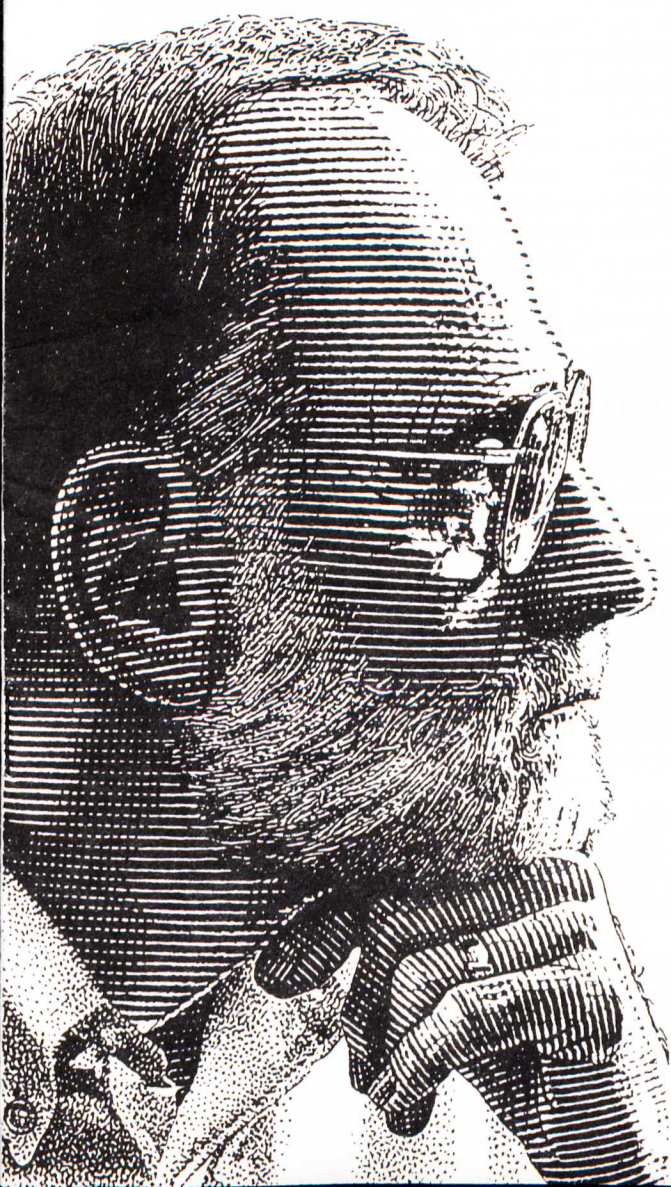


THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

Volume 70, No. 7, July 1999

Something To Meditate On



Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

I Tim 4:15-16

THE PRAYER GROUP KILLER

Evelyn Christenson

"And forgive us our sins, just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us." Matthew 6:12, TLB

One horizontal dimension of prayer that Christ taught is frequently overlooked. It is the thing that is *most apt to break up your prayer group*—your relationship with the other people who are in that group!

In the Lord's Prayer we read, "And forgive us our sins just as we have forgiven those who have sinned against us" (Matthew 6:12, TLB). Your Bible translation may say debts or trespasses; both have the same literal meaning: *sins*. Now, this is the Lord Jesus Himself teaching the disciples, and us in turn, how to pray. If you want to keep your prayer group intact, practice this principle.

That word *as* is a conditional word, meaning "to the extent that"—to the extent that I forgive others, I'm asking God to forgive me.

Christ explained it like this: "Your heavenly Father will forgive you if you forgive those who sin against you, but if you refuse to forgive them, He will not forgive you" (Matthew 6:14-15, TLB).

Christ says that if we don't forgive others, our Heavenly Father will not forgive us. If He does not, our sins will keep Him from hearing our intercessory prayers. They will be of no avail.

So, unless we keep our relationship with other people clear, we cannot be effective intercessory pray-ers. Now, let's remember one more thing: God always hears the penitent sinner's prayer confessing sin and seeking Christ as Savior. God also hears the plea for forgiveness of sins by the one who is already a Christian. But for us to refuse to forgive others is itself a sin. We can't be right with God and effective intercessors if we harbor the sin of an unforgiving spirit—even though we may have confessed all *other* known sins. This is a very difficult lesson for some to learn, but it is very important.

Jesus also admonished His disciples, in rather strong words, "Listen to Me! You can pray for anything, and if you believe, you have it; it's yours! But—when you are praying, first forgive anyone you are holding a grudge against, so that your Father in heaven will forgive you your sins too" (Mark 11:24-25, TLB).

Dealing With Those Who Cause Grief

I want to share with you the way this truth was brought into focus for me in

the summer of 1972. I was all set to speak at a prayer breakfast for vacationers and women from several churches in Michigan. It was possible that some people present would not know Christ, so I first made a telephone call to the spiritual life chairman of a local prayer chain and gave her my request. She jotted it down, dated it, and indicated that she would be happy to take care of the whole thing. Still feeling the need for special prayer, I called another local chain and then dialed long distance back to my former prayer chain in Rockford for their support.

When I got back home, I called the prayer chains to send through praise for God's blessing at the prayer breakfast. The spiritual life chairman to whom I spoke during my first call was very quiet for a minute. Then she said, "Um, we didn't pray."

I exclaimed, "You didn't pray."

"No," she replied, "one of the members said, 'We don't pray for speakers on this prayer chain.'"

I was stunned, and I gathered that this woman was seeing prayer needs only with her physical eyes, not with her spiritual eyes, for this was a spiritual need. The person who had enough authority to prevent a prayer from going through an entire prayer chain stopped it dead—and no one received the request.

How did I react? Just like a human being. I admit it was wrong, but I was very grieved for several days. And my spiritual life? I can only explain it by saying it became just like straw. If you want your prayer group to fall apart, to become like straw, just become grieved with another person, in the same way I did.

Soon after this incident, Chris and I took a vacation 9,000 feet up in the Rockies. It should have been a beautiful time of fellowship with God, but I couldn't get through to Him in prayer. My Bible reading was meaningless; my whole spiritual life still felt just like straw. I was grating away on the inside and feeling perfectly miserable.

Finally, by Thursday of that week, I had had it. At 5 a.m. I grabbed my Bible, went out under those gorgeous pine trees, knelt by an old pine log, and cried

out to God, "Show me what's wrong with my life. I can't get through to You."

I leafed through the pages of my Bible, but God was silent. Then in desperation I turned another page, and my eyes fell on the words right at the bottom of a page, "If any have caused grief." *Why, Lord, that's what's wrong with me, I thought. I've been grieved.* Then God spoke to me, "Why don't you read on?" I read on and Wow! What I discovered was a *formula* to remedy my ailment.

I remember the exact page in my *King James Version*; it was page 1253 where God met me. This prescription was for me as an individual, and it's also for you as an individual, and for your prayer group as well. It will keep your prayer group and your prayer chain intact. The Scripture passage is 2 Corinthians 2:5-11.

