

# **CONTACT**

**JANUARY 1964**

*of the National Association of Free Will Baptists*

## **A Year to Remember**

**Credit Buying—  
Good or Bad?**

**Evangelism's  
Neglected Field**

**The Contrasts  
of South America**

**Our Teaching—  
Tonic or Toxin?**

**The Pastor  
Who Pastors**

**Five Minutes  
on a Satellite**



# CONTACT

Official Publication of the  
National Association of  
Free Will Baptists

Vol. 11 January, 1964 No. 3

Member of Evangelical Press  
Association

Editor ..... Billy A. Melvin  
Production Editor ..... Harold Critcher  
Circulation ..... Wilma Stallings

## ARTICLES

- 3 Credit Buying—Good or Bad?
- 4 The Contrasts of South America
- 7 A Year to Remember
- 8 Our Teaching—Tonic or Toxin?
- 14 Five Minutes on a Satellite
- 16 Converted at 33
- 17 The Pastor Who Pastors
- 18 League Sparks Interest
- 19 Attack the Problem
- 20 Missionary Activities for Sunday School
- 21 Evangelism's Neglected Field

## FEATURES

- 6 Religious News Reports
- 9 In the Vineyard
- 10 What's Your Problem?
- 10 The Family Bookshelf
- 12 Glancing Around the States
- 25 Inspiration . . .

## State Reporters

ALABAMA, Charles O. Hollingshead; ALASKA, Lee Whaley; ARIZONA, Lynn Wood; ARKANSAS, Willard C. Day; CALIFORNIA, Winston Lawless; FLORIDA, Elro Driggers; GEORGIA, Manse R. Cason; HAWAII, Luther Sanders; ILLINOIS, George Waggoner; KENTUCKY, Bob Shockey; MAINE, John Ruth; MICHIGAN, William Hill; MISSISSIPPI, L. E. Duncan; MISSOURI, Harvey Hill; NORTH CAROLINA, Eugene Waddell; NEW MEXICO, B. W. Hutchison; OHIO, Homer Nelson; NEW HAMPSHIRE, Bill Evans; OKLAHOMA, N. R. Smith; SOUTH CAROLINA, Reedy Saverance; TENNESSEE, Paul Woolsey; TEXAS, H. Z. Cox; VIRGINIA, J. B. Chism; WASHINGTON, Johnny Postlewaite; WEST VIRGINIA, Carl Vallenge.

CONTACT is published monthly by the National Association of Free Will Baptists under the direction of the Executive Committee of the General Board. Members are W. Stanley Mooneyham, William Hill, Robert Picirilli, E. B. Ledlow, Willard Day, I. L. Stanley, Othel T. Dixon.

Single subscriptions, \$2.00 per year. Family subscriptions, \$1.72 per year. Bundle Plan subscription, 15 cents per copy. Single copy, 20 cents. Address all correspondence and subscriptions to Billy A. Melvin, Editor, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tennessee 37205. Entered as second-class matter at Nashville, Tenn.

# personally . . .

## A New Year's Challenge

Most of us think of new beginnings at the start of a year. This is a helpful exercise and especially so if we consider ways in which our spiritual lives may be strengthened and our witness for Christ extended.

Could I make a suggestion? Resolve to be faithful in your personal and family devotions. The inner man must be fed and strengthened and the children of the family circle need the instruction of God's Word. The home should take the lead in religious instruction.

An excellent devotional guide for use in private or family devotions has been provided by the League department of the National Association. This quarterly guide is titled *Depth* and provides a suggested Scripture, devotional comments and prayer requests for each day. Many individuals and families have already found *Depth* to be an encouragement to systematic devotions. Can you imagine the spiritual stamina and power that would be ours as a denomination if in this New Year all our families found time for daily Bible reading and prayer?

To encourage family devotions Damon C. Dodd, pastor of Horton Heights Church in Nashville, has a unique method of distributing copies of *Depth*. On the last Sunday of each quarter all the men of the church are asked to come to the altar. At this time, Pastor Dodd distributes copies of *Depth* and charges each father with the responsibility he has to lead his family in daily devotions. Then there is a time of prayer for God to bless and keep the families of the church. Should a father be absent for some reason, some other member of the family (preferably a son) is asked to be the representative. This quarterly service has established in the minds and hearts of all the members the need of daily family worship.

What about you in 1964? Will you respond to the challenge? Make one of those new beginnings in 1964 the practice of daily family worship.

## Boards Approve \$175,000 Loan

Additional progress continues to be made in our efforts to erect the new headquarters building. At this time the six departments to be housed in the building have voted approval of a \$175,000.00 loan. This is in accord with the procedure outlined by the National Association in session at Detroit last July.

We are now in the process of seeking to establish commitment from some source in order to establish our permanent financing. It is important that you pray with us that God will guide in these arrangements.

All of us need to take note of the fact that we are now \$3,000.00 short of our goal to retire the indebtedness on the property. Another \$2,000.00 was paid December 23, 1963, with the balance of \$3,000.00 renewed on a note for 60 days. Let me urge each of you to do something immediately toward this need so that we can be debt free on our property when the building is begun. We need to hear from many of you in order to do this. Share with us as God has prospered and as He might direct.

## Publication Date Now Set

The hymnal committee appointed to prepare a hymnal for use in Free Will Baptist Churches has now received a publication date from its publisher, Benson Publishing Company. Unless unforeseen matters arise, the hymnal will be ready for shipment February 20, 1964. The task of clearing copyrights and setting all pages in a uniform type style has consumed considerable more time than originally anticipated. The committee regrets the delay in getting the hymnal to the churches.

Now that the *Free Will Baptist Hymn Book* is available, we would urge each of our churches in need of a new hymnal to secure a sample copy. The committee has spent many hours in preparing this hymnal which has been compiled in keeping with the history and tradition of our denomination.

# Credit Buying — Good or Bad?

by Billy Morris

ONCE A NEWSMAN was complaining to President Franklin D. Roosevelt about the high cost of living. F.D.R., a bit irritated retorted, "You shouldn't say the high cost of living, but the cost of living high." There is a difference you know.

The things we buy are expensive, but the average wage earner brings home a fatter pay envelope today than at any time in history. Therefore, despite inflation and spiraling costs, with a bit of monetary management the average American could say, "I've never had it so good before." Despite the foregoing, in almost every home that we know anything about, there are financial headaches. Much of our time and energy, even in the Christian home (we do speak in this article to Christians and especially preachers), is spent in trying to extricate ourselves from the financial web in which so many find themselves entangled. Some it is sad to say, are never able to get even with the board. When I was young I remember hearing an adult say, "Now I'm even with the world; I owe as many people as I don't owe." Perhaps some readers of this article could say almost the same thing.

From our youth we have heard exhortations from our preachers concerning the love of money being the root of all evil. This of course has been good for us, for that particular sin has been the pit into which many a good man has fallen. Yet it might have been just as appropriate for us to have had more sermons from Romans 13:8: "Owe no man anything, but to love one another." There is no inkling of doubt but that Christians today suffer more from the

latter evil than from the former. Concerning Romans 13:8 Spurgeon once said, "This doesn't mean pay your honest debts; it means do not make debts."

The primary question with which we wish to deal is "Does extensive credit buying hurt the spiritual life and influence of Christians today?" It goes without saying that each one must define for himself the term extensive. For that which may not be extensive for Mr. A, may be very extensive for Mr. B, depending upon salary, state of health, age and other factors. To illustrate, it may be all right for a man twenty-five years of age to buy a new home and finance it for thirty years; but for a man forty years old to finance the same home for thirty years may be financially disastrous.

## Waited Too Long

Did you ever have more payments due than money with which to meet them? You were honest and intended to go to your creditor and face the music. You planned to ask for an extension of time, and to explain that you would meet your obligation in the near future. All of us have our pride and you are no exception. Thus you put off facing your creditor one more day, hoping against hope that a miracle would happen and you would pay off. Alas, you discovered that you had waited too long for the creditor found you before you went to him.

How about the man in your church who is faithful in attendance, has a sweet spirit, is co-operative in most respects, yet simply will not tithe? Tithing being a scriptural privilege and duty, and your pastor feeling concerned for this man approaches him about this matter. He will

get this answer many times. "I realize that tithing is for me as a good Christian, but when I pay my bills each month, there is nothing left." In his home, however, there is hardly a gadget of convenience or entertainment lacking. This man's problem is a simple, though much too common one—too much credit buying. To state it briefly, credit is causing him to be an unfaithful steward. He is sinning. The man who manages his finances so that he is able to give his tithes is often able to give generous offerings also. It is highly unlikely that one who cannot afford to tithe will be able to support Foreign Missions or our Bible College.

Have you ever known of a Christian, perhaps even a preacher, moving away from your town and leaving unpaid debts? Maybe it was a bill unpaid at the service station, plus one at the grocers and a third at the drug store? If so, did this help or hurt the influence of the church, the ministry and the cause of Christ in your community? And how did it affect your respect for that individual? Everyone ought to live on his present income. Often the fellow who just can't make it on \$75 per week now, couldn't make it on \$100 either were he to get a raise. He needs to learn how to spend his money. Do you make a streak of lean salary? Then don't try to live a T-Bone steak life. You'll surely get into trouble if you do.

Now let us consider those who have fallen little by little so deeply in debt that they see no way out. They suffer mental and spiritual anxiety which renders their mind almost helpless to concentrate on

*(Please turn to page 26)*



A RESIDENT FROM one of the major South American cities was visiting Miami for the first time recently and commented to a missionary working with Cuban refugees, "I have heard of Miami all of my life, and am I disappointed! I expected to see beautiful, modern buildings everywhere, but we have far better in the city where I live." The glitter of America's "most glamorous city" dims in the reflection of ultra-modern skyscrapers peaking toward the skies in every major South American metropolis.

On the other hand, while driving in my mile-worn '59 Dodge through the countryside of one of our neighbors to the South recently, I noticed everyone stopped whatever they were doing to gaze my way. It is rather disconcerting to be stared at continually by everyone you meet, so I asked my missionary friend what made everyone look at me as though I were a carnival freak. My friend told me that the country people could tell I was an American and that they believe all Americans are rich. He said 90 per cent of the young people in that country live with the hope of one day coming to the United States where they will be able to improve their economic lot, because most of them go to bed at night hungry. Seventy-five per cent of the children in the "colony" I visited die of starvation or disease before their first birthday.

This is the paradox of South America—an air of industrial boom on the one hand, continuing and intense poverty on the other. It is a land of contrast in every sense of the word.

Economical contrasts are the most obvious. These are the ones to which we have already alluded. Ninety per cent of the wealth still is in the hands of ten per cent of the population. This makes for a small elite and a massive low class. Hope lies in a growing middle class which must expand if South America is to cure its economic ills.

Political contrasts are also seen. Although nearly every South American government has a semblance of democracy, most leaders live under the constant threat of power grabs that overnight change presidents into exiles.

#### **Failure of Roman Catholicism**

The average South American is a religious man. But herein lies another paradox. He doesn't allow his religion to interfere with his morality. Ritualism without spiritual reality is the order of the day.

A look at the religious history of South America gives insight into the reason for this. The predominant religion in all of Latin America is Roman Catholicism, although among aboriginal tribes animism

# The CONTRASTS of SOUTH AMERICA

*First in a series of articles on our foreign mission fields and what our missionaries are doing there*

**by Jerry Ballard**

*One contrast in South America is in the area of housing. These pictures of two dwelling houses are a good example.*



and nature worship is common. Yet, four centuries of Roman Catholicism have not given to South America a scriptural Christian view of life. Superstition remains and religion is divorced from morality. It maintains a certain hold on the people and, in an atmosphere of insecurity, men and women turn to the Virgin and patron saints rather than the Living Saviour.

However, identification with governments has brought the Roman Church into disfavor with the people and only a minority are conscientious Roman Catholics. Leslie Lyall in his new work *Missionary Opportunity Today* remarks, "Thinking people (in Latin America) can be classified as pro-Romanist but anti-clerical. . . . Outstanding Roman Catholics now admit that Latin America is a mission field and Catholic organizations in North America and Europe are sending missionaries there."

This is one of the major factors in bringing a new era for evangelical missions in the countries of the Southern Hemisphere. Some of the fastest growing Protestant works are found there.

The South American continent was, by papal decree, divided between Spain and Portugal in 1494. Thus Brazil, comprising one half the land area of South America, fell to Portugal and the rest to Spain. Today, Latin America is divided into two major language groups—Portuguese-speaking and Spanish-speaking. Free Will Baptists work in both languages.

A casual glance at the emerging country of Brazil during the mid-fifties was convincing as to opportunities for gospel witness. The Free Will Baptist Board of Foreign Missions quickly decided to take a closer look and sent senior Latin American missionary Tom Willey, Sr., to make an investigation as to Free Will Baptist possibilities. His report was challenging, and the first Free Will Baptist missionary to Brazil arrived on January 2, 1958.

#### Expansion in Brazil

Work developed rapidly and more workers were sent to South America's largest republic. Today, 14 denominational representatives are on the Brazilian field with another couple soon to be sent. Field Director Ken Eagleton declares an additional 100 missionaries could be absorbed into an effective evangelistic ministry immediately. Opportunities for gospel witness are tremendous. Village after village are ready for someone to take to them the message of salvation through Jesus Christ.

Freedom of religion is becoming an increasing part of the Brazilian way of life. Officially, there is a tolerance toward Protestants. And, in larger cities Roman

Catholic influence has diminished, although the priest wields a great amount of unofficial influence and offers opposition in smaller villages. Yet, people are hungry for peace of soul that comes only through saving faith in Christ.

