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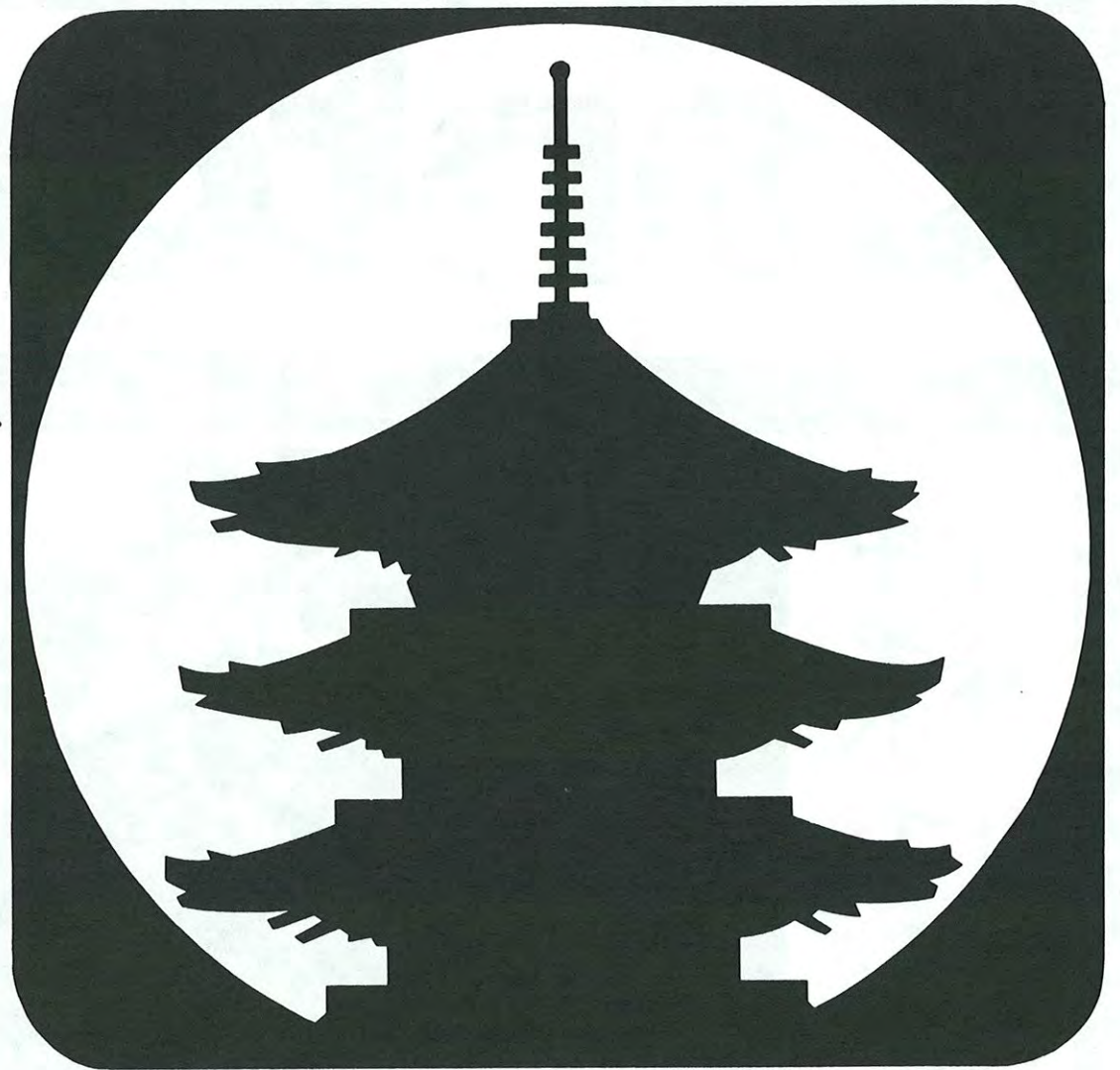
Contact

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

神様は日本語ペラペラ!



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God Speaks Japanese!

By Kazumi Nabeno

Kami-samah, tasukete!" (God, help me!) Alone in a foreign country, I cried to God in my native tongue. I had never cried as hard, but I was so discouraged, disappointed and frustrated that everything burst out. I had longed to come to the United States. My dream finally became a reality. And the reality scared me to death. I just wanted to quit and go home.

But He said, "Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9). I had to depend on Him only, and surely He was there for me.

Before I came to the States, I lived

an ordinary life as an ordinary Japanese girl. My parents both worked. We were neither poor nor rich but an average family. After high school, I graduated from a women's junior college with a major in English.

Then I started working as a secretary for a computer company. It was quite a good job. My life was following the Japanese "track." The next step was to marry a fine young man. However, because I was a Christian, my life would be different from other girls.

When I was 15, I started going to an English class taught by American missionaries (Free Will Baptist) at the church near my high school. I really liked it. They had an English Bible study

after class, but I never stayed. Although I didn't have any interest in the Bible class, through the English class I came to know people at the church. They became good friends.

I started going to church on Sunday's two years later, and Jesus came to me. I don't remember at what period of time I was saved because it was a very slow process. All I knew was that Jesus loved me and died for me. My parents didn't want me to become a Christian, but they gave in. Mother cried. Friends thought I was going to be a nun. In many people's eyes I was pretty strange.

I didn't live a Christian life, however, until two more years later when I got an opportunity to participate in Sunday School teacher training in Tokyo sponsored by Child Evangelism Fellowship. Twelve of us Christians from different parts of Japan stayed together for two weeks studying the Bible and teaching children at Bible Club.

Many children were saved during this training. It was a wonderful experience and I dedicated myself to the Lord at that time. I then began to pray sincerely about going to the United States to study the Bible.

However, before I could come, the Lord prepared another trial through which I must pass. As an office worker, I had to face the real Japanese society. I was busy all the time, working until 8:00 or 9:00 every night. Sometimes, I had to work on Sundays.

I was obligated to join the company's parties after work. I began to drink. I saw many ugly parts of the world. By the time I realized what I had been doing, I was far away from the Lord. But He prepared an escape for me. In the summer of 1988, I decided to go off the traditional Japanese track. I quit my job and bought a one-way ticket to the United States.

Since I had studied English, I didn't think that language was going to be a problem for me. But it was. I enrolled in a Christian college in northern Georgia for first semester. Registration took all day. I had to change my schedule four times. People spoke loud and fast, and I couldn't keep up.

Classes were so hard because I didn't understand what the teachers said. American food was heavy on my stomach. I was nervous all the time. I used to admire the openness and independence of Americans; now I thought Americans were rude and self-

ish. Furthermore, I was horribly homesick, but I couldn't tell my parents that I was having a hard time.

The hardest part was smiling all the time and showing everybody that I was happy. In fact, I wasn't happy at all. I wondered if I had made a mistake. Maybe it wasn't God's will for me to come over here. However, there was no way to quit and go home.

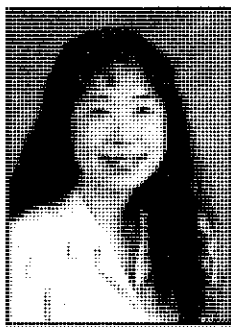
I cried to the Lord and I thought that He seemed so cold to me. Actually, He was not. I became closer to Him during this time. I thought I was going to fail all my classes, but I didn't fail. The Lord sent me help and strength in several ways. Praise the Lord! I made it!

I transferred to Free Will Baptist Bible College second semester. I changed my major a few times, but it seems that I have settled down. I plan to return to Japan after I finish school. I hope to get a job as an interpreter, translator or English teacher. At the same time, I want to work as a missionary.

I dream that a great revival is going to take place in Japan. I want to be a part of it. I don't know exactly what the Lord is planning for my life. His plan is much better than mine. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:9).

I want to be available any time He calls me. And He can call in Japanese or English, because I know by experience that He speaks both! One American friend asked me after I blessed in Japanese at the table, "Do you think God understood what you said?"

Of course, don't you know that He speaks Japanese!



ABOUT THE WRITER: Miss Kazumi Nabeno is a sophomore at Free Will Baptist Bible College with a major in business and associate Christian ministries. She is a member of Higashi-Tsukisamu Free Will Baptist Church in Sapporo, Japan.

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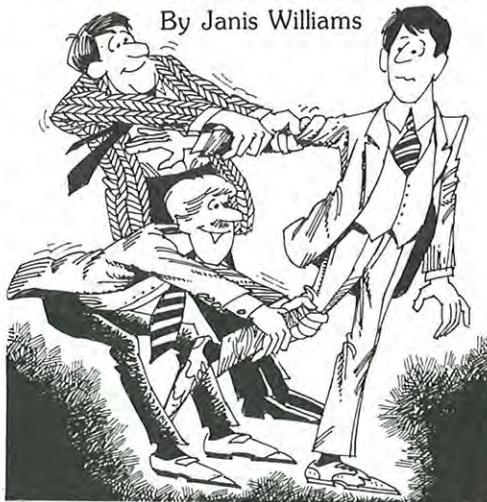
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What Missionaries Don't Need

By Janis Williams



When I was asked to speak to our Woman's Auxiliary about missions, I wondered what I could tell our ladies that they didn't already know. Our church is unique in that we have people who work in the Home Missions Department, Foreign Missions Department, WNAC and other denominational agencies. They know to pray, give and tell others about Christ. I asked my husband about it. Together we came up with this thought: Why not tell them things our missionaries don't need.

They don't need to come home because their accounts are in the red. Let's give so they can stay where God called them to work. Much time is wasted if that missionary must try to gain support again.

They don't need to spend their whole year on furlough going to churches to get support. The missionaries need time to rest. Maybe if we gave enough they could visit churches with just information on how their work is progressing.

They don't need to attend services where the only songs we ever sing are "Send the Light" or "To the Regions Beyond." Not that these songs aren't good, they are. They inspire our people about missions. But what about the missionaries? Have you thought about how many churches use the same songs over and over again? They would love to hear other good hymns or hear an

inspiring message they didn't have to preach. How about inviting missionaries to regular church services as guests with nothing to do except enjoy it?

They don't need the big dinners we prepare for them. Everywhere they go they are faced with three or four course meals. There is nothing wrong with sandwiches or salads. They may not be hungry and don't want to offend you. Or maybe they want to keep their weight down. I know we want to give them our best, but why not give them a choice?

They don't need conversations that never vary from their mission fields. Of course, we are interested in their mission work. The point is, let them tell about their hobbies or things that

interest them. How about catching them up on the news in the USA?

They don't need to be treated like gods. Sometimes, we act as if missionaries can solve all our problems. They aren't spiritual giants, just human beings like you and me with needs. We don't let their families have problems like lay people do. Sometimes we stare at them like they are animals in a zoo. Give a listening ear; you might help a missionary!

Missionaries do need friends. Take the time to be one.

The next time you invite missionaries over to your house, let them watch a ball game, listen to good music or just be alone for a while. This does not belittle their special calling, but gives them time to revitalize themselves.

Don't say, "Let me know if you need anything." Be specific and follow through with it. Missionaries don't want to burden anyone. Or they don't know you well enough to ask for a special need.

Adopt an MK (Missionary Kid) while they are away from their family and enrolled in school. Send care packages, write letters of encouragement and pray for them.

ABOUT THE WRITER: Janis Williams is a member of Fellowship Free Will Baptist Church, Antioch, Tennessee.



OUR READERS COMMENT

READER LAUDS ARTICLES BY MAL KING

I would like to express my appreciation for the articles by Mal King in the past few issues of *Contact*. His suggestions for realizing the potential of our denomination have been both provocative and practical.

In-depth Bible study, fervent prayer, an emphasis on personal, life-style evangelism and truly

Christian education and training—these, together with an earnest desire to influence our culture with the Christian world-view, are what is needed to realize our potential as a denomination.

I am grateful to Mal King for articulating the importance of these things, and I am grateful to *Contact* for carrying such timely articles.

Matt Pinson
Pensacola, Florida

NO PLANS TO LEAVE

I read with interest Dr. Roger Reeds' article, "The Blight of Erosion" (October 1989). I am glad someone boldly wrote about a very real problem. I basically agree with all the thoughts of the article.

I would add to the author's list of reasons for leaving the denomination a lack of programs to meet the needs of all groups, excluding those who aren't exactly like us, and not getting into the meat of the Word. I know some who left because they said the church had nothing to offer singles or because they felt others looked down on them for

being divorced. Some state that all they ever hear is evangelistic messages with no encouragement given to discouraged Christians or no food given for Christian growth.

I offer these comments as just that—comments. They may or may not be legitimate reasons. Most people I know who have left this denomination have *not* done so because of doctrine or standards. Most of them have been condemned for leaving, but few have ever had anyone sit down and calmly discuss why they left or were contemplating leaving.

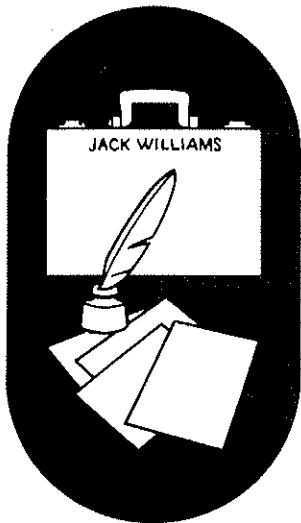
While we gain new people through the front door, an equal number leave through the back door, many times seemingly unnoticed. Let's open our eyes, be honest, and do something about it!

