

Grider, John CP55
Rt. 2 Box 117
Greenfield, Mo. 65661

**FEBRUARY
1968**

FREE WILL BAPTIST

THE VOICE OF MISSOURI
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Gem

The GOOD SHEPHERD



The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. Psa. 23:1

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM
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Bud Hill
3100 Mt. Pleasant Ave.
St. Louis, Missouri
63111

Editorial

AN OPEN LETTER TO LAYMEN

Our pastor recently preached on the
passage of scripture found in Galatians 1:
6-24 and exhorted us as to our respon-
sibility as laymen in keeping the preach-
ing of the Word pure. This message has
caused me to look at our own demoni-
nation and its lay members and it prompted
me to write this article. Is it possible
that our ministers would preach a gospel
other than that which is in the Word of
God? I say it is possible! This is where
our responsibility as laymen comes in, as
found in Gal. 1: 8, and the Apostle Paul
thought it was important enough to repeat
it again in verse 9.

Do we as Free Will Baptists have any
ties with the liberal churches of our day?
Sorry to say, I feel in some areas we
do. What about co-operative evangelism?
What about Ministerial Alliances which are
composed mostly of liberal ministers and
usually are under their control? What about
some of the so-called evangelical move-
ments, which are becoming more liberal
from day to day? The Apostle Paul made
it rather plain in II Cor. 6: 14-18 what
he thought about such things as this and we
as Free Will Baptists don't exclude this
passage of Scripture from our Bibles, so
I don't think we should exclude it from
our practices. In our Free Will Baptist
Treatise we accept the Word of God as
the only sufficient rule of faith and prac-
tice, so I think we should do as the Word
says.

Concerning the preaching of the Gospel,
the danger of our ministers not proclaim-
ing the true Word from the pulpits is of
grave importance in keeping our demoni-
nation fundamental. Does your pastor
preach a social gospel that pleases men?
If he does, Paul tells us in Gal. 1: 10
that he's not a servant of Christ. Your
pastor is not to compromise and allow
unholy living among the flock, over which
the Holy Ghost hath made him overseer.
Does your minister base his message on
God's Word or by quoting some liberal
religious leader of our day? Does his
message consist of what he has heard
some radio speaker such as Herbert W.
Armstrong say, what he has read in

some commentary or magazine published
by liberals under the name of Christianity,
or does his message consist of Biblical
truths which he has received by prayer
and Bible study and by the revelation of
Jesus Christ? (Gal. 1: 12; II Tim. 2: 15)
I hope you don't get the idea that I think
radio programs and commentaries are all
bad, as I think there are some very good
ones, with the exception of the above type,
and I think the good programs and litera-
ture deserve our prayer and cooperation.

I read a book recently by J. Gresham
Machen, entitled "Christianity and
Liberalism," a book which I think all lay-
men and ministers of our Free Will Bap-
tist denomination should read. It said the
following concerning liberalism and what
our attitude should be toward Christian
education: "Modern liberalism in the
church, whatever judgement may be passed
upon it, is at any rate no longer an aca-
demic matter. It is no longer a matter
merely of theological seminaries or uni-
versities. On the contrary its attack upon
the fundamentals of Christian faith is being
carried on vigorously by Sunday School
'lesson helps', by the pulpit, and by the
religious press. If such an attack be un-
justified, the remedy is not to be found, as
some devout persons have suggested, in the
abolition of theological seminaries, or the
abandonment of scientific theology, but
rather a more earnest search after truth
and a more loyal devotion of it when once
it is found." I might add here that the dan-
ger of a lack of education is very real
to the laymen as well as the ministers
concerning the fundamentals of Christ-
ianity, in that we might guard against
being brain-washed into liberalism without
realizing it.

I will say in closing, if you love your
denomination you will not allow us to
drift into liberalism. Some of the present
liberal churches a decade ago were Bible-
believing churches. Who is responsible for
them being liberal today, the ministers or
laymen? Read Gal. 1: 6-24 again and you'll
see who is to blame.

Vernon E. Long
1st Free Will Baptist Church
Festus, Mo.

Free Will Baptist Gem

NEWS OF THE MISSION FIELDS

Dear Friend,

The Carnival is in full swing here. When I say swing, I really do mean swing. Steel drum parades, crowds on the streets all night long, and the smell of sour rum hangs heavy in the night air.

We enjoyed a wonderful fellowship dinner the other night (Christmas) at the home of Dr. Wook Suh. He and Dr. Kuan were very gracious hosts.

Please pray for the following individuals by name as we are seeking to win and influence them for Christ.

1. Dr. Evangelista (M.D.)
2. Gloria Valdez (Filipino R.N.) and other Orientals
3. Don and Esther Ferguson
4. Dr. Manabo (M.D.)
5. Eleanor Butiong (a fine Christian but needs spiritual development and strength to be an effective witness.)
6. Many others with whom we come in contact every day.

There is a possibility that we may help in starting a prayer meeting or a service of some sort in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Brother Willis and I talked about the possibility last week. Please pray that God will open the door of service in this Caribbean capitol.

We are making fine progress for God has richly blessed our work. We are so appreciative for your support this past year. We are looking forward to greater heights for the new year.

Our New Year's resolution is, with the Apostle Paul, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3: 14)

In Christ,
Larry, Wanda and boys
The Powells

MEETING THE CHALLENGE

December, 1967

Dear Friends,

The past few months have been very busy for us, as usual. November 20 is a holiday here, so the banks were closed. On this night the Tampico mission was robbed. Since the money could not be deposited in the bank, everything was lost. The league money, the church tithes, and the money that Arthur had left on November 19 to pay the lawyer to fix the deed on the property. Besides this, all the personal things of our pastor and family were stolen. We do not know what was done to the pastor and family, but they did not wake up until almost noon the next day, and then to find everything gone. The money alone was a little over \$100.00 American dollars. Therefore, Arthur has had to make several trips there, in fact he is gone now to take them some food, clothing and etc., that has been given them. Remember them in prayer, they were barely getting started and this was quite a shock.

My mother is here visiting us, it is the first time in four years. She will only be here about two weeks, so the children are really enjoying Grandma.

Now I come to the part of the letter where words seem so useless. It seems that the right words just don't come. I cannot tell you how we felt this month when we received our account sheet from the office in Nashville. I looked at it and could not hold back the tears of joy. You are indeed a wonderful people. Your response to our need was a real answer to prayer. For the past months our monthly income had been an average of about \$600.00, and it takes \$800.00 to cover present expenses. But we

felt you did not know the need, and once you did, God would speak to your hearts and you would respond. With so many needs we feel sure it was a real sacrifice to give. The work here belongs to God and I know you truly love Him and want to see the work continue. Many of you have been faithful all through the years. We have begun our tenth year of ministry here in Mexico. The task has just begun. It is not the amount that counts, but the faithfulness. May He repay you a hundred fold. We cannot repay you. We can only say "THANKS" and try in our weak way to be a good and faithful servant to God, and your Free Will Baptist representative in Mexico.

I have a very special praise item this month. I have just undergone another series of tests, and for the first time since August 1963, all tests came out negative. This is truly a miracle. My doctor had told me I had a chronic case of amibas. So we do truly praise God for these results. We want you to join with us in praising God for this. After being sick so long, even I, sometimes feel it cannot be true that I feel so well and can do all that I have to do.

Please accept our thanks for your prayers, and your financial support during this past year. There is much to be done and so little time to work. Remember the prayer requests that we have given from time to time. God bless you is our prayer.

Your Missionaries,
The Five Billows
NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS FOR 1967
State 1967 Quota
VIRGIN ISLAND REPORT
By Larry Powell

We praise the Lord for what He has done here in St. Croix in just three months. Today, we had 26 present in our Sunday worship service - sixteen of these were adults. We had two doctors and two R.N.'s present. Also in the congregation were German, Puerto Rican, Irish, a British West Indian from the island of Montserrat, a Korean and a Filipino girl along with local islanders.

This past week I was able to lead a Puerto Rican of Catholic background to Christ. This week I will make two new contacts. These men are doctors in the local hospital. One of them has already expressed interest in our services.

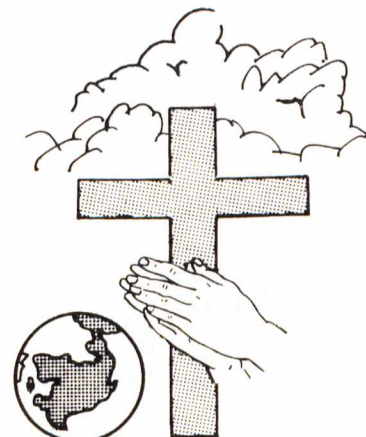
Also on my list this week to see and witness to are three people from the Philippine Islands. Wanda and I have been visiting them often. Pray that we will be granted special wisdom in dealing with them. Some of our Bible terminology doesn't register with them at all.

There is a tremendous challenge here. Today the population of St. Croix is 24,000 and in eight to ten years the population of the Virgin Islands is expected to reach 90,000. Pray that God will enable us to reach many of these precious souls.

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Home and Foreign



NEWS FROM OUR COLLEGES

December 14, 1967

AN OPEN LETTER TO MISSOURI FREE WILL BAPTISTS:

Dear Friends,

All of us who labor for Christ on the campus of FWBCC greatly rejoice at the way our people are rallying behind the current program of development. Many gifts are unusual and significant and deserve public recognition. When a progressive state with its own "irons in the fire" and pressing needs takes from its treasury a sizeable sum to invest in a National cause it is noteworthy.

