

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Volume 62, No. 2, February 1992

Position

Status

GOD

Power

Pleasure

Which one do I love most?

... All that is of the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world. And the world passeth away and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.

1 John 2:16, 17.





Points for Pastors

by James McAllister

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a reprint from the December GEM, 1978. How appropriate it is for today.

During these last five months we have discussed the importance of the Sunday school; the organization of the Sunday school; the training of the Sunday school teacher; the importance of the church building in respect to the type Sunday school organization you can use; promotion schemes for your church and Sunday School program to build attendance; and this month we will discuss "Retaining members in Sunday school and church."

There is no easy way to retain what you have already reached. Department and grocery stores spend more money retaining their old customers than

they spend in reaching new. The old saying "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush" is very true. We must learn how to retain what we already own. I will offer some possibilities:

First, give them something when they come. Be sure every Sunday school lesson, every music program, and every sermon is interesting, exciting, and enjoyable. The Word of God should never be dull and boring. And remember, preacher, people going to sleep doesn't mean your sermon is boring. If I remember correctly, a man went to sleep while Paul was preaching. If you'll put into effect what I said in January of 1977 concerning your preaching, train your teachers and workers, make sure the music is organized and prepared, be known for a friendly church, you will retain your people.

Second, visit all absentees. This is one of the most difficult things to

accomplish. But if you retain your congregation, you must visit absentees. People appreciate a visit from their preacher, teacher, deacon, or fellow church member. Children enjoy hearing from their teacher.

Third, have occasional "big days." On these days have something real special. Promote hard among the absentees.

Fourth, use the follow-up program as a means to ensure strong church loyalty among the new converts. People who are loyal don't skip church.

Fifth, remember that even our Lord lost one of His chosen twelve. In the parable of the sower, one of the four seeds was lost. King David had his unfaithful few, and you will lose some also. Don't let it knock the enthusiasm out of you. Continue to be evangelistic and you'll grow even if you do lose a few. Just be sure it is a "few" you lose, and don't lose them through neglect.

Sunday School Attendance Averages July 1991 - December 1991

CHURCHES	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Belton	59	61	57	57	54	59
Bethel, El Dorado	60	59	61	68	62	
Calvary Fellowship	190	201	203	237	251	
Cape Girardeau	68	69	82	70	73	72
Central	82	102	102	102	93	103
Copper Mines	63	76	61	60	68	
DeSoto	183		183	179	180	
Farmington	352	405	378	432	409	388
Flat River, First	108	110	108	110	105	
Hannon	101	86	102	106	103	103
Harmony	64	79	78	73	69	70
Hartville	93	92	99	99	100	91
Hopewell	47	40	37	29	34	32
Houston	84	81	86	102	94	90
Lebanon, First	91	84	92	103	92	97
Marshfield	30	28	28	26	29	27
Myrtle	30	37	36	39	31	29
Overland			38			
Parkview	54	56	53	56	51	55
Potosi	56	54				
Richwoods	36	35	52	35	34	36
Rock Chapel	62	75	70	76		
Springfield, First	120		124	137	132	123
Thayer	119			122	110	122
United, West Plains	175	193	187	193	168	183
Willow Springs	62	63	61	65	60	
Verdella	70	63	74	81	70	73

The above is only a partial listing — there are 177 Free Will Baptist churches in Missouri. Each church is encouraged to send in the Sunday School average each month.



Reports from the Churches

DEDICATION AT PARKWAY CHURCH, Sedalia, MO — On Sunday, November 17, 1991, the Parkway Free Will Baptist Church, Sedalia, MO, held a Dedication Service. The beautiful new building was dedicated to the Lord.

The pastor, Rev. Gary Bigelow, gave a warm and enthusiastic welcome to the members of the Mission Church and the many friends of the church who had gathered for the occasion.

Two friends, Fay Young and David Bates, blessed the congregation with special music. David Bates also led the congregational singing.

Rev. Cliff Bowman, chairman of the State Home Missions Board, delivered the Morning Message. He commended the church for the wonderful accomplishments that had been made. In his message he challenged the congregation to love God, love lost souls, and live that God might use each one to glorify His blessed name.

The Afternoon Dedication Service began with David Bates leading the congregation in a medley of songs. He blessed the congregation again with songs he sang "from the heart." Rev. Clarence Burton, State Executive Secretary, delivered the Dedicatory Message. In his remarks he commended the pastor and his wife, Gary and Shannon, and the members and friends of the church for their faithfulness in completing the hard and difficult task of building an accommodating and beautiful building for the glory of God.

All items for publication must be in the hands of the editor no later than the 10th of the month preceding the issue month. Business Office: 202 West Commercial, Lebanon, Missouri 65536. Clarence Burton, Editor. Address all correspondence relating to the GEM, including subscription and mailing information, to the above address. The sermons and articles published in the GEM represent the personal views of the authors and not necessarily the views and policies of the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists or of the editor. Subscription rates: Single subscription, \$4.50 per year, cash in advance. Church Plan \$4.00 per year consisting of five subscriptions or more. The Church Plan will continue until it is canceled by the church. This magazine is published monthly.

The ladies served a delicious dinner in the spacious dining area. The new building accommodates a beautiful auditorium, classroom space for all ages (lower and upper level), a pastor's study, secretary's office, spacious kitchen and dining area, and adequate restrooms. The pastor, Rev. Bigelow, stated that the building was built with plans to grow. It is his prayer and the prayer of the church that someday the auditorium and every classroom will be filled.



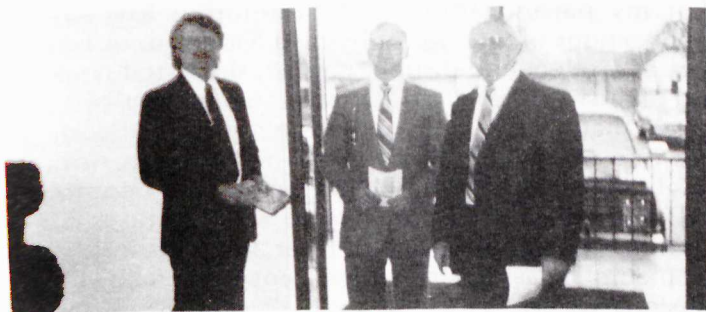
Larry, Linda, John, Audrey, Shannon, Gary and Wes.



