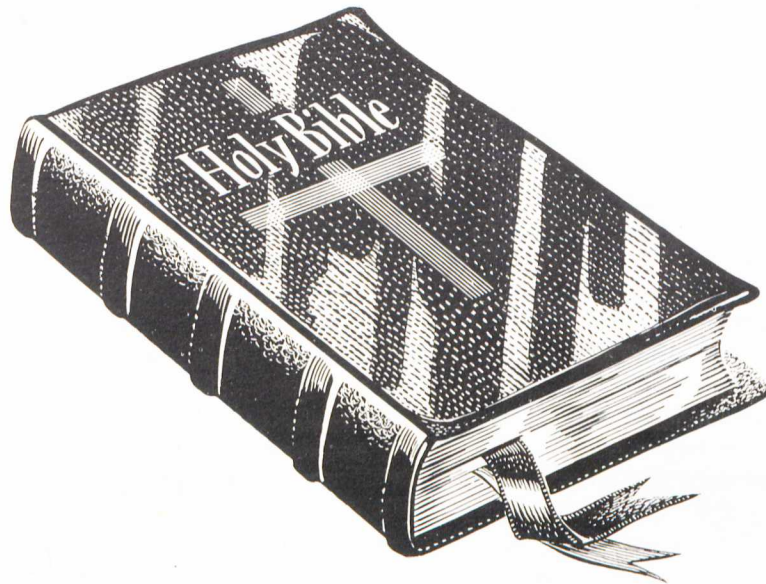


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FREE WILL BAPTIST

August, 1972
Volume 42
Number 8

Gem



Preaching and Teaching

With All Confidence

Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists
August 22-24, 1972
Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church, Springfield

Personal from the Editor



THE OSTRICH is the largest bird in existence today. In many ways it is very amazing. A fully-grown male ostrich may weigh up to 300 pounds, and is strong enough to carry a man on his back. When provoked, he is capable of killing a man. He can run with tremendous speed, but despite his wings, he cannot fly. When he senses danger he hides his head. For him, any danger he cannot see does not exist.

In Genesis 3:8 we find man doing much the same thing. This reference reports simply, "Adam hid himself." Here was the crowning glory of God's creation acting very much like an ostrich. He had committed the original act of rebellion and disobedience against God—so he hid. He knew what he had done. His wife knew. God knew. Still, Adam hid himself. Like the ostrich, he seemed to think if he couldn't see God, God couldn't see him.

People have been acting the same way ever since. Men have deluded themselves into thinking they can hide from God. Some try to hide by denying the very existence of God. Others simply ignore Him. But, strangely enough,

many of us find our escape from God in our religion. We build our own neat little religious ideas like so many little hiding places in which to hide our heads and then think all is well. It has been said that religion is like a rope; it can be used to rescue you or hang you.

It isn't very difficult to identify many of the "religious" escapes from the God of reality. For the moment, let us consider two.

The first is that old-fashioned virtue called *sincerity*. We place a great value on the sincere person, and rightly so. Nobody likes a "phony." The word itself tells a lot about the quality. It comes from two Latin words, *sine* and *cere*, meaning literally "without wax." It seems that some of the old Roman sculptors were not above a little corner-cutting once in a while. They had the practice of filling the accidental little gouges in their statues with wax and then selling them for perfect merchandise. The real article—the perfect piece—then came to be the one without wax. The *sincere* one. The word eventually came to describe the trait in people too—honesty, unaffectedness, open-

hearted genuineness.

We do admire sincerity. It is a basic virtue in all of life. And in a person's religious practice, we consider it absolutely indispensable. But there are some limitations. For example, we often hear people say, "It doesn't make any difference what you believe, as long as you are sincere."

A Christian—a real Christian—is sincere. An insincere Christian is no Christian at all. But sincerity alone doesn't make anyone a Christian. Sincerity by itself can never become a test of spiritual truth or an evidence of uniquely Christian conduct. Sincerity alone cannot save a man's soul.

If it could, then those 850 prophets of the idol Baal the Old Testament tells us about were right, and they were worthy of God's acceptance. They staked their all on the highly sincere belief that their idol-god could produce fire to consume the offerings on their altars.

If sincerity is enough, then the Apostle Paul was saved long before his conversion to Christ. Even then, he sincerely thought he was serving God by supporting the drive to annihilate those upstart heretics who called themselves "Christians."

If one needs only sincerity to be right, then Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin, Castro, and Mao and all the rest have given their names as well as their ideals a clean bill of health. No matter how violently we may disagree with them, there can be little doubt as to their sincerity.

