

THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM

ORGAN OF THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
AND OF THE CO-OPERATIVE GENERAL ASSOCIATION—FOR FREE WILL BAPTIST EVERYWHERE

Vol. 4. No. 5.

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MISSIONS

By the Editor

As announced in the April number of the Gem, this is to be a "Mission Number." At this writing, April 18th, only a few "Mission" articles have been received, but we feel that others will be received before we must print and mail out the paper.

Perhaps we think too little about missions, hardly realizing that every Christian has a mission of some kind to carry out. But it is not so much individual missions that we have in mind for this issue, but mission organizations organized and maintained to help carry out the Master's purpose with us who have enlisted in His service. Sometimes it appears that some people acknowledge certain duties toward God, but seem not to realize that they have something to do for their fellowman. Again as we look upon the scene, especially upon the church, and it seems that only a few are active, while the many seem to have no vision, and are idle. We have noticed too, that some churches show more life and activity than others; and we find that the good things accomplished by a church or other organized body of Christians is in proportion to the number of live, active members it has. I believe that every professed Christian has some concern about the success of the cause of Christ and the welfare of his or her church, but sometimes I see such evident indifference that the poet's question is brought to my mind:

"Sits there a man so dead,
Who ne'er to himself hath said,
This is my own, my native land,
When returning from some foreign
strand?"

A mission is a business or duty to which one has been called or sent; then a call to preach the way of life as it is in Christ Jesus is a mission. Again a mission is an organization for doing religious and charitable work, for the spread of the Gospel, evangelism, and to minister, unto

those who need help. Perhaps all Christians have responded to the call to carry out a certain mission or missions as individuals, but all have not joined themselves with a mission organization, that they might in a greater way, help the church to fulfill her mission.

Man's first duty is unto God: his second duty is unto his fellowman; and he cannot be blessed in the first duty when he has failed to perform the second. All Christians are children of the Father in Heaven: they love the Father and the Father loves them; therefore the love of God is in their hearts and they love one another: "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren." It is the love of God in our hearts that gives us the impulse to serve God and praise Him, and to minister unto our fellowman. Those who obey the impulse are blessed; but those who do not obey remain idle, and are restless and unhappy. It is the active ones that keep the church from dying: they contribute to its support, subscribe for their church paper, attend the appointed services of their church, and minister to those who need their help. Brother, sister, you see what your church is with a few loyal, active supporters, what would it be if all the rest of the membership could be awakened and enlisted to do the things that need to be done?

I know of no better way to awaken and revive our half-dead churches than to organize "Mission Circles" and enlist the idle members for active service. Some think that only the women and girls should be members of the mission, but the men and boys should also belong and do their part—one purpose of the mission is to give every one something to do. Any institution, if it prospers, needs every member to help to do its work. Home Mission work among the F. W. Baptist is not something new, at least not everywhere. Some years ago the only mission organization I knew anything about was at Drumright, Okla.

Now Oklahoma and Missouri both have State organizations, with state officers, and I think Texas and Ark. have both organized mission work, then there is a national organization.

It is indeed interesting to know what the Home Mission work means to the churches where it is organized and maintained. An active mission circle in a church means a live church, with the poor looked after, the needy have their needs supplied, the sick are visited and ministered to, and many are saved from sin through the mission workers, and there are many other ways in which the mission proves a great blessing.

Drumright, Cushing, Tulsa, and many other Oklahoma churches have their active mission circles and are prospering in the Lord's work. Flat River, Desloge and other churches in the Lead Belt in Southeast Missouri have their active mission circles, and are doing a wonderful work. Then other churches over the state have organized mission circles. Our Macedonia church, where wife and I hold membership, has a mission circle. Last Saturday night they gave us a surprise. The sisters had made a beautiful quilt, then they solicited ten cents each from about 120 people and listed their names. The quilt and the list of names they presented to the editor and his wife, while they used the money in the support of the church. We were surprised, but we appreciated it more than we can tell. What we value most is the love and the spirit in which it was given.

In every church there are idle ones who are idle because they have not found a place of service. They are surely backsliding and some, perhaps, have slid clear back to the ways of the world. Why not organize a mission circle and put these idle ones to work? It will mean much to those enlisted, and it will bring much to those they minister to, and will probably mean salvation to many. If some suffer and are lost because neglected, who must answer for it?

A TRIBUTE

By Miss Linnie McCoy

Free Will Baptist—that's my church! I'm proud of it. There I place my interest, give of my time, and receive spiritual inspiration. My church ministers to my spiritual comfort and points the way to higher goals in life. I love my church. No one shall rob me of the positive belief I hold for my church. People may come and go, members may criticize and withdraw, finances may be near the rocks, opportunities may beckon more largely elsewhere, but I care not. That is my church. It is the agency that means more to me than anything else. It is the church of my fathers. I trust it will be the church of my children's children. It is the institution that embodies all of men's heroic strivings throughout the year. I shall add my bit and trust that it may pass on its golden tradition slightly enriched.

That's my church! There I find my friends. They may not be of earth's fashionable society, but they radiate the joy of Christ-like discipleship. I see through them a purpose for my life. I trust they see through me the working of the Master.

That's my church for better or for worse. It permits me to serve where in I am capable. Why waste my time in wishing for a larger and more effective place to serve mankind. In the presence of Jesus all this petty striving for position becomes funny. If I can urge a young man to keep his ideals, or inspire the young woman who has been wondering if it is worthwhile to keep up the eternal struggle for purity, or reveal God to a friendless soul groping blindly in the dark—then am I well repaid.

I care not whether my church is a sod shanty on the plains, or a majestic cathedral in a great city; it's my church and I love it. No one shall separate me from it. Somewhere in my church there is a place for me. I'll fill it and be happy in the service of my Master.

Phillipsburg, Missouri, R2.

A MISSION CIRCLE IN EVERY CHURCH

I notice in the last issue of the Gem that the May issue is to be devoted largely to the Home Mission work. If there is one of the auxiliary works of the church that I love, it is the Home Mission work.

Every one of our churches needs a mission organization: they serve a

purpose in the church that nothing else can serve. Every woman and girl in the church should belong to the Mission Circle, as it is usually carried on among the women folks. If I were in your place, a lady in the church and did not belong to the mission circle, I would join at once. It is your duty, and not only that, but it is your grand privilege. It is such a wonderful channel through which to serve humanity, and that is one of the principal ways we serve God, by serving man.

I know of so many churches that I am made to wonder what would become of them if it was not for the untiring efforts of the mission workers. I hope to see the time when we can have a perfect State organization of the mission work. We already have our State mission officers, and they are good ones too, but I hope to see the organization reach the place of stronger influence and greater strength all over the state.

I feel that the mission circles of the respective churches should not feel that they are independent bodies, altogether separate from the church, because I like to think of the church being first and supreme and the mission circles and all other phases of the church as auxiliary, subjective organizations. The church must be considered as the ruling power in all our denominational work.

Every pastor should see that there is a mission work in his or her church, whether the church is rural or urban, for a mission work can be of service either in the city or in the country. I would like to see the mission work more unified all over the state and the workers come to a better knowledge and understanding of each other.

My prayer is that God will wonderfully bless the mission work and the workers, but it will be well for us to remember that God helps them who help themselves.

—Winford Davis.

A Walk With God

By E. O. Callen

"Noah walked with God" (Gen. 6:9).

When the people of the earth became so wicked, it repented God, and He said He would destroy the people with a flood. But Noah found favor with God, because he was righteous, and God told him to make an ark; and Noah moved at God's command and began building the ark; and warning the people. The people made fun of

Noah and persecuted him. Nevertheless he went right on and finished the ark; and in God's own time Noah, his wife, his three sons and their wives, and the animals were all safe in the ark.

The only way for us to finish the work God gives us to do is to walk with God. When we walk contrary to His will, then it is His plan and purpose in our lives to hinder to a great extent. We fail when we fail to walk and talk with God.

The Bible tells us that Enoch walked with God three hundred years, and pleased God. No doubt he had to climb many a mountain and go thru many a dark, lonesome valley; yet he was pleased to walk with God. God's word was Enoch's pathway; and they arrived at a perfect understanding. This walk was not the experience of one day, but it continued for three hundred years. We do not have so many long years as Enoch had; surely we should walk the few we are spared to live with the true and living God.

God said to Abraham, "I am the Almighty God, walk thou before me and be thou perfect." When God asked Abraham to take his son Isaac and walk up unto mount Moriah and offer him for a burnt offering, it must have been a sad moment for Abraham. But he was faithful, and arose early, and had his walk with God. How could he? Because God was first with Abraham. Abraham walked away from Sodom, because he was walking with God. When God wanted to make a nation, He chose Abraham. Why did God favor him so highly? Simply because he would walk with God. God says, "I honor him who honors me." God's love was so great for Abraham that He showed him many of His plans because he was close enough to God, that God could speak to him.

We find in Amos 3:3, "How can two walk together, except they be agreed?" No matter how great our trials, nor how dark the way, God has promised to walk with us and be our strength and light. If we will follow where God leads, He will see that we have a safe landing.

The Bible tells that God and His word agree; we must be agreed with the Word to have a clear walk with God. God sees far down into the ages; we see only today. God sees tomorrow; then it is necessary that we walk alone with God: believe and obey His Word.

I ask an interest in your prayers, that I may have a closer walk with God.

