary met Sept. 20 for a workshop at the home of Rev. Mildred Gilliam. There were twenty members present representing four Auxiliaries.

The meeting opened with singing. Prayer by Mrs. Nellie Craig.

The President Rev. Alta Mikel read Eph. 4 for Scripture reading. Prayer by Mrs. Blanch Matthews. The President read a letter from the State Corresponding Secretary, Oletha Parsons. The President then explained the duties of each officers.

It was decided to meet the 3rd Thursday each quarter, making Dec. 20th as date for next workshop.

After singing of hymn we were dismissed by the repeating of the Lord's Prayer.

Sec.-Treas.—Leona Thompson

NEOSHO AUXILIARY

The Neosho Auxiliary met at the church for their September meeting. Scripture text from John 16:7-15 was read by Mrs. Dorothy Childress and the lesson subject was "The Holy Spirit is Necessary for Such a Time as This."

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting. Those present were as follows: Mrs. Louise McCully, Mrs. Sarah Davidson, Mrs. Ella Pogue, Mrs. Eva Lucas, Mrs. Wilma Pogue, Mrs. Loretta Russell, Mrs. Virginia Pogue, and Mrs. Dorothy Childress. Benediction By Mrs. Dorothy Childress.

Christian remember: God's best is the least you have a right to ask for, expect or receive. The greatest child of God can get no more, and the least can have that much, and you are to be found somewhere between the least and the greatest.

Ten cents used to be big money—how dimes have changed.

QUARTERLY DISTRICT WORKSHOP OUTLINE

Fruitful Disciples

Our Need For Such A Time As This

"Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit, so shall ye be my disciples." (John 15:8)

9:30 A. M. Registration.

10:00 A. M. Hymns.

10:10 A. M. Greetings and Recognition of Auxiliaries and Visitors.

10:20 A. M. Meditations. "Chosen to Bear Fruit"—Jn. 15:16; II Peter 4:1-9.

10:30 A. M. "How To Make Our Prayer Seasons Fruitful" (Special plans for Pre-seasonal Weeks of Prayer)

10:45 A. M. "Hindrances to Fruit-bearing"—Matt. 13:1-23.

Solo—"Nothing But Leaves for the Master".

11:00 A. M. "More Fruit Through Better Stewardship".

11:15 A. M. "Glorifying the Father Through WNAC GOALS for 1957".

11:25 A. M. Duet—"Have I Done My Best For Jesus?"

Message—"Gathering Fruit unto Life Eternal", Jn. 4:36; Psa. 1:3.

12:00—Benediction.

1:30 P. M. Hymns.

1:45 P. M. Meditations—"The Fruit of the Spirit", Gal. 4:16-26.

(Flannelgraph may be used effectively)

2:00 P. M. Panel Discussion, "Have We Been Fruitful in Every Good Work?"

What gains have we made in personal spiritual growth? In strengthening the missions program in our churches? In reaching the lost of our community?

Are we better stewards in all Phases of life? Have we failed to hold some members in regular attendance? Why?

2:30 P. M. Film—"Passion for Souls" (Many be ordered from F.W.B. Foreign Mission Board)

3:00 P. M. Adjourn

Mrs. Paul Pursell,

Study Course Chairman WNAC

MONEY TALKS

The Disappointed Dollars

I wanted to go to China, but a little girl spent me for ice cream and candy.

I wanted to help preach the gospel in Africa, but a young man spent me in the movies.

I wanted to go to Moslem lands to tell of Christ, but a little boy spent me for popcorn and gum.

I was planning to help the ignorant women in India, but a lady spent me to go to the theater.

A little girl gave me for Missions, but the church board borrowed me for current expenses and didn't pay me back.

I wanted to help build a chapel in the Philippines, but a deacon spent me for cigars.

An Elder had me and I wanted to go to Japan, but the Elder said, "A quarter isn't enough," and put me in his stuffy old pocket book.

We are so disappointed! We wanted to do some good in the world. We are heart broken because we cannot go. Won't you people who love the Lord and love those for whom Christ died, be sure next time to put us in the offering, so we can help tell of Jesus all over the world?