Fifty per cent of the Brazilian population are under the age of 15. It is to these that the cults and communists are making a major appeal. Most of the youth of the land are industrious and bent on providing a better way of life for themselves. They are waiting targets for evangelism.

Two years ago, Free Will Baptist missionaries scattered into cities surrounding Campinas where their work had previously centered. Today, churches have been established in several cities with strong mission points in still others. Work is in the state of Sao Paulo in the southern part of Brazil.

Maintaining the ministry in Campinas are the Rev. and Mrs. Dave Franks assisted by the Rev. and Mrs. Earnie Deeds, Miss Eula Mae Martin, and Miss Mary Ellen Rice. Miss Martin and Mrs. Franks, registered nurses, operate a medical clinic as an effective springboard for evangelism. The Campinas church is the oldest and the strongest and have a home missions program through which they assist in the support of national workers laboring in other cities in the area.

The Rev. and Mrs. Sammy Wilkinson work in Jaboticabal where an unusual response to the gospel has been witnessed. Jaboticabal is an old city of 27,000 people. Radio broadcasting is being used effectively.

The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby Aycock began a work in Araras in early 1962 which has continued to show progress. Araras is located in a rich farming area and is the American-Brazilian cultural center in the district with a population of 40,000. Strong opposition from local Roman Catholic clergy has hampered expansion. However, the Aycocks, with

help from a national worker, maintain a witness also in neighboring Pirassununga.

The Rev. and Mrs. Bobby Poole minister in Ribeirao Preto, a city of 150,000 population. It is a growing farming city known for its colleges and medical school. Good attendance is being witnessed at services held in a rented meeting hall. In addition to preaching services, Sunday school, and door to door contacts, Missionary Poole, assisted by a national worker, make frequent preaching trips to nearby small villages. They also maintain regular gospel radio programs on a local Christian radio station.

Field Director Eagleton and wife, presently in the States on furlough, will concentrate on the establishment of a Bible institute upon their return to the field later this year. Target date for opening the school is 1965. Negotiations are presently underway for the purchase of land. Some \$6,000 is still needed for this important project.

It is the conviction of the Brazilian field council that the ultimate evangelization of Brazil and the establishment of a strong Free Will Baptist church in the country are dependent upon trained Brazilian Christians who will reach their own people with the gospel.

#### Breakthrough in Uruguay

Immediately south of Brazil lies the smallest South American republic, Uruguay. It is a Spanish-speaking land of 2,846,000 people. Remaining free from dictatorships, Uruguay is the most progressive country in the continent and is known as a citadel of freedom and a center of culture and education. Illiteracy is almost unknown and living standards are relatively high.

It is the least Roman Catholic of all South American countries, but Uruguayans still are largely unchurched without any religious conviction. Public and private morality are at a low ebb. The ag-

*(Please turn to page 26)*

*The skyline of a modern Brazilian city.*





Round-Up of

# World-Wide

RELIGIOUS NEWS REPORTS

## Minister Challenged

WHEATON, ILL. (CNS)—Inez Robb, syndicated newspaper columnist, questioned the Rev. Andrew Q. Morton of Culross, Scotland, a Presbyterian minister whose computer led him to the assertion that the Apostle Paul actually authored only five of the epistles attributed to him.

"... if St. Paul is not the author of the suspect epistles," wrote Miss Robb, "can the computer tell us who is? For whoever wrote the other letters was imbued with the same fervor and faith that set St. Paul on fire. If the computer can deny authorship, should it not prove its pre-eminence, its worthiness of the Nobel prize, by attributing authorship?"

## Senator Speaks Out

DOVER, N. H. (CNS)—U. S. Senator Norris Cotton (R.-N.H.) has called for "overwhelming public opinion" against the U. S. Supreme Court prayer and Bible reading decision and questioned the thinking of some clergymen on the issue, following a petition from hundreds of residents of this area demanding restoration of religious exercises in public schools.

"The thing that disturbs me," Senator Cotton said, "is that ministers and clergymen of many denominations are sanctioning this decision, insisting it is a sound one. This I cannot understand."

Senator Cotton questioned the wisdom of seeking a Constitutional amendment to correct the situation. "The Court having distorted the Constitution, it is difficult to know how the damage can be remedied without incurring even more serious dangers."

## Exempt From Taxes

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. (CNS)—In a far-reaching decision, a District Court judge here ruled that the Evangelical Free

Church of America is exempt from personal property taxes on its printing establishment and bookstore.

The State of Minnesota had brought suit against the Church to collect \$6,685.43 in personal property taxes for 1960, 1961 and 1962 printing and bookstore operations.

Judge Stanley D. Kane, in a memorandum attached to his ruling, said the Minnesota constitution exempts church property. The press and bookstore, which print and distribute religious pamphlets, books and other publications, are church property.

It is possible, under the new ruling, that the Church may now ask for a tax exemption on its real estate holdings. This would have to be determined in a separate action.

## Studio To Be Built

BANGALORE, INDIA (MNS)—Ground has been broken and work is progressing on the new Far East Broadcasting Company recording studios here. A gift from the students of Moody Bible Institute made the construction possible. It is expected that the building will be completed in about 90 days.

## World Bible Distribution

NEW YORK CITY (MNS)—The total distribution of all the Bible Societies throughout the whole world in 1962 was 51,089,209 Scriptures. This is approximately 16 copies of Scripture for every thousand people in the world.

## World Population Increases

WASHINGTON, D. C. (MNS)—The population of the world reached 3,180,000,000 in mid-1963, according to *Population Bulletin* for October, 1963. The gain of 185 million in only three years

almost equals the total population of the United States.

World population increased by one-fifth during the 1950's with a numerical gain of half a billion people. The increment about equals the estimated population of the entire world in 1650.

## Manual To Be Published

WHEATON, ILL. (MNS)—Miss Marge Shelley, Conservative Baptist missionary serving in the Ivory Coast, has recently completed her manuscript "Basic Writing Course" for use in teaching the principles of journalism to nationals on the field.

Miss Shelley was loaned to Evangelical Literature Overseas for a series of writing workshops across Africa. The teaching manual is the outgrowth of the work in those seminars.

Production date for the manual has not yet been set, but inquiries concerning it may be addressed to: Evangelical Literature Overseas, Box 275, Wheaton, Illinois.

## College Opens in India

WHEATON, ILL. (MNS)—The Indo-Burma Pioneer Mission with headquarters here has announced the opening of a liberal arts college at Sielmat, Manipur, India. Rochunga Pudaite, executive director of the mission, reports that recognition by the government and accreditation with the University of Gauhati were granted on August 8, 1963. Sixty-five students are enrolled this year.

## Colporteurs in Taiwan

TAIPEI, TAIWAN (MNS)—Forty-three students who gave up their holidays to serve as volunteer colporteurs sold 248,483 Gospels as they worked in remote and difficult areas of this country.

In Taiwan the circulation of the whole Bible this past year was 31,351 copies. The previous year it was 18,089, showing a remarkable increase of 13,262 copies. The sale of the New Testament showed an increase of 4,232, while Gospel portions had an increase of 20,924 as 764,267 were sold this last year.

## Permission To Post Granted

MADRID, SPAIN (MNS)—Officials here have said that a Baptist congregation in this city will be permitted to "post outside its chapel door" notices giving the time of services. The request had been made by the Rev. James W. Watson, American pastor of a Baptist church in Calle Gregorio Benitez.

It was not immediately known whether the permission would automatically apply to all Protestant churches.

# A YEAR TO REMEMBER

## Religion in Review

**I**T WAS A YEAR we shall always remember, 1963.

We shall remember, it of course, for the unspeakably tragic event of Friday, November 22. The impact of the sudden and cowardly assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy of the United States was all the more moving and terrible as television brought it and all its strange aftermath into the living rooms of the world.

The Supreme Court of the United States banned prayers and Bible reading in the public schools in that same busy month of June . . . and touched off a wave of contrasting actions which were still making news headlines at year's end.

There were things which drove us to our knees—events such as the slaying of President Kennedy which spoke to us of the shortness of life and the need for consecration and service now. Two missionaries were slain in Viet Nam in March, and other religion headlines cited the death of Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam and evangelical stalwart Dr. Henrietta C. Mears that same month. In May, Dr. A. W. Tozer—distinguished editor and pastor of the Christian & Missionary Alliance—was called into the presence of the One Whom he has served so long and faithfully with his facile pen and faithful word.

In March an ailing Billy Graham was unable to participate in scheduled Asian crusades, although his associates continued and saw thousands reached for Christ. But in September, Graham went to Los Angeles for his biggest-ever and most successful crusade.

How can we evaluate this year in terms of religious trends and developments? To help us analyze and interpret—to lead us behind the stories to their deeper significance—distinguished Christian leaders from various fields of endeavor have summarized for us what they regard as the main trends and/or developments in their respective areas of service.

Larry Ward, Executive Secretary  
Evangelical Press Association

### IN YOUTH MINISTRY:

Youth are on the march. The militant tramping of evangelical youth could be heard reverberating across the weeks of 1963. This year there has been a definite move among these youth to take their place as a force for God.

Of major importance during 1963 was the response of young people to be witnesses for Christ. In nearly every denomination there has been some type of nationwide witnessing or gospel distribution program. Many interdenominational youth and missionary organizations have sponsored crusade activities in foreign countries. Several denominations have done the same. There seems to be a near heartbeat among evangelical youth to meet the spiritual hunger of the world.

No doubt of greatest significance during the year was the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon young people in many different denominations and groups. Perhaps this is a fulfillment of "latter day" prophecy. It is certainly preparing youth to more adequately serve in the year ahead.

Robert A. Crandell  
General Director  
Free Methodist Youth

### EDITORS' VIEW 1963:

The major development in 1963 in the spiritual life of the human race has been the acceleration of the drift toward God-effacement. This year saw secular forces actually taking the offensive, particularly in America, but to some degree in every country in the world.

We have sown the wind and we shall reap the whirlwind; and sooner than we know, there will be no prayers in Congress, no military chaplains, and no tax exemption for churches or synagogues. May Heaven pity us; we will find ourselves politely inviting God to leave our national life.

Is there then no hope? Of course there is hope. I would not have written these words if there had been no hope. But the

hope lies in stirring the people until they are awake and aware as to what is happening. The hope lies in the intervention of the Holy Spirit. May He come quickly, and may He bring genuine revival, even in 1964.

Sherwood E. Wirt, Co-Editor  
*Decision*

\* \* \*

The major developments in the field of religion this year have been in the areas of Church-State tensions, trends toward increasing secularization, and at the same time evidences of spiritual renewal. The Supreme Court decision outlawing prayer and Bible reading in the public schools, as well as the question of federal aid to church schools, points up the inability of what was once a Protestant majority in the United States to win sufficient converts to hold its place in a pluralistic society, as well as the awesome and growing power of big government. The churches, apparently unable to influence legislation through the witness of individual Christian government, seem increasingly to be using ecclesiastical pressures to gain their goals, and thus become ever more involved in government and in a sense dependent upon it.

Our secular society seems at times both to despise and to delight in its moral decadence, but it comes up with no solution for our disintegrating moral standards and our growing moral corruption. Evangelical Christians who know something of the transforming power of Jesus Christ could witness more effectively to our secular society by a more consistent Christian answer, not only to the race problem but also to other compromising situations in their own lives. The Supreme Court decision is not only evidence that ours is a pluralistic society, but also reveals a secularism which finds less and less place for religion outside of the church walls.

But God is not leaving Himself without witness. There are signs of hope. The response to the Billy Graham California Crusade reveals both spiritual hunger and spiritual vitality. One does not need to believe in "speaking in tongues" to see in the charismatic revival a hunger for reality in religion; one does not need to be a Roman Catholic to see in the new religious climate and the efforts at reform within that Church the same working of the Spirit of God. We can have new confidence that if men choose to quench the Spirit and resist the Gospel in some areas, God will raise up His witness to be carried on in other places by other men.

Louis H. Benes, Editor  
*The Church Herald*

# Our Teaching?

by H. D. Harrison

## Tonic or Toxin

IN THE CROWDED compartment of the Presidential plane, Air Force I, amidst the presence of 27 witnesses, Lyndon B. Johnson assumed the grave responsibilities of the office of President of the United States with the promise to defend, with the help of God, the Constitution of the United States of America to the best of his ability.

The gravity of this solemn pledge was staggering. It calls for great personal sacrifice. Its scope was of a universal nature and significance. To be commissioned with such a grave responsibility was sobering indeed.

Almost two thousand years ago there was given to the church of the Lord Jesus Christ a task and commission which is more weighty; a task that too is universal in scope and one which bears with it eternal consequences both to those charged with it and those who respond to it. This task and commission is: "Go preach . . . go disciple . . . go baptize . . . go *teaching* them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you."

As a denomination we have evangelized, we have disciplined, we have bap-

tized, but in large measure we have failed to TEACH. The words of the Apostle Paul to Timothy need to reverberate in our ears over and over again. "And the things which thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men who shall be able to *teach* others also." (II Timothy 2:2). This is the manner in which the gospel truths are to be perpetuated. Was this not the manner and method of Jesus Himself? Hear Him as He prays that Great High Priestly prayer in John chapter seventeen. "I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of this world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy WORD" (John 17:6). "I have given them thy word" (John 17:4). "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world" (John 17:18).

This commission to teach charges us with three acknowledgements. First there is the opportunity of the commission, second the responsibility of carrying out the commission, and third the accountability which we must give for our response or lack of response.

### The Opportunity

Recent figures indicate that the present Sunday school enrollment in America totals forty million and is growing at the rate of one million per year. We are making some strides in our getting people to Sunday school, but are we *teaching* them after we have enrolled them? This is our opportunity. For them to hear alone is not sufficient; they must become doers of the Word and not hearers only.

