

LIBRARY

Free Will Baptist Bible College

**FREE WILL BAPTIST**

#### A LOOK AT OUR CHURCHES

The First Free Will Baptist Church of Monett was organized following a revival which was begun on Thanksgiving night in 1931 by Rev. Winford Davis and Rev. O. T. Allred.

A total of 94 conversions and renewals were witnessed in the meeting and 66 united with the church as it was organized on February 10, 1932 at the close of the meeting. The church worshiped for a number of years at 3rd and Bond Street but sold in 1954 and erected the above church building at Central and Sycamore. The congregation built a brick three bedroom parsonage in 1961, also; all of which are debt free.

Rev. O. T. Allred was the first pastor from February, 1932 to 1944. Nine other men have served the church, namely, C. B. Dees, W. K. Weston, Noel Greenway, Cecil Campbell, James Davis, Luther Sanders, Tommy Day, Bud Hill and James A. Franklin.

This church is now giving over \$100.00 per month to Missions besides the 10% to the Co-operative Fund.

Rev. O. T. Allred is the present pastor.

# Gem

**FEBRUARY, 1970**  
**Volume 39, Number 2**





# Personal from the Editor



**R**ELIGION IS a personal and private matter. According to the first article of the Bill of Rights, Congress cannot set up a national church, lay taxes to support one church or all churches. It cannot compel people to attend church or punish them for not attending. Although it appropriates money to support chaplains and rabbis in the armed forces and for a chaplain to say prayers for Congress, this is not regarded as an "establishment of religion."

The juror swears with his hand on the Holy Bible and ends with the words, "So help me, God." To a great extent, America was colonized by men and women who sought freedom from religious persecution. The celebrated "Mayflower Compact" was drawn up "in the presence of God and one another."

Our Declaration of Independence states that men "are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights" and places "a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence." Every State Constitution assumes that religion is essential to the well-being of the community.

Our national songs are essentially religious, and our national motto, "In God we trust," appears on all of our coins. Abraham Lincoln said, "I find myself often going to my knees in the certain conviction that there is nowhere else to go." World War II gave currency to a great truth: "There are no atheists in foxholes."

The most skeptical recognizes that "the laws of Nature do not account for the origin of the laws of Nature." Practically on his deathbed, Woodrow Wilson said, "The

sum of the whole matter is this, that our civilization cannot survive materially unless it is redeemed spiritually."

The before going statements only reflect a small part of what we Americans have going for us which have been established for us by our forefathers who desired an opportunity to worship and to keep the freedom every man desires. Over against this great Constitutional privilege of ours are the foes of religion and free government. What, if any, have we done as Christians or churches to oppose these forces that are invading these established rights of Christian Americans. It appears that nearly every Christian right is being attacked. The scripture reading in schools, prayer in public places and even now the right to take Sunday off from your job. The latter statement was made since many of the largest chain stores such as Penney's and Sears are already beginning to stay open on Sundays which force many of the smaller businesses to open also on the Lord's Day causing many church members to work because of their already suffering incomes due to overbuying and inflation, and the end result the suffering of the church due to poor attendance and lack of support by the soon cooling members who will "depart from the faith."

It is time that the church (that means its members) stand for these rights now ours or as someone recently stated, "either the church gets involved in making change or it will be changed out of existence."

Our nation and the world is not perishing for the want of clever or talented or well-meaning men. It is perishing for the want of men of courage and resolution who, in devotion to the cause of right and truth, can rise above personal feeling and private ambition long enough to promote the only real cause that can save us, our church, the cause for which Christians must stand, and finally our nation.

To the average member today the church appears to be a burden always asking of his time, resources, and ability. But Christ has never been a burden to any honest soul nor has this judgment been forced upon us who know Him by experience.

## THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Published monthly by the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists.

**PUBLICATION OFFICE:** 2301 Connecticut Avenue, Joplin, Missouri 64801.  
Rev. Alton E. Loveless, Editor.

**BUSINESS OFFICE:** 3100 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63111. Address all correspondence with subscriptions and monies pertaining to the GEM to 3100 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63111. News items should be sent to the Editor, Alton E. Loveless, 2301 Connecticut Avenue, Joplin, Missouri 64801. Woman's Auxiliary news to Mrs. Eunice Edwards, 101 N. Sixth Street, Desloge, Missouri 63601. The sermons and articles published in the GEM represent the personal views of the authors and not necessarily the views and policies of the Missouri Free Will Baptist State Association or the Editor. All items for publication must be in the hands of the Editor no later than the 15th of the month preceeding the issue month.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:** Single subscription, \$1.50 per year cash in advance. Church Plan, \$1.00 per year consisting of five subscriptions or more. The Church Family plan will continue until it is cancelled by the church.

**SECOND-CLASS POSTAGE** paid at Joplin, Missouri, and at additional mailing offices.

**POSTMASTER:** Send form 3579 to the Free Will Baptist Gem, 3100 Mt. Pleasant Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63111.



# What Constitutes Accountability

By Rev. Andy Lay

**W**HEN IS A child old enough to receive Christ and be saved? No doubt, that question has run through the mind of everyone who has ever dealt with children in Sunday School or Bible School or had anything to do with Child Evangelism, as well as every Christian parent.