This you have graciously seen fit to do. Just a few days ago your check for \$1,000.00 reached my office. It was my privilege to attend your state meeting when the motion was made that such a gift be made. There was not one dissenting vote so that in a real sense this is a gift from all of you. Words are not adequate to express our appreciation. I trust that as ministers, missionaries and other Christian workers go from this campus to serve our Lord their lives will be a source of blessing and inspiration to you. You see, I consider your gift an investment in the lives of the sons and daughters of our denomination which will pay dividends until Jesus

FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE EXPANSION PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

GIVING BY STATES	November	Total to Date
Alabama	\$ 1,065.95	\$ 11,373.58
Arizona		101.48
Arkansas	1,080.00	7,733.03
California	398.07	659.07
Florida	2,052.30	12,537.31
Georgia	265.00	9,990.78
Hawaii		50.00
Idaho		20.00
Illinois	708.00	5,265.64
Indiana	190.00	4,137.79
Kansas		91.23
Kentucky		2,770.82
Maryland	25.00	285.00
Michigan	1,170.39	22,745.83
Mississippi	1,061.00	9,209.42
Missouri	1,115.00	9,904.40
Nebraska	3.00	4.00
New Jersey		25.00
New Mexico		18.00
New York	10.00	40.00
North Carolina	3,449.79	42,655.10
Ohio	178.00	11,938.53
Oklahoma	1,057.00	5,569.54
Oregon		50.00
Pennsylvania		25.00
South Carolina	2,701.40	13,098.13
Tennessee	7,759.91	47,279.35
Texas	64.25	17,074.53
Virginia	1,462.01	8,697.46
Washington	5.00	5.00
West Virginia	55.00	3,975.21
Foreign Missionaries	125.00	546.99
WNAC	25.00	271.82
Faculty & Students	125.00	6,405.82
Match Gifts	1,077.26	7,767.26
Special Gifts	305.35	18,876.94
TOTAL CASH GIFTS	\$27,533.68	\$281,199.06

comes.

It is commendable that your state work is so operated as to have the funds available for such a large gift. May God grant continued wisdom for your leadership.

In Him,

Evangelist Jack Paramore
Campaign Director

Dear Pastor:

Plans are being developed for the new dormitories at Oklahoma Bible College. Preliminary plans have been approved, and the architects are now working on the detailed drawings. We are thrilled over the prospect of having plenty of dormitory space next year.

The big task at hand right now is the sale of bonds. We have a three hundred thousand dollar issue of bonds which we need to sell as soon as possible. We find that people all across the country like to invest in bonds. We are enclosing prospectuses and brochures to explain the program. If you can interest your members or friends in this investment program, the College will greatly benefit and they will draw a good return on their money.

Return the enclosed prospect list if you can find those who are interested. If they know the amount they want and the maturity date, have them send a check and we will mail the bonds to them by registered mail. We appreciate your interest in the school. Pray for us each day.

Sincerely,

Dan L. Farmer,
Business Manager

Editors Note: See the Investment Bond Program Sheet found in this section. If interested in buying a bond, contact the college or one of the authorized agents.

UNPAID COMMITMENTS BY STATES

Alabama	\$ 5,455.15
Arkansas	6,025.75
California	581.93
Florida	3,240.00
Georgia	11,175.00
Illinois	1,558.14
Indiana	1,820.00
Kentucky	250.00
Michigan	17,634.02
Mississippi	3,950.00
Missouri	3,913.00
North Carolina	33,076.63
Ohio	4,376.00
Oklahoma	5,209.14
South Carolina	2,677.55
Tennessee	12,616.62
Texas	4,056.63
Virginia	10,318.47
West Virginia	85.00
Faculty & Students	1,940.00
TOTAL UNPAID COMMITMENTS	\$129,959.03

ONE THOUSAND CHURCH CAMPAIGN

66 - churches have responded with gifts of \$1,000 or more.

69 - additional churches have notified us of their plans to raise at least \$1,000.

Since August, 1965:

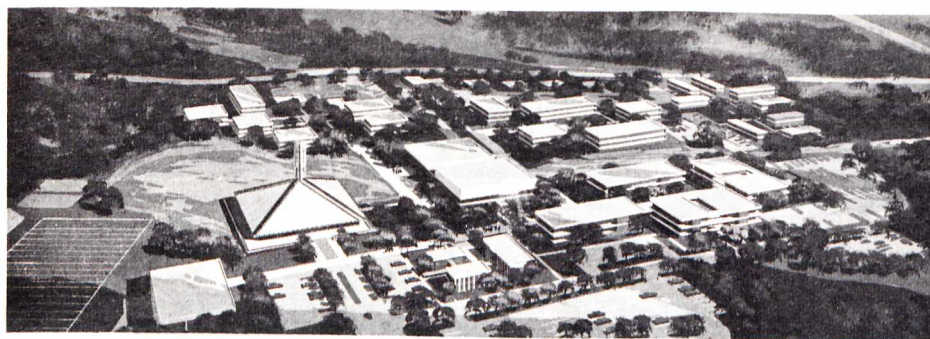
94 - \$1,000 gifts have been rec'd.

42 - gifts exceeding \$1,000 have been rec'd.

Total Cash rec'd 8/65 thru 11/67	\$281,199.06
Total Bonds and other assets	7,685.35
Total Unpaid Commitments	129,959.03
TOTAL	\$418,843.44

Oklahoma Bible College

INVESTMENT BOND PROGRAM



ARCHITECT'S VIEW OF THE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

Purpose Of Current Issue

To erect new Oklahoma Bible College campus buildings: two dormitories including space for residence for 60 men and 60 women students.

Security

These are first mortgage bonds. The land, new construction, and equipment will be valued at \$450,000.00. Besides the assets listed in the mortgage, the school also has other assets of an estimated value near \$250,000.00.

Description Of Bonds

Bearer bonds with interest payable at six per cent every six months by coupon. Denominations are \$250, \$500, and \$1,000.

Available Maturities

Bonds are available in the various denominations to mature annually from one to fourteen years. The first bonds mature in January, 1969; the last in July, 1982.

How An Investment Grows

The chart below will show you what an investment in Oklahoma Bible College bonds at 6% INTEREST will be worth in 10 years and 15 years, if you reinvest the interest in additional bonds yearly.

Amount Invested	Value in 10 Years	Value in 15 Years
\$2,000.00	\$ 3,612.22	\$ 4,854.55
4,000.00	7,224.44	9,709.10
6,000.00	10,836.66	14,563.65
8,000.00	14,448.88	19,418.20

YOU can more than DOUBLE your money in 15 years: INTEREST GUARANTEED!!!

What Is An Investment Program?

***Oklahoma Bible College investment bonds are interest bearing certificates issued by the College as a corporation, which binds it to pay a stated sum of money on or before the appointed time.

***They are bearer bonds, which means that the depository agent will pay to the person who presents the certificate at its appointed time the stated amount. No name or names appear on the bond to show its ownership. However, registration can be secured.

***The investment bonds are negotiable instruments and may be sold, traded, given away or deposited as collateral by the possessor without permission or consent of the College.

***The College will repay the face value of the bond in its stated maturity. However, it reserves the right to repay the face value of the bond at any prior interest-paying period regardless of the stated date of maturity. Interest will be paid to the bondholder until the interest date on which the bond has been called in for payment.

Financing Of Bonds

Those who have banking arrangements and bank credit already established may borrow from their own bank. Those who wish to avail themselves of the lending arrangements made with the Capitol Hill State Bank of Oklahoma City may contact one of our agents. Below is a loan pay-back schedule applicable to borrowing for the purchase of your College bond at Capitol Hill State Bank.

LOAN PAYBACK SCHEDULE

Net Amount Borrowed	Down Payment	Amount of Note	No. of Months	Monthly Payments Without Insurance	Monthly Payments With Insurance
\$ 250.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 238.50	12	\$19.87	\$20.09
250.00	25.00	245.25	18	13.62	13.85
250.00	25.00	252.00	24	10.50	10.74
\$ 500.00	50.00	477.00	12	39.75	40.18
500.00	50.00	490.50	18	27.25	27.70
500.00	50.00	504.00	24	21.00	21.48
\$1,000.00	100.00	954.00	12	79.50	80.35
1,000.00	100.00	981.00	18	54.50	55.41
1,000.00	100.00	1,008.00	24	42.00	42.96
1,000.00	100.00	1,035.00	30	34.50	35.52
1,000.00	100.00	1,062.00	36	29.50	30.58