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Organ of
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Your time is out if a pencil mark appears here 

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THE EDITOR'S COLUMN

Nature and the Bible

Someone has said: "There are two Bibles—Nature and the Scriptures. Nature is just as truly God's Word as is the Bible. In both God reveals Himself, speaking to us in a Bible of two parts or volumes." Whether this is altogether true or not, both Nature and the Bible come from God: not two Gods, one of Nature and one of the Scriptures, but one God who speaks to us in His Works as well as in His Words, in Nature and in Scripture.

Perhaps it might be well to consider the meaning of "Word." In the first chapter of St. John, verse 1, we read "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Verse 14, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us." It is plain that "Word" here means Christ the Son of God, the living Word of God. The New Testament was translated from the Greek, and the term translated Word means a thought, or concept, also the expression or utterance of that thought. Back of every word there is a thought (idea), whether that word is spoken by God or man. Likewise all things that were created were first in the mind of God as a thought (idea). When we were in school we learned that a word is the sign of an idea (thought), and that a sentence is a group of words expressing a complete thought. Then Christ is the living Word, in whom is embodied the collective thought and purpose of God for mankind. The Bible is the written Word of God, revealed to the inspired writers as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. Nature is the created Word (Works) of God, through which invisible, eternal things are understood—"For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made" (Rom. 1:20). God, who is the Father of our Lord and Savior, is Author of the Bible, and is the Creator of the visible, material things which we call Nature; so they must all be true, and must be in agreement, for God is true and cannot lie.

The interpretation of the Bible is called Theology; the interpretation of Nature is called Science. What Nature says to man is Science: what God says to man is Revelation. There can be no conflict between true Theology and true Science, but there is disagreement and a clash between what is called Science and Theology, because of faulty or imperfect interpretation. Sometimes the Bible is interpreted wrong, but more often the fault is with them that profess to interpret Nature. Men without God, searching for the message Nature has for man, adopt some man-made theory or hypothesis and pretend to interpret Nature; and generally what they profess to add to Science is only a guess. Their guess often disagrees with the Bible, so they reject the Bible. No finding of scientific men has any right to be called Science until it has been proved to be true, then it will agree with the Bible. When scientists claim a thing to be true, and it doesn't agree with the Bible, one of two things is wrong, the Bible has been misinterpreted or misconstrued, or the claim of Science is false.

You may say, "Why worry about what Science teaches?" I look upon the scene with alarm; so much that is based upon false theories, and is contrary to the Gospel, is being taught and preached as the Gospel. I am not romping on Science that is Science, for Science has accomplished many wonderful things, and has brought many rich blessings to mankind, and is a major factor in world progress and

(Continued on page 15)

BLUE EYE, MISSOURI, April 13th.
Dear Gem Family:

It has been quite a while since I have written to the paper, but I'm thankful that I can say that I'm still on the Lord's side.

I was just thinking of a story I read some time ago. It runs something like this:

"Cuff was a negro slave who lived in the South, before the War. He was a joyful Christian and a faithful servant. His master, however, was in need of money, and one day a young planter, who was an infidel, came to buy Cuff. The price was agreed upon and the Christian slave was sold to the infidel. But in parting with him the master said, 'You will find Cuff a good worker and you can trust him; he will suit you in every respect but one.'

"And what is that?" said the infidel.

"He will pray, and you can't break him of it, but that is his only fault."

"I'll soon whip that out of him," remarked the infidel.

The master told him it would be best not to try to whip him for praying, for it wouldn't do any good, for he would pray just the same. He would rather die than to give it up.

Cuff proved faithful to his new master, as he had to the old one. But one day the infidel found out that Cuff had been praying, and calling on him said, "Cuff you must not pray around here, we won't have any of that nonsense around here."

Cuff replied, "O Massa, I loves to pray to Jesus, and when I pray, I loves you and Missus all the more, and can work all the harder for you."

But he was forbidden to pray any more under the penalty of a severe flogging. That evening, when the day's work was done, he talked to his God, like Daniel of old, as he had aforetime. Next morning he was summoned to appear before his master, who demanded of him why he had disobeyed him. "O Massa, I has to pray. I can't live without it," said Cuff. At this the master flew into a terrible rage and ordered Cuff to be tied to the whipping post, and his shirt removed. He then applied the rawhide with all the force he possessed, until his young wife ran out with tears in her eyes, begging him to stop. He beat poor Cuff until his strength was exhausted, then he ordered the bleeding back to be washed in salt water, and sent him on to work. He went away singing in a groaning voice.

"My suffering time will soon be o'er,
When I shall sigh and weep no more."

Cuff worked hard all day, although in pain, from the severe whipping he had received from his master. Meanwhile God was working with the master. He saw his wickedness and cruelty to that poor soul, and by night he was in great distress of mind. He went to bed, but could not sleep, such was his agony. At midnight he awoke his wife and told her he was dying.

"Shall I call in a doctor?" she said.

"No, no, I don't want a doctor—is there any one on the plantation that can pray for me? I'm afraid I'm going to hell."

"I don't know of any one," said his wife, "except the slave you punished this morning."

"Do you think he would pray for me?" he anxiously asked.

"Yes, I think he would," she replied.

"Send for him quickly."

On going after Cuff they found him on his knees in prayer, and when called he supposed it was to be punished again. On being taken to his master's room he found him writhing in agony. The man, groaning said, "O Cuff, can you pray for me?"

"Yes, bres de Lord, I'se been prayin' for you all night," and at this dropped to his knees and, as Jacob of old, wrestled in prayer, and before the break of day he had witnessed the conversion of both his master and his mistress.

The master set Cuff free, he never had to work another day on the plantation. The master and Cuff went out to preach the Gospel. This is what the love of God will do for a person.

Well, guess I have taken up too much space, but I ask an interest in your prayers, that I might grow stronger in the Lord's work.

—Mac Davis.

TULSA, OKLAHOMA

Dear Gem Family: Guess you will get tired of my articles, but we were urged by our good editor to write, so I wish to say to you, as summer is near, and our very best prospective time for revivals, let's do our best.

I wish to announce a revival at Earlsboro, Oklahoma, beginning the fifth Sunday in May. Bro. Dalton, a Professor of Music, will be with me in the revival. I am going to ask every loyal Free Will Baptist to pray for a great victory. United we stand: divided we fall. May I say to you, Do not forget this revival. I have been very busy here in Tulsa. I want to say for the Tulsa church, that they have stood by their pastor. Taking

care of this church is like being a doctor, I never know what hour of the night I may be called on to go to some one who is sick. Have had two funerals the past week, and many others are sick. Perhaps I shouldn't take time to write this letter, but I am not boasting when I say this, and if you will come and stay with me one week, and follow me up, you will find out for yourself. This is the biggest job I ever had, but I enjoy it.

So I say the Tulsa church has taken care of its pastor—they appreciate the service rendered. I have been with this church three years in July. My first year we gained 75 new members, the second year 107 members, and when this year closes it will be a good average. Our church is still growing. It, with others, has its troubles and opposition, but the "gates of hell," so says our Savior, "shall not prevail against it."

I stand four square on the Bible, fight the devil with both hands and feet, and no matter how good a man or friend I may have, or how much he may pay me, if he sins, he gets a blow, but I do it with a gospel gun. I believe in a holy life. Some say we can't live without sin, but if that is so you just as well go to the devil where you belong, for God's word says, "He that committeth sin is of the devil" (1 John 3:8).

Now this is just the way I preach. Paul says, "Preach the word," but some preachers are so afraid they will hurt someone's feelings. I had a man to walk up into the pulpit and offer to whip me once. Two years later I was called to his home, and he apologized and was gloriously saved. So if I can't make someone mad, glad, or make them shout, I feel that my service has been a failure.

May God bless our good editor who has to transcribe all we write. He may not have room for all this letter, but he can continue part in another issue.

Your brother in Christ,

Eld. Melvin Bingham,
1023 North St. Louis St., Tulsa, Okla.

Fort Smith, Arkansas

Dear Gem Readers:

As it has been several weeks since I may, as I wish to give a brief report I would drop in for a little while, if I may, as I wish to give a brief report of our church and our work here.

You know that when we are working for the Lord, we are always so happy over it that we just want every

body to know about it, and I feel that our blessings are so great since we organized our church in November, that we cannot praise God enough. We purchased the building and lot in March, located at 4001 Armour Street, Ft. Smith, Ark. It is most gratifying to know that we now have a permanent place to worship. We also elected Rev. E. W. Simpkins as moderator for three years, and feel very fortunate indeed that we have such a man of God as shepherd of our flock.

We had at the ending of the first quarter, March 27th, an enrollment of eighty-two in our Sunday school, with an average attendance of fifty-one. The first Sunday in this month (April), we were most happily surprised by Eld. T. H. Dixon of Checotah, Okla. He spent the week, giving each night a most wonderful and instructive message. On Thursday night while Bro. Dixon was here Bro. W. F. McGee our State Secretary and Bro. J. J. West and son of Russellville, Ark. paid us a visit, and Bro. McGee gave us a wonderful message of instructions, which we enjoyed very much. We feel very much honored to have such men of God as these four to visit with us in our church and in our homes, and we are looking forward with great pleasure to having them with us again in the near future. Bro. McGee promised that, if the Lord wills, he will be with us the 4th Saturday night and Sunday of April, and we are looking forward to his coming with great pleasure.

The fifth Sunday meeting of our association will meet with us the fifth Sunday in May. We are sure expecting showers of blessings at that time, and hope to meet many brothers and sisters to worship with us here.

We had a most wonderful service Sunday morning, April 10th, and had two conversions. The message was taken from the fifth chapter of Matt. and was so lovingly given by our pastor. Oh, it is so great to see our young people born into the kingdom of God.