Quite obviously, it does matter very

(Continued on page 10)

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

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CHURCHES PEOPLE and EVENTS

The National Home Mission Department is sponsoring a Conference on Evangelism October 9-11, 1972, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Monett. Rev. James McAllister is the pastor. Further information will be printed as soon as program plans are completed.

Missouri giving to National Home Missions was \$3,035.02 for the month of June. This makes a total for the year of \$8,049.54 leaving us \$8,950.46 short of our assigned quota.

Rev. Dale Pitts is available for full-time pastoral services. He has recently completed two years of Bible study at the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville and has been pastoring a church. He may be contacted by writing: Rev. Dale Pitts, Rt. 1, Stewartville, Mo. Phone 816-669-3533.

Rev. Melvin Knott assumed his duties as pastor, Sunday July 2, at the Kirksville Free Will Baptist

Church. Rev. Knott, his wife, Kathy, and three children Pam, Andy, and Mark moved to Kirksville from Illinois where he had been pastoring. They will be living in the church parsonage. Rev. Knott attended the Free Will Baptist College in Nashville. Rev. Jerry Pinkerton, who has been serving as interim pastor, along with his family, will be leaving for the Ivory Coast to serve on the mission field in the near future.

Brown Named Superintendent Of Year

Mr. Ronnie H. Brown of Cowarts, Alabama has been named Sunday School Superintendent of the year for 1971. Mr. Brown is Superintendent of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Dothan, Alabama where the Rev. Robert Shockey presently serves as pastor.

Mr. Brown is employed by Sears Roebuck and Company of Dothan, Alabama where he serves as manager of the men's wear department. He and his wife, Elaine were recently blessed with the arrival of their first child.

Ronnie has been instrumental in initiating a bus ministry in his church. He is active on two different visitation teams and promotes teacher training for his teaching staff.

During the course of the year 1971, the church was without a pastor for five months. In this period the Sunday school experienced a sizeable increase in Sun-

day school attendance.

On a recent Sunday there were 372 present in the main sanctuary with 102 in attendance for Junior church.

With dedicated, soul winning, superintendents like Ronnie Brown who support denominational ministries we shall continue to experience growth.



Recent Bible College Graduate Recovering From Highway Accident

Lorna Merrill, who received her B.A. degree from Free Will Baptist Bible College on May 11, was critically injured in a bus-truck collision in East Tennessee two days later. Lorna, a member of the Free Will Baptist Church of Carroll, New Hampshire, was on her way to Kentucky to raise funds for summer missionary work in Brazil when the accident occurred. Fourteen people on the bus were killed.

Latest reports on Lorna are encouraging. She has been removed from the critical list at Saint Mary's Hospital in Knoxville, Tennessee, and is showing signs of recovery from serious head injuries and multiple fractures of both legs.

Prayers for Lorna and her family are requested, that she might make a full recovery and continue in her service to the Lord.

Saturday night, June 3, Overland Free Will Baptist Church was the scene of a "Surprise" 25th Silver Wedding Anniversary Supper, given in honor of the pastor and his wife, Rev. & Mrs. Harry Asher. The church presented them with a "Silver Dollar Tree." A large crowd attended and it was a very enjoyable evening. We wish them many more "Happy Anniversaries."



MEDITATIONS. . .

I never spoke with God,
Nor visited in heaven;
Yet certain am I of the spot
As if the chart were given.

—Emily Dickenson

There the wicked cease from troubling; and there the
weary be at rest.

—Job 3:17

Set your troubled hearts at rest. Trust in God always;
trust also in me. There are many dwelling-places in my
Father's house; if it were not so I should have told you;
for I am going there on purpose to prepare a place for
you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I shall
come again and receive you to myself, so that where I
am you may be also; and my way there is known to you.

—John 14:1-4 NEB

As much of Heaven is visible as we have eyes to see.

—William Winter

Store up treasure in heaven, where there is no moth
and no rust to spoil it, no thieves to break in and steal.
For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

—Matthew 6:20

No man can resolve himself into Heaven.

—D. L. Moody

Heaven is a cheap purchase, whatever it costs.