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DECEMBER OFFERINGS TO

FOREIGN MISSIONS FROM MISSOURI

Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Neasby,	
Phillipsburg	12.00
Mr. & Mrs. Lester Barks, St. Louis	60.00
South Side FWB, St. Louis	85.00
Cooperative Plan	547.47
FWB Church, Cuba	6.00
New Harmony S.S., Greentop	21.32
Amity FWB, Niangua	27.50
Fourth FWB, St. Louis	10.00
Young People, Pleasant Ridge	
FWB, Alton	4.00
Rev. Woodrow Matthews, Raytown	10.00
Twin City FWB Auxiliary, Festus	30.00
Mr. Phillip Fry, Mt. Grove	8.00
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Smith, Monett	5.00
Nora Allen, Mt. Grove	25.00
Houston FWB	10.00
First FWB, Cape Girardeau	13.00
FWB, Berkeley	147.50
Mr. & Mrs. Eli Stephens, St. Louis	20.00
New Rock Springs, FWB, Cabool	20.00
Mr. & Mrs. Henry A. Jacobs,	
Fredericktown	5.00
Mr. Otha McCormack, Springfield	2.00
Victory FWB, Avondale	10.00
Myrtle FWB	49.47
Pleasant Ridge, FWB, Urbana	25.86
Hannon FWB, Liberal	25.60
Farmington FWB	10.00
First FWB, Fredericktown	40.00
Martinstown FWB, Worthington	25.00
FWB S.S., Buffalo	20.00
Verdella FWB, Liberal	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Glen D. Murray,	
Kansas City	50.00
Mr. Ronald E. Barr, Arnold	5.00
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Kelsey,	
Greentop	25.00
Rock Chapel, Mountain Grove	10.00
Cuba FWB	5.00
Grace FWB, Arnold	9.30
First FWB, Mt. Grove	108.00
Grace FWB, Arnold	9.30
Cope FWB, Hartsville	160.24
First Grade Girls, Vera Western,	
St. Louis	10.00
Aulsbury Chapel, Bonne Terre	32.50
Central FWB, Kansas City	167.38
Leadington FWB	23.00
Virgil Wischart, Myrtle	5.00
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd D. Aldridge,	
Grandview	11.00
Indian Creek Association	675.09
Alton FWB	10.15
Kirkville FWB	54.72
Mr. & Mrs. Archie Cooper,	
Kirkville	10.00
Parkview FWB, Desloge	25.00
First FWB, Springfield	28.00
Fourth FWB, St. Louis	10.00
Billy J. Miller, St. Louis	5.00
Laurine Maxwell, Cabool	2.00
Mr. Ronald E. Barr, Arnold	5.00
Oak Grove FWB, Cabool	11.00
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Crossgrove	5.00
Lowground FWB, Novinger	5.00
Rev. & Mrs. Clarence Mays,	
St. Ann	15.00
First FWB, Joplin	10.00
Rev. Miss Melba White, Gower	25.00
TOTAL	\$2,806.25

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ONE THING I DO

Phillipians 3: 13-14

Introduction: There are three parts to consider about this One Thing:

1. I forget the ground I have covered in the race: (I Cor. 9: 24-27). We need to forget about the mistakes we have made in the past. Every man that has ever lived, including the great evangelist Paul, has looked back over his life at one point or another, and wished for the opportunity to live his life over again. There are mistakes and fallacies in our lives we wish we could change. If it were possible for us, with our limited knowledge and power, to be able to undo all the wrongful things we have done, or recall all the hateful words we have spoken, I'm sure that all of us would be glad to set these things straight.

There is implanted within the heart of every child of God that ability to be sorry for our past acts of disobedience unto God, and our sinful attitudes one toward another. This quality in man is admirable in the sight of God. It is a necessity that we look back over our lives and recognize where we have failed God. Because, in recognizing our weaknesses, we can more thoroughly realize our total dependence upon God.

The Text in question does not imply that we should not take inventory of our past lives. On the contrary, in verses 4-7 of this same chapter, Paul reflects back over his own life, and dwells upon those things that once were of great importance to him. He points out, he has been victorious over these things through his relationship with Christ. Paul's past life was the greatest, positive, proof of his personal experience with Jesus Christ. A man who once had been a proud, stiffnecked Pharisee was now an humble Apostle of the Lord.

The Lesson that must be learned here is: Even though we realize we have failed God in the past, we should not allow those failures to impair the work that we are presently doing for Him.

We all have made mistakes, but God forbid that those same mistakes should hamper us from being a successful Christian in the future.

2. I reach forth to that which is before me in the race: I think here it might be well for us to remember one of "Aesop's Fables" concerning the race between the "Tortoise and the Hare". The Hare was overconfident. He spent too much of his time thinking back on the many races that he had already won, and how easily it would be to win this one also. Because of his overconfidence, he went to sleep on the job. The Tortoise, on the other hand, was interested only in the race he was running at this particular time. He didn't worry that he was "Four Miles" behind. He just kept plodding onward one step at a time. And eventually, this perseverance won for him the race.

We are running a race of great importance. It is a matter of life or death. The most important moment of our lives is not past or present, but "Now". May God help us to realize the importance of this race we are running, and may He give us the courage and conviction to run it with confidence and assurance. (Hebrews 12: 1-2)

Perhaps sometimes, we feel we are running a little behind, as we observe the World with all its pomp, glitter, and glory. But remember, when Jesus comes, they like the Hare are going to be found sleeping; we shall pass them by, and receive our reward in the presence of God and his Holy Angels. This alone should encourage us to keep plodding onward.

3. I press toward the mark for the Prize: That is, I pursue the white line in the Stadium upon which all runners must keep their eyes fixed, lest I be disqualified for the prize. "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain." (I Cor. 9: 24)

The main thought suggested here is:

no one receives a prize until they have first competed in the race. The fastest runner in the world cannot stand on the sidelines, refuse to run, and then expect the judge to award him a prize. He must prove himself qualified to have the prize by his ability in the race itself.

Unfortunately, we have too many Christians???? who are only spectators. They have no desire, or make no effort to get into the race, yet they expect God to award them the prize of eternal life, right along with those who have run faithfully in the race. Beloved, eternal life doesn't come that easily. It takes some concentrated effort on our part to get into the kingdom of God. (Matt. 7: 21-23) (Luke 13: 24). I am not suggesting that we can work our way into the Kingdom of Heaven. However, I am advocating complete surrender, obedience, and loyalty to His Word. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross DAILY, and follow me."

The prize is within easy reach of all of us. The race has been going on for nearly 2,000 years. It's not too late for you to get in if you really want to. Soon the race is going to be over for most of us. So, while we have the opportunity, let us run it to the best of our ability, and through our running, may we glorify the name of Jesus Christ.

The prize is worth having. It's worth more than anything else in the world. An eternal prize that grows sweeter and more precious as each lap of the race is completed. And someday, when we break the tape at the end of this great race, and the Judge awards us our Trophy, our hearts will thrill with pride, because we have been a part of the greatest team that ever competed. And most of all, we will give eternal praise to our Coach, the Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave us the ability and the incentive to be a winner.

Dale Skiles

State Home Missionary to St. Joseph, Mo.
Free Will Baptist Gem

February Is National Teacher Training Month

Here is an opportunity for you to capitalize on the emphasis of this month. Do you have a critical need in your Sunday School and church for trained leadership? Is there a large turnover in the leadership personnel of your church? Do you believe that your church could do a better job with trained leaders who through years of experience became more valuable and effective? You are right. I agree! What can we do about this need? You are the key. You set the pace for training in your local church. It will receive no more attention than you give it. If you begin this month by initiating a regular leadership training program in your church some of your people will cooperate and have their vision enlarged. Your load will be lightened, your pupils will grow more, the church will extend her witness, and the Lord Jesus will be exalted because of your faithfulness in training your people in an enlarged discipleship.

We stand ready to help you in the Sunday School Department. A free packet of material on leadership training, a listing of training courses, leaders guides, textbooks, and a free filmstrip library are at your disposal. May we help you make this National Teacher Training Month in your church? Write today to: H. D. Harrison, P.O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Evangelical Teacher Training Association was organized in 1930 to strengthen and advance evangelical Christian education. From the beginning, E.T.T.A. has pioneered in Bible-centered, Christ-honoring leadership preparation materials to preserve and propagate the rich Gospel message through the best educational methods.

Christian education is presented as an important factor in the fulfillment of Christ's commission "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations . . . teaching them to observe all things, whatsoever I have commanded you." (Matt. 28: 19, 20). In order to minister to the greatest number in the advancement of Christian education, E.T.T.A. functions on three educational levels, each of which complements the others.

THE PRELIMINARY CERTIFICATE COURSE—Designed for local church and community leadership preparation classes, summer Christian education conferences and camps, this course is the road to successful teaching for Sunday school teachers and officers. Six vital and challenging subjects are covered—three on Bible Survey and three on Christian Education.

BIBLE SURVEY - These practical Bible Survey studies are foundational. They show the marvelous unity of the 66 books of the Bible and help one grasp the central teaching that binds books, chapters and verses together.

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY—Law and History

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY—Poetry and Prophecy

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - These subjects give insight into the pupil's personality, problems, ambitions, and needs; give the "know-how" of teaching; present the overall purpose, organization, and program of the Sunday School.

UNDERSTANDING CHILDREN AND YOUTH

TEACHING TECHNIQUES

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUCCESS

A Credit Card is awarded upon completion of each unit that is taught by an approved E.T.T.A. teacher. The Preliminary Teachers Certificate is granted when the required 6 units have been completed.

To assure credit for work satisfactorily completed, teachers of courses must be approved in advance by the Association. All holders of E.T.T.A. Diplomas granted by member schools* are already approved. Most pastors and Christian education directors because of their training and experience are approved upon application. Others with qualifying training and experience may be approved upon recommendation of their pastor. Send for free packet of information telling how to start E.T.T.A. classes.

THE ADVANCED CERTIFICATE COURSE—Following the

Preliminary Certificate Course, the Advanced Certificate Course gives a deeper understanding of God's Word and an insight into fields of Christian service. It is offered in E.T.T.A. affiliated Bible institutes* and is also profitably presented in local church or community classes. The Course consists of a minimum of 12 units, each 12 chapters in length and leads to the Advanced Teachers Certificate. It includes the 6 units of the Preliminary Certificate Course and the following 6 units.