The pastor in his study.



Fellowship Area.



The Ushers



The Auditorium

HARMONY CHURCH, Parkville, MO — The pastor, Rev. Kevin Jackson writes, The entire upstairs of the church has been carpeted. The Woman's Auxiliary and the Master's Men did fund raising and raised over \$3,000.00 in eight months.

On Sunday, December 8, two families united with the church and three converts followed the Lord in Water Baptism.

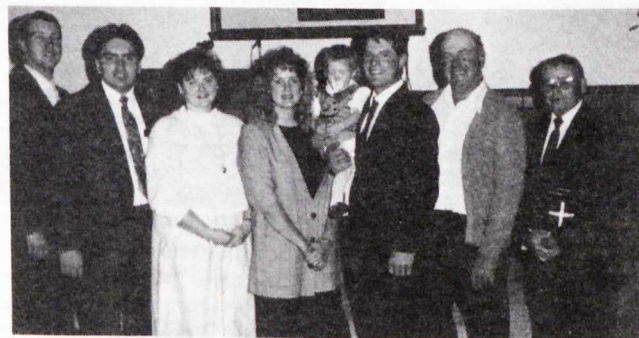
The Lord is blessing the "Youth Watch" on Sunday night. The average attendance for this youth activity is about twenty-five. Two young people received Jesus Christ as Saviour in the meetings.

The Lord is blessing the church financially also. The church bus was sold with the anticipation of purchasing a church van. The Van Fund has already reached \$2,000. And, if someone has a van or knows of a good one that is for sale, please contact the church at 1-816-741-9447.

VERDELLA CHURCH, near Liberal, MO — The Verdella Free Will Baptist Church held an Ordination Service on Sunday, November 17, 1991. Randy Sprinkle was ordained as a deacon. The Ordination Message and Charge was delivered by former pastor, Rev. Curt Holland. Rev. Donald Anderson, pastor, led in the Ordination Prayer.

Others participating in the Ordination Service were Regina Sprinkle (wife of Randy) and two deacons of the church, Roger Phillips and Charles Whitson.

The pastor, Rev. Anderson, states, "I am very pleased that Randy has been ordained as a deacon in the Verdella Church. He and his wife, Regina, are very dedicated and committed Christians. They have a lovely daughter, Bethany. The family is a blessing to the church and the community."



Curt Holland, Don, Kayla, the Sprinkles, Roger and Charles.



Randy, Regina and Bethany.

McCLURES HOLD SERVICE AT BUFFALO CHURCH—On Sunday, October 6, 1991, John and Paula McClure with two of their children held a Missionary Service at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Buffalo, MO, writes Mrs. Pauline Clayton, church reporter. The McClures are working in a mission near Monterey, Mexico. They also have two children who are students at Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Brother McClure showed slides of their work in Mexico and also delivered a fine message. The McClure Family sang several songs in Spanish, which the congregation recognized from the music. Christians in Mexico sing some of the same songs we sing in the United States.

The church presented John and Paula with a 32' Travel Trailer, which the church bought for them while they were on vacation in October.

The McClures were very thankful for the Travel Trailer and also thankful for the support the church gives for their ministry.



The McClures at the Missionary Service.



Rev. Knapp, pastor, presenting keys to Rev. McClure.

Sister Lena Ethel Miley Home With The Lord

Lena Ethel Miley was born April 5, 1902, in Adair County. She went home to be with the Lord Saturday evening, December 28, 1991.

On September 2, 1923, in Greentop, MO, she was united in marriage to Herman H. Miley, who preceded her in death. Also preceding her in death were her parents; four brothers - Virgil, Lawson, Charlie, and John Jr.; and one granddaughter (in infancy).

She is survived by one son, LaVern Miley of Nashville, TN; one daughter, Mrs. George (Mildred) Miller of Kirksville; one brother, Vernon Evans, Kirksville; two sisters, Mrs. Mae Coonfield, Novinger, MO, and Mrs. Hershel (Fern) Sevits of Decatur, IL; five grandchildren; thirteen great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

She and her husband operated the Fegley Store for approximately fifty years. Mrs. Miley was a member of the Hazel Creek Free Will Baptist Church where she was also a member of the Woman's Auxiliary.

The ministers officiating at the Memorial Service were Rev. Archie Cooper and Rev. Kenneth Reiter. Music was provided by Dianthe Cable, organist, and Wendell and Mazie Sevits, soloists.

EDITOR'S NOTE: I have known Mrs. Miley for several years. I always appreciate her gentle and humble spirit as she faithfully served the Lord.

"I'm enclosing a written testimonial of a young man in our church. John Haase is his name. He was wonderfully saved one Sunday afternoon this last January while we were talking in my office. In the last couple of months John has grown spiritually by leaps and bounds.

"I asked John to write out his testimony for me. After I read it, I thought you might be interested in printing it in the GEM. John grew up as a Mormon, but as a teenager rebelled against Mormonism and God. He found himself delving into intellectualism, atheism, and communism but without peace and harmony with himself.

"John came back home looking for some old friends but found them drastically different from when he had seen them before. Just a few months before they had received Jesus as their personal Saviour at one of our church services. John was drawn to the peace and love that he could see and feel in them. He started attending church at their invitation. Soon the Holy Spirit was bringing him under conviction. That Sunday afternoon he came to argue, but God totally broke him down until all he could do was cry and keep saying 'I believe.'" - Ken Dodson, Pastor, First FWB Church, Monett, MO.

Testimony of John Alva Haase

I write this letter to all believers, to declare my faith and utter commitment to God the Eternal Father, Creator of the Universe, and to His only Begotten Son, Jesus the Christ, The Savior of Man. It is my soul intent and wish to convey my testimony of truth and to glorify God in doing this.