Will close by asking the prayers of our brothers and sisters in Christ, that we may continue to be blessed in the future as we have in the past, and that we may be able to reach out still further for lost souls and bring them into the fold.

God bless our little Gem and family, is the prayer of a subscriber and sister Mrs. M. H. Crandell, Sec.-Treas. of First F. W. B. S. S. of Ft. Smith, Ark.

St. Louis, Missouri, April 13, 1932
Dear Gem Family:

Sunday, April 3rd, was a splendid day for the First Free Will Baptist church at 1301 Park Ave. Our pastor Elder Henry Buchanan baptized 15 happy candidates in the Merimac river. There were more than 200 people at the baptizing.

Elder T. C. Ferguson has just closed a splendid meeting of several days, in which there was one or more conversions at every service while he was with us, except two. Bro. Ferguson is a good safe preacher. We have several to baptize in the near future. Our church has been making splendid headway, against strong opposition.

The St. Francois quarterly meeting will meet with us April 28th. We are expecting to ordain two brethren to the Gospel ministry at that time.

Our Sunday school is growing in numbers and efficiency right along.

Our Young People's Union is doing good work, and growing slowly.

Our Ladies' Aid and Home Mission workers are doing fine work. I am expecting to organize another mission here in the near future. We can just as well have several churches here as one. I believe that St. Louis is our most promising field at this time.

Bro. Charles Miller, one of our splendid young preachers is summering at Fredericktown. We are afraid we will have to give him up. He was my assistant pastor when I was pastor of our St. Louis church, and followed me as pastor when I resigned to go into evangelistic work. Bro. Charlie is a good dependable preacher.

Praying God's blessings to rest upon all, I am

Yours in the Master's cause,
Eld. W. C. Hill, 2626 Lafayette Ave.

Fort Smith, Ark., April 12, 1932.

To the F. W. B. Gem. Greetings:

Evangelist, Thomas H. Dixon, having been a welcome visitor at our church, from Sunday, April 3rd, until Friday night, April 8th, we are glad for the fine revival meeting he held at our church, the First Free Will Baptist church of Ft. Smith, located at 4001 Armour Avenue. The members as well as our much loved moderator, Elder E. W. Simpkins, enjoyed a real feast of the Gospel.

I am glad to report that our church membership, though it is small in number, is growing and have a congregation which we may well be proud of.

Our moderator is as fine a minister as can be found in any church in this state, regardless of denomination, a man who can stand in the pulpit and

preach the Gospel in its fullness and keep his pulpit clean, so that the light of the word preached there from will reflect credit upon him and his church.

A baptismal service was held on Sunday afternoon, when four were baptized.

At the morning service April 10th, there was a real pouring out of the Spirit, with three conversions.

We are very proud of our Sunday school. In the first quarter our membership was increased 100%, with an average attendance of fifty-one.

The fifth Sunday conference will meet with us on May 27th, at which time we are looking for a fine meeting and a good delegation from this territory.

Wishing the Gem much success in its mission of bringing comfort and encouragement to many homes, I am,

Your brother in Christ,
Ray Purdom, S. S. Superintendent.

Report of Carterville Meeting

On Sunday night, March 20th, we staged a battle against old Satan at Carterville, Mo., and closed April 12th.

God's willingness to save souls was shown here, as at other places, and nineteen came through, giving God all the glory and praise.

Satan seemed determined to hold back the victory, but failed. "The effectual, fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much," and the promise is unto the faithful. So Satan finally yielded, as he always must when we come to God with clean hands and a pure heart, and with a faith that will take no denial.

Nineteen were saved, ten united with the church, and nine were baptized. We are thankful for the bright prospects of the church at Carterville, for we have some Spirit-filled people there that we feel sure will do all in their power to keep things going for the Lord.

They also have a fine F. W. Baptist league in the church, with about twenty Senior members, most of whom are Christians and anxious to do all they can for the salvation of lost souls. We helped to organize a Junior league with fourteen members.

Always remember, when you go to Carterville, that you will find a bunch of people with hearts full of kindness for man and the love of God.

We are expecting this church to be represented at our next Indian Creek Association with delegates and a petitionary letter, asking for membership.

Yours in His service,
Elders Noel Turner - Cecil Campbell

Picher, Oklahoma

Dear Editor and Gem Family:

It is a great pleasure to read the many good reports in our Gem paper. How it thrills our poor heart to hear of the good work that is being done in Southeast Missouri, in and around Flat River and Allsberry Chapel. We used to live at Farmington, and my membership was at Flat River church. When Bro. Flanery was pastor of the church, I would preach sometimes, there and at Allsberry Chapel, and at Doe Run; that was in the days of Uncles Johnny and Jerry Wood, and Bro. Lincoln, Bro. Buckner and many others, many of whom have already gone to Heaven.

We people here in Northeast Okla. have not been doing very much since this depression has crippled our church. Most all our male members worked in the mines. The mines closed down and our men have gone to other parts of the country. We have a revival on at present and we are looking for and praying for a great victory. Pray for us, that we may see better days.

We have passed our three score years and ten by four years, but still hale and active, and growing in grace.

"And when around the great white throne,

In holy songs in light and peace:
Eternal praises we will sing,

And tell the story, saved by grace."

Elder T. E. L. Curry.

HARTVILLE, MISSOURI

(Pleasant Hill Church)

Dear Gem Readers: As a testimony for the Lord I will write a few lines for our paper. I love the Lord, and He knows my heart. The desire of my heart is to please the Lord.

I thank God for the wonderful rain He has sent.

I love the Lord and expect to live for Him every day while I'm here on earth. I sometimes fail, but I try to get my eyes off myself, and on my blessed Lord. Dear readers, if our intentions are right, He will help us to be overcomers. I want to live right each day while I'm here on earth, so I will be ready when the Lord calls me home. I am glad that I turned to the Lord while young, for I can't afford to idle away any time in sin.

Dear readers, let us not depend on our pastor to do it all, but realize that we must help.

May the Lord bless you all.

Faye Savage.

NEW EDINBURG, ARK., April 12th.

Dear Editor and Gem Readers: I'm very glad indeed to write again, as it has been some time since I wrote. I want to say a few words in Jesus' name this morning. There are many things I want to thank God for, but I will mention only a few of them.

First I thank God that my soul has been redeemed, washed and made white in the blood of the Lamb. He gave me a heart of flesh, full of love, and put a new song in my mouth. This surely ought to be the testimony of every truly converted Christian.

Second, I thank God for recovering my health to an extent, which I so much enjoy. As every one knows, who has ill health, that good health means so much.

Third, I thank God for the Gem paper, for it contains so much spiritual food for the soul, and, having just read the last issue of the Gem, I feel fed up.

I can't understand why so many who profess to know Jesus in the free pardon of their sins, can take daily newspapers, but just can't take a church paper. I'm afraid such folks will be like the five foolish virgins when Jesus, in His mighty power, shall declare that time shall be no more. Oh, God, help such to wake up and center their minds on heaven and divine things, and off the perishable things of this world.

For spiritual food is as necessary for strengthening the soul as daily temporal food is for strengthening our bodies. And I find that daily prayer is wonderful in our daily tasks.

It is not because I write so well, or word my letter so well, that I write to the Gem, but because I want every one that reads the Gem to know that I am a child of God; and my desire and prayer is to grow stronger in the grace of our blessed Lord, that I may be able to help others.

Pray for me, that I may always live humbly, and say, "Lord, thy will be done."

A sister in Christ,

Mrs. Iva Mae McClehan.

ASH GROVE, MISSOURI, April 14th.

For some time many of my friends have been wanting me to publish a book of my life, but I haven't the time to do it now, and the cost would be too great, so instead of that I will write a short account of my work for God and the salvation of souls for publication in the Gem.

I took the full course of Bible study in the Moody Bible School in Chicago, and have also been a student in several other Bible schools, have taught some in Bible schools, and have preached the Gospel of Jesus Christ and held meetings in most of the states of the U. S. A., and in Canada, and in old Mexico. I have spent over thirty-five years in the Lord's work, most of the time in evangelistic work. I have baptized over three thousand people, ranging in age from eight to past 84 years of age. I, with the help of others, have organized about seventy churches, and was the means, with the help of others, of organizing the Central Western Missouri and South eastern Kansas Association, and, with the help of others, organized most of the churches in this association. I worked and traveled and agitated for several years before, by the help of others, we could get the Missouri State Association organized. It was organized at Hannon, Mo. I do not know how many thousands have professed faith in Christ through my ministry, but about one hundred men and women who were converted in my meetings are now preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as pastors, evangelists, foreign or home missionaries, or Sunday school missionaries.

I have spent the best part of my life, and the most of my life in God's service for the salvation of souls and the upbuilding of God's kingdom. I have given my best and my all to the work of the Lord, and have gone through all kinds of weather, and sometimes without clothing sufficient to keep me warm. I have often gone hungry and slept in R. R. depots, in school houses, church houses, and out of doors, because I didn't have the money to pay for a bed, or buy something to eat.

I would get behind on finance, then I would go to work with my hands till I could earn some money, then go back to preaching again. The sacrifice has been great, but God has wonderfully blessed me in it; and I am glad I did it; my reward is in heaven. God has, I believe, appreciated my work, but I feel that some of the people and churches that I have labored with and done so much for, have not appreciated my work of sacrifices for them. We owe a debt of thanks to each other, and I do thank God from the depths of my heart for those who have stood so nobly by me in the work of the Lord; and I hold no hard feelings toward the ones who have opposed me, and hindered me in

the work. I wish them well, and I pray for them.