"But if any have caused grief" (v. 5). Yes, this woman had caused me grief all right! Though I was innocent, I was still grieved—and miserable.

"Sufficient to such a person is this punishment, which was inflicted by the many" (v. 6). I suddenly realized that she was being shunned not only by me, but by others who had learned of her refusal to let my prayer request be put on the prayer chain. The news had gotten around. *"So that contrariwise ye ought rather to forgive" (v. 7).* I saw that I had to forgive. You see, God wasn't hearing my prayers. I had asked Him for forgiveness, but I hadn't forgiven the person who had grieved me. So I prayed, "Father, give me the strength to forgive this person." He did, and I forgave her at that point.

"And comfort" (v. 7). I was shocked. I knew that word "comfort" meant encouragement plus alleviation of grief. "But, Lord," I said, "I'm the one who's been grieved. I'm supposed to alleviate *her* grief? Lord, You have something turned around."

"No," He said, "you are supposed to comfort, encourage, and alleviate the grief lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow" (v. 7).

"Lord, do You mean that the person who has grieved me might have a reason for acting that way? Maybe feels threatened? Maybe is struggling?"

(continued on page 10)

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: P.O. Box 991, 202 West Commercial, Lebanon, Missouri 65536. Nathan Ruble, 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.

From the Desk of the Executive Secretary

The word "GREAT" was used profusely during the 86th session of the Missouri State Association meeting. The word was used to describe the preaching, the singing, the workshop, the fellowship, and the business sessions. Do you know what? I believe that is still the best word to describe what happened during the three days that Missouri Free Will Baptists gathered together in Lebanon. "GREAT"!!

The Missouri Women Active for Christ was center stage Monday and heard Chuck and Shirley Lotz share the good news of God's Word. Led by President Shirley Jackson, the ladies approved a budget for 2000 and adopted the following items: \$3,000 for the Show-Me Plan, \$3,000 for National Home Missionary Chuck Lotz, \$3,000 for State Home Missionary Vernon Long, and \$1,000 for WNAC. They passed a resolution to encourage the promotion of February as State Home Missions month. The ladies displayed and sold crafts to begin raising funds to host the WNAC at the 2004 Convention when it meets in Kansas City. They will need approximately \$12,000. WNAC Executive Secretary, Marjorie Workman, attended the meeting and was an encouragement to the ladies.

The State Convention was convened by the Clerk, Jim Williams, Monday evening. Three hundred fifty-six people registered to hear Rev. Ken Dodson, Rev. Melvin Moon, Rev. Curt Gwartney and Rev. Trymon Messer develop the convention theme, "The Unchanging Word For A Changing World." Each man is to be commended for a job well done. The Stanley Jones Family, The Calvarymen, The MasterPeace Quartet, David Huett, Francis Simpson, and Marla Folkers provided the special music for the convention.

Tuesday morning a Stewardship Workshop was sponsored by the Christian Education Board. Al Taylor, Stewardship Director of the Church of God of Cleveland, Tennessee, kept the congregation wanting to hear more. Those who heard this insightful speaker had nothing but words of praise for his presentation of the Scripture.

Business was the order of service Tuesday afternoon. Led by Moderator Rick Dablemont, Assistant Moderator Richard Robinson, Clerk Jim Williams, and Assistant Clerk Rick Dement, the delegates and visitors heard and approved reports from the state and national boards. The reports reflected God's goodness and His provision and blessings.

Approval was given for the Youth Camp Board to construct a new multi-purpose building on the Niangua camp grounds, and to begin a fund raising campaign. They will need to raise \$100,000. A new scholarship program was adopted. A copy of the program and an application for funds is in this Gem. The delegates adopted a goal to raise \$100,000 for the Free Will Baptist Bible College relocation program. A new district association, MO-ARK District, was received into the State Association, and the prayer program presented by the National Strategy Forum was adopted.

Then there is this paragraph of tidbits.

- > Monday evening former Moderator, Ken Dodson, was honored with a plaque for a job well done.
- > Tuesday afternoon, the Christian Education Board honored those churches which experienced the greatest percentage of increase on Roll Call Sunday.
- > Wednesday evening, students of the Missouri External Studies Program were honored.
- > The attendees gave \$565.58 toward the convention expense and \$414.20 on Wednesday evening which was designated for the Youth Camp building fund.

- > The body voted to accept the invitation of the Mid-Rivers Association and meet in the St. Peters/O'Fallon area June 5-7, 2000.

The days were busy, hot, and humid, but it was a "GREAT" convention!!



Rev. & Mrs. Ken Reiter recently visited their son and daughter-in-law in Germany. While there, they visited missionary Ginger Harrison in Antwerp, Belgium.

Record-Breaking Day at Lead Hill

Mother's Day at Lead Hill Free Will Baptist Church turned out to be a record breaker. Several weeks prior to Mother's Day, Sister Bernetta Williams asked all the mothers in the church for the addresses of their children who did not already attend Lead Hill. Letters were sent from Pastor John Williams to each child, inviting them to be in church with their mother on Mother's Day. Twenty-eight letters were sent, and the response was overwhelming. By the time the 11:00 hour rolled around, the sanctuary was almost filled. The attendance record was broken with 164 present for the worship service.

Gifts were given to the youngest mother, oldest mother, and mother with the most children present. Aimee Douglas was honored as the youngest mother, Ada Kelsey, for the oldest mother, and the biggest blessing of the day came when Faye Bradshaw won the prize for having the most children present. Ten of her twelve children were present, along with their families. It took five pews to seat them. An accurate count was not taken, but it was estimated that there were nearly forty members of the Bradshaw family present that morning.

We were overjoyed to see how many responded to our invitation. Several families came from other states. The farthest distance was from the state of Wyoming. We thank God for this wonderful day, and pray that seeds were planted in the hearts of many who do not attend church regularly.

Web Site?

If your church has a Web Site, we would like to publish it in the *Gem*. We would also like to receive and publish the E-Mail addresses of our churches and pastors. If you would like information on establishing a web site, you may contact Greg Hadley at the New Life Free Will Baptist Church at Licking, Missouri. Listed below is the web site of the New Life Church.

Church Web Site: train.missouri.org/community/fwb
Email Address: lickfwb@train.missouri.org

Scholarship Program

Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists

OBJECTIVES

(Primary)

1. To encourage and promote an increased involvement of MO Free Will Baptist students in attendance of one of our four Free Will Baptist Colleges.

2. To provide financial assistance to current and future MO Free Will Baptist ministerial students in preparation for ministry who are or will be attending one of our four Free Will Baptist Colleges.

(Secondary)

3. To encourage and promote an increased level of academic and clerical preparedness and proficiency among members of MO Free Will Baptist clergy by enrollment in an approved, accredited seminary.

4. To provide financial assistance to Free Will Baptist ministers who are currently serving in Missouri, who are attending approved seminaries in pursuit of their Masters or Doctoral degrees in any area of theology or ministry.