This golden opportunity must not be considered completed when we have them enrolled. Indeed, it is only begun. Here then is an opportunity to tap resources which have a great potential for the cause of Christ. Here is an opportunity to mould lives, to build character, to shape eternal destinies. We dare not lose it through neglect. This is a God-given opportunity. It has been said that the door of opportunity swings on the hinges of opposition. If so, we are equipped spiritually to be overcomers.

In a recent Bible test given to 281 incoming students of a Christian college the following figures were gleaned: 79% could not identify Matthew as the tax



collector who became a disciple. 74% could not name the father of Joseph and his brethren. 70% did not know in which book of the Bible the 10 Commandments were found. 70% could not name the book which records the history of the early church, following the ascension of Jesus. 65% failed to identify Solomon as the famous wise man of the Old Testament. 60% could not name a single parable of Jesus. 51% did not know it was Paul who wrote 13 books of the New Testament. 31% could not name the first book of the New Testament. 23% could not name the man who betrayed Jesus. These facts came from a group in which 175 out of 281 said they had attended Sunday school regularly; 95% said they had attended frequently, and only 12% said they had never attended Sunday school. These figures need to shock us to consciousness and an awareness of the fact that we are not doing much lasting teaching in the Sunday school classroom.

Are not these figures indicative of the fact that if we fail to impart Biblical truths we surely fail in changing lives. Bible truths help build moral character. Morals always have to do with conduct; and one's conduct will be determined by his concept of the truth.

Such opportunities present great challenges. Where opportunities are found, responsibilities ensue.

### The Responsibility

Teaching is a spiritual ministry. It cannot be done apart from the Holy Spirit, and a spiritual person. This responsibility to teach cannot be passed on to anyone else. It is the responsibility of the local church. She must, through her leaders, acknowledge this fact and face squarely up to it. To fulfill this Biblical ministry requires dedication, consecration, prayer, knowledge of the Word, compassion and a multitude of other fruits which the Spirit alone can give.

We are responsible for the fact that we live in an age of Biblical and doctrinal illiterates. Doctrinal and practical training is the ministry of the Sunday school. Dr. A. S. London remarked that "training is still a must." It is not sufficient for us to give the Lord the best that we are, but we must give to Him the best that we are capable of becoming.

We may ignore the existence of the laws of teaching, the practical needs of the pupil, and our personal responsibility, but this does not exempt us from our moral and spiritual obligation. No true teaching is ever complete except it become evident in the life of the pupil.

This great responsibility enjoins the church to institute a teacher training program and to demand of her teachers

participation. With so many souls at stake, we can do no less. At whose door shall we lay the responsibility for the acts of men like Lee Oswald and Jack Ruby? Are they alone responsible? A thousand times NO!!! Their acts are an indictment against the church, against the Sunday school, against some Sunday school teachers for not reaching them for Christ. "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

We must alert ourselves to the times. The day is far spent; darkening shadows will soon remove the opportunities the day holds for us. We can best hold the fort through a planned teacher training program in the local church. A haphazard, hit and miss effort will not suffice. Our plan must be a projected one—with direction and purpose. It must be a plan which is Scriptural, practical, and continuous. The program of evangelism operated in a cycle as suggested by Ray H. Hughes.

Reach to enroll,  
Enroll to teach,  
Teach to win,  
Win to hold,  
Hold to train  
Train to reach

Your Sunday School Department offers to you such a teacher training program. The Promotional Secretary will utilize much of his time in coming into the local church, among area churches, Sunday School Conventions, and conducting such teacher training programs. These teacher training institutes are designed to help the teacher learn the basic truths about "how to teach," to teach the mechanics of Sunday school administration as well as Bible survey courses.

What is your church doing about this matter of teacher training? Remember, there has never been a responsibility delegated except there be someone to give an account.

### Our Accountability

The opportunity has been given us—the responsibility has been charged to us; the accountability must be ours. We shall come face to face with Him who commissioned us to this task. "Give an account of thy (teaching) stewardship," He will say. We may reply, "When saw we thee untaught and taught thee not, Lord?" The reply—"Inasmuch as ye did it not unto one of the least of these . . . ye did it not unto me."

Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord (on the wicked) and the constraining love which Christ has for us, let us redeem the time and teach. We *must* teach or perish! ■ ■

*Mr. Harrison is Promotional Secretary and Director of Teaching Training for the National Sunday School Department.*

## IN THE VINEYARD

**Roger Reeds**, Director of National Sunday School Department, will be visiting publishing houses in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, January 20-25.

Director of National Home Missions **Homer E. Willis** will speak for the quarterly meeting of the Cumberland Association at West Springfield, Tennessee, January 11. Mr. Willis will preach the dedicatory sermon for the new church in Washington, D. C. on January 19.

**Mark Vandivort**, Field Secretary, will be in a Missionary conference with the West Florida Association, January 13-19. Mr. Vandivort will begin five weeks of conferences in California January 30.

Public Relations Director for the Bible College **Paul J. Ketteman** will be contacting churches in Alabama and North Carolina and South Carolina.

**Harrold Harrison**, Promotional Secretary for the National Sunday School Department, will be in Jasper, Alabama, January 6-10; Guin, Alabama, January 13-17; Anderson, Indiana, January 20-24; and Hot Springs, Arkansas, January 27-31.

Executive Secretary **Billy A. Melvin** will attend the dedication services of the Bloss Memorial Church which has been erected in Washington, D. C. on January 19. He will remain in Washington for meetings of the NAE executive committee on January 20-21.

A gift for the new baby.



King  
James  
Version

Only \$1.35

Slim and lovely, easy to read, with presentation page and gift box. Also good for nurses and graduates. Long lasting Leatheroid, flexible covers, genuine gold edges, size 4 1/4 x 2 3/4 inches. Only 3/8 inch thick.

Four lovely colors, all washable.

MW01 Pure white MO5 Pink  
MO4 Baby blue MO6 Pastel yellow

From the Bookstore

## WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?

by Louis H. Moulton



Your questions for use in this column are invited. All questions not answered in the column will be answered personally. Send your questions to Rev. Louis H. Moulton, 8 Richmond Drive, Savannah, Georgia.

*Many cults are active today. They are going from house to house distributing literature and seeking to win converts to their movement. What should be the attitude and response of Christians to these individuals when they come to our homes?*

Do not receive, entertain, or give them audience. Some may object and say they cannot be rude to anyone. To these let me say—the cults propagate a doctrine that will damn one's soul. Here is the scripture: II John 10:11, "If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine (the doctrine of Christ—read verses 7-9), receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds."

*With so much theological confusion and ecclesiastical compromise, what generally is the biblical position for fundamentals to assume toward heretics and false religious teachers? Should we patronize them, associate with them, accept their sponsorship, add to their prestige, identify our churches with them, etc.?*

Because of limited space a full treatment with scriptures cannot be given but to your second question the answer is a flat "no". The scriptural answer to your inquiry is unmistakably clear. We are to TRY THEM, I John 4:1; MARK THEM, Romans 16:17; REBUKE THEM, Titus 1:13; HAVE NO FELLOWSHIP, Ephesians 5:11; WITHDRAW THYSELF, II Thess. 3:6; RECEIVE THEM NOT, II John 10, 11; HAVE NO COMPANY WITH THEM, II Thess. 3:14; REJECT THEM, Titus 3:10; BE YE SEPARATE, II Cor. 6:17. Look up these scriptures and you will have a full and complete answer.

*I am anything but a serious person. I like to laugh and joke and have a lot of good clean fun. The other day at church I was reprimanded and told by one of the members that I was going to have to give account of every idle word that I speak. (Matthew 12:36) Does this mean that we are to be solemn and never joke or have any fun?*

In the light of world conditions and of the age in which we live all of us need to be a little more serious in our thinking. However, I've often thought, and I say this reverently and not sacrilegiously, that the Lord himself must have had a sense of humor. I think the idle words in the scripture you've mentioned refer to meaningless frivolity and useless jesting which would detract from our spiritual life. I do not think it contrary at all for young people or older people to have a good time in the Lord, even indulging in a certain amount of humor.

*Do you believe Adam and Eve were saved after they had plunged the whole of their posterity into a fallen condition?*

Yes, I think they were. God made coats of skin and clothed them after their fall. They already had sewed fig leaves together but God provided the covering of an innocent substitute whose blood was shed. The shedding of the blood of innocent animals pointed forward to the shed blood of Christ. The skins actually were a type of the righteousness of Christ with which we are robed when we believe on Jesus as our Savior.



**Science, God and You** by Enno Wolhuis, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 121 pages, \$2.50.

Science occupies a large place in our educational set-up. This makes it important for us to understand this in relation to God and ourselves.

This book will serve as a guide and balance for the Christian as he faces problems which arise in his study of science. A much needed book, particularly for young people.

**Deeper Life For You** by C. Wade Freeman, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 95 pages, \$2.50.

In this book, Dr. Freeman sets forth to the Christian the availability of the abundant or deeper life. It is this deeper life which must form the backdrop against which the great work of the church can be accomplished. These messages are not only Scriptural in content but they convey something of the spirit of compassion which characterized our Master.

**The Speaker's Treasury of 400 Quotable Poems** by Croft M. Pentz, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 159 pages, \$2.95.

Here are poems, well-known and not so well-known, arranged according to subject matter all the way from heart-warming poems on the Bible to challenging poems for and about Youth.

Public speakers, teachers, and ministers will find this volume a rich resource of truly usable poems.

**Champion of Liberty** by Norman E. Nygaard, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 159 pages, \$2.50.

This exciting biographical novel brings to life the faith of Roger Williams. Mindful of Williams' character and the times in which he lived, the author presents a picture of the circumstances, historical and personal, which seem to be true to the genius of the man.

**Church Growth in Mexico** by Donald McGavran, Eerdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids, Michigan, 136 pages, \$1.95.

This book deals with the expansion of the Protestant movement in Latin America. This timely and important survey presents principles and suggests policies that are applicable wherever Christian missions are present.

# 1963 COOPERATIVE RECEIPTS

November 1963

## COOPERATIVE GIFTS FROM THE CHURCHES . . .

	November 1963	Year to Date	Total to Nov. 1963	Designated Nov. 1963
Alabama	\$ 253.92	\$ 1,484.14	\$ 1,408.14	
Arizona			25.00	
Arkansas	807.65	2,534.89	2,517.29	
California	745.87	7,200.36	5,806.08	
Florida	668.24	1,229.37	1,475.61	\$2,445.64
Georgia	177.09	2,305.18	2,172.36	
Illinois	522.14	5,427.68	4,689.36	
Indiana		720.84	892.22	
Iowa		524.69		
Kansas	157.85	1,907.28	2,078.88	
Kentucky	31.00	482.82	180.01	
Missouri		9,920.80	10,558.20	
New Hampshire	43.18	261.68		
New Mexico	32.81	538.88	840.55	
North Carolina	204.14	2,341.44	2,056.71	
Ohio		540.70	735.18	
Oklahoma	1,178.57	10,735.49	9,284.53	69.50
Tennessee	73.22	3,196.57	2,415.67	
Texas	305.23	3,057.16	3,419.71	
Virginia	544.00	2,995.71	2,417.28	
Washington		105.25		124.11

## . . . MAKE POSSIBLE A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

	Cooperative November 1963	Receipts Year to Date	Designated November 1963	Year to Date	Total Receipts to Date
Foreign Missions	\$1,666.03	\$16,638.35	\$1,686.78	\$3,309.19	\$19,947.54
Executive Dept.	1,148.98	11,524.72			11,524.72
F.W.B. Bible College	1,206.43	12,100.92		60.00	12,160.92
Home Missions	919.18	9,179.84	683.88	1,463.19	10,643.03
League Board	574.48	5,762.32	15.00	39.00	5,801.32
Superannuation Board	172.36	1,728.73		23.18	1,751.91
Stewardship Commissions	57.45	576.05			576.05
F.W.B. Children's Home, Tenn.				31.00	31.00
F.W.B. Children's Home, S. C.				16.72	16.72
New Headquarters Building			119.50	532.64	532.64

# GEMS

FROM THE GREEK  
NEW TESTAMENT

by ROBERT PICIRILLI

IN OUR ENGLISH BIBLE there is a verse in First Thessalonians which says: "Abstain from all appearance of evil" (5:22). This is commonly used to mean that we should avoid even things that *look like* wrong, whether they are or not. There is a problem here, however, in the meaning of the word "appearance," since we use it in English with two entirely different meanings. Sometimes we use "appearance" to mean similarity in looks, as when we say that "He appeared to be sober." At other times, though, we use "appearance" to mean an actual arrival on the scene, as when we say that "He suddenly appeared from nowhere," or "The president appeared in our city."

In which of these two ways is Paul using "appearance" in I Thess. 5:22? Since this verse was originally written by Paul in Greek, we can turn to our Greek testament for the answer, by examining the meaning of the Greek used here. In this particular instance, the word translated "appearance" is *eidōs*, and it is not a word that can be used in Greek to mean similarity in looks. It means the actual form of the thing itself appearing, and thus I Thess. 5:22 means "abstain from every appearance of evil," that is, "abstain from evil every time it appears."

Actually, this can probably be made even yet a little plainer by noticing other occurrences of this word *eidōs* in the Greek New Testament. In John 5:37, it is the word translated "shape" when Jesus speaks about the Father, saying: "Ye have neither heard his voice at any time, nor seen his *shape*." It is again translated by "shape" in Luke 3:22, "And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily *shape* like a dove." It will be seen, therefore, that *eidōs* means about the same thing as our English "shape" or "form." In I Thess. 5:22, it simply means "abstain from every form of evil."