The Happy Joyous Dollar

I am going to buy twenty New Testaments for China.

I am going across the ocean to support a student in a mission school one week in India.

I am going to the Philippines to help print Christian literature.

I am on my way to Japan to help run a Christian kindergarten.

I will supply Christian books for ten pupils in a day school in India.

I will support a native evangelist for a week in Africa.

I will pay the rent for a chapel for two weeks in South America.

I will give the Mohammedans two thousand one-leaf tracts in Moslem lands.

—Kings Highway

REVIVALS

Place—South Side F.W.B. Church, St. Louis, Mo.

Time—October 21st, thru Nov. 4.

Evangelist—Rev. Luther Gibson, East Tupelo, Miss.

Pastor—Rev. W. A. Hales, St. Louis, Mo.

EVANGELICAL CHURCHES TO OBSERVE "NAE WEEK"

Wheaton, Ill.—"NAE Week" will be observed in evangelical churches throughout America October 21-28. The theme, "Spiritual Unity in Action," will emphasize the work of the National Association of Evangelicals in promoting the evangelical cause.

The work of the NAE with the American Institute of Planners in assuring evangelical churches the right to secure building sites in new or re-developed communities is just one of the many reasons why Bible-believing churches should back the NAE in every way possible.

The National Association of Evangelicals provides the voice for 10 million Christians in many denominations and churches. Through its agencies such as the National Sunday School Association, Evangelical Foreign Missions Association, Commission on Chaplains and the Washington Office of Affairs, many services have been rendered to Free Will Baptists.

Free Will Baptist churches planning to observe "NAE Week" should write to their regional office or the headquarters office at 108 N. Main St., Wheaton, Ill., for free material, including bulletin covers or inserts, descriptive folders, offering envelopes and a pastor's handbook of information.

—Contact

BERKELEY CRUSADERS FOR CHRIST

The Crusaders for Christ met in their regular meeting with thirty one present. Mr. Ned Templeton, of the Southside Church spoke on the subject, "Talents of Christian Youth." Following an inspiring message, Edwin Hill sang "The Man in the Gap," which was written by Mr. Templeton.

In the business transaction plans were made to hold a "Crusaders for Christ Youth Rally," and invite all the youth from the four Free Will Baptist Churches in St. Louis.

We are proud of our new church bulletin board we purchased.

Our new officers for the coming year are as follows: President—Marilyn Coulter; Vice President—Dorothy Robertson; Sec.-Treas.—Shirley Cantrell; Asst. Sec.-Treas.—Virginia Eads; Sponsor—Mrs. Lee DeWitt.

We, Crusaders, are proud of one of our faithful members, Miss Glenda Barks, who is a student in our Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville.

As young people we desire the prayers of all those who read the Gem that we may grow in spirit and in love and help other young people to know the Lord and enjoy his many blessings.

SOUTH SIDE CHURCH OBSERVES RALLY DAY

South Side Church in St. Louis held its annual Rally Day services on Sunday, September 16th, with an attendance of 380 in Sunday School. Mr. James Langley, General Superintendent, extended a cordial welcome to the large attendance which included several former members, and a host of friends. The Harmony Boys Quartet of Metropolis, Ill., were present and rendered several numbers during the day. Rev. Don Hill, a student at the Free Will Baptist College, Nashville, Tenn., taught the combined Sunday School classes of the Adult Department, and our pastor Rev. W. A. Hales delivered the morning message.

A picnic lunch was served on the ground by the ladies of the church at the noon hour.

The afternoon services began at 1:30 P. M. with the quartet singing several numbers. There were talks by Rev. Harvey Hill, founder and former pastor of the church, and others.

The days program came to a close with an evangelistic service conducted by the pastor at 7:45 P. M.

Cor.—Mrs. Bob Denman

REVERSE MAKES IT WORSE

A parishioner called at the clergyman's home. Presently the minister's little son went up to the visiting lady and blurted, "My, how ugly you are."

