



FEBRUARY 1971





Who is a Christian?

It was in the city of Antioch that followers of Jesus Christ were first called "Christians". Ever since then, the question has been raised as to what it takes to qualify for the name. Just who is a Christian?

Almost 1500 years later, Martin Luther raised the question in another setting. Could a man be a Christian if he could no longer in good conscience be a part of the organized church establishment?

What does make a man eligible to call himself a Christian? In our day, we frequently confuse social respectability with Christianity. We try, all too often, to conform to whatever is considered right and proper by our society. We think what the crowd thinks, say what the crowd says, and do what the crowd approves; and we try to convince ourselves that this is what it means to be a Christian.

His first disciples, "You therefore shall be perfect, as your Father in heaven is perfect."

Apostle Paul said it very well in these familiar words, "If I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing."

Who then is a Christian? The Bible doesn't provide us with a definite answer, all wrapped up in a neat little package. But there are many partial answers. One of the best of them is provided by Paul, using a negative approach, "Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ," he says, "does not belong to Him."

Jesus Himself gives us some help in many of His parables. He contrasts the selfless penitence of the Publican with the pompous self-righteousness of the "religious" Pharisee. He on a wayward son who returns home. He illustrates what it and that is a good reason to be happy.

means to express Christian love with the inspiring tale of a Samaritan who makes great personal sacrifice to care for a "hobody", ignored by "respectable" people who didn't want to get involved. He paints a remarkable picture of the final accounting, when the King says to those who have acted out their faith: "Come . . . inherit the Kingdom . . . as you did it to one of the least of these, my brethren, you did it to me.

Christians are first and foremost believers in Christ. But Jesus said, "You will know them by their fruits." A considerable part of the New Testament is devoted to giving details on these "fruits"-evidences of Christianity. We might think of these actions and attitudes as tests of Christianity. Let's look at a few of them.

What are our attitudes toward other people? All kinds of people. Jesus taught that human personality, in whatever form, shape or color it appears, is of supreme value. One repentant sinner, He said, could make the angels rejoice. God's love is for the entire world. Who does your love include? Does a man's color bother you? Are there certain individuals for which we can generate nothing but hatred? The very attitude we display toward other people are an immediate indicator of our fitness to bear the name Christian.

How do we handle our relationships with people who injure us? Either bodily or in our feelings. The old law said, "Hate your enemies." Jesus says, "Love them." The prevail-ing attitude of the natural man is, "Get even." The approach of Jesus Christ is, "Forgive." The way we handle these Christians by name are the followers of One who said to situations says much in answer to the question, "Am I a Christian?"

What are our attitudes toward our possessions, our Jesus called for more than respectability. He looked for abilities, our influence? Do we think of these gifts as strictly the kind of faith which expresses itself in acts of love. The private and personal property, to be used just for our own benefit? Jesus had some thoughts on this subject too. "If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all." The goal of the world around us is "Get." Jesus challenges us to "Give".

We would each do well to ask some highly personal questions along this line of thought. In our complex American life of today, it may not be so easy to distinguish who is Christian around us. But, perhaps the basic question. first to be answered, is, "Do I fit into the specifications of a Christian?" There can be no real question about the basic joyful nature of a Christian. When Christ lives in a persons heart, that person is alive, and he knows it. He has a purpose tells us the touching story of a loving father who lavishes love for living, regardless of his station in life. He is productive.

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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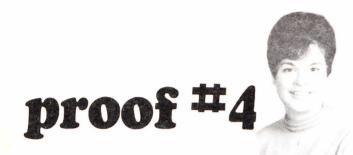
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To me, the most important aspect of Christian living is establishing a true, meaningful relationship with the Person—Jesus Christ. This means a lot more than following a list of "does" and "don'ts" or going to church every Sunday.

I was reared in a Christian home. Our family faithfully attended weekly, morning and evening church services. I was very strict in following the prescribed rules under the misconception that following them was what would make me into a good Christian. Don't deliberately misunderstand me—the rules that must govern a Christian's life do help. Even non-Christians can strictly live by them and be good people. I have learned that it takes more. Also, I tried to pray and read my Bible daily, but—what a chore!

What was missing? I would hear my Sunday School teacher express how wonderful it was to them having a personal relationship with Christ. How they had received true peace and happiness because He had changed their whole life. I still could not comprehend what they were saying to me. I soon began to ask myself, however, "Who is this Christ?" I knew about him, but I didn't know Him.

How did I get to know Christ as a person rather than knowing mere facts about Him? I can sum it up with one word: PRAYER. At first, my prayers were very few and with very long intervals between. Yet, God used these to reveal Himself to me. Not only as the great and powerful being, but also as a deep, personal friend.