THE MISSIONARY ENTERPRISE

SUNDAY SCHOOL EVANGELISM

THE TRIUNE GOD (Doctrine Vol. 1)

BIBLICAL BELIEFS (Doctrine Vol. 2)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

YOUR BIBLE (Bible Introduction)

THE HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAM—This specific preparation in the area of Christian education includes basic and extensive Bible courses as well as a wide selection of courses in the principles, history, and methods of Christian education and related subjects. This Course is offered only in institutions of higher education which hold Active membership in E.T.T.A.* A Teachers Diploma is awarded in recognition of required educational attainment and qualifies the holder to conduct the E.T.T.A. leadership preparation program in church or community classes.

* A list of all Member Schools is available on request.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES FOR 1967

	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February
Fellowship, Flat River		231	227	256	240			
Farmington	113	131	123	156	136	112		
Southside, St. Louis	114	122	118	128	129			
Trinity, St. Louis	110	104	123	146	138	118		
Kirkville	114	125	124	123	122	110		
Grant Ave., Springfield	176	184	186	186	189	163		
Viburnum Church	47	49	38	46	40	43		
Mine La Motte	46	29	36	25		31		
KoshKonong	52	49	55	59	59	57		
First, Mtn. Grove	303	279	294					
Desloge	80	91	93	91	91	74		
First, Springfield	211	200	208	222	232	187		
Hannon	65	69	60	62	68	59		
Overland	148	168			206			
Leadington	137	138	139	143	140	107		
Copper Mines	101	96	86	80				
Joplin	95	96	93	103	102			
Fourth Church, St. Louis	142	148	170	186	199	171		
Hazel, Creek Ch.	38	43	43					
West Plains	182	182	175	176	169	177		
First, Lebanon	115	106	121	115	108	96		
Myrtle Church	62	52	59	62	66	66		
Twin City Ch., Festus	39	49	60	51				
Richwoods	51	52	55					
Hartville Church	69	60	69	67	68	57		
Cuba Church			99	104				
Salem Church		27	34	27	28			
Cape Girardeau		16	28	28	25			
Willow Springs, Mtn. Grove	93	92	92	85				
Sunnyview, Lebanon				69	63			
Desoto	38	35	49	51	52	47		
Mill Creek Church	50	50	47					
Grace Church	156	169		180	169			
East Independence Church	28	27	39					
Kansas City	115	133	136	151				
Berkeley	277	315	302	344				
Central Church	115	134	139	151	157			
Thayer	125	113	108	111	125	124		

GLEANNINGS FROM THE FIELDS



FORMER MISSOURI PASTOR HONORED

Rev. Bob L. Jones, former Missouri pastor, led the Southside Free Will Baptist Church of Paintsville, Kentucky to first place winning in Division D of the National Sunday School Enlargement Campaign during the month of October, 1967. The Sunday School increased by 79 percent during the month using materials offered by the National Sunday School Department entitled "God Speaks."

The campaign was correlated with a revival (Bob King of First Church, Farmington, Mo., evangelist). A goal of 148 was set for the demonstration Sunday during the revival. There was a total of 151 present in Sunday School which surpassed our expectation. The Lord blessed with a mighty movement among his people during the whole month. The monthly average was 130 being the highest in the history of the church Sunday School. The average nightly revival attendance was in excess of 100.

Several have been converted and baptized this fall. We have gained several new families among the young adults. Offerings have increased. We were able to contribute \$1000.00 to the Bible College Expansion Program during the same time.

One of the greatest factors in the success of the church has been the harmonious working of teachers and officers with the pastor in the leadership of the Lord Jesus. God always blesses team work! Through the consistent, persistent efforts the Sunday School gained 51 in enrollment this fall.

Work! Work is the thing that characterized the entire contest. There were a total of 3,800 contacts made during the month.

God blesses the faithful! The faithful bless God! "God has truly blessed us - We thank Him!"

Henry Evans
Sunday School Superintendent
Southside, Paintsville, Ky.

CHURCH LOSES PASTOR BUT GAINS ANOTHER

It was with heavy hearts that we bid farewell to our beloved pastor of almost eight years, Rev. Glenn Rehkop and his family. God called Bro. Glenn to pastor the Grace church in Arnold, Mo., and he began his duties there on Dec. 17.

The church at Arnold is indeed fortunate and blessed of God to have such a man of God coming their way. May God's richest blessing be upon them is our prayer.

We at Victory feel indeed fortunate and blessed of God also that He has sent another wonderful man of God our way. Rev. Lawrence Thompson, formerly pastor of the church in Bettendorf, Iowa, moved here the last weekend in December.

We thank God for Bro. Thompson and his family and we feel sure in our hearts that God will continue to bless us here at Victory and that we will continue to see a great work for the Lord accomplished here under Bro. Thompson's leadership. Pray for us.

Lou Thurston, Church reporter

REPORT FROM THE KOSHKONONG CHURCH

January 2, 1968

We had a New Year Eve Watch Service with a large crowd and good service with one conversion at the close of the service. We have so much to be thankful for. The Lord has blessed in so many ways. We moved in our new building this past year and we have seen souls find the Lord precious to their hearts. We have had sorrow as some have passed away to receive their rewards. Pray for us that we can be a better witness this year.

May God bless all of you,
Davie Combs, pastor

LETTER FROM A CHURCH REPORTER

Oskaloosa Church
Oskaloosa, Missouri

Dear GEM Readers,

Greetings once again in the lovely name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We thank the Lord for all we have accomplished through His name. We are looking forward to greater things in the new year.

God can do anything; there is nothing too hard for God.

We have the church at Oskaloosa almost complete even called a brand new pastor, Rev. Carl Eden and family, whom we are very happy to have. He is a God-fearing man, with a love for God in his heart, and he stands for the true word of God. Our hearts are rejoicing.

On the evening of January 5 Oskaloosa enjoyed a very pleasant fellowship meeting. We had people from several churches. There was special singing, a quartet, four solos and seven speakers. The speakers were as follows: J. R. Smith, Cletus Nichols, Ronald Clifford, Glenn Murray, Bob Dickey, Bill Eden and Carl Eden. All retired downstairs for refreshments after the messages. Good fellowship was enjoyed by all.

We desire your prayers in Christ for our church.

Reporter, Laphema E. Herrell

PASTOR ENTERS FULL-TIME EVANGELISTIC FIELD

After several months of praying and seeking the will of the Lord, I have decided to enter the evangelistic ministry.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the eleven churches that contacted me as pastoral services, however, at the present time I feel that I can better serve the Lord and you in this field. I humbly ask your prayers that God will use me to help bring revival to our nation.

Johnnie M. Land
Telephone 314-772-5088
3935 Miami St.
St. Louis, Mo. 63116

CHURCH ELECTS PASTOR

The Hannon Free Will Baptist Church near Liberal has called as their pastor, the Rev. Glen Murray. Rev. Murray had pastored in Alton, Missouri.

Free Will Baptist Gem

KANSAS CITY AREA QUARTERLY MEETING

The Greater Kansas City Area Quarterly Meeting convened with the Central Church on December 8-9.

It was held during the time of their Missionary Conference and Bro. Joe Hass, Missionary Appointee to India brought both the Friday night and Saturday morning messages.

The Saturday session was opened with the host pastor, Rev. James McAllister, leading and singing. The devotion was given by Rev. Glenn Rehkop. Letters were read and delegates were seated.

After a short recess we were again brought together with singing. A solo, "I'd Rather Have Jesus," was sung by Lou Thurston and a challenging message was brought to us by Bro. Hass, encouraging us to be better missionary churches.

Dinner was served and after dinner Bro. Hass showed a film on the work in the Ivory Coast.

Bro. Harry Beatty gave a report on our State work.

During our business session it was voted to give \$75 to the Joe Hass account.

Also it was voted that the churches of this quarterly meeting avail themselves for the Christian Workers Workshop to be held at the Central Church on January 10-14, directed by Rev. E.C. Morris.

A standing vote of thanks was given the host church for their

hospitality and also to Rev. Glenn Rehkop for his years of service in this area. Rev. Rehkop will begin his pastoral work at the Grace FWB Church in Arnold, Mo. on December 17. He and his family will be sincerely missed by all of us in this area.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at the First Church in March.

Lou Thurston, Reporter

CHURCH BONDS FOR SALE

The DeSoto Free Will Baptist Church has some Church Bonds for sale or did at the last word received in the GEM office. They pay 5% interest. If anyone is interested, they may contact Rev. Charlie Miller, Desloge, Missouri or Mrs. Sophia Ackerson, Rt. #1, DeSoto, Missouri 63020.