Horried, his mother remonstrated, "Johnny! Whatever can you mean by saying such a thing?"

"I only meant—meant it for a joke, Mother," Johnny stammered.

"Well," his mother purred unwittingly, "How much better the joke would have been if you had said to Mrs. Smith, 'How pretty you are!'"

—Gospel Herald

Are you living for wants or needs? Most Americans run themselves to death getting or wanting what they do not need. You can read their character by the furrows that time has chiseled on their faces. Live right, think right, and the furrows will reflect only beauty.

Success is giving God your best.

REVIVALS IN ARKANSAS AND LOUISIANA

I bring you good news from our work in Louisiana and Arkansas.

The Immanuel Church at Park Dale, Ark., had a revival in July with fourteen souls saved.

In Lake Charles, La., we have a new mission work. Eld. Malcolm C. Fry reported they needed a larger building and that many souls are being saved.

I perceive the Lord has a great work for the Free Will Baptist in Louisiana and I am praying that all the Free Will Baptist will arise and shine, lest another fulfil the purpose for which we are called.

Should any want to help the church at Lake Charles, Eld. Malcom Fry's address is: 2007 Third Street, Lake Charles, La.

The revival at Hillview began July 11. Messages were brought by Eld. Hershell Sharpton. One night a man in his late forties was saved, he confessed that he had been saved, but had let the love of money lead him away.

On Monday night our evangelist, Eld. R. G. Webb, began preaching in the revival. Souls were saved on Tuesday night and throughout the meeting. There were twenty souls saved, fifteen were baptized and thirteen additions to the church.

Yours in Christ,
Bertha Chappell

HURRYVILLE CHURCH

Our work here is doing very well. Souls have been saved the past nine months.

The walls of our basement are 40 feet by 60 feet.

As pastor, I feel unworthy and helpless, but we are asking for every church in the state to pray that our church will be a soul saving station.

Rev. O. T. Allred, our State Moderator, will conduct a revival from Sept. 24 thru 30th and we are looking for great things to be accomplished.

Pastor, C. H. Moyers

FLAT RIVER, FIRST, MO.

We are very proud of our kitchen in the new annex of our church. Tuesday nights have been designated as work nights. On those nights the men work on the new annex and the ladies prepare a fellowship dinner.

The League of the church has a membership drive on, called "The Order of the Silver Spoon." It has aroused much interest in the league. At the termination of the drive they

have planned a banquet for the entire League. Mr. Dale Blakeley is President of the League and Mr. Ralph Dees is Vice-President.

—Mrs. Dale Blakeley, Cor.

KIRKSVILLE, FIRST, MO.

Upon the resignation of the Rev. Lester Jones, which was effective, August 1, Rev. Woodrow Matthews was called as pastor of our church, assuming the pastorate August 19. Rev. Matthews, his wife, and little son, Gary, have established their residence at 502 W. Elizabeth Street. We thank God for sending us this kind servant of the Lord, and pray for God's divine leadership in the work here.

September 30 will be the third anniversary of the organization of our church with thirty-two charter members. We now have eighty members with an average of over one hundred in Sunday School.

We have lost three members by death. We were saddened by the loss of our senior deacon, Mr. Oscar Peterson, on August 29. He was seventy-seven years of age and worked tirelessly during the construction of the church building. We shall miss his Godly council.

We have a faithful group of young people. They have been praying for a prayer room to be established in our High School. This request has been granted. We trust other schools might follow this example.

We ask an interest in the prayers of the Gem readers that the Lord's work may prosper.

Effie Dare, Cor.

MIDLAND, TEXAS

Our church, with the Rev. A. L. Hudson as pastor, is moving along nicely. We recently had seven additions to the church and one waiting for baptism. We, also, have good Sunday School and prayer meeting attendance.

We have painted the inside of the church and now painting the outside.

Also, our Woman's Auxiliary is doing a wonderful work under the leadership of sister A. L. Hudson as President.

THIRD CHURCH, ST. LOUIS, MO.