I have been a Free Will Baptist since I was eight years old, have given 20 years to the cause of Christ within this denomination, and have no plans to leave.

Ophelia Dale Edwards
Florence, South Carolina

Missions in the Real World

Briefcase



Just when we neatly relegate foreign missions to slides and itinerary services, God draws back the curtain to show the reality of good struggling against evil. It happened again in late 1989 when U.S. armed forces invaded Panama to snatch General Noriega from hiding.

The day after the invasion I overheard a phone conversation between a missionary in Panama and the home office. The subject was not soul winning or Bible study. This call concerned mortar fire near the missionary's home, helicopter gun ships strafing suspected troop concentrations, soldiers patrolling the streets, and stockpiling groceries to last until the fighting ended.

Suddenly the reality of missions leaped far beyond sleepy Wednesday night services with mildly-interested Americans wondering how long the missionary would talk. Our prayers focused sharply. We became eager to hear of God's protection in a war zone, of His sustaining power in a time of desperation.

Later, two Cuban Christians called from Miami with first-hand reports about God's presence in three decades of tyranny. They talked of God's Word and God's work on an

island where communism strangles the economy and spies on everyone. They were careful about what they said and how they said it because it might get back to you-know-who.

They asked that we pray for the children who sit under marxist school teachers all week and return to families and church on weekends. They praised God's vibrant work among the youth who reject anti-God teachings.

The Cuban church at crunch time: Everything's on the line after 30 years under communism. Fidel Castro forced American missionaries to leave Cuba a generation ago, but God, of course, never left the Cuban Christians. The reality of missions in Cuba is that there are thousands of believers on that island just off the Florida coast. They are intelligent, spiritually mature and well organized. Their love for God strikes fire with its fierce determination to build churches. That's missions in the real world.

But it doesn't stop in foreign countries. The reality of missions in a fallen world hit home like thunder in a Nashville prayer meeting. During request time, a Foreign Missions staff member asked for us to pray that "the murder weapon be found."

You see, a tragic murder took three lives in this staff member's family. Police had a suspect but had not filed charges. Is praying that a murder weapon be found part of missions? Not long after that prayer meeting, police filed murder charges against the suspect.

What is missions in the real world? It's Christians under communism, Christians dodging bullets in a Panamanian war zone, Christians coping with murder on the home front. Mis-

sions today is more than overhead projectors and slides. But then it always has been.


Free-lance writer Ted Lazicki relates how one mother who—after her hungry family rejected left-overs, toasted cheese sandwiches, peanut butter and jelly, tea, coffee, cola, root beer and orange juice—finally stormed to the kitchen door and yelled, "Out of my kitchen, all of ya, out, and don't come back until you're really hungry, really thirsty!"

How long will it be, Lazicki wonders, before God says, "Out of my kitchen, all of ya. Don't come back until ya know what *real* hunger is!"

Missions in the real world. It's a phone call in the dead of night from somebody half a world away who thinks everybody operates on Tulsa time. It's three months of unanswered correspondence piled up on your desk because a meningitis epidemic sliced through the villages with the power of a killer tornado.

Is it worth it? Yes! Missions and missionaries are part of God's plan. They do make a difference in a fallen world even though they blunder and sometimes confuse cultural baggage with the gospel.

When the time came for Jesus to authenticate His ministry in response to John the Baptist's question from prison, He replied simply that they were to tell John, "The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them" (Matt. 11:5).

What better answer can we give when unbelievers question the worth of Christian missions in a hurting, fallen world—a hospital in Africa to make the lame walk and the leper clean, a preaching point in a village where those maimed by sin hear the gospel and pass from death to life! 

I Love Being a Missionary?

By Ron Callaway

Dear Editor . . .
Your letter arrived asking me to write an article titled, "I Love Being a Missionary." Are you kidding me? After this last year of downs and more downs and few ups, you want an article from me called, "I Love Being a Missionary"?

Sure, sure, I'll sit right down and write out why I love being a missionary. Or will I? No, I think that I'd better say, "No thanks, not this time."

The Calling

First, maybe I'd better determine if I really do love being a missionary. Why should I love being a missionary? What does that mean? In North Carolina we love collards and crowder peas. I love my wife and daughter, and above all I love my God. I know that I like being a missionary, but is liking the same as loving?

The Problems

If this past year had been more productive and if we had seen the Spaniards saved that we've been working with, it would be easier to write about how I love being a missionary. But the year has been full of defeat and discouragement and questions about our ministry.

Instead of constructing a new church building, we had to let our meeting place go because church members wouldn't tithe. Instead of seeing our youth group grow to around 20 (as we had hoped), it dropped to six or seven. Instead of getting a neighborhood women's meeting going in our apartment complex, the key lady told my wife that she didn't want us visiting her anymore and that she would not come to any more services.

If I had to pick a color to represent 1988-89, it would be black or at least dark grey.

The Caring People

But wait a minute. It wasn't all black was it? No, because those six or seven young people were there at youth meet-

ings almost without fail. When we had to let the meeting place go, we were able to sell our lease for enough money to one day at least have a down payment on another building (or part of it, anyway).

Antonio, the young man from the Free Will Baptist church in Alcala de Henares who works with us, felt that God would have him spend his vacation and his money working in an evangelistic campaign in the northern part of Spain. He returned full of enthusiasm and organized a team of young people and young couples from the Free Will Baptist churches of Spain to work in reaching out to others (they'll start first here in Mostoles).

Our offerings are starting to pick up some. We began an evangelistic campaign. Our account had dropped into the red, but our home church (Tippett's Chapel FWB Church, Clayton, NC) sent a generous offering to clear that up.

Every month we receive a printout with names of churches and Christians who faithfully pray for us. It always lifts us to see those familiar names month after month, year after year. If God cares that much for Mostoles, maybe there's something to say about loving a job that He is so interested in.

The Converts

I do like being a missionary. I like being able to sit with Spanish Christians and laugh and talk and study about the Lord Jesus Christ. We enjoy seeing changes that He makes in their lives and we hurt with them as they pass through hard tests that come to us all. We are moved when we see how they care for us and how they hurt when we hurt.

Child of Spain

We like raising our daughter in Spain as a child of missionaries. She has advantages that most American children do not have. She knows how to live in two cultures and speak two languages (without an accent). Sure she misses our families in America, and sometimes she misses the things in America. But we like the fact that she doesn't see herself as a poor mission-



ary kid who's missing out on life in America.

Other Missionaries

I like being a missionary because of all the other missionaries we know and love. Missionaries are far from perfect, but all those that we know love the Lord Jesus with all their beings. They know how to laugh as well as hurt and cry and get angry. I like being part of the missionary family.


The FWB Choice

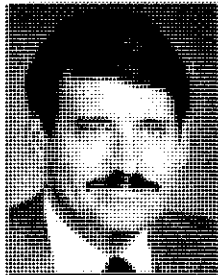
I wasn't raised Free Will Baptist, but rather I'm Free Will Baptist by choice. I love our denomination. I'd like to see us do some things differently and have a better attitude and spirit about a few things. But aside from that, I like being a representative of Free Will Baptists in the world. It has been my privilege to know Free Will Baptists from America, Spain, France, Panama, Cuba, Mexico and Brazil. We have many good folks and I get to be one of their missionaries.

Talk About Jesus

I like being a missionary because I get to talk about and teach about Jesus Christ. I love Him. He is all we want and He has given us all of Himself. Yes, it has been a dark year, but He has been the light of our lives. We know that He will become the light of others in the years to come here in Mostoles.

Well, Brother Editor, if by "love" you mean "like" with all my heart and life, then I guess that I do love being a missionary. I don't know what else I could do, and I've thought about that a lot this past year.

I love being a missionary because that's what my Lord told me to do. So, good year or bad, hard year or easy, I like what we do because we love the One who told us to do what we're doing. 



ABOUT THE WRITER: Reverend Ron Callaway serves as a Free Will Baptist foreign missionary to Spain. The Texas native is a graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College.

Tim's Best Year

By Paul Creech

After a stirring Christmas Eve service, company gathered at our house. Rhoda, my wife, hurried her last-minute preparations until the table was set and a captivating aroma filled the air.

Mother nodded her approval with, "Everything looks so good." My niece Laura sat patiently at her place anticipating the meal. Dad, of course, commented on the long wait.

Tim, a fellow worker, sat quietly on the sofa with his son Timmy Jr. who was behaving well for a 4-year-old. They were our special guests for this meal.

When all was ready, I quickly surveyed the room trying to decide who should ask the blessing. Each one present qualified, some with more experience than others.

I chose 4-year-old Timmy Jr. On previous occasions he had politely declined. Today he decided to pray. A simple prayer, yet so sweet.

"Dear Father, Thank You for this stuff, and . . . uh . . . for Paul, and . . . uh . . .

for his daddy. In Jesus' name, Amen."

That prayer was a milestone. You see, just one year before, Timmy did not know how to pray. He did not go to church; his home was not Christian. All that changed at Christmas 1988.

I befriended Tim Davis at work. He was a mechanic and mostly stayed to himself. We began eating lunch together, and one day, he asked me, "Where did Cain get his wife?"

From Cain's wife to the foot of the old rugged cross, Tim asked many questions. Our church prayed for Tim several months. He finally came to church on Christmas Day, sat with Rhoda and me and listened hungrily. He liked Pastor Larry Powell from the start.


January 14, 1989, sitting on his sofa, Tim asked Jesus to be his Savior. My heart leaped for joy, not only for his salvation, but also that I shared in showing him the Way, the Truth and the Life! I even had the privilege of baptizing my friend and Christian brother.

The next year brought many changes for Tim who became part of our local

church. He faithfully reads his Bible, prays and attends Sunday School. Christmas is now special because of Christ, not presents.

Not all Tim's changes have been for the better. He became a single parent with the sole responsibility of raising his son. His employment was terminated due to a work slowdown.

Yet Tim remains strong. He is usually one of the first to arrive at church. He continues to ask questions that arise from serious Bible study. He maintains a Christian home.

Today as Timmy Jr. prayed, I thought, "What a difference a year can make. What a greater difference Jesus Christ can make!" 


ABOUT THE WRITER: Paul Creech is an associate short-term missionary to Cote d'Ivoire.

Missionary on My Street

By Tim Davis

The street I live on has 36 houses on it. I know five of my neighbors. I haven't witnessed to any of them nor invited them to church.

I have noticed that on Sunday when I return from church, my neighbors are out washing cars, sitting on their porches, drinking beer. I think of how much they need to know Christ and then get out of my car and go inside. And forget my neighbors.

Somehow, I think this is not what Jesus had in mind when He said, "Love thy neighbor." I wonder if there is a missionary shortage in your neighborhood too. I don't know too much about foreign missions, but it seems that we're losing part of the battle right here at home. 

ABOUT THE WRITER: Tim Davis is a member of Cofer's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Nashville, Tennessee.

The Weeds and Me

By Anne Worthington



Every spring I wage a ferocious battle against an unyielding enemy. I spend hours planning my strategy considering all sorts of conditions and weighing the odds. The weather can't be too wet, too dry or too cold. My attack must take place when the enemy reaches its zenith. The enemy? Dandelion, wild onion, chickweed, pigweed, ragweed, thistle, wild garlic, burdock—in other words, weeds!

With tools in hand, I dig and pull, fret and fume, determined to conquer. After hours of unyielding battle I return tired and sore. My back hurts. My legs ache. My hands and fingers are numb. And my poor knees beg for mercy. Yet I am triumphant because I have defeated some of the worst enemies.

Satisfied, I drag my weary self to bed, only to awake in the morning and discover that more weeds have sprung up overnight. Out I go again and again, but to my dismay the weeds gain

ground. Digging and pulling just aren't the answer. Unless the root is killed the weed continues growing. Just getting part of the root won't stop the enemy.

My husband, of course, thinks mowing them down solves the problem. And I admit that at a distance the weeds do look like grass. The neighbors won't know the difference as long as we keep the weeds mowed.

I had the foolish idea that if I sowed lots of grass seed the grass would come up and choke out the weeds. Not so. The opposite is true. Weeds grow when and where grass won't. They flourish even during drought. If I don't get the weeds before they go to seed, they very nicely reseed themselves with millions of healthy seeds that never experience crop failure.

All the while I'm waging battle I know the final answer—weed killer. But somehow the conditions are never right. The instructions on the container of Weed-Be-Gon warn, "Don't spray when it's windy," and then, "Don't spray when the temperature is over 85° F," followed by, "Don't spray unless your lawn has been thoroughly watered," and the amusing, "Be sure you spray 48 hours before next rain." Of course, there's, "Don't breathe the vapor," and "Don't get in eyes or on skin."

Like I said, the conditions are never in my favor. And I'm afraid the vapor will be hazardous to my health, so I don't spray. Instead I let the weeds win the battle.