Many of our old preachers are having to quit the active ministry on account of the lack of finance and other hindrances, and I guess that I am one of them. I do not aim to entirely quit the work of my dear Lord Jesus, but expect that my work in the future will be largely local. There is a limit to sacrifice, and some time a stopping place will be found, but I hope and pray that younger men and women will take up the work where we older ones must give it up.

I am not writing this in any sense to boast or for self praise, God forbid that I should do anything like that. This short sketch of my life is written by request of many of my friends.

May the Lord wonderfully bless the editor and his good wife and the entire Gem family.

I am planning to go north soon for the summer. I have just arrived here from holding a big revival meeting with the Free Will Baptist in the city of St. Louis, Mo. Many souls were saved, many of them heads of families. I saw their pastor, while I was in this meeting, baptize fifteen happy converts in the river, and many more are awaiting baptism. Elder J. H. Buchanan of 1326 La Salle St. is the faithful pastor of this church, and the church is growing by leaps and bounds. This is the second big revival meeting I have been in with this church this year.

Elder T. C. Ferguson, Evangelist.

Joplin, Missouri

Dear Gem Readers:

Now, that I have time, I will try to write a few lines to the paper. I don't have the opportunity to read the paper as I did, but I am still interested in it.

To me the Christian life is the only life to live. I really find joy in serving Jesus. I never become discouraged, for I remember reading in the Bible where Jesus says, "Be not weary in well doing, for in due season you shall reap if ye faint not."

I go to Sunday school every Sunday. Have missed one Sunday since in November, and my intention is to keep going.

There is a passage of Scripture that comes to my mind just now that reads like this: "The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers, but the Lord is against them that do evil. And who is he that will harm

you if ye be following that which is good" (1 Peter 3:12-13).

Pray for me, that I may always be on the firing line for Jesus.

Doris Turner.

Special Services for May

I want to take advantage of this opportunity to give a lineup of our work for the month of May, it being a month of special services, and to extend an invitation to all who can attend to be with us:

The first Sunday is our regular time at Jones Chapel church. Services as usual, with baptizing Sunday afternoon, and Communion and feet washing services Sunday evening.

The second Sunday is our regular time at Blue Eye, Mo. Services as usual, with Mothers' Day program in the afternoon, and Communion and feet washing services Sunday evening.

The third Sunday is our regular time at Macedonia. Services as usual, with Communion and feet washing services Sunday evening.

The fourth Sunday is our regular time at Meri's Chapel church. Services as usual, with Communion and feet washing services Sunday evening. Come and be with us.

Winford Davis.

Brief Mention

By the Editor

NO MINUTES of the Missouri State Association will be printed of the 1931 proceedings, as there is no money for that purpose, but important items will be printed in the Gem.

REMEMBER that the June issue of the Gem is to be given largely to "Evangelism," that is, we want articles on "Evangelism" to have the prominent place in our next issue. We want reports from our active evangelists, and others.

If your church or association is prospering, tell about it; if not, tell the readers of the Gem your needs; by so doing you may find just the man you need to lead you back to activity in the Lord's service. If you know of something that will help us to do more for our Lord and His cause, tell about it in the June issue of the Gem.

NOTICE of the General Conference is given in this issue. This conference will consider things of vital interest to the different Free Will Baptist bodies, including "Union."

Our Co-operative General Association is to be represented there. Bro. Winford Davis and the editor, and maybe others from Missouri, expect to go, and several Oklahoma brethren expect to go. It's a long trip to Bryan, Tex. and will be expensive. Some of the Oklahoma churches are paying in five cents per member for the expense of their delegates; they can go, but ...

WE HAVE received a letter from Sister McAdams. They are still in a meeting at Allsberry Chapel church, near Bonne Terre, Mo. They report 27 conversions up to April 22nd, and the meeting to continue one week more.

AFTER MAY 1st, the price of the Gem will be \$1.00 per year, but we will give a year's subscription to Mothers' Home Life or one of our Treatise as a premium, with each yearly sub to the Gem at \$1.00. A sub to Mothers' Home Life will bring us \$1.00 for our State fund, and the Treatise is worth 25 cents. (Tell us which premium you choose).

OUR JULY ISSUE is to be a "Sunday School" number. July begins the third quarter of the year and we expect to begin then to print comments on the Sunday school lessons. We want articles on Sunday school work, that will encourage and help the Sunday School cause. What can you say for the good of the Sunday school work?

THE LEAGUE MANUALS will be ready for distribution by May 15th. We will print them out as soon as we can after this issue of the Gem is mailed out. The Manuals will be sent to State Secretary, Miss Melba White, Plattsburg, Missouri, R1. Those who want Manuals will order them from Sister White. They are to sell at ten (10c) cents each, but where 12 or more are needed, the price will be \$1.00 per dozen, postpaid. The money will be kept in the State treasury of the Free Will Baptist League.

THANKS to those who have furnished us manuscript for this (May) issue of the Gem, and thank you again for sending it earlier this time. We will be able to mail the paper out this time not later than May second. This paragraph finishes the paper, and some M. S. came in today. We are sorry, by it will have to wait for next issue.

Branch, Arkansas, March 12, 1932

To the Brethren of the Free Will Baptist of the State of Arkansas and the Brotherhood throughout the U. S.

Brethren, I have been working diligently to find all data I could on what Associations of our State and other States have done toward mission work. I have noticed that we have expressed our belief in mission work for the spread of the Gospel by passing resolutions for appointment of mission secretaries, and even for the appointment of a mission board, yet we have not supplied such board with a working basis; therefore they have been powerless to act for our F. W. B. Church.

Have you ever prayed for enlightenment upon Gal. 2:9? "And when James, Cephas and John, who seemed to be the pillars, perceived the grace that was given unto me, they gave to me and Brnabas the right hands of fellowship; that we should go unto the heathen, and they unto the circumcision." Then supplement this with 3 John. Beloved, it is expedient that we awake and be about our Master's business.

Please read the Constitution of Missions following this article. Study it very carefully. Don't you think that a Mission Board working under this Constitution could do the work that Cephas, James and John did back in Apostolic days? I trust that our church and its authorities will study this Constitution, though imperfect it may be. If adopted and put into action, it will enable our Mission Board to become a vital part of our church, and it will be able to accomplish the work we are calling on it to do.

Brethren, if we fail to confirm our Mission Board and give it a working basis, we will continue to suppress the church, which we duly contend for, by becoming indifferent toward the lost souls of our state and cities, who are being rocked to sleep by the doctrines of Modernism and the Atheistic ideas. Also by our action against such a movement as this, we would speak our disapproval of our Captain's order to the church, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." And we make the same of noneffect to the Church of Christ (F. W. B.) of today.

Therefore, beloved, it behooves me to appeal to you, urging that you do consider the attitude you take toward the mission work. Read 3 John 9-11, and let us be very careful in our

decision, lest we become a stumbling block in the way of the spread of the Gospel. We do believe that we, the F. W. B. preach the true and undefiled Gospel of Christ, then should we not dispatch it as our King has commanded us to do?

Brethren, as Paul has said, "I desire you to speak frankly your honest convictions; let them be approvals or disapprovals, but speak thou the things which become sound doctrine: That ye be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, and in patience: for we have great joy and consolation in thy love, yet for love's sake we beseech thee to put in mind the subject we have under discussion in this manuscript, and speak evil of no man, to be a brawler, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men."

Finally, brethren, let all we say be for the exaltation of the church, which is the bride of Christ, and for the fulfilling of His command unto us. Grace be with you,

Your servant in Christ Jesus,
Eld. Elmer Turner.

Constitution of Missions

Be it enacted, That the Missionary operations of the Free Will Baptist Church of Arkansas shall hereafter be administered by a Board of Missions.

Art. I. Said board shall consist of a president, vice-president, a general secretary-treasurer, one layman from each subordinate association of the State Association, an equal number of preachers, and five women. The Moderator and Corresponding Secretary of the State Association, the State Secretary of Sunday schools, the State Secretary of Woman's Missionary Society, and the General Secretary of the Young People's Society shall be ex officio members.

Art. II. Said board shall be elected quadrennially by the State Association as follows: The president, vice president, and the secretary-treasurer on nomination of the Committee on Missions, the laymen and preachers on nomination from each subordinate association of the State Association, the women on the nomination of the Woman's Missionary Society of the State. The officers and members shall continue in office until their successors are elected. In case of a vacancy the board shall fill such vacancy until next State Association.

Art. III. There shall be an annual meeting of the Board of Missions at each Annual State Association to de-

termine: (1) What field shall be occupied for missions; (b) the number of persons to employ for each field; (c) to estimate the amount that may be necessary for the support of the missions under its charge; (d) to make out its annual report for the State Association.

Art. IV. The board shall have power to regulate its own proceedings, to appropriate money to defray expenses (provided it does not obligate the State Association financially), to establish missions, to build mission churches, and residence for missionaries, to select and publish books and other suitable literature for its work at home and abroad, to aid in the establishment and support of training schools for Christian workers, to make provisions for missionary education for the church, to provide funds and appropriate the same for maintenance of all work under its care, and it shall administer the Home Mission enterprises of the church within the State of Arkansas and missionary work abroad, provided that each subordinate association of the State Association shall have charge of all the missions they may establish and provide for within their bounds.

Art. V. The Mission Board shall publish a statement of its transactions, naming the missions supported by it, and the amount appropriated and paid to each (to be published quarterly as stated in Art. VII). Also it shall lay before the State Association each year a report of its operations, including the amount collected from all sources, and how expended, the location and value of property held by the board.