My name is John Alva Haase. I was born into the Mormon Church (The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints) under the covenant of their beliefs and the vows that my parents took in their temple. My earliest recollections on life are of being a Mormon, of being a part of a select and distinct people, separated from the rest of the world by our doctrines and our practices. I was taught that I descended from an eternal race of gods and was one of his chosen people. The Mormon doctrine taught me that we were Israelites and that all people who did not believe and conform to the practices of the Church were gentile. I was told that they were infidel and should not be associated with except in the fellowship of missionary work.

At a very early age my mother told me that she had dedicated me to God (that being dedicated to the Church) and that I would be trained to be a leader of the Church. I was told that my birth was a miracle of God and that my entire life should be in His service.

I began to study the scriptures as soon as I could read. This included the Bible, as well as the other three books of scripture that the Mormon people claim as Holy. I was noticed at an early age for my ability to comprehend the Word of God and to explain it to others my age. I believed then as I was taught and considered the words of the

(continued on page 10)

The Word of the Lord is Right — Scientifically

by Dr. James Davis

Part II

There are many fine examples of perfect correlations between the Bible and modern medical science. In Genesis 17:12 God instructs Abraham:

“And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised among you, every man child in your generations.”

A pretty 36-year-old mother of four sat on the edge of her chair in the office of her physician. For over two weeks her doctor had been using delaying tactics in order to condition her for this moment. When the truth was given—that she had an advanced form of cancer of the cervix—she was crushed.

The year that this woman died—1974—a total of 11,000 women died with cancer of the cervix, and many of them were between the ages of 31-50. Cancer of the cervix accounts for 25 percent of all cancer in women, only exceeded by breast cancer. It also accounts for 80 percent of all their genital cancers. These statistics are even more pathetic because the large majority of these deaths could have been prevented by following the simple instructions given by God to Abraham in Genesis 17:12.

The history of this recognition is very intriguing. Three separate studies from 1919 to 1954 revealed that cancer of the cervix in non-Jewish women was eight and one-half times higher than in Jewish women.

Why are Jewish women relatively free from this common type of cancer? It is now generally agreed that the common factor is not race, diet, or environment, but is the practice of circumcision in Jewish men—which God ordered Abraham to institute 4,000 years ago.

There is a final, but remarkable fact about the matter of circumcision. Practically all newborn males that are born today in a hospital are circumcised as a matter of practice. This is usually done within the first 24 hours of birth. A better and more safe time, however, is on the eighth day. After a great deal of research it has been demonstrated that Vitamin K, one of the factors necessary for the clotting of blood, is not produced in the baby's intestinal tract until after the fifth to the seventh day.* On the third day of the baby's life the prothrombin, another essential blood clotting factor, is only about 20% of normal, but rises markedly on the eighth day to 110 percent of normal. So obviously the eighth day after birth is the most satisfactory time to practice circumcision.

Remember God told Abraham in Genesis 17:12:

“And he that is eight days old shall be circumcised.”

Abraham did not pick the eighth day for circumcision after years of trial and error experiments. Neither Abraham nor any of his company that came out of Ur of the Chaldees had been circumcised. Abraham did not have that knowledge. It was a day picked by the Creator of Vitamin K and prothrombin.

The Grand Law of Genetics

One of the main tenets of evolution is that through a continuing series of small inheritable genetic mutations a new family could develop. Or, that by a flood of genetic mutations, a new family could be formed at one fell swoop. This is the theory—preached enthusiastically...what is the truth—scientific method.

For more than 30 years one of the world's foremost geneticists and a confirmed evolutionist, Professor H.J. Muller of the University of Indiana, tried in vain to prove this tenet, but miserably failed. More than 3,000 years ago the Bible predicted Muller's failure. For in Genesis 1:11-25 the phrase, “after his (or their) kind,” appears some 10 times. In each case it refers to the reproduction of offspring by the parent.

- (1) vegetation—verses 11, 12—“after his kind.”
- (2) aquatic animals—verses 20, 21—“after their kind.”
- (3) winged creature—verses 20, 21—“after his kind.”
- (4) terrestrial creature—verses 24, 25—“after his kind.”

In other words, an apple tree would never reproduce a peach or a horse would not reproduce a monkey, etc. These statements in Genesis 1 antedate the modern law of genetics by more than 3,000 years.

But Professor Muller ignored the Word of God. He and his students bred more than 1,000 consecutive generations of *Drosophila* (fruit fly), the equivalent of more than 25,000 years of human reproduction. By exposing the parent flies to radiation, the rate of mutations are increased by as much as 100 times. A great many of Muller's fruit fly generations were therefore subject to irradiation. Thus the rate of mutations were greatly increased over the normal, so that his experiments with *Drosophila* are equivalent, as he says, to at least 500,000 years of supposed human evolution. In that period of time all sorts of ape-men and modern man are supposed to have evolved.

But what actually happened to this little fruit fly during this equivalent of time? In some cases its eyes became red, then white, or no eyes at all. Its body was sometimes colored yellow, or green, or had no color at all. Its wings became short, or curly, or it was wingless. But all of the time it was still a fruit fly. It didn't become a June bug or bumble bee; it was still nothing more than a fruit fly, despite over 1,000 generations of mutation packed reproduction.

Almost 500 mutations in the fruit fly have been described. More than 50 percent of these mutations were *directly lethal* while another 30 percent were *indirectly lethal*. A close scrutiny of the remaining mutations show that all of them were detrimental; none of them would have advanced the species toward a new species.

At the present time approximately 40 *sex-linked mutations* have been described in man. Almost all of these mutations are detrimental to the normal functioning of the human being. Baldness is perhaps the one exception.

So once again the Word of God is vindicated. Not only does the Word of God expose ancient error, but modern error as well.

Conclusion

All of this is fascinating to me, but, my friends, I am utterly amazed. I am overwhelmed to know that the God who spoke the universe into existence, who created the galaxies, the stars, the planets, also loves and cares for me.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Not only did He say that He loves me, but He demonstrated it by emptying himself of His external glory and taking upon himself the “likeness of sinful flesh”; He came into this world and died for me. This is the God we serve. Praise His name.

Have a Heart For Hillsdale!

Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College, working in concert with the executive secretary of Missouri, Clarence Burton, has declared February to be "Have A Heart for Hillsdale!" month. They would like to encourage every church in their state to receive an offering during February for Hillsdale. The goal is to underwrite as much of the college's gift budget for the year as possible.

Giving has not kept pace with the growth, and the college has experienced a series of deficit years. Last year's operating fund deficit was approximately \$148,000! When compared to gift income, tuition has been increased a disproportionate amount. Tuition went from \$35 per hour in 1980, to \$80 per hour in 1991, an increase of \$45, or 129%. Gifts, on the other hand, were \$228,845 in 1980, and \$228,590 in

1991, a decline of \$255. Tuition will continue to rise, but greater equity between tuition and gifts must be achieved.

A suggested per capita gift of \$12.00 has been arrived at by dividing the gift budget of the college (\$270,000) by the total membership of our churches. For example, a church with 100 members would send \$1,200. If the college does not receive at least \$150,000 by March 31, 1992, it will be forced to borrow additional operating funds.

Goal:
\$ 150,000
by March
1992

Hillsdale is a vital part of our denominational ministry. For over 30 years, the college has provided training for not only pastors and missionaries, but for thousands of lay people who are working in Free Will Baptist churches today. We trust that you value the college enough to become involved in "Have A Heart for Hillsdale!"



Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College

P.O. Box 7208 • Moore Oklahoma 73153 • 405-794-6661

Dear Pastor:

"Daddy, why...?" As the father of three young children, that question has been completed in a myriad of ways that are often difficult, if not impossible, to answer. But, some questions are easy to answer. For example, "Do we really need Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College?" When I see how our students are challenged by the cause of Christ, I answer "Yes!" When I see the failure of this world's wisdom, I answer "Yes!" When I wonder who will train our preachers, missionaries, and laymen, I answer "Yes!"

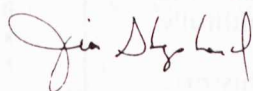
I am asking you to say "Yes" for Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College in a very specific way during the month of February. February is designated as "Have A Heart For Hillsdale" month, and your leadership and participation is needed. The goal of this campaign is to raise \$150,000.00 for the operating fund of the college. Will you lead your church in giving its most generous offering ever to our college?

There are two reasons why I would ask you and your congregation to give a sacrificial offering during these confused economic times. First, the expense of quality Christian education at a growing college is ongoing. Second, the cost of failure is far greater than any amount of money that any of us will give. Hillsdale needs your help. Now! A successful campaign will insure the financial integrity of the college.

"Have A Heart For Hillsdale" has been endorsed by the state leadership of Free Will Baptist in Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas, and Texas. These men believe in Hillsdale. More importantly, these men believe that Hillsdale is molding young people for life and service in the cause for Christ. I know you share these beliefs. Will you demonstrate this belief to lead your church to give a sacrificial gift for Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College?

June 30, 1992, is the end of our fiscal year. If your gift could be received by then, an operating deficit can be forestalled. This is a critical time for Hillsdale. It is time for Free Will Baptists everywhere to say "Yes!" for Hillsdale. Since it is impossible to say everything in a letter, I invite you to call me to discuss the importance of your participation.

In Christ's service,



Jim Shepherd
President

FWBBC's Bible Conference To Celebrate 50 Years In Ministry

Free Will Baptist Bible College's 1992 Bible Conference, March 8-12, will be a celebration of God's faithfulness to the institution for 50 years, according to Dr. Charles Hampton, chairman of the Jubilee Committee.

Alumni will play prominent roles in the meeting. Departing from the format of three or four speakers, the Jubilee Committee has asked a number of alumni and others to share in the conference. Evangelist Bobby Jackson is the only speaker who will be featured more than once. Past FWBBC Presidents — Dr. L.C. Johnson and Dr. Charles A. Thigpen — will be on the program, as will the current President, Dr. Tom Malone.

Other speakers include Rev. James Forlines, Rev. Jack Stallings, Rev. Jeff Manning, Rev. Bobby Ferguson, and Dr. Homer Willis. "Other participants will be announced later," says Dr. Hampton.

A number of special events during the conference will make the meeting unique. Class reunions are scheduled, as are reunions of former members of the college choir, quartets, trios, and drama teams. A special Tuesday evening service will feature both music and drama.

Members of the Jubilee Committee are Dr. Hampton, Dr. Mary R. Wisheart, Dr. Roger Reeds, Rev. Paul F. Hall, Rev. Ken Walker, and the current FWBBC student body president, Kenny Simpson.

All friends of the college — especially alumni — are urged to attend this special Jubilee Bible Conference, March 8-12.

Spring Tour Brings Bible College's Evangel Players to Area

Free Will Baptist Bible College's Evangel Players Drama Team will be in our area when they take their 1992 spring tour, March 12-20, according to Neil Gilliland, Recruitment Director.

The group is directed by Joseph Jones, Chairman of the college's English/Speech Department. The 23-member team will present two plays. In *Genesis*, by Gretchen Bogan, the players will enact the Creation, the fall of man, and God's plan of redemption. *The Long Road Home*, by Earl Reimer, is a dramatization of Jesus' parable of the prodigal son.

The program clearly presents the plan of salvation. It affords an excellent opportunity to bring unsaved friends under the sound of the gospel. We hope every person who can, will attend one of the services.

The following services are scheduled:

Tuesday, March 17 - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 18 - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 19 - 7:00 p.m.

Grant Avenue Free Will Baptist Church, Springfield, MO

Beacon Free Will Baptist Church, Raytown, MO

Calvary Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Fenton, MO

Looking Out My Parsonage Window

by Ve Ann Tilson



Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country... This is a familiar phrase, frequently typed by those who are testing a new typewriter. It expresses an urgent message that should be the battle cry of the Christian.

This year the Missouri legislature will very possibly act on a constitutional amendment concerning abortion. Speaker Bob Griffin has indicated that he will propose two Constitutional amendments on abortion — one banning the procedures and the other banning government interference

with abortion. He said the measure getting the most votes should become law. This is a life and death issue. Millions of babies are being slaughtered. Do we want it to be decided in Missouri by voters who turn out at an election? Where do you stand? Now is the time to speak out!