I rationalize: If I kill the weeds then I will have bare soil in the back yard since it is nothing but weeds. Weeds are better than nothing. The back yard is so rocky that even if the grass seed did come up the hot sun would kill it because the soil is poor and shallow. What I really need is several loads of top soil, but who would spread it! I certainly can't. Maybe someday I can employ a lawn service, but even that would probably be a waste of money.

So goes my rationalizing, and the ugly weeds remain, every year slowly but surely killing what grass I have.

How like my lawn is my life. I long for it to be lush, green and growing, a thing of beauty. Instead it is sparse and weedy. The weeds raise their ugly heads. I know they are there. I get stirred and convicted and wage battle. I dig up some weeds. Some I pull, but in doing so scatter the seeds and reseed more than I pull. I even keep them mowed so the neighbors won't know they are there. At a casual glance they think my life weed-free.

Deep down I know what must be done. I must allow the weed killer of God's Holy Spirit to get at the root of my sin and kill it. Only He can destroy the creeping weeds that choke out the grass God longs for in my life.

Like so many others, I struggle with selfishness, lack of prayer, the temptation to gossip, apathy—all those terrible weeds that threaten spiritual life.

I know the conditions and hazards. I know that only He can make my life sin-free and pleasing to God. I know that all my digging and pulling is wasted effort. Yet in my own strength I continue waging war. After I'm defeated over and over again, I all too often give up and let sin win.



Finally, when I have exhausted all my resources, I pray, "Lord, here is my weed-choked life. Make it weed-free. Plant new seeds in my heart. Then help me to be faithful in watering, feeding and grooming, so my life will be a thing of beauty for your glory."

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mrs. Anne Worthington is a member of Donelson Free Will Baptist Church, Nashville, Tennessee, where she teaches a second grade Sunday School class. She is the secretary of Tennessee State Woman's Auxiliary and the Cumberland Association Woman's Auxiliary. She served 10 years on the Woman's National Auxiliary Convention's Executive Committee.

We Caught 'National' Fever

By Tim Jordan

Why can't we go to the National Convention? My family posed that question to me as the children grew older. We have a 9- and 13-year-old and our church participates in most activities offered by the denomination. Peer pressure had built since our 13-year-old began competing in local and state music activities. We knew we would be going to our first National as a family.

For years *Contact* magazine has urged FWB families to "load the children in the car and come to the National." Our time had come. I teach the Sunday School class our 13-year-old is in and as preparation for class participation I asked him and another student to tell of a specific answered prayer in their lives.

This was the July Sunday in 1989 that we were to leave after church to go to the convention in Tampa. When I asked my son about his answer to prayer, I had no idea what he would tell. He said his answer to prayer was that he would go to the National. He surprised me.

The Drive

The drive to Tampa was the usual and the unusual. A lady from our church went with us and she brought a bag of goodies. My wife had prepared a big grocery bag of popcorn. We guzzled soft drinks from an ice chest and partied from Albany to Tampa.

We calculated a six-hour drive to Tampa and agreed to a half-way stop at the Red Lobster in Gainesville, Florida, for an evening meal. The usual questions of how much further surfaced every few miles. We played the game of who could spot the first orange grove. I spotted the first row of pine trees down the road and they disqualified me because I didn't know the difference between pine and orange trees.

The Destination

We arrived in Tampa late Sunday afternoon after a quick and fun trip. Our

hotel was beautiful, the service good and the children wide-eyed at the splendor of a fine hotel. Security was obvious which gave Mom and Dad a good feeling.

When 5,700 Free Will Baptists get together, a lot of fellowshiping will take place. We have been honored through the years to keep visitors to our church in our home. My wife and I felt like we were at a homecoming with so many people young and old coming up to us and telling of some incident that happened while staying with us. Most of the students who stayed with us years ago have families now.

We sensed the warm kindred spirit though we had not been there a full day. On my first day I saw an experienced conventioner leaning against the wall putting on her sneakers. Some people really know how to enjoy a convention.

The Duty


One does not go to a Free Will Baptist convention to catch up on sleep and rest. We had a single purpose, to broaden our scope and understanding of spreading the gospel.

The children had a special place at the National. The music and Bible competition was keen and they were all

decked out in their finest wardrobes and sweetest smiles. Older folks like me discover that what's special about the National is the challenging sermons, the special displays and the heartwarming homecoming of so many people who believe and worship like we do.

The Departure

Five days later as we looked over our shoulder leaving the hotel and viewed the Tampa city limits sign in our rear view mirror upon departure, we could better answer the question, "Why go to the National?" Every age group has something special to meet their needs and sharpen their spiritual wits while there. Even though our charge cards were exercised, our eyes ached from lack of sleep and our car cluttered, we experienced a special closeness to the Free Will Baptist family and to the cause of Christ.

We left Tampa charged with enough fervor to last until we get to Phoenix in July 1990. It's a date—I'll meet you in the Valley of the Sun at the Free Will Baptist National Convention. 

ABOUT THE WRITER: Mr. Tim Jordan is a deacon at First Free Will Baptist Church, Albany, Georgia. He is also a member of the Master's Men Board and president of Heritage Builders, Inc.



54th Annual Session

**NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

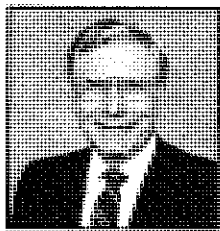
Phoenix, Arizona

July 15-19, 1990

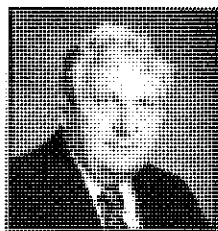


PHOENIX CIVIC PLAZA

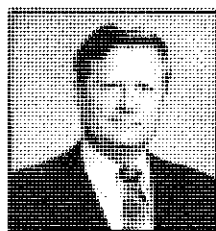
Theme: "Growing for God's Glory"



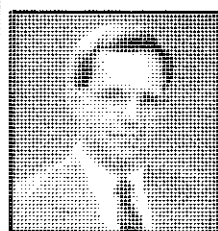
Ken Walker
Pastor
Second FWB Church
Ashland, Ky.



J. B. Varney
Pastor
Kirby FWB Church
Taylor, Mich.



David Joslin
Promotional Director
Arkansas State
Association



Jim Shepherd
President
Hillsdale FWB College
Moore, Okla.



Larry Powell
Pastor
Cofer's Chapel FWB Ch.
Nashville, Tenn.

Hotel Reservation

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Phoenix, Arizona

National Convention

July 15-19, 1990

- All reservation requests will be made through the NAFWB Housing Bureau—NOT WITH INDIVIDUAL HOTELS.
- Complete this housing form selecting your 1st and 2nd choice hotels and mail to the Housing Bureau. DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 1990. Send one form for each room request—duplicate this form if necessary.
- Changes and cancellations must be made directly with the hotel before 6:00 p.m. the day of your arrival.
- The hotel will require a deposit. Complete the credit card information on this form or send a check directly to the hotel AFTER you have received your confirmation.
- Information and inquiries ONLY; 800/528-0483.

Cutoff Date:
Received by
June 15, 1990

MAIL TO:
NAFWB
Housing Bureau
505 N. Second Street, Suite 300
Phoenix, AZ 85005

YOUR NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE; (WK) _____ (HM) _____

CREDIT CARD TYPE _____ CC# _____ EXP. _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

HOTEL REQUESTED (Please indicate 1st and 2nd choices.):

HOTELS	Choice	Single	Double	Triple	Quad
Hyatt Regency Phoenix (Headquarters)		\$60	\$60	\$60	\$60
Sheraton Phoenix (NYC Headquarters)		\$56	\$56	\$62	\$62

TYPE OF ROOM REQUESTED:

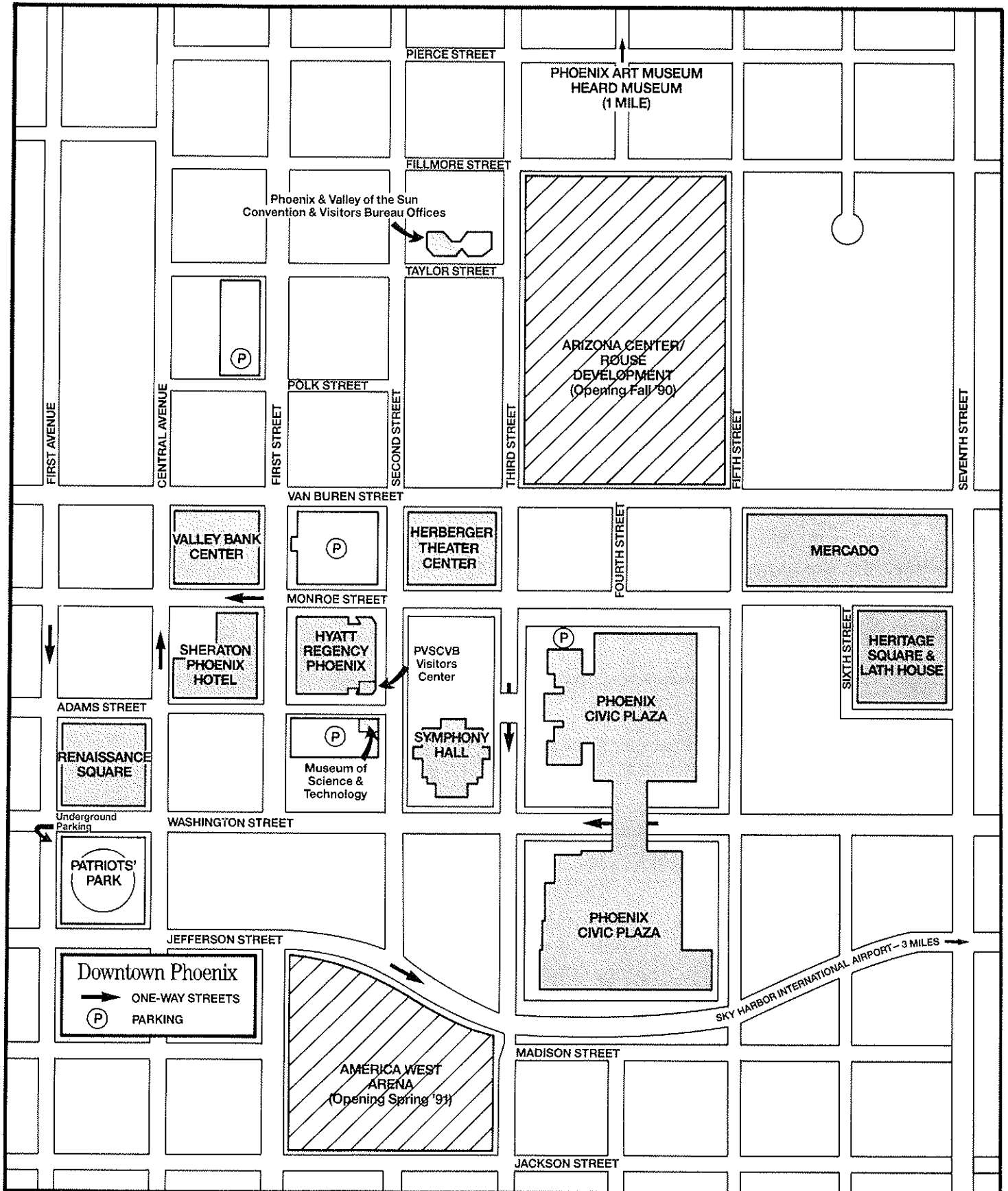
SINGLE/1 PERSON _____ DOUBLE/2 PEOPLE _____

TRIPLE/3 PEOPLE _____ QUAD/4 PEOPLE _____

NUMBER OF BEDS IN ROOM _____

PLEASE LIST ROOM OCCUPANTS:

HOTEL LOCATIONS



INSTRUCTIONS for Pre-Registration Form

By completing the Pre-Registration Form you will save **valuable** time at the convention. If you pre-register, proceed to a special registration area. There you receive a packet containing your name tag (pre-printed), meal tickets you have purchased, a *Digest of Reports* and a program.

Filling Out the Form

1. Fill out the top portion of the form. Please complete *all* of the information. You may register for one, two or all three conventions. You need to fill out only **one** form even if you register for more than one convention (National Association, WNAC, NYC).
2. Fill out the first block if you are registering for the **National Association**. Fill in your *District Association*. Check only **one** of the choices. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase (Enclose check payable to **FWB Convention**).
3. Fill out the second block if you are registering for the **Woman's National Auxillary Convention**. Fill in your *District Association*. Check only **one** of the choices. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase (Enclose check payable to **FWB Convention**).
4. Fill out the last block if you are registering for the **National Youth Conference**. Fill in *Name called by* (This is the name that will be used on your name tag). Complete the other information in the block. The fees are as follows:
 - \$7.50 for an individual,
 - \$7.00 each if two from same family are registering (Plan A),
 - \$6.50 each if three from same family are registering (Plan B),
 - \$6.00 each if four or more from same family are registering (Plan C),
 - \$8.00 if you do not register before June 30.*Adults over 24 do not have to register to attend NYC.*

Check only one of the payment plans. Indicate the number of banquet tickets you wish to purchase (Enclose check for registration and tickets payable to **FWB Convention**). Please indicate if you are participating in NYC competition this year.