There seems to be erroneous views on the subject in both extremes. On the one hand, there are folks who say a child must be twelve years old. Others on the same end of the controversy would not even consider giving the opportunity of receiving Christ to a child before he has reached the Junior Department in Sunday School (9 through 12 years old.) On the other extreme are those who would contend that any child who would simply repeat a prayer after someone, asking Christ to come into his heart, could have a salvation experience.

It is my opinion that the Bible teaching on the subject lies somewhere between these two extremes.

Though the term "age of accountability" is not used in the Scriptures, most evangelicals would agree that somewhere between infancy and adolescence, a child reaches the point at which he is capable of becoming a Christian. Before that time, most evangelicals believe, he is "safe" should he die, since Christ's atonement covered every sin of the human race except rejection of Jesus (Romans 3:19-26). After that point is reached, though he be a child, he is under the condemnation of God, and will be eternally lost should he die without Christ (John 3:18). Certainly that fact should motivate us who deal with children to find out when a child is capable of receiving Christ, and to confront him with the Gospel and the opportunity of receiving Christ at that time.

But now we are back to the title

question, what constitutes accountability? Someone says that accountability is reached when a child knows right from wrong. But there are many degrees of the knowledge of right and wrong. A 10 or 12 month old infant may know that it is a "no-no" to pull the doily off the coffee table, while on the other hand, a young man of 18 may not realize that it is a law of our land that he must register with the Selective Service Board, and to not do so is "wrong." Surely, no one would hold the absurd opinion that the infant had reached the age of accountability, or that the 18 year old had not. Accountability is not just knowing what we glibly call right and wrong.

Accountability in its simplest form is the knowledge of certain facts bearing upon salvation:

1) The child must have some idea of lostness. He need not be able to explain sin, its cause and effect, in systematic order, but he must have the knowledge that he has displeased God by his sinning. This is a pre-requisite for exercising saving faith.

2) He must know that God is able to meet his need — that Jesus' death and resurrection somehow is sufficient to bring him into God's family.

3) He must possess the knowledge of how to become a Christian. He must know that Christians are those who trust in Christ to take away their sins and receive Christ into their hearts as the Lord and Master of their lives.

At what age, then, may a child possess this knowledge and exercise this simple faith? I would not presume to suggest an age, but I note that Jesus referred to a "little child" in Matthew 18:2-4 as an example of the greatest in the Kingdom. In verse 14 of the same chapter Jesus implies that a "little one" may be lost.

The age at which a child comes to

this knowledge may vary according to mentality and training, but I am convinced that most normal children capable of doing regular elementary school work can comprehend these truths when simply taught, and many will comprehend them even younger.

The fact that a child may not have to be persuaded to give his heart to the Lord, or that there may be little evidence of a change brought about in his life as a result of his conversion, or that his decision is accompanied by little or no emotion, by no means indicates that his salvation experience is any less genuine or glorious than that of an adult. Jesus said adults have to become like children, not that children have to become like adults, to be saved.

A child may not have as great an understanding as an adult has about all that Christianity involves for him, but faith and virtue precede knowledge in Peter's list of Christian graces (II Peter 1:5-7). More often than not, a child's simple, unwavering faith will far outshine the new adult Christian's.

So as we consider Jesus' words in Matthew 18:14, "... it is not the will of your Father which is in Heaven, that one of these little ones should perish," may we pray for wisdom to "uncomplicate" salvation, and capture the many opportunities afforded us in our homes, our churches, and our communities, to point the little ones to the Saviour.

*Rev. Lay is pastor of The First Church of Kirksville.*



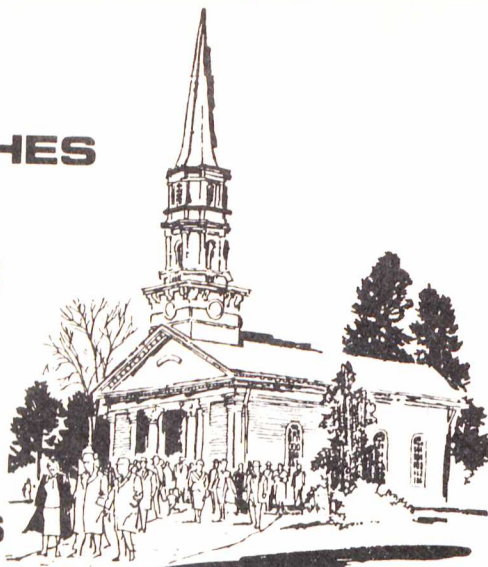


# CHURCHES

# PEOPLE

# and

# EVENTS



## O'FALLON

God is moving in O'Fallon, Missouri among Free Will Baptists. During the past three months, more than thirty people have walked the aisles to the altar to confess faith in Jesus Christ. Several young married couples have united with the church, this making it possible for this church attendance to grow from thirty in the summer to over sixty during the fall.

A dedicated congregation that wanted to do something for the Lord, and an energetic pastor who was willing to work as a Jr. High School teacher five days a week, then carry on the responsibilities of a pastor, has projected this new church into the forefront of our fastest growing congregations. Brother Dale Underwood, involved in his first experience at planting a new church, has come to O'Fallon to pastor with a grand enthusiasm, a sharp vision, and deep dedication. Because of this, and the willingness of the people to work and co-operate, God has blessed in an unusual way.

Thy pastor and Church Board met recently with the State Mission Board and planned for the erection of a new building. The Mission Board loaned them the money to purchase additional property, and now plans are underway to erect a new structure to be used as a sanctuary for the present, but which

will eventually be used for educational facilities. This church was originally organized and supported in a joint effort by the State Mission Board and the St. Louis District Quarterly Conference.

