

Volume 47, Number 3, March 1977

**Free Will Baptist**

# GEM

**"Voice Of Missouri Free Will Baptists"**





# Promotional Secretary's Corner

by Clarence Burton

January—what a month! We will remember January for a long, long time. We had snow, ice, and more snow. But the Lord blessed with warmth, food, and clothing. So we will, as the Apostle Paul stated, "Rejoice in the Lord."

I enjoy reading and meditating on the Word. The Psalmist stated, "Oh, how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day." I read a verse sometime ago and was thinking on it, "Forever, O, Lord, thy Word is settled in heaven." This instructs me that the laws of God are already established. They were established before we were born. His ways are fixed. We can choose to accept God's way and live according to His laws or we can rebel against Him. But, we cannot change what He has done. The sky is blue; the world is round. God made it according to His pleasure. The laws of the season are fixed. The farmer must submit to these laws, planting and harvesting at the proper time. Otherwise, the land will not produce.

The law of life is fixed. Man can submit to the will of God; thus enabling himself to enjoy the privilege of a child—a joint-heir with Jesus Christ—or he can choose not to do this and exclude himself from the family of God with all its benefits. The Bible is fixed, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him."

The Bible declares that you can "Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart." The Apostle Paul followed this plan and shook the world for Jesus Christ in his day. Let us pray and may it be our innermost feeling, "Oh, how I love thy law! It is my meditation all the day."

The response to cooperative and designated giving has been very fine in January. The month of

December closed early; therefore, this is reflected in the receipts for January. This unified plan is such a wonderful way to support every phase of the Lord's work. The allocation is set according to the desire of the Missouri State Association. The association is us. Therefore it seems every pastor and church would want to share in this proportionate plan. May the Lord bless the faithfulness of every pastor and church.

May I say thanks again to everyone who has been so kind and hospitable. Perhaps I mention this often, but it means so much to me. I am eternally grateful for your friendship and warmth.

Below are the places I had the privilege to visit. The Lord blessed in every service. What a thrill to serve and follow Him.

Saturday, January 1	Cave Springs Association Koshkonong Church
Sunday, January 2	Shiloh Church Rev. Clark Stephens, pastor
Sunday, January 9	First Church, Frederick- town Rev. Joe Braddy (I was scheduled for the Twin Oaks with Rev. Truman Huffman but it snowed and snowed!) Christian Worker's Confer- ence
Thursday and Friday, January 20, 21	First Church, Frederick- town Southeast Missouri Asso- ciation
Saturday, January 22	St. Louis District Associa- tion Faith Church
Sunday, January 30	Willow Springs Mission

Let us pray the work of the Lord will increase; let us labor to see this accomplished!

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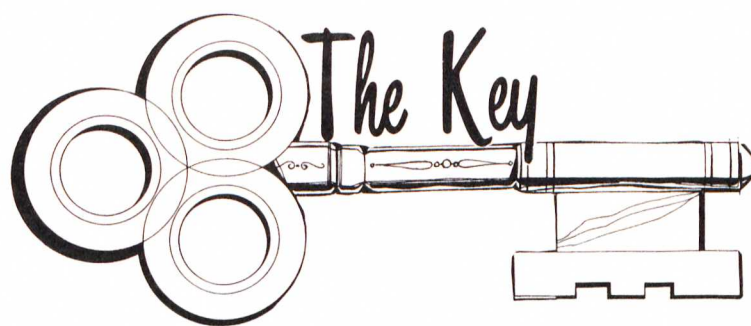
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# Daily Soul Winning



## To Church Growth

by Dale Skiles

“And *daily* in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ” (Acts 5:42).

The key to building a scriptural, New Testament church is daily personal witnessing and evangelism. Christianity is a daily business; a seven day a week job with no time off. The greatest tragedy of our present day is that Christianity has degenerated into a matter of Sunday morning church attendance, rather than a daily living and witnessing for Christ. Jesus said, “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross *daily*, and follow me” (Luke 9:23). I have yet to find in the Bible where He ever rescinded those requirements for the Christian.

The Book of the Acts of the Apostles leaves no doubt in the mind of the reader that daily soul winning and personal evangelism was the main business of the early church.

A study of the word “daily” in Acts is both stimulating and soul searching. The early church in Jerusalem, which won souls, overcame opposition, defied kings, shook kingdoms, brought fear and conviction to thousands of souls, and made Jesus Christ known everywhere had an exciting and fruitful ministry, because it was a church with a daily ministry.

1. They had daily fellowship (Acts 2:46): “And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart.”

2. They had daily conversions (Acts 2:47): “Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”

3. They had daily growth (Acts 4:32; 5:14; 16:5): “And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.”

4. They had daily administrations of material necessities (Acts 6:1).

5. They had daily Scripture study (Acts 17:11).

6. They had daily witness for Christ (Acts 17:17; 19:19).

It wasn't long because of its daily ministry that we begin to read of churches (plural) rather than of the church (singular). Let us examine the daily ministry of the early church and perhaps better prepare ourselves for a daily church ministry.

