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READING THE OLD TESTAMENT WITH THE MIND OF CHRIST

by General Superintendent William M. Greathouse

AT CANADIAN NAZARENE COLLEGE this fall I was struck by the theme the students have chosen for the year: "Taking Up the Mind of Christ." Nothing can be more important for His followers.

With Bible Sunday coming soon, I invite you to think about reading the Old Testament with the mind of Christ. At first glance this may seem unimportant to you; actually few matters are of greater significance for those who would be truly Christian.

For Jesus, the Old Testament was God's inspired Word. Students of the Gospels are convinced that Jesus was in full agreement with the apostle who said of the Jewish canon, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God." Our Lord fed His mind and spirit upon the Old Testament scriptures. His teachings echo on almost every line passages of Holy Writ. And when He was tempted, He reminded Satan, "It is written."

Yet Jesus acted and spoke as Lord of the Old Testament. He exercised sovereign freedom in His attitude toward the ceremonial law whenever it conflicted with the higher law of love. And after declaring His purpose to build His Church He gave to Peter the kingdom authority of discriminating between the permanent and passing elements of the Old Testament, saying to the apostle, "Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven" (Matthew 16:19, NIV).

After His resurrection, Christ gave all the apostles this authority to interpret the Old Testament. On this basis Paul declares that by His death on the Cross, Christ has abolished "the handwriting of ordinances that was

against us" and then concludes, "Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ" (Colossians 2:16-17, NIV). The mind of Christ frees us from the ceremonial law.

But reading the Old Testament with the mind of Christ has even more revolutionary implications. In setting forth the higher righteousness of His kingdom, Jesus did not hesitate to challenge the authority of Moses. Again and again He declared in the Sermon on the Mount, "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago . . . But I tell you" (Matthew 5:21, NIV; see vv. 21-48). Clearly Jesus saw His teachings as superseding the entire body of Old Testament law.

So we must read the entire Old Testament with the mind of Christ. John Wesley saw the radical implications of this principle and instructed his Methodist preachers to omit from public reading certain parts of the Psalter (like Psalm 137:7-9) that contradict Jesus' command that we love our enemies.

This means that while the Old Testament is God's inspired Word, it is not His final word. "In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son" (Hebrews 1:1-2, NIV). We must therefore be careful, as we seek guidance for Christian living, to read the Old Testament with the mind of Christ found in the Gospels and Epistles of the New Testament! □

The Therapy of Thanksgiving

by PAULINE E. SPRAY

I DON'T LIKE OATMEAL," Sue wailed at the breakfast table. She grumbled because she had to clean her room. She complained because she didn't have anyone with whom to play. "I'm so homely," she whined. "I hate these freckles. I wish I were pretty."

At last I could take her fretting no longer. "Sit down there in that chair, young lady!" I ordered in my most authoritative tone. "It's time we did some checking up."

"I don't want to check up," Sue whimpered. "I want to play with someone."

"Well," I said, going on with my cookie baking, "we'll do some checking up first. Then I think you'll feel more like playing. Now, tell me one thing you have to be thankful for."

"I can't think of anything."

"Are you thankful for Daddy?"

"Yeah," she finally answered.

"How about Mama?"

Our young daughter had considerable difficulty getting started, but after some persistent prodding she came up with an impressive list of blessings. Then she went on her way feeling better.

It profits everyone, young and old alike, to take inventory frequently. As we enumerate God's goodnesses, our emotions swing upward. Gloom turns to gladness. Dejection gives way to delight.

An epidemic of depression is sweeping America and the world. Thousands are wallowing in the mire of dependency. Nor are Christians exempt. Clergy and laity are caught in its tenacious grasp.

According to authorities, genetic factors and childhood experience may play a role in this affliction. Biochemical disturbances, prolonged stress, physical illnesses, overwork, overworry, low self-esteem, mid-life crises, and trauma are also included in the roster of causes.

Severe depression calls for counseling and medical

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assistance, proper treatment, and understanding. And a Christian may need the same professional help as a non-Christian if his problem is serious.

However, many Christians could prevent the deepening of gloom if they counted their blessings more often. Giving thanks promotes emotional healing. When we recognize God as our Maker and the Giver of every good and perfect gift, He is pleased. His approbation dispels sadness and releases joy.

Paul admonished the Colossians: "As ye have . . . received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, . . . abounding therein with thanksgiving" (2:6-7).

It's mighty easy to get one's eyes on negatives instead of positives, to concentrate on the disagreeable instead of the agreeable, to see only the price to be paid instead of the prize to be won.

However, an automobile salesman never makes a deal by pointing out the flaws, the depreciation factor, and the exorbitant price. He, on the other hand, enthusiastically extols his car's virtues. Consequently, the prospective customer comes to feel he cannot live without the Cadillac—or Chevette. And the salesman scores a sale.

Not only do depressed Christians miss out on much of life themselves, their witness also suffers. Are we exhibiting the joy we profess Christ gives? Are we "making" the unsaved want our "product"? If not, perhaps we are falling short in the thanksgiving department.

As for Sue, she is now an adult and capable of recognizing her blessings without my assistance. But the therapy of thanksgiving still works. How do I know?

Occasionally I, myself, find it necessary to do what I bade my child do on that Saturday morning many years ago. And as I begin listing the things for which I am grateful, my emotions take an upward swing also. Instead of wallowing in despair, life becomes bearable once again. God has been good to me. He still is gracious. And He will never change. □



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Letters

PLEA FOR THE POOR

I believe that God is more interested in the needs of this world than a majority of people realize—even Christians. Forms of worship and self-indulgence are played up while the overwhelming world needs are minimized. Excuses are given for not helping with this need rather than being truly concerned about it and giving wholehearted support to it. It is true that reliable channels for this giving should be used and fakes avoided, but I wonder how many fake Christians we have who are avoiding this vital issue taught in God's Word in many places?

I do not believe that a lot of Chris-

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tians and denominations are really facing up to this grave situation and giving to it as they ought.

I believe that God is displeased by the way this wealthy nation and other wealthy nations treat this issue. There are many sins that God judges but I believe this is one of the big ones. The ungodly world and Christians have allowed a multitude to starve already and another multitude is on its way unless there is enough help.

*Hattie Laughbaum
Pellston, Michigan*

A PICKET REPORTS

On April 27, more than 100 people picketed the seven 7-Elevens in our area. Approximately 35 of them

were from Nazarene churches. Again on July 27 around 85 people picketed these same stores. Most of them had never picketed before and found the public responses varied. Some were encouraging; others were shocking. I'm amazed at how many people who are against pornography still shop at stores that promote it. We all need to think about what we are supporting with our money.

Recently more than 7,000 stores have stopped the sale of pornography because they realize its negative effects and/or their customers have requested its removal. Since becoming more aware of how destructive pornography has been

(Continued on page 20)



A Grateful Heart

by MORRIS CHALFANT

NATIONAL THANKSGIVING DAY is the only religious festival celebrated in the United States by virtue of the authority of the civil government.

A few years ago on Thanksgiving Day, a local "quiz kids" show was conducted over a Midwestern radio station. The quizmaster asked each youngster what he was especially thankful for. The usual answers were offered—a happy home, kind parents, playmates, etc.

A 12-year-old girl in the seventh grade had really caught the spirit of Thanksgiving Day. Her unexpected answer must have deeply impressed countless radio listeners: "I'm thankful for everything God has done for me and everyone else, not only today but all during the year."

Thanksgiving is a distinctly American holiday. It celebrates no birth, no battle, no anniversary of soldiers or of statesman. It is preeminently a matter of the heart, a pilgrimage into the ever-beckoning land of gratitude wherein we are privileged to rethink, relive, and rededicate ourselves to a way of life that catches up our heritage and our hopes.

You may ask, "For what shall we give thanks?" The Psalmist replies, "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits" (103:2). Life is full of blessings. We hear a lot of talk today about "fringe benefits" in the areas of employment. Well, there are countless "fringe benefits" that come freely from the hand of God. Be thankful!

The apostle Paul wrote, "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thessalonians 5:18). We can thank God for all He sends us, for nothing that comes from His gracious hand will be sent to hurt us.

A great master of music, George Herbert, penned these immortal words:

Thou hast given so much to me,
Give one thing more—a grateful heart;
Not thankful when it pleaseth me,
As if Thy blessings had spare days,
But such a heart whose pulse may be Thy praise.

MORRIS CHALFANT is pastor of the Church of the Nazarene in Norwood, Ohio.

Have you had a hard time since last Thanksgiving? Scripture tells us you should give thanks for it. Hard times struggled with in the name of Jesus become victories by and by, and we are stronger people for the struggle. Have you had sorrow? Bereavement? Through your tears, give thanks for it, for it is through difficult circumstances that souls grow. The truth is, we have not lost those whom we've "loved long since" but think we've "lost a while." Whatever life has brought, the message of Scripture is, give thanks. And, as you do, greater things will come to you. □

Thanksgiving Prayer

*Let's kneel before the King of Kings
In praise and supplication,
And thank Him for the many gifts
To us and to our nation;
And seek forgiveness for the times
We've erred and gone astray
From His great love for us,
And followed our own way.
Oh, may we not extol ourselves
In pride and selfish greed,
Unmindful of vast multitudes
Still starving and in need;
Not only of this earthly bread
Of wheat from harvest fields,
But love and care and sharing
That knowing Jesus yields.
O, help us, Lord, to show the world
What made our nation great,
And share our goods, our love, our faith
Before it is too late.*

—ALICE HANSCHKE MORTENSON
Racine, Wisconsin

by MARK RUDEEN

MY WIFE AND I sat in the Anaheim stadium that Saturday night, tears streaming down our faces. Dr. Jerald Johnson spoke of a return to an emphasis on ministry to children, and it rang a bell in our hearts.

We pastor an outstanding church in Connell, Wash. Our people are so very generous, and we have a strong involvement in missions overseas. But missions right here on our doorstep are often hard to see.

From the day we arrived here we could see that this church had a potential for ministry that was not being tapped, even though Connell is a small rural community. We began seeing children everywhere in our little town and the surrounding areas to which we also minister. We were bothered by the fact that our church, although strong in the adult and teen departments, was small and weak in the children's department.

God gave us a vision that Saturday night at General Assembly of outreach evangelism to the children of our community.

We returned to Connell, praying

that God would help us convey the message and its urgency to our people.

We went door-to-door with the teens of our church to every home in our community. We literally went out and found the children. (They weren't too hard to find!) We didn't get a "Sunday School" locomotive like the one in the Christian Life and Sunday School exhibit at General Assembly. But we did get the town fire truck and had a big children's parade. No one wanted to miss the excitement!

We advertised throughout the entire area: **JESUS LOVES CHILDREN—SO DO WE AT CONNELL CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE.**

We planned a children's crusade. We averaged 80 children a night at the altar. Some very serious decisions were made by those children. We reached 89 children who came from absolutely *no* church background.

On Sunday morning following our crusade, we had a Children's Revival Service, with 339 in attendance in Sunday School. The excitement was tremendous!

Our people, led by the Holy Spirit, got involved! Several years

ago the church sold its Sunday School bus. But when the phone calls started coming in from parents whose children needed rides to the crusade, the desire for bus ministry returned. Our people were filling up vans, minibuses, cars, station wagons—whatever had wheels.

It was a high moment for our church. All attendance records were broken, but that was not the purpose. God's love for the children was made real to our community. Our responsibility to reach out to them in ministry was made real to our church—and none too soon.

For many months, one of our church members had been reaching out to a neighboring family, who did not want to make churchgoing a part of their life-style. But the next-door neighbor prayed for them and showed them love.