—Thomas Fuller

Missouri
State Home Mission
Giving:
June 5th - July 5th, 1972

Mine LaMotte Church	10.00
Olivet Church	120.00
First, St. Joseph	11.59
First, Monett	25.00
New Home Church	20.00
Willow Springs Church	26.00
Thayer Church	11.50
New Rock Springs Church	28.45
Victory Church	62.48
Parkview Church	16.00
Cuba Church	4.00
First, West Plains	40.00
Beacon Church	31.65
First, Lebanon	15.00
Union Light Church	33.00
Myrtle Church	10.51
St. Francois Qtly.	75.00
First Church O'Fallon	5.00
Low Ground Church	5.00
First, Farmington	11.00
First, DeSoto	20.00
Grace Church	33.32
South Side Church	5.00
First, Joplin	29.17
Fourth Church	24.00
Salem Church	10.00
Coop. Receipts	749.99
Total	\$1,432.66

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGES, 1971-72

	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Central								120	128	135	120	119	115
Copper Mines	91	95	100	90	91	96	91	81	89	92	102	87	
Cuba								77	81	76	85	83	
DeSoto	84	91	100	106	125	114	105	100	115	142	133	125	123
Farmington	119	112				122						125	
Fellowship							192	203	217	271	187	275	266
Fredericktown	139	115	130	139	145	137	152		153		194		
Fourth		93	111	102	125	113	125	112	122	148	151	126	123
Happy Hill								77	81	76	85	83	
Lebanon, First	177	127	144	189	189	152	150	137	150	186	153	163	164
Mine LaMotte	37	47	35	40	39	41	45	35	43	58	56	43	40
Myrtle					57	56	57	48	55	56	61	57	58
Parkview	96	98	103	95	105	95	93	86	94	94	100	92	87
Salem	40	34	39	39	40	44	43	44	46	42	41	39	35
Trinity	159	192	146	181	215	186	190	169	178	227	197	204	181
Victory		97	105	111	117	105	97	110	125	130	126	120	126
West Plains	134	126	130	149	150	148	151	137	141		151	149	140
Willow Springs	97	100	99	98	97	96	104	88	103	103	125	99	

New Bible College Film Available To Churches

Free Will Baptist Bible College recently released a full color 16mm film on the school's ministry. The 18-minute film is available to churches wishing to use it for special Bible College promotional services. Narrated by President L. C. Johnson, the movie will introduce viewers to the school, show scenes about campus, including new buildings, while drawing a sharp line of demarkation between secular and Christian education. Literature, including the school's new color "Panorama" brochure, will be sent for use in the special FWBBC service.

To reserve the film, direct requests to the school's Public Relations Office. Specify first, second and third preferences as to dates in order to avoid possible scheduling conflicts. Give approximate number of people expected for the service so that the proper amount of literature may be included.

To make arrangements for the film, write FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE, Office of Public Relations, 3606 West End Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee 37205, or phone 615-297-4676.

Bible College Gifts Set New Record; Request \$250,000 For 1972-73

Free Will Baptists gave a record \$227,700 to the Bible College general fund during the school's 30th year, June, 1, 1971-May 31, 1972, Public Relations Director Paul Kettelman announced recently. Seventeen of the 29 states that operate under general fund quotas met or exceeded their quotas and pushed gifts to more than \$27,000 above the anticipated \$200,000 gift budget.

These "second mile" gifts went far in helping to cover the extra cost incurred by the school with a new record enrollment of 534 students.

Anticipating another jump in enrollment, the Bible College

Board of Trustees has recommended to the National Association that a gift budget of \$250,000 to the general fund be set for 1972-73. New state quotas have been set to help the school reach this new gift budget.

Missouri exceeded her assigned Bible College quota of \$14,000.00 by giving \$16,465.87 during 1971-72. The 1972-73 quota assigned is \$16,500.00.

What Does A Pastor Do?

The pastor teaches, though he must solicit his own classes. He heals, though without pills or knife. He is sometimes a lawyer, often a social worker, something of an editor, a bit of philosopher and entertainer, a salesman, a decorative piece for public functions, and he is supposed to be a scholar. He visits the sick, marries people, buries the dead, labors to console those who sorrow and to admonish those who sin, and tries to stay sweet when chided for not doing his duty. He plans programs, appoints committees when he can get them; spends considerable time in keeping people out of each other's hair; between times he prepares a sermon and preaches it on Sunday to those who don't happen to have any other engagement. Then on Monday he smiles when some jovial chap roars, "what a job—one day a week!"

Ed. Note: Supplied by a "collector of articles." Thank you Sister Collector.