First of all, let us see their *persistence*. These Christians were persistent, not sporadic or spasmodic. They were not easily discouraged; they were not easily dissuaded. The motivating force of their lives was to influence their society for Christ. This they did because they were persistent.

The church today needs some persistence among its leadership and its laity so far as this matter of daily involvement in the kingdom work of Christ is concerned. We oftentimes get stirred up during revival time or after attending a conference on church growth or evangelism and go like a house afire for a few days; then we completely burn out. What we need to do is settle down to a persistent day-by-day approach to evangelism.

I once heard a man testify that he had been won to the Lord because of a local Baptist group's persistence. He said that every Tuesday night for three months this visitation team would come to his house and interrupt his favorite TV program. He finally became so aggravated with them that he made a bargain with them. He said that, if they would quit bothering him on Tuesday night, he would attend their church the following Sunday. This he did, heard the Word of God preached, was convicted of his sins by the Holy Spirit, went to the altar, and was saved: all because of the persistence of God's people.

Secondly, let us see the *participants*: Not just the disciples, or preachers, but every born again believer was involved. Acts 8:1, 4 says, “And Saul was consenting unto his death. And at that time there was a great persecution against the church which was at Jerusalem; and they were all scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria, except the apostles. Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.” Notice that the church was scattered abroad, except the apostles. The apostles stayed in Jeru-



salem. However, it was those born again believers who were scattered who went everywhere preaching the Word.

The deacons were involved. Stephen and Philip, both deacons of the early church, became great soul winners. The deacons along with other church and Sunday school officers and teachers should be involved in personal soul winning today. In fact, it should be required that a man who holds office in the church be a daily witness for Christ.

Failing to participate in personal evangelism is in direct violation to Ephesians 4:11, 12: "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."

Thirdly, let us see the *partnership*: They went "two by two." This is the scriptural method; you can't improve on that. We read in the Scriptures of the partnership of Peter and John, Paul and Barnabas, Paul and Silas, etc. Jesus sent His disciples out two by two (Mark 6:7; Luke 10:1).

I think the reason for this is obvious. Two together would have greater courage than one by himself. Their ministry could complement one another. The Bible says, "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour."

Fourthly, let us see the *plan*: They went "from house to house." Acts 20:19, 20 says, "Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations, which befell me by the lying in wait of the Jews: and how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house." The question sometimes is asked, "How often should a home be visited?" Here is a study released recently from the National Retail Dry Goods Association: 48 percent of the salesmen make one call and quit. 25 percent of the salesmen make two calls and quit. 88 percent of the salesmen quit after 1, 2, or 3 calls. 12 percent of the salesmen keep on calling. The 12 percent who keep on calling do 80 percent of the business.

Most Free Will Baptist churches that I am acquainted with have about 50 percent of the Sunday morning crowd on Sunday night. They have about 35 to 40 percent of the Sunday morning crowd on Wednesday night. They have about 20 to 25 percent of their people who pay their tithes. They have from 2 to 5 percent of their people involved in some type of weekly visitation or some form of personal evangelism. This means we have about 10 to 15 percent of the people doing 90 percent of the work.

I think it is obvious that, if we expect to do the kind of job Christ has ordained us to do, we need a better plan than the one we now have operating. Every child of God should be actively engaged in some type of personal evangelism; and, if he is not, he is miserably failing in the purpose for which Christ has saved him.

Then, let us see the *place*: They were "in the temple." The evangelism of the early church in the Book of Acts was a church-centered evangelism. It was an evangelism which had as its base of operation the local church.

If we are ever going to get our people soul conscious, we are going to have to first get them church conscious. We must begin again to preach the importance of regular and faithful church attendance (Hebrews 10:25). I believe, from a study of the Scriptures, that it is sinful for a Christian to whom God has given health and opportunity to absent himself from the services of the church and that it casts a reproach on the name of Christ.

Modern day evangelism must once again have as its basis for operation an undying love and loyalty to the church, its ministry, its doctrine, and its outreach in the community. Modernists in religious movements today are making their attacks against the organized local church, but the church always has been, and always will be, God's ordained organization for the propagation of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Then finally, let us see the *preaching*: "They ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." Christ did not save us nor ordain us to put on a show, but to preach and teach the Word. Paul said, "And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified" (1 Corinthians 2:1, 2). We need to pay less attention to enunciation and more attention to the unction of the Holy Spirit of God upon the preached Word.

Young Timothy was exhorted to "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine" (2 Timothy 4:2). In order for him to do this, he is further exhorted to "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

About the writer: Rev. Dale Skiles is the pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in West Plains, Missouri. Brother Skiles is very active in state and national work. He is presently serving on the Missouri State Home Missions Board.