INCOME SOURCE & PLAN

1. The Scholarship Fund shall be funded by revenue received from Brotherhood Insurance Company through retro premium refunds, gifts, and a percentage of the Lebanon Bible & Book Store Co-op funds. The percentage will be determined each year with the adoption of the budget.

2. A revocable Trust shall be established with the Free Will Baptist Foundation to establish a perpetual fund that will supply future scholarship needs.

RECIPIENT QUALIFICATIONS

The student shall:

1. Be a member and maintain membership in good standing in a MO Free Will Baptist Church.

2. Maintain at least a 2.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.

3. Be pursuing minimally an A.A. in a ministerial degree.

4. Undergraduates must be full-time students maintaining at least the minimal hours of credit each semester for that status.

5. Graduate level students must maintain minimal part-time status enrolled in at least 2 courses per semester or a combined total of 4 courses per year.

ADMINISTRATION & DISBURSEMENT

1. The scholarship program shall be administered by the Executive Committee of the MO Free Will Baptist State Association.

2. Specific allocation amounts to individual students shall be determined annually by dividing budgeted money by the number of qualified students with equal distribution to each student.

3. Scholarship awards will be limited to five years of undergraduate work and three years of graduate work.

AGREEMENT

A recipient of this scholarship agrees to repay the funds which he receives from this scholarship **if he fails to have an active ministry in a Free Will Baptist Church** for five years after completing his course of study.

MO Ministerial Scholarship Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Are you Licenced? _____ Ordained? _____

Name of MO church where you are a member _____

Pastor's Name _____

Date graduated from High School _____

Name of High School _____

Name of the School you will be attending the fall semester '99. _____

Are you pursuing an Undergraduate degree _____ Graduate degree _____

Last semester grade point average (high school or college) _____

You will be enrolling as a: (circle one) Freshmen Sophomore Junior Senior Graduate Student

"Thank You, Missouri" **From the Hollands in Brazil**

Dear Partners on the Home Front:

We think of you so often—the place where we call home; the people that we call family and friends. Whatever God does here through us in Brazil is because of who we are in Him and where He put us before we ever came to the country of Brazil.

We were born and raised right in the "heartland" of America; where we have seen and combined those "amber waves of grain," the place that you, too, call home. When the seasons change here, hardly unnoticed, I think of the awesome falls that I have seen with the earth blanketed in radiant colors. I think of the farm animals born in the spring, and the tulips pushing their blooms to the sky for all to see. I think of the summer rains and the hot days. I think of vegetable soup and hot, spicy chili that helps fight off the cold winter days of January. . . . Okay, okay, and I think of Wal-Mart and clearance sales and glazed donuts and Sonic Diet Cokes (Route 44) and Olive Garden and softball games and Christmas lights and the State Meetings and family and friends and then . . . I'm homesick. After seven years on the field (six in Brazil and one in Missouri), that land still calls us, that Missouri blood rivals up until it nearly boils over. Then we must refocus. We must reevaluate why we are here in the first place. Well, because two very young Missourians saw the "Great Commission" as the "Great Commission." They had no reason why they couldn't go and serve the Lord, so they went. God wanted us to step out of our comfort zone, our "Missouri language" and go to a country that was unfamiliar to us, maybe even uncomfortable and definitely where no one spoke our language!

It was a time (and still is) of faith, trust and obedience. But not only for us, but for the rest of our fellow Christian Missourians that share our lovely state. For you, it was a time of faith, trust and obedience and still is.

As a kid I never dreamed of growing up and becoming a missionary. When I was growing up in Nevada, Missouri, my dream was to be a professional softball player, a writer, a photographer, or a Canadian Mountie. A missionary? I didn't even know what that was.

So now, a few years later, here we are in Brazil doing something that was beyond my imagination. I never dreamed of leaving the place that I called home, and trading it for a "strange" land. But, then, I never imagined the difference that Christ could make in my life. I stepped out on faith, and I wanted to thank you for stepping out on faith. I realize that taking on the Missouri Show-Me Plan was an act of faith and vision for the "great Commission." It was a step to show our denomination that we believe in world evangelism and are willing to work and provide for our own Missouri missionaries. To that I say "Thank you"—another reason to be proud to be called "a Missouri show-me." And you have shown us that the "Great Commission" does matter and is your priority. Because you have underwritten our accounts, our stateside assignment will take on a whole new meaning. It also means a lot to know that your own state has interest and cares about what you are doing. Words can never express what it means to us to be backed by our own state. It's an awesome feeling to know that my state is praying for me, supporting me and wanting me to win others for the cause of Christ.

To win others, as Paul said, "we go that we might win some." You sent so that you might win some. We went so that we might win some. God has a purpose for some Missouri folk in Brazil. May His purpose be shown through us and through you.

Your Missouri laborers in Brazil,
Mary and Curt Holland

News From The Vandivorts

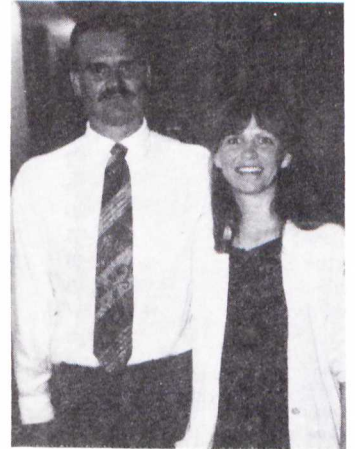
Dear Friends in Christ,

Just a quick note to let you know everything is a "go." We would like to say "Thank you" for all you have done to further God's work. All the funds have been raised and a little more. We were able to tell God's people to stop giving to us and give to others at this time. Praise the Lord! He is so good and does keep His promise in supplying **ALL** our needs!

We leave on May 30, at 7 a.m. from Nashville, and return on July 12 around 6 p.m. in Nashville. Please continue to pray for us while we are gone, and also for our children who will be in Houston, Missouri, with their grandparents. Don't forget to also pray for Terry's mom and dad while they are taking care of the kids.

We are at peace that this is God's will for us, or everything would not have come together as it has. May you be blessed by your part in this project through the Holy Spirit daily. Please don't forget to pray for those who do not know Christ as their personal Saviour and Lord!!! Thank you again, and we are looking forward to sharing God's work with you when we return.