Art. VI. Ministers for mission work under this board shall be accepted on the basis of the minister's fitness and tenure of service. When accepted such minister shall be nominated for appointment to the Board of Missions.

Art. VII. It shall be the duty of the secretary-treasurer to keep a permanent record of the proceedings of the board, and to publish an abstract of them in the church paper, to carry on all correspondence of the board, to prepare the annual report of the board to the State Association, and to publish a quarterly statement of the conditions, needs, and prospects of the various missions under its charge (to be published in our paper), to hold the funds in a safe deposit in the name of the Board of Missions of the F. W. Baptist Church, subject to drafts drawn according to the order of the

Board of Missions signed by the secretary-treasurer, and to present his books for annual auditing by the Finance Committee of the State Association. He shall give bond in such sum as shall be deemed necessary by the board.

Art. VIII. The revenue of the board shall be derived from apportionments to be distributed to the several subordinate associations for collection in every congregation, from the Woman's Missionary Societies, from the Sunday schools, from the Young People's Societies, and from such other plans as may be adopted by the board or congregations, from special collections by the secretary-treasurer and the president of the board, and from donations, annuities, and legacies.

ROOM FOR GOD—EVERYWHERE

By Mrs. Willie Blackwell

Room for God—everywhere! why, of course, who could doubt it? who wouldn't welcome God in his office, God in his business? who would dare say, "I have no opening for God?" and yet we, thousands of us, have been saying just that—have been admitting that we, children of God, co-heirs with Christ, have no place, no employment. Rediculous! absurd and utterly untrue! There is room for God—everywhere.

Go into business with God: there is nothing to hinder you, no legal formalities, no red tape to be unwound. God welcomes you and unquestioningly shares with you His wisdom, His judgment, His intelligence, His activity, and His love. Stop trying to sell yourself; sell God within you. Consciously, joyously, proudly acknowledge God as your business partner. Take Him with you when you ask for work. Know that He cannot be denied. Know that God's work never ceases, that the demand for it is universal. Deny that you can be judged as a mere human being by human, personal standards or beliefs. Confident and serene in the knowledge that you have a divine partner, know that there is a place for you.

The world is starving for God. No business is so worldly that it can do without God; no work is too humble to be dignified by God's honesty and rewarded by God's generosity, in fact, there is room for God—everywhere.

Take God with you and you will find your place, for God cannot be idle;

idleness is against His divine nature, and God's work is never fruitless: never meanly recompensed, for God's generosity is greater than man's, His justice is unvarying and His resources — limitless!

God is your partner, God is your Employer, God is your Work: knowing these things, you cannot know — unemployment.
Niangua, Missouri.

Blue Eye Home Mission Work

Dear Editor and Gem Readers:

I have been reading so many good letters in our little church paper, the Gem, but we scarcely ever see an article on mission work. I wonder how many of our F. W. B. churches have an active mission circle in their church.

I think mission work is a great organization. It brings us closer together and we learn to love and understand each other better.

The purpose of mission work is not only to finance the church, but to help those who are unable to help themselves, and to help lead the lost to Christ.

I well remember the home we visited and prayed with the father and mother who were saved. I know their children who are leading the way on a Christian journey need their help.

We meet at the church each first and third Saturday of each month, at 2 o'clock, for our meeting. Our devotional meetings are good, with the good testimonies and volunteer prayers offered. We know that everything is a failure without prayer, and the love of Jesus in our hearts.

Our mission workers are few in number, but I feel that they all have that great love in their hearts, and are always awake and at their post of duty. Dear Christian friends, you know this is what it takes to make an active mission circle.

Since our last report to the association we have given \$56.43 to help lift the debt on our church building, \$29.26 to our pastor, Bro. Winford Davis, and contributed some to the needy.

Let me beg you who have not already organized a mission work in your church, to get busy and organize, for you will find it a great help to the church.

A Mission Worker,
Artie Butler.

Macedonia Mission Circle Work

By Miss Oleta Davis

We read in the last issue of the Gem where Bro. Brown wanted a report from each Mission Circle. We are glad that we can report that our mission circle is still progressing and trying to do something for the upbuilding of the church.

Our little circle consists of twenty-five members. We meet twice each month, and each meeting is opened with singing, Scripture reading and prayer.

Money spent this year has been \$22.62. Ten dollars of this was given to the Merl's Chapel church, and we have \$21.00 on hand at present.

We feel that we owe a few words of gratitude and praise to our president who is always so faithful, and such a willing worker.

The last work our mission circle did was to piece and quilt a quilt, which we presented to Bro. and Sister Brown, and we hope they appreciated it as much as we enjoyed giving it to them.

We want to request that the Gem readers pray for us, that we will be a blessing to the community and the church and that our work will be that which pleases our blessed Lord.

Mrs. Florence Smith, President.

Mrs. Ina Burns, Sec'y-Treas.

Barnsdall, Oklahoma, April 12th.

Dear Brethren and Gem Family:

I enjoy reading the many splendid letters in the Gem, so I thought I would write a few lines. I didn't get my paper for March, but I got the April number. I sure did miss my Gem paper.

I was to go to Tulsa last Sunday, but was sick and couldn't go; I have been sick all week because I couldn't go. My membership is at Tulsa, but I live 35 miles from Tulsa. We have no church here where I live, and I want the Gem family to pray for me, that I can dispose of my property and move to some place where we have a church, so I can be in Sunday school and church; God can do things.

I have been a member of the Free Will Baptist church since 1927, and in 1928 I was ordained to preach the Gospel, so I have done the best I could since then. I do lots of praying, but don't get to preach much.

God bless all you brothers and sisters in Christ.

—Eld. J. E. Bell.

FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE

Merl's Chapel League Report

Dear Gem Readers:

I will try to send in another report from our league. It is progressing nicely. We now have a membership of thirty-one (31), and still hoping for more joiners. The average attendance for the first quarter of the year 1932 was eighteen (18).

We usually have a large quiet audience other than our leaguers. Some of our members have never failed in attendance and in doing their share in carrying on the work since our league was organized last October.

We are still going forward and hoping for greater success in our league work.

Evelyn Jefferson, Secretary.

Report of Monett Junior League

Our Junior leaguers are still doing their little in spreading the Gospel, keeping in mind that Jesus is the vine; we are the branches. He that abideth in Jesus, and Jesus in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit, but without Jesus we can do nothing.

We are also keeping in mind that the church is more than just a building. We should reverence God's house, for it belongs to Him.

We are drinking from the Fountain of Life, if we have had the blood of Jesus Christ applied to our souls. Mrs. Myrtle Alyea, Monett, Missouri.

Report of Jones Chapel League

The League is still progressing at Jones Chapel and the interest is very good. Our league went to Carterville on Sunday evening, April 17th, and gave our program. The young people there are very anxious to learn more about the league work. The league there has only been organized a short time, and they asked us to come and bring our program so they could see just what we are doing. A Junior league was organized after the program. The people there certainly gave us a warm welcome. We had been there only a few minutes until we felt as if we were at home. They have promised to pay us a visit in the near future.

The aim of our league should be:

1. To have every member present each Sunday evening.
2. To be on time.
3. Bring his own Bible.
4. Give a liberal offering.
5. Come with a well studied lesson.
6. Come with a mind to learn.

May we all strive to have better, bigger and stronger leagues.

Otha Campbell.

Report of Monett League

We are glad to report victory for the Monett league. We have been having good attendance, considering the amount of sickness. Every one seems to take an interest in the league lessons. The one for March 6th, on prayer, was especially interesting. We have a few young converts that are a little shy about leading in prayer, but we are praying that God will help them to overcome that.

Our league met at Bro. O. T. Allred's Friday, March 25th, for an egg and weiner roast combined. Bro. Johnnie Swaffar and a few other visitors were present, making a total of about 55, and all reported a good time.

We keep adding a few members along and feel that this quarter has been truly a success for God, but we are praying that next quarter will find us farther ahead.

Your sister in Christ,

Marie Massey, Pres.

REPORT OF BLUE EYE LEAGUE

We are still thankful that our Blue Eye League can come forth with another report. We wish to extend encouragement to every league and every league member. When we become discouraged, let us recall the blessings we have received, and the help the league has been to us. We may think our league is doing nothing, and has no mission, but if it were taken out of our community, how we would miss it! Christian influence and ambition would fail. What golden opportunities would be swept away! It is such a wonderful chance to develop ourselves in the work of God, that we must not become discouraged.

Let us work to attain the highest standard possible in our league work, and make it a far-reaching league, one that will cause the old as well as the young people to sit up and take notice. Let's show the world what our Free Will Baptist leagues can do.

Our new league officers for the next term are:

President, Denver Hollars
Vice President, Clell Butler
Secretary, Edna McFall
Quiz Leader, Maxine Dodgen
Group Captains, Mila Butler, Lenna Butler, Arvilla Fultz, Ruby Hollars.

May God bless our leagues.

Volza Dodgen, Reporter.

MACEDONIA LEAGUE REPORT

I'm glad to report that we are still on the firing line for God, doing our best, trying to carry on our league in a way that will be pleasing to Him.

I wish every young person in the whole world could just realize the advantages and blessings the league work offers them if they would just attend the services and take part. It seems to me that the league is the greatest training service there is for the youngsters.

There are a few in our own community that haven't yet realized that their place is in the league, but we are still praying for them, and we believe that some day God, through us league workers, will make them know that the league service belongs to them just as much as it does to anyone else, and that it is their duty to help make it a success.

Oleta Davis.