We sponsored a D.V.B.S. in August which was a great success. Our attendance was very good with one hundred and forty nine for two weeks. The offering went to Rev. and Mrs. Carlisle Hanna, our missionaries to India.

We, also, had been praying for a revival. Twelve souls were saved during our preparation for the revival, thirteen were saved in the revival conducted by the Rev. Teddy Davis, and one as saved on Sunday night after the close of the revival.

In October we are beginning the building of a new church. We thank God for our building program and our pastor and wife, Rev. and Mrs. John Rogers, who have worked so hard in our building program.

Mary Regh, Cor.

PROTESTANT PERSECUTION IN SOUTH AMERICA

Destruction of churches. 47 churches and chapels have been destroyed by fire and dynamite, and many other buildings used by Protestant congregations have been damaged.

Protestant Schools closed. Since 1948 over 200 Protestant primary schools have been closed, most of them by government order. With an adult illiteracy rate of 44 percent in Columbia the government's short-sighted repression of Protestant education has aggravated an already alarming school deficiency.

Protestants killed. 75 Columbian Protestants, men, women, and children, have been murdered because of their religious faith during the 8½ years of persecution.

Churches closed. The Minister of Government, Jesuit-trained Dr. Luico Pabon Nunez, has ordered the closing of scores of Protestant churches. Since January 1, 1956, he has closed over 40 churches. Thousands of Protestant Christians in the Mission Territories of Columbia are meeting clandestinely in houses and fields to worship God according to their conscience, in spite of Dr. Pabon Nunez' orders.

We would do well to remember these persecuted Christians in prayer during these days. Surely we are living in the end of time and our redemption draweth nigh. Let us hasten the Word to as many as possible while we have time.

Raymond Riggs

All too often the attitude of the average American professing Christian is: I like this thing for me, I'll get it for me, I'll keep it for me, I'll use it for me; and he fails to hear the heathen as he cries, "Carest thou not that we perish?" or "No man careth for my soul!"

It is not where you are, but where your vision is that counts.

MT. ZION CHURCH**Gower, Mo.**

Dear Gem Readers:

We have made a basement 30 by 30 feet which we intend to use for Sunday School rooms. We lack the steps to the outside entrance and also the wiring.

We are having our annual Harvest Sale, Oct. 13.

We have Sunday School every Sunday and preaching every first Sunday.
Mrs. Iona Perkins, Cor.

**"ALICE" STILL STEALING
MISSION CONVERTS IN AFRICA**

Alice, the self-styled prophetess who's been stealing converts from missionaries in Africa, has almost paralyzed the Christian Church in the Lubwa district of Rhodesia. This report was made during the Annual General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, meeting in Edinburgh this month.

The assembly was told by the Foreign Mission Committee that missionaries in Northern Rhodesia are "losing the battle to the strange new religion of Alice." They add that thousands of persons are tracking to hear and see the false prophetess, and that she has even inspired converts to build their own churches.

Alice—her real name is Lenshina Mulenga—is 32 years old. She claims to have a direct connection with God and insists that she died but God kept her from entering heaven, telling her instead to return to her own people. She warns them to give up witchcraft and repent of their sins. Alice also says that God told her there were two books; one for the whites and one for the blacks. And the black book was the right one. God speaks to her during a strange whistling. Missionaries watching her activities say she just steps behind a tree and blows a small instrument. The natives—ordered to bow their heads, are greatly impressed.

In 12 months 60,000 have listened and been baptized by Alice. And once changed to her loyalty, most natives refuse to change back to Christianity.

—From ERA

**WHAT KIND OF MEMBER
ARE YOU?**

Every pastor, sooner or later finds out that his church has several kind of members. Some are always a burden, and some are always a blessing.

1. Tired. These are members who will work if they are begged to do so, but as they work they will com-

plain until there is no joy in their service. They are tired of service, not in it.

2. Retired. These are convinced that they have done their part and they no longer participate in caring on the church program. They are the "Let George Do It" kind.

3. Rubber tired. These expect everything to be made smooth for them.

4. Flat tired. These once did a fine job, but they have suffered a puncture which causes them to lack something on the inside to hold them up.