As He began to reveal Himself as an important Person in my life, He began demanding that I turn over my life to Him. It was, as I look back, a gradual process. As I gave Him one part of my life and time, He laid claim to another, then another. At times, I would put Him off. Through this process, I found myself establishing a true, meaningful relationship with Him. He was no longer a meaningless, divine historical figure who lives "up there", but was becoming, and has become, a personal friend with whom I walk in my daily life. He has become the center of my life.

Today, I have found myself through Christ. Giving my life to Him has been such a gain—not a loss. Jesus himself says, "He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matt. 10:39) To give over my life to Him and let Him take control has given me my identity. As He works through me, His loving power is available to me. With his love and power I can do much more than with my own. It isn't always easy to give over to Him at times, because of my own selfish wants. Christ is not always an "easy" Person to live with or for, but many things worth while are not "easy". He always multiplies—returning to me what I give and then some. He has yet to fail me in time of need or distress. To think that as great as He is, He not only asks, but desires my fellowship! I find myself wanting to become more like Him. I am eager to share the biggest through the smallest things of my life with Him.

This Man . . . of Galilee

- Revealed Himself to me...though I was blind ... now I see.
- This Man . . . who is The Light
- Took me in my fright...through His loving power...dares me face the night
- This Man . . . of glory
- Deserving only praise . . . rescued me from my daze . . . changed me and my ways.
- This Man . . . of Life
- Lifted me . . . from constant misery and strife . . . I praise Him
- This Man . . . of Love
- Fluttering to me like a dove...sends rich blessings...from above.
- This Man . . . of Humility
- By His example points the way...when self pride...would master me.
- This Man . . . of Kindness
- Heals my destress . . . in Him I find . . . great peace and rest.
- This Man . . . of Sinlessness
- Took my guilt and stress...and fills the void...my emptiness
- This Man . . . of Peace
- In agony died . . . that through His death . . . I might be free.
- This Man . . . born a King
- Conquored Death . . . that with joy through Him . . . my heart can sing.
- This Man . . . of Galilee
- I long to be like Him... the demonstration of God's love... to you and me.

Glenda Welker is a senior at Southwest Missouri State College in Springfield. She is truly a living example of what a Christian should be. As an elementary education major and foreign language minor, she will soon be training children in the elementary classroom. We need more Christian teachers. Glenda serves as Secretary of the Campus Chapter of Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship and is an active testimony on the campus. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Welker, Glenda is a member of the Camdenton Baptist Church. We offer her testimony as Proof # 4 that many of today's youth are serving the True and Living God. We continue to solicit the aid of pastors and youth workers for pictures and articles to add to our Proof # file.

"ec-ol'o-gy, is the word"

EIVE YEARS ago, many of us did not even know what the word ecology meant, and now we are bombarded on every side by laws, proposed laws, demonstrations, news reels, bill boards, and campaigns of many varieties, all in the name of ecology or environmental control. Most of us have admittedly been a little shaken up by the ecologists' statistics and predictions such as this one by Salem Kirban, "It would appear to this author that the dual problem of air pollution and population explosion have reached an irreversible point. And the heritage that they will rapidly leave to the world is fast plunging us to Destiny Death." (Kirban, Salem, Guide to Survival, Tyndale House, Wheaton, Illinois, 1968, Page 62)

Or consider the prediction made by the secretary of agriculture, Orville L. Freeman, "The world will literally run out of food by the mid 1980's."

But since we have not recently seen anybody fall over dead from breathing polluted air, nor had to gasp for breath ourselves, (except for a small touch of asthma now and then) most of us have successfully ignored the ecologists' alarm, to spend our time worrying about more pertinent threats to our well being, like paying the current bills and such. And certainly we, as committed evangelicals, have more important concerns, what with a lost world to evangelize, a cold church to revive, and every Christian organization in the country with their hands out in our direction.

Now, I am not joining the liberal camp and trying to tell you that environment control is the primary ministry of the church or that it ought to replace soulwinning or become a major sermon topic, but I do believe that there are some things related to the environment problem that merit the concern and action of

people who claim to be the salt of the earth and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ.

1) The earth is part of the creation of God which has been entrusted to man for his care.

2) The Bible teaches that we are stewards of all that God has given us, and as stewards, must give an account of our stewardship of the earth and its resources.

3) We have a God-given responsibility to leave the blessings of the earth in tact for future generations, as Jesus tarries. Selfishness with natural resources is as wicked in the eyes of God as selfishness in any other area.