What about Magic Johnson's message to our teens? For the sake of the young people of America, let us hope and pray that parents, educators, and church leaders will get the message to Magic Johnson that, in the words of Dr. Robert C. Noble, "there is no safe sex." The Biblical standards against promiscuity need to be proclaimed and upheld. Now is the time to take a stand.

Let's consider the application of this common phrase to yet another important responsibility...i.e., the

urgent situation with Free Will Baptist missionaries. Letters come through this parsonage routinely announcing the shortage of funds in our missions accounts. Missionary deficits during September and October 1991 reached \$91,087.04 with the General Fund of the National Home Missions Department being \$133,054.59 in the red. The message for our Foreign Missions financial needs is also bleak. What are we going to do? Shall our missionaries come home? If so, who will share the Gospel of Christ with millions of unsaved people worldwide? Now is the time for urgent response. We must "be not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord" (Romans 12:11).

"Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their country." Will you rise to the occasion?

Mission Work to Begin in Wisconsin

The Carlie Lloyd Family is currently travelling on itinerant raising financial and prayer support to help them begin Mission Work in Madison, Wisconsin.

They are requesting names and address of people who live in that area. If you have this information, please send it to Rev. Carlie Lloyd, Rt. 1, Box 352 A Unicoi, TN 37692 or phone 615-742-3471.

Dear Fellow-laborer:

Thank the Lord for the years of service Mark and Donna Daniel have given in Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast) since 1984. And thank the Lord for you and many others like you who have faithfully supported them.

But now, since Mark has embraced traditional, historic Calvinism, he feels as we do - that it would be unethical for him to continue his ministry with Free Will Baptists.

In light of the Daniels' resignation, I am writing to ask you to **consider transferring the support you have given to them to Charollette Tallent, missionary to France, or to Curt and Mary Holland, missionaries to Brazil.**

With a lost world before us and missionary deficits mushrooming, the transfer of your support is critical. Will you please pray about this? Your help is needed so these missionaries can continue to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ overseas.

Again, thank you for the support you have given to Mark and Donna. They have been an asset to our missionary team and we are sorry to lose them.

In His service,

Fred Warner

Director of Missionary-Church Relations

Woman's Auxiliary All-Night Prayer Meeting

The Woman's Auxiliary and other women of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Mountain Grove, MO, will host another All-Night Prayer Meeting. The date is April 25, 1992. The evening meal will be served at 6:00 p.m. till ? Breakfast will be served at 6:00 a.m.

Mrs. Diane Thomas, a noted speaker across the United States and well known among Free Will Baptists, will be the guest speaker.

Jewell Spurgeon, member of the Woman's Auxiliary, writes, Women - plan now for your Auxiliary and other women of the church to attend. No reservation is needed, but if several from your area plan to attend, it would be appreciated if you would call or send a note indicating this. If you can provide special music, please contact me at this address or phone number. Jewell Spurgeon, 515 E. 9th Street, Mountain Grove, MO 65711. Phone 417-926-5895. You can then be put on the program. Remember to dress comfortably.

A Free Will Offering will be received.

Sandy Ward is president of the Woman's Auxiliary and Rev. Gary Fry is serving as pastor of the church.

**Woman's Auxiliary
Missouri State Association
FOCUS**

February - Time To Have A Heart For Missouri State Home Missions

February is our special time of the year where we want to really let our State Home Missionaries know we love them and are standing with them. They are doing an outstanding job establishing these new Free Will Baptist churches for the Lord, and we need to commend the good job they are doing. They need our prayers and financial support until they are able to support themselves.

How can we have a heart for them in February? Here are a few suggestions:

- 1) Ask a State Home Missionary to come and speak in your church.
- 2) Adopt a State Home Missionary for the year. Remember their birthdays and holidays with a card. Pledge a monthly offering to their account from your church, Sunday School class, Children's Church or youth group.
- 3) Pray for them. Write and ask for specific needs to pray about. What a great encouragement for them to receive a personal letter.
- 4) Visit one of our State Home Mission churches. See the work in person. Feel the pulse of missions at the grass roots and you will go home with a fresh burden to pray and support them.
- 5) Make a daily prayer commitment for a family in one of our mission churches. Have a monthly time to read their newsletter in church or class and have prayer then.
- 6) Perhaps have a February fundraiser just for them. In I Corinthians 15:58 Paul says whatever we do for the Lord is never in vain. Use a creative idea for a supper and launch out for a tremendous project for God to help one of our churches.

Here is a suggested program you might use in your "Have a Heart" emphasis for February:

THEME: "The Church: The Heart of Missions"

RESPONSIVE READING: Romans 10:8-17

SUGGESTED SONGS: I Love to Tell the Story, Wherever He Leads I'll Go, Rescue The Perishing

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE PROGRAM: Acts 1:8

A. The Force - "ye shall receive power"

1. Power to overcome obstacles and weaknesses
2. Power to have a vision and reach the lost

B. The Source - "the Holy Ghost is come upon you"

1. Not by our power (Zech. 4:6)
2. The Spirit convicts men of sin (John 16:7-8)

C. The Course - "Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, uttermost part of world"

1. Be a witness at home first.
2. Help to start churches elsewhere.

Here are your Missouri Home Missionaries — pray for them, write them, visit them, support them until the job is done. Will you have a heart for them?

- 1) Donald Anderson Family.....Moberly
- 2) Gary & Shannon Bigelow.....Sedalia
- 3) Dale and Barbara Cochran.....Hannibal
- 4) John and Debbie England.....Oak Grove
- 5) Jim and Rose Mertz.....Wentzville
- 6) Bill Ragsdale Family.....Stockton
- 7) Don Richmond Family.....Poplar Bluff
- 8) Nathan and Judy Ruble.....St. Louis
- 9) Jim and Grace Williams.....Carthage

PAY A PENNY AN INCH FOR:

1 Your height _____ ¢

2 The length of your couch _____ ¢

3 The circumference of your husband's head (If you don't have a husband, measure your best friend's head) _____ ¢

4 The width of your bed _____ ¢

5 The length of your Bible _____ ¢

6 The width of the purse you are now using _____ ¢

7 The diameter of the biggest pan you own _____ ¢

8 The height of your youngest child (If you have no children, measure your neighbor's child) _____ ¢

9 The length of your living room drapes/curtains _____ ¢

10 The distance between your couch and your TV (If you don't have a TV, you don't owe _____ ¢

11 The length of your foot _____ ¢

12 The length of your husband's foot (If you're single, measure a good friend's foot!) _____ ¢

=====

YOU OWE: \$ _____

MEASURE FOR MISSIONS

FWBBC Dean's List

Following final fall semester examinations, the names of 66 students who averaged "B" or higher for the semester were placed on the Dean's List of honor students.