GRANT AVENUE CHURCH BEGINS VISITATION PROGRAM

The Grant Avenue Church is beginning a visitation program entitled "Operation Doorbell." If you know of anyone living in the Springfield area who does not attend church anyplace, please send their names to Grant Avenue FWB Church, 1060 S. Grant Ave., Springfield, Missouri. We would appreciate it very much.

from page 5

HOME MISSIONS DONATIONS FROM MISSOURI

Twin City Lad. Aux., Festus	25.00
Mary-Martha Cir., Mtn. Grove	5.00
Mrs. Oma L. Scott, Mtn. Grove	2.00
Home Builders S.S. Class,	
Independence	10.00
Mrs. Phillip Fry, Mtn. Grove	2.00
Mrs. Lindell Wilhite, St. Louis	10.00
First FWB, Kansas City	33.85
Pleasant Ridge FWB, Urbana	15.86
Myrtle FWB	5.00
First FWB, Monett	10.00
FWB, Cape Girardeau	4.00
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Jacobs,	
Fredericktown	5.00
Mr. Jack Judd, West Plains	5.00
Victory FWB, Avondale	8.00
Rock Springs FWB, Cabool	29.50
Mr. Dempsey Matthews,	
Fredericktown	5.00
Wom. Aux., Overland FWB,	
St. Louis	15.80
Wom. Aux., Overland FWB,	
St. Louis	5.00
Martinstown FWB, Worthington	25.00
First FWB, Fredericktown	20.00
Mtn. Valley FWB, Mtn. Grove	25.00
Overland FWB	25.00
Mr. Ronald E. Barr, Arnold	2.00
Mrs. Gerald Edwards, Hartsville	5.00
Mr. Vencie Long, Hartsville	5.00
New Home FWB, Hartville	10.00
First FWB, Mtn. Grove	30.00
Mr. Floyd Green, Harrisonville	10.00
Willow Springs FWB, Mtn. Grove	10.78
Leadington FWB	118.85
Mr. Troy Sims, W. Plains	5.00
Mrs. Lucy Postlewaite,	
Mtn. Grove	3.00
Mr. Ronald Barr, Arnold	3.00
Festus FWB	3.00
Mrs. Othel Knight, Phillipsburg	5.00
Fellowship FWB, Flat River	10.00
Mrs. Altha Mikel, Greentop	10.00
Rock Chapel FWB, Mtn. Grove	10.00

Mr. Jack V. Stallings, Kansas City
Mo. State Mission Bd., St. Joseph 400.00
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Long, Festus 5.00
Overland FWB 25.00

Mrs. Oma Scott, Mtn. Grove 7.00
Cooperative Plan 553.57
WNAC 7.00
TOTAL \$1,544.21

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS FOR 1967

State	1967 Quota	Amount Given	Balance
Alabama	\$ 8,500.00	9,178.45	(678.45)
Alaska	500.00	42.00	458.00
Arizona	500.00	1,285.24	(785.24)
Arkansas	6,000.00	3,873.20	2,126.80
California	10,000.00	8,150.95	1,849.05
Canada	500.00	248.99	251.01
Colorado	500.00	406.35	93.65
Florida	5,000.00	8,992.04	(3,992.04)
Georgia	5,000.00	6,264.97	(1,264.97)
Hawaii	500.00	288.50	211.50
Idaho	1,000.00	311.28	688.72
Illinois	4,000.00	2,790.82	1,209.18
Indiana	2,000.00	1,185.18	814.82
Iowa	500.00	71.02	428.98
Kansas	3,500.00	681.47	2,818.53
Kentucky	5,000.00	3,336.35	1,663.65
Maine	500.00	723.51	(223.51)
Michigan	6,500.00	4,200.69	2,299.31
Miscellaneous	6,000.00	5,182.68	817.32
Mississippi	4,500.00	2,947.25	1,552.75
MISSOURI	10,000.00	11,929.26	(1,929.26)
New Mexico	500.00	252.31	247.69
New Hampshire	500.00	532.48	(32.48)
North Carolina	20,000.00	13,213.39	6,786.61
Ohio	5,000.00	4,812.27	187.73
Oklahoma	21,000.00	19,367.17	1,632.83
Oregon	500.00	753.52	(253.52)
South Carolina	4,500.00	2,951.12	1,548.88
Tennessee	20,000.00	22,859.77	(2,859.77)
Texas	4,500.00	2,097.31	2,402.69
Virginia	20,000.00	4,178.20	821.80
Washington	4,500.00	2,160.85	339.15
West Virginia	5,000.00	777.32	1,722.27
Other States	2,500.00	1,171.32	2,328.68
Mexico	2,500.00	15.00	185.00
TOTALS	3,500.00	\$147,232.64	\$23,767.36
Exchange and Refunds	500.00	1,584.16	
	\$171,000.00	\$148,816.80	

THANK YOU!!!

MOURNING THAT BRINGS HAPPINESS

James McAllister
Pastor Central FWB Church
1112 East 77th Street
Kansas City, Missouri

"Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted,"
Matt. 5: 4.

The world laughs at this idea. The world has an entirely different philosophy—have a good time, forget your troubles, enjoy yourself, it's later than you think, wear a smile, take a tranquilizer, have a ball, get drunk, anything to forget the mess we're in. Jesus said, "Blessed are they that mourn..." Other theys have come and gone but the Bible still says "Blessed are they that mourn." Now this doesn't mean that Christians are not to laugh, you have seen those seemingly pious people who never smile and have a knack for making people miserable. The Christian is to be happy, after all, Jesus said, "Blessed (happy) are they that mourn."

One of the great reasons for the weakness of the church today is a defective sense of sin, and a defective doctrine of sin. Because of this defect we fail to have the proper attitude toward sin. We don't see sin in the same light that God sees it. Notice that we must look at these beatitudes in a negative way before looking at them from a positive view; we must be poor in spirit before we can be filled with the Holy Spirit; we must be convicted before we can be converted.

I am told that there are three kinds of mourning.

1. Sinful mourning: This is an enemy to blessedness. The sorrow of the world over, their conditions, both spiritual and temperal, yet an unwillingness to turn to God. We hear this kind of mourning all around us, "What is this world coming to?"

2. Natural mourning: A state of mourning over our personal, physical, or financial condition. We are all prone to do this and I suppose there is nothing sinfully wrong with it, although it doesn't help much.

3. Gracious mourning: Penitential mourning for our sins. This is Godly sorrow. This also involves sympathetic mourning for the affliction of others.

Now this gracious mourning is the type Jesus was talking about. Many people look at some happy Christian and say "I want to be like that," but when you begin to talk about their sins and the need to repent they rebel. They want to be blessed or happy, but they don't want to give up their sins or be convicted of them. This is the reason that many spend thousands of dollars to confer with psychiatrist, attempting to rid themselves of the guilt they have, in order to be able to enjoy life. But we are sinners, and we must be convicted of sin and weep and mourn for them before we can be converted from them.

We are to be like Paul when he said, "We that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened." II Cor. 5: 4.

1. We must mourn because we are so unworthy, so weak, so wretched.

2. We must mourn for our sin. Self examinations are good

for us. Pause at the end of the day and examine yourself. What have you done, said, thought?

3. We must mourn because of the sins of others. Jerimiah was known as the weeping prophet. He wept because of the sins of his people. He preached to them and they paid no attention. In Jerimiah 18: 18 we find that they even agreed among themselves to "not give heed to any of his words." It is such a heart-breaking thing to preach and admonish and still see people harboring sins, using foul language, continuing bad habits, failing to obey God's word, rebelling against God's plan of stewardship.

Look around you today and see this sick world. Full of sin and vice. Sick even unto death. Just this last month a young man was murdered near Metropolitan College here in Kansas City because he tried to rescue a young school teacher from the hands of hoodlums. A young man in Nebraska, in the top ten percent of his college class, a good athlete, well-liked by everyone, suddenly went bad and killed three people and robbed a bank. A young man killed six young ladies in a beauty shop in order to get publicity. Sin caused the murderer of President Kennedy to pull the trigger. It was sin that brought about the murder of 6 million Jews in World War II. The Christian sees all this sickness and mourns because he has the answer if people would only listen. This is gracious mourning.

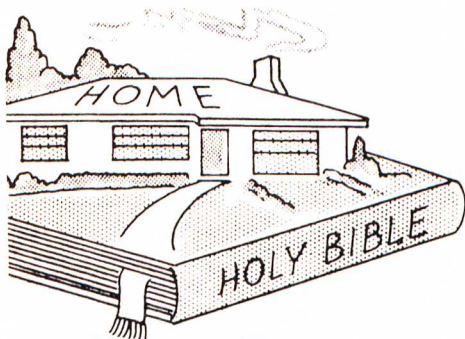
When Jesus looked down on Jerusalem from the mount he saw what sin had done to it. Jerusalem had once been the Hill of Zion, the home of David, God's anointed place, a paradise among nations, but sin had brought ruin, desertion, destruction, chaos and sorrow. They were slaves now, captives to every wind of political change. Jesus wept and cried, "O Jerusalem, how oft would I have gathered you together as a hen gathers her chicks, but you would not."

The sinner looks at all this sadness, war, sickness and death, and says, "Give me another beer, show me a funny picture, tell me a funny joke, let us forget the world and its condition."

Jesus said, "Blessed is the man that mourns." He is sorrowful for his condition and is repenting. He is happy because his sins are forgiven. The man who mourns because of sin is going to be armed against the many temptations that come with vain laughter and pleasure. "They shall be comforted." Maybe not here, but in heaven all tears shall be wiped from our eyes. The scripture says that "he that goeth forth weeping bearing precious seed shall doubtless come again rejoicing bringing his sheaves with him." This is something to be happy about. The Christian looks at the world and is sad, but immediately he becomes happy because he remembers that there is a better day coming. This is a man who is serious about sin, but has a joy unspeakable and full of glory. "He shall be comforted."

Free Will Baptist Gem

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY



A Sound Foundation

ATTENTION PLEASE!!
ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
Free Will Baptist Gem
3100 Mt. Pleasant Ave.
St. Louis, Mo. 63111

EDITOR'S NOTE: Due to the wording of the Woman's Auxiliary editor's resignation, there seems to be a misunderstanding among the ladies of the Women Auxiliary. Some have asked if there was going to be a page in the GEM for their articles. The answer is "YES". Please send your material to Gem Office, 3100 Mt. Pleasant, St. Louis, Mo. 63111, and they will be placed in the paper.