The State Mission Board requests the people of Missouri to pray much for the new church in O'Fallon. If you know of anyone living in or near O'Fallon, Missouri, please send their name and address to Rev. Dale Underwood, 716 Sandy Lane, O'Fallon, Missouri 63366.

## OVERLAND

The Rev. Harry Asher, pastor of the Overland, Missouri church, reports very good interest in his Pastor's Bible Class which meets each Sunday morning in the auditorium of the Overland church. The goal of this class is 100 at present and is growing.

## LEBANON FIRST

The First Church of Lebanon reports decisions are being made for Christ and new members are being added to their church through the preaching of their new pastor, the Rev. Roger Harwell.

## MONETT

O. T. Allred, pastor of the Monett church, reports 4 conversions in their church last month and two united with the church. The church begins a revival February 16 with Evangelist James

McAllister of Marshall. This church continues to grow under Pastor Allred's leadership and voted recently to build a baptistry in the church. (Note cover picture and story.)

## FWBBC ANNOUNCES SPEAKERS FOR 27th BIBLE CONFERENCE

The Reverends Leroy Forlines, Dean Moore, and Milton Worthington will speak at Free Will Baptist Bible College's annual Bible Conference, March 15-19, administrators have announced.



Mr. Forlines, a native of North Carolina, has taught at the Bible College for 13 years. He serves as professor of Bible-Theology and is the school's Dean of Men. He graduated from FWBBC in 1952, has earned degrees at Winona Lake School of Theology and Northern Baptist Theological Seminary, and is presently working on his ThM degree.



Mr. Moore, pastor of the First FWB Church of Richmond, California, attended the Bible College in 1949-50. He is a graduate of Western Baptist Bible College and is presently working on his Master's Degree at California State Teacher's College. He served four years as president of California Bible Institute, now California Christian College.



Mr. Worthington, also a North Carolinian, pastors the Tupelo FWB Church, Tupelo, Mississippi. He is a noted evangelist and conference speaker and is a graduate of Columbia Bible College. Other pastorates include churches in North Carolina and Florida.

Record crowds are expected for the school's 27th conference. In the past, attendance at evening services has exceeded 1100. Plans are being made to use a local auditorium to seat evening guests. Day services will be held in the



Bible College's Memorial Auditorium. A closed-circuit television system will enable guests to follow services from several points on the campus.

Questions on the conference may be answered and information on local accommodations obtained by writing: Free Will Baptist Bible College, 3606 West End Ave., Nashville, Tennessee 37205.

# ST. JOSEPH CHURCH A NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL WINNER

The St. Joseph mission has been named a first place winner of their division in the National Sunday School contest. The mission, which is under the leadership of Pastor Vernon Maggart, had an increase of 58% during the contest months.

Bro. Maggart who was hired just over a year ago by the Missouri Home Mission Board, has been an able leader and has been a blessing to the church with his family.

Pastor Maggart revealed their method to promote growth during the contest as follows, "During the campaign we divided our Sunday School enrollment into rabbits and turtles. We made a race track and taped it to the wall next to the floor. At the starting line we placed an artificial rabbit and turtle. Each Sunday, during the contest, we counted

the number of rabbits and turtles present and moved each one that many spaces forward. If a turtle brought a visitor, the visitor also became a turtle and vice-versa. In other words we reconstructed the race between the tortoise and the hare. As it was in the story, so it was in our church — the rabbit lost the race.

# EVANGELIST JAMES MCALLISTER IN ARIZONA MEETING

Evangelist James McAllister recently concluded an evangelistic meeting in the Trinity Free Will Baptist Church of Phoenix, Arizona.

The pastor, the Rev. Robert Carlson, reports 19 decisions were made with the Marshall, Missouri Evangelist.

## 1969 SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.
Berkeley, St. Louis	367	350	387						370	327	357	
Central, Kansas City	140	159	177	156	168	133	123		130			
Copper Mines	75	82	81	90	88	86	88					
Desloge, Parkview	90		101	102	101	79	82	88	86	94	88	76
De Soto	56	48	58	77	67	56	57	55		76	81	49
Farmington	160	150	161	163	168	148	144	130	142	124	151	127
Fellowship, Flat River	253	251	251	252								
Fourth, St. Louis	108	116	144	129	137	102	102	118	147	147	109	
Grant Ave., Springfield	174	184	184	176	169							
Hannon	58		53	56	57	57	59	58	50	53	51	50
Hickory Grove	22	31	27	37	31	29	33	27	23	27		
Joplin										98	80	
Kirksville	136	135	144	158	146	127	124					
KoshKonong	51	51	55	66	74	92	84	91	80	78	84	
Leadington	146	140	180	178								
Lebanon, First	129		118	164	130	128	130	180	99	113	119	113
Meramec Heights	21	20	28	19	31	28	31	29	42	43	52	
Mine La Motte	29	24	26	42	29	28	35			30	28	21
Mtn. Grove, First	278	235	280	283	275	248	254	264	275	283		
Myrtle	56	50	57	63	59	61						
O'Fallon									67	60		
Overland, St. Louis	154	202	226							205	175	162
Richwoods	44	34	40									
Saint Joseph									36	51	38	42
Salem	26		40	41	43	29	34	31	41	41	35	35
Springfield, First	204		205	206	204	196	216	212				
Sunnyview, Lebanon	46		42	55	58	45	53		53			
Thayer	111	101	116	137								
Trinity, St. Louis	149	145	142	149	131	131	131	122	146	151	144	125
Twin City, Festus	56	41	54	40	45						33	
Waynesville										56		
West Plains	133		138	142	137	137		135	138	147	137	109
Willow Springs, Mtn. Grove	85	76	92	87	95	88	93			91		
Viburnum	38	36	46	38	41	33	29	31	37	47	41	



# Speaking Out

AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES

## Overland Free Will Baptist Church

9440 WEST MILTON OVERLAND, MISSOURI 63114

Attention All Free Will Baptists:

The Bible says . . . "Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: Therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me . . ." (Ezekiel 3:17).