The following students from Missouri were recognized: Seniors - Kenny Simpson, Farmington; Greg Smith, West Plains. Juniors - Jamie Gates, Fenton; Steve Lindsay, Odessa; Kevin Scott, Bridgeton; Kevin Stacy, Columbia. Freshmen: Diane Walls, Florissant.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Congratulations!

A Look at Free Will Baptist History

by Perry Brake

Almost every denomination or movement began with the vision or energy of one person. That person usually filled his followers with a deep sense of purpose and created a structure that also reflected that purpose.

We owe our denominational beginnings to a few men who had a vision for what could be. Perhaps the one that we know of the most, Benjamin Randall, can be looked to as one of the main impetuses for sustaining our movement for all these years.

Benjamin Randall, the founder of the northern movement of Free Will Baptist, was born February 7, 1749, in Newcastle, New Hampshire. At a very early age, before his conversion, he felt the need for and practiced diligently the act of "secret prayer." In his journal he states that at the age of five "he seldom closed his eyes to sleep without praying to God in such language as would best express the feelings of his heart."

The spiritual precocity of Randall is commendable and maybe even exceptional; however, he did not know Christ. As a youth he was religious (i.e. maintaining an ethical code) but still did not know Christ. He even quit the seafaring life because he did not care for the profanity of the sailors. He states that because he did not know of the righteousness of God, he began to create his own righteousness. What we can learn from him is that self-righteousness does not and cannot ever save. Mankind needs Christ, not a religion.

The information for this article and future articles on Randall are mainly taken from *The Life of Benjamin Randall*, by John Buzzell.



The Youth Look

by Ann Poletti

"GOD — MADE TO ORDER"

This title came to mind — as did the article — when I heard a commercial on the radio earlier this week. The commercial was promoting a large church in the city with a "mega-church" concept (one in which the emphasis is on the family's social needs, hoping this will somehow meet their spiritual needs), and their drawing phrase in the promotion was, the fact that they schedule their meeting times around the families' needs, and dismiss all services early enough that families can take part in planned social events.

At the risk of making the article sound like an editorial, something inside me felt hurt. True, it's good to recognize the needs of the disappearing family structure as they try to stay together and to encourage these families to become active in church... but is it right to set worship services so flexible that families are not forced to make time and sacrifices in order to worship the Lord? It seems that, while we've done enough in our own lives to try to make God into what we want Him to be, we are now doing it in our worship centers — planning to "serve the King" when He won't be an interference with the employee picnic, a ballgame, or the kids' school activities.

I had to wonder if those who rush out after Sunday School to make it home in plenty of time for football play-offs would even give a thought to leaving work at 11:00 on any given day for such a reason. Or, if those who can't make it to a regularly scheduled church service, because it interrupts their "family time," would stay home from work and keep the kids out of school to spend time together.

What better way to reinstate the traditional family structure than to begin by worshipping the Lord as a family unit...and teaching the family to set God as **#1 priority**. This makes God the almighty being He is, instead of a piece of Playdoh to be molded into the God we need to fit into our social calendars.

Lord, "mold Me and make Me after YOUR WILL...."

(continued from page 4)

Mormon prophet to be the literal voice of God, that the most important commandment I should follow was obedience and compliance to that word. For the majority of my youth I did not question the legitimacy of this command nor did I come to question the authority of the church in its control or interference with my daily life. I wanted to serve God and to know more about Him.

There came a point when I was around fourteen years old that I began to wonder how it was that the God of the Bible was so different than the God I was taught about. The more I studied the more I questioned. Rarely was my questioning answered with enthusiasm or plainness. Often I was given a jumble of terms to explain away the differences that I found and was repeatedly told that although we held the King James Version of the Bible to be Holy, that it had been mistranslated and was unclear and that I should begin to focus more on the words of the Mormon prophets and rely on them for my answers.

Many of the terms that were given to me were unclear, so I altered my course of study to include the terms as defined by the Mormon church in its official books of doctrine. I was rewarded for my eagerness to study and was constantly complimented on my research. However, again I came to the conclusion that Mormon doctrine was in direct contradiction to the words of the King James version of the Bible, especially on the teachings on the plan of salvation and the nature of man. It was then that I decided to study Latin and try to read the Vulgate edition to see what an earlier translation held. Over the course of two years I was shocked to find that there was no real difference between the two. It was then that I first began to doubt.

During my courses of study I had voiced little or no opinion as to my conclusions, but with constant fear of the church held myself silent on the matter and continued to live the laws to the best of my ability. Finally I brought my questions to a bishop. He informed me that I had been misled and that I was in the service of Lucifer, that I should repent and realign myself quickly and completely. He assured me that with prayer and fasting I would come to see that The Church was the one and only True Church and that anything that contradicted it was from Satan. I obeyed, but was dismayed to find that still I had no conviction of the validity of The Church.

This process was very difficult for

me. It frightened me more than anything else - the thought that the Church was not true. Eventually my fear could no longer restrain me. I began to rebel. I became sarcastic in the classes during seminary and asked the instructor questions that I knew would mislead him or trap him. I used a position that I had been given in the Church to point out to the other young men what I had been taught and to advise them to not take the priesthood. Very quickly I was found out and was summoned to the bishop. I was in a state of confusion. Though I knew the dichotomies existed, I could not bring myself to the idea of leaving the Church. The bishop interviewed me and I began to confess to him what I thought and what I had taught others to think. I told him that it was my desire to be released from my covenants and to become a gentile for a season to see if I could gain more insight. He refused and again called me to repentance. I became belligerent and decided to confess things that were not true to force him to hold a court and excommunicate me. After a lengthy process the court was held. In the court I again stated my assumptions and also confessed to many sins that I had never had the opportunity to commit. The decision of the court came quickly after. I was to be disfellowshipped. I was to no longer pray out loud in church, speak in any meeting, take the sacrament, or hold any position until I repented.