## MOVING TO A NEW ADDRESS??

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## **CHURCHES PEOPLE AND EVENTS**

### **Pastor Andy Lay Reports Fine Revival**

Rev. Greg McAllister, a student at Hillsdale FWB College, conducted a weekend youth revival recently at Evangel Free Will Baptist Church in Webb City, Missouri. In spite of the meeting's occurring during the peak of the winter storm, attendance was good and interest was keen, as Brother McAllister sang and preached.

The pastor of the church, Rev. Andy Lay, stated, "I can highly recommend Greg to our churches, particularly for youth meetings. His humorous, folk-type songs grab young people's attention; then the gospel songs that he sings, especially the ones he wrote, touch their hearts. His preaching is stirring and impressive. Our church really fell in love with Greg."

Evangel Church is rejoicing in souls won and new members added to the congregation recently.

### **Promoted to Glory**

Mrs. Alberta Seabaugh went to be with the Lord January 22, 1977. She was survived by her husband, Leslie Seabaugh, and two children, Mrs. Debbie Smith and Mr. Bob Seabaugh.

Mrs. Seabaugh was a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Fredericktown. At the time of her death she was serving as a Sunday school teacher in the adult department. She was active in other church related activities and she and her husband operated a furniture store in Fredericktown.

The memorial service was held at the First Church with the pastor Rev. Joe Braddy, Rev. Jim Bundy, and Rev. Clarence Burton conducting the service. As was stated in the message, "Alberta will be missed very much. She used herself, her life, and her influence for the purpose of service to Christ." That is a wonderful testimony.

### **Christian Worker's Conference Blessed of the Lord**

"What a thrill to listen, to absorb, to be spiritually lifted, and to have a renewed zeal to win unsaved to Christ" were the words expressed by one of the crowd that attended the Christian Worker's Conference. This reflects the feelings of the ones that had the privilege to attend.

The messages were spirit-filled and used of God to stir the hearts of His people. The seminars were a

blessing as always, something helpful for the women and the men. The special and congregational singing was a wonderful way to express love and adoration to the Lord.

A special thanks was given to Rev. Bob Shockey, Rev. and Mrs. Roy Thomas, and the host pastor, Rev. Joe Braddy. The National Home Missions Board has been very helpful in cooperating with the conferences held in Missouri. Hopefully, Missouri's giving will reflect appreciation to this organization as it labors for the Lord. This conference was hosted by the Southeast Missouri District Association.

### **Rolla Mission Reports**

Rev. Dale Smith, mission pastor at Rolla, Missouri, writes, "We have just begun to see our prayers being answered on behalf of our city. Please continue to remember us in prayer. God has much in store for us as we lean upon His capable arms for guidance." Rev. and Mrs. Smith and their two sons moved to Rolla sometime ago for the purpose of starting a Free Will Baptist work for the Lord. They are serving under a joint project endeavor with the Missouri State Home Missions and the National Home Missions Boards.

Anyone having relatives or friends in Rolla are urged to contact the Smiths at this address, 101 W. 15th, Apartment P, or at this telephone number 1-314-364-3596.



### **Youth Banquet at Lebanon Church**

"Neath the Sweetheart Tree" was the theme for the Valentine Banquet held by the youth of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Lebanon, Missouri. There were ten couples running for the title of King and Queen. They were elected by a penny a vote with the King, Tim Keen, and Queen, Faye Jones, receiving 17,497 votes. First runner-up Rusty Bowman and Carol Kennedy received 10,218 votes and second runner-up Mike King and Sharon Rabe with 7,852 votes. Each couple worked very hard to raise the total amount of \$594.22. The banquet began with dinner in honor of the couples. There was a skit presented entitled "School Daze." Stanley Jones and the singing Jones family gave a devotion and sang some gospel songs. The highlight of the evening was the coronation of the King and Queen. Proceeds went to the youth group.



## Pastoral Changes

Jim Bundy from the Beacon Church, Raytown, Missouri to Old Reyno Church, Old Reyno, Arkansas.

Robert Francis from South Side Church, St. Louis, Missouri to St. Paul, Minnesota.

Millard Sasser from Fourth Church, St. Louis, to First Church, Seattle, Washington.

William Adkisson from Malden Mission to Ohio—National and State Mission project.

Troy Burney from New Home Church, Mountain Grove to First Church, Kansas City.

Ted Davis from Southeast Church, Tulsa to First Church, Fordland.

Please notify the *Gem* of pastoral changes.

## Youth Camp Report

The Youth Camp Board, after a long period of seeking and waiting, secured Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Arnold to serve as camp superintendent. The board upgraded the responsibilities of the camp as it was looking for someone to replace Rev. Askren, following his resignation. Therefore, the title of camp superintendent has been given the new employee, inasmuch as the work will involve a greater responsibility.

The Arnolds moved to the campground sometime ago. Brother Arnold is also serving as pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church in Hartville.

Rev. Lynn Wood has been elected as chairman of the Youth Camp Board. The new chairman along with the camp superintendent has expressed the desire to broaden the scope of the camp and offer greater services to the Missouri State Association.