I am sorry for the resignation of our Woman's editor but I feel that not all of the blame can be placed on our printer for the mistakes on this page and other pages. I feel if there had been better editing of the material that came in, both by Sis. Davis and myself, there would not have been as many mistakes. Lots of these mistakes were due to us not correcting them. In the future I will try to correct the articles the best that I can.

FELLOWSHIP FREE WILL BAPTIST

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Fellowship Free Will Baptist church, Flat River, Mo., met for their regular Co-Labor study for the month of December as a combined monthly study and Christmas party at the church on Monday, December 11.

The program opened with the group
February 1968

singing "Joy To the World" and "Silent Night", prayer by Mrs. Pirtle. The Scripture for the program was taken from Psalms 122 and Luke 19: 41 and was given by Pat Morris.

The Co-Labor study "Metropolitan Missions" was given by Janice Reeves.

A skit in keeping with the Christmas season was presented by Florence Burcham, Ruth Goad, Pat Morris, Bernice Dodd, and Rachel Milburn.

At the close of the business session the ladies went to the home of Rev. and Mrs. Malone's for caroling and presented Mrs. Malone, who was unable to attend, with a gift from the auxiliary. After returning to the church, games and an exchange of gifts were enjoyed by all.

The evening was closed with prayer.
Mary Grieshaber
Corr. Sec.

HOME MISSION OFFERING

On December 12 the Thayer Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary met with 17 members present and three visitors.

Meeting was called to order by the president, Sister Gay Combs. Song - "Make Me a Channel of Blessings"; prayer by Sister Clara Allen.

Our Missions Project for the month was a free will offering of \$13.15 for National Home Missions general fund.

We also gave a free will offering for a food basket to be taken to Brother J. R. Wheeler, a retired minister and a member of our church.

We are to have a study course the 13th and 14th of January.

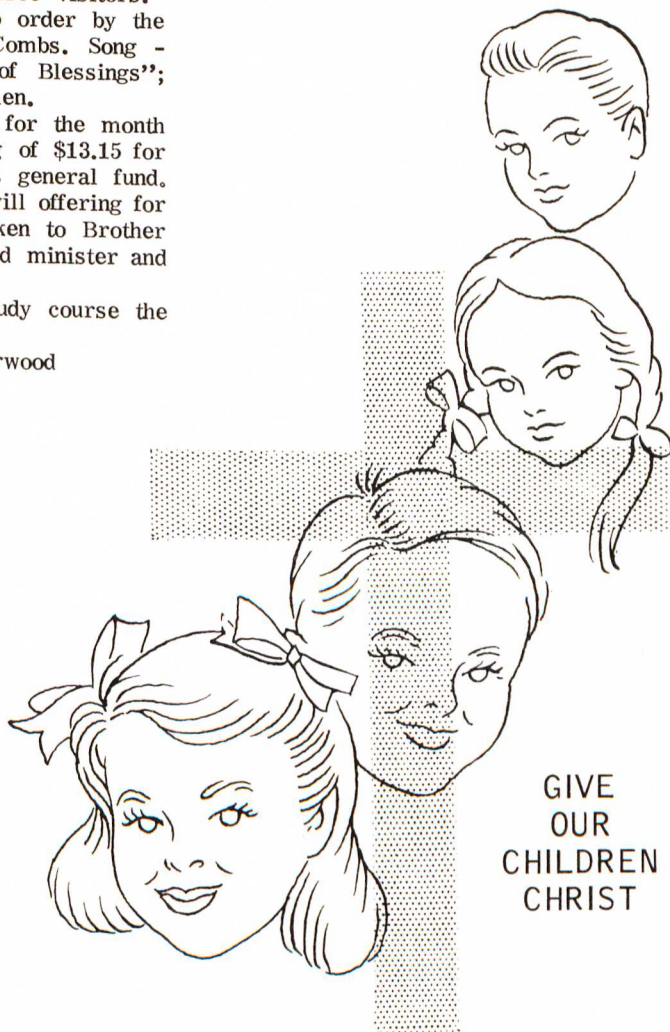
Corr. Sec., Helen Underwood



AUXILIARY VISITS OLD FOLKS

Ladies Auxiliary First Free Will Baptist Church, Festus, met December 23, 1967, at 2:30 p.m. and spent one hour with the old folks home in Olympian Village singing several Christmas songs. Devotion was given by Brother Vernon Long. All took part in presenting gifts, candy and oranges to the old folks, then all had a farewell handshake and wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Everyone got a great blessing from the smiling faces of our old folks and loved ones. Closing prayer by Sister Wilma Stallings.

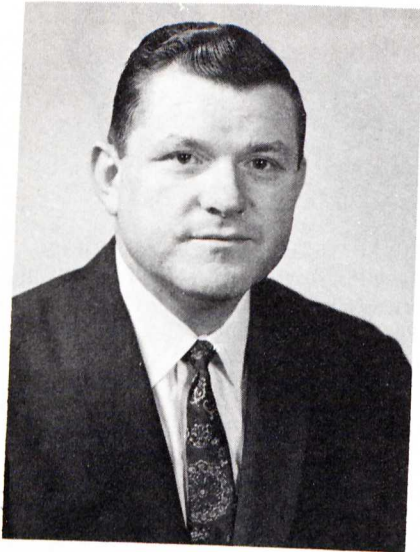
Cor. Sec., Hazel Waymire



GIVE
OUR
CHILDREN
CHRIST

WATCHING A NATION DIE

Johnnie M. Land
3935 Miami Street
St. Louis, Mo. 63116



Evangelist, Johnnie M. Land

Recently I have been studying the prophecy of Hosea, and Jeremiah, and in doing so, God has stirred a fire in my bones.

And I believe this will be true of every born-again Spirit-filled child of God, when he prayerfully studies these prophecies, and the Holy Spirit begins to point out the parallel between the nation Israel and our own nation. Christian, I challenge you to take God's Word and let it be a daily part of your life, then you will be stirred to the very depths of your soul, by the present conditions of our nation. This stirring is greatly needed among the people of God today.

We are on the threshold of the judgment of God and only a spiritual awakening will stay that judgment.

The Apostle Peter wrote under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, and said, "This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: that ye be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour." II Peter 3: 1-2.

The apostle Peter was trying to stir the people of God by directing their attention to the message of the Holy prophets.

The prophets of old had a very prominent place in the Word of God, their messages were pointed and powerful; preached without fear or favour. And the Word of God reveals the tragedy of a great and powerful nation that refused to heed the voice of God through his prophets.

ISRAEL AS A NATION: . . . failed to heed the message of God's prophets and after the long suffering and patience

of a just and merciful God, judgment and captivity came.

My humble prayer is that our beloved America will learn a lesson by observation rather than by experience.

The Bible says, in Rom. 15: 4: "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

GOD'S CHOSEN PEOPLE - Israel forgot God after a great deliverance and God did not spare his judgment. The Bible says in Rom. 11: 21 "For if God spared not the natural branches, take heed lest he also spare not thee."

ISRAEL'S DELIVERANCE - God's chosen people experienced a great and miraculous deliverance by the hand of God while down in Egypt.

But notice that deliverance did not come until God's people cried out by reason of their bondage . . . (Ex. 2: 23-25) "And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them." Thank God, our heavenly Father, is always listening for his people to call to Him. This is a most comforting assurance in a day of trouble such as is upon us as a nation.

BURDEN PRAYING - The lack of agonizing prayer among the people of God leaves many in bondage to Satan and his forces. This is one of the main reasons why revival tarries. Christian friend, how long has it been since you wrestled with the Lord in prayer? How long has it been since you stole away somewhere and had your eyes washed with tears because of a lost loved one? How long has it been since you poured out your heart in prayer to God for revival in your own heart and in your church? How long has it been since you held your pastor up to the throne of God in prayer and prayed that God would make him a flame of fire in the pulpit and that conviction would fall on saint and sinner alike?

BURDEN PREACHING - We're watching our nation die spiritually today for the lack of fire in the pulpit. Pastor, how long has it been since you laid hold of the horns of the altar in prayer and ask God to fill you afresh with the Holy Spirit and anoint you to preach His Word with power?

God wants to give America Holy Spirit-revival. He is pleading with our nation

just as he did with Israel. The prophet Jeremiah, with tears in his eyes, preached and pleaded for his people to turn back to God before it was too late. In I Jer. 5: 21, he says, "They have eyes, and see not; which have ears, and hear not: . . . "And when the people would not hear God's Word, he did not quit, but with God's message still burning in his bones, he approached the great men, those in places of authority. Jer. 5: 5 - "I will get me unto the great men, and will speak unto them; for they have known the way of the Lord, and the judgment of their God: but these have altogether broken the yoke, and burst the bonds."

What did the prophet find among the great men? He found the same thing he would find in our land today, among many of our (supposedly) spiritual leaders. He would find men who once had the power of God upon them and the Holy Spirit within them, who had broken the yoke and burst the bonds. He would find men who once believed in the Virgin birth of Christ, His shed blood, His bodily resurrection and His coming again, but now has declared these Bible facts to be a myth. This is a sad commentary, but a true one, and we are watching our nation die spiritually because of spiritually dead leaders.

MANY CHURCH MEMBERS ARE HAPPY WITH DEAD THINGS. They were in Jeremiah's day . . . notice Jer. 5: 30 - "A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the Land (V-31) The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priest bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?" This verse of scripture carries a real slap. It was a horrible thing that was being committed in the land during the prophet's day, and it is no less a sin today. If God brought judgment to his chosen people for these things, he will bring judgment to America, also. The Apostle Paul warned that "the time would come when they will not endure sound doctrine; . . . and that they would turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." II Tim. 4: 3-4.