Here is my warning: My first impression after reading where a group of clergymen endorsed sex education in our public schools was one of a sickening nature. If I am not mistaken, each one of these men are affiliated with the "National Council of Churches." These so-called clergymen are from St. Louis County. The NCC has made it public that they favor this type of sex education in our schools. Even the Communists know that this will bring us to our doom . . . The May, 1963 issue of the Communist Party, W.S.S.R., published in Moscow, reported this: "The essential characteristics of the moral crisis of Capitalism appears to be the decomposition of ethics — criminal activities in politics; degradation of individual decency; and disappearance of conscience: The (Western) progressive disintegration of morals embraces every sphere of living . . . the flourishing immorality can, to a large extent, be attributed to the outpouring of trash literature, motion pictures, and television. Gangsterism and sadism, in the guise of adventure; *OVER-EMPHASIS ON SEX*; is the spiritual food that is being served so abundantly . . ."

In 1961 the United Christian Youth Movement had published for them a booklet by the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. entitled, "Called to Responsible Freedom, The Meaning of Sex In The Christian Life, the NCC booklet told these young people . . . "For the Christian there are no rules, no laws, no regulations . . . Life is a series of grays and not pure blacks and whites." This position was justified by the National Council of Churches booklet on the basis that while in the Old Testament "adultery was strictly forbidden, as were other sexual deviations . . . both Jesus and the apostle Paul was seeking to set men free from this sort of legalistic bondage. Now friends, whether the National Council of Churches knows it or not, the New Testament also included many "laws" against sexual perversion, adultery, and fornication. Paul, for example, said . . . "For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication; that every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor . . ." (I Thessalonians 4:3-4).

Parents, some of you are still unaware of the vicious wicked program of Sex Education in our public schools that is being sponsored by such left wing organizations as "SIECUS". Some people intimate that we just do not have the facts, or that we are alarmists. I do not want to get too plain, but I think it is time to become alarmed when we see for ourselves some of the films and questions being put to our children. Friends, as an ordained man of God, I must cry out against this trash and those that advocate this type of filth . . . I feel sorry for these poor misled (clergymen?) *WE NEED TO PRAY FOR THEM!* Jesus said . . . "The blind shall lead the blind and they both shall fall into the ditch . . ."

Sincerely,

Harry R. Asher





"Keep up the Good work, the GEM is better than ever."

H. A., Overland

"I think it would be nice if you had a children's page in the magazine."

Mrs. F. K., Greentop

"I appreciate the editorial job you are doing with our State magazine."

D. S., West Plains

"Just a line to say 'Hello' and many thanks for making the Gem a state paper."

C. B., Marshall

"I am at present pastoring in Barnsdall, Oklahoma. My wife and I came here in May of 1969 with the church averaging 53 in Sunday School and at present our Sunday School average is about 103. We have been through many disappointments and discouragements, but we have found that following the Great Commission doesn't give us time for discouragements and disappointments.

We are in the process of building a new sanctuary that will seat approximately 250. We are laboring and praying that by the time it is completed we could raise our average to 175. We ask the people from our home state of Missouri to remember us in prayer as we labor for Christ in Oklahoma.

We receive the GEM and we encourage you to send in your Sunday school averages so we can see what other churches are doing."

Rev. Frank W. Johnson

Box 584

Barnsdall, Oklahoma 74002

(EDITOR: I would like to hear from you each month with the news of your church or happenings of your Association. Your comments relative to the Lord's work in Missouri or the cause for which we stand as Christians and Free Will Baptists. The GEM is our magazine and the news cannot be printed if you don't share it. Please assume the role of reporting the news of your church or area. I have found that the lay people of our churches are our best sources of news. Be a local reporter!)