4) To do what we can to clean up our water, land, and air, and to prevent further pollution of the same, is right. It is the Christian thing to do.

5) You and I can do something about the pollution problem. It may be as little as using the litter bag in the car, or as important as initiating steps to control the flow of local industrial waste to prevent the contamination of our natural resources. But we have a responsibility to God, to ourselves, and to future generations to do what we can.

The Bible bears out the fact that God takes pride in His creation of the earth.

And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called He seas: and God saw that it was good. And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:10-12) Thou visiteth the earth. and waterest it: thou greatly enrichest it with the river of God, which is full of water: thou preparest them corn. when thou hast so provided for it. Thou waterest the ridges thereof abundantly: thou settlest the furrows thereof: thou makest it soft with showers: thou blessest the springing thereof. Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness. They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing. (Psalm 65:9-13)

God gave Israel these commands concerning the use of their land: "So ye shall not pollute the land wherein ye are," and "Defile not therefore the land which ye shall inhabit." (Numbers 35:33-34) Though these verses definitely make reference to immorality and sin, there is good reason to believe they also apply to pollution and defilement of the earth's natural resources.

I see no reason to doubt but that Isaiah 24:4-6 are prophetic of the pollution problems experienced in our day, and may even predict that because of the stubbornness and self-centered nature of man, that the worst of our environmental problems are yet to come.

The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish. The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof: because they have transgressed the laws. changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate; Therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned. and few men left." (Isaiah 24:4-6)

In his book, The Social Conscience of the Evangelical, Dr.

Sherwood Wirt writes a chapter about the problems of pollution in relation to the Christian. Concluding the chapter, he states, "The challenge to the evangelical is not to seek some esoteric panacea* of his own, but to put his shoulder to the wheel and get into the struggle as a working member of the twentieth-century society. He has a contribution to make; in the name of the Lord, let him make it." (Wirt, Sherwood Elliot, The Social Conscience of the Evangelical, Harper and Row, New York, 1968, Page 111)

My prayer is that we as Christians may see the need of environmental control, yea the demand for it, if our civilization is to function as God designed it; and further, that we may see our responsibility in this regard, and fit it into its proper place in our list of priorities.

- Dreaming alone of a people, dreaming alone of a day,
- When men shall not rape my riches, and curse me and go away;
- Making a bawd of my bounty, fouling the hand that gave—
- Till I rise in my wrath and I sweep on their path and I stamp them into a grave.
- Dreaming of men who will bless me, of women esteeming me good,
- Of children born in my borders of radiant motherhood,
- Of cities leaping to stature, of fame like a flag unfurled,
- As I pour the tide of my riches in the eager lap of the world.

-Robert W. Service "The Law of the Yukon"

* privately concocted cure-all type of solution

Note: Rev. Andy Lay is a graduate of the Free Will Baptist Bible College and is now serving as pastor of the Joplin Free Will Baptist Church. He serves Missouri as our member on the Oklahoma Bible College Board.



Dear Friends,

Glory to God in the highest, peace on earth, good will toward men " Well, Christmas is here again. Seems such a short time since last Christmas. We trust you and yours will have a very blessed holiday season. We are going to have a busy one.

Between now and the first of 1971, we have 3 weddings. Glenda and Danny will have an operation and we are going to be blessed to have visitors. So this will make Christmas seem more like being home. It has been 11 years since we have spent Christmas with our family, but almost every year we have visitors from the States, so this makes it less lonely.

Nov. 18, one of our On members passed away suddenly. She was the mother of the pastor's wife in Altamira. We tried to send a telegram to her, but to no avail. We notified the police to notify them. She passed away at 8:30 on a Wed. night. Eva and Lazaro wasn't notified until 7 A.M. Thurs. They tried to arrive immediately on a bus to Monterrey, since the law only allows 24 hours to bury a person. She had been buried one hour when they arrived.

The following day, we left for Cd. Acuna, Coah. to organize the mission there into a church. My, how our hearts were blessed! They have a real nice little chapel. It sits on the highest hill in Acuna. No matter where you are in the city, you can see the chapel that has "Free Will Baptist Church" in huge letters across the front. They have their lot and the small chapel. Our Mexican Assoc. of Free Will Baptist, loaned them \$320.00 to build a small two-room house for the pastor to live in. We earnestly ask you to pray for this small group. The opportunity is great.

Since Lazaro is president of our Assoc., he had to go with us. So while we were gone, some one broke into the parsonage in Altamira and took everything they could carry. Only left the furniture—even stole their clothes.... Well, these things we don't understand, but God knows. Do remember them in your prayers.