In Christ's Service To Further His Kingdom,
*Terry and D.D. Vandivort and kids,
Ashley, Amber, Austin and Aaron*



From The Plunkett Newsletter **Lloyd and Betty Plunkett**

John Seaberry, one of our freshman boys, is the son of Southern Baptist missionaries opening some new work in Gabon, about 100 miles east of here. At about 4:30 on Saturday morning, April 24, Steve and Anne Seaberry awoke to find a band of five or six armed robbers in their bedroom. Excerpts from an e-mail message from them says:

"We are physically fine, but we are suffering from some of the emotional side effects of an attack like that. Hallelujah . . . God did miraculously reveal Himself to us during this entire ordeal. These robbers were in our house and storeroom for over an hour, maybe two. They took their time, even drinking some of our Cokes as they looked through and packed our things in OUR car. Steve and I also are privileged to have seen the incredible power of the name of Jesus. After Steve had finally unlocked the safe and given them the money, they said they were ready to kill us. The man stood in the doorway of the office and as he started to cock the gun, I said out loud, 'Oh, Jesus.' A bullet immediately fell to the floor. The man was so shocked that it had fallen, and he was just as shocked that he had only one bullet. He turned around and left us and we thought that he had gone to get some more bullets. Steve and I sat there and whispered the name of Jesus over and over again. In a few minutes the man returned and two of the robbers tied us up and left us in the office with the door closed. They were in the house for several more minutes, and we finally heard the car start, and we knew they were leaving. Praise God!"

Sunday School Averages December 1998 - May 1999

CHURCHES	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY
Belton		35	36	35	34	32
Calvary Chapel	135	146	142	143	134	
Cape Girardeau	51	51	58	56	52	47
Copper Mines	52	49	51	51	50	55
Cuba	116	117	102	101	110	113
Columbia	20	24	25	28	29	23
DeSoto	161	142	160	158	161	146
Farmington	348	328	384	577		326
Hannon	116	98	122	109	116	116
Harmony	57					
Hartville	116	105	111	106	101	105
Hazel Creek	68				62	58
Hopewell	28	31	29	30	29	30
Houston	46	46	54	46	46	43
Kirksville 1st	27					
Lebanon 1st	119	81	111	114	109	109
Lebanon FWB	56	55	57	50	54	52
Mill Creek	61	54	59	62	66	63
Monett	57	52	56	56	62	
Myrtle	42	34	35	41	43	37
O'Fallon 1st	75	77	79	73	76	61
Oskaloosa	15	15	15	14	14	14
Ozark		106	119	120	108	
Park Hills	115	87	115		146	114
Purdy	45	51	52	46		
Richwoods	28	24	33			
Rock Chapel		48				
Rolla 1st	26	29	27	35	32	30
Southside	37	35	32	32	34	31
Springfield 1st	132	115	124	131	129	
Thayer	161	139	147			141
Trinity	85			76	72	67
United	301	290	302	304		316
Willow Springs	63	64	55	54	57	55

The above is only a partial listing - there are 180 Free Will Baptist churches in Missouri. Each church is encouraged to send in the Sunday School average each month.

Bible College Honors Dr. and Mrs. Picirilli

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—Free Will Baptist Bible college paid tribute to Dr. and Mrs. Robert Picirilli on May 5 with a chapel program and a reception in their honor. The Picirillis are retiring at the end of the 1998-99 school year.

The chapel program included some surprises. Most of the members of the Gospels Quartet were present for a reunion song. June McVay, missionary to Spain, came home to join her four Picirilli sisters in a moving tribute to their parents. Other speakers included Rev. John Murray, Rev. James Earl Raper, and Dr. Mary Ruth Wisheart. In closing, FWBBC President, Tom Malone, summarized the devoted ministries of Dr. and Mrs. Picirilli.

FWBBC Public Relations Director, Bert Tippet, presided at a Picirilli roast following the reception. Speakers included two sons-in-law (Clarence Lewis and Allen Pointer), Mrs. Violet Cox, Mrs. Eloise Brown, Rev. Eugene Waddell, and Dr. Charles Thigpen.

Dr. and Mrs. Picirilli have given more than 70 years to FWBBC and the Free Will Baptist denomination. During his 44 years at the college, Dr. Picirilli served as Teacher, Registrar, and Academic Dean. Clara, for some 27 years, served as Dining Hall Hostess, worked in the Treasurer's office, and assisted the Christian Service Director. She also served for 12

years as President of the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention (now Women Nationally Active for Christ).

The Picirillis will continue their association with the college. Next year, Dr. Picirilli will teach on a part-time basis. Mrs. Picirilli will do volunteer work for the college wherever she is needed.

LESSONS FROM NATURE

BY GARRY MATTHEWS

"I've never seen anything like it! I've never heard of that before!" The lady stood amazed at the sight before her. What was it? Just some small purple irises bloomed out in our flower beds along the wood line. What would cause exclamations like that? The flowers themselves were just irises; not large, frilly hybrids, and not the old-time yellow or lavender irises that you see around old homesteads. They are larger than miniatures, but shorter than the old-time ones and the new fancy hybrids. They are the deepest, royal purple that you have ever seen, and they multiply like—well, like dandelions. You can dig one up and throw it into the woods, and next year you'll have purple irises growing in the woods. But that's not what makes them special. What makes them special is that this lady was looking at our flower bed the first week of October! Yes, October, and we had purple irises in bloom for the second time that year! As I write this article, it is the second full week of April, and already some of these purple flowers are bloomed out, and it's snowing here in Kirkville! I've been around irises all my life. My mother loves them, and has every color imaginable—hundreds, but nothing like this one. Never has she had irises bloom spring and fall, and certainly not consistently! What makes this purple beauty bloom twice a year? I don't know! My wife and I certainly don't do anything special to them, except thin them out, and transplant them everywhere—even some at our church, Hazel Creek FWB. When the killing frost came, Hazel Creek Church had purple irises in bloom!

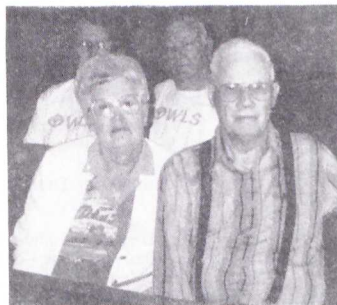
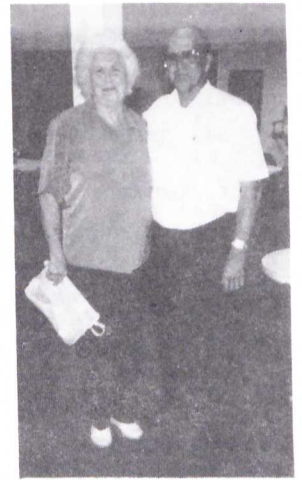
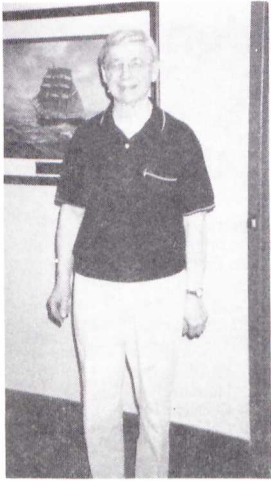
The thing that makes these flowers special is that they bloom twice a year, and irises just don't do that. They are in bloom when people don't expect to see anything except old, dry, dead-looking "flags." This makes them unique, and calls a lot of attention to them.