Additional Information

1. Mail completed forms by **June 30, 1990** to **Convention Registration~P.O. Box 1088~Nashville,TN~37202**.
2. Enclose one check to cover all fees and tickets.
3. Make additional copies of the Pre-Registration Form if they are needed.
4. You may purchase banquet tickets from any block, even if you do not register in that block.

Children's Banquet/\$7.50
Monday, July 16/5:00 PM
Sheraton Phoenix/Pueblo Room

Music Ministries Breakfast/\$6.00
Tuesday, July 17/ 7:00 AM
Hyatt Regency Phoenix/Curtis Room A/B

Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon/\$9.50
Tuesday, July 17/12:15 PM
Hyatt Regency Phoenix/Phoenix Ballroom

WNAC Fellowship Dinner/\$14.00
Tuesday, July 17/5:00 PM
Hyatt Regency Phoenix/Regency Ballroom

Youth Banquet/\$12.00
Tuesday, July 17/5:00 PM
Rockin' R Ranch

Youth Workers Fellowship Breakfast/\$7.50
Wednesday, July 18/7:00 AM
Sheraton Phoenix/Gila Room

FWBBC Luncheon/\$10.50
Wednesday, July 18/12 noon
Hyatt Regency Phoenix/Ballroom A/B

Master's Men Dinner/\$12.50
Wednesday, July 18/5:00 PM
Sheraton Phoenix/Pueblo Room



Pre-Registration Form

for
National Association of Free Will Baptists
Woman's National Auxiliary Convention
National Youth Conference
Phoenix, AZ / July 15 - 19, 1990

Name: _____ Phone #: ____ / ____ - ____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Church: _____ City: _____

Hotel (if known): _____

Mail completed form(s)
 by June 30, 1990 to
Convention Registration
P.O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202

Register Me for the Following: _____ National Association
 (You may register for more than one) _____ WNAC
 _____ NYC

If Registering for the **National Association**, please complete the following information:

DISTRICT ASSOCIATION: _____

(Check only one of the following:)

MINISTER: _____ Ordained _____ Licensed (I certify that I am a member in good standing with the above named church and association which belong to the National Association.)

MISSIONARY: _____ Foreign (Country) _____
 _____ Home (State) _____

DELEGATE: _____ Ordained Deacon
 _____ State
 _____ Local Church (\$10.00)
 _____ National Board Member
 _____ National Officer

Banquet Tickets: (please indicate quantity)
 _____ Music Ministries Breakfast (\$6.00)
 _____ Hillsdale FWB College Luncheon (\$9.50)
 _____ FWBBC Alumni Luncheon (\$10.50)
 _____ Master's Men Dinner (\$12.50)

VISITOR: _____

If Registering for **WNAC**, please complete the following information:

DISTRICT ASSOCIATION: _____

(Check only one of the following:)

DELEGATE: _____ State
 _____ Local (\$3.00)
 _____ District
 _____ WNAC Officer

Banquet Tickets: (please indicate quantity)
 _____ WNAC Fellowship Dinner (\$14.00)

VISITOR: _____

If Registering for the **National Youth Conference**, please complete the following information:

Name called by: _____ Grade just completed: _____ Sex: _____ Birthdate: ____ / ____ / ____

Parent's (or Guardian's) Name: _____

Youth Leader's Name: _____

CHECK ONE:

_____ \$7.50 (Individual)
 _____ \$7.00 Family Plan A
 _____ \$6.50 Family Plan B
 _____ \$6.00 Family Plan C
 _____ \$8.00 (after June 30)

Banquet Tickets: (please indicate quantity)
 _____ Children's Banquet [grades 1-6] (\$7.50)
 _____ Youth Banquet [grades 7 & up] (\$12.00)
 _____ Youth Workers Breakfast (\$7.50)

Are you participating in NYC competition this year? yes no



FREE WILL BAPTIST

newsfront

LEE ROBERSION KEYNOTES CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CONFERENCE

PIGEON FORGE, TN—The 18th annual Pastors and Principals Conference sponsored by the Fellowship of Free Will Baptist Christian Day Schools met January 15-17 in Pigeon Forge. Dr. Lee Roberson, 81, delivered the keynote address as more than 75 people gathered in the Grand Hotel and Convention Center.

The organization includes Free Will Baptist Christian day schools in 10 states, according to secretary-treasurer Doug Henderson. Representatives from more than 50 Christian day schools were invited to the fellowship conference.

In addition to hearing Dr. Roberson's keynote address, conferees heard two messages from Dr. Clarence Sexton (Powell, Tenn.) on secrets to success.

Four Free Will Baptist pastors preached during the conference including Tom Malone (Florence, Ala.), Dale Burden (Virginia Beach, Va.), Archie Ratliff (Indianapolis, Ind.) and James Pauley (Kannapolis, N.C.).

Members re-elected Newport News, Va., pastor Tag Kilgore as president and Guin, Ala., pastor Richard Cordell as vice-president. Kilgore's membership recruitment efforts resulted in the 1990 conference attendance doubling over 1989's.

David Lilly, principal from Newport News, said, "This conference was one of the greatest bonding and unifying meetings I have ever witnessed."

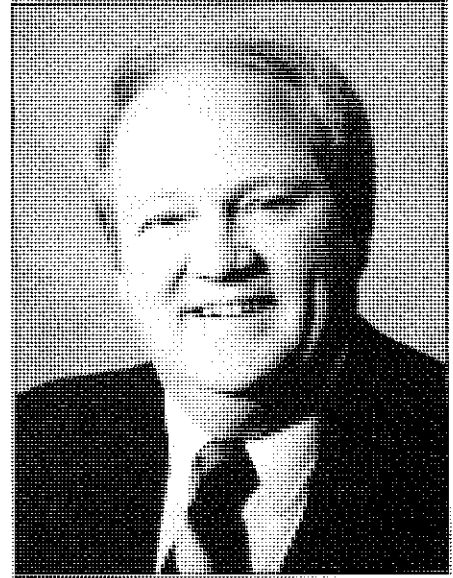
RICHARD ADAMS NAMED DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AT HOME MISSIONS

NASHVILLE, TN—Reverend Richard Adams, pastor of East Side FWB Church in Elizabethton, Tenn., has been named director of development by the Home Missions Department, according to General Director Roy Thomas. The 50-year-old Tennessee native has pastored East Side Church for 19 years. He began his new duties in January.

Dr. Adams will launch a \$1 million campaign for the Church Extension Loan Fund (CELF). The CELF funds will be used as a perpetual building fund for Free Will Baptist churches. Interest from the money loaned will be used to assist missionaries to purchase property.

Brother Adams served eight years as vice-chairman of the Home Missions Board. He is a 1966 graduate of Free Will Baptist Bible College (B.A.) He also attended East Tennessee State University and Milligan College. Bethany Bible College and Seminary awarded him the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.

In addition to his duties as director of development, Adams will speak in evangelism and soul-winning conferences. Referred to by many as "The Mountain Preacher," Dr. Adams has



been widely used as an evangelist and conference speaker.

Prior to his 19-year pastorate at East Side Church, Adams pastored five years in North Carolina. He has held numerous district and state offices, including moderator of the Tennessee State Association.

DISCOUNT AIR FARES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION AVAILABLE

NASHVILLE, TN—The National Association of Free Will Baptists has made special travel arrangements for attendees and their families who will be flying to the 1990 national convention in Phoenix, Arizona July 15-19, according to Executive Secretary Melvin Worthington. Veelson International Travel Agency in Nashville has again been selected the agency of record to provide conferees with discount travel services.

Veelson Travel has secured large discounts for air travel to Phoenix. The fares Veelson offers cannot be purchased through another travel agency or directly with the airline. These are contracted group airfares. First class tickets may also be booked if desired.

Veelson Travel has contracted for travel dates starting three days prior to the convention and three days after the convention should any attendees wish to extend their trip out West.

To book airspace at the offered discounted rates, call VEESON TRAVEL's toll free number, **1-800-456-1360**. Callers must identify themselves with the Free Will Baptist National Convention. Advise the Veelson agent of your name, number of passengers traveling, city of originating flight, correct mailing address, telephone number (home and business). For easy billing, have a current credit card ready at the time of the airline booking. Veelson Travel will process and mail the tickets to you.

For any pre- or post-convention trips in the area, Sally Davenport, David Foster or Janice Jakobik will work out your requests. Veelson Travel also has contracted group rates for rental cars during your visit. You may request these at the same time you are booking your airline reservations. All services from Veelson Travel Agency are free.

newsfront

(continued)

CANADIAN PASTOR RECEIVES APPOINTMENT

NEW BRUNSWICK, Canada—Reverend Fred Hanson, moderator of the Atlantic Canada Association of Free Will Baptists, has been appointed to an indefinite period of service on the General Council of the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada. General Director Brian Stiller expressed the need for representatives from across Canada with the burden of ministry to call Canada to repentance and revival.

Reverend Hanson has pastored for

20 years, the past 10 at Upper Brighton and Wakefield. He has served as moderator of the Atlantic Canada Association for 14 years. Hanson served eight years on the General Board of the National Association. He was elected to the Home Missions Board in 1989.

The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada is a large and growing body of evangelicals committed to bringing the gospel to every Canadian.

AUTHOR TO SPEAK AT SOUTHEASTERN COLLEGE GRADUATION

WENDELL, NC—Dr. A. A. Baker, an author and Christian educator, will deliver the commencement address May 17 at Southeastern FWB College, according to President Billy Bevan. Dr. Baker, who wrote *The Successful Christian School*, has 25 years in Christian education.

Dr. Baker currently serves as a consultant to Christian organizations across the nation. He has helped establish a Christian college, a Christian textbook publishing company and a Christian radio station. A. A. Baker Communications is headquartered in Taylors, South Carolina.

Southeastern College will graduate 16 students at the 10 a.m. commencement. Seven will receive the Bachelor of Arts degree, seven the Bachelor of Science degree and two the Associate in Business degree.

Graduation exercises are scheduled at First FWB Church in Raleigh.

NORTH CAROLINA CHURCH PAYS OFF \$700,000 BUILDING PROGRAM

RALEIGH, NC—Members of First FWB Church, Raleigh, paid off a \$711,000 indebtedness for a classroom-gymnasium building in January, according to Pastor Randy Cox. The group also paid for \$34,000 in equipment at the same time. The program was completed in just over four years with funds the members gave above their tithes in a capital gift campaign.

Dr. Randy Cox said, "We have the greatest people in the world. We build with winning sinners in mind."

During the capital gift campaign, annual general fund giving increased from \$295,000 to \$358,000. In that same period, the church reported 153 baptisms and 282 new members.

Pastor Cox is in his 17th year at First FWB Church.

GEORGIA PASTOR HELPS RAISE \$20,000 FOR TERMINALLY ILL

ALBANY, GA—Pastor Billy Hanna of First FWB Church in Albany joined with city leaders to help raise \$20,000 for the Albany Community Hospice, an organization that provides care for the terminally ill. The fund-raiser event was a golf tournament which featured Albany resident and LPGA Hall of Fame member, Nancy Lopez.

As a Pastor Appreciation Day effort, the deacons from First FWB Church sponsored Pastor Hanna, a golf enthusiast, in the annual tournament. Each team played one hole of golf with Nancy Lopez.

Deacon Jack Daniel smilingly reported that when Pastor Hanna stepped up to hit the first ball he promptly shanked it into a nearby lake and asked a teammate what he should do. The teammate advised, "Put the club in the bag."

In spite of his awkward beginning, Pastor Hanna told his deacons, "This is the most fun I've ever had playing 18 holes of golf. And remember that Pas-

tor Appreciation Day is the same time next year!"

The day concluded with an evening banquet at Doublegate Country Club

and talks by Nancy Lopez and her husband, Ray Knight, an Albany native who was baseball's 1986 World Series MVP.



(L-R) Jack Daniel, Lawson Murkeson, Nancy Lopez, Keith Land, Pastor Billy Hanna

Currently...

Congratulations to the **Herman Lewis Christian Academy** and athletic director, **Tom Bush**, in **Santa Paula, CA**. The girls' volleyball team went undefeated in the Christian School Athletic Conference and romped to a perfect 15-0 season. **Marc Hatwig** coaches the team. **Mark Harrison** serves as principal of the school. The Herman Lewis Christian Academy is an outreach of **Santa Paula FWB Church**. **David Bates** pastors.

Two Georgia ministers died in recent months. Reverend **J. E. Wood** died December 23, 1989. Reverend **J. B. Mercer** died January 14, 1990. Georgia Executive Secretary **Herbert Waid** said, "Both these ministers were well-known and loved in Georgia. They served churches in the state, and Rev. Mercer was used of the Lord in many revival meetings."

Members of **First FWB Church, Eastman, GA**, helped Pastor **Owen Ganey** celebrate his first anniversary as their pastor when they almost doubled their attendance from 27 to 47 in Sunday School. They also had 66 in the morning service and 48 for the evening service.

February 4 was "**Jim Bowman Sunday**" at **Gateway FWB Church, Virginia Beach, VA**. After retiring from the work force at age 62, Jim Bowman became bus pastor at Gateway Church. For 18 years the ex-Marine led his troops across the city in search of bus riders who wanted to go to heaven. **Dale Burden** pastors.