C. H. Spurgeon related the story of a distinguished Christian lady who was spending a few weeks away from home in a hotel. An attempt was made to induce her to attend a dance, in order that the affair might have the prestige bestowed by her presence, as she stood high in society. She declined all the pleadings of her friends. Finally an honorable senator tried to persuade her to attend, saying, "This is quite a

harmless affair and we want to have the exceptional honor of your presence." "Senator," said the lady, "I cannot do it, I am a Christian, I never do anything in my summer vacation, or wherever I go that will injure the influence I have over the girls of my Sunday school class." The senator bowed, and said, "I honor you; if there were more Christians like you, more men like myself would become Christians." HOW ARE YOU LIVING, CHRISTIAN? Are your actions spiritual, or carnal? Remember 1 Timothy 4:12 "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity."

Ed. Note: Borrowed from the Sower of the Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church. Thank you, Pastor Doggett.

Worship Depends So Much On Me

My being in church on the Lord's Day to participate in the service of worship depends on me. I am free to go or stay away—that is one of our American liberties. I can tell myself that the weather is too bad, or I'm too tired, or it's a good day for a drive in the country.

I can go to church in the wrong state of mind. I can sit and refuse to sing. I can be indifferent and be uncooperative. I can criticize the preacher, grumbling about the imperfections of the sermon. In this way I can miss the whole meaning of the message by thinking about the faults that are human to all.

I can think that the people in the congregation are stuffy and hypocritical, and I can leave the church, feeling quite superior.

But what have I gotten out of going to church? I have gotten just what I gave. If my attitude is wrong and I have not communed with God, I am the one who is losing by it.

What is your attitude?

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

Youth Camp

Youth Camp is many things to many people. And it is possible because of the efforts of many different people. However, one very important person is the resident Camp Superintendent and his family. Pictured here are Rev. Pinkney Askren and his wife Mary (center) our new resident superintendent along with their son, Rev. Raymond Askren, and daughter Fayettea.



... some less serious moments of sharing ...



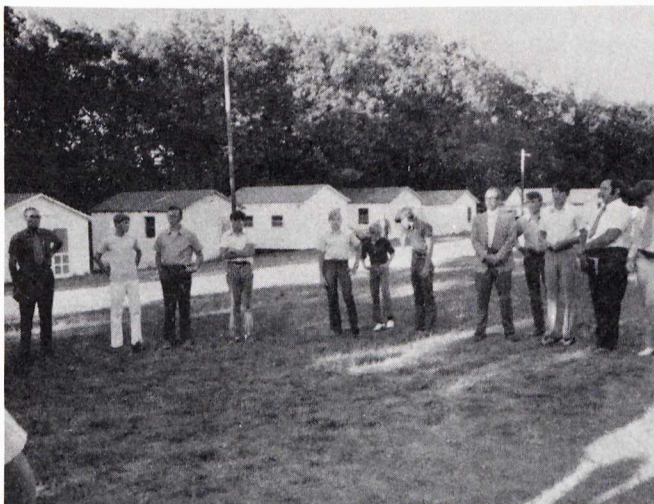
Camp is trying hard to win that ping-pong game.



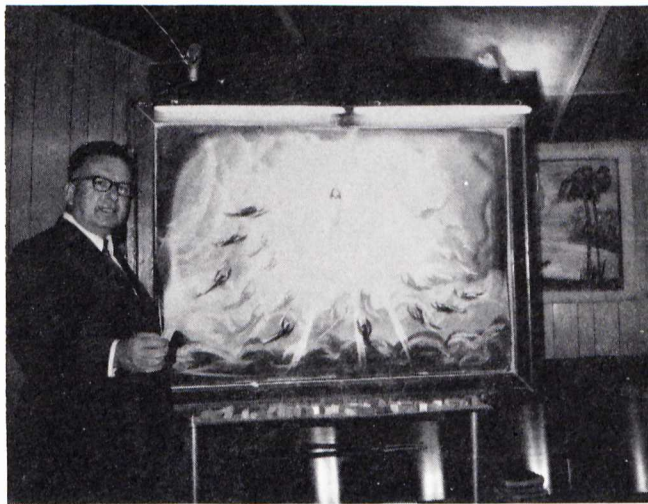
... visiting with those friends and family who have come down for the evening service ...



... prayer circle just before the evening services to prepare our hearts and minds for God's message ...



... and the evangelistic service—presented this year most capably in word and picture by Brother Bronco West.



IT ALL ADDS UP TO A WONDERFUL TIME OF BLESSING AND FELLOWSHIP IN THE LORD.