Note: In preparation for the 1977 Youth Encampment, the Youth Camp Board is expressing these needs:

Woman lifeguard

Dishwasher (must be an adult)

Please contact

Rev. Lynn Wood

P.O. Box 464

Mountain Grove, Missouri 65711

Mrs. Doris Arnold writes: Every year the needs of the youth camp are sent to the *Gem* for publication. This is done in order that individuals and auxiliaries can help supply these needs. We are very thankful for the response in the past, and we trust the people will respond as well this year.

The needs are: (1) A covering for the tables in the dining hall. (Oil cloth or formica will pass for state inspection. There are twenty tables.) (2) New curtains. (There are eighteen windows in the dining hall and six in the kitchen.) (3) Aprons, dishcloths, spatulas, measuring cups, mixing bowls, commercial pancake turners, long-handle stainless steel spoons, tongs, plastic buckets, dishpans, and sharp knives. (4) A side of beef or pork would really be appreciated. (5) A piano for the chapel.

For any additional information please contact Mrs. Doris Arnold, P.O. Box 22 Star Route, Niangua, Missouri. 65713

## REPORT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CTS BOARD

On January 17-19 the State Sunday School and CTS Board composed of three members and one proxy visited the national offices for Sunday School and Church Training Service. The visit was the first of its kind by any state Sunday School and CTS board. The leaders in the national offices hope to use it as an example for other such visits to come. The trip made it possible for the members to see a step-by-step presentation of the design, development, and production of each department's literature. Thus, by becoming more aware of the detailed duties of each department the board can mediate some of the possible discrepancies that arise spasmodically. But the visit had more importance than mere inquiry, because we wanted to find out firsthand what preparations are being made and what we can expect in the years to come as we seek to fulfil the 25-Year Challenge. In this present age the "Challenge" is regarded as the largest goal established by Free Will Baptists since inception. If we are to succeed, then more boards of our type must work hand in hand with those designing the foundations of this great Sunday school superstructure. Firsthand knowledge and adequate contact with the populace are leverages that open wider the door of accomplishment: a million Free Will Baptists. Let me quickly share with you some of the many faceted goals of your Sunday School and CTS Board.

1. We feel certain that a closer relationship with the national offices will help us to see what is available and to help them keep in touch with the present Sunday school needs. Obviously, boards such as ours can be a vital lifeline to the national offices as we accumulate the weaknesses and enlarge upon the strengths of the individual programs. It would be both informational and economical to all of us. Communication is one key to successful goal attainment.

2. We want to assist our Missouri Sunday schools to grow and develop by informing them of the latest tools and methods on the market.

3. Our desire is to be more than an abstract, uninvolved board. We do not want to just chart growth but rather to be an aide in seeing it happen! By expanding our horizons personally we can be doing whatever is necessary to help each Sunday school benefit from exposure to growth and development principles.

4. We want our Sunday schools to be enlarged through training. Growth is not just for the largest groups but for those who are trained for growth. E.T.T.A. courses, seminars, and exposure to qualified people are just some of the steps up the ladder of success.

5. We shall remain open and flexible. Our ear is to the ground listening for the sign of things to come. We know that the next 25 years are going to bring changes to our state and it is our goal to be ready for the changes when they develop. Also we trust that our churches are prepared for what the Lord is going to do with Free Will Baptists in these next years.



In the months to come a regular feature will appear in the *Gem* informing our state of what is happening in Sunday schools both here and out of state. Articles will include special information such as books, methods, examples of successful schools, and similar, related materials. Our desire is that you will want to read it regularly and that it can be an effective tool of communication for all of us. If others have contributions of related materials, they may mail them to the *Gem* editor. We will edit and produce them as they meet our needs.



## On The National Front

### NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS EXPRESSES THANKS

"I am writing to express appreciation to the good people of Missouri for their faithfulness in supporting National Home Missions in 1976. Missouri gave seven thousand one hundred ninety-one dollars over its quota," writes Associate Director, Roy Thomas.

The budget for 1977 calls for \$696,000.00 for the National Home Missions Board. The board is depending on the faithfulness of every Free Will Baptist to help meet this budget.

In addition to the six new couples who were employed as missionaries on January 1, 1977, there are now three more who have been added to the Home Missions family. They are: Rev. Mark Vandivort, a former home missionary to Twin Mountain, New Hampshire and also Columbia, Missouri. The Vandivorts will be working in Flagstaff, Arizona. Rev. Wayne Phillips, former pastor of Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Indianapolis, Indiana will replace E. R. Mayo at Enterprise, Alabama. Rev. Sanford Davis is a former pastor from Texas and will graduate from Free Will Baptist Bible College in May. He is unassigned at this time.

### FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE ANNOUNCES CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Free Will Baptist Bible College officials are preparing for crowds in excess of 1,000 people at the school's thirty-fourth annual Bible Conference, March 13-17. Guest speakers will be Reverend Galen

### State Competitive Activities Date Set

The Sunday School and CTS Board has announced that Saturday, May 7, 1977, is the date set for the Missouri state competitive activities. The place is Grace Free Will Baptist Church, 2258 Tenbrook Road, Arnold, Missouri. The starting time will be at 9:30 a.m. The deadline for entries will be April 15. *Entries will not be accepted on the day of competition as in the past.* For additional information any member of the board may be contacted.