During our children's crusade, their two beautiful children were picked up by one of our church vans. The little girl gave her heart to Jesus that week.

She went home and told her parents about her decision. She sang the choruses she had learned at the crusade continuously. She begged her parents to come with her to Sunday School. They would not

MAKE ROOM FOR THE CHILDREN ON THE SUNDAY SCHOOL EXPRESS



come, but she did not miss a Sunday.

One recent September afternoon, the driver of the church van stopped by her house to make sure the little girl would be a passenger the next day. Indeed, she already had her dress, shoes, and socks all laid out, ready for Sunday morning.

But that night she was hit by a car. She is in a coma now.* She is quiet and still, but her little life, her testimony to her parents of what happened to her at the Church of the Nazarene, and the memory of all the choruses she sang, ring out loud and clear to her parents.

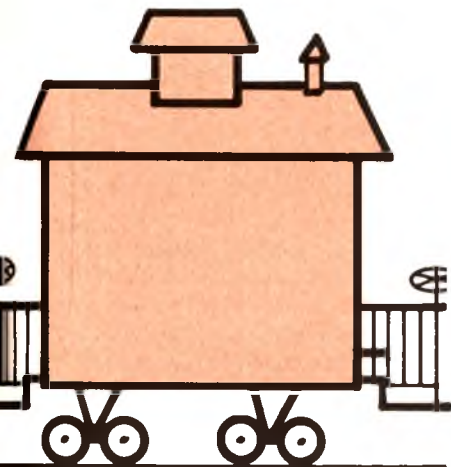
The Sunday afternoon after that tragic accident, we led the child's father and mother to the Lord. After they had prayed a beautiful prayer of repentance, we all sat in the hospital room singing the theme chorus of the Children's Crusade: "I have decided to follow Jesus. No turning back. No turning back."

Through evangelistic outreach to children, another family knows Jesus and has hope in the midst of tragedy.

Our church is now actively involved in reorganizing our ministries to the children. We have established a weekly visitation program to children and their families. The responsibility is awesome, but it is great to have the ol' locomotive running with the children on board!

*We have just learned that the little girl has come out of the coma. She has much therapy ahead of her, but is responding well. Hospital workers have asked the church to record choruses on cassette for use in her therapy.

Editor's note: A letter from Pastor Mark Rudeen was adapted by Faith Mapes, of the Division of Christian Life and Sunday School, to form this article.



The Springs of THANKSGIVING

by JOSEPH D. BISCOE, JR.

THANKSGIVING is a natural response when success is deposited at your doorstep—unless, in the excitement of celebrating, you forget to express gratitude. Thanks are usually offered after the harvest, seldom prior to planting the seed.

In the Bible, a different source for thanksgiving is suggested. Adversity, disaster, and trouble are the starting lines from which thanksgiving is expressed. The record indicates that even the perfect man, Job, did not have time to thank while living on the plateau of success. When he reached the valley of despair and realized his total poverty, thanks was expressed: "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised" (Job 1:21, NIV). At the down moment in his life, a clue is found regarding the "how," "what," and "why" of thanksgiving. When Job began "thanking," even for the disasters, he began the slow journey back to his former successful life.

Compared to Job, what "tragedies" cause despair? Loss of a job? A toothache? A child who is ill? Job lost everything! Surveying the total loss, he kept the perspective of praise, refusing to allow his concept of God and His goodness to be changed or muted.

The fears of life are springs from which thanks can flow. When confronted with prison or death if he failed to interpret the king's dream, Daniel was not overwhelmed. Ad-

ressing God he said, "I thank and praise you." Paul experienced the fear of defeat by the inner conflict between good and evil, even to the point of admitting he was wretched. The battle was decided when he exclaimed, "Thanks be to God . . ." "I always thank God for you . . ." was Paul's response to the fear caused by his most troublesome congregation—Corinth.

Impossibilities can also be the springs from which thanks issue. "Father, I thank you . . ." (NIV) was Jesus' way of facing the apparent impossibility of praise at the death of His friend, and the impossible challenge of raising the dead. Prior to issuing the invitation to "come," Jesus exclaimed, "Father, I thank you" (NIV). Thanksgiving made the impossible possible.

Early Christians offered thanks, not after experiencing the kiss of success, but prior to adversity, trial, torture, or death. On their way to death in the Colosseum, they expressed thanks by singing:

Glory be to the Father,
And to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be,
World without end.
Amen. Amen.

Thanksgiving is an exercise "in spite of" our disasters, fears, or impossibilities. Thanks can be offered in everything and prior to everything. Expressing thanks in the down period of life will enable the "giver" to experience the thrill of thanks when life starts up the ascending scale again.

JOSEPH D. BISCOE, JR., pastors the Victory Hills Church of the Nazarene in Kansas City, Kansas.



SPIRITUALITY REQUIRES ROOTS

by NEIL E. HIGHTOWER

SPIRITUALITY is constantly needed for Christ's Body. Without this the Body withers. The flow of divine life is the fundamental constituent of the spiritual tone of the Church.

Spirituality does not happen in a day, nor is it spontaneously realized without reference to growth and development. It is not a crisis event, but rather an unfolding of the total life of the Body. It requires a past. "Roots" are important to spirituality.

Roots are collective and not merely personal. "Tradition" is the usual religious word for such roots. Tradition is a suspect word, a bad word, to some. But all groups have traditions that are a part of the warp and woof of their existence, else they will cease to exist. As Matthew Fox says: "Traditions nourish our roots. They become the cement that binds us to one another."

The danger, of course, is that tradition can crystallize in specific cultural and intellectual forms that become the be-all and end-all of religious fervor. They need not, and actually will not, if God's providential scheme of things is heeded. There always arises a generation "who knew not Joseph," as did a Pharaoh, which critiques the tradition. I believe this to be in God's order. The old wineskins, to use our Lord's phrase, must be shed, or at the least revived and revamped, from time to time. However, the abiding principle is that roots are needed to sustain spirituality.

I think that Luke, the historian of the Early Church, recognized this, for he was very careful, for instance, in the birth narratives about Jesus to show that Jesus was brought up in an atmosphere of devout harmony with the traditions and customs of the Jewish people. The three ceremonies prescribed by the Law relating to the birth of a boy were carefully observed (see Luke

2:22-24, 27, 39). Through circumcision and naming on the eighth day of His life, He entered the covenant and was identified with His people. The second ceremony was His consecration or dedication to God, which indicated that a ransom price of five silver coins was paid to redeem Him from the obligation to Temple service, since He was a first-born son. The third ceremony was the purification of Mary from her ceremonial uncleanness, which prohibited her from entering the worship of the community. In fact, neither mother nor child could be considered in the covenant until these rites were completed.

Again Luke underscores the vitality and usefulness of tradition in his treatment of the boy Jesus in the Temple when He was 12 years old. When His amazed and embarrassed parents saw Him sitting among the elders and teachers of the nation, they rebuked Him. Jesus' equally amazed reply was, "Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?" And Luke's comment, upon the Holy Family's return home, is part and parcel of this theme: "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men" (Luke 2:49, 52, NIV).

Jesus, at this point in His life, was learning and examining His spiritual roots. Later, He would critique it with these words: "Beware of the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and love to be greeted in the marketplaces and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets" (Luke 20:46, NIV).

We have, then, to affirm what is clearly implied in many places in Scripture, that tradition may be good or bad. Literally, the word means "that which is handed down or on." Immediately we must recognize that all learning is based partly on this principle, and that each generation would be the poorer without this process. The comment of A. T. Robertson, the great Baptist scholar, is appropriate: "The worth of the tradition lies

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not in the form but in the source and quality of content. . . . It is easy to scoff at truth as mere tradition. But human progress in all fields is made by use of the old, found to be true, in connection with the new if found to be true.”*

Tradition becomes a bottleneck, a strangling cord to spiritual life when it is viewed as “the tradition of the elders,” which replaces the commands of God. Jesus clearly identified this religious tendency in Matthew 15:2-11, when He angrily rejected the fastidious ceremonial observance of the hand-washing ritual during eating. Jesus wasn’t opposing etiquette or hygiene, but scrupulosity that made the omission of these rituals a mortal sin. When tradition is placed above God’s law, or supersedes it, then it has become a bottleneck to be broken and ignored.

Herein, surely, is a word for Nazarenes to guard against the multiplication of scruples and hedges in our definitions of religious piety and conduct. Let us beware of honoring God with our lips, or mere outward observance, but maintaining a heart, or inward atti-

tude, which has no real commitment to God (see Matthew 15:8-9). Prohibitions, minutely defined and rigidly enforced, often hide from us new areas where personal conscience ought to be activated, because they tend to make us smug and self-righteous.

Paul reflects the positive view of tradition that ought to characterize Christians in 2 Thessalonians 2:15 and 3:6. Tradition can be a moral and educative force or process that helps to shape the ethical witness of our faith. Tradition is best kept flexible and imbued with spiritual energy when it is embodied in a transparent and tender life or model. Roots, in the natural world, are only kept alive by drawing nourishment from their environment. So it is in the spiritual world. The apostle’s advice, in Colossians 2:6-7, is adequate for us: “Just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness” (NIV). □

*A. T. Robertson, *Word Pictures in the New Testament* (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1930), IV:55.

NAZARENE ROOTS

THE I.H.M. UNION, 1952

Rev. J. B. Maclagan, superintendent of the I.H.M., presents General Superintendent Hardy Powers with the resolutions for union.



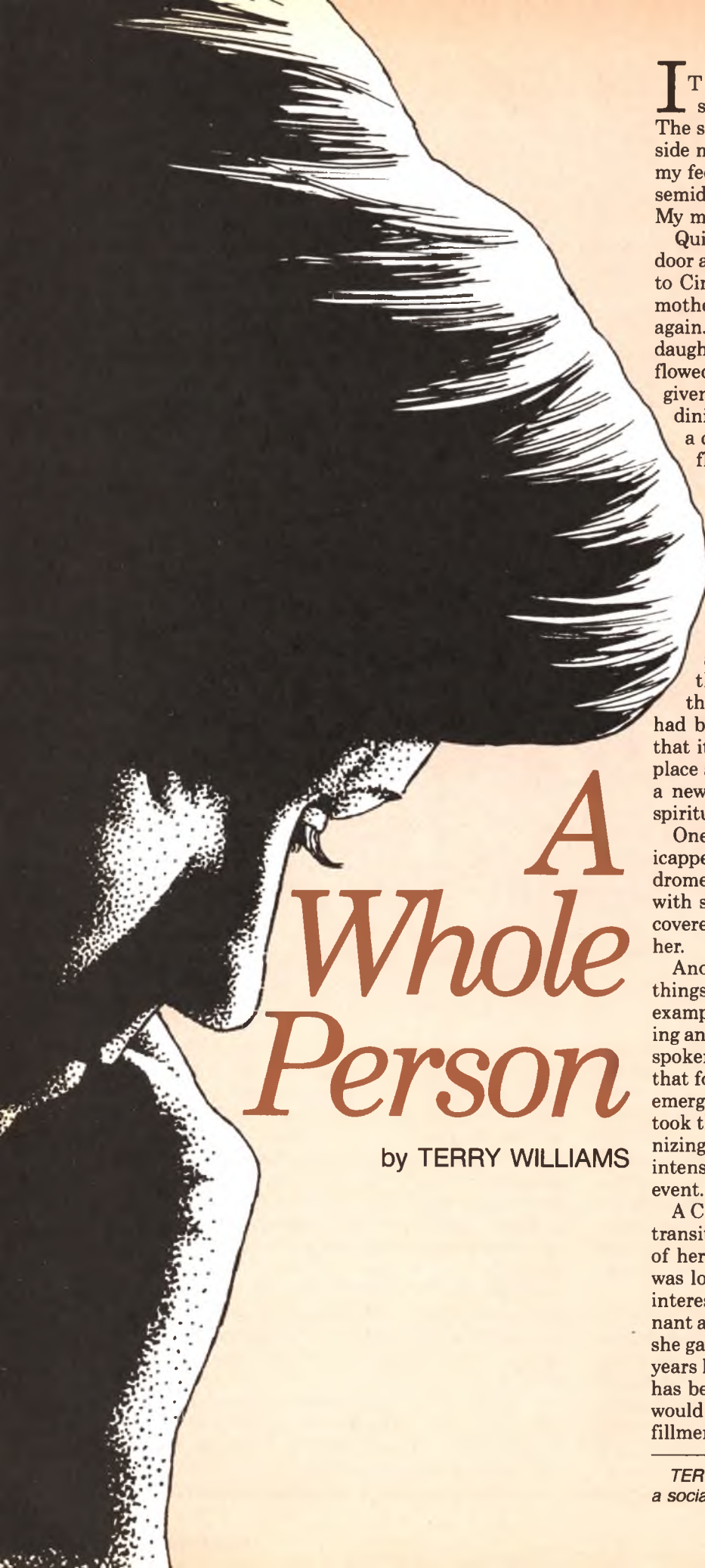
“The history of the International Holiness Mission in England began as a result of the reception of the baptism of the Holy Ghost in 1891 by a young Welshman, David Thomas, who had set up a successful drapery business in the city of London. . . . His business in London became the center of evangelistic power and many of his employees became fire-baptized laymen who, under his leadership and example, went everywhere preaching and testifying to the power of Christ to deliver from inbred sin and fill them with the Holy Spirit. Thus arose the International Holiness Mission.