"It was wonderful." "What a great time!" "We will be back again next year." These were some of the remarks made by the teens as the Teen Session of Youth Camp ended.

It was a wonderful and exciting week. The Lord blessed from the beginning to the end. The most important thing that can happen in any camp session is for souls to be saved. This happened and we rejoice in the Lord. There were several professions of faith, rededications and some who responded to the call of the Holy Spirit for future full-time Christian service. May the Lord bless each decision for His glory.

The class sessions were informative, helpful, and challenging. The young people listened to capable instructors in classes such as: "Right or Wrong," "Happiness Is," "A Study in John's Epistles," and "Missions." Also, there was a class for new converts, establishing them in their facts in Christ. Only eternity will reveal the good that was accomplished as a result of these studies.

There was something special this year in the evening evangelistic services. Rev. Bronco West (believe it or not, he wasn't a cowboy) from North Carolina climaxed each message with an impressive drawing. Then there was fun-time each evening following the time of refreshments and fellowship.

It would be well to mention as a source of encouragement and praise, it seems that each camp session has one evangelistic service that is especially outstanding. This year it is not to be left out. On Wednesday evening as the invitation was being given it seemed the sweet Holy Spirit opened the windows of Heaven and "showered us with blessings." Could it have been that many Free Will Baptists throughout the state of Missouri were remembering the Teen Camp Session in prayer at their Mid-week Prayer Services—could it have been—I think so! There is power in prayer.

The Teen Session for 1972 is history now; but as a result of it there were approximately 300 people especially blessed. It was a great time. We met new friends; renewed old friendships; enjoyed experiences we shall long remember. With this memory we express our thanks to God and look forward to 1973.

Ed. Note: Brother Clarence Burton was Camp Director for the Teen Session. Thank you Brother Burton for sharing with us the things you saw God accomplishing at Teen Session this year.

THE ROMAN'S ROAD

In soul winning we hear a lot about THE ROMAN'S ROAD. This is a simple outline that can be used to lead someone to Christ. You should commit this outline to memory for your own personal use in winning souls. We are going to give you the outline in this article so you can use it to win a soul for Christ.

ROMANS 3:10—Before a sinner can repent of his sins and be saved, he must first realize that he is a sinner and stands in need of

divine help. This verse will give that proof.

ROMANS 3:23—This scripture further proves that a man is in need of salvation. This verse tells us that no one is exempt from sin but all have sinned.

ROMANS 5:12—This verse tells the unsaved man that not only has he sinned and failed God, but the punishment for his sin is death. At this point he sees himself in a hopeless condition.

ROMANS 5:8—Now, in this verse, for the first time since we stepped on the ROMAN'S ROAD, we see a light of hope. In this scripture we have a great promise. "While we were yet in sin, Christ died for us." Here is hope. Now all we need to do is learn how to get in touch with this one who died for us so we might live.

ROMANS 10:9—This verse tells the exact steps that are required to make contact with the Christ who died in our place. He has

offered to us salvation. Here is the way to meet Him and claim this wonderful gift He has offered.

ROMANS 10:10—Here in this verse He tells us of the way of salvation. We may be told of man of other ways but this is the only way.

ROMANS 10:13—Here the plan is made simple. Here salvation is promised to every person regardless of who he is or what he has done.

Get your Bible and mark these good verses and use them to win a soul for Christ.

Outside of your own salvation, the greatest blessing is to see one saved.

Ed. Note: Pastor Max Courtney has no claim to the Roman's Road soul winner's outline, but we thank him for the use of this particular version which we copied from the Salem Church's Mid-Week Reminder.

COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS, June 1972

Marshfield	\$ 26.56
Pleasant Grove	23.42
Gray Summits	20.50
Mine LaMotte	13.08
Number One	26.48
Hannon	89.50
Black Oak	30.00
Rock Chapel	18.15
Aurora	27.10
Pleasant Ridge	20.80
Salem	20.00
Gateway	52.00
Neosho	57.00
Belton	105.00
Leadington	139.20
Grant Avenue	175.67
Garfield	19.41
Waynesville, First	92.35
Olivet	120.00
Grace	221.46
Merl's Chapel	39.08
Verdella	39.75
Thayer	50.75
St. Joseph	23.19
Houston	108.00
Monett	206.47
Berkley	300.80
New Rock Springs	50.00
Happy Home	16.70
Columbia	43.31
Union Light	46.52
Carterville	25.30
Copper Mines	60.00
Twin Oaks	150.00
Fourth	222.47
Fellowship	50.00