Southeastern FWB College, Wendell, NC, enrolled 113 students for the spring semester, according to college secretary **Carolyn Dwyer**. The group includes 77 full-time and 36 part-time students. School records indicate 17 seniors, 27 juniors, 35 sophomores and 32 freshmen.

Pastor **Russell W. Wright** completed his first year at **First FWB Church, Crosssett, AR**. During that year the church finished an extensive remodeling program including a pastor's study, Sunday School office, classrooms and a nursery. In addition to the 10 conversions, 11 baptisms and 23 new members, the church set a new attendance record which was 92 above the old mark.

Members of **First FWB Church, McAlester, OK**, have given more than \$300,000 to the building fund above their tithes and offerings. The group set March 25 as dedication day for their new sanctuary. **Homer Young** pastors.

Reverend **Carl Hembree** logged 60 years as a Free Will Baptist minister. He preached the morning message at **First FWB Church, Haskell, OK**, in celebration of that event. **Terrell Holland** pastors.

The **Pleasant Hill FWB Church, Norman, OK**, celebrated its 62nd anniversary and reported 60 people participating in the Lord's Supper and feetwashing that Sunday night. **Mark Barnes** pastors.

Pastor **Dugan McDonald** reports 30 conversions, rededications and baptisms in the past five months at **Midway FWB Church, Healdton, OK**. Pastor McDonald said, "The attendance has tripled and the finances have improved considerably."

Missionary pastor **Don Guthrie** reports

43 people at the first service for **Plano East FWB Church** in **Plano, TX**. The January 14 service followed a Saturday evening in which 82 people from the **West Fork Association** and **Hillsdale FWB College** participated in a time of encouragement with the group.

As 1989 ended, members of **First FWB Church, Monett, MO**, had given more than \$25,000 to missions. The group also scheduled their first missionary conference and received a missionary offering exceeding \$7,600. **Ken Dodson** pastors.

In six years members of **Cavanaugh FWB Church, Fort Smith, AR**, reduced the indebtedness on their gymnasium from \$132,000 to \$10,000. Pastor **Carl Cheshier** said the group paid off the balance this spring. They now plan to build a new auditorium and classroom building.

First FWB Church, Washington, NC, completed expansion and remodeling of their sanctuary. The 450-seat facility also contains two offices, a classroom, choir room and library. Dedication services were conducted January 21. **Jack Lassiter** pastors.

White Rock FWB Church, Phenix City, AL, completed numerous improvements to the church. Pastor **David Dollar** said the group built a new kitchen, five classrooms and a church office. They also remodeled their fellowship hall. Pastor Dollar said, "Best of all, it is all paid for!"

Here's a great idea that your church might try. Under Pastor **Billy Hanna's** leadership, members of **First FWB Church, Albany, GA**, select a different Georgia pastor and church each week and have special prayer for

them all week long. The names of the church and pastor prayed for are listed in the Sunday bulletin. Brother Hanna writes the pastor and tells him that the Albany Church is praying for them.

Rev. **James W. Long**, 57, of Hartland, NB, Canada, died after 38 years in the ministry. At the time of his death, Rev. Long was pastor of **Bannon** and **Carlisle FWB Churches**. He had served in the association in a variety of positions, most recently as a member of the Executive Committee of the Atlantic Canada Association of Free Will Baptists.

Pastor **David Archer** reports 52 baptisms and new members at **Faith FWB Church, Glenpool, OK**, in 1989. The group experienced a six percent growth averaging 168 in attendance.

Members of **First FWB Church, Erwin, TN**, purchased the Martin Chapel School property adjacent to the church. The purchase includes 3.5 acres, a 17-classroom school building with a lounge, office and large gymnasium. Pastor **Ronnie Adkins** said the purchase price was \$80,000 and commented what a great asset the purchase was for extra parking and expansion of church facilities.

Pastor **Dan Parker** reports an average of 45-50 children in junior church at **Victory FWB Church, East Wenatchee, WA**. Members also made the final payment to retire the bond program issued in 1975.

Eleven members of **First FWB Church, Salem, OR**, completed an eight-week study program in Sunday School teacher training. Pastor **Terry Motte** reports 10 conversions and 20 new members.

Singers Needed!

The National Association of Free Will Baptists meets July 15-19 in Phoenix, Arizona. Among the highlights of a Free Will Baptist meeting is the singing. Our convention gives opportunity for congregational singing, ensembles, solos, instrumental music and, yes, the *Mass Choir* and *Men's Chorale*. But singers are needed!

The demanding national convention schedule seems to work against the extra responsibility of singing in a group. But keep in mind that of all the reasons we attend the national convention, nothing is more important than our worship experiences, and singing is a major factor in worship. We need singers!

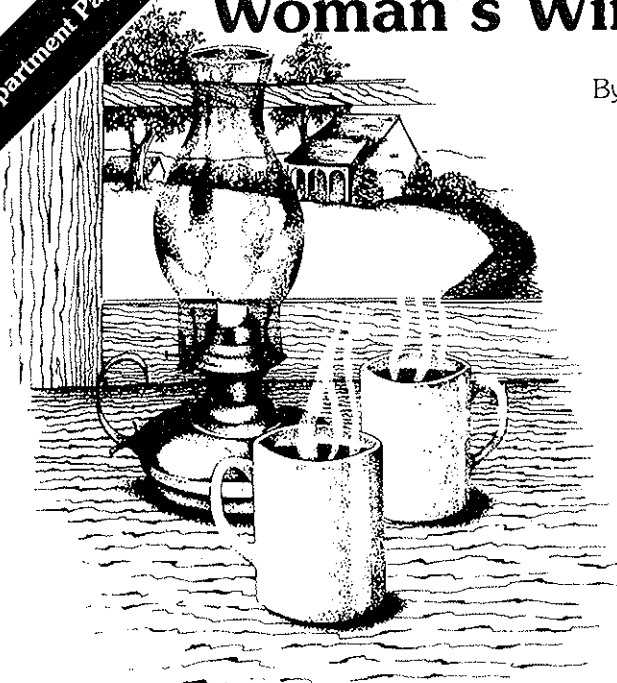
We need pastors, music directors, choir members, missionaries, visitors—folks who will take a bit more responsibility and say by their presence in the singing groups, "I'll go the extra mile to contribute to our worship experience." Will you help us sing?

The *Mass Choir* and *Men's Chorale* will serve as worship leaders in our convention services. Join us and help make a difference in our 1990 convention music program.

Blaine Hughes
Convention Music Coordinator

Woman's Window on the World

By Mary R. Wisheart



From My Window

April Fool! Gotcha! Have you ever been April fooled? Most of us have. It may have been embarrassing, but harmless, maybe even fun, and we could join in the laughter.

Playing the fool, however, has eternal consequences. God says, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God" (Psalm 14:1).

Not me, no, never. I believe there is a God, you say. But think about it.

One brief moment, one step into Satan's territory, and a testimony, a life of service ruined. Someone played the fool and acted as though God does not exist or does not mean what He says.

Where do you put the most energy, your best efforts?

What are your highest dreams? What do you want for your children more than anything else?

John wrote very lovingly to his "little children": "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world." The reason? The world and all that is in the world passes, but those who do the will of God go on forever.

Are we playing the fool?

Jim Elliott expresses it in his journal: "He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."

Meet Peggy Outland, WNAC Secretary

Ten years now Peggy Outland has served WNAC on the executive committee. She was elected as a member at large of the executive committee in 1979. In 1983 she became recording secretary for WNAC, a position she has filled consistently since.

Peggy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Anderson Ferrell in Lucama, North Carolina, March 22. In May 1956 she graduated from Lee Woodard High School at Black Creek, North Carolina.

After high school she attended Free Will Baptist Bible College where she met her husband Billy Gene Outland, who has been her pastor ever since.

Her conversion experience dates back to her early teens. At a Youth for Christ Rally in Wilson, North Carolina, she accepted Christ as her personal Savior.

Woman's Auxiliary has benefited from Peggy's services for at least 28 years. She has served from the local to the national as a member at large of the executive committee, secretary, mission prayer and mission action chairman, vice president and president.

Hazel Dell FWB Church in Sesser, Illinois, is the site of her ministry

now. In addition to being the pastor's wife, she teaches a Sunday School class, leads a CTS group, and is president of a woman's group called Sunshine Girls.

The Outlands have one daughter, Angela Trotter, who lives in Nashville, Tennessee.

Peggy enjoys crafts and reading. In her home you'll notice that she collects thimbles and bowls with pitchers. She is employed at Hearthside Designs in Sesser, where she works in the painting and antiques department.

Eunice Edwards Fund

January 31, 1990—\$24,978.08

Get Your Tickets Early

Tickets are now available for the Fellowship Dinner in Phoenix, July 17. Get your tickets early. The hotel requests a guaranteed number by Friday, July 13. After that date only a limited number of tickets will be available.

You don't want to miss this special Southwestern style dinner with an excellent speaker, Rudene Kennedy.

April Emphasis—Pre-Easter Prayer and Offering

Pray for the work of our missionaries around the world. Also pray about the offering this year.

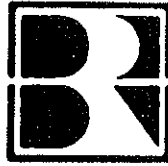
We are setting a goal of \$75,000 for the Laura Belle Barnard Offering. All the money coming in will go to evangelism overseas. Each missionary will benefit from the offering. Watch for a mailing with more information.

Can we each give at least 30 pieces of silver for this offering? Bags for 30 pieces of silver offerings are available for WNAC.

Involve the whole church in the offering. Even the children can fill bags with 30 pieces of silver.



Herman L. Hersey
Director



Board of Retirement

AT YOUR SERVICE

Is Social Security a Good Buy?

Many Americans think of Social Security only as benefiting retired people. But it is actually a package of protection—retirement, survivors and disability insurance. It protects you and your family while you work and after you retire. Social Security is a base to build on, now and in the future, with other insurance and investments, such as private pensions and personal savings.

A common misconception is that Social Security operates like a bank. Social Security is not a savings or checking account. Rather, it is a pipeline. Social Security has been financed on a "pay-as-you-go" basis. Revenues collected from today's workers flow into one end of the pipeline and come out the other end in the form of benefits for today's beneficiaries.

As you can see, Social Security is a pact between generations. Looking back, the pact is between you and, say, your parents. Your Social Security taxes pay for their Social Security benefits. Looking to the future, the pact is between you and your children. Their Social Security taxes will pay your benefits. It links all of us together because it affects almost everyone.

Despite the bright prospects for the future of Social Security, many people are still concerned about receiving their money's worth from the

program. People express doubt that they will receive back as much in benefits as they paid in Social Security taxes.

The fact is that most people will receive more in retirement benefits than they pay in taxes. Some will not, but these people will have had a valuable package of disability and survivors insurance protection over their working lifetimes. Their Social Security taxes have provided life insurance protection in the form of monthly cash benefits for their eligible family members in the event they die before retirement. They also have had disability insurance protection.

Each one of us receives both tangible and intangible benefits. Most younger workers today, for example, do not have to worry about fully supporting their parents, thanks in large part to Social Security.

When to Contact Social Security

- Every few years, you should ask for a copy of their record of your earnings upon which Social Security taxes were paid and the amount of Social Security taxes.
- If you are unable to work because of an illness or injury that is expected to last a year or longer.

- If you are 62 or older and plan to retire.
- If you are within three months of 65, even if you do not plan to retire.
- If someone in your family dies.
- If you or someone you know has limited income and is 65 or older or blind or disabled, there is a Federal program called SSI—supplemental security income—which the Social Security Administration administers but is paid for by general taxes and not Social Security taxes.

Social Security Cannot Do It All

Although Social Security is a good program for our country, and probably will be for you personally and for your family, it should not be your only source of income when you retire. In addition, you should not count on Social Security to provide complete disability or survivors coverage for you or your family. Instead, Social Security should serve as a foundation upon which you can build a total package of protection. Ideally, it should be supplemented with pensions, savings, insurance and other investments.

U.S. Department of
Health and Human Services
Social Security Administration



Free Will Baptist Bible College **REPORT**

3606 WEST END AVENUE
P.O. BOX 50117
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37205-0117
(615) 383-1340

Initial Goals For The External Studies Program

by Harrold Harrison

Thirty-five years ago I sold my wholesale business, purchased a mobile home, stored our furniture in my father-in-law's barn, loaded my wife and two children in the family car and headed fishtail fashion for Nashville and Free Will Baptist Bible College.

The Lord had called me to preach.

I was 30 years old, 12 years removed from high school. I had never been on a college campus, did not know what "curriculum" meant, had never heard of a semester hour and could not name all of the books of the Bible. I knew even less about Bible content.

One thing I had, though, was a four-year commitment to finish Bible College with a degree. I never wavered from that commitment. It has proven to be one of the greatest decisions I ever made. I was not the most outstanding student, but I learned.

I told my wife soon after we arrived that, if she detected any change in me as the result of this education, to let me know and we would pack up and leave. I did not understand that education is *supposed* to bring about change in thinking and doing.