“It was not long ere the Nazarenes and the I.H.M. began to hear of each other and find fellowship with each other. George Sharpe was often found in the I.H.M. centers in England, and David Thomas also preached in the Nazarene churches of Scotland—indeed, it was through the ministry of David Thomas that the writer, a Nazarene missionary, was brought into the experience of holiness.

“In Southern Africa the missionary work of the two movements began about the same time and in much the same way. D. B. Jones, a sanctified employee of David Thomas in London, received a call to go forth with the message to the natives of Africa; H. F. Schmelzenbach began the Nazarene work at the same time. Sharpe, Thomas, Jones, and Schmelzenbach have all passed to their reward but their works do follow them.” (Dr. David Hynd, Nazarene missionary to Africa, *Herald of Holiness*, February 25, 1953.)

On October 29, 1952, the International Holiness Mission and the Church of the Nazarene united in a ceremony at Leeds, England. Their ministry has continued to flourish in both the United Kingdom and in Africa. □

Prepared by Steve Cooley, a graduate student at the University of Chicago; formerly director of Archives.



A Whole Person

by TERRY WILLIAMS

IT WAS 1:15 A.M. Had only five minutes passed since I last looked at the digital clock by my bed? The slow rhythmic breathing of my husband lying beside me told me he was in a deep sleep. I gently eased my feet over the edge of the bed and sat a while in the semidarkness created by the green glow from the clock. My mind replayed a videotape.

Quietly I put on my robe and closed the bedroom door as I slipped into the hallway. I paused by the doors to Cindy's and Jackie's bedrooms. The faces of other mothers on the videotape flashed across my mind again. A prayer of thanksgiving arose in my heart. My daughters were whole, and healthy. My heart overflowed with love and joy for the blessings God had given me through my children. I wandered into the dining room and flipped on the light. I dropped into a chair and rested my arms on the table. The conflict in my mind and heart caused by the day's events had to be resolved.

Earlier that day I had videotaped for the first time a parent group session that I lead at my place of employment as a social worker. These parents have their children enrolled in a preschool therapy program for handicapped children.

The topic of this particular session centered around the self-awareness and personal growth that several of these parents had experienced through their handicapped children. Although this had been discussed in prior group sessions, the fact that it was taped and I had reviewed what had taken place affected me in a new and forceful way. It enabled a new awareness in my life both professionally and spiritually.

One young mother spoke of her attitude about handicapped children before the birth of her Down's syndrome daughter. She had thought she could never cope with such a situation. Through her daughter she discovered a new strength she did not realize was within her.

Another expressed an appreciation for the small things in life that most people take for granted. For example, that first step, and the assumption that walking and running will naturally follow; or that first word spoken, with little additional thought to the sentences that follow the single words. A totally new perspective emerged in her life when her 21-month-old daughter took that first belated step. The thrill at finally recognizing that first word, after months and months of intensive therapy, was a major satisfaction for a minor event.

A Christian mother of five shared with the group the transition that her family experienced. The youngest of her four children had just started school, and she was looking forward to renewing some long neglected interests for herself, when she discovered she was pregnant again. Having scarcely recovered from that shock, she gave birth to a handicapped child. Now, almost two years later, she shares what a special blessing her child has been in their family's life. Life without this child would be hard to imagine—the special joy and fulfillment that has been given. A void that she did not

TERRY WILLIAMS resides in Knoxville, Tennessee. She is a social worker in the school system of Knox County.

realize was there had been filled and life seemed so much more abundant.

I bowed my head on my folded arms on the dining room table. As I replayed again in my mind what had been said, I was overcome with emotion. Normally, that would not have seemed too unusual for me, but I realized I had not felt this way in many months. In my effort to keep my feelings in control as I counseled these parents, I discovered I had completely separated myself from my work. Recognizing long ago that if I expected to survive in my profession I would need to "leave it at the office," I had unknowingly allowed too much of a gap to occur in my working relationship with these parents. They were real, warm, caring people.

As I let the tears flow, the Lord began to deal with me. I had spent so much time keeping my defenses up to protect myself from their hurts. I had refused to love and care and it had affected my spiritual life. God is all important in my life, and I had never stopped loving Him, but I had allowed my relationship with Him to

slip to an intellectual level. There had been little feelings. He painfully recalled to me instances when I had gone to the altar to pray for personal friends whom I knew were deeply hurting. Yet I failed to feel it in my heart. I would hear and seemingly empathize with what friends (spiritually) and clients (professionally) were saying to me, but would not allow it to penetrate beneath my controlled exterior.

Thank God He understands our need—my need. Through His Son, Jesus, He can and does hear us with His mind and His heart. And I believe too that He cries with us as we share with Him our troubled hearts. I thank Him for His love and understanding and for His revelation to me that my whole mind and heart is required for me to be an effective witness for Him in my professional and personal life. I pray my new commitment toward those I work with and pray with will be more like Christ's. May they feel the caring and love I felt as He dealt with me! A whole person will be listening *and* feeling. □

I BECAME A BRAND-NEW PERSON

by DIANA ALLEN

FOUR YEARS AGO, when my husband left me and our two children, all my dreams, plans, and life's wishes came to a horrifying halt. For two years, the children and I tried picking up the pieces, but we didn't know how. Our church loves us, but they didn't know what to say or how to minister to us. Most of the time we felt lost, confused, unwanted, frustrated, and hurt.

Two years ago I reluctantly attended SoloCon '83, not knowing what it was about. The main speaker was Harold Ivan Smith. Even though he had experienced some of the same frustrations, hurts, and pain as myself, I could see that Jesus Christ had helped him make a whole new life for himself. During SoloCon, I became a sponge and absorbed everything the seminar speakers presented.

As a result of that four-day retreat, I became a brand-new person and began a new life for myself. My children developed better attitudes toward me, and their outlook on life became more positive. For five or six months after my first SoloCon, I took my notes everywhere and shared them with my single friends at church. I read and reread them until they were deeply imprinted on my heart. I began to apply what I had learned in my daily living, and although the same problems were still facing me, I now found extra strength to combat them.

DIANA ALLEN resides in Indianapolis, Indiana.

"Because YOU GAVE..."

Even before SoloCon, I knew Jesus had forgiven me for my mistakes during my marriage. I also knew He heard my cries and felt my anguish. After a while, this was not enough because I felt I had lost all direction and purpose. The Bible had assured me that God would help me during the storms in my life. Through SoloCon, I discovered anew that God is not only able to help Harold Ivan Smith find victory over his "hard times," but He is also able to help me to find victory every day.

At SoloCon '84, 10 of us attended from our church. My friends came back just as enthusiastic as I did the first time I attended. We experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit in a new way that affirmed "it's OK to be single."

I love God and I want to serve Him in every way I can. However, going to church on Sundays and Wednesdays is one of the most difficult things I face every week. Singles are a minority because everyone is "arking" (couple oriented). When I go to a SoloCon retreat, I feel like an equal to everyone else. I'm no longer a reject, outsider, "fifth wheel," or a freak. I am an equal.

Because the Single Adult Ministries in Kansas City has sponsored programs such as SoloCon, a single person, for whatever reason or whatever age, can join in and have fellowship with approximately 200 other singles. A level of friendship never found before can be developed because singles minister to each other.

Thank you, Nazarenes, for making this ministry possible through your General Budget support. Because you gave—single adults are finding new direction and purpose. □



WORKER RESPONDS TO WITNESS ON WORK AND WITNESS ASSIGNMENT

by CHRIS BLANKENSHIP, as told to NINA E. BEEGLE

I WAS SURPRISED when a pastor said to me, "Listen, I have a man in my church who wants to go on the Work and Witness Team to Haiti. He is not a Christian, but he has been attending our church for about three months. I must tell you, however, that he has some habits we do not condone."

In spite of that little bombshell, the pastor made a strong plea for this man, and I agreed to look at an application. When I read his reason for wanting to go to Haiti, I perceived that he really desired to do right. He climaxed it by saying, "I believe God wants all of me." Against my human judgment I accepted him for the team. To the pastor I remarked, "We may not have to be concerned about his problems. Why, he may give his heart to the Lord before we leave."

At noon one day the man phoned to thank me for including him and wanted to know if he would ever get to meet me. My answer surprised him.

"Not only will you meet me," I assured him, "but we will be together for the whole trip."

"You are going!" he replied.

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NINA E. BEEGLE is Division of Church Growth editor at International Headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri.

"Sure," I said. "Our Haitian team will have a beautiful time working together." I asked if he felt he could leave his smoking habit behind.

"I have stopped before," he said, "and I can do it again."

So much for that problem. But I felt I needed to say more. "You know, I've never taken anyone on a Work and Witness team before who was not a Christian. You realize there are certain rules you have to abide by. We don't want to create problems."

"You are tough," he told me.

"That's right," I countered.

By the time we left he had not accepted the Lord as I had hoped. I packed my personal evangelism materials, including the *Basic Bible Studies*, and prayed God would speak to him.

Meeting him for the first time at the airport was troubling. He was so nervous and loud! I thought, how is this going to work out? I whispered to my husband, "Please pray, I don't know about this man."

When we arrived in Haiti after a long day, people were lighting flare-pots on the runway so we could land. After landing, we learned that everyone's luggage was missing. Ron was very antsy by now. I tried to assure him that everything would work out alright.

At the hotel, Ron was very helpful in carrying luggage for people who were lucky enough to have

some, a side of him I was most happy to see.

On our second day, Ron became ill and had to return to the hotel. Was he really physically ill or under conviction? I believed the latter. I took water, cold drinks, and food to him to show I cared. He always said, "You don't have to do that." Each time the missionary or one of our group who went with me reminded Ron we were praying for him.

Three days passed and he had only worked two hours. I got desperate! Everyone was asked to pray that God would touch Ron spiritually and physically.