Not only did the prophets prophesy falsely, but the people loved to have it so. Jesus said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

There seems to be fewer and fewer churches that want a spirit-anointed preacher. The most hypocritical thing that I can think of is for a segment of a local church to band together in a long-range program to get rid of a God-sent servant, and when they finally accomplish their goal, someone will get up in a service and have the gall to call a altar of prayer for God to send them a pastor. It's not the fast rise of hippies in our land that is destroying, it's spiritual land that is destroying it's spiritual power, but the "hippiecrits".

OUR NATION'S DELIVERANCE - I believe America is the greatest nation in the world; and I also believe the reason

Free Will Baptist Gem

she is is because it was founded upon the Word of God.

Our nation has gone through some bitter and bloody wars and we have won. Not because we were superior in military might, but because God was on our side and brought deliverance.

I fought in Europe in World War II, and at that time I was not a Christian, but I know of many people who were praying for me every day, and I am confident in my heart it was those prayers that brought me home safely.

PRAYER WAS MADE IN SCHOOL during World War II. I know of many schools and class rooms that took time out every day to pray for peace, and God heard and answered those prayers, and as the nation Israel, we experienced deliverances. But America in many ways as Israel, has forgotten God.

AMERICA'S SIN - If there was ever spiritual wickedness committed in high places, then the Supreme Court of our nation has committed it by declaring it unconstitutional for prayer and Bible reading in public schools. **WHAT HAVE WE DONE?** In essence, we as a nation have said, "God, we don't need you anymore; we can make it on our own." God have mercy on us. Could it be that the Word of God has become a reproach to America, as it did to Israel? Notice what God said about that nation, in Jer. 6: 10 - "Behold, the word of the Lord is unto them a 'REPROACH'; they have no delight in it."

THE RESULTS OF THIS SIN - America is producing a generation of juvenile delinquents because the foundation has been pulled out from under them while we poke our heads in the sand and say, "What's the matter with our young people today?" I think it is high time we begin to see things as they really are, and not as we hope them to be.

I believe we are watching the greatest nation in the world die a slow but sure death; any nation that sows the same seed as Israel did will reap the same harvest, God is no respecter of persons.

ISRAEL'S TWO-FOLD SIN - Jer. 2: 13 "For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water." It would seem to be a foolhardy thing for a thirsty people to turn their backs on a spring of living water, freely flowing from the rock, to drink from a stagnated cistern. Spiritually speaking, this is exactly what happened to the nation Israel and is happening in America when God's people forsake His way and turn to man's way.

As a small boy, I lived on a farm and had to use water out of a cistern and it seemed to me that the water bucket was always dry. There was a saying around our house that if it ever got on fire the water bucket would be the first thing to burn. In the fiery judgments of God, these man-made items of hay and stubble will burn up. Well, back to the story.... sometimes this cistern would get wiggle-

tails in it and was muddy most of the time. This was a blessing in disguise because then you couldn't see the wiggle-tails, and when the rains failed, we would hitch the mules to the wagon and fill it full of barrels, buckets, and anything else that would hold water, and head for the spring which was about six miles away. Boy, oh boy, what a time we would have. When we got to the spring, wagons would be lined up to get water and when all the wagons were full of water, that spring was still full. No mud, no wiggle-tails. You know something, that's just like Salvation which Jesus gives. It never runs out—plenty for all. Jesus said, "Who-soever will may come and drink of the water of life freely."

JESUS AND THE CISTERN - Our Lord sat on the curb of a cistern one day and said to the Samaritan woman who came to draw water, "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again; But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." John 4: 13-14. Dear reader, may I ask you a very important question? From which place are you drinking? Are you drinking from the fountain of God's living water of everlasting life which is in Christ Jesus the Lord, or are you trying to find satisfaction in the devil's substitute cistern with its wiggle-tails, mud and disappointment?

You will never quench that spiritual thirst until you come to the fountain of living water, the Lord Jesus Christ, and repent of your sins, and receive Him as your personal Saviour. Then that living water shall be in you as Jesus said, "Springing up into everlasting life."

I challenge you to come today and drink; don't forsake God and his living water, which is able to save your soul. Just remember, nations and individuals die when they forsake God. (Ps. 9: 17) "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God."

HEWING OUT CISTERNS - Let's remember the devil has a substitute for everything that God has and he delights in deceiving the people of God into believing that it is all right. But in order for the devil to do this, he must first of all get God's people to forsake God's way.

Notice the people of Israel did not stop going to the temple after they had forsaken Him, but they stopped worshipping God as he had directed. Because of this God sent the prophet Jeremiah down to the gate of the temple to preach His word to those who were going in.

Notice: Jer. 7: 1-2 - "The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying, stand in the gate of the Lord's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, hear the word of the Lord, all ye of Judah, that enter in at these gates to worship the Lord."

There are two things that I want us to see in this scripture. First: Where God

sent the Prophet - down to the gate of the Lord's house. Did you ever wonder why the gate? Well, I have, and I don't know why, unless God knew that they wouldn't let him in. After all, don't forget that this prophet had a fire in his bones and a message from God instead of one from a dollar sermon book. This might have been the reason the people had turned from God's Word.

Second: His message. (V-3) "Thus saith the Lord of host, the God of Israel, Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place."

God's message was a recipe for a spiritual revival. For the nation Israel, it was a message to the people to turn back to God and His Word. "Thus sayeth the Lord" must be heeded, if our nation is ever to have a spiritual revival, and judgment must begin at the house of God.

IS THE CHURCH GUILTY OF HEWING OUT CISTERNS? Many Christian people are asking the question, "What's the matter with our services? They are not spiritual like they once were. Why is the Spirit of God not present in most churches, like He once was?" These are some of the questions that pastors and laymen alike are asking. I think we need to be quite frank in dealing with these questions.

First: Many pastors and church members don't believe in any emotion at all nowadays in the service. I wonder why? Now I am not putting emotions above everything else, but I am still firmly convinced that emotion goes along with Salvation. I also know that we are not saved by our feelings. The Bible plan is facts, faith, and feelings, in that order.

I believe that when a sinner comes to Christ, in true repentance, and the burden of sin is lifted and his life transformed, his sins put under the blood of Jesus Christ, and you tell me that there is no feeling? (Bah-Humbug)

But before this can happen to a sinner, the Holy Spirit must convict him of his sin. How does the Holy Spirit convict sinners? Through the preaching of God's Word by a Holy Spirit anointed preacher or teacher.

What our churches need today is not better and bigger buildings, not more machinery, but men whom the Holy Ghost can use. The Holy Spirit does not flow through methods, but men. He does not come upon machinery, but men. He does not anoint plans; but men; men of prayer.

Our nation is dying spiritually and our churches is to blame. We need a revival in our Free Will Baptist denomination and it must start with the preachers. I pray God that it will start in my own heart.

And when this revival happens it will change our dead, cold, formal, cut and dried services to Holy Ghost fire, tears, conviction and repentance and lost souls will be saved, and the church will be out of that old broken cistern, and back to the Father's business of winning souls to the fountain of living water. "Preacher, in all thy getting, get anointed; we have

to 14

from 13

too many man-made devices and not enough God-made men." I know that this is not popular preaching today, but it is the answer to the question, "What's the matter with our services?"

These are the last days, and the form of Godliness, without the power, is a real danger.

WHAT IS THE POWER OF GOD? - Rom. 1: 16 - Paul says, "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first and also to the Greek." This is one of my favorite passages of scripture, and I want you to notice the terminology of the verse. Paul says, "I am not ashamed of the 'gospel of Christ'... and Christ, is the Gospel." But the R.S.V. book, which some people call the Bible, leaves out the word "CHRIST" in this verse. Someone will say, "Oh well, that's not much difference," and that is just what the devil likes to hear you say. Personally, I believe that the difference is the difference between Heaven and Hell. I believe that it is the difference between a nation dying and one living.

If I understand the meaning of the word "gospel" it means "Good News", and if you omit the word "Christ" it could mean good news about anything or nothing. Now, I'm not against all translations other than the King James, but I say with-

out hesitation that I am firmly against any translation that tries to eliminate or minimize the Lord Jesus Christ, which includes His virgin birth, His shed blood, His bodily resurrection, and His coming again. I would like to ask a question: "What's wrong with the King James version"? It was good enough for the foundation of the greatest nation in the world, America, preaching from it's truths by men of God, under the Power of the Holy Spirit, through the centuries has brought revival time and time again and will continue to do so for those who believe it. However, the devil is out in full force today to rid our nation of the King James Bible.

"WHAT'S HAPPENING?" - Our nation as Israel, is busy hewing out broken cisterns that can hold no water. This is a trick of the devil in his diabolical scheme of substitution he is so cunningly conveying to the people of God in these last days.

I believe that Free Will Baptists have the message for these dangerous times, but in order for it to be effective in men's lives, we must have the power of the Holy Spirit upon it; for without Him even though the message be fundamental, it becomes "as sounding brass, a tinkling cymbal."

The word of the Lord that came to Zerubbabel saying, "not by might nor by power, but by my spirit saith the Lord of host," Zech. 4: 6, is still the word of the Lord.

REVIVAL FOR SURVIVAL - I believe that every student of the Word of God knows we are in the midst of a perishing civilization; that we are advancing rapidly toward the consummation of the age and the coming of the Lord.

Science can offer no hope for the future blessings and security of humanity. I see no bright prospects through the efforts of man for our nation. But there is a ray of light shining through the darkness, and it is found in the Word of God. (John 14: 6) "Jesus said, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life:'".....