With the help and encouragement of a dedicated Bible College faculty and staff, I was taught great doctrinal truths and biblical principles which reshaped my thinking and my life. The Bible and related books became a treasure trove to me. The library became my close friend and fed my hungry mind.

Sharing what the Lord has allowed me to learn is a joy and ministry. Four initial goals which I have set for the External Studies program are:

1. To make known the availability of this program

The first step toward success in any program is to build awareness of its existence. We shall, by news releases, brochures and word of mouth seek to inform Free Will Baptists about the new External Studies program offered by Free Will Baptist Bible College.

You can assist me in this by talking

about it with fellow pastors, lay leaders and other interested persons.

2. To stimulate a desire for this kind of external education

My desire is to serve those of you who have already been called to preach and, perhaps, are already pastoring. I want to bring FWBCC to you and share with you some of the basics in Bible, doctrine, theology, church growth methods, teacher training and related subjects, as your needs dictate.

3. To enroll interested persons in the program

Present plans call for me to conduct one two-week or two one-week sessions each month, provided the demand is there. Each session will involve 15 class hours of instruction. This is the equivalent of one semester hour of college credit. A textbook will be used in each course.

Certificates of credit leading to a diploma will be issued. Students desiring non credit may take the courses also.

The program is widely flexible. For instance, classes can meet for two hours on four nights, then conclude with a marathon 8-hour session on Saturday. In situations where students are free for classes during the day, 15 hours could be completed easily in one week.

A two-week program could involve eight weeknight studies, without Saturday, or begin on Thursday and continue through the following Tuesday week. We will tailor the program to fit the needs of any local situation. Probably, a two-week program would be the most beneficial.

4. To instruct, encourage and inspire those enrolled to a greater commitment to study and to service for Christ

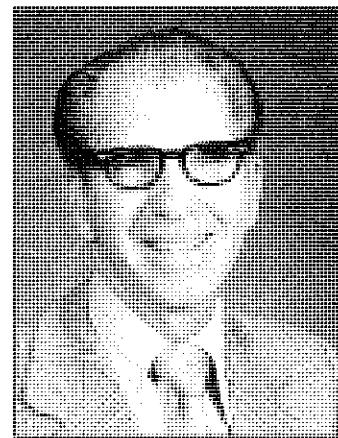
Education involves leading one out of darkness into light; out of ignorance into truth; out of tradition into biblical practice; out of fear into peace; and out of superstition into spirituality. The total experience

is one of enlightenment and edification, which leads to obedience. Education and evangelism go hand-in-glove. They are inseparable. An overemphasis of either is at the expense of the other.

Satan fears sanctified knowledge and the proper use of God's Word. We can liken our ministries to a key and a locked door. If the key is not inserted in the lock, the door to instruction, enlightenment, encouragement and inspiration remains closed.

You control the door. We believe we have a key which will unlock the door of opportunity for those who need what we have to offer.

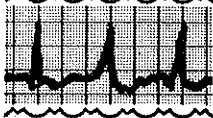
We want to serve. Let's get together. Together we make a team and can make a difference for Christ. Your commitment to this program will determine whether or not these four initial goals are met. I am committed to them! Let me hear from you.



Rev. Harrison is FWBCC's new Director of External Studies. As such, he will be available to conduct training sessions for preachers and laymen in churches across the denomination.

For information on this new ministry, please write or call:

External Studies
Free Will Baptist Bible College
3606 West End Avenue
Nashville, Tennessee 37205
615/383-1340



On the Cutting Edge

By Don Robirds

"I want to be where the action is!" exclaims one pastor. "Soul winning is where 'the rubber meets the road,'" chimes another. Both speak of evangelism—sharing the Good News with the unsaved.

Since launching the denomination's program of world outreach in 1935, Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions has held evangelism to be the heart of missions. Making disciples among all nations has been the mandate and it continues to be.

Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions has held evangelism to be the heart of missions.

Today we have the opportunity to literally "reach out and touch someone" on the other side of the world. And we can do it in a significant manner through one single effort—the annual **World Missions Offering on April 29.**

The money from this year's offering will go toward specific evangelistic efforts planned and budgeted by missionaries on all our fields. In line with these projected expenses we have set a goal

of \$75,000 for this special offering. This will provide funds which would normally come from missionary accounts.

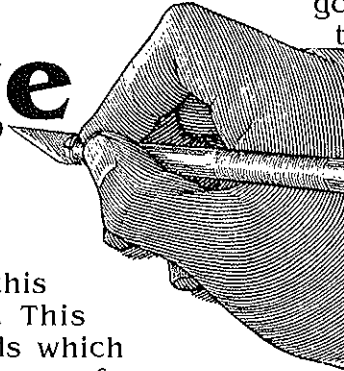
We have set a goal of \$75,000 for this special offering.

Evangelistic campaigns, film rentals and/or purchases, literature costs, travel for evangelism, camp ministries, expenses for evangelists, etc., are all part of this overall evangelism budget. Consequently, this World Missions Offering will put donors right "on the cutting edge" of evangelism and soul winning around the globe.

Kenji Hosokawa and his brother, of Sapporo, Japan, came in contact with the gospel through the Free Will Baptist summer family camp. Today Kenji knows Christ as his Savior because Dale Bishop was able to follow up on that contact and minister to his needs. The camp and subsequent conversion were made possible through the gifts of those who were interested in reaching souls for Christ.

Every local church in the

United States has a part in this mandate to "preach the gospel to every creature." As each individual gets involved in giving to missions and praying for missionaries, other souls like Kenji will respond to the gospel. And those saved on the various mis-



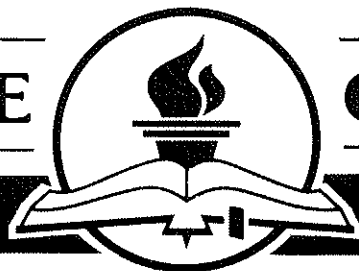
sion fields will be accredited to faithful supporters as much as to those who labor on the field. In February pastors were sent a **World Missions Packet.** As these materials are utilized, as people pray, and as each pastor senses the burden to challenge his congregation toward world outreach, God will work wonders around the globe.

Those saved on the various mission fields will be accredited to faithful supporters.

A special VHS videotape has also been prepared to demonstrate what God is doing among the lost in countries served by Free Will Baptists. Order "*On the Cutting Edge*" and allow God to bless your congregation during **April, Foreign Missions Month.**

Your World Missions Offering will indeed "sharpen the sword" of evangelism and will put you and your church "**on the cutting edge.**"

21/CONTACT/April '90



Missions Resources

Free Will Baptists believe in missions. That's why our denomination emphasizes missions two months each year. (April is Foreign Missions Month. November is Home Missions Month.) More than 200 Free Will Baptists currently serve as home and foreign missionaries.

Pastor, one of your greatest privileges is helping your people develop a burden for world outreach. Randall House has published several books and booklets to assist you with this task. You can purchase these quality products direct from Randall House Publications, P. O. Box 17306, Nashville, Tennessee 37217, or at your state bookstore.

The Biblical Basis of Missions by Laura Belle Barnard (\$1.50). Veteran missionary Laura Belle Barnard explores the Bible's teaching concerning world outreach.

Bread Cast Upon the Waters by Jeanna L. Merritt (\$1.25). Here is the story of Rev. Ken Turner, an early promoter of foreign missions among Free Will Baptists. Mrs. Merritt cap-

tured Turner's missionary burden, pioneer spirit and sacrificial ministry.

Free Will Baptist Missions, Missionaries and their Message by Bill M. Jones (\$1.50). Jones briefly notes the history of missions giving special attention to Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions. He also outlines qualifications for missionary service.

A Teacher's Guide (\$3.95) is also available.

I Looked For a Man and Found One by Lorene Miley (\$5.95). This is the story of LaVerne Miley, missionary to Africa. Dr. Miley preached the gospel of love and demonstrated this message through an extensive medical work.

Never Say Can't by Jerry Ballard (\$5.95). Thomas H. ("Pop") Willey was a missionary in Cuba when Castro came to power. You will be stirred by this biography of an early Free Will Baptist missionary. It is an inspiring saga of a man of gigantic vision who used every obstacle as an occasion to prove the power of God.

The Printed Text

By Roger C. Reeds

There is some controversy as to whether or not the scripture study text should be printed in Sunday School quarterlies. The only reason the study text is ever printed in the quarterly is for convenience. However, when this is done it means that the student may *never* use his Bible.

The purpose in omitting the printed text is to encourage students to bring their Bibles to Sunday School and to use their Bibles more frequently.

When the scripture verses are not printed in the quarterly, it allows more room for commentary on the lesson.

A third reason for not printing the scripture in the quarterly is the length of the study text. This varies from lesson to lesson. Usually, at the most, only a portion of the study text will appear in the quarterly.

I hope we can establish a trend in Free Will Baptist ranks to encourage Sunday School scholars to bring their Bibles to class with them. After all, the Bible is *the* basic textbook of the Sunday School.



What is a Trust?

By William W. Evans

Ever use a table knife as a screwdriver? A pair of pliers instead of a wrench? Most of us have, but not when both items were available side by side. In estate planning there is a strong temptation to use familiar instruments rather than more appropriate but unfamiliar ones.

The trust is the most flexible of all estate planning tools. It can be used to manage property, save estate and gift taxes, protect children from receiving too much or too little money or even receiving it too soon, and many other objectives an individual or couple has for estate plans. Still, few attorneys or laypeople understand the personal application of trusts to individual planning.

Just what is a trust? In simple, non-legal terms, a trust is a legal document created by a person who may be referred to as a creator, settlor, grantor or donor. Assets, meaning items of value legally titled to the trust, are managed by a person or persons named in the document as

trustee for the benefit of a person called a beneficiary. The law recognizes these three individual roles in a trust. One individual may serve in one, two or all three roles.


If a trust is created during the life of the donor/grantor, it is called a living trust or *inter vivos* trust. A trust created by a will is called a testamentary trust. Whether a trust is created before or after death does not limit the variety or personalization of the details contained within the trust.

Should everyone have a trust as part of their estate plan? No, but many people could improve their estate transfer process with one. The real question is, "Could I improve my distribution plans? Is it possible to simplify the transfer process while diminishing expenses and delays and have other benefits also?" The only way to know is to consider the options.

In the coming issues several types of trusts, contracts and life-time in-

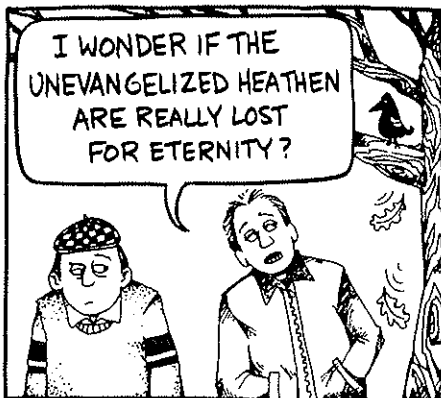
come arrangements will be discussed. Among these will be wills, living trusts, pour-over wills, charitable remainder trusts, gift annuities, deferred payment gift annuities, insurance trusts and A-B trusts. Some of these plans have tax advantages, others do not. Some may not be changed, others may.

What is the best plan for your estate? That can only be determined by considering information such as your age, marital status, beneficiaries and their ages, your assets (type and estimated value), charitable interests (church, missions, etc.), and most importantly, your wishes.

Your Free Will Baptist Foundation stands ready to provide help without cost or obligation. 

ABOUT THE WRITER: William (Bill) W. Evans, a Free Will Baptist minister, is director of trust services department with World Literature Crusade / Every Home for Christ, Canoga Park, California.

BEYOND BELIEF

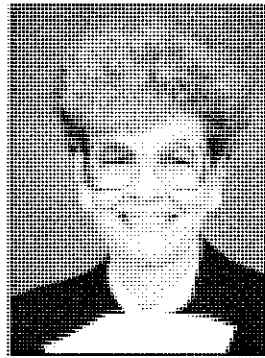


MINI GRAMS

Department of Home Missions and Church Extension
of the National Association of Free Will Baptists

Wives are Missionaries Too!

By Pat Thomas



Pastors' wives in mission churches are missionaries in every sense of the word. They work beside their husbands planting churches in areas where there are none. They need prayers and encouragement as much as the men.

Mothers of preschool-age children are confined to their homes because of the necessary care involved. These missionary wives have little time to contact absentees, witness to the lost or call on prospects because of small children or because they work outside the home.

How do they cope? Some may suffer from feelings of guilt or think they need a trip to the altar. However wives of home missionaries set good examples for women in mission churches. Here are six ideas that work for missionary wives. They may work for you, too.

Get Organized.

Learn to live by a schedule whether you are the mother of preschool children or a working woman. Discipline yourself to live and work by a planned schedule, not by moods. Your home will run smoother, your family will be happier, and you will have more time for visitation, soul winning and the ministry of hospitality.

Start a Nursery During Visitation.

This is as important as providing a nursery during Sunday School and worship services. If the women in the church take turns keeping preschool children at the church dur-

ing regular church visitation, more women can become involved. Older children and teens need to be active in the visitation program. Therefore, you only need provide a nursery for preschoolers. Visitation then becomes a family affair. Don't wait until children are grown to train them as soul winners.

Use Your Telephone.