At the evening meal, Ron's chair was empty again. We took supper to his room and I asked him to come down at seven o'clock for our devotions.

"I don't want to get chilled," he answered. Chilled in Haiti! I told him to wrap up in a blanket.

Each evening we shared highlights of our day, had devotions, and heard testimonies from several people. Turning to Ron (who did not come wrapped up in a blanket), I said, "We appreciate you and your contribution to our group." Then I eased into a presentation of the gospel to Ron. He was very quiet and receptive. I asked, "Have you ever come to a place in your life where you knew for certain that if you should die tonight, you would go to heaven?"

"NO," he replied.

"If you should die tonight and stand before God at the gate of heaven," I pursued, "and He said to you, 'Why should I let you in the gate of heaven?' what would be your answer?"

"Well, I have no reason for Him to let me in, but I would say, 'I sure wish you would,'" was his honest reply.

I told him that eternal life is a free gift and continued with the gospel presentation.

When I asked, "Does this make sense, and would you like to receive this free gift of eternal life?" he stood, turned around, and knelt at his chair. We prayed, and soon Ron Partusch found the peace that Jesus gives.

Everyone welcomed him into the family of God. I gave him the picture of Christ knocking at the door and explained that this was his spiritual birth certificate. Several of the group signed their names as witnesses on the back under the words, "Ron Partusch opened the door of his heart to Jesus January 10, 1985." I gave him the *Basic Bible Study Lesson One*.

Later that evening, some of the men went by his room and found him reading a Bible and working on the study materials I had given him.

No more time was lost because of sickness. God's healing met Ron's need and made our Work and Witness team complete.

I wondered if this was a first—a Work and Witness team member receiving Christ as Savior on an overseas assignment. I'm glad the Holy Spirit overruled my common sense and misgivings about including Ron on our Haiti expedition.

Just Keep in Sight the Goal



I know that God is very near—

He whispers to my soul,

*"My child, the darkness do not fear,
Just keep in sight the goal."*

*Though darkness hides the light of day,
And thunders 'round me roll—*

*I still can hear my Savior say,
"Just keep in sight the goal."*

*"Though the journey may seem long to thee,
My hand you still can hold."*

*How precious then His words to me,
"Just keep in sight the goal."*

*"I will not fail thee though the length
Of years may take their toll;*

*Dear child, thy weakness is My strength—
Just keep in sight the goal."**

—INEZ T. HOWISON

San Antonio, Texas

**Inez T. Howison reached the goal before her poem could be printed. She died February 4, 1985.*



In the Hands of God

by ROSS W. HAYSLIP

JUST BEFORE FIXING his signature to the United States Constitution, George Washington addressed the Federal Convention at Philadelphia in 1787. He closed his speech by saying, "Let us raise a standard to which the wise and honest can repair. The event is in the hands of God." While Washington believed that man should crave freedom, declare his rights to freedom, even fight and die for it, he knew full well that the final outcome of all man's strivings was in better and greater hands than his own. The great fa-

ther of our country plainly saw that man's welfare and eternal destiny rested in man's seeking and doing the will of God and not trying to get God to do man's will.

We are frequently confronted by events that are out of human control. There are circumstances that are beyond our influence. In those circumstances we can only do what we know to be right and leave the results in the hands of God.

It is good for us to remember that we do not live in a man-centered universe, that something bigger and greater than a tidy arrangement for man's convenience is going on. God is in control and we can see our own smallness and dependence as we realize that we are not in charge.

When the problems of life mount high, when sadness and sorrow lead us to the point of despair, it is wonderful to keep ourselves in God's hands. We are not the Creator but we are His creatures. We are not masters but we are servants and learners.

Storms have a rightful place in our lives. Hardship and testing may strengthen more moral fiber than all the pleasantness that an easy life can afford. Difficult events help us to see that life has a foundation under it, horizons surround it, and divine purpose runs through it. Then our lives are centered not in fear but in faith. What a peace of mind comes to us when we see ourselves in the hands of God rather than our own! □

ROSS W. HAYSLIP is the chaplain at Nazarene Bible College in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

A Diamond in the Rough

by LESLIE WOOTEN

I FIRST MET VIRG one Monday morning in the dead of winter at Frank's Sport Shop in Decatur, Ill. He was wearing soiled work clothes, laced up rubber boots, and three days' growth of beard. I surmised that he was a ditchdigger or maybe a local garbage collector.

Edging closer to the gun rack by which he stood, I inquired, "Do you like guns?"

"Yeah," he replied, "do you?"

"Yes, I enjoy looking at them," I responded.

"You got a collection?" he queried.

"Oh, just a small one," I admitted.

"Could I see them?" he asked.

I said, "I suppose so."

"Could I see them now?" he pressed.

Although I had always been firm in my conviction never to show my collection to a total stranger, disarmed by his anxious request, I consented to do so.

Upon viewing the pieces, he offered to buy my L. C. Smith double-barrel and Winchester model 97 pump gun. When I shot him a price, he pulled out his checkbook to pay me. I said, "Sir, I'm sorry but I can't accept your check. I don't know you. I hope you're not offended."

He said, "That's OK! I'll go to the bank and get the cash."

When Virg returned, we got better acquainted. I was surprised to learn that he owned controlling interest in a road and bridge building company and was president and chief operating officer. He was equally surprised when I revealed that

LESLIE WOOTEN is pastor of the Decatur, Illinois, Oak Grove Church of the Nazarene.

I pastored Oak Grove Church of the Nazarene. Also, I learned that he was a God-fearing sinner who had been away from Christ and the church for 40 years. Becoming disillusioned with his church while still a lad, he had erroneously concluded that most priests and preachers were phonies.

After hearing his story, I sensed a hungry heart and asked, "Why don't you visit us? I believe you'll like our friendly people and the plain, straightforward gospel preaching. There's no put on or cover up at our church!" He liked that—and upon paying for the guns, gave me additional money to put in the church offering. Therefore, I was not surprised when he and his wife started attending (irregularly at first) the Sunday morning services.

During the next few years, Virg and I became close friends. I learned to love him like a brother. At church, he loved the old hymns and sometimes requested one of his favorite numbers. When I preached, he listened attentively. One Sunday, I touched on the evils of alcohol and social drinking. The next time we met, Virg quipped, "I didn't agree with one of the things you said Sunday."

"You disagreed with only one thing! That's great!" I countered. "Perhaps some people present disagreed with much more. What was it?"

"What's wrong with taking a drink now and then?" he challenged.

Handing him an open Bible, I had him read Proverbs 20:1 and 23:29-35. "You can't point to one person or one family made better or happier by drinking alcoholic beverages! But I can point to literally



thousands it has greatly harmed or even completely destroyed," I charged!

At that, he remarked, "It's like the old saying states, 'One drink is too many and a thousand is not enough.'" From that day forward, he fought a noble battle to kick both his alcohol and tobacco addictions. He also offered his daughters 500 dollars each if they would quit smoking.

Virg was short in stature, stocky in build and strong physically. But in his battle to conquer his addictions, he confessed, "I'm so very weak." One morning when he called, he was weeping! "I've slipped," he sobbed. "I got drunk again."

I didn't wait for more. "I'll be right out," I promised. It took about 20 minutes to drive to his house. I prayed as I drove. At the kitchen table, we wept and prayed together until he found peace of heart and mind.

Virg had been dubbed "Stub" by his brothers and sisters, who were taller than he. During our five years' friendship, I could never bring myself to call him by his nickname. Free-hearted and a hard worker, when it came to shouldering his share of responsibility he stood head and shoulders above the crowd.

One day while we were rabbit hunting together, Virg had to stop occasionally "to get his wind." When he related that a terminal lung ailment had been discovered and his doctor had given him only a year to live, I was crushed. "No doubt, smoking and drinking have brought this on," he confided. "I should have quit years ago."

Around a year later, lung cancer and pulmonary fibrosis claimed his life. On my last visit while he was

still at home, I found him attached to oxygen with an open Bible in his hands. Closing the Book, he inquired, "How much do I owe the church?"

"Never mind about that," I advised, "those pledges aren't due for two months."

"I know, but I had better pay them now," he retorted. After instructing his wife to bring a checkbook, he asked if the amount was \$1,200. When I assured him it was, he handed me a check.

My final visit a few days later was at a local hospital. Standing by his bedside I asked, "Virg, is your faith still firm? Is everything all right with your soul?"

Between gasps for oxygen he replied, "Everything is all right." The next day he was gone.

In our city of around 100,000, large funerals are not uncommon, but Virg's funeral still stands as the largest in my 34 year pastorate here. Also, the funeral director stated that it was one of the largest funerals he had ever had. Every room was filled to capacity. Flowers were overflowing. Around 700 dollars in cash memorials were given to the church.

Now, seven years later, his widow, Navola Schmidt, still attends church regularly and gives generously. Their youngest daughter, Marti Thompson, along with her husband and three sons, also attend. She teaches a children's Sunday School class.

Looking back to that winter day in 1972 when I met Virgil Schmidt at Frank's Sport Shop, I never dreamed that I had discovered a choice diamond in the rough. I will always be grateful to God for causing our paths to cross. □

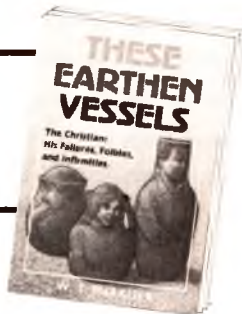
Book Brief

THESE EARTHEN VESSELS

The Christian: His Failures, Foibles, and Infirmities



W. T. PURKISER
author



A GLANCE at this wonderful book might cause some to lay it aside as "for the preacher"—"a topic of vital importance to understanding the Wesleyan concept of Christian Holiness." Yes, preachers, it is for you to devour and "respond in obedience and faith."

But lay folk, it's also for you and me, a valuable and enlightening study about "coming to terms with human failures and foibles," about closing the "growing credibility gap," about paying attention to "the constant tug to come up higher," about "daily growing in grace."

One might fill a file with quotable quotes from Pur-

kiser, with a tremendous store of these gems drawn from this very book. In 1984, W. T. Purkiser was presented the first "NPH Award" as the person deemed to have contributed most to the literature program of the Church of the Nazarene. While specific books, articles, and editorials could be cited as tops, perhaps we have yet to ponder the enduring sentence sermons they contain. He's a master craftsman at scraping the buildup of elaborate theological jargon from essential Christian teaching, stripping it right down to the bare, beautiful truth. The result is a series of unforgettable thoughts the busiest reader can capture and ruminate all day long.

Clarification shines in this book:

- The feeling that accompanies human failure is *regret*. The feeling that accompanies sin is *guilt*.
- *Stains* are caused by sin; *scars* come from conditions and circumstances beyond our control.

In the same clear way he shows the differences between anxiety and worry, discouragement and depression, temptation and sin, and more.

I suppose you might get yourself a gaggle of giggles from other wintertime suggested reading. But one thing is sure: you'll not find a more valuable book than this one to help you in this life and the next! □

—Evelyn A. Stenbock

Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City
118 pages. Paper. To order see page 23.

the editor's STANDPOINT

A SIN HARD TO FORGIVE

People find ingratitude a sin hard to forgive.

The dog that bites the hand that fed it is thought worthy of a bullet.

The man who betrays the country that honored him is regarded as the vilest of its enemies.

Though universally deplored, ingratitude is not an uncommon sin.

Attorney Samuel Liebowitz saved over 70 men from the electric chair. Not one of them ever sent him even a Christmas card to express thanks.