Isn't that how we Christians are supposed to be? Aren't we to burst forth in full color blooms when the conditions dictate dried up dead "flags?" One of our greatest testimonies as a Christian is how we handle difficult, impossible, emotionally and spiritually devastating situations. When we burst forth in glorious bloom in a situation that has the potential to devastate us, people are drawn to this unusual sight. "I don't know how you can be so strong . . . I don't know how you cope with this . . . how do you keep going . . . how do you stay so cheerful, so positive under these conditions?" Have you heard these statements before, or have you ever made such statements yourself? This is one of the greatest opportunities for Christians to bear witness of how Christ meets the needs of His children—how we go in His strength, not ours, through difficult times. We can attract people to Christ when we "bloom out of season." They perceive we have something they need; something they want for their lives.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

Does your life "bloom" before men that they see the beauty of your "good works" and "glorify" Him, when it is not the season for "blooming?" God help us to be "blooming in season and out of season" to draw men to Him! Oh, to be as extraordinary as the little purple iris!

SENIOR'S RETREAT '99



Winners Of 1999 Missouri State Competition

BIBLE MEMORIZATION

0.1	Katy Fry	Mountain Grove First
0.2	Jeannetta Baumer	Hartville First
0.3	Bethany Sprenkle	Verdella - Liberal

BIBLE SWORD DRILL

0.4	Tori Blankenship	Pleasant Home - Mtn. Grove
0.5	Leanna Baurner	Hartville First
0.6	Josh Dixon	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton

0.7 BIBLE TIC TAC TOE

HARTVILLE FIRST
Whitney Coy, Jacob Jones, Heather Thomas, Beth Kinser & Richard Baumer (Alternate)

1.1 VOCAL SOLO

AGE GROUP

A	Bethany Sprenkle	Verdella - Liberal
B	Gavin Brawley	Oak Hill - St. Clair

1.2 MALE VOCAL SOLO

C	Jason Thompson	Hannon - Liberal
D	Ryan Bowlin	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton

1.3 FEMALE VOCAL SOLO

C	Amanda Roberds	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton
D	Melisha Thompson	Hannon - Liberal

2.1 VOCAL ENSEMBLE - DUETS, TRIOS & QUARTETS

A	Calvary Girls' Duet	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton
B	Sonshine Duet	Verdella - Liberal
C	Brandi, Casey & Josh	Fellowship - Park Hills
D	Fellowship Girls' Quartet	Fellowship - Park Hills

2.2 VOCAL ENSEMBLE - (5 - 12 Members)

D	Fellowship Youth Chorale	Fellowship - Park Hills
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3.1 INSTRUMENTAL SOLO - STRINGS

A	Zachary Hurtt	Mountain Grove First
C	David Jones	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton

3.2 INSTRUMENTAL SOLO - WIND

B	Caleb Moon	Hartville First
C	Amanda Roberds	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton
D	Lindsay Scott	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton

4.1 INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE - DUETS, TRIOS & QUARTETS

B	Caleb Moon & Joni Dixon	Hartville First
D	Angelic Thomas & Chris Adamson	Monett First

4.2 INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE WITH 5 OR MORE MEMBERS

D	Carthage Chimers	Carthage First
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5.1 KEYBOARD SOLO

A	Kaleb Jesse	Mountain Grove First
B	Tori Blankenship	Pleasant Home - Mtn. Grove
C	Haley Carter	Joplin First
D	Crystal Ross	Pleasant Home - Mtn. Grove

6.1 SPEECH

D	Alicia Bunch	Hannon - Liberal
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6.2 INDIVIDUAL DRAMA

A	Samantha Conway	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton
B	Michelle Anderson	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton
C	Joshua Parker	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton
D	Lindsay Scott	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton

6.3 INTERPRETIVE READING OF SCRIPTURE

A	Jenio, Dixon	Hartville First
B	Bryon Blankenship	Pleasant Home - Mtn. Grove
C	Richard Baumer	Hartville First

6.4 MIME/PANTOMIME

D	The Prayer	Hannon - Liberal
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6.5 GROUP DRAMA

A	The Shepherd's Lambs	O'Fallon First
B	Moon, Moon, Campbell & Baumer	Hartville First
C	Truth Seekers	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton
D	Ice Men	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton

6.8 PUPPETRY (Live)

B	The Wolf Gang	Wolf Creek - Mansfield
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6.9 PUPPETRY (Recorded)

A	Hannon Puppeteers	Hannon - Liberal
B	Heavenly House Puppets	Bethel - El Dorado Springs
C	Hannon Puppeteers	Hannon - Liberal
D	Hannon Puppeteers	Hannon - Liberal

9.1 PAINTING

* B	Joel Thornton	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton
C	Isaiah Vanderbogart	Union Grove - Norwood

9.2 GRAPHICS

A	Jeni Dixon	Hartville First
B	Kari Myers	Springfield First
* C	Paul Hempen	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton
D	Chris Kernan	Fellowship - Park Hills

9.3 THREE-DIMENSIONAL ART

A	Sarah Jones	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton
* C	Adam McNeely	Carthage First

9A PHOTOGRAPHY

A	Amanda Brinkhoff	Carthage First
B	Kendall Findley	Wolf Creek - Mansfield
C	Melissa Todd	Calvary Fellowship - Fenton
D	Michelle Bryant	O'Fallon First

9.5 FABRICATED ART

A	Amanda Brinkhoff	Carthage First
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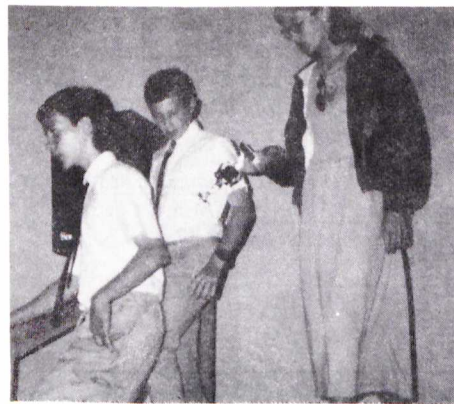
9.6 PROMOTIONAL GRAPHIC ART

A	Thaddeus Wagner	Carthage First
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* Denotes the highest rating in the category, but not an "80%." These were declared winners at State Competition, but are not eligible to compete at the National Youth Conference.

SNAPS OF YOUTH COMPETITION '99





THE PRAYER GROUP KILLER (continued from page 2)

I could hear Him say, "Right."

If someone is grieving us, how many of us take the wrong attitude? Though we may not say it in so many words, by our manner we are saying, "I know you're drowning, but I'll just take my foot and push you under to be sure you go down and drown right." Aren't we guilty of this? But God's Word says we are to get underneath, alleviate, and lift! Then, after we do that, we are to:

"Confirm your love toward him" (v.8). I began to see that I had no love. Oh, I might have had a little supply of the ordinary love that one has for the members of her church—you know the kind I mean. But it wasn't any special love—there was none of that. In fact it might have been something just the opposite right then. I'm not sure what I felt, but I know it wasn't deep Christian love.

Then I had to pray, "Lord, give me the love You want me to have for this person." And kneeling down by that old pine log, I suddenly had a tremendous sense of God's love being poured upon me. There it was—and I loved her.