Even if you are confined to long hours at home, use the telephone to do visitation. One young home missionary wife with three small children made it her job to call every prospect and absentee once a week. As the church grew, she found herself making hundreds of calls each week. But her efforts paid off, for that church is now self-supporting and one of our larger churches.

Write Cards and Letters.

This useful tool not only keeps you in contact with prospects and absentees, but it also encourages new converts and comforts the sorrowing and lonely.

Use Your Kitchen.


Take a few minutes to toss a peach cobbler in the oven for a new

neighbor or a bereaving family. (Pour a large can of sliced peaches into an oblong cake pan. Sprinkle over the peaches a box of yellow cake mix. Cut a stick of margarine into 1/4 inch slices and dot these over the mixture. Bake in the oven at 350 degrees for about 30 minutes.) Your new neighbor will welcome the hot cobbler. Then invite her to church or witness to her about Christ.

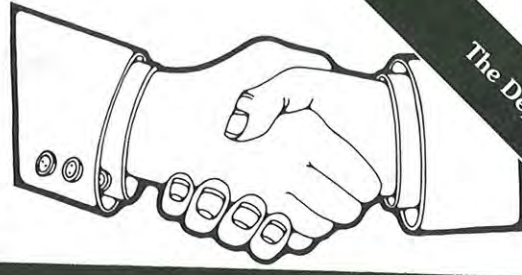
Practice Hospitality.

Invite lost families to your home for a meal and a time of fellowship. As you win their friendship, you may also win them to Christ. Invite church groups into your home regularly for a simple meal or refreshments—deacons, teens, Sunday School teachers, bus workers, etc.

I advise against using Sundays for the ministry of hospitality. This is a difficult day to entertain because of your rushed schedule. I suggest Friday or Saturday evenings, perhaps a Saturday afternoon cookout in the backyard. You will have more time to relax, and you won't feel rushed to finish in time to get back to church.

With these suggestions, missionary wives (in fact, all pastors' wives) can realize that even though one may be a mother of young children or a working wife with limited time, it is possible to still be active in witnessing and winning people to Him. Missionary wives must ask the Lord to show them how they can be effective soul winners even on limited time schedules. 

MASTER'S MANDATE



The Department Pages

Dear Pastor:

The Layman of the Year award has an exciting history. The first man was selected for the honor in 1962. Pastors are given a unique opportunity to recognize and honor faithful and outstanding laymen. Every year you may nominate a man from your church. He doesn't have to be a member of Master's Men, but he cannot be a preacher.

Your nomination will be reviewed by the Master's Men Board. Each board member selects the man he feels best demonstrates devotion to our Master and His work. Then the votes are tabulated to select the 1989 Layman of the Year.

Your nomination should be based on the accomplishments of the layman for the calendar year of 1989.

Two awards are presented: Layman of the Year and Runner-up Layman of the Year. The men will be introduced by Chairman of the Board, Wendell Leckbee. The recipients will receive a special plaque and certificate. A certificate of recognition is given to each layman nominated.

The awards will be presented at the Master's Men Dinner on Wednesday, July 18, 1990, during the National Association of Free Will Baptists. This year we meet in Phoenix, Arizona, at the Sheraton Phoenix Hotel.

Mail your nomination form by April 30. The board members must have adequate time to process and select the recipients. Please use the form on this page, with extra pages if needed. Mail your completed form to:

Master's Men
P. O. Box 1088
Nashville, TN 37202

1989 Membership Results

- 26 New Chapters with nearly 280 new members.
- 101 New LifeMembers, for a total of 374.
- 11 New LifeFriends, for a total of 36.
- 75 LifeCommitments, paying to become LifeMembers.
- 65 Preachers are included in the LifeMembers total.

LAYMAN OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM

Sponsored by the Master's Men Department
(Please **print or type** all entries.)

Nominee's Name _____
 Age _____ Birthday _____ - _____ - 19____ Telephone (____) _____ - _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Occupation _____ Wife's Name _____
 Name of Church _____

(Use extra pages if needed. You don't have to comment in each space. These are suggested areas to aid your preparation of the nomination form.)

Here are my reasons for nominating this layman. Offices held during the last calendar year in the local church. District/Quarterly Meeting, and State/National work:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Accomplishments, work performed, honors received (church or civic) during the last calendar year:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Evangelistic efforts in local church, District, State and National levels during the last calendar year:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Pastor's Signature _____ Date _____
 Telephone Number (____) - _____ - _____



ON LITTLE LANES

BY DONNA MAYO

Brave Chicken

Not only was it Friday, but it was the Friday before a week of spring break. The children were excited at recess. The girls were swinging and playing on the slides, the boys were playing kickball.

"Your kick, Tony," called Marty from the pitcher's mound. Marty rolled the ball and Tony kicked it hard. Really hard. It sailed over the ball diamond, landed in the grassy field and rolled into a grove of trees.

Matthew ran after the ball, but when he came out of the grove of trees, he did not have the ball. "Look what I found!" he said, running toward the children. "Look!" "Eeek!" screamed the girls. "A snake!"

"Aw, it's just a black snake," said Matthew. "And it's just a baby." The boys huddled around him, taking turns holding the snake.

"You know what would be neat?" asked Matthew. He had a mischievous look in his eye. "If one of us hid the snake in his pocket when we go back in the room. Then in the middle of math class, let him loose."

"Yeah," agreed Chip. "I can hear Mrs. Curtis screaming already." The boys giggled nervously.

"Who'll do it?" asked Matthew.

"Not me," said Chip. "I was just

in the principal's office yesterday."

"Yeah, me too," agreed Matthew. "I don't want to go back today."

"I got in trouble last week," said Benji, "and I still can't sit down."

"How about Marty?" suggested Jeremy. "He never gets in trouble."

"Good idea," said Matthew. "You won't get caught, Marty. Even if you did, they would go easy on you since this is your first time."

"No, I don't think so," said Marty.

"What are you, chicken?" asked Matthew.

"No, I'm not chicken," replied Marty.

"Then why don't you do it?" asked Chip.

"I think it's a dumb idea," said Marty.

"You're just chicken," said Matthew.

"We'll just see who's chicken," said Marty making a fist and socking Matthew in the nose. Blood gushed from Matthew's nose. Then he started throwing punches. The other boys backed up and cheered as Matthew and Marty scuffled in the dirt.

A teacher separated the boys and herded them to the principal's office. The other children went back to the classroom, and the little black snake that had caused all

the commotion slithered off into the woods.

Mr. Rogers, the principal, gave each boy a paddling "they would never forget" and a note to be signed by their parents and returned to school.

Marty thought about hiding the note until after spring break, but his mother knew something was wrong the minute he walked in the back door. Marty's eye was black, dirt streaked his face and smeared his clothes, and his left shirt sleeve was ripped half off.

"Marty, what on earth?" cried his mother.

Marty handed her the note. "A paddling for fighting on the playground. Marty, I am so disappointed," said Mrs. Lane.

"It was that dumb old Matthew's fault," said Marty. "He called me a chicken."

"Marty, just because he called you a chicken doesn't make you one," said Mrs. Lane. "Was it worth all this to prove that you're not?"

"No, ma'am," said Marty looking down at his dirty tennis shoes.

"Get cleaned up and stay in your room until your daddy gets home," said Mrs. Lane. "Then we'll decide what to do with you."

Later Mr. and Mrs. Lane went to Marty's bedroom. "I'm not going to spank you again, Son,"

said Mr. Lane, "but you are grounded. For one week, no TV and no leaving the yard. I want you to understand that when you do wrong, you hurt yourself. And you not only hurt yourself, you hurt everybody who loves you." Those words stung worse than Mr. Rogers' spanking.

"Daddy, I'm really sorry," said Marty with a big lump in his throat.

"We forgive you, Marty," said Mr. Lane, giving him a hug. When Marty hugged his mother he thought he saw a tear in her eye.

Spring break did not go like Marty had planned. It was long and boring. On Thursday, Marty rode his bike around the yard some but that wasn't nearly as much fun as riding around the block with the wind in his face. He saw Matthew and Chip riding down the street on their bikes.

"I hope they don't see me," thought Marty, heading for the front door. But he was too late.

"Hey, Marty, have you heard the news?" called Chip. "There's going to be a bike race over on Ellis Drive."

"I bet I can beat you," said Matthew. "Come on, if you're not chicken."

"You can not," said Marty.

"We'll just see," retorted Matthew.

"I can't today," said Marty. "I'm grounded and I can't leave the yard."

"No one will ever know," said Matthew.

"No, I can't," insisted Marty.

"You're just chicken," said Chip.

"Am not," Marty said.

"Bawk, bawk, bawk, bawk,"

clucked Matthew. "Marty is a chicken."

"I am not," yelled Marty.

"Then why don't you come on and prove it. I bet I can beat you going down Ellis Drive with one hand tied behind my back," teased Matthew.

The neighborhood boys often raced down the hill on Ellis Drive, and no one had ever beaten Marty. He wanted nothing more than to defend his title as champion, but his father's words kept haunting him. "You really let us down, Marty."

Then he remembered the tears in his mother's eyes. It hurt to be teased and called a chicken but not nearly as much as knowing it would hurt his mother and daddy if he disobeyed. And Marty loved his parents too much to do that to them again.

"Marty, are you coming or not?" asked Chip. "I think you could beat Matthew, but if you don't come on right now, there's going to be a new champion. The other guys are all there."

"I can't," said Marty. "I'm afraid. . . ."

"I knew it," interrupted Matthew. "You're afraid I'll beat you."

"That's not what I was going to say," said Marty.


"Then what are you afraid of?" asked Chip. "You afraid your dad will spank you?"

"Marty's afraid he'll get a spanking," teased Matthew. "Wah! My daddy hurt me."

"I am not," said Marty. "I'm not afraid my daddy will hurt me; I'm afraid I'll hurt my daddy."

Chip and Matthew looked at each other. They didn't understand. "He's crazy," said Chip.

"Yeah, let's get out of here," said Matthew.

Marty sighed and sat down on the front porch steps. He would like to prove that he was still the champion of Ellis Drive bike races, but there would be plenty of time for that later—when this week was over. Besides he had proved enough for one day. 

The Memphis Belle


By Alton Loveless

While visiting Austria, Germany and Switzerland in 1989, I met a 74-year-old man whom I will call Bob to protect his identity. Many still have the hatreds of war and could be his enemies desiring revenge. "Bob" had gone to England to be interviewed for a movie to be made about the missions flown by his crew.

Bob was a belly gunner on the famous *Memphis Belle* superfortress during World War II and was present on 25 bombing missions against the Germans in France. Many missions took him to St. Nazaire, Lorient and nearby cities.

Since I have visited these cities, I told him that our denomination has churches in both cities and that both areas had to rebuild due to nearly complete destruction.

He said, "I have never gotten over the feeling of those many lives being lost from those fierce air raids. I was 26 years old, but age couldn't take away the fear, the hate or even the guilt when innocent people may have been taken."

I told him there were probably still hate, fear and guilt in both cities, but that our missionaries were seeking to replace it all with the love of Christ. I said, "We will do what we can to help where you couldn't." The gospel of Christ is more powerful and more lasting than the tons of bombs. 

ABOUT THE WRITER: Dr. Alton Loveless serves as executive secretary for the Ohio State Association of Free Will Baptists.