During the battle of Normandy in World War II, Major John Ogilvie was touched by the suffering of a wounded SS soldier. He leaned down and gave the enemy a drink of water. Having drunk, the SS soldier shot the British officer. Historian Max Hastings says that Ogilvie's fellow soldiers "never forgave or forgot the action."

If man's ingratitude to man strikes us as repulsive, what shall we say of man's ingratitude to God? Scrip-

ture teaches us that God is the author of "every good and perfect gift." This being true, He deserves our constant thankfulness. Yet, how often are the gifts enjoyed without a nod of appreciation toward the Giver?

"Give thanks unto the Lord," wrote the Psalmist, "for he is good." Failure to express gratitude to Him is to return evil for good—a characteristic of the devil.

Paul exhorts us to give thanks "in every thing" and "for all men." That is a tall order for which exceptions are easily argued. But the person who is not thankful in every thing will become grateful for nothing. Selective gratitude is a mask for ingratitude.

Scripture refers to thanksgiving as a sacrifice pleasing to God. Ancient Israel was forbidden to come before God empty handed, without an offering. Gratitude is an offering the poorest can bring. To withhold it is inexcusable and reprehensible.

"Be thankful." Gratitude honors God; ingratitude debases us. □

WILLING AND DOING

The Civil War was raging in America. A Union army under W. T. Sherman was marching through Georgia, spreading havoc in all directions. As Sherman's "bummers" were passing through the town of Covington, some of them broke ranks to pillage the homes that flanked their route. Suddenly a young black woman spotted her "Sunday" hat on the head of a passing soldier. Rushing toward him in anger, she exclaimed, "If I had the power like I've got the will, I'd tear you to pieces."

Willing but unable—that is a common problem. Paul wrote, "To will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find" (NKJV). It was the expression of a frustrated man, awakened to his guilt, consenting mentally to the claims of divine law, but lacking power to overcome the sin that functioned as a down-dragging power in his heart.

Another writer expressed the ancient problem in this couplet:

I see the good, and I approve it, too;
Condemn the wrong, and yet the wrong pursue.

From the wretched heart that cannot couple power with will, the cry is wrung, "Who will deliver me?" And Paul supplies the answer, "God—through Jesus Christ"! Through the cleansing blood of Christ, applied in the power of the Holy Spirit, sin in the heart must yield to righteousness in the life. God can pardon and sanctify and empower our weak selves, making it possible for us to live victoriously.

Paul exhorted his Philippian friends, "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure" (NKJV). To will and to do! Our "yes" to the truth of God can be given in our lives as well as in our minds. We do not have to be looted by a mocking enemy of that which is rightfully ours as children of God. Holiness as cleansing and as conduct is a possibility of grace.

"Political power," said Mao Ze-Dong, "grows out of the barrel of a gun." Moral power grows out of the blood of Christ. □

Those early New England preachers got their ideas about judgment from the Bible. We ignore the concept of judgment only by dismissing the Bible. Our notions are not truer; our spirits are just tamer.

A NEGLECTED TRUTH

Most of America's early printing was on religious subjects and included sermons. In 1687 appeared *Neglect of Supporting and Maintaining the Pure Worship of God*, by James Allen. According to the preface, the sermon was "preached on a Solemn Fast Day" prompted by "the afflictive Providence of God in sending Worms and Catapillars." These were regarded as instruments of divine wrath, "God's great army," which had devastated parts of the Massachusetts Colony.

Our generation would likely smile at the interpretation of crop loss to insects as an "afflictive Providence." There is scarcely any reference to judgment, present or future, in today's preaching. Those early New England preachers got their ideas about judgment from the Bible. We ignore the concept of judgment only by dismissing the Bible. Our notions are not truer; our spirits are just tamer. We lack the intestinal fortitude to confront sinning people with God's demands for repentance and warnings of judgment.

Too many of us who preach are more concerned about the "image" we project than the truth God speaks.

Fearful of being thought harsh or negative, we curry the favor of shallow people playing at religion by preaching what they want to hear, not what they need to hear. An Amos, Isaiah, or John the Baptist would not survive a recall vote in many of our churches. Jesus would not be called, much less recalled.

I was once summoned to preach a weeknight message in a revival meeting. The revival had been going on for 10 nights, so I thought a message on judgment would be appropriate. I preached quietly and simply, quoting and explaining and applying salient passages of Scripture. Seekers overflowed the altar. People were kneeling and praying from wall to wall. Listening to the confessions of those church members, it was obvious that the message was relevant. But the pastor, offended and jealous, refused to pray or counsel with the penitents. He sat in his "bishop's chair," puffed up in anger like a blowfish.

We are going to face God's judgment. It behooves us to preach and hear what Scripture affirms on the subject. □

WHO'S CRAZY?

Bronson Alcott once claimed that, like Jesus, he had never sinned.

Henry James asked him, "Have you ever said, 'I am the resurrection and the life'?"

Replied the pretentious Alcott, "Yes, often."

James brought the conversation to a screeching halt by asking, "And has anyone ever believed you?"

I had an uncle who said to me, "Why should I go to church? I have no sins to confess." I assured him that his self-estimate was unshared by all who knew him.

When you think about it, Jesus calmly made claims and statements about himself that heard from anyone else would instantly brand the speaker a lunatic or a liar.

Suppose one of your family or friends told you in utter seriousness, "I am one with God"; or "No one knows God but me"; or "The one who trusts in me will never die"; or "I am the light of the world"; or "I will be the final judge of everyone"; or "I give eternal life"; or "I

will raise the dead"; or "I always do what pleases the Father"—how would you react?

These are some of the things Jesus Christ affirmed about himself in relationship to God and others. His statements startled His friends and angered His enemies. Those friends could not have invented this Christ, and those enemies would not have invented Him. Either His claims are true, or He deserved prison or asylum or death. He is history's greatest fraud or He is precisely what He claims to be, the Savior and Lord of mankind.

Millions have believed His claims and through faith in Him their lives have been transformed. They have been liberated from sin and invested with quenchless hope for eternal life.

Other millions have rejected His claims. He coerces no followers, shanghai no disciples. But to all who reject Him, dismissing His claims and defying His authority, an empty tomb is challenging, "Who's really deceived? Who's really crazy?"

The unique Christ is our only hope. □

CARING ENOUGH TO GIVE THE VERY BEST

by A. BRENT COBB

THEY SANG with such holy gusto that an entire congregation was lifted and made to sit “together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus” (Ephesians 2:6). Jonathan and Ilona Welch were clearly ministering under the anointing of the Spirit of God. We at Sacramento First Church thanked the Lord for their talents—the very best—wholly consecrated to Christ.

As we enjoyed fellowship at the lunch table afterward, we each bore testimony to the serendipities (unexpected benefits and blessings) of serving the Savior. I want to pass along to you one of the incidents Ilona related. It highlights the gracious care of our sovereign Lord for each of His own.

It began a few years ago when Jonathan and Ilona were with former classmates from Olivet Nazarene College. They had come to minister to the church their friends were pastoring in a small midwestern town. Susan (not her real name) was expecting a baby, but the family income would only allow her to own one maternity dress—one she had made. The Welches had just completed several engagements and were well-supplied at that point. Financially, theirs was a “feast or famine” type of arrangement, and this happened to be a feast time for them. So they insisted on taking their friend to buy her the finest maternity outfit they could find.

Susan begged them, however, not to pay too much for a ready-made dress since, if she only had the material, she could make her own outfit. Jonathan agreed on one condition: “That you let us spend the amount of money we had in mind to spend on you.” In the end they purchased the very best fabrics, enough for Susan to make four beautiful dresses.

A couple of years later the Welches came back to visit Susan and Mark. But this time it was Jonathan and Ilona who were experiencing tough times financially. And Ilona was expecting their first baby. She had only one maternity dress.

The two couples shared an enriching weekend of ministry in that growing Nazarene church. Again they delighted in the Lord and exalted His name together. And they compared stories of how God had supplied all their needs.

A. BRENT COBB pastors First Church of the Nazarene in Sacramento, California.



They were gathered around the kitchen table in conversation when suddenly Susan sprang to her feet and rushed to her bedroom. Soon she came back beaming and announced, “Ilona, I believe *you* could use these four maternity outfits.” She added confidently that *she* would not

be having further need for them.

The Welches were filled with wonder to realize anew that God’s ways are “past finding out!” (Romans 11:33). For, through their sensitivity to the Lord’s promptings two years earlier, the Lord was meeting the needs of *two* couples in the King’s service. And because they insisted on giving the very best—giving as unto the Lord—they received the very best.

I want my giving to be like that. The model for all my giving must be the divine model. For God, indeed, cares enough to give the very best. □

IMMORTALITY

*A loved one dies and our lives turn dull
and lifeless and empty.*

*The age-old cry wrenches itself
from the deep places of the heart;*

“If a man die, shall he live again?”

*Just then, when life seems
its most meaningless—new meaning is
found.*

*God’s still small voice is heard,
Reminding of His promises—*

Comfort for bereavement,

Joy for sorrow,

Hope in the midst of despair,

And most beautiful of all—

“Because I live, ye too shall live.”

*Sorrow not then as one who has no hope,
For if a man die, he shall live.*

—MABEL P. ADAMSON
Kansas City, Missouri

GIFTS FOR EVERY OCCASION

**Pictures • Games • Plaques • Books • Puzzles • Novelties
Coloring Books • Decorator Items • Prizes**



Inlay and Jigsaw Puzzles

Inlay Puzzles. For ages 2 to 4. Large, full-color pieces are easy to place upon, and remove from sturdy board.

The Birth of Jesus BBGA-2286, \$1.29

God's World and Me BBGA-2287, \$1.29

Jesus Loves the Children BBGA-2288, \$1.29

Noah and the Animals BBGA-2289, \$1.29

Jigsaw Puzzles. For all ages. Designs are full-color; pieces are fully interlocking. Completed puzzles are 10" x 13".

A Village in Jesus' Time BBGA-2281, \$1.95

Jesus, God's Love Gift BBGA-2282, \$1.95

The Tabernacle BBGA-2283, \$1.95

The Ten Commandments BBGA-2284, \$1.95

Bible Games

Bible Tiddley Match. Four exciting tiddleywinks games in one are the life of any party, youth group, or family gathering. All are Bible knowledge builders, but every player has an equal chance of winning, regardless of his knowledge of God's Word. Ages 8 to adult. **BBGA-2639, \$12.95**

Life of Jesus Matching Game. Helps young children become familiar with stories from the life of Jesus. The winner is the first player to fill all the squares on his own board with matching picture tiles. Two to four children, ages 4 to 8, can play. **BBGA-2657, \$4.95**

The Lollipop Dragon® Good Deeds Game. Love and concern for others is taught in this game for young children. The colorful playing board feature Lollipop Dragon and his friends in the town of Tumtum. For two to four players, ages 5 to 9. **BBGA-2654, \$6.95**

Bible Journeys. Skill and probability spell fun in this game that teaches Bible facts and principles. The object of the game is to answer questions and collect the most "blessing" cards. For two to six players, ages 9 to adult. **BBGA-2539, \$12.95**