Surely it is wise to avoid things that *look like* evil, even though they are not really wrong (if there are any such things). That is a good teaching, but it is not the teaching of this particular verse. This verse is giving us the far more important teaching to abstain from evil every time it appears on the scene, and in whatever form it may appear. Perhaps this bit of information will help us to understand the true intent of the verse and to use it correctly when teaching others. ■■



## GLANCING AROUND THE STATES

*Delegates and representatives of 55 denominations participated in the Advisory Council of the American Bible Society meeting in New York City on November 19 and 20. Shown here (l. to r.) are the Rev. Billy A. Melvin of Nashville, Tennessee, Executive Secretary, National Association of Free Will Baptists; the Rev. Arthur P. Whitney of New York City, the American Bible Society's Secretary for Campus Ministry; and the Rev. Charles W. H. Scott of Springfield, Missouri, Assistant General Superintendent, Assemblies of God. The Council unanimously endorsed the Society's leadership in the "God's Word for a New Age" campaign, in which 23 national Bible Societies are seeking to triple the annual worldwide distribution of the Scriptures by 1966. (Photo by American Bible Society)*

### Home Missions Exceeds \$100,000

NASHVILLE, TENN.—“A goal that seemed so far in the future a few years ago has now become a reality.” These words were spoken by Homer Willis, Director of National Home Mission Board, when informed by the book-keeper that receipts this calendar year have exceeded the one hundred thousand dollar mark. This is an increase of something near \$10,000 over giving for the last calendar year and *more than double that given in 1958*. For the past several years receipts to this department have averaged an increase of more than \$10,000 annually.

Mr. Willis remarked, “I was elected to the Board of Home Missions in 1952 and the following year our receipts were \$8,397.35. I am thankful that we have had a steady and consistent increase each year since that time. Our people have been wonderful in their response. The members of the board have been kind and considerate in all their actions and our missionaries and office help have been faithful. The Lord has added His blessings time and time again.

### Passed Away

DESPLAINES, ILL.—The following deaths have been reported to CONTACT: Rev. W. R. Burton, pioneer Free Will Baptist in Illinois. Funeral services were held at Rescue by Rev. Marsh Harpole. Mrs. Ethel Abel, wife of Rev. L. E. Abel passed away December 2. Charles Logan Osborn suffered a fatal accident at work on November 30. He was the son of Rev. and Mrs. Charles Osborn of DesPlaines. Mr. Osborn is pastor of the DesPlaines Church.

### Growth Experienced

BETTENDORF, IOWA—The church here has had 83 decisions this past year. The Sunday school has grown from an average of 36 to 96. Forty people have united with the church. Rev. Lawrence Thompson is the pastor.

### Church Organized in Canada

NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA—The first Free Will Baptist Church in Canada to be affiliated with the present National Association was organized here July 28 with eleven members. The new church

is located in Millville, New Brunswick, Canada. These provinces at one time had many Free Will Baptist Churches, according to Home Missionary Mack Owens who is pastor of the new church. They lost their identity as Free Will Baptists in the merger of 1910.

Canada presents a great challenge for evangelical workers. There are approximately 60,000 people for every evangelical worker in Quebec.

### Pastoral Changes

NASHVILLE, TENN.—The following changes in pastors have been reported to CONTACT; Rev. Floyd Kash to Rock Springs, Illinois; Rev. Max Courtney to South Roxana, Illinois; Rev. Bob Jones to Fredricktown, Missouri. Rev. John Hiltibidal has resigned from Salem (Ill.) and Rev. Oran Kersh from Pleasant View (Ill.).

### Evangelist Reports

FORT SMITH, ARK.—Evangelist Fred Warner reports his plans to continue in evangelistic work during 1964.

After two and one-half years Mr.

Warner has held over 30 meetings in five different states and has witnessed approximately 450 decisions for Christ including rededications. Anyone desiring the services of Mr. Warner may contact him at Rt. 1, Box 45, Fort Smith, Arkansas.

#### Northwest Association Meets

ROCKPORT, WASH.—The first annual meeting of the Northwest Association was held here November 8 and 9.

There was a voting delegation of 13 who represented four churches of the association. The most significant action of the association was a resolution to help support a missionary for this area.

Newly elected officers are Moderator, Rev. E. F. Snowden; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Fred Dellinger; Clerk, Mrs. Joe Hurst.

#### 25th Anniversary

DETROIT, MICH.—They overcame a curse on their first building to become a strong little group in Michigan.

Free Will Baptists organized in Michigan 25 years ago. The occasion was marked in 21 Detroit and Michigan Free Will Baptist churches on November 22 and 23.

The first meeting place back in 1938 was a tavern, recalls the organizer, Rev. N. P. Gates. Mr. Gates is now the pastor of the Free Will Baptist Temple here. During the past 25 years Free Will Baptists have grown to approximately 3,500 in the area with a church building investment of two and one-half million dollars.

#### Record Giving

ROYAL OAK, MICH.—The Central Church here reports a record giving for foreign missions from December, 1962 through November, 1963. A total of \$20,155.74 has been turned over to the National Foreign Missions Board.

In a recent missionary conference the church voted to raise \$500.00 each for four projects—vehicle for the Paul Robinsons, vehicle for the Herbert Waids, Brazil land project and Hawaii land project. Final tabulations show that the church raised a total of \$4,277.05 which was designated as follows: Robinson vehicle—\$1,569.08; Waid vehicle—\$1,498.09; Brazil land—\$562.44; and Hawaii land—\$647.44.

#### Land Purchased

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.—The National Home Mission Board announces that three acres of land has been purchased on the Mexico City Highway near Monterrey. The Bible Institute now located in Monterrey will be moved to this site in the near future.



W. Stanley Mooneyham

## MOONEYHAM ACCEPTS POSITION WITH THE BILLY GRAHAM TEAM

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Rev. W. Stanley Mooneyham, moderator of the National Association of Free Will Baptists and interim executive director of the National Association of Evangelicals, has accepted an invitation from Billy Graham to join his team in the capacity of special assistant to Dr. Graham. When approached by *Contact* concerning this decision, Mr. Mooneyham gave the following statement.

"Leaving NAE after nearly five years is not easy. My life has been with NAE and it was a very difficult decision to make. But God has made His will unmistakably clear. I have more clear leading in assuming my new work than about any other decision I have ever had to make. God has spoken to me in my own personal feelings, through numerous circumstances which I counted as 'fleeces,' through His Word and through the peace of God which Paul said should 'rule in your heart.'

"I intend to remain an active Free Will Baptist. I thank God for the privilege of serving Him through my denomination and as much as the denomination wants me and time will permit, I hope to continue serving in those opportunities the Lord opens.

"I certainly desire the prayers of all our people as I take up these new responsibilities in world evangelism."

## SOUL WINNING EFFICIENCY SLUMPS

AMERICA BOASTS of constantly improving efficiency. It tells how one man does work formerly handled by ten—how one machine now performs a job which once required 50. And all that is fine. It gives us more trinkets to enjoy as well as more cash to jingle in our pockets. But in the greatest of all fields of endeavor—that of leading men and women and boys and girls to Christ—our efficiency has slipped. In fact, if our forefathers had been as inefficient as we in this all-important work, America would be today a pagan land rather than—potentially, at least—the Christian leader of the world.

One hundred years ago, we are told, it took an average of five Christians to lead a new convert to Christ. In 1900 it required 14 Christians to get one new convert. By the end of World War I it was taking 21 Christians to bring one new member into the church. And during a typical year today, only one soul is led to Christ for each 33 Christians in our country.

It is vital that we in America discover the causes of this decline in our efficiency in leading others to Christ. For a continued increase in materialistic efficiency without a comparable gain in spiritual efficiency will in time lead to an era of world terrorism unparalleled in previous history.

Why does it take 33 Christians to bring one convert to Christ today when a hundred years ago only five were required to do the job? The blunt fact, we suspect, is that today's Christian is so little different from the non-Christian that the latter hardly feels it worthwhile to change his way of life in order to possess whatever advantages Christianity appears to offer.

Anyone can see what happens when you take Christ out of Christianity. Remove those first six letters and what is left of the word is not Christianity but I-anity. The biggest of all challenges, therefore, is to put Christ back into the mode of living we call Christianity—and put Him first in our lives just as He appears in the word Christianity. ■■

# FIVE MINUTES ON A

**A**RE YOU ONE of those individuals who likes to try everything new? If so, then you will enjoy the next twenty minutes because we are going to take an imaginary trip out into space. Just suppose the following is a tape recorded narrative of the journey.

Recently I "sat" in the cramped nose of the giant seventy-two foot rocket designed to fling earth's first man-made satellite out into space. In seconds we were a mere pin-point of light disappearing in the sky, and within half an hour we were "in orbit," gliding almost effortlessly three to eight hundred miles out from earth at around eighteen thousand miles per hour. But since earth's surface was curving away from us at the same speed, we were constantly at about the same distance from our home planet.

Will you join me!

Out here a day is slightly over one earth-hour, and it takes only ten minutes to cross the North American continent. Midway, we can see from Hudson Bay to Panama, and the whitecaps of the Atlantic and Pacific at one time. We can chart the course of storms like we

used to watch a football pass arch into the hands of a racing receiver. Out here, earth's bulge at the equator is as noticeable as pop's middle-age spread. In brief, out here we get a perspective of life never before visualized. Time and space take on wierd changes, and a strange and awesome awareness creeps on us like that which must have captivated the poet who wrote:

"When I soar to worlds unknown,  
See Thee on Thy judgment throne . . ."  
We have come one step closer to seeing human life "with eternity's values in view."

Also, I notice that from this perspective, the size and significance of things has changed. Towering mountains have become mere wrinkles on earth's face; those huge canyons, once so terrifying, have become faint lines, and tumultuous seas are now a blue velvet carpet.

But perhaps most unusual of all is the change in my sense of values. The works of men are almost negligible. In this new world where dimensions have diminished, if not vanished, my own life is weighed in a new balance, where pounds and feet,

dollars and cents, up and down are meaningless. Out here, life itself takes on a new perspective: certain things stand out in bold relief that I had hardly noticed before, and other things that I had considered top eschelon back there, I see now have little significance actually.

In fact, I feel as if my entire life is unfolding before me, measured by the curious meter of infinity and eternity, and I am found dreadfully wanting! Somehow, I wish I had done it differently, so that I could live it over again, because after only five minutes in eternity, I see so many things in a new light.

## One Hour

Take, for example, the value of one hour. I can remember the time I estimated one hour to be worth one dollar and sixty-five cents in wages; or the time it took to get from my breakfast table to the office on the seven-eighteen commuters' special; or the equivalent of my two favorite television shows; or the time I allotted my children for a romp before they were put to bed. There was a time when I considered one hour to mean

# SATELITE

BY

DR. EDWARD D. SIMPSON

effective calls on three live prospects in my business; 124 spindles that the best of my machinists could produce; or \$4.82 in net profits on my annual report to the board of directors.

But out here, they speak a different language. One does not hear such terms as profit and loss, debit and credit, retirement benefit, vacation, hospitalization, and the like. And I am beginning to see why. Actually a man is in no position to compute the value of one hour until he has seen it from the angle of eternity. Only from this perspective can you see that one hour is a precious gift of God, loaded with the possibilities of His infinite power! Why, God alone can estimate what can be accomplished in one hour of time, when invested in an effort to reach lost souls for Jesus Christ. When you come to think of it, sixty minutes to every hour is all Billy Graham had; that is all Dwight L. Moody or Hudson Taylor ever had; that is all the apostle Paul or the prophet Isaiah ever had—and yet they shook continents and civilizations for God! No wonder Dr. Will Houghton wrote, "Teach me to know the value of

one hour". No wonder the apostle exhorted, "Redeem the time." I would too—if only I could get back to earth and tell men what it is like out here where time and space have changed so radically.

## One Soul

And another thing. After just five minutes out here, I have changed my mind about the value of one human soul. Back when I was in business on earth, I can remember figuring out that a man was worth \$1.47 an hour in my plant. And back in my college days, I had learned that his body was worth \$2.97 in chemicals. To me a man was a means to an end—my end, my end of getting ahead in the world. If he could be of help to me in advancing myself, I used him. If not, he was brushed aside like a fly. But I've been doing some thinking—a lot of thinking, in just five minutes. Funny how you can get so much done in just five minutes out here. I have been thinking that man is more than a body. Man is more than a tool to be used and then discarded. A man, or woman, or even a boy or girl for that matter, is worth more than my entire business was worth. I would even go so far as to say that a man is worth more than the total value of the combined business enterprises of our vast economic empire. Why, out here it makes little difference that I was president of a great industry. What really counts out here is something inside—what my Sunday school teacher used to call our souls. Back there I was important, I was respected, I was sought after—because I was wealthy. But out here, that little old man I had sweeping up after hours in my plant is way up there in the front of the line.

Now, don't misunderstand me. I knew there was a hereafter to prepare for, and I did what I could to pass the word along. But if I could do it over, I think I would spend a lot more time with that little old man, and with his boy. I used to attend the big evangelistic tent meetings, and give to the big mass movements, and I still think they have a place. But as for me, I know I lost sight of the value of just one human soul—like that boy that used to whisper all the time I tried to teach my Sunday school lesson. I think I am beginning to see what Jesus meant when he said, "Joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." And I think I would spend more time seeking out sinners, one by one, if I could do it over again.