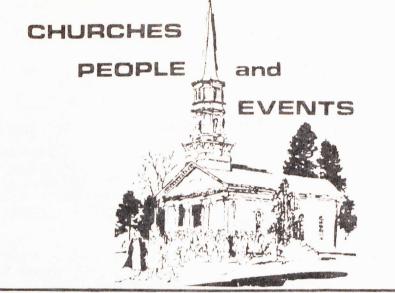
Also Sister Frances Radford visited us during the month of Nov. She went to 5 of our churches and was a real blessing to each one.

All the paper work is finished, so we will start building the chapel for the new mission in Tolteca. This is our second church here in Monterrey.

Also we have the new furniture for the school. Some 22 desk-chairs and 3 teachers desks. Also we are constructing another 4-room house on the school property for another teacher. We have barely begun.

Your gifts have made all these possible. Words cannot express our deep appreciation for your support. May God bless you richly, is our prayer. Again we wish you and yours a blessed holiday season. May our faith be renewed as we look back again to the birth of our Savior.

Your missionaries, Arthur and Jenell Billows



Pictured above is Deacon Orlie Phillips of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Monett, Missouri giving a check for \$568.00 to Dr. Laverne Miley, Medical Missionary to Ivory Coast, West Africa at the close of a very successful missionary conference in the Indian Creek Association of FWB in South West Missouri. Bro. Phillips is Missions Itinerary Director for the Local Association. He also presented a check for the same amount to Missionary Bill Fulcher of Panama. Mr. Fulcher and Dr. Miley were in the Indian Creek Association for a week in early December, ministering in Joplin, Monett, Blue-Eye, Merls Chapel, Macedonia, Pleasant Grove, Verdella, Granby, Neosho, Jones Chapel, and Carterville, with a final service on Friday Night with all churches attending at the Monett Church. The total proceeds from the conference in cash offerings was \$1136.00. There were also many pledges in monthly support. Deacon Phillips said of the conference, "The missionary conference was a blessing to me and I feel that each church shares this feeling with me. Bro. Miley and Bro. Fulcher helped us to understand their work and needs better."

On October 25, 1970, the fifth anniversary of the Koshkonong Church, they dedicated their building, debt free. The Lord has blessed the church in many ways. Pastor Davie Combs expresses their special thankfulness for additions to their number and God's continued blessings among his people. Without question, all *GEM* readers send their congratulations and prayers for continued blessing.

Victory is more than just a name for a congregation, for victory is truly the experience of Pastor Thompson and his congregation. This past month they witnessed nine saved, eleven rededicated, and eight united with the church. May God grant you continued blessing and new ways of service.

With 69 of their Sunday School members in attendance at the Sunday School Convention, Sunday, November 10, 1970, the Hurryville Church walked away with the attendance banner. Ken Dodsen of their church presented the Devotional. Rev. Tom Malone, from Free Will Baptist Bible College, spoke at the Hurryville Church that night in their evening worship service. Keep up the good work!

The First Free Will Baptist Church of O'Fallon held revival services November 30 through December 5 with Rev. Jim Summerson from Decatur, Illinois as the Evangelist. The Lord truly blessed with five decisions during the revival. Rev. Don Lombard is the Pastor.

Reverend Roy Thomas, pastor in Denver, Colorado, for the past ten years, has been employed as Deputational Missionary. Mr. Thomas replaces Reverend Robert Shockey.

Three missionaries' accounts are in special need of support at this time. They are: Reverend and Mrs. Mack Owens, Vermont, deficit \$2,372.82; Reverend and Mrs. James Nason, deficit \$1,680.57; and Reverend and Mrs. Rogers McCarty, Nova Scotia, deficit \$1,279.69.

Reverend and Mrs. John Postlewaite has left the work in the northwest and are now in Little Rock, Arkansas, pastoring.

Seventeen (17) states exceeded their suggested quotas in giving to National Home Missions in 1970. They are: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Georgia, Hawaii, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Hampshire, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee and Vermont. In addition, Puerto Rico also exceeded their quota and the Virgin Islands gave the exact quota.

Nashville, Tennessee—Plans for the 35th National Association of Free Will Baptists are rapidly taking shape. The first National was held in Nashville in 1935 and it is very fitting that on this 35th anniversary that the convention should return to Nashville. The HERMITAGE HOTEL, 231 6th Avenue North, has been selected as the Headquarters Hotel. 1000 rooms have been reserved in the downtown area of Nashville and all are within walking distance of the convention center, the Nashville Municipal Auditorium. Additional information relative to room rates will follow at a later date, but the HERMITAGE may be contacted directly now, if you desire.