Dunbar from Norfolk, Virginia, and Evangelist Van Dale Hudson from Amory, Mississippi. Other conference speakers will be members of the administration and faculty.

Special music for the conference will be provided by the college choir, ensemble, and various quartets and trios. The 100-voice Choral Union will sing the Easter Section of Handel's, *The Messiah*, in a half hour presentation before the Wednesday evening service, climaxed by the singing of the "Hallelujah Chorus," with members of the audience joining the Choral Union.

### NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE PLANS

The CTS Department reports that exciting things are in store for the 2,000 or more Free Will Baptist young people and their sponsors who will converge on the Detroit-Cadillac Hotel and Cobo Hall in Detroit, Michigan, July 17-21, 1977.

The theme for the conference is "Jesus Christ . . . Lord of All." The keynote speaker is Reverend Billy Bevan from Tupelo, Mississippi. Reverend Leroy Welch will serve as the director and area coordinator of the Michigan State Mass Youth Choir.

Banquets will be held again this year. Two special events will be offered this year, boat cruise and Ford Museum (cost: \$2.00 each).

Registration is the same as last year, including family plan for pre-registration before July 1.

### NATIONAL EXECUTIVE OFFICE REPORTS COOPERATIVE GIVING CONTINUES TO INCREASE

Eugene Workman, executive assistant, reports that giving through the Cooperative Plan reflects a 23 percent increase over the previous year.

Missouri was the second largest giver with Oklahoma still remaining in first place. Missouri showed an increase of over \$8,000 in cooperative giving from the previous year.

Mr. Workman continues by stating that "The Cooperative Plan is designed to distribute funds proportionately to all phases of the denomination's outreach, both at the state and national levels. The plan has proved to be workable, but it needs to be promoted and utilized effectively."





## THE VANDIVORTS FROM FLAGSTAFF WRITE

God has enabled us to make many wonderful friends in Flagstaff and throughout Arizona. Our family is happily settled in Flagstaff. The Lord has wonderfully opened doors for our family to share in ministering the gospel with friends and neighbors. Some have been saved.

On January 10 a \$1,238.16 check was written from the Sunset Free Will Baptist Church for the remainder of the down payment and closing cost on our seven-tenths acre on Highway 89 N. The payments are \$71.23 a month for ten years. Please pray regarding negotiations that are in effect for acquiring needed additional property. We are grateful for contributions of friends, relatives, and several churches which made the writing of the down payment check possible. Checks have also been written from the Sunset Free Will Baptist Mission for the Cooperative Plan, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and Bible Colleges. We believe this is a proper stewardship foundation for the church.

Our hearts are filled with confidence that we have obeyed the guidance and will of the Lord in accepting a position as joint home missionaries with the National Home Missions and the Arizona State Mission Boards. Itinerant work began in February. Pray for the services and the many miles of travel.

## CHURCH BONDS FOR SALE IN DELAWARE

Brother Vergel Maness writes, "The Lord has blessed the work in Delaware and we are thankful. At present we need help with our church bond program. The building will remain somewhat at a standstill until more bonds are sold. Therefore we need churches and individuals to respond."

Brother Maness's address is: 409 Moore's Lane, New Castle, Delaware 19720.

## ATTENTION: PASTORS, CHURCH TREASURERS

Please send all monies (cooperative and designated) as soon as possible following the last Sunday in March. The Missouri State Association year ends March 31, 1977.

## HAVE YOU TRIED THIS?

by Andy W. Lay



Every church and pastor are always looking for effective ways of presenting the gospel to the lost. I want to share with you a method that has been effective in our church.

We called it Operation Andrew because each time the Apostle Andrew is singled out in the New Testament narrative he is bringing someone to Christ. Many of our Christians have trouble getting people to come with them to church, or otherwise getting them under the sound of the gospel. This method of evangelism helps solve that problem.

We rented a private room in a moderately priced restaurant, then announced to the church several weeks in advance the day and time of the Operation Andrew. Each couple in the church was urged to invite an unsaved couple to come as their guests for the meal and about a 45-minute program. Our ladies decorated the tables in advance, placing some eye-catching tracts at each place.

As the guests arrived at the restaurant, each person was given a name tag with his first name on it. A congenial atmosphere was created as our church people introduced their guests to the others in the group.

After the waitresses had taken the meal orders, we had a gospel music trio sing three or four songs until the meals were served. After everyone had finished eating, I called on two of our laymen to share testimonies of their lives before and after they accepted Christ as their Savior. The trio then sang two or three more gospel songs, after which I gave a brief salvation message, with an invitation for the lost to receive Christ.

Our church has had three such Operation Andrews and we have had people saved as a result of each one. At one of them we had 72 people present, 35 of which were unsaved. That is more unsaved individuals than I usually get to preach to in several months, including most revival meetings.