Directory Update

ARKANSAS

Rue Dell Smith to Phillips Chapel Church, Springdale from Straight Street Church, Norman, OK

MISSOURI

Kevin Jackson to Harmony Church, Parkville

Warren Hall to Bethel Church, El Dorado Springs

Ken Dodson to First Church, Monett

Dan Talbot to Unity Church, Lebanon

Bill Barton to Chapel of the Ozarks Church, Rocky Comfort

Gary Mitchner to Rock Chapel Church, Norwood

Jerome Brewington to First Church, Salem

Bill Eden to Sunnyview Church, Lebanon

Jerry Pilgrim to New Life Church, O'Fallon

Robert Burkepile to First Church, Houston

Bill Coffman to Overland Church, Overland

Melvin Moon to Hartville Church, Hartville

NORTH CAROLINA

Ted Reynolds to Parker's Chapel Church, Greenville from Swannanoa Church, Swannanoa

Don Worrell to Fairview Church, Marion from Union Rescue Mission, Nashville, TN

OKLAHOMA

James Puckett to Harrah Church, Harrah from Southern Oaks Church, Oklahoma City

Bob Thompson to Southern Oaks Church, Oklahoma City from First Church, Poteau

Orville Romine to First Church, Henryetta from Richmond Avenue Church, Allen

Casey Adams to Pilgrims in Faith Church, Kellyville

Larry Tuttle to Pretty Water Church, Sapulpa from Pilgrims in Faith Church, Kellyville

Colin Fitzsimmons to Grace Church, Oklahoma City

Steve Pilant to Hillcrest Church, Wagoner

John Bullard to First Church, Cushing from Harmony Church, Parkville, MO

TENNESSEE

Ken Haney to Grace Church, Johnson City

Cooperative Channel Contributions January 1990

RECEIPTS:

State	Design.	COOP (Undesignated)	Total	Jan. '89	Yr. To Date
Alabama	\$ 77.06	\$ 20.00	\$ 97.06	\$ 464.68	\$ 97.06
Arizona	.00	.00	.00	367.86	.00
Arkansas	.00	5,434.66	5,434.66	5,549.77	5,434.66
California	.00	1,344.62	1,344.62	1,192.08	1,344.62
Colorado	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Delaware	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Florida	154.96	3,207.78	3,362.74	604.57	3,362.74
Georgia	12,939.77	1,322.55	14,262.32	19,726.77	14,262.32
Idaho	.00	.00	.00	29.00	.00
Illinois	11,704.43	2,192.46	13,896.89	18,617.20	13,896.89
Indiana	.00	.00	.00	465.87	.00
Kansas	.00	109.96	109.96	100.86	109.96
Kentucky	.00	72.63	72.63	97.68	72.63
Maryland	.00	1,165.10	1,165.10	.00	1,165.10
Michigan	11,304.40	.00	11,304.40	5,497.00	11,304.40
Mississippi	42.07	596.08	638.15	262.55	638.15
Missouri	10,291.79	.00	10,291.79	7,332.42	10,291.79
New Mexico	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
North Carolina	1,849.61	1,023.00	2,872.61	1,585.37	2,872.61
Ohio	565.00	2,047.00	2,612.00	2,346.00	2,612.00
Oklahoma	38,979.71	8,909.58	47,889.29	38,246.03	47,889.29
South Carolina	10,533.95	82.48	10,616.43	.00	10,616.43
Tennessee	771.65	1,014.71	1,786.36	2,037.98	1,786.36
Texas	5,650.04	1,049.15	6,699.19	9,154.38	6,699.19
Virginia	233.60	.00	233.60	185.80	233.60
West Virginia	1,988.78	80.78	2,069.56	2,137.12	2,069.56
Canada	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Northwest Assoc.	.00	48.66	48.66	.00	48.66
Other (Computer)	.00	.05	.05	.00	.05
Totals	\$107,086.82	\$29,721.25	\$136,808.07	\$116,000.99	\$ 136,808.07

DISBURSEMENTS:

Executive Office	\$ 5,910.17	\$ 14,256.50	\$ 20,166.67	\$ 18,787.36	\$ 20,166.67
Foreign Missions	77,465.87	3,556.89	81,022.76	70,140.59	81,022.76
FWBBC	6,545.62	3,556.89	10,102.51	7,618.29	10,102.51
Home Missions	13,454.88	2,783.66	16,238.54	11,380.69	16,238.54
Retirement & Insurance	688.27	2,165.05	2,853.32	2,015.14	2,853.32
Master's Men	693.81	2,165.05	2,858.86	2,192.74	2,858.86
Commission for					
Theological Integrity	36.36	77.33	113.69	198.00	113.69
FWB Foundation	479.25	927.89	1,407.14	954.72	1,407.14
Historical Commission	32.23	77.33	109.56	73.54	183.10
Music Commission	25.68	77.33	103.01	.00	103.01
Radio & TV Commission	36.36	77.33	113.69	265.05	113.69
Hillsdale FWB College	1,390.02	.00	1,390.02	1,955.43	1,390.02
Other	328.30	.00	328.30	419.44	328.30
Totals	\$107,086.82	\$29,721.25	\$136,808.07	\$116,000.99	\$136,808.07

Check this issue for Pre-Registration
Form and Housing Form

TEEN Scene

Teens Equipped and Active in Ministry

TEAM is off and running! TEAM representatives across the country are developing programs, organizing youth rallies, printing newsletters, planning retreats and other activities for Free Will Baptist youth.

A new feature of the National Youth Conference focuses on the TEAM Congress Meeting. Certificates are awarded each year to a youth group and an individual whose accomplishments are outstanding. If you would like to nominate your youth group or someone you know, please send a letter stating why they should receive the TEAM award. Send your nominations to TEAM, P. O. Box 17306, Nashville, TN 37217.

Teens Pulling Together

Just over 100 teens braved cold winter breezes to gather at Camp Hope on December 28-30, 1989, for the annual Illinois Winter Youth Retreat.

The theme, "Teens Pulling Together," was brought to life by keynote speaker Toby Jenkins, pastor from Columbia, Mo. Other activities included worship and praise sessions led by Randy Fosse, Marion, Ill., and morning devotions and theme seminars led by Bruce Bennett, Joliet, Ill.

Although hands were cold, hearts were warmed as one young man accepted Christ as his Savior during the retreat.

The I-TEAM (Illinois Teens Equipped and Active in Ministry) Youth Congress met during the retreat. New officers were elected: Christy Cockrum, Sesser, I-TEAM president; Jeff Goodman, Walnut Hill, vice-president; Amber Spillers, Salem, secretary; Brian Ferguson, Waltonville, planning and program captain.

All churches present at the retreat had a representative in the Congress. Retreat Director Keith Fletcher said that 20 teens and sponsors were present for the meetings. Their plans include planning a youth rally and adopting a mission project. 🌐

Top Shelf



Thomas Marberry



Edwin S. Gaustad, *Faith of Our Fathers* (San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1987, 196 pp., hardback, \$15.95)

Dr. Gaustad, a professor at the University of California, Riverside, is a leading expert on the history of Christianity in the United States. In this book he examines the most important religious developments taking place in our country between 1776 and 1826.

This 50-year period was a time of tremendous change and development for the churches and religious organizations of this country. Prior to the Revolution there was little religious liberty. In most of the colonies a state church was established by law and dissenters were sometimes persecuted.

Rhode Island and Pennsylvania were the only two colonies to provide virtually complete religious liberty by law.

There was also, however, a long tradition of religious dissent in colonial history. Baptists, Methodists and Quakers claimed the right to preach, teach and found churches. They often suffered for their faith.

By 1826 the situation had changed radically, since we had won our independence, adopted a new constitution and elected several presidents. Religious freedom was the norm in every state. Throughout the country a multitude of denominations were working freely without support or control

from the central government or the various state governments.

Dr. Gaustad does an interesting and insightful analysis of the tremendous changes which took place during this period. He also discusses the various viewpoints on religion and religious liberty expressed by Adams, Franklin, Washington, Madison and Jefferson. Contrary to popular legend, none of these five men had much interest in religion. Some of them were, in fact, deists.

They were, however, very concerned to free men and women from the tyranny which state churches had long imposed. In the long run their emphasis on religious freedom was best both for the churches and for the country. They were not always popular for their views. In their own time, many people looked on them as being anti-religious and anti-Christian.

This is a thought-provoking book about a crucial time in our nation's religious history. I recommend it. 🌐



Green Tree Bible Study

Robert E. Picirilli

Luke 10:30-37

Parable of the Good Samaritan

One of Luke's unique features (as compared to Matthew or Mark) is that he recorded several of Jesus' parables that are not found elsewhere. One of these is the one we call, "The Good Samaritan." Like all parables, it has one main point. Parables are not allegories: the details flesh out the dramatic story and should not be squeezed for meaning.

That main point is usually clearer when we pay attention to the setting. Here the situation was a conversation between Jesus and a "lawyer" (v. 25). That word (Greek *namikos*) meant a "scholar" in the rabbinic-scribal tradition, devoted to the study and teaching of the Mosaic law and the formal traditions that had been attached to it.

This lawyer approached Jesus to "tempt" Him—*test* Him, asking how to become heir to eternal life. Jesus, knowing his hidden motive, turned the question back to him, as if to say: "You are the scholar in the law: what do you find there?" In good rabbinic form he answered, citing what he understood to be the two great principles of the law: (1) Love God with your whole being. (2) Love your neighbor as yourself.

He was a well-read interpreter of Moses. Jesus himself, on one occasion, summarized the Mosaic law in the same way; see Matthew 22:35-40 (Mark 12:28-34). Indeed, this is precisely what Moses said; see Deuteronomy 6:5 for the first and Leviticus 19:18 for the second.

As Jesus put it, "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." So Jesus commended the scholar: "You have not dodged but cut straight to the truth. Make this your continuing practice and you will have the life you seek."

Did the lawyer realize he was being outmaneuvered? He pressed on, needing to "justify" himself: "And just who is my neighbor?" The parable was Jesus' answer. And at the end He confronted him with the one main point we seek: "Which of these was neighbor to the man in need?"

The scholar saw the point clearly: "The one who acted in mercy with him."


That the parable has one main point doesn't mean that the details aren't interesting, realistic or enlightening. The road from Jerusalem down to Jericho (17 miles, dropping 3,300 feet) was notorious for danger from brigands. And priests and other members of the Levitical family (like anyone else) would have to travel it at times. (They might have been leaving Jerusalem after serving their turns in temple activities, for example.) Were they afraid to stop? Did they assume the injured man was already dead?

Someone says you can see three different attitudes in the story: the thieves who took what they wanted, the priest and Levite who kept what was theirs, and the Samaritan who shared what he had. No doubt that's

true enough, even if it wasn't Jesus' point. Or—in a similar way—that the priest and Levite only *saw* the man's need while the Samaritan *saw, felt* and *acted*.

But none of that changes the main point: What does it mean to love one's "neighbor" as oneself? We don't have to find some spiritual parallel or point for the thieves, the priest and the Levite, the inn-keeper, the jackass, the oil and wine. What we can take note of is the nature of the Samaritan's action. That complements the main point.

Samaritans, regarded contemptuously as half-breeds by the Jews, were their bitter enemies. The Jews said it was better to eat with dogs than with Samaritans. They crossed Jordan and went miles out of their way to avoid Samaria on their way back and forth between Galilee and Judea. He had to lay aside his hatred to help the man. He had to sacrifice time, convenience and money.

That's always involved in love for another: sacrificing some selfish consideration to seek another's well-being. And that's what the main point is: loving one's neighbor as oneself means laying aside the proud question, Who is my neighbor? and showing mercy to anyone in need. When Jesus said, "Do likewise," He said, "Be doing likewise." The *habit* of our lives should be to respond in compassion to any we meet who are in need. In one way or another, everyone we meet is in need. 



THE SECRETARY SPEAKS
By Melvin Worthington

God's Gospel



Easter focuses on the resurrection of Jesus Christ, a time when people's minds turn to the truth that the Lord is risen. Resurrection permeates the preaching of the Apostles with entire chapters in the New Testament devoted to this grand truth.

The resurrection reality provides hope for the Christian. It assures the believer of the presence and power of Christ to meet daily needs. God's gospel includes the resurrection. In fact, if there had been no resurrection there would be no gospel to preach and teach.

The Definition

Gospel means good news or good tidings. It refers to the way of salvation by the Lord Jesus Christ. The gospel includes the good news about the coming of the Messiah, his life, sufferings, death and resurrection.

Paul details the gospel in I Corinthians 15:3-4. He reminds his readers that he received the gospel from God. The resurrection gospel claims our attention during the Easter celebration. Every Sunday should call our attention to the gospel of God—the good news about His grand, glorious and great salvation.

The Design

The gospel reveals the plight of human beings. Christ died for our sins. He who knew no sin became sin for us. The godly died for the ungodly, the righteous for the unrighteous. The correct view of the gospel

includes the right view of man, in desperate need of salvation.

Paul believed the gospel provided all that mankind needed to be in right relationship with God. The gospel in its design reveals the nature and need of the human race. Without the gospel there would be no hope—no salvation. The gospel reveals the provision God has made for fallen humanity. Jesus Christ became sin for us and died in our place on the cross. He became our substitute, suffered for our sins and purchased for us eternal redemption.

The gospel reveals the purpose of Christ's death. Jesus Christ did not die for His sin but for the sins of man. The book of Genesis predicts His death in 3:15 while Isaiah 53 further details the death of Christ. Paul declares, "For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6).

The gospel reveals the power of Christ. Christ rose from the dead on the third day. The truth of the resur-

rection proved to be the theme and thrust of New Testament preaching and writing. Christ is alive. The same power that raised Him from the dead is available for every Christian.

The gospel reveals the precepts of God. It all happened according to the divine Word of God. God's gospel did not originate in the mind of the physician, psychologist or philosopher. It originated in the mind of God and was revealed in the scriptures.

The Duty

Our first duty is to have a clear grasp of this gospel. In order to share the gospel with others, we must experience the transforming power of the gospel. We must believe it and firmly grasp it in our heads, hearts and habits.

The second duty we have is to give this gospel away. Christ gave the Church a commission to preach and teach the gospel to all nations. This is the agenda for the Church. It has not changed. Our job is to give the gospel, not our philosophies. Human reformation must not be substituted for bold regeneration.

The third duty we have is to guard the gospel. The gospel must remain the gospel. Human theories, teachings, truths must not be mixed with the gospel lest the gospel be diluted and thus rendered useless. The power of the gospel is enough. There can be no substitute for the gospel.

On Easter Sunday let's step forth in the splendor of God's gospel. 🌐

The Secretary's Schedule

April 5	Central Association McMinnville, TN
April 6	Pleasant View Christian School Pleasant View, TN
April 8-13	Central FWB Church Huntington, WV
April 17	FWB Foundation Board Meeting
April 20-21	New Mexico State Assoc.
April 22-26	Cavanaugh FWB Church Fort Smith, AR

CONTACT

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