But there was a new problem—how to "confirm it." I couldn't get myself to write a letter, but when I reached my home I was still convinced that I had to confirm my love to her.

The woman who had grieved me attended the same church I did. On the first Sunday morning we were back in church, I spied her sitting on the opposite side of the sanctuary from me. I didn't hear one word the pastor said as I kept praying, "Lord, if You want me to confirm this love, You have to put her right where I'm going to run into her. I'm not going to make a fool of myself and run over to her."

You know how that kind of prayer goes. Maybe I didn't get quite that hard-nosed, but that's what I was saying to God, "I'm not going to make a fool of myself. You're going to have to put her in my path." And so help me! At the close of the service I opened the big double doors at the back of the sanctuary and almost knocked her down! There she was!

And what did I have to do? I put my arms around her and said only one thing, "I just want you to know I love you." And the tears started to roll.

She said, "And I just want you to know that my husband and I are praying for your Bible study."

She "knew" and I "knew." We got together and really worked it out a few days later.

"That I might know the proof of you" (v.9). Why did I have to go to her? "That I might know the proof of you"—you, the member of the prayer group, who is responsible to forgive and to go and confirm his or her love so that God will know how obedient you are—not the one who did the grieving, but the innocent one who was grieved.

"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us" (v. 11). This is the most frightening thing of all. There is nothing the enemy would rather do than to see our prayer groups broken up by our failure to forgive and confirm love. Let's never be guilty of allowing him to "get his foot in the door," for we are not ignorant of his devices.

This is For Everybody

I had taught a Sunday School class on this subject of forgiveness, and following the morning service that day, a leading layman who had been in the class said to me, "I just want you to know that two men in our church got together after

Sunday School and resolved something that had been between them for many years, and should have been handled long ago."

A man who attended one of our seminars had loaned a relative \$70, even though he could hardly spare the money. He shared his feelings with me after our session of forgiving others. "Evelyn," he said, "I just told God that I now forgive the one who borrowed money a couple of years ago and has not even mentioned it to me since. I was becoming more and more bitter in my heart, and I now know that I have to go and confirm my love to that relative. So, after I get home tonight, I'm going to dig out that little promissory note for the \$70 and write on it 'Paid in full,' and put it right in the mail."

For you to do:

1. Ask God to bring to your mind that person who has grieved you and whom you have not forgiven.

2. Ask God to forgive you for the sin of not forgiving that person.

3. Now forgive that person, asking God to give you the strength and ability if you need to.

4. Next, ask God for as much love as He wants you to have for the person who grieved you.

5. Next, ask God how you should confirm your love to that person.

6. Wait in silence for His answer.

7. Pray, promising God that you will do whatever He has told you.

8. Go do it!

Excerpt from *What Happens When Women Pray (Deluxe Edition)* by Evelyn Christenson. Used by permission from David C. Cook.

Bible College Graduates 64

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—Free Will Baptist Bible College graduated 64 students in Commencement exercises held on campus Thursday, May 13, 1999, before a crowd that filled Memorial Auditorium.

The Class of 1999 includes students from 18 states and three foreign countries. The following Missouri students were among the graduates:

Steven David Koester - Park Hills, MO - Youth Ministry
Anna Linn Panduku - Fordland, MO - Physical Education
Michelle LeAnn Wallace - Park Hills, MO - Physical Education
Karen R. Hook - Blue Springs, MO - English
(Karen graduated magna cum laude)

We congratulate these four Missouri students along with the entire graduating class of '99!

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

MAY 1999

COOPERATIVE DISBURSEMENTS

18.50% Mo. State Home Missions Board	\$7,441.30
17.50% Executive Office	7,039.07
3.00% General Fund	1,206.70
.50% Show-Me Plan	201.12
8.50% Youth Camp Board	3,418.98
2.50% Youth Ministries Board	1,005.58
2.50% Christian Education Bd.	1,005.58
2.50% Sr. Adult Ministries Bd.	1,005.58
9.00% Mo. State Retirement Program	3,620.09
30.50% Nat'l. Ministries, Hillsdale & CA Christian College	12,268.08
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
 1.00% Calif. Christian College
 (\$122.68 included in \$12,268.08)

5.00% Mo. State Conference Center Fund..... 2,011.16
TOTAL..... \$40,223.24

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

MAY 1999 COOPERATIVE

Amity	\$164.59
Aulsbury Chapel	291.51
Bailey - Alton	203.00
Belton	408.95
Bethel - El Dorado Springs	71.37
Bethel - Northview	240.00

Black Oak.....	241.80
Bourbon.....	92.80
Buffalo 1st.....	100.00
Byrd.....	200.35
Calvary Chapel.....	749.08
Calvary Fellowship.....	641.83
Cape Girardeau 1st.....	310.09
Central.....	830.23
Chapel of the Ozarks.....	232.61
Christ Chapel.....	220.52
Clifton.....	69.70
Columbia.....	138.11
Copper Mines.....	432.47
Cornerstone - Mtn. Grove.....	349.62
Crossroads - Wentzville.....	558.00
DeSoto 1st.....	1,250.00
Emmanuel.....	59.56
Faith - St. Louis.....	50.00
Faith & Hope - Willow Springs.....	50.00
Farmington 1st.....	3,218.46
Farmington 1st.....	2,853.35
Fellowship.....	800.00
Fordland.....	918.79
Fourth.....	420.41
Fredericktown 1st.....	274.00
Freeman Chapel.....	443.60
Grace - Arnold.....	1,219.00
Grant Avenue.....	925.15
Hannibal.....	232.00
Harmony - Parkville.....	480.00
Heritage.....	100.00
Hopewell.....	194.00
Houston 1st.....	328.18
Hurryville.....	526.89
Jackson.....	190.35
Jones Chapel.....	632.30
Joplin 1st.....	583.68
Koshkonong.....	144.00
Lead Hill.....	447.17
Lebanon 1st.....	901.34
Lone Star.....	60.20
Macedonia - Niangua.....	84.78
Merl's Chapel.....	95.00
Mill Creek.....	357.71
Mine La Motte.....	68.30
Mt. Pisgah.....	334.00
Mt. Zion - Gower.....	42.00
Mtn. Grove 1st.....	1,368.03
Neosho 1st.....	95.00
New Home - Lebanon.....	228.90
New Hope - Fredericktown.....	70.00
New Life - Licking.....	353.36
North Five.....	126.13
Oak Grove - Mtn. Grove.....	164.75
O'Fallon 1st.....	786.00
Overland.....	120.00
Ozark 1st.....	1,143.85
Park Hills 1st.....	755.52
Pleasant Hill - Thayer.....	218.59
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana.....	70.00
Potosi 1st.....	163.86
Republic.....	100.00
Rock Chapel.....	331.78
Rock Chapel.....	279.75
Rolla 1st.....	208.00
Royal Oak.....	136.00
Seymour.....	302.00
Smyrna.....	80.00
Southside - St. Louis.....	119.79
Springfield.....	207.00
Springfield 1st.....	1,463.34
St. Francois Assoc.....	30.00
Stockton.....	187.25
Terrill Road.....	193.00
Thayer.....	932.00
Trinity - Bridgeton.....	1,001.37
Union Grove.....	385.00
Union Light.....	103.00
United - West Plains.....	1,268.99
Unity.....	400.00
Verdella.....	527.56
Victory - Alton.....	647.19
Waynesville 1st.....	296.87
Willow Springs - Mtn. Grove.....	203.51
Wolf Creek.....	325.00
TOTAL.....	\$40,223.24