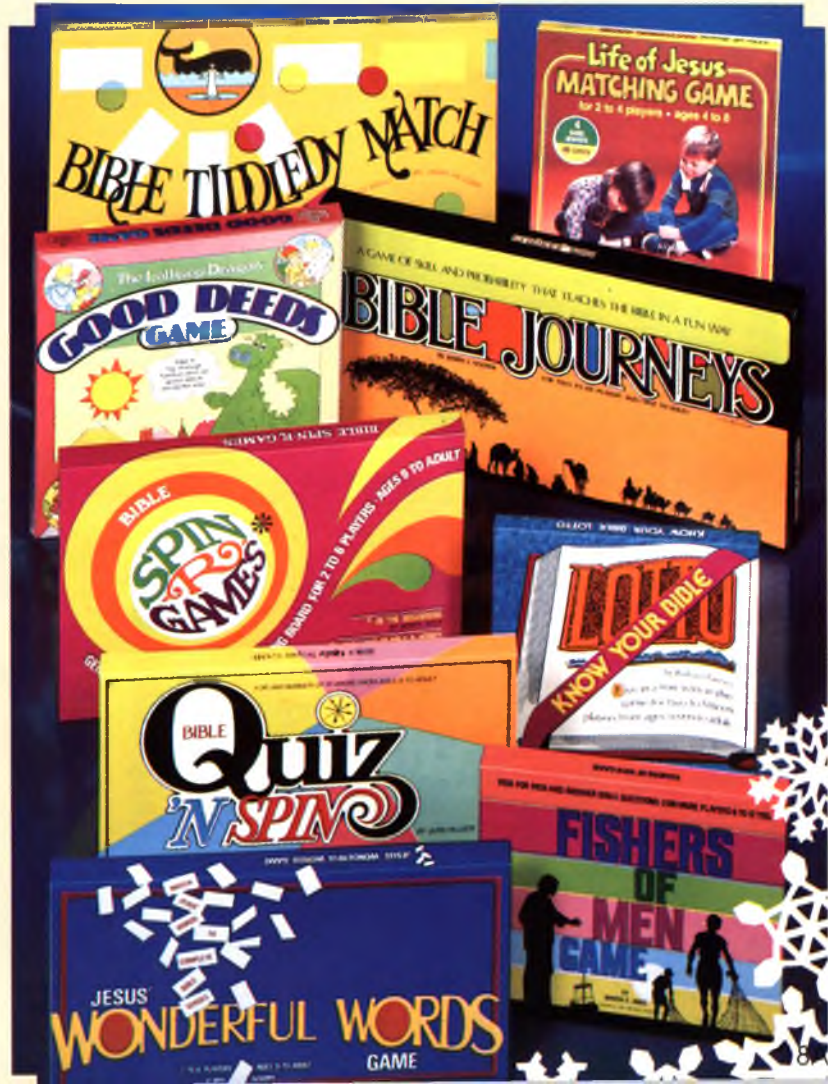
Bible Spin-R-Game. Two exciting, back-to-back spinner games cover events in the Bible from creation to entering into the Promised Land. Directions are on playing board and question cards. For two to six players, ages 9 to adult. **BBGA-2658, \$5.95**

Know Your Bible Lotto. Great fun for large groups—Sunday School classes, youth groups, and parties. Caller reads column letters and Bible clues. Players cover correct answers wherever they appear on the playing boards. For up to 15 players, ages 7 through adult. **BBGA-2653, \$5.95**

Bible Quiz 'N Spin Game. Any number of people or teams can play this fast-paced Bible game. There are two sets of 80 Bible questions—regular, for children age 9 and up, and advanced, for youth and adults. **BBGA-2638, \$6.95**

Jesus' Wonderful Words. Players vie to complete Jesus' sayings as they take turns drawing word cards and trying to match them to the complete sayings on their playing boards. For two to six players, ages 8 to adult. **BBGA-2584, \$5.95**

Fishers of Men. Players compete to see who can be the first to make a "catch" of "four men" with their fishing pole and magnet. For ages 6 to 12. Game contains 60 "men" cards with questions, dowel, string, magnet, paper clips, instruction/answer folder. **BBGA-2531, \$4.95**





NEW! Critter County™ Storytime Books and Tapes

Contemporary Christian music singer Christine Wyrzten and her Critter County® friends present these stories aloud on tape, and sing the memory verses to tunes Christine has written. Children can follow the stories and learn Bible verses as they sing along with the tapes.

Critter County® animal stickers are fun to collect and trade. A set of stickers is included with each tape/book set. For children ages 4 to 8.

Sydney Learns to Share
Rascal's Close Call
The Glad I Gotcha Day
Sydney to the Rescue
Words Can Hurt
Guess Who's Afraid

BBTAX-3391, \$4.95
BBTAX-3392, \$4.95
BBTAX-3393, \$4.95
BBTAX-3394, \$4.95
BBTAX-3395, \$4.95
BBTAX-3396, \$4.95

What Does the Bible Say?

Use this series to help children apply Bible teachings to their daily lives. Each story presents one Scripture verse. The simple text and full-color illustrations show children how they can live as each verse says. Sturdy library bindings. For ages 6 to 10.

Honesty. Honesty isn't always easy, but children see it's always best, and that it pleases Jesus.

BB089-565-1637, \$5.95

Obedience. Children learn to show love for God and parents by being obedient every day.

BB089-565-1645, \$5.95

Caring. Caring means showing love in simple ways—making a bed or teaching a friend to cartwheel.

BB089-565-1661, \$5.95

Kindness. Kindness means being a friend to new neighbors, taking turns, and similar activities.

BB089-565-167X, \$5.95

Courage. Shows that loving and caring as Jesus did takes a lot of courage.

BB089-565-1688, \$5.95

Joy. Deep-seated joy comes from selflessly serving God.

BB089-565-2226, \$5.95

Self-control. Self-control is a mark of maturity that is best demonstrated through actions.

BB089-565-2234, \$5.95



NEW! Shape Books

Tiny, developing hands can easily grasp and turn pages of these sturdy board books. Large, colorful illustrations hold a child's attention. Each book stresses one important concept. For ages 1 to 5.

Baby Jesus
God Made Me
God's Animals
God's Gifts
I Go to Church
My Family & Friends

BBBL-2747, \$2.95
BBBL-2748, \$2.95
BBBL-2749, \$2.95
BBBL-2750, \$2.95
BBBL-2751, \$2.95
BBBL-2752, \$2.95

Surprise Books

Here are sturdy, easy-to-handle books with lots of pleasant surprises. Art is big and simple, with flaps to raise and find hidden pictures. For ages 2 to 4.

I Can. Children learn good manners.

BBBL-2729, \$4.95

Thank You, God. Children become aware of all God's gifts that are free to enjoy.

BBBL-2730, \$4.95

My ABC Book. Apple in an alligator, banana in a bear, etc. Each alphabet letter is illustrated.

BBBL-2731, \$4.95

My Baby Jesus Book. Tells the true meaning of Christmas.

BBBL-2732, \$4.95

Ark Full of Animals. Unusual portrayal of Noah's ark. Comb binding allows book to open flat.

BB000-408-7402, \$4.95

House Full of Prayers. Simple stories teach children how, when, and why to pray. Comb binding.

BBBL-2709, \$4.95

Jesus, God's Son. The life of Jesus is told simply. Comb binding.

BBBL-2705, \$4.95



NEW! Wipe-clean Books

Children ages 2 to 5 are not too young to learn about God. These durable, plastic-coated books teach basic concepts with bright, colorful art, and simple stories. Great for nursery and day schools, Bible schools, and home.

God Cares for Me	BBBL-3511, \$1.39
Helping	BBBL-3512, \$1.39
I Learn to Pray	BBBL-3513, \$1.39
Jesus Grows Up	BBBL-3514, \$1.39
Loving	BBBL-3515, \$1.39
My Bible Book	BBBL-3516, \$1.39
My Friend Jesus	BBBL-3517, \$1.39
Obedying	BBBL-3518, \$1.39
Sharing	BBBL-3519, \$1.39



NEW! Happy Day Coloring Books

Now children can color the popular Happy Day books! Each coloring book has 16 enlarged black-and-white pages. Children can pretend they are artists as they color each page however they please.

Big Words for Little People. Children learn how to show compassion, politeness, kindness, patience.

BBH-2467, 89¢

God Loves Even Me. Children learn to talk to God; He is with them in everything they do.

BBH-2468, 89¢

I'm Glad I'm Your Dad. Dads tell why they are thankful for their children.

BBH-2469, 89¢

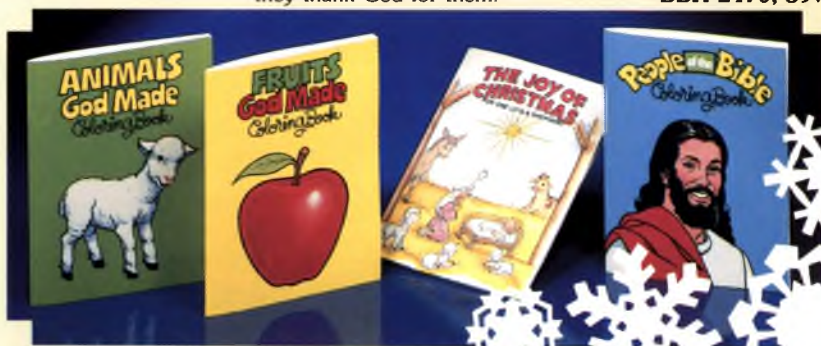
I'm Glad I'm Your Mother. Mothers tell their children why they thank God for them.

BBH-2470, 89¢

NEW! Simple Coloring Books

These coloring books are uncluttered and basic enough for the very young (ages 2 to 6). Bold, dark lines make it easy for young hands to color the simple objects. Fifteen pictures in each book.

Animals God Made	BBH-2375, 89¢
Fruits God Made	BBH-2376, 89¢
People of the Bible	BBH-2377, 89¢
The Joy of Christmas	BBH-2378, 89¢



NEW! Stick-on Coloring Books

These books have 16 pages to color and decorate with stickers. Two pages of stickers in the center of the book—nothing else to buy! For ages 4 to 8.

My Fun Calendar. A child's very own calendar, with stickers to mark birthdays and holidays, memory verses to learn, and special days to color.

BBH-2360, \$1.50

God's Rainbow. Teachers and parents can use this book to teach colors.

BBH-2368, \$1.50

Manners Matter. Jesse and Jason are twins. Can you tell who has good manners and who does not?

BBH-2369, \$1.50

Christmas Fun. Tells many different, fun ways to celebrate Christmas.

BBH-2370, \$1.50

Story and Color Books

Every book is two treats in one! Thirty-two action-packed Bible stories are easy for children ages 3 to 10 to understand. With each story is a full-page outline illustration to color, that reinforces the Bible story.

Friends of God. Features men and women from both Old and New Testaments.

BBH-2371, \$2.95

God Can Do Anything (Bible Miracles). Features Old and New Testament miracles, such as manna, virgin birth, feeding of 5,000, and more.

BBH-2372, \$2.95

Good News. Stories from the Gospels and Acts.

BBH-2373, \$2.95

Through the Bible with ABC's. A Bible story built around words beginning with each letter of the alphabet.

BBH-2374, \$2.95





Lacing Cards

A challenging, fun activity for children ages 4 to 7. Each set has 6 full-color, chipboard cards with colored laces. Instructions included.

God's Animals
Jesus Loves Me

BBH-2244, \$4.95
BBH-2245, \$4.95

Bible Picture Pairs

Simple 2-piece picture puzzles for children 3 to 7. Great fun to match, they help acquaint children with Bible facts and ABC's. Each set contains 18 interlocking puzzles.

ABC's About Jesus
Bible Animals
Bible Children
Bible Stories

BBGA-2318, \$3.50
BBGA-2319, \$3.50
BBGA-2320, \$3.50
BBGA-2321, \$3.50



Bible Pocket Puzzles

Plastic puzzles with 15 sliding tiles. Inexpensive, educational, fun gifts. Solution printed on backs.