I think I would refuse to teach a Sunday School class if I could get back to earth again. Yes, sir, you heard just what I said—I would refuse to teach a Sunday

School class! But I would fight for the chance of teaching a boy or a girl how to find Christ as Saviour and grow in grace and spiritual knowledge. I'd forget about the class and teach the pupil! After all, the class is just a group of individuals, and I'd do all I could to treat each one as an individual person.

I can remember back in 1956 we reached a new high in church membership in the United States: over 103 million, which was 62% of our population. We patted ourselves on the back because we had doubled our ranks while the population was up only 40%. But from this vantage point, I am more concerned about the three million individuals that made up that gain in membership. They were men, women, boys, girls—individuals. And each one of them was a soul for whom Christ died. Oh, I only wish I could return for just five minutes, and tell people what I know now about heaven's estimate of just one human soul. I am sure I would not be so concerned about the masses and the millions, and become more interested in Joe and Bill and Mary and Ruth. I wonder if the Lord can forgive me for thinking my Sunday school class was too small for Him to be concerned about, and not important enough to be worth more than twenty minutes of my time each week?

## One Talent

And that leads me to another re-evaluation I have made out here. Time was when I thought that just because I could not do the big jobs for the Lord and be in the lime-light, my little contribution was not worth much. I recall thinking one Sunday morning when it was cold and wet outside that I would just stay home from Sunday school and church, and no one would ever miss me. There were always people around who could substitute for me. In fact, they might not even notice that I had not appeared, especially if the kids in my class stayed home too. Of course, I expected the preacher to be there, but then that was because he was the leader. He was the king-pin around our church, and I often thought that if he pulled out the whole thing would collapse. But I was just a teacher in a department where there were three other teachers, and ours was just one of several departments, so I was quite convinced that I was expendable.

But you know, the way it looks from out here, I think I was wrong. I was actually working for the wrong boss. All I considered was the pastor, or the superintendent, or now and then my kids. But when you get far enough away from the scene of operations, and see it from the angle from which the Lord must see it, it looks different. I should have con-

*(Please turn to page 24)*

# CONVERTED AT 33 by Joseph Cagno

I WAS BORN IN Cranston, Rhode Island, in the year 1930, into a Roman Catholic family. As soon as I reached the age of accountability, I was indoctrinated into the Roman Catholic Church, and was drilled in the fundamentals of Catholicism.

At the age of 15, I felt the call to serve God as a priest, and I informed my parents of this calling. However, they were very much against my becoming a priest, and after much discussion, I finally agreed not to become a priest, but that I would instead study for the "Christian Brotherhood." The Christian Brothers are members of St. John Baptist De LaSalle Society which is a teaching order, and its members take all priestly vows excepting the final vow.

In the fall of 1945, I entered LaSalle Academy, a Catholic high school, and began to study for the Brotherhood.

Upon graduation from high school, I entered a seminary to complete my education. It was at this seminary that the Catholic doctrine was revealed to me in all its falseness. I began to realize that it would be impossible for me to teach the hypocrisy of the Roman Catholic Church, and I approached the director of the seminary with my viewpoints, and ultimately I left the seminary with the warning that I was heading for hell due to my rejection of the Catholic teachings.

I was greatly disappointed in my failure to do the work I felt sure God had called me to do.

I married a Catholic girl and in due time became the father of five children, the first of whom died in 1957 at the age of five years.

God served many warnings to me throughout the last 18 years, but I rejected Him, and finally came to the point where I did not attend church at all.

Then, in 1959, a sudden change occurred in my life. I took a position with a discount department store in Providence, R. I., and in 1960, I was transferred 1200 miles away to Jacksonville, Florida.

When I arrived in Jacksonville, I began to notice that nearly everyone I came in contact with questioned me about my religious affiliation. I became quite self-conscious about my own religious failings, and began once again to feel a stronger urge to teach God's Word in some manner.

In 1962, I moved my family to a section of Jacksonville called Wesconnett. I moved just around the corner from a little white church, which I passed four times a day going to and from work. I felt an overwhelming urge to attend services at this church, but never actually entered its doors. I discussed this little church with my wife for many months, deciding whether or not to visit it. Then, God took another hand in my life. On June 6, 1963, two men came to my door about 8:00 p.m. When I questioned them as to what they wanted, they asked me if my name was Weaver. I replied, "No, it isn't." The two men informed me they were from the Wesconnett Free Will Baptist Church around the corner. I felt a sudden increase in my heartbeat, and for some reason I said to them, "Come in, I've been waiting for you." Within the hour, I was saved! A peace of mind came over me that I had never known before. At last, I had found the truth I had been searching for. Free Will Baptists are truly some of God's chosen ones. In the past six months, I have taught and preached the truth based on God's word, not lies and hypocrisies as I was previously burdened with.

Eighteen years have passed since I first realized God's calling me to preach. As I look back now at all the events leading up to my becoming a Free Will Baptist, I fully recognize God's guiding me slowly but surely out of the depths of Catholicism into His truth as presented to the world by Free Will Baptists. ■ ■

*Mr. Cagno is an active member of the Wesconnett Free Will Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida. Rev. Elro Driggers is his pastor.*



# The Pastor Who Pastors

by Mary Wisheart

**T**HE SHEEP LOOK up and are not fed." So said John Milton in a complaint against the English clergy in "Lycidas." Although I would not want to attribute to the pastors of our churches all the things Milton had to say against the pastors of his day, this line describes forcefully what is happening too often in our churches today. How many times do the people look up from the pew to the pulpit and fail to receive any real spiritual food! This is not because the preacher does not preach; he may preach from the Word. This is not because he preaches

heresy; he may speak only the truth. Yet he may fail to feed his people because he deals with the elementary things. They are ready for solids, but he keeps giving them a liquid diet. He speaks of sin, of repentance, of believing, and of being saved. He seems concerned with increasing the quantity of his flock rather than improving the quality. While he preaches, "Repent and believe," his congregation answers back silently, "We have done that. What is the next step?" And some congregations never learn from their pastor what the next step is.

Certainly we cannot say the sermon on the way of salvation has no place in the local church. Even believers need to be reminded of the plan of salvation in its simplicity and beauty. Can we not say, however, that the central purpose of the local church is to build up Christians in the faith rather than win the lost? Members of the local church bind themselves together as a group for fellowship and mutual help. They are to bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2). The believers share in worship together (Hebrews 10:25). Their discussion of the Word and the things of the Lord serve to strengthen and comfort (I Thessalonians 4:18). Prayer together gives them boldness in witnessing and strength to overcome (Acts 4:31, James 5:16). Above all, these things should combine to produce that spiritual growth necessary to vibrant Christian living. We would expect no other organization, no other institution to do this for the believer except the local church.

## Church Is Unique

No one will deny that it is far easier to preach the simple (though profound) truth of the plan of salvation than it is to delve into the Word for an expository message. Making the principles of living set forth in the Bible clear and applicable to modern living demands study, research, and much prayer, combined with that feeling for people and their needs. Perhaps we should call it love, and that love has driven many men to the study, research, and prayer for the benefit of his people.

Some time ago in a discussion group in our church, this question was considered:

"Should the church be a unique group in our society today, and if so what should constitute the unique quality?" The group agreed that the Church should be unique and that the uniqueness should stem from the application of Christian principles in every day living. "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples." The believer does not have to strive for uniqueness. Living according to the principles of God's Word makes him unique. And how can he live by it unless he knows? How can he know unless he is taught? What greater or nobler task can a pastor have than that of building up his people in the most holy faith?

Is not the work of building up believers a means of carrying out the great commission?

When a community experiences the power of a church with people who know the Word and are actually living out its principles, others will come to know Christ. The church will make a difference in that community. When a pastor stands in his pulpit preaching of repentance and salvation, he reaches only a limited number of people. He is only one person, preaching one message. In his congregation there are dozens of potential witnesses. When he has built up these, when he has trained these, he has extended himself any number of times.

The heart of the believer cries out for the living God, as the psalmist said. It yearns to know His precepts that it may walk in them. God forbid that the sheep should remain thirsty and unfed because the pastor is too busy elsewhere, too indolent, or too unaware of needs to minister to them. Let the man who is indolent find another work. Let the man whose heart burns only with the message of salvation be an evangelist or a personal witness or something, but not a pastor.

Let the local church make use of the gifts God has given as the Word says, "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ" (Eph. 4:13).

*Miss Wisheart is on leave of absence from the faculty of Free Will Baptist Bible College to complete work on her doctorate.*

# League Sparks Interest At Home And Abroad

by Samuel Johnson

LEAGUERS WILL be encouraged to know that God is still in the prayer answering business. The following excerpt came from a letter written to the National Home Mission office by Reverend Mack Owens in New Brunswick, Canada.

*"We had a wonderful time . . . Sunday night. A young man whom we have been working and praying with for one and a half years was saved. This took place on the very night when all of the Senior High and Adult leagues were studying about our work here and praying for us."*

Perhaps you remember the program in November—and the part which you had in the discussion or the prayer which you uttered in behalf of the work. You, too, may share in the reward for the salvation of this new man in Christ.

## A Japanese Youth Writes

The letter below was received in the office early in December and was a means of blessing and encouragement to your league staff. We wish to share this with you that you may rejoice with us. Here is tangible evidence of the power of God at work through the ministry of Free Will Baptist Missions.

*Dear Brother in Christ, greetings in the name of the Lord. In the grace of the Lord we are glad to be writing a letter to our brother in Christ. I am the president of the recently organized youth group of the Hoshimizu Free Will Baptist Church in Hokkaido. I am glad that through the introduction of our beloved teacher Wesley Calvery, that I can correspond with you. The youth group of our church was organized on October 27th of gathering of brothers and sisters in Christ. If our group could be joined in spirit with such group in America we would be thankful to the Lord. We would like very much to correspond with our brothers and sisters in Christ in America.*

*By this our friendship in the Lord will become a testimony. This would also add strength to work of our missionary and his family here. Our church is in the midst of many false religions. Pray that we will be able to glorify the Lord in the midst of our heathen surroundings. May the grace of the Lord be with you our brothers and sisters in Christ. May the fellowship of the Lord be with us all throughout eternity.*

*In the Lord  
Michael N. Tsucha  
"Erupisu Kai" president  
Koshimizu Church*

*P.S. The name of our group was taken from the Greek word erupisu which means hope and the Japanese word Hai which means group.*

I would like to urge you to write a letter to Michael as soon as you possibly can. It would be a great idea to get your

youth group in league to compose a joint letter. Send greetings and also something about the activities in your own training hour and other youth meetings. His address:

Michael N. Tsuda  
Urashibetsu  
Alashiri Shi  
Hokkaido, Japan

## Record Sales for First Quarter

When this issue of CONTACT went to press, the sales of league literature had topped any previous quarter at the same date. It is expected that the final totals will be new records for your national league literature.

The strongest gain was in the area of leader's guides. These helps first appeared in fourth quarter of 1963 and the response by those who used them was extremely favorable. This response was further demonstrated in the reorder for the present quarter and the addition of many more users. If you are not acquainted with the leader guides, you may write for free sample sheets which will be sent immediately.

There is an individual guide for each of the leaders and sponsors in the league including the general director making a total of seven such guides. Each one is different and written especially for the particular leader. Order your copy for first quarter of 1964 today.

Sales of *Depth*, our daily devotional guide, were higher than previous quarters which indicates a wider usage. Some churches have begun to use *Depth* as an item of literature to distribute in their regular program of visitation as well as in visits to hospitals and to shut-ins. There is ample room on the back cover to stamp the name and address of your church.

God has blessed many through the ministry of *Depth* as evidence by a number of testimonies which have come to us by letters such as the one below:

Dear League Board;

I have received my volume of *Depth* . . . I enjoy reading the daily devotion. I have been reading them since October a year ago. I am old and afflicted and I have to use a magnifying glass to read at all. I have lost my left eye completely and my other eye is very weak but I am thankful I can see a little.

Your friend in Christ,  
Mrs. Tenealla Cleveland  
Colquitt, Georgia

Will you help us enlarge this ministry by making *Depth* available to the members of your church and others in your community. ■ ■

# Attack The Problem

## Theme For National Youth Week

Many young people find little or no guidance. "ATTACK THE PROBLEM" is the theme of National Youth Week which is to be observed from January 26 through February 2. It is hoped that your plans are well under way for the observance of this emphasis in your church. The December issue of CONTACT carried an article of challenge to all churches to plan a youth week for this year. The league leader's guide for the general director this quarter has several specific suggestions relative to planning your youth week emphasis. Though the time is very short, you may be able to make some preparation even if you have not already begun.

Young people today face many perplexing problems, but so has each generation. The complexity of today's problems are intensified because of a lack of understanding on the part of adult leaders. It is doubtful if there has been any era in the past when changes from one generation to the next have been so rapid and extensive. This accounts in part for some of the misunderstandings that often characterize the relationship between the adults and youth of our present day.

The technological advancement within our day has brought a large number of new words into existence which are foreign to most of us unless we have recently been involved in formal study. Means and methods of teaching and learning have drastically changed in the last few years. You can quickly detect this by looking at a child's simple arithmetic book. The youth of our day are being pressured to learn more at a faster pace than even one generation ago. This acceleration of life and the pressures

which accompany it have not come without some adverse effects.

It is futile to agonize over the present and fear the future. We cannot turn the clock of time back to the life which has through the imagination of our memory become appealing to us. The problems of the present are upon us and the future will develop based largely upon what we do today. It is essential that we face our responsibilities and attack each problem as it is thrust upon us.

You may be a teenager who stands facing a whole host of difficult questions such as: How can I be a Christian in school? Who shall I date? Can I be popular and maintain high standards of morality? Shall I continue my education? Where? How can I get along with my parents better? How does the church fit into my schedule? Is Christ real in my life? The list of questions could go on and on. Whether you are a youth or a youth leader, the above list of questions concern you for there are many young people who face them each day. I am convinced that our young people want the right answer, and are in a constant search for that which will satisfy this longing.