# MISSOURI FREE WILL BAPTIST YOUTH CAMP REPORT July - December, 1969

ACCTS. RECEIVABLE	GENERAL FUND	EXPANSION FUND	TOTAL
Mrs. Phronia Barker	1.00		1.00
Buffalo FWB Church		44.30	44.30
Rev. & Mrs. D. Cummings		3.00	3.00
Bob Dickey		15.00	15.00
Groceries and Supplies	362.45		362.45
Grant Ave. FWB Church	10.00	60.00	70.00
Hannon FWB Church		60.00	60.00
Rev. & Mrs. Finis Johnson	17.00		17.00
Lebanon FWB Church		40.00	40.00
Liberty FWB Church		50.00	50.00
Liberty Quarterly Meeting		10.00	10.00
Lynn Street FWB Ch. (Lebanon)		20.00	20.00
Macedonia FWB Church		5.00	5.00
Mo. State Co-op Program	879.11		879.11
Monett FWB Church		120.00	120.00
Mtn. Grove FWB Church		60.00	60.00
New Rock Sprgs. Church		10.00	10.00
No. 1 FWB Church		25.00	25.00
Olivet FWB Church		60.00	60.00
Mrs. Allen Pace	10.00		10.00
Refund on Phone Calls	15.00		15.00
Rent on Camp	431.50		431.50
Rock Chapel FWB Church		60.00	60.00
Snack Stand	412.93		412.93
Sunlight Missionary Conf.		70.75	70.75
Thayer FWB Church		60.00	60.00
Trinity FWB Church (Cabool)		10.00	10.00
Union FWB Church		30.00	30.00
Victory FWB Church		120.00	120.00
Total	2,138.99	933.05	3,072.04
Balance Brought Forward	526.41	136.88	663.29
TOTAL	\$2,665.40	\$1,069.93	\$3,735.33

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE			
Arthur Gas Co.	27.00		27.00
Citizen's State Bank		1,069.93	1,069.93
Curtiss Candy Co.	59.51		59.51
L. L. Day Lbr. Co.	190.43		190.43
Dr. Pepper Btl. Co.	49.63		49.63
D. D. Hamilton & Co.	10.00		10.00
Farmer's Exchange	20.83		20.83
Guy's Foods	116.30		116.30
Hiland Dairy Co.	69.20		69.20
Marshfield Locker Plant	14.50		14.50
The Marshfield Mail	13.60		13.60
M. & H. Ref. Co.	15.56		15.56
M. F. A. Oil Co.	23.20		23.30
Mo. State Telephone Co.	167.59		167.59
Office Supplies	24.85		24.85
Pepsi-Cola Btl. Co.	52.66		52.66
Quinn Coffee Co.	106.88		106.88
Rev. Wm. Reeves	540.00		540.00
Shield's Rexall	13.64		13.64
Springfield Coca-Cola Co.	6.32		6.32
Travel Expense	60.03		60.03
Webster Electric Co.	192.18		192.18
Total	1,773.91	1,069.93	2,843.84
Total Accounts Receivable	2,665.40	1,069.93	3,735.33
Less Accounts Payable	1,773.91	1,069.93	2,843.84
Balance on Hand, Jan. 1, 1970	\$891.49	0-0	\$891.49

Amount due Citizen's State Bank	
July 1, 1969	4,074.30
Interest	139.22
	4,213.52
	1,069.93
Amt. Paid	\$3,143.59
Amt. Due 1-1-70	





## The LisTEENing Post

*"I recently was saved when attending church with my girlfriend. My parents, who are not Christians, made me attend their church which isn't a Bible-believing church. My spiritual life is getting colder but I can't rebel against my parents since I'm not old enough to make my own decisions. I want so to continue in the joy I have. What can I do?"*

First, you can pray. Prayer has no limitations nor boundaries held by doors or walls. You can pray for your parents and your own spiritual growth.

Second, you can enlist the support of your girlfriend in praying for you and that of the church where you were saved.

Thirdly, you should start (if you haven't already) a time of Bible reading. "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." The same faith which caused you first to believe will likewise "keep you from falling." The Bible says, "Thy Word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against God."

May I ask you first, have you been a real good example of the Christian life before your parents? Do they know you were saved at your friend's church? Have you gone further in this experience by being baptized? These acts are public and should have been brought to the attention of your parents and by so doing help them to know more about the Christian way of life. Secondly, have you talked to them about your desire to attend the church where you felt Jesus Christ and the Word of God was being preached? Your sincere desire to serve the Lord will influence more than you will realize. If your parents are hard to deal with, pray that the Holy Spirit will speak to their lives by seeing a real Christian testimony in your life.

*"I have very strict parents who never miss church and always take me and encouraged me to go. But recently I was invited by the best player of the football team to a school dance. I didn't want to miss the opportunity to date this 'handsome guy' that I accepted. I thought we could just sit as everyone else danced. But he thought I was just being silly for not wanting to dance so he chided me into dancing with him. It didn't take me long to see this 'handsome' boy was dirty inside. I asked him to take me home before the end and now he has told many I am a dead beat and not an interesting date. What can I do?"*  
**WHAT WOULD YOU TELL HER?**

## an editorial

**A**LL OF US are plagued by the malignancy of mediocrity, aren't we? It invades our educational pursuits. Instead of a disciplined striving for the fullest mental utilization possible, we, too, often are satisfied just to get by. A recent issue of *Education U.S.A.* contained an article entitled, "Students Demand Right to Cheat." It read as follows: "The London Observer reports that a 'new and ludicrous phase of student anarchy' has reached India — a demand that students be allowed to cheat on tests."

The same tune is played in our world of work, of church going, of teaching, and even in preaching. Though we do not cheat in the sense we often use the word, we do not give our best. The end result is our own lack of spiritual growth. This "get-by-itis," this malignancy of mediocrity, will not help churches to grow or souls to be saved, but it continues because of the lack of getting serious with Christ and His cause.

Are we Christians slowly but surely selling our birthright for the cheap and the utilitarian, forgetting the excellencies that have made us great? What's happening in our lives? Is the center of gravity the excellence of Christ or the expediency of this world?

It will not do for Christians to remain aloof from the misery of an anxious and troubled age. For our own sake, as well as for others, we must bring help and healing to the disillusioned and despairing, the perplexed and the lost of the earth.