5. Spirit fired. These never get over the amazing grace of God in Christ shown to them. In loving gratitude they yield themselves each to the mastery of the Holy Spirit that Christ may be glorified in the church.

—Missouri Baptist

Let your faith cling to the God of all,
As ivy clingeth to the garden wall.

Let your light shine as the morning sun,
Let your daily prayer be, Thy will be done.

Let your heart seek the truth of His word,
Let your mind remember the message you heard.

Let your daily walk be at His side,
Let the Christian know the Church is His Bride.

Let your thoughts turn away from all worldly care,
Let much time be spent in fervent prayer.

Let your eye be watchful for His return,
Let the Holy Spirit lead you as these lessons you learn.

—Christine Shaner

REASONS FOR TITHING

Beulah Corgan

It is usually quite easy to assent to the principles of stewardship in general terms. The problems arise when we become specific in our application. However, if the principle is true, the application must necessarily follow. No apology need be made for urging the practice of tithing upon every true Christian. The giving of money is important to the man of his own spiritual good and to the church for the good of the Kingdom.

People sometimes argue that they do not wish to be bound by mathematical rules in their Christian giving. They wish to give only as they are led by the Spirit. This reminds one of the inexperienced bride who does not wish to follow the rigid rules of a

cookbook, but expects her great love for her husband to be her only guide in baking an angel food cake for him.

Robert Speer has outlined a number of reasons for tithing, from which we have adopted the following:

1. Before the Law, Abraham tithed. Under the Law, the Jews tithed. To do less under grace would be a disgrace.

2. Men need a practical principle like this to make sure that stewardship is a reality in their lives.

3. God does not need the tithe, but he needs the tither. Man needs tithing for his own good.

4. Tithing helps protect us from the perils of money worship.

5. Our Lord approved a tithe in his commendation to the Jews of their diligence. (See Matthew 23:23.)

6. The tithe provides a sure way of securing regularly for God's use the money needed for the extension of the Kingdom. It can bring that much-prayed-for expansion and the outreach of the church; first, because it will develop the church spiritually; and second, because it will act as wings to carry God's truth to the ends of the earth.

7. In addition to its good results, it is fundamentally right. The Jews of old were called robbers when they withheld the tithe. What would be the charge against Christians today who withhold from God what belongs to him? Tithing is not merely the giving of a fraction of our income. It is a token of our acknowledgment that God owns all. It is not so much the discharge of an obligation, as the recognition of one. The tithe is the reasonable minimum. It should be the floor of our giving, not the ceiling.

—General Baptist Messenger

WORLD'S HOTTEST FURNACE

A Washington announcement says the air force is to use the sun for energy to fire the hottest furnace "known to exist in the world today."

The projected solar furnace, which is to be built in the Sacramento mountains of New Mexico, is to use mirrors to attain temperatures of some seven to eight thousand degrees Fahrenheit. Such terrific heat, it was stated, is needed to advance research and testing of materials for use in high speed, high altitude aircraft, and for duplicating the heat effects of nuclear weapons.

—Christian Observer

If you live with less than eternity's values uppermost, you don't live.

I Speak For Christian Citizenship

This letter was written by Joyce Miller of Louisville, Kentucky, for the Christian Endeavor Citizenship Contest. She received the highest award in Division A in Kentucky on the basis of this letter and her citizenship activities. Joyce who is 17, is a Senior in Valley High School and a member of the Cane Run General Baptist Church.

A Letter To My Congressman....

Dear Congressman:

Good citizenship must be lived in order for our communities to function rightly. Yet without Christ in our lives, living it becomes a chance. We may act rightly by accident, but we are far more likely to do so if, as a child, we were taught that "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God," and "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Each of us has a place in the life of our community, and the community will reach its possibilities only as each member of it reaches up to his own opportunities for service and achievement.

If the home is the first community that we know, it is likely to be first in importance to us. Surely, There must be habits and ideals established whose influences will reach far beyond the four walls of the house. Conditions that make our home life will usually creep out as a child's life begins to mature.