Church Training Service Director, Sam Johnson, reports that the SHERATON INN, 920 Broadway, will serve as youth headquarters. Plans are also being made to host the largest number of young people in the history of the denomination.

The dates are July 12-15, 1971, Nashville, Tennessee. Make your plans now to go.

Over 100 teen-agers, pastors, and sponsors enjoyed a good dinner and heard Japanese student John Yasuda sing and testify at the Monett Church, November 28. The young people gathered from Lebanon, Springfield, Joplin, Jones Chapel, Merls Chapel and Monett. Sunday morning, November 29, John sang and preached at the First Church, Monett. Total offerings of \$128.00 were given toward John's account. Evangelist Cliff Bowman recently completed revival services at the Monett Church. Pastor McAllister reports four decisions made in the week long services.

Sunday, December 6, 1970, marked a "giant-step" of faith by the Salem Free Will Baptist Church. They voted to call a pastor to full-time service. Rev. Max Courtney was elected as pastor. God has already honored this step by a spirit of unity and added attendance in the few weeks now past. Now debt-free, the church looks forward to serving God with renewed dedication and requests the prayers of GEM readers in their behalf for guidance into service, opportunity for testimony, and courage to meet each step in this new venture for God.

Recent correspondence from the Free Will Baptist Bible College points out that Missouri has given \$13,500.00 toward our quota of support through November, 1970. Though this is an increase of \$1,248.54 over last year, it is still slightly behind the proposed schedule of giving on a percentage basis. Colleges of all kinds are finding themselves with financial problems because of the great expense of education. Our Bible College depends on us to meet the financial needs not met by tuition. This is one way we can serve God by serving others. Let's maintain a school "to be proud of" and keep our share in training those God has called that they may be sent.

NATIONAL TEACHER TRAINING MONTH

February is national Teacher Training month in our denomination. Our pastors are increasingly aware of the critical need for trained leadership in the church, especially for those who seek to teach the Word of God. Never before in the history of our nation has so much emphasis been placed upon education. We demand trained leadership and teachers in our secular educational systems, and rightly so. Can we afford to turn our children and young people over to untrained teachers in the Sunday school? Are not spiritual values eternal?

Psychologists and educators tell us that by the time a child is five years old his basic habits, attitudes, personality traits and character have been set as though in concrete. How very crucial then are these formative years. The preschool child spends only five hours a week in the environment of the church. This holds true only if he is present for Sunday school, morning worship, CTS, evening worship and the mid-week prayer service. This amounts to only 3% of the 168 hours in the week.

If valuable spiritual impressions are to be made on his life we ought to insure that he is exposed to the most consecrated, competent and capable teachers and leaders that we can supply.

Insist that your teachers and leaders receive regular training. Your Sunday School Department is anxious to assist you in this area. Plan now for a leadership training course in your church. Reach to teach, then teach to reach. That is God's plan. We can do no less! Write for helps.

Please send cop	bie(s) of the <i>GEM</i> to:	
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	ce of \$2.00 must be en to months to receive y ption.	
		-the Editor

news front

We are made aware of our great loss in the death of two faithful servants of God. Though this loss causes us to be sad, we still can see the kindness of an all-wise and loving Father.

Rev. Fred Harris went peacefully to sleep November 27. 1970. He had suffered several severe heart attacks and returned to God's service, but his work is now finished. Rev. Harris helped start the Mission at Crystal City and later pastored there. He also pastored the Fourth Church, Maplewood, and North Side, St. Louis. At the time of his death he was serving as Assistant Pastor and Sunday School teacher at Faith Free Will Baptist Church of Lemay. Those surviving thank all for your kindness and prayers, especially Rev. Bud Arnold, Pastor of Faith Free Will Baptist Church. "I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day. The night cometh when no man can work." (John 9:4)

Rev. Homer Smith died January 19, 1971. He had spent his entire lifetime in the Wright County area where he was active in the work of his denomination. He pastored the Mountain Valley church for 27 years, was among those who organized the Mission Association, and served as advisor and counselor to the young ministers sent out by the Association. The results of his influence cannot be measured, as can no man of God. He never doubted the wisdom of an all-wise God, spoke freely and often of the Christian's hope of resurrection and reunion, loved his church, and served his generation well. While he did these things, he inspired others to believe and do likewise. "For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord." (Acts 11:24)

May we so live and die.



Second place winner of the religious theme floats in the Christmas Parade, Lebanon, Missouri, went to the First Free Will Baptist Church. The float theme "The Whole World in His Hands" was depicted both by the papermache sculpture and the riders dressed to represent different countries. Pictured left to right are: Doyle Allen, driver, Sondra Parker, Lee Ann Engsberg, Karen Allen, Monty Hays, and Keith Allen. Congratulations!