Smile, God Loves You
Jesus and His Apostles
Books of the Old Testament
Books of the New Testament
Buzzy Bee
The Creation
Jesus' Birth
John 3:16

BBGA-2481, 98¢
BBGA-2482, 98¢
BBGA-2483, 98¢
BBGA-2484, 98¢
BBGA-2475, 98¢
BBGA-2476, 98¢
BBGA-2477, 98¢
BBGA-2479, 98¢



Happy Day Card Games

Children have fun and learn important Bible facts with these popular games. Instructions show more than one way to play each game.

NEW! Critter County® (ages 4 and up) **BBGA-2486, \$1.49**
NEW! The Creation (ages 6 and up) **BBGA-2487, \$1.49**
NEW! Life of Jesus Numbers (ages 8 and up) **BBGA-2498, \$1.49**

NEW! Smile, God Loves You (ages 8 and up) **BBGA-2499, \$1.49**

Baby Jesus (ages 6 and up) **BBGA-2593, \$1.49**

Bible Numbers (ages 6 and up) **BBGA-2594, \$1.49**

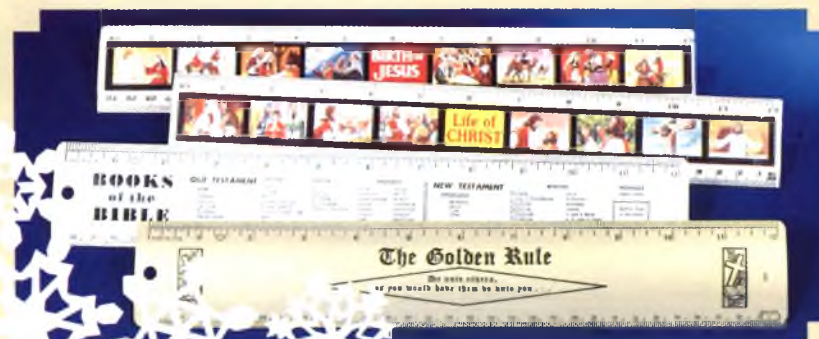
Jesus and His Apostles (ages 6 and up) **BBGA-2595, \$1.49**

The Lollipop Dragon® and Friends (ages 5 and up) **BBGA-2596, \$1.49**

Pocket Combs

These 6" combs are an excellent item for VBS, Sunday School, Bible bowl. Also make great gifts for any occasion. Handles are imprinted; assorted colors.

In the Footsteps of Jesus **BBAW-7873, 29¢**
NEW! For God So Loved the World **BBAW-7875, 29¢**



Gift Rulers

NEW! Birth of Jesus Ruler. Clear plastic ruler with 8 colorful pictures from the birth of Jesus. **BBAW-7886, 69¢**

Life of Christ Ruler. Clear plastic ruler with 8 colorful pictures from the life of Christ. **BBAW-7889, 69¢**

Books of the Bible Steel Ruler. Contains all the books, in the order they appear in the Bible. **BBAW-7887, 69¢**

Golden Rule Steel Ruler. Gold color ruler with the "Golden Rule" imprinted in black. **BBAW-7888, 69¢**

Price subject to change without notice.

Add 5% for handling and postage

WALLY BECOMES A MAN

by WILLIAM GOODMAN

I ATTEMPTED SUICIDE seven times in 10 years. No one knows what it is like being effeminate unless they have been there," stated Wally. Wally had been rejected by his father because he was a "sissy." He wasn't rough-and-tumble like the other boys in his neighborhood, so he was rejected by them. He had to find companionship by playing girls' games.

As an adult, Wally found that he attracted the attention of certain kinds of men. Men would say that he was sweet, and that they loved him, and would pay

WILLIAM GOODMAN is an ordained elder in the Church of the Nazarene and a free-lance writer. He lives in Kansas City, Missouri.

special attention to him. Wally was pulled into homosexual circles, circles that became a noose around his neck. He wanted to break loose from his enslavement but was rejected still by men and women who lived normal life-styles.

Wally went to a church to seek help. He found help to a degree, but the church people were suspicious of him. Wally's mannerisms betrayed him. The minister called Wally aside and warned him that they wouldn't condone any homosexuals around the church.

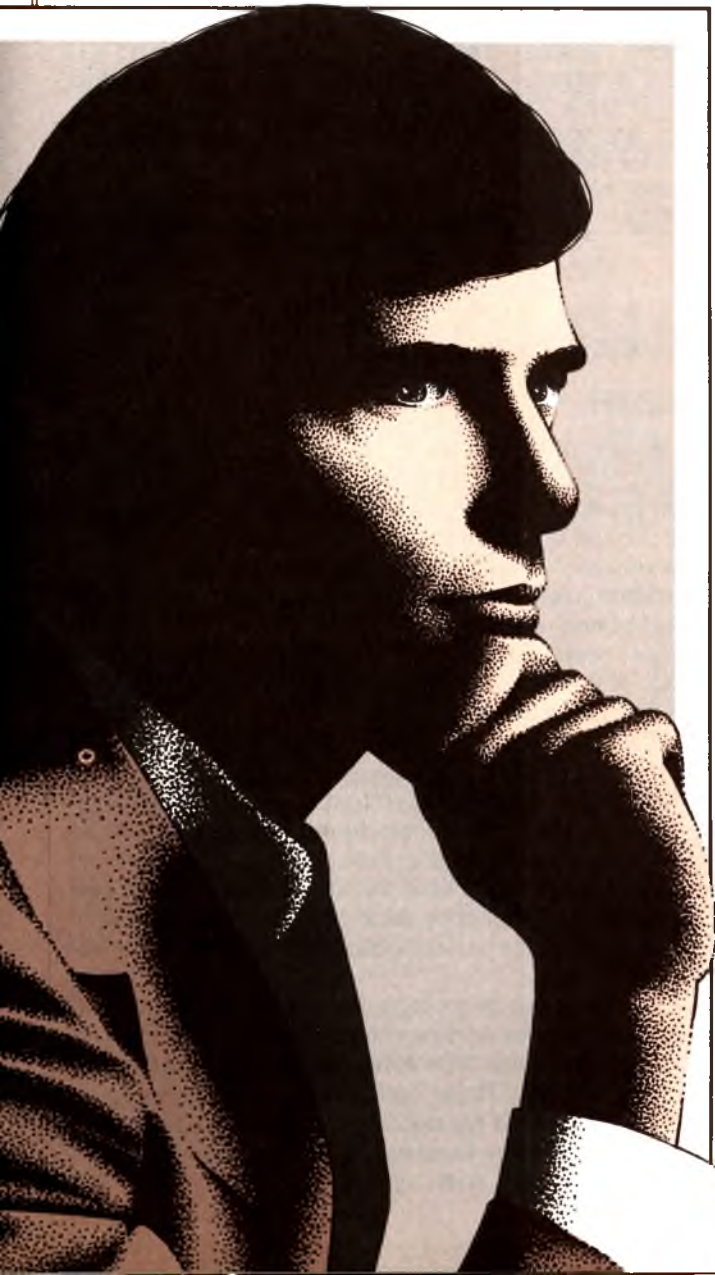
Wally continued to call out for help, but nothing happened to change him. After an incident where he overdosed on pills, he was taken to a medical center and given shock treatment for depression. The center didn't deal with the hated life-style that caused his depression.

Wally attended another church where they quickly gave him scriptural warnings against homosexual behavior and assured him that all homosexuals would burn in hell. Wally knew the homosexual life-style was a contradiction to God's plan for him as a man. Rejected again, Wally sat in a park across the street from the church; he cried and prayed for help, and then slashed his arm with a sharp knife. He found himself in an emergency room staring at the ceiling, and hearing another lecture against his life-style.

On another day at another place, Wally again met with a minister at a church and pleaded for help. He confessed that he had been involved in the homosexual life-style but wanted to be free and to be accepted as a normal, straight man. "Are you willing to accept Christ's forgiveness?" asked the pastor. Wally wanted the Lord to forgive him and cleanse him. He was ready to surrender his total being to God and change his life-style. He would stop wearing clothing that called attention to himself. He would stay away from places where homosexuals congregated; he would change the tone of his voice and his effeminate mannerisms.

A few days later Wally shared a scripture he had discovered, "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, . . . and such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God" (1 Corinthians 6:9, 11). Through the grace of God and by the power of the Holy Spirit, Wally was delivered from his torment.

Each morning now, Wally stands before the mirror and says to the reflected person in a husky voice: "You are a man, a man of God, and you are free and victorious." Jesus sets sinners free and makes them whole. Just ask the man Wally! □



allowed to become, my family has gotten involved with N.F.D. We believe God depends on Christians not to be silent in these areas.

Linn Bertog
Wichita, Kansas

FAITHFUL LAYMEN COMMENDED

Tears flowed as mentally I looked back down memory's lane followed for 40 years as an elder in the Church of the Nazarene and read the article by Dr. Raymond W. Hurn titled "The Church That Wouldn't Die" in the August 15 issue. And those tears did not dry as I turned back a page and read about the one in Crown Point, Ind.

Two pastors really paid the price for those churches' resurrections, and nothing should be said to detract from sacrifices made or discouragements overcome.

Yet the human key had to be some laymen who would not quit! It had to be some saints who prayed incessantly and intercessorily, who kept on paying the bills with their tithe and beyond; some laity who taught Sunday School classes, who

brought their own and neighbors' children to services; who were not seeking honor or thanks, but whose commitment to God, the local church, and their families would not permit abandonment or despair.

Orchids to the preachers and their mates—they deserve every commendation and compliment—but when the account books of God are balanced, I venture that the names of some of the laity from such locations will shine, too! May their number increase!

J. M. Yarbrough
Valrico, Florida

THE DOVE CAME

Two years ago I visited my son in California in March, and he took me to see the "scouts" come to San Juan Capistrano. The scouts were white doves that flew into the mission two days early to make sure "the land was pleasant" for the swallows to make their yearly visit there. The doves circle the mission several times, then light and search the area to make sure everything is alright. Then they leave and go back to wherever the swallows are to *let them know* that all is well for them to enter Capistrano and the mission.

First came the white doves, a few pigeons, then an array of swallows filled the sky and descended on the mission. It was beautiful to see such perfect timing.

In the Bible, Noah sent out a dove to see if all was well. When Jesus was baptized, "the heavens opened, and the *Spirit like a dove*" descended upon Him.

At our General Assembly Communion service in Anaheim stadium, a white dove descended from the sky, circled close to the ground a couple of times, then departed. It was touching. It seemed that God waited for us to assemble for something as sacred as Communion to *let us know* all is well. Let me tell you this was a beautiful sight to see.

When the speaker acknowledged this event in the evening service, and said the Comforter had come that day, I wanted to fall on my knees in humility. But isn't that just like Jesus to bless us like that? I love Him for it.

As a new Christian (and a new Nazarene), this has been a good memory of the Assembly for me.

Jo Harvey
Memphis, Tennessee

Through Death to Life

by E. DALE KEITH

ON MAY 4, 1984, a beautiful spring day, Jack Martin was working in his garden when he decided to ride his bicycle. He wanted to practice for a ride across Iowa. He had gone just a short distance when he fell from the bike and was knocked unconscious. He was found and rushed to the hospital, where he would remain for a month. He suffered a brain concussion, broken ribs, double vision, and amnesia. For several days he couldn't explain what had happened to him.

Jack's son, "Butch," went to see his dad every day. Butch was a Christian and after Jack was released from the hospital, Butch continued to pray much for his dad, mother, and unsaved brother. Butch, his wife, Norma, and their children came to visit Jack and check his progress. Butch spent some time talking with Jack about the Bible, the Savior, and heaven.