Report of Vance Chapel Junior Home Mission

Dear Gem Readers:

Howdy folks, back again this month. We are still holding on at Vance Chapel, and we young folks are proud to report this month, that several have told us in the last two weeks that we have a much better Junior mission than we have Home mission at Vance Chapel; that speaks well for the Juniors. We have 100 enrolled in our mission now: 33 are Christians and ten have been converted this month through the efforts of the young people. We have made 92 sick calls this month. We have started another quilt; and each month each member is to deny themselves of something in amount from a penny to a quarter.

Our Free Will Baptist leaguers are doing fine, with an enrollment of about forty (40).

We are praying for other loved ones who are still out in sin, and we want you readers of the Gem to help us pray for them. Last Sunday there were seven baptized, and six were young people.

We are trying to put Vance Chapel over the top for Jesus. Pray for us that we might always be doing the little things for our Lord, and that He will strengthen us from day to day that we might grow stronger in His work. "Not unto us, O Lord, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake (Psalm 115:1).

You will hear from us again.

Midge Schuler, Reporter.

Burdette Rider, Ass't Reporter

OBITUARY

IN MEMORY OF MARTHA GOFORTH

A gloom was cast over our home last Sunday night, March 27, 1932, when the death angel came and took our darling sister Home. She had been ill for some time and bore her suffering with patience and was ready to go when the summons came.

Martha Goforth was born June 14, 1880, and was married to W. C. Goforth several years ago. She was a member of the Missionary Baptist church at Blue Eye, Missouri, and a devoted and faithful Christian.

She leaves to mourn her departure, her husband, two children, and her aged father and mother, six sisters and four brothers, all of whom were with her during her last illness except two sisters, Mrs. Lemuel Flowers of Rupert, Idaho, and Mrs. Ernest Harryman of Southwest City, Mo.

Funeral services were held at the home of her parents, conducted by Eld. Winford Davis of Monett, Mo., and the remains laid to rest in the Blue Eye cemetery.

A precious one from us has gone;

A voice we loved is stilled,

A place is vacant in our home,

Which never can be filled.

And while we linger lonely here,

In this sad world to roam,

She'll be waiting there at Heaven's gate,

To welcome her loved ones Home.

—Her Sisters.

WEST—Mrs. Alma West was born in Claremore, Oklahoma Dec. 24, 1910, and departed this life April 4, 1932, at the age of 21 years, three months and eleven days.

Surviving are her husband, Arthur West, two daughters, Edna Mae and Rosalee, father and mother, one brother, Ed Thomas, eight sisters, grandfathers, grandmothers, and many other relatives and friends.

She was converted a short time before her death, and we trust she is safe in the arms of Jesus.

Funeral services were conducted at the First Free Will Baptist church in Tulsa, Okla. by Eld. Melvin Bingham.

THOMPSON—Geo. W. Thompson was born June 26, 1880, in Oregon County, Missouri, and departed this

life March 28, 1932, at the age of 51 years, nine months and two days.

He was married to Miss May Fielding July 2, 1899. To this union was born ten children, seven girls and three boys. Surviving are his wife, Sister May Thompson, seven girls, one boy, two sons-in-law, one daughter-in-law, five grandchildren, seven brothers, three sisters, and a host of relatives and friends.

He was converted Nov. 23, 1930 and joined the First Free Will Baptist church.

He bore his long illness with patience, looking forward to the time God would call him Home to rest.

His smiling way and pleasant face,

Are a pleasure to recall.

He had a kindly word for each,

And died beloved by all.

Some day we hope to meet him,

Some day we know not when,

To clasp his hand in a better land.

Never to part again.

Funeral services conducted by Eld. Melvin Bingham.

IRWIN—Cleo Louise Irwin was born June 25, 1928, and departed this life April 23, 1932, age three years, nine months and 28 days.

She leaves to mourn her passing, father, mother, one brother, Billie Joe, one sister, Sylvia, grandparents, and a number of other relatives and friends. She was loved by all for her sweet disposition.

She bore her sickness with patience.

Funeral services were conducted by Eld. Noel Turner. Interment was made in the Oak Grove cemetery.

A precious one from us is gone,

A voice we loved is stilled,

A place is vacant in our home,

That never can be filled.

God in his wisdom doth recall,

The bond which he hath given,

And though her body slumbers here,

Her soul is safe in Heaven.

KIRKPATRICK—Orval Lester Kirkpatrick was born near Mark, in Davis County, Iowa, November 27, 1893, to Jacob and Sarah Kirkpatrick. He departed this life in Hine's hospital at Chicago, Illinois, March 29, 1932, at the age of 38 years, four months and two days. He came with his parents to Schuyler County, Missouri, west of Greentop, December 24, 1905.

He was converted in early life and joined the Free Will Baptist church of New Harmony. He was a devoted

Christian through the remainder of his life.

He joined the military service Oct. 3, 1917, at Lancaster, Missouri, served in Company E, 147th Infantry. Was gassed (chlorine) July 15, 1918. Was honorably discharged from service April 18, 1919. He served one year and six months in active service.

He was united in marriage to Rachel M. Fowler, October 16, 1921. He was kind and affectionate in his home and was loved by all who knew him. He leaves to mourn his death, his wife of Ottumwa, Iowa, a mother of Queen City, Missouri, three brothers, Eddie of Redtop, Missouri, Chester of Greentop, Mo., Jesse of Queen City, Mo., with other relatives and a host of friends. He was preceded in death by his father, October 22, 1918, one brother who died in infancy.

Funeral services were conducted at the New Harmony church March 31st, by Eld. C. E. Mann, assisted by Eld. Sam Marcum, in the presence of a large congregation of relatives and friends, after which the remains were laid to rest in the New Harmony cemetery.

The pallbearers consisted of former comrades of Mr. Kirkpatrick, who served with him over seas and were as follows: Shirley Yearns, Ernest Fowler, Albert Hoffen, Dewey Piper, Junior Snowbarger and Vinal Brenizer. Just before the casket was lowered into the grave Comrade Yearns advanced and folded the large flag that covered the casket and stood at attention while the casket was being lowered, after which he advanced and presented Mrs. Kirkpatrick (the companion of the deceased) with the flag as a remembrance of her husband's faithful service, and the only thing they could give her to take back home.

The sympathy of the entire community is extended unto the bereaved wife and other relatives.

SENTENCE SERMONS

When God makes us His children,
He also makes us brothers and sisters.

—o—

You cannot help it if the devil comes to your door, but you do not have to invite him in and offer him a chair.

—o—

Souls stumble into hell over two persons—the moral outsider and the immoral insider.

—o—

It's not what you'd do with a million,
If riches should e'er be your lot.
But what are you doing at present,
With the dollar you've got?

SHALL THE FREE WILL BAPTIST GO FORWARD IN MISSION WORK

Text: "For a great door and effectual is open unto me, and there are many adversaries" (1 Cor. 16:9).

Written and preached by Elder Elmer Turner, Branch, Arkansas, Mar., 1932.

Dear Brethren: As I take my Book in hand for a few minutes perusal of the Holy Scriptures, there lies a heavy burden on my heart, which I am not able to dispel without first letting God's saints know about it. This message may seem strange to many of our ministers and laymen, nevertheless I wish to call your attention back to our text. These words came from a man of God who had heard the call of God to do definite missionary work. In Gal. 1:15, 16 we read the words from his mouth: "But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, to reveal his Son in me, that I might preach Him among the heathen." This should give us a good reason for setting before you at this time the text we have under consideration.

I wish to present to you, dear fellow Christians of the Free Will Baptist, the four divisions suggested by our text: (a) Paul's vision of the spread of the Gospel; (b) the door open today; (c) are we faithful unto the call? (d) the many adversaries.

(a) Here we propose to set forth Paul's vision of the spread of the Gospel. I would like to ask a question here for your consideration and I trust that you will answer the same in your mind, and ever keep the same before you during your study of this lesson: Was Paul's vision of mission work only a fad to him, or was it backed up by a thorough knowledge of God's purpose in his life, as revealed to him through the Scriptures and inspiration of the Holy Spirit?

We must think of Paul as the learned disciple of Gamaliel, a strict Jew, a learned rabbi, and one who knew the law, the prophets, and the Psalms.

Scholars of the Bible are familiar with Paul's early life. They know of the purpose of his journey toward Damascus, and call to mind that when he came in sight of the city, in which was his intended prey, the great catastrophe that befell him. In this moment of denouement there came a voice as if out of space, saying, "Saul,

Saul, why persecutest thou me?" Saul recognized this voice as the voice of the Lord. The words spoke condemnation to his present life. Under his conviction, he spoke up "Who art thou Lord?" This all took place in a moment of time. There was no need of preaching to Paul for hours. Why? Because the Spirit of truth became Paul's teacher and he called to Saul's mind the scriptures dealing with Christ's mission here on earth and drove it home to him in the mighty metaphor, "I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks." Saul realized that he must make a choice between life and death at this very moment. The Spirit reflected his mind back to the teachings of the former prophets. Here Joshua's saying shone out before him: "Choose ye this day whom you will serve." This being supplicated by the saying of the prophet Elijah, "If the Lord be God, follow him: but if Baal, follow him." Oh, glory be to God! he was able to make the supreme choice, yes he was willing to leave his old ways and to take up the new. We hear him cry out, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" How soothing must that fatherly voice have been when it spake unto him, "Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do."