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES

	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
DeSota		85	84	
Farmington		00	122	
Fredericktown, First			136	
Hurryville		07		
Koshkonong	01	87	93	
Lebanon, First	91	88	86	
Mine LaMotte		162	173	
Monett, First			49	
Mtn Creat	181	147	161	
Mtn. Grove, First	232	246	271	
Parkview			110	
St. Joseph, First			26	
Salem			41	
Springfield, First	230	227	220	
Trinity	100	221	152	
Victory				
West Plains, First			126	
Willow Springs			141	
of the springs			100	



Praise the Lord—"Talk... of all His wondrous works." During the month of September, the First Free Will Baptist Church of Lebanon participated in a nationwide Sunday School campaign sponsored by the National Sunday School Department. The campaign increase of 90.5% made the Lebanon Church a first place winner in its division. Pastor, Roger Harwell, states that the entire Sunday School staff is to be commended for their faithful service and untir-

On December 13, 1970, Roger Reeds, Director of the National Sunday School Department, was present to present the first place award earned by the Lebanon Church in their Sunday School campaign. Pictured are Roger Reeds presenting the award to Jim Hays, Sunday School Superintendent, and Pastor Harwell. The large Birthday Cake in the background topped with the big "5" was ing efforts.

Pictured here is the Sunday School staff with Pastor Harwell and Sunday School Superintendent, Jim Hays. From left to right: Rev. Bill Walker, Farris Garrett, Mrs. Jerry Bowman, Lehman O'Dell, Mrs. Russell Walters, Eddie Day, Pastor Harwell, Jim Hays, Mrs. Lloyd Wilkinson, Homer Mosier, Mrs. Roger Harwell, Ermil Hefton, and Woodrow Montgomery.

served with coffee after evening services as the final activity marking the fifth year in the new auditorium. Those present placed 280 candles on the cake. The lighted candles were blown out by the Deacons. The prayer of the Church is that they may continue to serve in such a way that God's continued blessing may go with them.



Ed. Note: Borrowed from the Trinity Newsletter. Thank you Pastor Spurgeon.

OUR INDIVIDUAL RESPONSI-BILITY

"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." (Romans 14:12)

- 1. FOR OUR TIME—"And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and saith unto them: Why stand ye here all day idle? They say unto him, because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive."
- 2. FOR OUR ACTIONS—"Talk no more so exceedingly proud; let not arrogancy come out of your mouth; for the Lord is a God of knowledge, and by Him actions are weighed."
- 3. FOR OUR WAYS—"For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish."
- 4. FOR OUR WORDS—"But I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment."
- 5. FOR OUR WORKS—"Every man's work shall be manifest, for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is."
- 6. FOR OUR MONEY—"And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury."
- 7. FOR OUR LIFE—"For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord; whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's."

9

by John Mark Vandivort

I spent about half of Christmas Day with a dear friend and relative in the waiting room on the intensive care floor of a large metropolitan hospital. My friend was among the number in the waiting room because of his concern for one of the patients, his mother.

About twenty or thirty friends and relatives of patients waited anxiously for a few minutes visit, word of encouragement, or realistic facts from their doctor. All of the people except my friend were strangers to me. I was surprised to observe how they all knew one another. During the days and nights of waiting with "hope" they had become acquainted on a first name basis. People of many walks of life shared a common concern for one another's loved ones. One person expressed, "We are like a family".

Occasionally a doctor would walk through the swinging doors. Someone would walk toward him with quick anxious steps—a sober discussion would follow. Sometimes there were tears and emotion. Someone in the waitingroom would ask to share the report. The word would be passed around the room—all shared the news whether good or bad.

The group shared the elation of a grandfather whose wife was being dismissed the next day. She

Forgiven, I hope.

had successfully received a heart pacer. The group shared the grief of a young wife whose husband had suffered a heart attack and was to ill to receive even a short visit. She could only pray and she did. Others prayed with her.

As I felt this scene I thought, "I have seen such "intensive care" somewhere before". The thought flashed, "in the church"!

The true Bible church is a family of believers. They share one another's burdens and rejoice over another's good fortune. Concerned brothers and sisters in Christ earnestly pray for the unsaved.