(continued next month)

Financial Information

DECEMBER 1991

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

18.50% Mo. State Home Missions Board	\$ 4,294.95
17.50% Exec. Off. & Gen.	4,062.79
3.50% General Fund	812.56
8.50% Youth Camp Bd.	1,973.35
2.50% Youth Ministries Bd.	580.40
2.50% C.E. Board	580.40
2.50% Sr. Adult Ministries Board	580.40
5.00% Mo. State Retirement Program	1,160.80
30.50% Nat'l. Ministries, Hillsdale & Calif. Christian College	7,080.86
Foreign Missions Board	
National Home Missions Board	
Same Allocation:	
Free Will Baptist Bible College	
Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College	
Executive Department	
Layman's Board	
Radio & TV Commission	
Theological Commission	
Historical Commission	
Board of Retirement & Insurance	
1% Calif. Christian College (\$70.81 included in \$7,080.86)	
9.00% State Office & Bookstore Bldg.	2,089.42
Total	\$23,215.93

This month ends the year 1991! Again I want to say, "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad!" We continue to praise Him for what He is doing through faithful pastors and churches! The Cooperative receipts for this year is more than last year, which means that we met our budget for 1991. I want to emphasize this - without Him we could do nothing! But through Him and because of His great love toward us, souls are saved and Christians are strengthened in the Lord.

The allocation for National Ministries goes undesignated for this year with FWBBC & Hillsdale receiving an equal amount. California Christian College will continue to receive the 1%.

DECEMBER 1991 RECEIPTS

COOPERATIVE

Liberty	\$ 245.41
Union	120.00
Seymour	71.00

New Home, Falcon	147.97
Columbia	75.00
Heritage	155.00
Victory, Alton	122.00
Number 1	43.00
Thayer	519.00
Calvary Chapel	112.50
Cope	35.00
Royal Oak	110.00
Springfield First	635.45
Overland	116.70
Harmony	393.00
Freeman Chapel	391.69
Belton	303.23
Mine La Motte	36.46
Lebanon First	464.20
Pleasant Ridge	100.00
South Fremont	815.00
West Plains First	435.75
Hazel Creek	447.58
DeSoto	800.00
Kirkville	146.46
Cape Girardeau	570.93
Joplin	393.50
Unity	211.49
Jones Chapel	512.08
Bailey Chapel	58.00
Mill Creek	184.13
Potosi	126.70
Mt. Zion, Gower	43.10
Trinity	912.85
Mt. Pisgah	193.00
Terrill Road	245.00
Lone Star	20.60
Monett	453.71
Union Grove	160.00
Koshkonong	61.00
Oak Hill, Union	423.70
Flat River First	841.07
Hurryville	299.97
Faith, Lemay	25.00
Hopewell	130.00
Rolla	71.47
Berean	20.00
Black Oak	215.35
Cabool	313.41
United, West Plains	624.05
Lingo	20.30
Parkview	267.02
Waynesville	254.23
Fredericktown	515.60
Farmington	2,051.83
Stockton	102.81
Victory Hill	30.00
Union Light	315.00
Bootheel Ass'n.	9.81
Leadington	288.55
Fordland	85.00
Eastern Gate	399.83
Marshfield	187.20
Macedonia	20.00
Coppermines	196.42
Pleasant Hill	43.24
Pleasant Home	142.31
Wolf Creek	335.00
Bethel, El Dorado	50.82
Grace	995.00
Central	832.01
Hannibal	50.00
Victory, K.C.	300.00
New Life, O'Fallon	449.70
Grant Avenue	616.63
Fredericktown	476.11
Smyrna	230.00
Total	\$23,215.93

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Niangua	\$ 42.00
Columbia	15.00
Thayer	166.00
Calvary Chapel	142.00
S. Hart	20.00
Southside	225.00
Victory, K.C.	215.00
Richwoods	67.00
Freeman Chapel	297.00
Belton	594.69
Lebanon First	80.00
Pleasant Ridge	65.00
N. Akeman	10.00
South Fremont	571.00
West Plains First	395.00
DeSoto	350.00
Kirkville	45.81
Kirkville Children's Church	17.00
Joplin	30.00
Trinity	1,637.57
Faith, Oak Grove	30.00
Farmington	258.00
Mt. Pisgah	290.00
Parkview Mission Group	60.00
Monett	537.17
Oak Grove, Cabool	65.00
Oak Hill, Union	19.00
Flat River First	178.22
Faith, Lemay	50.00
Monett	8,410.00
Calvary Fellowship	1,171.50
A Friend	100.00
C. Layman	20.00
Viburnum	110.00
United, West Plains	25.00
Parkview	333.75
Houston	258.44
Farmington	297.05
Oak Grove, Norwood	115.40
Union Light	130.00
Leadington	97.00
Fordland	114.00
Mtn. Grove	608.00
Eastern Gate	214.94
Marshfield	50.00
Greenfield	97.00
D. Shields	5.00
Cora Tucker	10.00
Pleasant Home	29.23
Bethel, Festus	174.00
Grace	23.00
Central	502.50
New Life, O'Fallon	40.00
Blue Springs	55.00
Grant Avenue	442.33
Galan Millard	5.00
Total	\$19,910.60

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Faith & Hope, Willow Spgs.	123.36
Columbia	10.00
Thayer	319.00
Victory, K.C.	45.00
Richwoods	22.00
Belton	30.00
Lebanon First	137.00
South Fremont	24.00
DeSoto	200.00
Kirkville	30.80
Joplin	60.00
Trinity	20.00
Mt. Pisgah	50.00
Parkview Mission Group	10.00
Oak Hill, Union	23.50
Flat River First	154.11
Monett	10.00
Buffalo First	50.00
A Friend	25.00