SHOW-ME PLAN

Aulsbury Chapel.....	\$150.00
Aulsbury Chapel.....	150.00
Belton.....	150.00
Berean.....	30.00
Berry, R.....	30.00
Bethel - El Dorado Springs.....	142.76
Bethel - Festus.....	45.00

Big Creek.....	55.00
Bishop, B.J.....	15.00
Black Oak.....	30.00
Bourbon.....	15.00
Braisher, M.....	30.00
Buffalo 1st.....	60.00
Buxton, G.....	30.00
Calvary Chapel - Buffalo.....	105.00
Calvary Fellowship.....	4,623.00
Central.....	375.00
Chrisman, M.....	30.00
Columbia.....	50.00
Copper Mines.....	150.00
Copper Mines - HiTeen, Teen, Jr. Cl.....	30.00
Copper Mines - Young Adult Class.....	15.00
Cornerstone - Mtn. Grove.....	415.17
DeSoto 1st.....	460.00
DeSoto 1st - Auditorium Class.....	15.00
Faith - St. Louis.....	20.00
Faith & Hope - W.S.....	60.00
Farmington 1st.....	910.00
Farmington 1st.....	645.00
Fellowship.....	943.79
Fordland.....	150.00
Fourth.....	195.00
Fredericktown 1st.....	150.00
Freeman Chapel.....	540.00
Garrett, R.....	15.00
Grace.....	453.00
Grant Avenue.....	310.00
Greenfield.....	180.00
Hannibal - WNAC.....	15.00
Harmony - Parkville.....	28.00
Houston 1st.....	330.00
Houston 1st.....	303.75
Hurryville.....	375.75
Jackson.....	45.00
Jones Chapel.....	135.00
Joplin 1st.....	75.00
Kirk, G.....	150.00
Leadington.....	210.00
Leadington.....	13.80
Lebanon 1st.....	150.00
Lebanon FWB.....	30.00
Macedonia Aux.....	1,000.00
Maggart, D.....	45.00
Merl's Chapel.....	200.00
Mill Creek.....	90.00
Mill Creek Young Adult S.S. Class.....	15.00
Mine La Motte.....	45.00
MO State Woman's Aux.....	614.10
Mtn. Grove 1st.....	480.00
Mt. Pisgah.....	75.00
Mt. Zion - Thayer.....	30.00
Neosho 1st.....	270.00
New Home - Hartville.....	150.00
New Home - Lebanon.....	120.00
New Hope - Fredericktown.....	105.00
New Life - Licking.....	81.17
New Testament.....	15.00
Noel, D.....	15.00
Oak Grove - Houston.....	15.00
O'Fallon 1st.....	153.00
Ozark 1st.....	25.00
Park Hills 1st.....	241.65
Parson, O.....	15.00
Pinkerton, J.....	45.00
Pleasant Hill.....	30.00
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana.....	50.00
Purdy.....	255.00
Reagan, Jimmie.....	300.00
Rehkop, Lon.....	30.00
Richwoods.....	30.00
Rock Chapel.....	240.00
Rock Chapel.....	250.00
Rogers, B.....	30.00
Royal Oak.....	120.00
Ruble, N.....	45.00
Southeast MO Assoc.....	180.00
Springfield 1st.....	555.00
Thayer.....	240.00
Trinity.....	825.00
Union Light.....	120.00
United - West Plains.....	1,284.63
Unity.....	75.00
Verdella.....	1,357.56
Walker, H. Jr.....	15.00
Waynesville 1st.....	250.00
West Plains 1st.....	10.00
West Plains 1st Aux.....	30.00
White, R.....	15.00
Willow Springs - Mtn. Grove.....	85.00
Willow Springs 1st.....	150.00
TOTAL.....	\$24,051.13

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Calvary Fellowship.....	\$139.33
Cape Girardeau.....	124.03
Central.....	20.00
Chapman, A.....	20.00
Farmington 1st.....	540.00
Farmington 1st.....	25.00
Grant Avenue.....	36.00
Greenfield.....	20.00
Harmony Fellowship (CO).....	138.00
Houston 1st.....	10.00
Houston 1st.....	35.00
Joplin 1st.....	54.00
Lewis, D.....	10.00
Macedonia Aux.....	3,000.00
Minor, K.....	10.00
Mtn. Grove 1st.....	80.00
New Testament.....	70.00
Reiter, Karl.....	69.00
Rock Chapel.....	15.00
Thayer.....	296.00
Trinity.....	353.75
Union Light.....	10.00
TOTAL.....	\$5,075.11

STATE HOME MISSIONS

Belton.....	\$40.00
Central.....	30.00
DeSoto 1st.....	90.00
DeSoto 1st Children's Church.....	20.00
Farmington.....	155.00
Fellowship - Park Hills.....	110.00
Grace - Arnold.....	40.00
Grant Avenue.....	10.00
Larry Wormington.....	30.00
Lebanon Bible & Book Store.....	315.00
Mtn. Grove 1st.....	25.00
New Home - Hartville.....	10.00
O'Fallon 1st.....	56.00
Ozark 1st.....	10.00
Pleasant Ridge - Urbana.....	20.00
Richard White.....	10.00
Scott City.....	16,408.86
Southeast MO District Assoc.....	180.00
Springfield.....	279.00
Thayer.....	50.00
United - West Plains.....	25.00
Waynesville 1st.....	50.00
TOTAL.....	\$17,963.86

NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS

Belton.....	\$40.00
Bob Thebeau.....	5.00
Brenda King.....	10.00
Bud Rogers.....	40.00
Calvary Fellowship.....	460.00
Central.....	20.00
DeSoto 1st.....	982.50
DeSoto 1st Auditorium Class.....	10.00
Farmington 1st.....	55.00
Farmington 1st.....	130.00
Fordland.....	30.00
Grace - Arnold.....	133.00
Grant Avenue.....	94.52
Harmony Fellowship (CO).....	202.00
Houston 1st.....	20.00
Houston 1st.....	70.00
Jerry Rader.....	20.00
Joplin 1st.....	62.00
Macedonia Aux.....	1,600.00
Marlon Crossland.....	5.00
Mtn. Grove 1st.....	45.00
Mt. Pisgah.....	75.00
Neosho 1st.....	10.00
New Home - Hartville.....	10.00
New Testament.....	150.00
O'Fallon 1st.....	56.00
Ozark 1st.....	30.00
Park Hills 1st.....	588.48
Rock Chapel.....	98.23
Rock Chapel.....	51.20
Thayer.....	175.00
Trinity - Bridgeton.....	40.00
Union Light.....	96.00
United - West Plains.....	150.00
United Youth Group.....	170.00
Unity.....	50.00
Verdella.....	30.00
West Plains 1st.....	130.00
Wolf Creek.....	75.00
TOTAL.....	\$6,018.93