The cost of the project is just for the meals and literature. Each church couple buys four meals, his own and his guests, which only amounts to about \$12. In many cases the invited guests reciprocate and return the meal favor at a future date, at which time there is another opportunity to share Christ, if the couple did not get saved at the Operation Andrew.

It is my prayer that many of you will use this method of evangelism and see souls come to find Christ as a result.

About the writer: Rev. Andy Lay is the pastor of the Evangel Free Will Baptist Church in Webb City, Missouri. This article reflects the innovative ideas that have enhanced the ministry of the church. Brother Lay is active in both state and national work and is presently serving as chairman of the Missouri State Board of Christian Education.

Editor's note: Rev. Lay was asked to submit this article. If you have tried a plan that has worked, why not send it to the *Gem* for publication?





## WHAT'S IT LIKE TO BE A P.K.

by Glenda Hood

Being a P.K. (or preacher's kid) has been an experience in itself. It has had its ups as well as its downs, but I have learned a lot through this experience.

It all started when I was four years old. Suddenly without warning, my life took a drastic change. I was living in a good home with my father, mother, and two older brothers. My father worked with IBM in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and we seemed to be living pretty comfortable.

But then it happened! God called my father to become a preacher of His Word. That meant *drastic* changes—like a move to Nashville, Tennessee, where he began his training at the Free Will Baptist Bible College. This wasn't too bad on me, for I was yet to know what was happening.

Life went on pretty fast for me and my family for the next five years which we spent in Tennessee. My father pastored Oakland and Mt. Zion Free Will Baptist Churches. There isn't a whole lot I remember while living there except for sitting with mother in church.

However, I found many changes after our move to Auburndale, Florida. There were several girls in our church around the same age. Fussing and sneaking around to do "little" dishonest things were about the only things which I learned, through punishment, that could and should not have been tried. This was also the beginning of my feelings that I was being treated differently from the other kids. I didn't really know why, but I blamed it on my being a P.K.

Our next move was to Midland, Texas, in 1970. I was in for a lot more than I realized. For it was here that I started in junior high. It seemed that those two years I had to prove that just because my father was a preacher didn't mean that I was "Miss Goodie Two Shoes." During my freshman, sophomore, and half of my junior year I was miserable. I couldn't figure out what the deal was. The more I tried to fit in with the group the more miserable I felt.

In 1975 my father accepted the pastorate of the Thayer Free Will Baptist Church. I, along with a younger brother and mother, moved with my father. A lot has happened here and I have made mistakes for which I am ashamed. But, I have also learned a lot, too.

In the summer of 1976, I turned my whole life over to God. I did this at a District Youth Revival held by Brother Dennis Dotson. After this God seemed to reveal to me my one BIG mistake. I was looking at myself as a "different" person and was blaming it on my father's profession. According to God's Word, we become "different" or separated from the world we live in when we become born again children of God.

I thank God for showing me this and also for all my blessings. Many people do not realize how lucky they are to live in Christian homes with Christian parents who love and care for them. I know I am guilty of taking God's *many* blessings to me for granted.

If it wasn't for a God who cared enough to send His only Son to die on the cross, life wouldn't be worth living. I thank God for my Christian parents who have taken the responsibility to raise me up in the way God commanded. They have taught me verses from the Bible, songs from the church hymnals, and most important the plan of salvation.

So, you see, my life of being a P.K. has been an experience in itself. If I had to choose right now whether or not to remain a P.K., I would choose to stay. For the ups outweigh the downs by a long shot. If I wasn't a P.K., I more than likely would not have had the opportunities to be in church competition or involved in the district, state, and national activities of our denomination—THE FREE WILL BAPTIST. I can now say, "I'm a P.K. and proud of it."

About the writer: Glenda Hood is a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church, in Thayer, Missouri. Her father, Rev. Glen Hood, is the pastor. She is a senior at Thayer High School and her immediate plans are to enroll at Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in the fall of 1977.



## Points for Pastors

by Jim McAllister

One of the most important details of the making of the preacher is "his calling." How do you know when God is calling you to preach? I well remember those days that ran into weeks and then into months when I wrestled with this calling. I never had any intention of refusing God, but I did want to know, without doubt, that God *was* calling. I found the answer, and I believe I can share some things that will help you discover whether God is right now calling you to preach His Word.

Now assuming you *want to know* God's will and intend to obey His will, let us proceed to the four steps in a Biblical formula that will help reveal God's will for your life.