Bethel, Festus	40.00
Farmington	205.93
New Harmony S.S.	21.60
Beacon	160.25
Hickory Grove	20.70
Pleasant Grove	28.00
Cabool	104.04
Willow Springs	79.47
West Plains, First	110.00
Garfield	24.76
Fredericktown	580.97
Cedar Ridge	69.51
Total Receipts	\$4,225.25

DISBURSEMENTS

17.75% Mo. Missions	\$749.99
16.00% Promotional	676.04
05.50% GEM	232.69
04.00% General Fund	169.01
03.50% Youth Camp	147.88
04.00% Book Store	169.01
01.00% S.S. and C.T.S.	42.25
00.25% Superannuation	10.56
51.00% 8 Mo. Depts.	\$2,197.13
03.00% Hillsdale College	126.76
00.50% Theological Com.	21.13
00.50% Layman's Bd.	21.13
01.50% R.E.A.P.	63.37
03.00% C.T.S.	126.76
07.00% Church Extension	295.77
09.50% Executive Dept.	401.40
10.00% F.W.B.B.C.	422.52
less designated	6.95
13.00% Foreign Missions	549.28
plus designated	6.95
45.00% 8 Nat. Depts.	\$1,901.36
100.00% Disbursed	\$4,225.25

Tips On Drug Abuse

PREVENTION FOR THE PARENTS OF A YOUNG CHILD

—First of all, consult your physician to determine when and how much medicine to give your child. Remember, aspirin, vitamins, and cold tablets are drugs, too. Your doctor should advise on these.

—At home, you control your child's medication. Don't encourage a young child to open his medicine or get it for himself unless you are there to guide him. Keep all medicines out of easy reach until your child is old enough to be trusted to use prescribed medicines properly.

—Always give the medicine to your young child. Have him take it in your presence. Never leave a bottle of medicine in a young child's room. Stick to the doctor's recommended dosage. If in doubt, check.

—Do not let the baby sitter give medicine to your child unless it is absolutely necessary. Write down all instructions for giving the medicine so the sitter will make no mistakes.

—Do not place undue emphasis on the taste or effect of a medicine. The child's confidence should be in you and the doctor that the medicine is necessary and not to be taken as a delightful experience.

—Everyday drugs matter, too. This applies to vitamins and aspirin, as well as prescription drugs. The child must be taught that drug use decisions are in the hands of the doctor and parents until he is responsible enough to take medicine on his own.

—What kind of example do you set:

1. Do you take too many medicines?
2. Are you dependent on any drug (including alcohol)?
3. Do you have a lot to say about how much better you feel after taking medicine?
4. Do your children see you run for the bottle of aspirin, tranquilizers, or alcohol when you get angry or upset?

If so, you should try to change your attitudes and approaches



to these matters. Maybe you are abusing the use of drugs.

—Show your child that you can stand a certain amount of pain or emotional upset without turning to drugs or drink for quick relief every time.

—Medicine is no substitute for tender loving care. Love and understanding help a child learn to handle pain and sickness which are a part of every life. There are no magic drugs to make them all go away. Drugs can only help.

—Drugs, however, are a part of our lives. We cannot avoid them. Treat them carefully as a temporary necessity to correct a condition for which your physician has prescribed the particular drug.

—If your pre-schooler does take medicine without permission, handle the incident firmly but with no lectures on drug abuse. Try to set up good drug

use habits so your children will learn to think of drugs as medical aids, not sources of pleasure.

—Most of all, look forward to setting a good example of living in a way that discourages drug abuse. Encourage your child to enjoy life, to seek out satisfying and varied experiences. He can do this more easily if he sees you doing these things and enjoying yourself without always having the crutch of drugs or drink.

Ed. Note: The above suggestions are published by the Department of Health Education and Welfare in their Publication No. (HSM) 71-9066. Single courtesy copies of the publication may be ordered from National Clearinghouse for Drug Abuse Information, P. O. Box 1080, Washington, D.C. 20013.

(Continued from page 2)

much *what* we believe, as well as how sincerely we believe it. Fortunately, our Christian faith gives us a kind of checklist by which we can test our sincerity to see if it is pointed in the right direction:

... If that sincerity of faith leads us to recognize that we just do not measure up to the requirements of a just and perfect God...

... If it drives us to an experience of real repentance over our hopeless condition without God in our lives...

... If it points us to Christ as the way out of our dilemma, as the Center of a completely new way of life...

... Then, and only then, is it genuine. To place faith in anything less, no matter how sincerely, is to engage in "ostrich religion."