"O what fellowship, how precious is God's sustaining grace, what rejoicing when prayers are answered."—jmv

NATIONAL HOME MISSION GIVING

South Side, St. Louis \$ 27.50	
Mr. & Mrs. Billy Felts	
Mrs. & Mrs. Nathan Ruble	
Mr. & Mrs. L. R. Riggs 100.00	
St. Louis District Quarterly Meeting 50.00	
Jones Chapel 5.00	
Mr. & Mrs. William Daniel 10.00	
Mtn. Grove, First	
Grant Avenue	
Fredericktown Ladies Auxiliary 20.00	
Columbia, First 5.00	
Phillip Fry	
New Home	
Leadington	
Fredericktown, First	
Cape Girardeau Woman's Auxiliary	
Farmington	
Overland	
Salem	
St. Louis District Woman's Auxiliary	
Alton	
Willow Springs	
Willow Springs 28.00 Victory 19.62	
Olivet	
Monott First	
Monett, First	
Mt. Pisgah	
Olga Heldev	
Olga Helsley	
Mtn. Grove, First	
Fredericktown Ladies Auxiliary 15.00	
Fellowship	
Missouri Cooperative	
Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Denton	
Fellowship S.S. Class, Farmington 10.00	
Grant Avenue	
Macy Gregory 6.00	
M. Lee	
Central, Kansas City 29.84	
Total\$1,396.19	
Total to date\$12,714.45	
Needed to finish quota\$2,285.55	
Ed. Note: The listing of \$17.00 attributed to Mrs. Lloyd	
Walls in January should have been attributed to the Mt.	

Missouri State Home Mission Giving

Pisgah Church. Mrs. Walls sent it in for the church. Sorry.

Dec. 5, 1970 thru Jan. 5, 1971

Fellowship Church 69.00
Grace Church
Cuba Church
Alton Church
Myrtle Church
Hurryville Church
First Ch. O'Fallon 5.00
First Ch. Lebanon
Copper Mines Church 6.00
Hannon Church
First Ch. Waynesville 12.50
Olivet Church
Farmington Church
Union Church
Victory Church
Low Ground Church 5.00
New Rock Springs Church
New Home Church
Rock Chapel Church
Central Church
Belton Church 5.00
National Home Mission Board
Sunlight Missionary Conference
Rev. Earl Langley 8.10
New Harmony Church 7.50
Mine LaMotte Church 10.00
Parkview Church
Union Light Church
First Ch. St. Joseph 9.58
First Ch. Mtn. Grove
First Ch. Kirksville 25.50
Cooperative Receipts (Dec.)
Total\$1800.38

Secretary-Treasurer Rev. Lawrence Thompson 3416 N. Bellefontaine Kansas City, Mo. 64117



Ed. Note: As I look over the many wonderful things our ladies are doing through their auxiliary work I am reminded of the line from a poem which says, "He has no hands, but our hands." I thank God for these helping hands and pray God he will bless you greatly, as I am confident he will, as you serve Him in this important capacity.



The Monett Woman's Auxiliary reports an active October-December quarter. With an average of 15 in attendance and active in the work, an impressive list of accomplishments was possible: Sent get well cards to persons in the hospitals; provided clothing for a family whose home burned; made up and sent fruit plates to 12 shut-ins; and sent Christmas cards to the Missionaries with small personal gifts tucked in. "If ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethern, ye have done it unto me." A November banquet for area youth with John Yasuda as guest was sponsored, also. The Auxiliary added their special

offering of \$18.22 to the other money collected to add to John's account.



Regular meeting of the West Plains Ladies Auxiliary met January 4, with twelve members and three visitors enjoying an inspirational program centered around "Ministering Unto Christ." Reports and business acted upon revealed that the West Plains ladies are busy serving in the true sense of the Auxiliary. Pre-season Prayer services, food baskets for needy families, and a quilt mailed to the Greeneville Children's Home demonstrated the true Christmas Spirit. Offerings of \$10.00 for the Willey's in Panama; \$10.00 for the Langley's at Independence; \$20.00 deposited in the College Fund for Cathern Henry, and \$15.00 for the District Project evidence a realistic meeting of the challenge to send those whom God has called. A decision to fix a gift box for a nursing home resident and prayer ended the meeting.

ATTENTION WOMEN!!!!!

Remember Retreat is coming up May 10 and 11, 1971. This year a new feature will be added to the program. Hazel Hutsell will direct this new hobby display, "Show and Tell." So, start packing some of those lovely quilts, fancy work, paintings, etc. to take to Retreat. For further information, you may write Hazel Hutsell at Mountain Grove, 65711.

Plan to be present at Women's Retreat. Special planning will be necessary for many women if they are present. With many schools nearing their end of the school year, mother's will need to plan ahead to be able to care for their children and also attend Retreat.