First, *know you are a saved man*. Isaiah 1:18 tells us that saved men are clean, pure, innocent, and saved. You have been redeemed. Getting the salvation question settled in your mind will not only keep you from being confused and insecure in your relationship with Christ, but will also continually



assure you that God's redemptive power is sufficient to save anyone. Second, *be surrendered*. God will not use an unsundered man. Read Romans 6:13; John 7:7; 1 John 3:22; Acts 5:32. Publicly surrender your body, mind, energy, and will to God. Third, *be filled with the Spirit*. Dr. Torrey said, "The word of God is the instrument through which the Holy Spirit does His work." Being filled with the Spirit is a definite, distinct, and different experience from being regenerated, and it is always given for the purpose of testimony and service. Now all saved people possess the Holy Spirit, but ask God to fill you with His Spirit for power in Christian service and witnessing. Fourth, *obey God now*. Start obeying God now by doing the things you know He has called every Christian to do, and possibly you have been neglecting. Obey in such things as Bible reading, daily prayer, faithfulness in worship, and soul winning. Go down the street soul winning. If that is repulsive to you, forget about preaching. We have enough "preachers" who never win anyone to Christ. Start obeying God right now. He always calls busy, obedient people to do His greatest work. You can know God's will for your life. Maybe it is to preach. If so, then PREACH, BROTHER.

## MISSOURI DESIGNATED GIVING January 1977

### NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Fredericktown FWB Church	\$100.00
General Fund	\$100.00
South Side FWB Church	\$20.00
Vergel Maness	\$20.00
Olivet FWB Church	\$30.00
L. Horton	\$30.00
Mountain Grove First FWB Church	\$1.25
General Fund	\$1.25
Total	\$151.25

### MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSIONS

Bethel FWB Church	\$12.00
Perpetual Loan Fund	\$10.00
Dale Smith	2.00
Thayer FWB Church	\$49.00
T. Owens	\$ 5.00
Poplar Bluff	34.00
General Fund	10.00
Mountain Grove First FWB Church	\$7.25
General Fund	\$1.25
Dale Smith	6.00
New Home Free Will Baptist Church	\$10.00
T. Owens	\$10.00
Total	\$78.25

### MISSOURI STATE YOUTH CAMP

Olivet FWB	\$10.00
Thayer FWB	10.00
Mountain Grove First FWB	10.00
Total	\$30.00

### HILLSDALE COLLEGE

Fredericktown	\$100.00
Mountain Grove, First	80.00
Total	\$180.00

### FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Fredericktown First FWB Church	\$100.00
Total	\$100.00

### FOREIGN MISSIONS

New Harmony Sunday School	\$33.34
J. McLain	\$16.67
Dr. Laverne Miley	16.67
Gateway FWB Church	\$50.00
H. Filkins	\$25.00
Hickory Grove FWB Church	\$55.60
Steve Lytle	\$55.60
Fredericktown FWB Church	\$100.00
General Fund	\$100.00
South Side FWB Church	\$169.00
L. Palmer	\$85.00
C. Tallent	54.00
J. Pinkerton	5.00
H. Filkins	25.00
West Plains, First	\$60.00
H. Filkins	\$10.00
General Fund	50.00
Bethel FWB Church	\$23.50
Archie Mayhew	\$23.50
Black Oak FWB Church	\$35.50
Fred Hersey	\$35.50
Olivet FWB Church	\$80.00
B. Poole	\$20.00
M. Willey	20.00
J. Pinkerton	20.00
L. Sparks	5.00
H. Filkins	5.00
Lynn Miley	10.00
Merl's Chapel FWB Church	\$41.00
C. Hanna	\$41.00
Kirksville First FWB Church	\$130.71
J. Pinkerton	\$55.00
H. Filkins	\$75.71
Walnut Grove FWB Church	\$10.00
Lynn Miley	\$10.00
Lebanon First FWB Church	\$268.00
Clint Morgan	\$119.00
Patsy VanHook	5.00
Jerry Pinkerton	119.00
Jerry Banks	5.00
Lonnie Sparks	20.00
Thayer FWB Church	\$36.00
C. Hanna	\$15.00
J. Bishop	16.00
J. Pinkerton	5.00
Black Oak FWB Church	\$24.25
J. Pinkerton	\$24.25
Mountain Grove First FWB Church	\$142.00
General Fund	\$112.50
T. Willey	25.00
D. Teague	4.50
Total	\$1,258.90

## MISSOURI STATE HOME MISSION GIVING JANUARY 5 THROUGH FEBRUARY 5, 1977

Fellowship	\$ 48.00
Berkeley	50.00
Cape Girardeau	22.26
DeSoto	100.00
Oak Hill	65.27
Berean	30.00
South Fremont	97.00
Union Light	24.00
Grace	65.00
Olivet	225.00
Central	400.00
O'Fallon	49.26
Rock Chapel	84.00
St. Francois Co. Qtly. Mtg.	145.00
Myrtle	38.11



Flat River, First	46.00
The Jones Family	127.75
South Side	5.00
Sedalia	27.38
Fourth	31.16
Houston	57.00
Hannon	166.50
Bethel	2.00
Mountain Grove	7.25
New Home	10.00
Thayer	49.00
Cooperative Receipts	2,564.11
Total	\$4,536.05