### Problems Are Real

The answers will not be found to the questions by attempting to assume that they do not exist. They are very real and each problem must be met head on. How can young people do a better job of attacking their problems and winning the battle for the right? It is essential that they be led to face the issues in their lives by mature, understanding adults. They need to have at least one adult who they know is living a victorious life in Christ to whom they can go for help.

ance because the adults around them live inconsistent lives that fail to honor the Master.

What can a young person or an adult do to change his life from one of ineffectiveness to one which is successful in getting a job done to the glory of God. We have already discussed this in part when we emphasized the phrase "Attack the Problem." Naturally before you can attack you must know what the problem is. We must also realize that we are not faced with merely one problem but many. However, it is unwise to try to meet more than one problem at the time. We need to pause for a time of heart searching and begin to identify the needy areas in our lives. When once we have the problems defined, then our next step is to select the means whereby they may be eliminated.

It seems strange that often Christians search in vain for the answers to spiritual needs everywhere except in God's Word. Even those who have proved the validity of trusting God's Word in the past will sometimes try to find other means of attacking the problems which confront us on every hand. God has provided the answers and the means for meeting all of man's needs, but He has given each of us the choice to accept, believe and obey. A wise man learns in the days of his youth to choose the way of obedience to God. When such a choice is made, life becomes meaningful and the problems of each day can be attacked as they appear and they can be successfully solved.

The challenge to you and me is to define our problems, face them with courage, and unwaveringly attack them in obedience to God's instructions to us through His Word.

# Missionary Activities For Sunday School

**Ideas galore to make the  
missionary emphasis live  
in your Sunday school**

**C**HRISTIAN MISSIONS must be a vital part of the Sunday school program if we expect young people to heed Christ's command to "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel."

Appoint a missionary committee and begin now to plan for definite ways to emphasize missions in your Sunday school. Perhaps the following suggestions will be a help in getting started.

Select one mission station or project for each department or class, or one for the entire school. Write the Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board for information about the field and the missionaries.

Contribute toward the support of a particular missionary family or native worker. Get as much personal information as

possible about the missionary and members of his family. The mission board can give you this.

Write to the missionary regularly. Ask him to put your name on his mailing list to receive his form letters regularly, and make a contribution to cover postage. Missionaries have very little time for personal correspondence, and these form letters will give you up-to-date news of the work, as well as prayer requests. You'll also want to send birthday cards, seasonal greetings, and gifts.

Learn about conditions on his field—housing, food, customs of the people, climate, geography, etc. The mission board can furnish some of this information. Some boards publish a missionary atlas giving excellent background materials on the fields. Books in your public library and current magazine articles give interesting facts. This information will help you to know what your missionary is facing so you'll know how to pray more intelligently for him and the work. It also helps make the far-away places real to the boys and girls and stimulates their interest and prayers.

Plan missionary pre-session activities, such as having your pupils make native villages for sandtable or table-top projects.

If each of your departments or classes takes a different missionary project, place pins on a world map showing the particular stations you are helping. If the map is mounted on a bulletin board, place pictures of the missionaries around it. Our own Free Will Baptist Mission Board has a map of the world with pictures of our missionaries on it showing their respective fields.

Circulate a monthly or quarterly missionary bulletin giving news of all your projects, prayer requests, and answers to prayer.

Secure a missionary speaker, when possible, who may give a demonstration of how he carries on his work. Costumes and curios help to give a realistic setting.

Keep on display missionary curios obtained from visiting missionaries or those on the field.

Conduct a missionary poster or essay contest to stimulate interest in missions. As prizes, offer curios from foreign countries, such as those available from import shops in this country from India, Japan, Cuba, etc.

Conduct an annual all-day missionary conference, planned by your missionary committee and conducted by your own Sunday school departments. Each department may plan a missionary booth or exhibit showing the work on a particular field. The mission board has free leaflets available for distribution.

A representative from each department should have a part in the general assembly program at your all-day conference. A department or class may present a skit to show how a missionary carries on his work. Others may give challenging talks on the needs of the particular fields. Be sure to show the necessity for prayer and financial support.

Use slides or films of actual missionary work during your Sunday school hour.

Occasionally present book reviews on the lives of some of the great missionary pioneers.

Purchase good missionary books for Sunday school library and publicize them.

Missions is a vital part of the total church program, and the Sunday school must have an active part in presenting the need and challenge to young people.

Even if your Sunday school is missionary minded, perhaps you need to work out new plans for making missions meaningful to your boys and girls and young people. They are the future missionaries and missionary supporters. ■ ■

# evangelism's **NEGLECTED** field

by **Gordon Sebastian**

**S**TILL BEING HEARD by the thousands of sensitive ears of today's soul-winners for Christ is the urgent plea of the Macedonian, "Come over into Macedonia and help us."

For the Christian to pray for opportunities to witness in this day of spiritual need appears to be somewhat foolish—even ridiculous. The opportunities are all around us. We stumble over them daily. The desperate cries of the spiritual destitute are breaking forth from every direction—they are almost deafening.

Yet, among these countless calls from the many mission fields both near and far, there is one that Free Will Baptists, as a whole, are not hearing. We have not heard the cry of evangelism's neglected field—"the little children."

Like so many of today's disciples, the early twelve were blind to the challenge of children. In a scene described by Mark (chapter 10) the disciples are pictured hindering those who were attempting to bring little children to Christ. Mark says that Jesus was "much displeased," and, thus, rebuked His disciples saying, "Suffer the little children to come unto me and forbid them not: for such is the kingdom of God."

Why was Jesus disturbed and displeased? Why was He so genuinely interested and concerned for these little ones? And so it follows—why in this day should we that have been redeemed so concern ourselves with these little children?

To begin with, the age of accountability should be enough reason for child evangelism. Before this time the child is safe by the provision of God's grace. However, when that little one passes into the sphere of accountability for his sin, he is no longer safe. He is lost and in

need of a Savior.

Think of it! At the age of accountability the child faces the very same hell as the hardened skeptic, who in his 80's has scoffed at the Bible for decades.

When is this crucial age reached in the life of a child? You can almost hear the reply of thousands, "twelve." Yet, there is not one single verse in the Bible which teaches such. God is not the author of this wide-spread belief. It is only too obvious that Satan himself invented this untruth.

According to child-psychologists and child-evangelists this age of accountability—which, of course, would vary with each child—is much closer to 5 than it is to 12. Those children, who were brought to Jesus, were "little" children. Mark said, "He took them up in His arms." Can you honestly believe that these "little" ones in the arms of Jesus were 12?

C. A. Benson in his "Introduction to Child Study" wrote, "Out of 71 corporate members of the American Board of Missions, 19 stated that they were converted at so early an age that they were unable to remember."

Charles Spurgeon, a great crusader for child evangelism, said, "A child of 5, if clearly shown the way of salvation, could be saved just as well as any grown-up." All around us are these little unevangelized children just waiting for someone to bring them to Jesus.

## **Time To Be Saved**

Another reason for winning that little child is that this could well be the only period in his life that he will come to Christ. Thus, we can easily see why Satan has convinced many to wait until they're 12. For some, and God alone knows who they are, the teen-age life

and the subsequent years ahead will offer no opportunity, or desire for conversion.

These younger years are the tender, formative years of opportunity. Educators and psychologists say that a person receives three-fourths of his total education by the time he reaches 7 years of age. They also tell us that a person's character and disposition is basically framed by his 8th birthday.

The Roman Catholic church is aware of this. That's why they boast, "Give us your child until he's 7 and he'll be a Roman Catholic for life." The communists, too, well know the potential of youth. Much of their program of indoctrination in the countries that have fallen prey to their system is centered upon the little children. Why are we Bible believing soldiers of the cross so slow to catch on?

I remember Virginia. She was only 6 or 7 when the desire for salvation seized so strongly upon her. But father said, "no." He felt she was too young. And so the desire soon left this tender heart. Today Virginia is married and raising a family. She is unsaved, unchurched and very hardened against the gospel.

It could be that this was the only period in Virginia's life that she would have been saved. And it could be that there are many, many "Virginias," who need help now while they are still "little children."

Thirdly, the importance of child evangelism is amplified by the fact that children are much easier to win than adults.

There is no one in all the world easier to win to Jesus than a child. The child is in the "mystical" period of life that finds the supernatural and spiritual inviting and attractive. The child has an in-born na-

*(Please turn to page 22)*

## “Children make useful workers for Christ”

ture to believe in the unseen. His heart is tender and full of faith—not hardened by years of rebellion and sin.

It has been well said that the “key” to soul-winning is not Bible memory, or courses in evangelism, or a degree in college. All of these are good, but none of them will make you a soul-winner. The “key” to being a soul-winner is simply this—getting started. And the “trick” to getting started is to start with someone easy.

Winning children to Jesus is much easier than winning adults. They are already hungry for his love, His forgiveness, His grace. Their hearts have not yet been hardened by sin. Their minds have not yet been closed by unbelief. They need only someone to show them the way.

### Useful Workers for Christ

Then, there is a fourth reason for child evangelism—they make such useful workers for Christ. They are so willing to help, so anxious to serve. They will stand up in public to pray, testify, or sing much quicker than the adult. How lacking the child is of the fear and timidity that so often paralyzes adults.

The writer vividly recalls a revival in a Methodist church in Tennessee. During the invitation the 10 year old daughter of the evangelist went from pew to pew inviting and bringing sinners to the altar. Again, just a few months ago in a Free Will Baptist Church, well known for its emphasis on youth, the same thing was reported to have happened. A 9 year old child, during a revival, was seen leading the lost by the hand to the prayer room for conversion.

A church with a ministry that includes these little children will always be a church of activity, warmth, and soul-winning zeal.

Fifth and finally, evangelizing children is tremendously important because their conversion alone can be considered a whole-conversion.

It was one of those unforgettable services. The house was packed, and convic-

tion was pungent. During the invitation nine people stepped out to repent and receive Christ. At one end of the altar was a 70 year old man, who had waited all this time to give his heart to God. But at the other end of the altar a young six year old girl had come to trust Christ. After the benediction that congregation did what almost any other would do, they by-passed the six year old child to congratulate the 70 year old adult.

To the average person the conversion of a child is looked upon as only a half-conversion. However, in reality the opposite is true. That 70 year old man had only his soul to give to God. His life was already spent. The little girl, though, brought both her soul and her life to Christ. Hers only was the whole-conversion.

And so we have considered five very important reasons why Christians everywhere should concern themselves with the great task of child evangelism.

However, there is something else that needs to be discussed at this point—responsibility. Who is responsible for winning these little ones?

### Preachers

No other single individual more determines the course and direction of the local church than its pastor. The under-shepherd of the flock is without question the “key-man” in the total program of each congregation. And, therefore, it could only follow that those, who serve behind the sacred desk, be considered first among those responsible for child-evangelism.

Churches whose pulpits are ablaze with vision, passion, and zeal for children, will witness a number of effects in the pew. Parents will be awakened to their solemn duty in winning and training their own off-spring. Sunday school teachers will earnestly pray and labor to realize definite conversions in their classes. The young and old alike will step out to accept God’s call to evangelize children. Yet, more than all of this, the little ones themselves shall be made keenly aware of

the provision of God’s grace for them, and they shall in turn be saved.

Yet, on the other hand, congregations whose pulpits are void of any emphasis on child evangelism, will certainly suffer the sad consequences. The homes of its members will, in most part, know no family devotionals. The classes of its Sunday school will realize very few conversions. There will be no Good News Clubs for its community. But even worse, the sweet sound of praise, song, and testimony from the lips of children will not be heard in its church services.

Recently in a district Sunday school convention a young pastor, who had been given a place on the program, said that the Sunday school was not for evangelizing, but rather for teaching alone. He later mentioned that in his Sunday school very few had ever been converted. And no wonder! Few churches there are that experience more than the vision and passion of their pastors.

### Sunday school teachers

Another person, who is greatly responsible for the winning of children, is, of course, the Sunday school teacher.

A Sunday school teacher, who is without passion, who has no soul-winning zeal, who is lacking in the full assurance of salvation for herself, and whose life is not pure, has no business teaching adults, let alone children. Jesus sternly warned, “Whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.”

Those little ones, who are now old enough to realize their need of a Savior and God’s provision of grace at the cross, are looking to you, Sunday school teacher. All your studying, your preparing, your praying should be with one goal in mind—the conversion and subsequent spiritual growth of every single pupil in your class.

This was the goal of Howard. His was a rough and rowdy class of Junior boys, most of which were unsaved. Howard

## "Parents must lay the spiritual groundwork"

took them one by one to God's throne in prayer. He, also, had others praying with him for his class. He taught every lesson with their greatest need—salvation—foremost in mind. And then, the expected happened. Howard, with face radiant, excitedly broke the news to his pastor, "I've now got a brand-new class. Every one of my boys have received Christ."

How real this responsibility! How sacred this service! And how valuable to a church is a Sunday school teacher, who lives and labors to see every one of the pupils trusting in Christ.

### All Christian workers

But not just these, who have been selected by the church to preach and to teach, should enter into this great field. Every single Christian witness needs to open his eyes and his heart to the call of winning children to Jesus. One need not wait for the annual election of church officers. One need not wait for the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. One need not wait for the college diploma. All the individual needs is his own personal conversion, a compelling desire to follow Jesus, a love for the Bible, a passion for souls, and faith in what Jesus can do with the heart of a child.