An equally self-deceptive religious hiding place is *morality*. We would all agree that the Christian faith provides us a highly-developed moral code. In fact, the stress on morality is so strong that we sometimes get a mistaken idea. We get the notion that Christianity and morality are one and the same—that if you live a certain way, you are a Christian, and vice-versa. But that kind of belief is sand too. To adopt it is to

hide your head and your vision from the reality of the genuine Christian faith.

One thing the Bible makes abundantly clear: a follower of Christ *is* a moral person, but his moral living is not the quality that saves him. Morality cannot be a substitute for the real substance of Christianity, which is faith in the saving Christ.

It is at this point that we meet the oldest and most widespread heresy in religion. Take any of the world's non-Christian religions and reduce it to its fundamentals, and you will always find the same. Each one is basically a system of moral behavior, and little more than that. Each one bases a person's chances for a good afterlife on the moral quality of the life here and now. The Christian faith stands alone in holding up Christ, not good living as the key to eternal life.

There *is* a difference. Morality is man-made. It varies with the society and the culture of the times. Its goal is to reform the behavior of people to a certain level. But Christianity is God-made. It is interested not just in reforming, but in transforming people into the image of God. Simple morality has no need of a church, a Bible, a Christ, a cross, a resurrection, and a hereafter. But Christianity has need of them all. Moral-

ity is man's duty to man. Christianity is man's duty to God. Morality is sometimes interpreted as man's right to sin nicely. Christianity is a drive that God's Holy Spirit can put inside a man to make his life take on the qualities of the life of Christ.

It is fully possible to be an atheist and be moral. Morality makes good sense, and we encourage it in all men. But men are not made religious or God-pleasing simply by conforming to a moral code, desirable as they may be in its own right. It takes the action of God Himself in us to produce the quality of living that genuinely pleases Him. If for us the heart of the Christian faith is found in the Golden Rule rather than in the rule of faith in Christ, then we are not facing the divine truth of God.

Have you ever seen a bird beat itself to death against a closed window, trying to escape from a room, when all the while the door is open? The glass proves to be a blockade to freedom. Too many people beat themselves to death against the window panes of such deceptions as sincerity and morality, while all the time the door of Christ stands invitingly open. Let us with Paul "know nothing... but Christ and Him crucified."



Go into your chamber, shut the door, and cultivate the habit of praying audibly. Write prayers and burn them. Pay no attention to literary form, only to spiritual reality. Read a passage of Scripture and

then sit down and turn it into a prayer, written or spoken.

Learn to be particular, specific and detailed in your prayer, so long as you are not trivial. General prayer, literary prayers and stately phrases are, for private prayer, traps and sops to the soul. To formulate your soul is one valuable means to escape formalizing it. This is the best, the wholesome, kind of self-examination. Speaking with God discovers us safely to ourselves. We find ourselves, come to ourselves, in the Spirit.

Face your special weaknesses and sins before God. Force yourself to say to God exactly where you are wrong. When anything goes wrong, do not ask to have it set right, without asking in prayer what it was in you that made it go wrong. Pray without a break between your prayer and your life. Let prayer be concrete, actual, a direct product of life's real experiences. Pray as your actual self, not as some fancied saint.

—Peter Taylor Forsyth

Woman's Page

ABOUT OUR STATE AUXILIARY BANQUET . . .

The guest speaker for our banquet this year, Mrs. Umbelina Landera is a native of Havana, Cuba. She holds degrees from Normal School for Elementary Teachers, University of Havana, and St. Louis University.

In 1962 The Landeras left their native country and came to the United States as refugees of the communist regime. They lived in Marshall, Mo. where Mrs. Landera taught Spanish in Elementary and Junior High. In 1966, they moved to Webster Groves, Mo. where Mrs. Landera now teaches Spanish at the Senior High.

The Landeras are products of Baptist Mission work in Cuba. They were very active in denominational work from 1957-1962. Mrs. Landera was president of the W.M.U. of the West Baptist Convention. It is truly an honor to have such a servant of the Lord speak at our State Banquet.

NOTES AND NEWS

The West Plains Auxiliary has selected the Bob Carrs of Fairbanks, Alaska and the Bill Fulchers of Panama as their missionary families for this year. They have also started a savings account to aid a young man from their area in furthering his Christian Education . . . The Joplin Auxiliary Prayer Circle has had two meetings where the women met and exchanged coffee mugs. Each lady brings a coffee mug with her name on it to the Prayer Circle. The ladies exchange coffee mugs and pray all month for the lady whose coffee mug they received . . . The WNAC is sponsoring an annual creative writing contest to provide new ideas for plays, skits and programs. For further information write: Editor, WNAC, P. O. Box 1088, Nashville, Tennessee 37202.