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

## COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS January 1977

20.00% Missouri State Home Missions	\$2,564.11
16.25% Promotional Department	2,083.34
4.00% General Fund	512.82
5.50% Youth Camp	705.13
2.50% Gem	320.51
1.75% Sunday School & CTS	224.36
2.00% MBI	256.42
52% Seven State Departments	6,666.69
7.00% Hillsdale College	897.45
13.00% Foreign Missions	1,666.68
9.00% Free Will Baptist Bible College	1,153.85
7.00% Executive Department	897.44
6.50% National Home Missions	833.34
2.50% CTS	320.51
2.50% Retirement & Insurance	320.51
.25% Laymen's Board	32.05
.25% Theological Commission	32.05
41% Eight National Departments	5,256.43
Total Disbursements	\$12,820.57

Let us thank the Lord for another fine month.  
(The receipts are a little more this month inasmuch as December was closed early.)

## COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS January 1977

Kingsway, Springfield	\$ 50.16
Black Oak	10.00
Bailey Chapel	27.00
Viburnum	72.68
Pleasant Ridge	24.20
Hopewell	60.00
Oak Hill	204.55
Grant Avenue	262.67
Purdy	90.00
Carterville	25.13
Trinity	325.00
New Rock Springs	55.00
DeSoto	500.00
Waynesville	35.00
Hannon	126.00
Byrd	29.92
Mill Creek	40.19
Union Light	49.07
Grace	753.00
Olivet	175.00
Rock Chapel	26.43
New Prospect	14.60
Joplin	115.45
Merl's Chapel	54.21
First Mission, K.C.	73.77
Pleasant Hill—Cave Springs	15.00
Pleasant Hill—Cave Springs	15.00
Buffalo	113.05
Hartville	31.55
Berean	109.00
Kirksville, First	30.00

Verdella	88.53
Lebanon, First	314.00
Union (Oct.-Dec.)	60.00
New Rock Springs	48.00
Old Bethel	22.00
Beacon	237.64
Monett	253.42
Pleasant Grove (Cope)	16.39
El Dorado Springs	5.00
Parkview	50.00
Community	26.53
Community	39.98
Cuba	46.54
Fourth	324.00
New Harmony Sunday school	7.29
Berkeley	410.92
Gateway	45.00
Mine La Motte	33.00
Hickory Grove (Oct.-Dec.)	66.20
Number One	26.84
Sedalia	73.65
Malden	76.56
Fredericktown	228.80
Cabool	155.75
Willow Springs	142.45
Alton	100.22
Faith	142.52
South Side	363.26
West Plains, First	235.75
Oskaloosa	25.62
Hurryville	73.43
Hurryville	75.88
Freeman Chapel	78.72
Fellowship	50.00
Myrtle	114.32
Mt. Pisgah	49.00
Bethel, Festus	163.00
Cape Girardeau	188.05
O'Fallon	76.92
Mountain Valley	201.86
Aulsbury Chapel	262.23
Houston	68.44
Macedonia Sunday school	14.00
Richwoods	118.15
Marshfield	77.94
New Life, Licking	65.25
Copper Mines	105.00
Happy Home	29.57
Granby	149.39
Black Oak	10.00
Waynesville	54.60
Flat River, First	1,374.19
Pleasant Home	113.37
El Dorado Springs	5.00
Parkview	50.00
Leadington	244.23
Mountain Grove, First	370.66
Pleasant Grove (Cope)	15.00
Willow Springs	162.65
Myrtle	56.22
Central, K.C.	250.00
Mt. Vernon	41.21
New Prospect	10.90
Faith	194.29
Cuba	54.42
Gateway	53.00
Thayer	206.24
Cabool	86.95
Fourth Church	328.00
Total Cooperative Receipts	\$12,820.57

## ATTENTION: PASTORS, CHURCH TREASURERS

Please send all monies (cooperative and designated) as soon as possible following the last Sunday in March. The Missouri State Association year ends March 31, 1977.



GEM CP OCT  
REV RALPH STATEN  
RT 6 WOODALE CHURCH RD  
KNOXVILLE TN 37914



#### NOTE THESE SPECIAL DATES AND PLACES:

Missouri Bible Institute spring semester begins week of March 1

Missouri State Competitive Activities

Date: May 7

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Place: Grace Church, Arnold, Missouri

Workday Youth Camp—May 14

Missouri State Association, Youth Service, and Woman's Auxiliary

Date: June 6-9

Place: Springfield, Missouri

Day Services: Grant Avenue Church

Evening Services: Kickapoo Auditorium

Missouri State Youth Camp

Date: Elementary Week—June 12-17

Intermediates—June 19-24

Senior—June 26-July 1

Note: The elementary week is first rather than last.

National Association of Free Will Baptists

Date: July 17-21

Place: Detroit, Michigan

Pastor's and Layman's Conference

Date: September 19-21

Place: Missouri State Youth Camp

# 1977

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All Treasurers please note: The Missouri State Association year ends March 31. Please send all Cooperative checks and designated giving checks to the promotional secretary as quickly as possible following the last Sunday in March.