When Saul arose to go on his journey to Damascus, it was not the proud Saul of Tarsus, but the humble stricken man, trembling, groping, clinging unto the hands of guides. His letter of authority from the high priest in Jerusalem became vanity. His mission to Damascus was suddenly changed, his thoughts were turned into new channels. He was no longer the self-satisfied Saul, but a lamb in the hand of God, willing to be taught and led by the Spirit. Oh, what darkness there must have been for Saul during those three days he was without sight, yet what light to his soul for having at his command the Scriptures, and the Spirit to illuminate them. There is no doubt in my mind but that in his reflections he called to mind Isaiah 66:19, "And I will set a sign among them, and I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to Tarshish, Pul, and Lud, that draw the bow, to Tubal, and Javan, to the isles afar off, that have not heard my fame, neither have seen my glory; and they shall declare my glory among the Gentiles." Here, I think, as he meditated on these words the spirit of light borne forth like the

lightning from the heavens the true meaning of this saying burst in upon his new mind. He found it recorded anew in Christ's command unto the church in Matt. 28:19, "Go ye there fore, and teach all nations." Through the seasoning of the Spirit he understood this command just as Mark has recorded it in Mark 16:15, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." His masterful mind must have begun to function and his thoughts were being sifted by the Spirit. He soon found in his great storehouse a supreme idea of Christ's mission here on earth as recorded in Daniel 9:24 and repeated in Luke 24: 46, 47, "Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." I should think that the Spirit now having Paul prepared to receive his commission, that Ananias appeared and bestowed upon him the commission for his work by the laying on of his hands, and Saul was filled with the Holy Ghost. What a great time of rejoicing, and surely there was shouting in Heaven and on earth at that moment, for the gift of the Holy Spirit unto the sons of God.

From this hour on Paul had no doubt as to his calling, for we read it in his own words in Col. 1:25: "Wherefore I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God, which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God: even the mystery, which hath been hid for ages and from generations, but now is made manifest unto his saints: to whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." There had dawned upon him the realization of his obligation to Christ. He spent several days in seclusion, during which he was in deep meditation upon his future work. Perhaps Satan presented himself unto Paul again with the hope of drawing Paul back into his old way. I should think that his eulogy was similar to this: "Now Saul, look what you have done: you were the hero of the people. Cease your thoughts about come on in the way of fame. The kingdoms of the world were in your hand, and the multimillions were yours just for taking them; Don't be a fool, but come on out of that way." Dear brother, do you not see him

ing closer to the cross? Could he not have said with Peter and John: "Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you (Satan) more than unto God, judge ye, for we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard?" Yes, Glory! we hear him saying in 1 Cor. 9:16, "For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is me, if I preach not the gospel." Blessed be his name! he has conquered self for Christ. Victory! victory! Amen.

Paul, being inspired with the unbounded admiration for Christianity, through the universal love of God revealed in the Gospel, we find him in Antioch applying to the mission board of prophets and teachers for letters of authority to preach the Gospel unto the Gentiles. As the board or committee of prophets and teachers ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away." When Barnabas and Saul took ship for their new field of labor, in my imagination I see the church of Antioch gathered at the harbor of embarkation to give them a great send off. I behold them as the boat begins to move out to sea, waving their hands and sending shouts toward the heavens for the victory of the Gospel among the heathen. Hark! I seem to hear them singing a song similar to this:

"Go, ye messengers of God!

Like the beam of the morning fly,
Take the wonder working rod,

Wave the banner-cross on high:
Where the lofty minaret

Gleams along the morning skies,
Wave it till the crescent set,
And the star of Jacob rise!

Where the golden gates of day

Open on the palmy East,

Wide the bleeding cross display,

Spread the Gospel's richest feast:

Bear the tidings around the ball,

Visit every soil and sea,

Preach the cross of Christ to all,

Jesus' love is full and free. Amen.

(By E. J. H.)

Ah, Christians of the Free Will Baptist, here we see the great missionaries sent out to the heathen in fulfillment of Christ's marching orders unto the church. Now, what was left for the church to do? From the study

of the epistles of Paul, I find that the church realized its obligation of supporting this great movement. Therefore this committee of prophets and teachers must have set to work to organize the church and its auxiliaries for the support of the missionaries out in the field. In 2 Cor. 11:8-9 we read, "I robbed other churches, taking wages of them to do you service. And when I was present with you, and wanted, I was not chargeable to any man: for that which was lacking to me the brethren which came from Macedonia supplied; and in all things I have kept myself." Thus the church proved their faith by their works. They not only prayed for the missionaries, but gave of their substance for their support, for in Phil. 4:10 we hear Paul saying, "But I rejoice in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again: for even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity." Surely in the last day, when the Lord comes to claim His own, these Christians of Paul's day shall hear the glad welcome of the King, as recorded in Matt. 25:35-40, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink; I was a stranger, and ye took me in; naked, and ye clothed me; I was sick and ye visited me; I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? and the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." Amen.

(b) Paul, having the church behind him in the dispensing of the Gospel unto the heathen, we hear him declaring in 1 Cor. 16:19, "For a great door and effectual is open unto me." What did Paul mean here? Is the door open today? When Paul returned unto Antioch and gave in his report of his missionary journey, we hear him declaring unto the church how God had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles (Acts 14:27). Again in 2 Cor. 2:12, he reported, "And when I came to Troas to preach Christ's Gos-

pel, and a door was open unto me of the Lord." This door being opened once by the Lord, has it ever been shut? In Rev. 3:8, the Lord declared unto the church, saying, "Behold, I have set thee an open door, and no man can shut it." May we behold the door that stands ajar: and hear thy inspiring word, which they of Horeb heard, and be obedient unto thy command, "Go forward and possess the land?"

Has the world been conquered for Christ? Is there no mission work for church to do today? Let us make a short survey of the prospective fields of mission work and see if we, as a church of God, should not be concerned about the carrying of the Gospel to the isolated districts of today.

Travel through our own fair land. Do not shut your eyes to the poor and needy. Here in the slums of our larger cities and out in the mountain districts of our own fair America we find thousands of our own kin who have not heard whether there be a God or not. Why? They are too poor to hire a preacher to come and teach them the ways of salvation. Also, on the other hand, our preachers are not able to go and minister unto their needs without the churches aid them. Who will have to answer for their blood in the great Judgment?

Now turn your eyes to Central and South America. Here we find our next door neighbors, yet worshipping idols and erecting altars to the unknown gods. Should we not go unto them and declare unto them the Gospel of our Christ, and teach them of His love and power of deliverance?

Then pass on to Africa. Learn of those tribal negroes who have not heard of our God, neither have they anyone to tell them of His Gospel. The idol God is all they know. They often sacrifice their children to appease the wrath of their false god. Ah, my brother, shall we who know of the power of God, stand by and watch those ignorant blacks throw their helpless infants to a false god and not tell them of the awful crime they are committing against God? Don't you think that Christ hangs His head in shame before the Father when He sees His saints rebelling against His orders unto the church to "go and teach all nations" His Gospel.

Pass on into Russia, China, India, Japan, and Siberia. Look at the millions of souls perishing without God and without Christ. Oh, my God! my God how long will the church

hesitate to teach heathen nations the universal love of God

O Zion, haste, thy mission high fulfilling,

To tell to all the world that God is light,

That he who made all nations is not willing,

One soul should perish, lost in the shades of night.

(c) Are we faithful unto the call? What are we, the Free Will Baptist, doing to carry out the orders of our King and Captain? Are we united and in harmony on mission work? Who should be engaged in mission work?

There has been much said, but little done among the Free Will Baptist toward mission work. We have had mission secretaries and mission boards elected and appointed, but have never given them a base to work from, thus we have kept their hands tied so they have not been able to accomplish the work we expected of them. The key note for the success of mission work has been sounded by the poet when he said:

"Give of thy sons to bear the message glorious,

Give of thy wealth to speed them on their way,

Pour out thy soul for them in prayer victorious,

And all thou spendest Jesus will repay."

O Church of God, let us unite with our prayers, wealth, sons, and daughters for the mission of carrying Christ's Gospel to the uttermost parts of the globe, lest we be found wanting when he tries us in the balance.

All Christians should be as missionaries, because it is following the example set forth by Christ, Acts 1:38. It is also an imperative duty of Christians, for thus saith our Captain, "Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields: for they are white already to harvest. The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest." Should we not, dear fellow Christians, hasten into the high mission, to proclaim Jesus' love to all nations, lest there be pronounced a curse against us as it was against Meroz, because she came not to the help of the Lord (Judges 5:23); for thus saith Christ, "If these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out." Again we find it written in 2 Cor. 5:14-15, "Now thanks

be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh the savour of his knowledge by us in every place: for we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ, in them that are saved, and in them that perish: to the one we are the savour of death unto death: to the other the savour of life unto life." Let us earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints, remembering that it is written, "Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people: that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given unto us, whether prophecy let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith: or ministry, let us wait on ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching: or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity: he that ruleth, with diligence: he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness. For as every man hath received the gift, even so minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold God." O, ye disciples of Christ, hear ye not the command of Jesus "Go thou and preach the kingdom of God." The gate is open, but there are many adversaries.

(d) *The Adversaries:* Paul recognized that throughout the Christian church there were many adversaries. Who were they, and what were the difficulties he had to overcome? From our study of the Scriptures we find that the greatest adversary to the spread of the Gospel was the Jew. They were a zealous class of people. They believed that the Gospel of Christ was for no other race save their own. They had shut their eyes to the fact that God was not willing that a single soul should perish, but that all should come to repentance. This intolerance was held fast by the Jews until Peter exploded it through the revelation of his vision on the housetop, and of the miraculous gift of the Holy Ghost unto the Gentiles as well as unto the Jews. We have his teaching summed up in Paul's words in Romans 10:11-15, "For the Scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. For whosoever shall upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall call on him in

whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? and how shall they preach, except they be sent?" Therefore through the admonition of their inspired leaders they were entreated to recognize the universality of the love of God; and now, being led in the way of truth, they were willing to be faithful unto the revelation of Christ's Gospel. Brother, search for the meaning of that question Christ asked his disciples, "Who is that faithful and wise steward whom his lord shall make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of meat in due season?" Also that of the admonishing of Paul unto Timothy, "Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of hands of the presbytery, for God has not given us the spirit of fear: but of power and of love and of sound mind."