MISSOURI FWB YOUTH CAMP

Buffalo 1st.....	\$50.00
Trinity - Bridgeton.....	14.00

New Life - Monett.....	73.25
Thayer.....	50.00
Mtn. Grove 1st.....	10.00
New Home - Hartville.....	10.00
Lebanon Bible & Book Store.....	195.00
Mt. Pisgah.....	10.00
Willow Springs.....	10.00
Verdella.....	10.00
DeSoto 1st.....	55.00
Ozark 1st.....	10.00
Park Hills 1st.....	45.38
TOTAL.....	\$542.63

FWB BIBLE COLLEGE

Farmington 1st.....	\$132.00
Nathan Ruble.....	15.00
Thayer.....	50.00
Verdella.....	105.51
DeSoto 1st.....	40.00
West Plains 1st.....	250.00
Ozark 1st.....	10.00
Farmington 1st.....	132.00
TOTAL.....	\$734.51

FWB BIBLE COLLEGE

Calvary Fellowship.....	
For Jessica Turnbough Acct.....	\$280.00
Calvary Fellowship.....	
For Micah Derby Acct.....	1,117.08
TOTAL.....	\$1,397.08

HILLSDALE FWB COLLEGE

Farmington 1st.....	\$115.00
Thayer.....	50.00
Joplin 1st.....	125.00
Grant Avenue.....	8.00
Neosho 1st.....	60.00
Farmington 1st.....	90.00
TOTAL.....	\$448.00

CALIFORNIA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Farmington 1st.....	\$156.00
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CAMP DEVELOPMENT FUND

Liberty Association.....	\$1,000.00
Opal Mooney.....	40.00
Houston 1st.....	100.00
West Plains 1st.....	65.00
TOTAL.....	\$1,205.00

STEVE SMITH

DeSoto 1st.....	\$55.00
Farmington 1st.....	15.00
TOTAL.....	\$70.00

TRULA CRONK HOME FOR CHILDREN

Farmington 1st.....	\$15.00
New Life - Monett.....	73.25
Unity.....	10.00
New Hope - Fredericktown.....	30.00
Belton.....	80.00
DeSoto 1st.....	80.00
Farmington 1st.....	15.00
TOTAL.....	\$303.25

REV. JOHN MCCLURE

Trinity - Bridgeton.....	\$20.00
Thayer.....	5.00
Mtn. Grove 1st.....	67.50
Harmony - Parkville.....	20.00
Grace - Arnold.....	15.00
TOTAL.....	\$127.50

YOUTH MINISTRIES BOARD

Lebanon Bible & Book Store.....	\$105.00
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SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES

Lebanon Bible & Book Store.....	\$105.00
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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD

Lebanon Bible & Book Store.....	\$105.00
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MISSOURI RETIREMENT PROGRAM

Lebanon Bible & Book Store.....	\$142.50
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STEWARDSHIP COMMISSION

Lebanon Bible & Book Store.....	\$225.00
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2004 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Overland.....	\$75.00
St. Francois Association.....	75.00
TOTAL.....	\$150.00

MISSOURI STATE WAFC

Belton.....	\$15.00
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BRIAN BRINKHOFF

New Testament.....	\$10.00
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The Youth Look

By Ann Poletti

Jenny, age 5, had emptied her piggy bank, had done extra chores, and had saved her birthday money for the prized possession she valued more than any . . . a string of dime-store pearls. Though Mother scolded Jenny when she got in the bathtub with her necklace on (fearing it might turn her neck green), Jenny felt so dressed-up in her pearls.

Jenny had a very loving daddy who read her a bedtime story nightly. One night he asked Jenny if she loved him.

"Oh, Daddy, you know I love you!"

"Then give me your pearls."

Her heart broke. How she loved her daddy! Yet she couldn't give up her treasure. She bargained, "Not my pearls, but I'll give you Princess, the white horse from my collection. Remember, Daddy, the one with the pink tail that you gave me? She is my favorite."

He smiled. "That's OK, Jenny. I love you. Sleep well."

The scenario repeated—each time with Jenny dealing something she felt had been valuable . . . before she got her precious pearls. Each time her father gently refused and assured her of his love.

The day finally came when Jenny, weeping, sat on her bed. Her father entered her room and asked what was wrong. Jenny handed her necklace to him. "It's for you."

Quivering, he reached in his pocket and handed her a string of real pearls. "Don't you see, honey? I had them all along. I had to wait until you were ready to receive the real thing."

Jenny's father is like our Heavenly Father. He has so much to give us, but we carry too much "junk" with us to receive His gifts. What are you holding onto that prevents Him from opening His storehouse for you?

Trust and Obey
For there's no other way
To be happy in Jesus
But to Trust and Obey!

Missouri Churches Seeking Pastors

First Free Will Baptist Church
Kirksville, MO

Interested persons may contact:

Tim Scott
660-665-3525 (Home)
660-665-7211 (Work)
Lola Matthew
660-665-7211

Myrtle Free Will Baptist Church
Myrtle, MO

Interested persons may contact:

Dale Huddle
870-966-4001
Geneva Sorrell
417-938-4353

Friendship Free Will Baptist Church
Kirbyville, MO

Interested persons may contact:

Verlin Dunn
417-546-3104

76 On Bible College Dean's List

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE—The names of 76 students were posted on the Free Will Baptist Bible College Dean's List following final exams in May, 1999. Five Missouri students were among those who made the "B" Roll. Congratulations to:

Karen Hook, a Senior from Blue Springs, MO

Anna Panduku, a Senior from Fordland, MO

Laura Sides, a Senior from Millersville, MO

David Dodson, a Junior from Park Hills, MO

Deloris Vandivort, a Sophomore from Wentzville, MO

Help Build The Fire Preaching Conference

Meeting Place:

Smokey Mountain Convention Center,
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

Speakers:

Monday Evening:

Vernon Long
Dale Burden

Tuesday Morning:

Howard Munsey
David Crowe
Roger Duncan

Tuesday Afternoon Youth Service:

Brent Hutsell
Faron Theabeau

Tuesday Evening:

Jeff Jones
Van Dale Hutson

Wednesday Morning:

Roger Duncan
Mark Thomas

Wednesday Evening:

Jeff Jones

Cost:

There is a \$10 registration fee for ministers, all others may attend free.

Pre-registration:

David McGowan, 1750 Baldwin Ave., Pontiac, Michigan 48340.

MISSOURI STATE ASSOC. OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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Lebanon, MO 65536

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