It can be managed! Be assured of the prayers of your sisters-in-Christ for this purpose. Be doubly assured that Christ will make it possible for *you* to be present. Remember! "I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me."

See you at Retreat!

Bill Fulcher spoke to the Berkeley Free Will Baptist Woman's Auxiliary at their regular January meeting. The challenge of "Ministering Unto Christ" proved a blessing as the 13 members and one visitor present were sent out to witness to one person that week.



The Hannon Free Will Baptist Ladies Auxiliary met in the home of Mrs. Harold Smith, January 5. Roll call was answered with a verse of Scripture or a New Year's Resolution following the opening prayer. The Mission emphasis that Patsy Tyson and Ella Rae Jones was presented by Mrs. Jack Thorton. The hostess presented the lesson "Ministering Unto Christ". Decisions to send \$20.00 to the Nuttings in New Guinea and each member bring a book of trading stamps to send to the children's home in Tennessee.

GEM REV RONALD CREECH BOX 277 E DURHAM STA DURHAM NC 27703 COMP



RIDAY NIGHT, December 4 I attended the Niangua Ministers' and Deacons' meeting at the Cedar Ridge Church.

Saturday, December 5 the Liberty Quarterly meeting convened with North Side Free Will Baptist Church in Springfield. Each of the member churches was represented with delegates present. Pastor Tommy Boaz preached at 11:00 a.m. One of their licensed ministers preached in the p.m. service. Dr. Miley also gave a Missionary sermon. I was given time to explain the new 1970 cooperative allocation. Saturday night I attended Miley's Missionary service with the Lebanon First Church. The response to the cause of missions in our state is truly gratifying.

Sunday morning, December 6, I delivered the sermon in Conway Calvary Free Will Baptist Church. The pastor here is Earl Irish. That evening I delivered the sermon in Meramec Heights Free Will Baptist Church where Al Helms is the pastor.

Mrs. Beatty and I spent Christmas with our people in Thayer. Christmas weekend we visited with our son and family in Tulsa, Oklahoma. We worshiped Sunday in South East Free Will Baptist Church there. Their congregation recently completed and equipped their two-story educational building.

South Side, Faith, Fourth, and Overland Churches held joint New Year's Eve services in the Overland Church. Rev. Wagner preached the sermon.

In resume of 1970: we reached most of our projected goals, souls have been saved throughout our State, Missouri still leads the way in cooperative giving, and we are on schedule toward our \$56,000 Cooperative goal.

May the Lord prosper you in this New Year, 1971.

DECEMBER COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS
Granby\$ 11.71
Mt. Pisgah
Mine LaMotte
Hannon
Houston
Merl's Chapel
Belton 97.00
Verdella
New Rock Springs
Marshfield 16.00
Pleasant Ridge
Farmington 175.64 Berkeley 400.94
Cedar Ridge
10% transfered from FWBBC
to Foreign Missions
Salem
Olivette
Monett
Black Oak
Rock Chapel
Cabool
Grace
Cope
Bethel, Festus 40.00 Victory 281.34
Columbia
Thayer
Mtn. Grove
Fourth
Hickory Grove
Cooper Mines 60.00
Waynesville
Carterville
Нарру Ноте 21.60
Fellowship
Viburnum
Central
St. Joseph
Cope
West Plains
Waynesville
Fredericktown
Cedar Ridge 56.84
10% transfered from FWBBC
to Foreign Missions
South Side
Alton
Mine LaMotte 10.72
Garfield
Union Light
Willow Springs
Myrtle
Lebanon, First
Victory
Kirksville
TOTAL
DISDUDCEMENTE
DISBURSEMENTS 00.25% Superannuation
01.00% C.T.S. and S.S
04.00% <i>GEM</i>
04.00% Youth Camp
07.00% General Fund
16.00% Promotional
18.75% Home Missions
51.00% 7 Missouri Dents
03.00% O.B.C
00.50% Theological Com
01.00% Layman's Rd 55.08

00.25%	Superannuation 13.77
01.00%	C.T.S. and S.S 55.08
04.00%	<i>GEM</i>
04.00%	Youth Camp
07.00%	General Fund
16.00%	Promotional
18.75%	Home Missions
51.00%	7 Missouri Depts
03.00%	O.B.C
00.50%	Theological Com
01.00%	Layman's Bd 55.08
01.50%	Retirement & Ins 82.62
03.00%	С.Т.S 165.26
07.00%	Home Missions
10.00%	Executive Dept 550.85
10.00%	FWBBC
	less designated
13.00%	Foreign Missions 716.11
	less designated 14.39 730.50
46.00%	8 Nat. Depts
100.00%	Total Disbursed