TODAY IS THE DAY FOR REVIVAL - We are still this side of judgment, the Holy Spirit is still here on earth, there can be revival if the people of God will pay the price.

The crying need for revival in our land today is very evident. If our souls are barren, if tears are absent from our eyes, if converts are absent from our alters, then let us take no comfort in our numbers or our popularity. But let us invite the Holy Spirit to plague our hearts with grief because we are spiritually unable to bring to birth those who are dead in trespasses and sin. The Holy Spirit has no delight in our padded pews, carpeted floors, stained glass windows, if the crib is empty.

My prayer is that this year of 1968 will be a year of revival, throughout our demonation and America.

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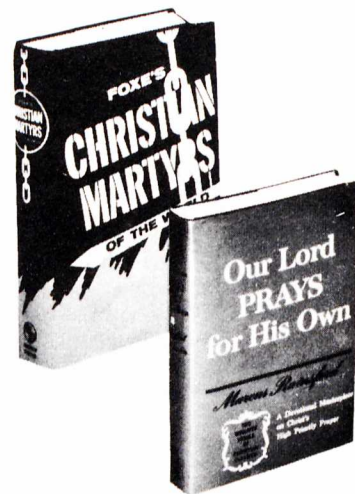
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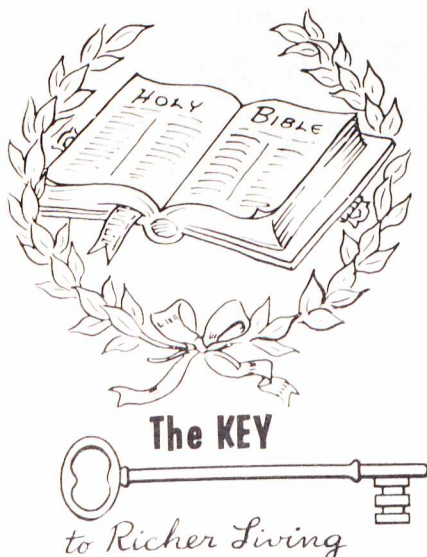


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GOD NEEDS MEN WHO READ AND BELIEVE THE HOLY BIBLE

Many, many men today do not read and believe the Holy Bible because, like your's right at this very moment, it rests on a bookrack beside other books, never to be read. In some homes the Holy Bible can be seen lying among newspapers and magazines, or on a table where it is seldom noticed and obviously never opened. Sometimes you can never visibly find the Holy Bible, however, very few homes are without a copy. Perhaps yours is hidden away in a drawer. Wherever it might be, pick it up and begin reading.

Referring to the Holy Bible, Jesus said, "Heaven and earth shall pass away but my words shall not pass away." It is here to stay.

The Holy Bible is the most popular book sold today but the least read. It is quoted by men in every walk of life, from the most educated to the unlearned and unskilled skid row dweller. It is thought by some to merely own or possess a Holy Bible is all one needs to enter heaven. Psalm 119:11 says, "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee."

Ex-President Woodrow Wilson once said, "There can be no liberal education without a knowledge of the Bible." This proves that a man of high position in government is conscious of the values in the Holy Bible.

The Holy Bible is full of answers to our everyday problems. It must be read in the proper attitudes: agreeably, believingly, carefully, devotionally, earnestly, faithfully, gladly, honestly, inquisitively, joyfully, kindly, labourously, meditatively, needfully, obeyingly, purposely, quietly, regularly, sincerely, thirstingly, understandingly, voluntarily, willingly, X-rayingly (visibly), yieldingly, zealously.

The Holy Bible is to be read and believed: if you doubt God - Matthew 11: 4-6; if you want to get rid of bad habits - Matthew 17: 20-21; if you habitually swear - Matthew 5: 33-37; if you are persecuted - Matthew 5: 10-12; if you face temptation - I Corinthians 10: 13; if you are troubled - Psalm 34: 17-19.

The Holy Bible is full of direct messages from God. He inspired men causing them to write down what they were told, heard, and saw. You must know how these men felt; whenever you hear, read, or see something especially good, worthwhile, or interesting, you probably write it down to pass on to others, exactly as the writers of the Holy Bible did.

The Holy Bible is actually 66 separate books of which five are Law, 12 History, 5 Poems, 17 Prophecy, and the 27 books in the New Testament contain good news, commands, promises, and definite rules to follow in order to live above sin.

After reading this, God is not going to let you walk through another day without the Holy Bible in your hand, the Holy Spirit in your life, and the gates of heaven open wide waiting for you to enter some day.

If you do not have the Holy Spirit, ask for it. "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children; how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" (Luke 11: 13) Nothing can be done without the help of God.

Believe God will do what He says. He says He will forgive you of all sin and "cleanse you from all unrighteousness." God led David, the little shepherd boy, in the paths of righteousness and so will He you. He says that He will give us richly all things to enjoy. Ask, believing, and it shall be given you.

To increase your faith, Apostle Paul wrote, "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." How can we hear the word of God? By going to church and listening to every word uttered, whether in song or sermon.

We must give of ourselves to God and to our fellowman. Always be ready to give, not take. We are told in the Holy Bible to feed the hungry, visit the sick, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, instruct the ignorant, and bear all the fruits of the Holy Spirit. We must put our faith to work by actively feeling and living repentance, forgiveness, consecration, praise, adoration, and love for one another.

Doctors say the most physically active people are sick the least often. We need to keep active, physically as well as mentally and spiritually. We should feed our bodies with the proper foods and our minds with the Word of God, the Holy Bible. Should you have pain, discomfort, or sickness, the first place to go is the Holy Bible, not to the worldly drug store. Try trusting God and believe He will supply your needs.

Rev. Paul B. McCleave of the American Medical Association said, "Faith is in itself a medicine, an ingredient for recovery, and many times offsets the need for tranquilizers or other drugs that affect body chemistry, often at a price. Physical life is more than an organic body, in man it is a complex mechanism affected by external radiation, internal chemistry, the brain, the soul, the consciousness, innumerable social and environmental factors, and not least, a working philosophy and a faith."

If you are a church member, you should be reading the Holy Bible to find out how you can serve the Lord's table better and more efficiently. You should let your pastor use his time in faithfully praying, studying, and ministering the Word of God, while you do the lesser tasks about the church. You should receive the Word of God with all readiness of mind, and then search the scriptures daily, to determine if what you hear is true.

You may be able to receive more compliments than someone else for baking a tastier cake, building a bigger house, driving a more expensive car, selling more magazines, or for whatever your special talent might be, but give God the glory. Pride can ruin your reputation and usefulness in God's service.

Jesus is coming again. Your entrance into heaven will be judged by the contents of the Holy Bible. You can read every magazine, newspaper, and book ever written, but unless you have read, believed, and lived by the Holy Bible your mansion in heaven may never be occupied.

Start reading and believing the Holy Bible right now. Let the world see God in your every act, word, and deed. You are the only Bible some people will ever read. They are measuring the Holy Bible by your life. Make your life look worthwhile to them and show them the way.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God." Thank Him for everything up to now, refuse to have an average spiritual life, and keep climbing as high as possible while living on earth. Taste every mystery of God, from forgiveness of sin to the day when you hear Jesus say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord."

Written by:

Hazel A. Hartmen
Central Free Will Baptist Church
1112 East 77th Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64131

A black and white portrait of a middle-aged man with short, dark hair, wearing thick-rimmed glasses, a white shirt, a dark tie, and a dark suit jacket. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a plain, light color.

Promotional Secretary

I delivered the Sunday morning sermon December 17 in our Twin City Church, located one block west of highway February 1968

Harry Beatty

Cuba	Nov.	\$ 124.37
Parkview	Nov.	82.87
Mt. Grove	Nov.	224.39
Little Vine	Offering	5.00
Robert Carlson	Offering	25.00
Farmington	Nov.	140.46
Monett	Nov.	100.94
Overland	Nov.	259.00
Mt. Pisgah	Nov.	18.22
Hannon	Nov.	51.20
Victory	Nov.	127.66
Central	Nov.	86.67
Eldorado First	Offering	13.62
Rock Chapel		24.29
Desoto		35.00
Salem		10.00
Carterville		16.15
Beacon	Nov.	100.86
Lebanon		100.00
Leadington		149.00
Grace		114.00
Cabool		38.25
Cooper Mines		36.36
Kirksville		30.00
Jefferson City		6.55
O'Fallon	Dec.	40.79
Central	Dec.	86.66
Cape Girardeau		30.00
Berkeley	Dec.	284.39
Fellowship	Dec.	50.00

Myrtle Ladies Auxiliary	\$ 5.00
Oskaloosa Church	7.00
Jones Chapel Church	14.00
Hartville Church	9.00
Festus Church	3.00
Central, Kansas City	33.00
Fredericktown Church	34.57
Mine La Motte	5.00
Fellowship Church, Flat River	15.00
Thayer Church	13.00
Overland Church, St. Louis	10.00
Grace, Arnold	30.00
Pleasant Hill, Thayer	5.00
Garfield Church, Couch	15.36
Hannon Church	20.30
Frances Foger	2.00
Victory, Kansas City	16.00
Farmington Church	20.00
Merl's Chapel Church	4.00
Monett Church	60.00
Grant Avenue Ladies Aux.	21.53
St. Francis County Quarterly Mtg.	25.00
Cooperative Receipts - State Assn.	54.00
TOTAL	\$906.46
Dales Skiles, Secretary-Treasurer	