Paul also saw the need of financial aid and other necessities of maintenance while in the field of work. How could this adversary be removed? Paul had no doubt about his being called to be a missionary unto the Gentiles, for we read in Gal. 2:15, "But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, to reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen." Yet he was forced to linger until the church was willing to put into operation a mission board, endowed with power and authority to consecrate and support the missionaries sent forth into the field of labor. In Acts 13 we see this board in operation. In Gal. 2:9, Paul states that they seem to be the pillar of the church. We have evidence that this board did remove the adversary of finance and of the supplies of the necessities of life, through their effort of organizing the church behind the great missionary movement. We read from Paul's own pen of the splendid aid the church supplied in supporting the missionaries out in the mission fields. Again we hear John, one of the board members, commenting upon the generosity of the church and its members for their co-operation with the mission board for the general welfare of the missionaries while laboring among the heathen. In 3 John verses 5-8, he said, "Beloved, thou doest faithfully, whatsoever thou doest to the brethren (The brethren here are the missionaries), and strang-

ers (Perhaps these were the missionaries he did not know except through the spirit of Christian love), which have borne witness of thy charity before the church (that is his gifts to the mission fund and laity work toward the support of the missionary work), whom (the missionaries) if thou bring forward on their journey after a godly sort (make it possible for the movement to succeed), thou shalt do well (it is no more than our bounden duty): because that for his name's sake they went forth (in obedience to Christ's command and to the call of the Spirit they went forth), taking nothing of the Gentiles (because this was a work that was to be carried on by the church of Christ, and not by the Gentiles or sinners). We therefore ought to receive such (we, the church ought to be willing to take the responsibility of supporting missionaries in the isolated districts and heathen lands for to teach the people of the love of God), that we might be fellowhelpers to the truth (this is explained in Matthew 25:35-40)."

There were many more adversaries the mission board and the missionaries had to deal with and to overcome in order to accomplish the work that Christ had commissioned the church to do. Some of the adversaries were the prison walls at Rome; the false doctrines of Baalac and of the Nicolaitanes; the Jezebel prophets; the Laodicean Christians; and the Diotrephes that John tells us about in 3 John 9-11. I trust that our ministers and deacons shall make a thorough study of each adversary mentioned above, especially the one of Diotrephes. If we are contaminated with such selfishness, may we go down on our knees and plead with our Master until he opens the window of our soul, that we may see the open door for the Gospel dispensation unto all nations.

O, Christian friends, with the truth set before us, how can we longer delay our duty toward all the institutions of the church, which are authorized for the spread of the Gospel to all nations? Remember it is written, "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation, which at first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him?" (Heb. 2:3).

Haven't we set forth in this study the need of mission work? Hasn't it been scripturally proved that God has called, and is now calling men to be set apart for mission work? Haven't

we found that it was the imperative duty of every Christian to do some active duty in mission work? Didn't Christ command the church to go and preach the Gospel to every nation? Wasn't there organized a mission board for the purpose of carrying out this command of Christ? Didn't the prophets, teachers, elders, and laity unite to help with all their power for the success of the mission board in performing its duty? Doesn't the Lord require the same of his church today? Shouldn't the Free Will Baptist go one hundred per cent strong for obedience unto the command of Christ? Could this be the perfect unity of the church represented by the angel John saw in a vision, flying in the midst of Heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people?

O, King Immanuel, haste the time when we, as a church of God, may unite our voices and sing the old song anew:

"Proclaim to every people, tongue and nation,

That God in whom they live and move is love:

Tell how he stooped to save his lost creation,

And died on earth, that men may live above." Amen.

NATURE AND THE BIBLE

(Continued from page 3)

advancement. But when man without God tries to interpret God's Word, or to interpret the things God has created according to a man-made theory or according to his own wisdom, he is at sea, and can only guess at things.

Today our land is flooded with printed matter, as books, papers, magazines, tracts, helps to Bible study, and all kinds of matter, and much of it is against God and His Word, and the way of truth and life. Be careful about what you believe of what you hear and read about the Bible and spiritual things, they may be wrong.

MOTHER

By Elder Noel Turner

Did you ever stop to think of the loving care a mother has for her child? She watches over the sleeping form of her baby boy or girl and prays to God for the future, for she knows that many snares and pitfalls surely are set in the path of her darlings. Mother has great hopes for the

future of her child, and could she always have her way, never would woe touch its life, but all would be happiness, for mother prays for her children, and still believes in them, when all others have forsaken them.

Boys and girls, mother has prayed that you will make men and women that she can justly be proud of, such as the world will adore and respect. But, alas, it is too true, often the mother cannot be proud of her boy or girl; they are not what they ought to be. They visit the dens of vice and ungodliness, gambling, drinking, keep the lowest class of company, but worst of all, they break a fond, loving mother's heart.

Friends, you who have a mother toiling in your behalf, think what it means, and instead of bringing her worry and heartache, give her joy and comfort. Remember before you left her tender care, the warning words, the farewell kiss she printed upon your lips—think of all mother has done for you before you take one step in the wrong direction.

What a comfort children can be to mother when they are kind to her and do all they can, that she might realize her hopes in them. And yet some will scorn their mother's words, and care neither for the comfort nor the happiness.

Truly, as the poet has said, "Mother is the best friend in this world; and you'll never miss your mother till she's gone." She is willing to bestow her all upon her child, that it may have the opportunity of becoming what she has prayed for since it was given into her care.

It seems that so many don't think of mother until they are called upon to take a last look upon her face wrapped in the peaceful slumber of death. Then they think of what mother has been, and when it is too late, they see what they should have seen years before—they can't help but weep.

Your love for mother cannot be too great; you cannot do too much kindness for her. So don't wait until it's too late, then have to regret the sadness you have brought her, and the heartaches you have caused. Medicine can't heal a broken heart, but a kind word can do more than all else.

How true is the saying: "What is home without a mother?"

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE of Free Will Baptist will meet with the Free Will Baptist church at Bryan, Texas, on Wednesday night before the third Sunday in June, 1932.

Hartville, Missouri, March 24th.

To the Gem Family: I am certainly glad to hear from so many ministers who have visited in our home and prayed with and for us, and given us words of encouragement on Christian living. Was glad to learn that Bro. Marcum is living so close to God that He is blessing his labors. He and his wife were a great comfort to us while they lived here in Hartville. We are praying that the Lord will continue to save souls by his Gospel messages, and that God will bless our ministers everywhere when they are working so faithfully for the upbuilding the cause of Christ.

Well, I have been reading this great Book, and I find so many little words spelled with just four letters, yet they mean so much. "Walk" is another word that we should study. Mothers have taken up a great deal of time trying to teach the little tots to walk, and not crawl. To walk they would not get so dirty, but there are many more important things: "I am the Almighty God; walk before me and be thou perfect" (Gen. 17:1). "That I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law or no" (Ex. 16:4). "And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be my people" (Lev. 26:12). "Ye shall walk in all my ways, which the Lord your God hath commanded, that ye may live" (Deut. 5:13). "Ye shall walk after the Lord your God, and fear him and keep his commandments" (Deut. 13:4). "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil" (Ps. 23:4). "And he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths" (Isa. 2:3). "Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth" (John 12:35). "Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample" (Phil. 3:16). "That ye walk worthy of God, who hath called you unto his kingdom and glory" (1 Thes. 2:12). "And they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy" (Rev. 3:4).

At this time I am thinking of a song the good people sang fifty years ago:

"Walk up and down the golden streets
To the New Jerusalem.
Oh, fathers don't get weary,
For the work is going on;
There you shall wear the lily white robes,
Those robes are ready now."

"Then spake up Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12).

I have spoken of just a few of the many Scriptures in this Book of God, but if we *walk* with our dear Lord Jesus, we will not go to the club party, the card party, the show, nor to any worldly amusements. "If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him" (1 John 2:15). The word of God said this, do you believe it? Dear Gem readers, it means something to live a Christian life, and I fear that we are not as sincere as we ought to be. I know that if I ever enter in it will be just through the mercies of God, not for any good things that I have done. Brothers and sisters, when you pray, remember us in your prayers, for I feel so weak and unworthy. God bless all and save you all is our prayer.—*Lina Claxton.*

DO YOU KNOW

That the devil will get Christian people to do what he wouldn't do, that is, to doubt God?

That he who waits for time, loses time

That good things cost less than bad ones?

That it is better alone than with bad company?

That he who endures is the one that conquers?

That time and friends change, but our Lord is always the same?

That bad habits are easy to form, but so are good ones, if we choose them instead?

That he who starts right and stays right will get out of life all that he deserves?

That away down in the lonesome valley is where the soul meets God?

Contributed by E. O. Callen

REMEMBER

That the Gem office is well prepared to do your job printing.

That we do minute work in first class shape, and want your work.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The announcement of your Association, Yearly Meeting, Quarterly Meeting, 5th Sunday Meeting, Revival Meeting, or any other important meeting should appear here. Send in your announcement so it can be printed in next issue of the Gem.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE of Free Will Baptist will meet with the Free Will Baptist church at Bryan, Texas, on Wednesday night before the third Sunday in June, 1932.