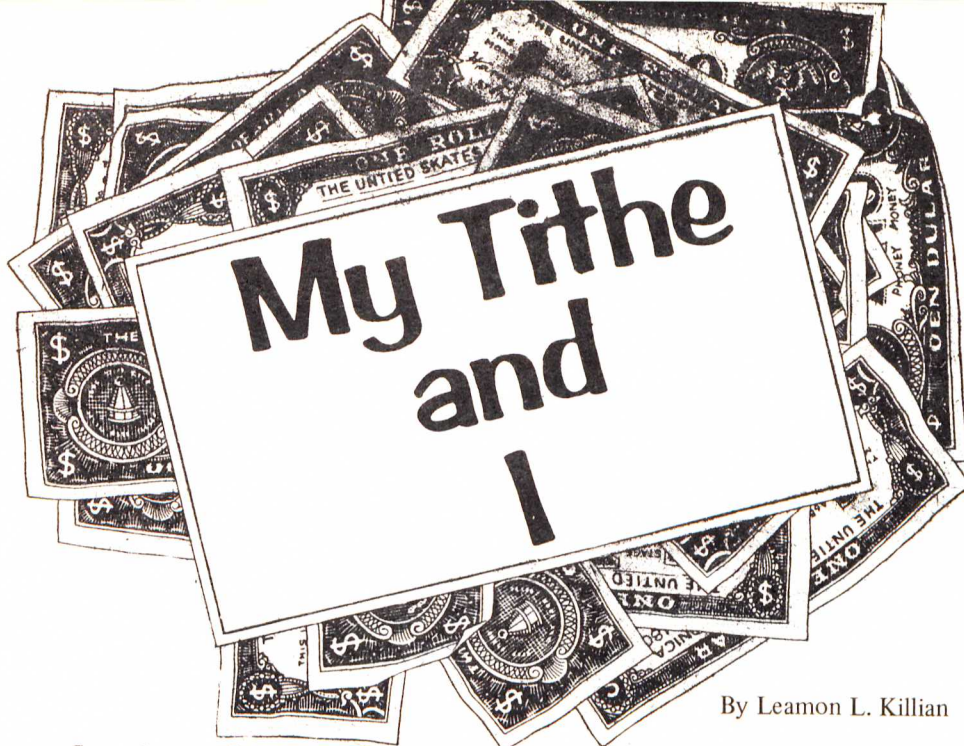
Amid all the needs of the church and the world, there is yet a strange disquiet in our hearts. We know that in the world people suffer from ignorance, famine, disease, the terrifying scourge of war, and the hungering of souls both for food and salvation. In our own areas the lost rely on the church for the salvation they desire but wait for the Christian to tell him. Will the Christian tell him?

In the midst of our enjoyment, gathered about our prosperity and festive tables heaped up with good things, can we honestly bow our heads and pray for world peace, for enduring brother hood of men, and not do our best in presenting the Gospel to lost men anywhere and everywhere?

Coolidge said, "Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not — nothing is commoner than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not — unrewarded genius is proverbial. Education will not — the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent."

I believe that if we are faithful in teaching, example, and witness, Christ will bless what we try to do, if not immediately then ultimately, in the lives of those He has entrusted to us. The Church is the greatest influence in this world of ours to overcome the present tendency toward greed. Let not the member have greed or else the church where he belongs will soon have greed however slowly. But the Real CHURCH, which is Christ, and found in the hearts of men, cannot be found with it.





By Leamon L. Killian

Sometime ago I wrote on the subject, "Does Your Church Tithe?", and have been asked by several of my Christian Brethren for another writing.

I have thought many times of the many departments of our denomination and the many ways of individual support. To me, the most important plan is through our state co-operative plan of giving, and this plan is sanctioned by several churches throughout the state. These churches give ten percent, or the tithe, of all monies received in offerings.

The church is the storehouse of God.

Malachi 3:10 . . . "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in my house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it . . ."

I like the first two words of this passage of scripture and think of it as a command of God. "Bring ye . . ." God is asking for each individual to bring his individual tithe into the storehouse. Under the co-operative plan the storehouse, in turn, gives their tithe to the support of God's work.

Now, back to my subject, "My Tithe and I."

As I enclose my tithe, in the small envelopes provided by my church, my mind pictures the many missionaries on the fields, sacrificing their all to take the gospel to those thousands upon

thousands of souls that are without Christ. And I breathe a prayer, "Dear Lord, may this offering be used in such a way as to bring glory to thy name. May it be used to reach out to those fields that are white already to harvest." And in my heart I know I've done my part to provide for our missionaries.

And when my tithe is turned in each week to the storehouse of God, I know that eventually it will be allocated to the various phases of our denomination.

Since I serve our church in the capacity of treasurer, I realize the many needs of the local church, and they are many. But I also know the needs of our denomination. Can we, as a church, hold on to all of the offerings received for local use, when we have missionaries who have sacrificed so much for the salvation of all those precious souls? May God forgive the church that does not . . . "Give of their means".

Each week my tithe is laid apart from my earnings before any of the remainder is used. Since all things are given us by God, it seems such a small amount to turn back to Him who gave so much.

"Bring ye" your tithe to the storehouse.

I am truly thankful for the blessings of my God as I give my tithes unto Him. If you have not experienced the opening of the windows of heaven and the outpouring of His blessings when you "bring ye your tithes into the storehouse", then may I recommend to you

that you try God's plan?