George Noble tells of such a person. She was an elderly woman, who had just been converted and was anxious to do something for Christ. She was poor, she was old, and she was without any kind of special training, but she conceived of a plan.

She filled her house with children from her community, and, in her simple way, she sang with them, prayed with them, and talked to them of salvation. Minutes turned into hours and soon concerned mothers, seeking their children, found their whereabouts. So intrigued were they by this little meeting that they themselves had to remain to hear what she had to say about Jesus. While all these listened together, husbands and fathers who had come home to an emp-

ty house, searched until they discovered the cause. They, too, were compelled to simply slip in quietly and listen. The result? A community revival that resulted in the conversion of 150 souls.

Every Christian worker and witness, who wants to serve the cause of Christ, can be used in this field of evangelism, which saves both the soul and the life—child evangelism.

### Parents

Yet, there is one more that must be mentioned. One, who needs to be aroused to this responsibility more than any other, the parent.

Who is the meanest man in town. Is it the unfaithful husband? Is it the operator of the A. B. C. store? Is it the town drunk? Or could it be that infidel, who denies the very existence of God? All of these are certainly dark blotches in any community. But there is one other individual, who is even worse. Paul said, "If any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." The meanest, sorriest living creature in any community is the parent who will not provide for his family.

Parent, yours is a solemn task. God has intrusted you with the body and the soul of that child of yours. You must provide for both.

No other person in all the world is to the child what parents are. They are their doctor, nurse, their teacher, their maid, their priest, their police officer, their friend; for they are their moms and their dads. No one will more determine their destiny than they.

If parents are to truly provide for their children, they must, then, provide for their hungry souls. Children need a Christian mother and father. And more than this, they need Christian parents, who will share their Savior with them, both by example and by training.

Solomon said, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." This is a com-

mand with a promise. But parents need not expect the promise until they first fulfill the command. The parent is responsible for laying the spiritual groundwork of prayer, Bible reading and memorization, and Christian teaching in the life of the child. He, then, will be privileged to lead his own children to make a personal commitment to Christ.

The writer had this wonderful privilege in March of 1960. Debbie was only five years old. On the way home from a revival she broke the silence of serious thought by asking her daddy if she could be saved. I must admit, though I had found it easy to believe someone else's child could be saved at five, I was at first a little hesitant about my own. However, after asking Debbie a few questions, I was quick to realize that her tender heart was truly ready to receive the Son of God. Her life since that night of her conversion has served much to convince her father of the genuineness of child conversion.

Pastor, Sunday school teacher, Christian worker, parent "lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Next door, down the street, all around you, perhaps in your very own home are these little candidates for conversion. They have entered into the age of accountability. Their hearts are tender and more receptive now than they ever will be later. They have their whole life ahead of them. They wait only for someone to tell them of Jesus and how to make Him their very own Savior. They wait for you. ■ ■



GORDON SEBASTIAN is pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church of Hookerton, North Carolina. This message was presented at the October Missionary Conference held at the Bible College, Nashville, Tennessee.

sidered my teaching position as an opportunity to serve the Lord. I never felt called into full-time Christian work. I could never stand up in front of people and talk much. I never was much of a speaker, or singer, or artist, or musician. I always felt serving the Lord was for those who had a college education, who could play the piano, who could make people laugh or cry just by telling a story. And I never was much good at memorizing! When the pastor would call for favorite verses, about all I could remember was John 3:16 or Romans 8:28.

But since I have become a veteran of the space-ways I have come to see that it was not how much talent I had, but how much of me the Lord had! Do you know what I would like to do? I would like to get off this drifting bubble just long enough to visit old Mrs. Josephson. She was certainly one of the most ordinary people I ever met. If anyone could claim justly that she had no talents at all, she was that person. When she would try to sing—I just had to stop, it got me so mixed up. And, poor soul, we used to make all kinds of jokes about her. I hope she never heard us.

But do you know what? I am sure she does not know this, but it is because of her teaching in Sunday school, that I came to know Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour. Now, when you talk about talents, you do not even mention Mrs. Josephson in the same breath. But I can tell you one talent she had: she loved kids and she loved the Saviour. And we knew it. I suppose she tried to use visual aids and tell stories, and lead discussions, and all of that. But as I remember her, the one thing I remember was her deep desire that I get to know the Lord Jesus as she knew Him. Now you can understand why I would like to go visit her . . . just to let her know how much I appreciate the fact that even though she did not have many talents, what there was of her belonged to her wonderful Lord! He used her to reach a lot of us and train us for Christian service.

**One Purpose**

Say! I think I am beginning to come to a new conclusion about my philosophy of life. There was a time when I thought the apostle Paul was a back number for saying, "This ONE thing I do." But the more I think about it, from what I know now, the more I think I agree with him.

I used to tell myself that the only way to get ahead in the business world was to get into everything. And I practiced what I was preaching. I became a member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, a

service club, lead several drives for community funds, sponsored a boy's club, joined a lodge, and took a leading part in the parent-teachers association in my kids' school. But I see now that it was only for selfish reasons that I joined most of these things and that I was spreading myself too thin to be of real value to any of them. What I should have done was to put my life where it would count for time AND eternity—by investing it in the souls of men and women and boys and girls. Why, if I had spent the time and energy in Sunday school that I put into all those other clubs, I would not have to be ashamed today. Being out here makes me wonder just what it is going to be like to stand before the judgment seat of Christ and try to tell Him why I spent my life so foolishly, on things that really did not matter, instead of on things of a spiritual nature.

It seems like it was only yesterday, but it must have been several years ago that I heard Dr. Oswald Smith say that he had been in the gospel ministry for fifty years, had spent his entire life seeking to introduce men and women to Jesus Christ. But the next thing he said is what I want you to get. I remember what a jolt it sent through my spine because I knew I could not say what he said. He said, "And after spending my entire life for Jesus Christ, I have no regrets—I would not have done it any other way!" Of course, I quickly rationalized my position. I remember saying to myself, "Why is it a man cannot serve the Lord in business? Have not I conducted my business on a Christian basis? I have tried to be honest, pay my employees what they deserve, put out a good solid product, charge for it only a fair margin of profit, and seek the interest of my stockholders? The Lord needs such business men to keep the church doors open. After all, suppose everyone went into the ministry who would support the preachers and the missionaries?" Little did I know I was tricking myself in a way that even a student in freshman logic would have blushed to own.

What I should have said was, "You cannot say what Dr. Smith just said. You have spent most of your time and the best of your energy making money and trying to get ahead. You have actually been selfish, and all the while telling yourself it was for your family, for the church, and in the interest of the missions." But after the service was over, I put it out of my mind, and got back to work, because in the business world if you do not stay ahead of the gang, you

get bowled over by it.

I guess I was just short-sighted. I was not counting on eternity. I had forgotten that one day I would be out here, looking back on my short three-score-and-ten, and wishing I had spent it for Christ. But now it is too late. I cannot go back and relive those wasted years. All I can do is hope to get back to earth and spend my remaining years with one purpose in mind, regardless of my occupation: to reach men and women and boys and girls for Jesus Christ. Just like Paul made tents to pay expenses, but said "This one thing I do . . .", I want to use every contact I have to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ.

**One Saint**

And that leads me to this observation: I have just come to see the true value of even one saint. Now, I am one of those proverbially hard-headed business men. Or at least I was until I found myself out here. But looking at this business of reaching the lost for Jesus Christ, and assuming that this is the primary purpose for a child of God, the reason for which he has been left on the earth (like I once was), if only ONE saint really meant business with God and got busy about His business, not only the youth of America, but the population of the entire earth could at least hear about life in Christ. Figure it out for yourself; if only ONE saint spent the entire year winning one of the students in his Sunday school class to the Lord and training him in the art of soul-winning, and then the next year the teacher and his student spent the next year winning one soul each; do you realize that if that ratio were continued, the entire population of that planet down there could be told the blessed gospel story within one generation! Think of it: an entire generation around the globe, if even one saint could start that chain reaction. When I first heard that, I could hardly believe it was right. And I figured out all sorts of reasons as to why it would not work. But since I have been out here and seen the value of one hour, and one soul, and one talent, and one purpose, it has affected my evaluation of one saint. If one saint could get that machinery started, and I could get back to earth again, I would be willing to be that one saint!

Say! Did you feel something? We seem to be slowing down, and I think we are nearer to the earth too. In fact, that looks like a city over there . . . skyline looks something like Los Angeles. I believe it is. We're going to land. Wonderful! It's as I hoped. I am going to have that opportunity to live with eternity's values in view. And you can believe me, it will be different! ■■



# INSPIRATION . . .

## New Prohibition

A new kind of prohibition on cigarette would save at least 20,000 lives a year in the United States. Such a ban would be difficult to invoke because tobacco is considered neither a food nor a drug and is immune from all regulations except taxation. Besides many people subscribe to the theory that it is a constitutional right to choose one's poison. As a result, the government can do more to protect the population from chemically contaminated cranberries whose dangers for man are at most theoretical than from the hazards of tobacco.

*Dr. Michael Shimkin  
The Cleveland Press*

## God's Voice in the Morning

"My voice shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up." (Psa. 5:3).

If we felt more the majesty of life we should be more careful of its mornings. He who rushes from his bed to his business and waiteth not to worship is foolish as though he had not put on his clothes or cleansed his face, and as unwise as though he dashed into battle without arms or armor. Be it ours to bathe in the softly flowing river of communion with God before the heat of the wilderness and the burden of the way begins to oppress us.

*C. H. Spurgeon*

## Rules for Church Decorum

Thou shalt not come to service late,  
Nor for the Amen refuse to wait.  
Thy noisy tongue thou shalt restrain  
When speaks the organ its refrain.  
But when the hymns are sounded out,  
Thou shalt lift up thy voice and shout.  
The endmost seat thou shalt leave free,  
For more must share the pew with thee.  
The offering plate thou shalt not fear,  
But give thine uttermost with cheer.  
Thou shalt this calendar peruse,  
And look here for the church's news.  
Thou shalt the minister give heed,  
Nor blame him when thou'rt disagreed.  
Unto thy neighbor thou shalt bend,  
And if a stranger, make a friend.  
Thou shalt in every way be kind,  
Compassionate, of tender mind.  
And so, by all thy spirit's grace,  
Thou shalt show God within this place.

*Selected*

## It Was For You

A contractor, examining a building under construction, fell from a high scaffold. One of the workmen below saw his body plummeting down. He knew that death was certain. Quickly he leaped to the place where his body would strike the pavement, and caught him as he fell! The weight of the falling man drove his arms into their sockets, crushed his shoulders, twisted his spine, and made him walk the streets ever after an object of pity. One day, someone asked him about the man he had saved. His face lit up, and he said, "Oh my, he gave me half of his fortune. He gives me half of his income, and he never lets me want for a thing." We know how to appreciate that. But sometimes we seem to forget that there was One who was crushed and broken, there was One who was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquity, and yet we have never publicly declared ourselves for Him.

*Rev. John F. MacArthur  
Confessing Him*

---

IF  
God can hang the stars on high,  
Can paint the clouds that drift on by;  
Can send the sun across the sky,  
What could He do through you?

IF  
He can send a storm through space,  
And dot with trees the mountain's face;  
If He, the sparrow's way can trace  
What could He do through you?

IF  
God can do such little things  
As count our hairs, or birds that sing,  
Control the universe that swings,  
What could He do through you?

*G. E. Wagoner*

---

## Daddy Has All There Is of Me!

In returning from Bible conferences, I usually bring little gifts to my girls. One night I came home after they were asleep. Next morning, as I sat in my study, I could hear overhead the patter of little feet. In a moment the oldest girl bounced into the study and entwined her little arms around my legs. Just then I heard the pitter-patter of little feet on the stair steps. In a moment, the youngest little girl came and stood in the door. Tears pearly in her eyes and trickled down her face. She was sad because she had failed to greet me first. The older sister said to her, "See, I have all there is of Daddy!" I reached down and took the tearful one in my arms, and folded her to my heart. Looking down at her sister, she said, "You may have all there is of Daddy, but Daddy has all there is of me!"

*Rev. Alan Redpath*

anything else. I have known more than one to confess that it was hard to center their thoughts on their work, Bible reading, prayer or anything else because of heavy debts always staring them in the face. There is no way of knowing how much time is spent by Christians in brooding over debts and trying to continue means by which to pay them. This is wrong. Surely God would not have this to be so.

It is so easy to buy on credit today; it is easy to borrow money. The mailman brings us letters urging us to borrow conveniently from this bank or that lending agency. Our newspapers are filled with ads urging us to come in and buy, for \$5 down delivers. The balance may

be paid in 24 easy, monthly installments. Do not fall for these "good deals" or you shall pay "the utmost farthing." Buy what you really need; do not buy because you can buy. So many of the debts we make are not for necessities, but are made without real thought and planning. By the credit business of our day, the rich are growing richer, but the poor are growing poorer.

Each of us may profitably ask himself this question. Will I be able to render a more effective service to Jesus Christ in debt or out of debt? The answer seems obvious. ■ ■

*Mr. Morris is pastor of the Immanuel Free Will Baptist Church in Durham, North Carolina.*

(Continued from page 5)

nosticism and materialism of Uruguayans make the country one of the most difficult for gospel penetration. Less than 18,000 Protestants designate the country a pioneer field for evangelism.

The first Free Will Baptist missionaries arrived in Uruguay little more than a year ago. They were discouraged by evangelical missionaries who had spent years in the country with little results. But the Rev. and Mrs. Bill Fulcher and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Robinson knew God had sent them forth for a purpose.