THE BOTTOM WILL NEVER DROP OUT OF
YOUR HOPE IF IT RESTS ON THE ROCK OF
AGES

STEP BY STEP

He does not lead me year by year,
Nor even day by day,
But step by step my path unfolds
My Lord directs my way.

Tomorrows plans I do not know
I only know this minute:
But He will say, "This is the way,
By faith now walk ye in it."

And I am so glad that it is so
Today is enough to bear,
And when tomorrow comes, His grace
Shall far exceed His Care.

What need to worry then, or fret?
The God who gave His Son
Holds all my moments in His Hand
And gives them one by one.

—Author unknown



"TRY IT . . . YOU'LL LIKE IT"

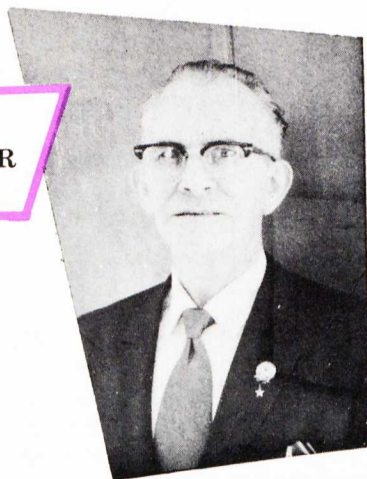
Here is a delicious punch recipe which comes to us from Fern Ellis of Duenweg, Missouri:

Boil together for three minutes: 6 cups of water and 4 cups of sugar. Let cool. Add the juice of 2 lemons, 1 large can of frozen orange juice, 1 large can of pineapple juice, and 5 bananas (mashed).

Pour into milk cartons (usually 2 half gallon cartons) and freeze. When ready to serve, put in large punch bowl and add 2 large ginger ales. You can garnish with orange slices, maraschino cherries. Serves about 30.

PRAYER IS THE MEANS BY WHICH WE GET WHAT GOD WANTS US TO HAVE

**PROMOTIONAL
SECRETARY'S CORNER**



SATURDAY, June 3, Liberty Quarterly Meeting assembled with Second Free Will Baptist Church in Lebanon. Fifteen churches represented by delegates. They received one church and delegates by petitionary letter and a verbal report from Fordland mission by Pastor Crawford. Most of their churches reported souls saved in the past three months. Rev. Danny Dunn, a young minister, filled the pulpit for the 11:00 a.m. service and Licensee minister Ivan Parker preached at 2:00 p.m. Moderator Jack Day gave time for our Missouri Cooperative promotional program. Two fine young men were ordained for deacons for Little Vine Church.

Saturday night I visited the tent revival conducted by Rev.

Herbert Boggs near Sunnyview Free Will Baptist Church. Several churches are participating in this revival. Three adults were saved Saturday night. Others were saved earlier in the week.

Sunday, June 4, in response to an invitation of Pastor Jim Bench, I delivered the morning sermon in Gardner Church. Sunday afternoon we participated with Pastor Jack Day and the Black Oak Church in their communion service. This church supports the cooperative plan regularly. Sunday evening I visited the Cuba Church. Rev. Morris Tucker was their guest preacher. Pastor Pingleton reports an engathering of souls and additions to their membership in the few weeks since he accepted the pastorate. I

was privileged to give commendations to the Cuba Church for their participation in the world wide ministry of the gospel through cooperative giving.

June 18 thru 30, as usual, was a real good time of inspiration and spiritual revival—Missouri State Youth Camp meeting at Niangua. Rev. Bronco West from North Carolina served as camp evangelist both weeks. I attended two teens services, June 21 and 22, during the two week encampment. There were many decisions for the Lord and scores of souls were saved. In fact, since the youth camp began in 1947 more than two thousand souls have been saved as a result of youth camp meetings. Today some of these persons are pastoring churches here in the states and others are serving as missionaries in regions beyond.

Sunday evening, June 25, I filled Grace pulpit for Pastor Rehkop who went to youth camp to teach in the pre-teen encampment.

Our cooperative receipts for eleven months are \$59,669.65. Brethren, we are going beyond our projected goal. Thanks to every one. May the Lord continue to bless every effort in His name.