If we, as Christians, would follow God's plan of giving, there would be no special offerings made to support our local church. There would never have to be a plea for special offerings from our missionaries, from our Bible colleges, from our denominational work. All these various departments would automatically be taken care of through the co-operative plan.

Have you ever felt, as you drop a meager offering into the plate, that you have done your best for God?

In II Corinthians 9:6 we find these words, "But this I say, he which soweth sparingly, shall reap sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully, shall also reap bountifully."

Or do you have a feeling of humbleness as you drop in your tithe and know that you are giving cheerfully to the storehouse of God?

"Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give, not grudgingly, or of necessity, for God loveth a cheerful giver." II Corinthians 9:7.

Before closing, I would like to go back a few years to that memorable day in August, 1946, when the annual state association was held at Fredericktown, Missouri. Those of you who were there remember the bountiful blessings of God on that day.

As I remember, Rev. Damon Dodd brought the morning message, a message on the glories of Heaven. Surely, the very presence of God was felt by all. There were shouts of joy and tears of thanksgiving.

In the business of the afternoon the co-operative plan was proposed to the delegates of the state. And it was adopted. In the years since, thousands of dollars have been given through the plan and it has proven to be the one way to support our entire denomination.

My prayer is that all churches in our state of Missouri would go on record and adopt this plan.

"My tithe and I", we work together in the upbuilding of God's kingdom.

---

*Mr. Killian is a member of the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church, St. Louis.*





Woman's Auxiliary Editor  
Mrs. Eunice Edwards  
101 N. Sixth Street  
Desloge, Missouri 63601

January for another term of service in India. If you have gathered your support for this project, please send it on to Miss Hazel Hutsell, our State Treasurer.

#### PRE-EASTER WEEK OF PRAYER

The theme for this year, CHOSEN BY CHRIST... TO BEAR FRUIT (John 15:12-17), was prepared by Janice Cason.

An offering for Foreign Missions is to be received during the week.

The Easter season is not really very far away and for that reason it might be well to think seriously about our responsibilities to others. Of course, our soul-winning is a year-round privilege and no opportunity should slip by, but the Easter season seems to be a good time for more concentrated effort.

Did you ever think that the law of sowing and reaping is also applicable to our missionary giving? It is, you know. The scriptures teach this principle in a very clear, distinct way.

Jacob deceived his poor old, blind father with his brother's coat and a kid. Some thirty years later Jacob's sons deceived him with their brother's coat and a kid. Sowing and reaping works both ways: for good deeds as well as bad.

Anne of Austria is reported to have once said to Cardinal Richelieu, "God is a sure paymaster. He may not pay at the end of every week or month or year; but I charge you remember He pays in the end."

"Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance..." (Col. 3:24, 25). "Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free." (Eph. 6:8).

Another reminder: no one can even guess what God's reward to the righteous will be like - but we will never know if we don't reach Heaven; and the only way to Heaven is by faith.

Dear hearts, have faith in God! Give generously in the offering this year. Sow with both hands and be prepared for His generous harvest.

Therefore, my beloved ones in Christ, "Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

"Chosen by Christ... to Bear Fruit". What a Challenge!

#### VIBURNUM

Mrs. Betty Ferrell reports their Auxiliary received offerings for Missionaries during both their Pre-Thanksgiving and Christmas Auxiliary programs. She also reports their group gave fruit baskets to the elderly and shut-in during the Christmas season.

#### MONETT

The Monett Benevolence project for November was to take candy and cookies to shut-ins. The Missions project was to send a birthday card to a missionary and put in a little gift.

#### KIRKSVILLE

A skit was given by 9 members entitled, "Roberts Rules of Order" written by Missionary Lorene Miley, at our Enlistment Tea in connection with our Pre-Thanksgiving Week of Prayer.

#### BARNHART

The project of the Barnhart Auxiliary was collecting tooth paste, deodorants, and soap for the Arthur Billows in Mexico.

#### BERKELEY

The Berkeley Auxiliary reports sending 50% of their offering to the Francis Family of Home Missions and the Calverys serving in Japan under the Foreign Missions Board.

#### LEBANON (FIRST)

The Auxiliary paid \$100.00 on a

church debt, \$22.00 was given to Youth Camp for First-Aid station, an offering to the Ernie Deeds family in Brazil since our last report.

#### WEST PLAINS

The West Plains Auxiliary reports sharing in a number of local benevolence projects as well as giving \$10.00 to the Postlewaite family, \$25.00 toward purchase of a new organ being bought by the church young people, \$10.00 to the Maurice Cousineaus in Ivory Coast and the sending of a Christmas gift box to Calvin Dallius of their church who is in Viet Nam.

(Please share with us the projects, ideas that help your local group. Please condense your news to the items of interest throughout the state.)

#### WOMAN'S AUXILIARY RETREAT

Perhaps you think it isn't time to think about the Women's Retreat! Your writer grants you that there is snow, ice, and freezing weather reported throughout the state, but it is just the time to begin thinking, planning, and most of all, praying for the success of the meeting.

Please remember to pray for the committees charged with the responsibility of planning the program, etc. Also, please begin praying and planning regarding your attendance at camp. We're counting on you!

#### "LEND A HAND TO THE HANNA'S"

This project is worthy of our strongest support, so let's get going!