Viburnum	48.00
Parkview	102.00
Farmington	15.00
Oak Grove, Norwood	57.70
Union Light	25.00
Leadington	15.00
Fordland	76.75
Mtn. Grove	145.00
Eastern Gate	10.00
Pleasant Home	10.00
Wolf Creek	70.23
Grace	130.00
Central	155.00
Blue Springs	10.00
Grant Avenue	36.00
Total	\$2,249.45

STATE HOME MISSIONS

Columbia	\$ 35.00
Thayer	55.00
Southside	99.50
Victory, K.C.	5.00
Richwoods	10.00
Lebanon First	60.00
Pleasant Ridge	25.00
S. Fremont	25.00
West Plains First	30.00
S.E. District Association	25.00
DeSoto	50.00
Joplin	25.00
Trinity	70.00
Oak Hill, Union	20.00
Flat River First	89.11
Monett	2.00
Calvary Fellowship	10.00
J.W. Rader	25.00
Viburnum	8.00
United, W.P.	7.85
Parkview	38.00
Farmington	120.00
Union Light	161.00
Leadington	32.00
Mtn. Grove	47.00
Eastern Gate	20.00
Marshfield	28.72
Macedonia	20.00
Pleasant Home	19.99
Bethel, Festus	15.00
Grace	25.00
Central	30.00
Grant Avenue	195.21
Total	\$1,428.38

YOUTH CAMP

Thayer	\$ 30.00
DeSoto	50.00
Trinity	14.00
Mt. Pisgah	10.00
Parkview	10.00
Flat River First	85.40
Buffalo First	50.00
Calvary Fellowship	39.00
Mtn. Grove First	10.00
Macedonia	10.00
Bethel, El Dorado Springs	15.00
Total	\$323.40

FWBBC

Thayer	\$ 30.00
DeSoto	35.00
Parkview	10.00
Calvary Fellowship	35.75
Farmington	126.00
Grant Avenue	100.00
Total	\$336.75

HILLSDALE FWB COLLEGE

Thayer	\$ 35.00
Oak Hill, Union	27.25
Calvary Fellowship	35.75
Farmington	133.00
Central	30.00
Victory, K.C.	41.04
Grant Avenue	8.00
Total	\$310.04

CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Farmington	\$35.00
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JOHN McCLURE ACCOUNT

Thayer	\$10.00
Victory, K.C.	5.00
Faith, Oak Grove	10.00
Monett	26.00
Farmington	10.00
Grace	30.00
Total	\$91.00

CHILDREN'S HOME, TENNESSEE

DeSoto	\$50.00
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Evangelists Selected For 1992 Youth Camp Sessions

The Evangelists for the 1992 Missouri State Youth Camp Sessions have been selected. Three speakers have been chosen to lead our worship and daily teaching sessions.

Rev. Tim York, a full time FWB evangelist from Louisa, KY, will be serving as evangelist for the Group II Teen Camp session and the Group I Pre-Teen Camp. Brother Tim has served as our Camp Evangelist in past camp sessions and has always been well received.

Another speaker, Rev. Gary Mitchner, will serve as evangelist for our Group I Teen Session and for our Group II Pre-Teen Session. Brother Gary is the pastor of the Rock Chapel FWB Church and was one of the speakers at our 1991 Missouri State Meeting.

Also this year, the Youth Camp Board is glad to announce that Brother Bob Farwell will be leading all of our morning teaching sessions on the subject of creationism. Brother Bob is from Lee's Summit, MO, and attends the Beacon FWB Church in Raytown. Brother Bob teaches the adult Sunday School Class. Bob received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior in 1978 at the Kansas City Billy Graham Crusade. Once a strict evolutionist, Bob has reevaluated his science and is now an active member and lecturer for the Creation Science Association-Mid-America.

Camp dates for the 1992 sessions are June 14-19 Group I Teen. June 21-26 Group II Teen. July 26-31 Group I Pre-Teen. August 2-7 Group II Pre-Teen.

Enlarge Your Vision Winners

Sixty entires were received from nineteen states for the Sunday School Enlargement Campaign, "Enlarge Your Vision."

The First Free Will Baptist Church, Farmington, MO, won first place in Division I — Fall Average, 312; Spring Average, 373.

The First Free Will Baptist Church, Monett, MO, won second place in Division G — Fall Average, 98; Spring Average, 148.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Congratulations!

Roll Call Sunday - March 29, 1992! Goal - 270,000

The Home Missions Department's 9th annual ROLL CALL SUNDAY is scheduled for March 29, 1992! (Roll Call Sunday is always the last Sunday of March.) The attendance goal for that exciting day is 270,000 in the churches of the National Association of Free Will Baptists. That day is also the final Sunday of the Sunday School Department's Spring Enlargement Campaign. Write or call the Home Missions Office and Randall House for materials to promote attendance. Let's reach the goal of 270,000 on that Sunday!

Calendar of Events

SENIOR ADULT RETREAT

May 11-13

Stonecroft Conference Center, Branson, MO

Registrations forms will be in the next Gem issue.

STATE YOUTH COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES

Date and place will be announced as quickly as adequate facilities can be secured.

MISSOURI STATE CONVENTION/ WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

June 8-11

Nelson Community Center, Lebanon, MO

YOUTH CAMP

Teen Camp Group I, June 14-19

Teen Camp Group II, June 21-26

Pre-Teen Group I, July 26-31

Pre-Teen Group II, August 2-7

Group I

Greater Springfield

Bootheel

Indian Creek

Central Western

Mission

Cave Springs

Liberty

Niangua

Group II

Greater Kansas City

Northwest

South Central

Northeast

St. Louis

St. Francois

Laclede

NATIONAL CONVENTION, NYC & WNAC

July 19-23

Indianapolis, IN

ALL BOARDS MEETING

September 21-23

Youth Camp, Niangua, MO

SUGGESTION: Put this information on your Church Bulletin Board. This will be especially helpful for Youth Camp information.

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