There is a big difference between a house and a home. A house is made of bricks, perhaps; a home, of love. Here is where we are or should be taught to be of service to others, to make sacrifices for others' comfort, and to respect their rights. Daily devotions of prayer and Bible reading in the home will help each member of the family to recognize the love of God, and what his love can do for each individual if they will only accept it. A family bound together with love for each other, love for the one who gave his life for them, daily readers of His Word, and constant companions with Christ would be an ideal home.

People as a rule do not have to work so long or so hard as they once did. They have more time for amusement and recreation than ever before. What are they going to do with this spare time? I think, Mr. Congressman, that this may depend upon the Christian citizen. A Christian young person can lead in good recreation. Sometimes there are activities in which a

sincere Christian cannot participate; then he must try to get other recreation started to help the others see his reason for always wanting to please Christ.

Our churches today play a great part in keeping our country under control. There are many leadership jobs in the church for Christian adults. Some churches support summer camps, Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, and other entertainment under favorable conditions, rather than turn young people out into the streets to the harmful places that are so attractive to young people.

There isn't a happier time in an individual's life than while he is young. There are some young people who aren't happy, tho. The unhappy youth is usually one who follows Satan and participates in the worldly habits and so-called enjoyment.

Some youth use narcotics, but a Christian never thinks of purposely harming his body. "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." (I Corinthians 3:17)

Liquor is the father of crime, the husband of heartache and bitter tears, the brother of adultery and sensuality and the uncle of poverty and disease. A Christian knows that liquor is a thief and will take his judgment, self-respect, character, health, home, loved ones, money, and eventually life. Liquor is death in solution. A Christian values his life and should never touch it.

The principle of gambling is that of getting something for nothing. Gambling, invariably is found with worldly habits and sinful people. For a Christian to gamble would identify him with such things. And for one whose heart is fixed on the Lord Jesus, this is unthinkable.

The words "brotherly love" remain but words to the ordinary person. It is only the Christian who actually puts them into practice. No matter the race, color, or creed a Christian has love for everyone. Everyone—white, black, red, or yellow—should have the opportunity to make the most of himself, and people of different races should work hand in hand for the well-being of our entire country.

Each citizen of our country has a large responsibility in making a good government. Every Christian citizen should vote in order that our government might be led by Christians and so that our laws, which regulate people's actions, will be those suited for a Christian Citizen. Without the help

of every Christian Citizen our country could easily become a failure. At the present, our country, is a wonderful place to live. Our laws are designed in such a way that a Christian can have freedom of worship and live a very enjoyable life with other people. Let us not forget to praise God for our country. We never want to see it under Communism. Our country could easily fail as other's have done if we do not do our part to support good Christian citizenship.

Mr. Congressman, our government has done much to keep our country under control, but without the Christian citizens who make up our churches, this country would be a failure.

Sincerely Yours,

Joyce Miller

—General Baptist Messenger

A SINGING HEART

Frank Brosend

How often does your heart sing? Do you have a singing heart? "San-Lou had traveled home for her vacation. On the way she had contracted cholera. How grateful she was for the Christian Hospital near her home, and for the Christian doctors who knew what to do.

The day she was to leave the hospital she was heard singing softly to herself, "Lord, I thank you for healing me, in my heart." She kept repeating the words to her refrain, "Lord, I thank you for healing me, in my heart."

Her experience had proved to her that God was always present with power to meet her needs. Her song was proof of her new appreciation of God's loving care.

Does your heart sing because of God's love, goodness, mercy, and saving grace that surrounds you?

Like the wings of a bird, Christian opportunity and obligation work together and life is perfect; but when either fails, we are doomed for a tailspin.

USE WHAT YOU HAVE

(Continued from page 3)

tant to the advancement of His cause. You will never be happy unless you find your place of service for Him. If you just have one talent and it seems small and useless to you, let God have it and use it for His glory. Don't be embarrassed as this man was who hid his talent when you come before God. Young person I urge you to "Use What You Have" for the glory of God.