They chose the city of Rivera, the Uruguayan half of a large city located on the Brazilian-Uruguayan border. Work progressed slowly at first; then God began to give amazing results. The congregation has continually grown. During a recent week-long evangelistic meeting, 43 conversions were witnessed including a Spiritist of 30 years who had ardently opposed Free Will Baptist work prior to receiving Christ as Saviour.

The potential of this harvest field is staggering to the heart. So much ground waits to be gained, and more workers are urgently needed. A great need at this point is for Uruguayans with the call of God to prepare to minister to their own people.

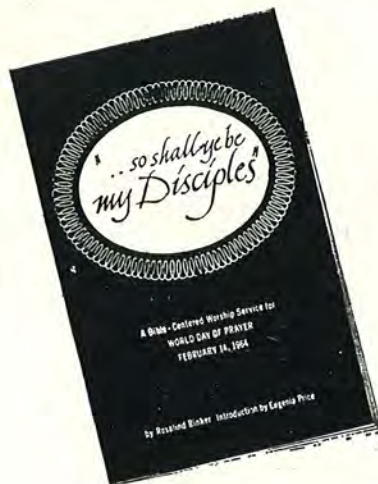
Literature is being used effectively in both Portuguese and Spanish areas. Tracts and Scripture portions are being produced in both languages. In addition, a 24-page, two-color quarterly magazine, *Impacto*, was placed into circulation this month in Spanish. Designed with a Bible study format, it is the only magazine of its kind in Spanish, and is meeting with good acceptance. Several other mission groups are interested in using the magazine in their ministries. Each issue contains a series of 13 studies on a selected book of the Bible plus numerous articles emphasizing the power of the word of God in meeting the needs of life in Latin America. A Portuguese version of *Impacto* for use in Brazil is scheduled for early 1965.

South America has become the world's ideological battleground. Castro, Khrushchev, and Mao Tse Tung are making their bids for the minds of thinking people of the Southern Hemisphere. The United States is making more overtures than ever before. The Roman Catholic Church has instituted an aggressive missionary program designed to reclaim South America for the Papacy. But South Americans long for soul satisfaction. They will find this only as we hasten to them with the gospel. ■ ■

**NEXT MONTH: CRISIS IN THE CARIBBEAN**

*Available Now . . . without charge*

**A BIBLE-CENTERED WORSHIP SERVICE for**



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

**February 14, 1964**

**Written by Rosalind Rinker, Introduced by Eugenia Price**

The National Association of Evangelicals supplies Bible-centered worship material for the observance of World Day of Prayer. No charge is made, but an offering is encouraged for the work of NAE.

Use the handy coupon to order your materials.

(clip and mail for free materials)

**TO: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS  
P. O. Box 28, Wheaton, Illinois 60188**

Please send the following (indicate number)

..... Worship Booklets       Sample only

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State ..... Zip Code .....



Dear Editor:

I like and appreciate CONTACT very much. I am sending a check for fifteen (\$15.00) for the headquarters building fund.

Sincerely,  
O. L. Clark  
Flint, Michigan

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

I got up yesterday morning at 3:30 and wrote to you. Today I am re-writing the letter . . . It thrills me to read about the progress our denomination is making.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Lucille Sheridan  
Cushing, Oklahoma

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

I appreciated "Gems" which appeared in the November CONTACT. If we could have one of these each month it seems to me that much of our misunderstanding would disappear.

Sincerely,  
Wade Jernigan  
Noble, Oklahoma

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

Although I am a new subscriber to CONTACT, I am very proud of our magazine and grateful for its continued growth and effectiveness for Christ.

Sincerely,  
Betty White  
Charleston Heights, South Carolina

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

I am very pleased with the *new look*. There are so many fine improvements that it is difficult to point out what I like best.

In Him,  
Luther Sanders  
Waipahu, Hawaii

Dear Editor:

I just received CONTACT today. As usual I laid most everything aside to read it. I would like to say "thank you" for making the magazine what it is. I am not ashamed to put our publication up with any.

Yours in Christ,  
Wayne Bookout, Pastor  
Wellington, Kansas

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

The article, "The Missionary Message of Isaiah" by Sister Laura Belle Barnard was par-excellent. How graphically she grasped the tenor of the book, and how accurately she interpreted the prophetic portions of the inspired writer! More of the same, please!

Most sincerely,  
W. B. Rodgers, Pastor  
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Editor:

Enclosed please find my check for the continuation of my subscription to CONTACT . . . the work of Free Will Baptists is still very close to my heart.

Sincerely,  
Bonnie Pierce Stevens  
Guntown, Mississippi

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

I enjoyed reading "Entertaining the Preacher" in the December issue of CONTACT. I wish Jackie Creech had also given to us the duty of the pastor and his wife. Most church members will entertain their pastor and his family to death if they would only show that they appreciate their labor of love.

Yours in Christ,  
Mrs. Bertha Chappell  
Bonita, Louisiana

*Literature Is An Important Tool*

**SELECT THE BEST**

*Our Literature Is . . .*

- ☆ Bible Centered
- ☆ Faithful To Free Will Baptist Doctrines
- ☆ Written by and for Free Will Baptists
- ☆ Attractive and Appealing
- ☆ Reasonably Priced

**STILL SHIPPING LITERATURE FOR FIRST QUARTER 1964  
SEND YOUR ORDER OR REQUEST ORDER BLANK TODAY**

**Sunday School Department / League Department  
National Association of Free Will Baptists**

**3801 Richland Avenue  
Nashville 5, Tennessee**

anything else. I have known more than one to confess that it was hard to center their thoughts on their work, Bible reading, prayer or anything else because of heavy debts always staring them in the face. There is no way of knowing how much time is spent by Christians in brooding over debts and trying to continue means by which to pay them. This is wrong. Surely God would not have this to be so.

It is so easy to buy on credit today; it is easy to borrow money. The mailman brings us letters urging us to borrow conveniently from this bank or that lending agency. Our newspapers are filled with ads urging us to come in and buy, for \$5 down delivers. The balance may

be paid in 24 easy, monthly installments. Do not fall for these "good deals" or you shall pay "the utmost farthing." Buy what you really need; do not buy because you can buy. So many of the debts we make are not for necessities, but are made without real thought and planning. By the credit business of our day, the rich are growing richer, but the poor are growing poorer.

Each of us may profitably ask himself this question. Will I be able to render a more effective service to Jesus Christ in debt or out of debt? The answer seems obvious. ■ ■

*Mr. Morris is pastor of the Immanuel Free Will Baptist Church in Durham, North Carolina.*

nosticism and materialism of Uruguayans make the country one of the most difficult for gospel penetration. Less than 18,000 Protestants designate the country a pioneer field for evangelism.

The first Free Will Baptist missionaries arrived in Uruguay little more than a year ago. They were discouraged by evangelical missionaries who had spent years in the country with little results. But the Rev. and Mrs. Bill Fulcher and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Robinson knew God had sent them forth for a purpose.

They chose the city of Rivera, the Uruguayan half of a large city located on the Brazilian-Uruguayan border. Work progressed slowly at first; then God began to give amazing results. The congregation has continually grown. During a recent week-long evangelistic meeting, 43 conversions were witnessed including a Spiritist of 30 years who had ardently opposed Free Will Baptist work prior to receiving Christ as Saviour.

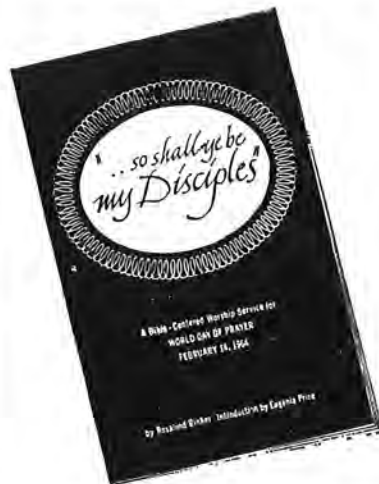
The potential of this harvest field is staggering to the heart. So much ground waits to be gained, and more workers are urgently needed. A great need at this point is for Uruguayans with the call of God to prepare to minister to their own people.

Literature is being used effectively in both Portuguese and Spanish areas. Tracts and Scripture portions are being produced in both languages. In addition, a 24-page, two-color quarterly magazine, *Impacto*, was placed into circulation this month in Spanish. Designed with a Bible study format, it is the only magazine of its kind in Spanish, and is meeting with good acceptance. Several other mission groups are interested in using the magazine in their ministries. Each issue contains a series of 13 studies on a selected book of the Bible plus numerous articles emphasizing the power of the word of God in meeting the needs of life in Latin America. A Portuguese version of *Impacto* for use in Brazil is scheduled for early 1965.

South America has become the world's ideological battleground. Castro, Khrushchev, and Mao Tse Tung are making their bids for the minds of thinking people of the Southern Hemisphere. The United States is making more overtures than ever before. The Roman Catholic Church has instituted an aggressive missionary program designed to reclaim South America for the Papacy. But South Americans long for soul satisfaction. They will find this only as we hasten to them with the gospel. ■ ■

**NEXT MONTH: CRISIS IN THE CARIBBEAN**

*Available Now . . . without charge*  
**A BIBLE-CENTERED WORSHIP SERVICE for**



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

**February 14, 1964**

**Written by Rosalind Rinker,  
Introduced by Eugenia Price**

The National Association of Evangelicals supplies Bible-centered worship material for the observance of World Day of Prayer. No charge is made, but an offering is encouraged for the work of NAE.

Use the handy coupon to order your materials.

(clip and mail for free materials)

**TO: NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EVANGELICALS**  
P. O. Box 28, Wheaton, Illinois 60188

Please send the following (indicate number)

..... Worship Booklets     Sample only

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... State ..... Zip Code .....



Dear Editor:

I like and appreciate CONTACT very much. I am sending a check for fifteen (\$15.00) for the headquarters building fund.

Sincerely,  
O. L. Clark  
Flint, Michigan

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

I got up yesterday morning at 3:30 and wrote to you. Today I am re-writing the letter . . . It thrills me to read about the progress our denomination is making.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Lucille Sheridan  
Cushing, Oklahoma

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

I appreciated "Gems" which appeared in the November CONTACT. If we could have one of these each month it seems to me that much of our misunderstanding would disappear.

Sincerely,  
Wade Jernigan  
Noble, Oklahoma

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

Although I am a new subscriber to CONTACT, I am very proud of our magazine and grateful for its continued growth and effectiveness for Christ.

Sincerely,  
Betty White  
Charleston Heights, South Carolina

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

I am very pleased with the *new look*. There are so many fine improvements that it is difficult to point out what I like best.

In Him,  
Luther Sanders  
Waipahu, Hawaii

Dear Editor:

I just received CONTACT today. As usual I laid most everything aside to read it. I would like to say "thank you" for making the magazine what it is. I am not ashamed to put our publication up with any.

Yours in Christ,  
Wayne Bookout, Pastor  
Wellington, Kansas

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

The article, "The Missionary Message of Isaiah" by Sister Laura Belle Barnard was par-excellent. How graphically she grasped the tenor of the book, and how accurately she interpreted the prophetic portions of the inspired writer! More of the same, please!

Most sincerely,  
W. B. Rodgers, Pastor  
Nashville, Tennessee

Dear Editor:

Enclosed please find my check for the continuation of my subscription to CONTACT . . . the work of Free Will Baptists is still very close to my heart.

Sincerely,  
Bonnie Pierce Stevens  
Guntown, Mississippi

\* \* \*

Dear Editor:

I enjoyed reading "Entertaining the Preacher" in the December issue of CONTACT. I wish Jackie Creech had also given to us the duty of the pastor and his wife. Most church members will entertain their pastor and his family to death if they would only show that they appreciate their labor of love.

Yours in Christ,  
Mrs. Bertha Chappell  
Bonita, Louisiana

*Literature Is An Important Tool*

**SELECT THE BEST**

*Our Literature Is . . .*

- ☆ Bible Centered
- ☆ Faithful To Free Will Baptist Doctrines
- ☆ Written by and for Free Will Baptists
- ☆ Attractive and Appealing
- ☆ Reasonably Priced

**STILL SHIPPING LITERATURE FOR FIRST QUARTER 1964  
SEND YOUR ORDER OR REQUEST ORDER BLANK TODAY**

**Sunday School Department / League Department  
National Association of Free Will Baptists**

**3801 Richland Avenue  
Nashville 5, Tennessee**

CONTACT  
3801 Richland Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

Second-class postage paid  
at Nashville, Tennessee

MRS JAMES STACK  
RT-7  
CLARKSVILLE TENN



1. GENERAL  
DIRECTOR

2. ADULT  
LEADER

3. SENIOR  
HIGH  
LEADER

6. PRIMARY  
LEADER

7. STORY  
HOUR  
LEADER

4. JUNIOR  
HIGH  
LEADER

5. JUNIOR  
LEADER

# Leaders' Guides

There is a Leader's Guide to help you if you are a leader in a Free Will Baptist League. You can choose from seven different guides — each of which has been designed and written for a specific purpose. Order your copy today; use it faithfully; watch your league grow in interest and enthusiasm.

ORDER FROM:

**NATIONAL FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE BOARD**

3801 Richland Avenue

Nashville, Tennessee



## YOUR DAILY DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

- Use DEPTH for a guide in your own personal and family daily devotions.
- Place DEPTH in hospital rooms, rest homes, offices, hotels, and other public places.
- Give DEPTH to those you contact in your regular church visitation.

Are you looking for a worthwhile project for your league, Sunday school class, Master's Men chapter, Women's Auxiliary? Why not order DEPTH and place your stamp on the back and distribute them to the waiting rooms of your local hospital and doctor's offices, to rest homes, and to other public places. Provide ample copies for your pastor to use in visitation. Order a quantity of DEPTH today from your National Free Will Baptist League Board.