The Hanna's were due to sail in



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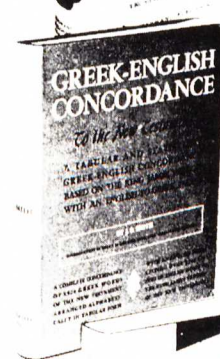
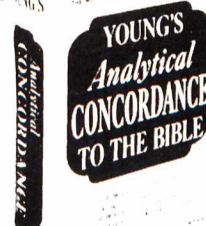
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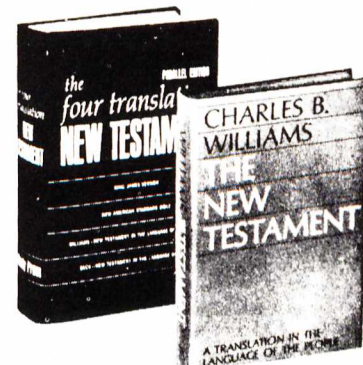
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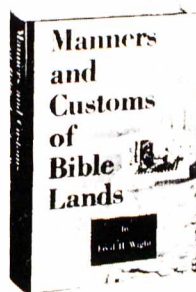
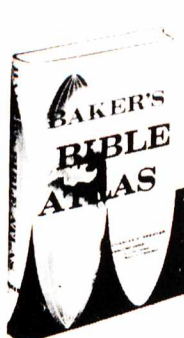
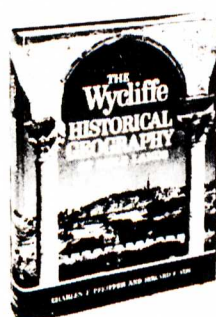
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## December Co-operative 1969

New Harmony S.S.	Nov.	\$10.31
First, West Plains		100.00
Hannon	Nov.	59.34
St. Joseph	Nov.	21.72
Berkeley	Nov.	383.36
Belton	Nov.	98.80
Parkview	Nov.	132.54
Farmington	Nov.	175.68
Fourth	Nov.	187.78
Mt. Grove	Nov.	271.70
Garfield	Nov.	35.41
Thayer	Nov.	61.97
Cedar Ridge	Nov.	72.68
Olivett	Nov.	110.00
Monett	Oct. & Nov.	231.94
Pleasant Ridge	Nov.	16.25
Central	Nov.	150.00
Victory	Nov.	185.60
Black Oak		30.00
Desoto	Nov.	85.00
Beacon	Nov.	187.63
Rock Chapel	Nov. & Dec.	43.73
Jones Chapel	Nov.	10.00
Copper Mines		55.00
Granby	Nov.	22.34
Hickory Grove		27.90
Carterville		30.31
Garfield	Nov.	24.87
Fellowship	Dec.	50.00
Union FWB		60.00
Belton	Dec.	90.00
Cedar Ridge	Dec.	64.10
Twin Oaks		100.00
Parkview	Dec.	101.24
Leadington		137.00
P. H.		2.00
A Cooperative Friend		3.80
Total Receipts		\$3430.00

December 1969 Disbursed:	
47.75% Nat'l FWB Ass'n..	\$1,637.83
1.00% Mo. Superannuation ..	34.30
1.50% Mo. CTS & S. S. ....	51.45
4.00% Youth Camp .....	137.20
4.00% Gem. ....	137.20
7.75% General Fund .....	265.82
16.00% Mo. Promotional ....	548.80
18.00% Mo. Missions .....	617.40
100% total disbursed	\$3,430.00

## PROMOTIONAL SECRETARY'S CORNER

**T**HE LIBERTY Quarterly Meeting assembled with the Mt. Zion Church, December 6th. All of their sixteen churches were represented. The Rev. Roger Harwell, pastor of the First Church of Lebanon, delivered the 11 a.m. message, and Bro. Walker, a newly licensed minister, preached at 3 p.m. I was given time to give our Missouri co-operative program also.

On Sunday morning, December 7th, I preached at the Calvary Conway Church where pastor Earl Irish reports some have been saved recently and affiliated with the church.

Sunday evening I delivered the sermon in the Cuba Church where Rev. Cletus Nichols is pastor. Pastor Nichols also reports some new members. This church resumed their Co-operative giving in October.

Mrs. Beatty and I got our two sons and their families in our home town of Thayer, Missouri for the Christmas holidays which we enjoyed so much. This was truly a white Christmas with the several inches of snow blanketing the Ozarks.

Sunday morning, January 28th, we worshipped with the Thayer Church where I delivered the message. That evening I visited the West Plains Church where pastor Dale Skiles delivered the evening sermon which is broadcast each Sunday evening over the local radio station. Following the sermon I was given time to offer commendations to this fine Co-operative participating church.

Please observe that our December Co-operative receipts were below average. Our average since August is about \$100.00 per month below our proposed average.



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## MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS GIVING 12-5-69 to 1-5-70

### Co-operative Receipts

December, 1969 .....	\$617.40
Olivet Church .....	25.00
Rock Chapel Church .....	20.00
Victory Church .....	98.39
St. Joseph Church .....	10.86
Fellowship Church .....	60.00
Hurryville Church .....	34.52
DeSoto Church .....	20.45
Cuba Church .....	12.95
Farmington Church .....	29.58
First Church—Flat River ....	14.07
Parkview Church .....	15.00
Central Church .....	29.47
First Church—Monett .....	50.00
Willow Springs Church .....	5.00
	\$1,042.69

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