One summer night Butch went to prayer meeting at

his church in Des Moines. He was excited about the Sunday School class he was teaching and his own personal growth in Christ. As the men of the church gathered around the altar to pray for revival and for loved ones to find Jesus Christ, one of Butch's friends overheard him pray, "Lord, whatever it takes, I want to see a mighty revival."

Those were the last words that friend heard from Butch. A few hours later, Butch was riding his motorcycle home and a car struck him from behind and killed him. Butch (William Edgar Martin, Sr.) went home to see his Lord on August 18, 1984.

Butch's prayer was related to the church at its Sunday morning service. People found Jesus, and others made some commitments that perhaps would never have been made otherwise! One of the greatest things that happened was that Jack Martin came to know Jesus Christ as his personal Savior, and so did Butch's mother.

About a month or so after Jack was born again, he went to his pastor and reported that God was greatly helping him and his wife spiritually, but God was also touching his eyes. Today Jack's sight is good and he is serving Jesus in the Moravia, Iowa, Church of the Nazarene. We praise the Lord for Butch's life and his commitment to Jesus Christ. □

"By ALL MEANS...
Save Some"

IN THE NEWS

PEOPLE AND PLACES



Dr. Richard Stellway, Northwest Nazarene College, Department of Sociology, was selected as a 1985 *Joseph J. Malone Postdoctoral Fellow* to study this past summer at the American University in Cairo. The program ran from July 11—August 4. The National Council on U.S. Arab Relations held a two-day cross-cultural orientation program in New York City prior to the trip to Cairo. □



James Dennis Kiper was granted the doctor of philosophy degree in computer and information science from Ohio State University, June 14. Dr. Kiper has been a faculty member at Mount Vernon Nazarene College for the past seven years. He is a graduate of Olivet Nazarene College and completed masters' degrees at O.S.U. in 1978, in mathematics and computer science. He has accepted a position in the Computer Science Department of Wake Forrest University, Winston-Salem, N.C. He is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Dennis Kiper of Waverly, Ohio. He and his wife, Beth, have two daughters, Morgan and Carmen. □



Charles L. Marker II of Moundsville, W.Va., graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass., June 3, with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. Mr. Marker has accepted a position as a computer scientist with the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, a division of the University of California, Livermore, Calif.

Marker is a graduate of John Marshall High School, Glendale, class of 1981. He is a member of the Moundsville church, where his parents, Rev.

and Mrs. Charles L. Marker, are the pastors. □

May 14, a picture was sent all over the world in newspapers and on television of a sheriff's officer reviving a small kitten during a house fire in Park City, Kans. He is **Larry Palmer**, a member of the Park City church and church board secretary. Five kittens were revived and Palmer and a Park City police officer have received several awards and commendations for this humane act. They have also received letters and cards from all over the world. □

Jettie Oden Baker, who died June 21, 1985, shortly before her 92nd birthday, was an ardent supporter of mis-

sions. She was a member of the Ardmore, Okla., Church nearly 50 years. A gift of \$920 was given in her memory for World Mission Radio. □



Evangelist Lenny Wisehart has been called as the "Evangelist in Residence" by Denver First Church. In the newly created position, he will preach every Sunday evening and will teach classes in personal soul winning and evangelism. The call is for at least three years. Under the agreement with the church, the Wiseharts will be available for meetings for eight weeks annually.

Lenny's wife, Joy, ministers with her husband on the road, and teaches their eight-year-old son, Brady. The Wiseharts plan to move to Denver after Thanksgiving. Their first service will be Sunday, December 8.

During the next three years Rev. Wisehart plans to complete his doctoral program.

Dr. Don Wellman is the senior pastor at Denver First Church. □

SPECIAL NOTICE

TO: Prospective Faculty
Faculty in Non-Nazarene Colleges

FROM: Mark R. Moore, Secretary of Education Services

One assignment of the secretary of Education Services is to act as a placement officer for prospective faculty, administrators, and staff at Nazarene colleges. Listed below are the current needs as stated by the academic deans of Nazarene liberal arts colleges for the fall of 1986 and fall of 1987.

If you have an interest in teaching in a Nazarene college, send a current vita to me at the address below. I will share it in confidence and in keeping with your request.

Accounting	Math
Business	Music
Computer Science	Nursing
Education	Physics
English	Religion
Instrumental Music	Sociology
Manager, Computer Center	Speech Communication

All needs cannot be anticipated. Openings may occur in other areas and in staff administration.

Nazarene colleges are equal opportunity employers.


Write: Mark R. Moore
Secretary of Education
Church of the Nazarene
6401 The Paseo
Kansas City, MO 64131



Pictured (l. to r.) are those who have completed two years of service: (back row) Roger Alexander, Dennis Apple, Darcy Dill, Bennett Dudney, Dale Fallon, Teri Griffin, Jacquie Hartman, and Shirley Thatcher; (front row) Faith Mapes, Teresa Holcomb, Donna Gunter, Brenda Rowilson, Barbara Hoffman, Gene Smith, Larry Leonard, and David Najarian. Not shown are Nina Beegle, Wilbur Brannon, Charles Gates, Nancy Lytle, Pamela May, Linda Pinney, Sylvette Rivera, Hatsue Robinson, Colleen Tew, and Patrician Warren.



Those with five years of service are shown (l. to r., back row): Marsha Ballard, Steve Cooley, Joseph Huddleston, Evonne Smith, Paul Fitzgerald, Gary Sive-wright, and Ray Pritchard; (front row) Janet Sawyer, Lavonne Rieck, Ellis Cox, Lelia Davis, Kelly Teare, and Marilyn Turner. Not shown are William Couchenour, Russell Hansen, and Mark R. Moore.



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HEADQUARTERS SERVICE AWARDS CHAPEL

June 3, a chapel service was held to honor employees who had completed 2, 5, 10, and 15 years of continuous service at headquarters as of December 31, 1984.

Col. Curt Bowers, Chaplaincy Ministries director at headquarters, presented a timely message on keeping your job satisfying.

Following Col. Bowers' message, the employees received pins designating their years of service. □



Paul Spear (l.), Headquarters Services director, congratulates Wilbur Brannon, Pastoral Ministries director, on his service at headquarters.



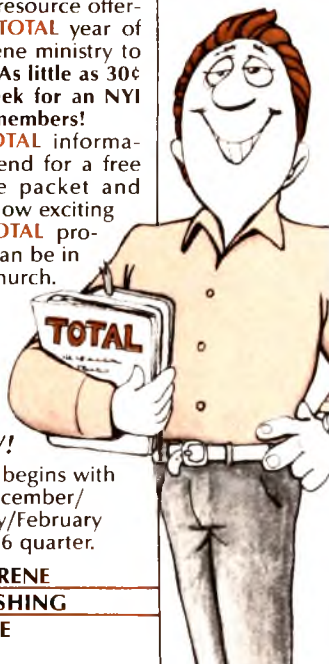
Those with 10 years of service (l. to r.) are Manuela Barros, Dennis Berard, Arlene Elkins, and Olga Wittman; not shown: James Hudson.



Those with 15 years of service (l. to r.) are Jeannette Wienecke and Paul Turner; not shown: Beverly Burgess.

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ment in the Diamond Anniversary of the church, encouragement of regional archives on Nazarene college campuses, assistance in historical research, and the design of historical exhibits. He authored the "Nazarene Roots" articles in the *Herald of Holiness* and also served as the principal coordinator of the first Nazarene Archives and History Conference in August 1984.

Cooley's efforts have been recognized by professional organizations in the Midwest, where he most recently served as cochairman of the Kansas City Area Archivists (KCAA). He has read papers at the University of Kansas Conference on History and the Midwest Archives Conference.

Mr. Ingersol became the new manager of Nazarene Archives on September 3, just one week before his wife, Cheryl, gave birth to their second child, Robert Wesley. Their daughter, Rachel Anne, is two.

Nazarene Archives is a service of the general secretary's office at headquarters. □

—NN

NAZARENES MEET KENYAN PRESIDENT



The ministry of the Church of the Nazarene in Kenya was given a personal boost by the president of the country. The meeting with President Daniel Arap Moi was

scheduled by Leonard Mpoke, coordinator for Developmental Ministries, East Africa; and Harmon Schmelzenbach, field director, East Africa, to deliver a donation of 75,000 shillings from the Nazarene Hunger and Disaster Fund to the President's National Famine Relief Fund. Earlier in Sep-

tember, as President Moi delivered a speech on "The Food Crisis," he said that unlike 10 years ago, today Kenya could not contain a food crisis from internal sources alone. He added, "Last year to avert starvation, we had to import 25 million bags of maize and substantial quantities of other food items."

In his delivery speech, Mr. Mpoke stated, "The Church of the Nazarene firmly believes that the commission of Jesus Christ is directed toward the whole man, spiritually and physically, and that our duty is to love our neighbor as ourselves. Therefore, we desire to indicate our support in meeting the need by making a donation in favour of the National Famine Relief Fund."

In his acceptance of the donation, President Moi stated that it was in keeping with the Christian doctrine of stewardship and being mindful to the needs of our people that the fund was started. The President, himself a professing Christian, expressed his gratitude to the church and indicated his desire to attend services once the Nairobi Church of the Nazarene was built. The President personally welcomed the church into Kenya.

The event was televised nation-wide and was given front-page coverage in all of the national newspapers.

Kenya is one of the newest areas of Nazarene mission involvement and was one of the five fields opened in the 75th Anniversary Year of the Church of the Nazarene.

Famine continues to ravage much of the continent of Africa. Contributions can be made to the Nazarene Hunger and Disaster Fund. Checks should be designated for famine relief and should be payable to Norman O. Miller, general treasurer. □

NAZARENE ARCHIVES RECEIVES NEW MANAGER

Dr. B. Edgar Johnson, general secretary, has announced that Steve Cooley has accepted a scholarship to begin doctoral studies in the history of Christian religion at the University of Chicago, and that Stan Ingersol is the new Nazarene Archives manager.




Mr. Ingersol holds degrees from Bethany Nazarene College, the University of Kansas, and Nazarene Theological Seminary. For the past two years he has worked

with the Nazarene Archives while researching a doctoral dissertation in Nazarene history at Duke University.



Mr. Cooley came to the position in the fall of 1979 as the first full-time archives manager at the request of Dr. B. Edgar Johnson. During his six years at headquarters, he organized the historical collections, accumulated since 1936, into an organized body of usable materials.

He also worked to encourage the development of Nazarene history across the denomination through involve-



Book Briefs

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PLNC Bible Curriculum Writing Workshop participants are shown: (front row, l. to r.) Sheryl Good, Dorothy Madden, Cheryl Ramsey, Nancy Swift, and Joyce King; (back row, l. to r.) Mark York, Children's Ministries, director of the workshop; Dr. Beryl Dillman, college coordinator; and Mark Hendrickson.

OUR COLLEGES AND SEMINARIES



PLNC HOSTS BIBLE CURRICULUM WRITERS

Point Loma Nazarene College recently launched the second year in the three-year Bible curriculum writing project. Its goal is to produce teacher-developed Bible instructional materials for use in Nazarene preschools and day schools. The project is a cooperative ef-

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Point Loma Nazarene College joined all Nazarene colleges in the country in donating books to Nazarene world-area Bible colleges and seminaries. The donations were made through the "Books for Enrichment" project to develop the library collections in the world-area schools. PLNC has given more than 50 boxes of books and periodicals to the Seminario Nazareno Mexicano and to Bible institutes in Mexico City and Ensenada. Included in the donation is 102 volumes of the *Encyclopedia Universal Illustrada*. Pictured (l. to r.) are Howard Conrad, assistant professor of Spanish and religion at PLNC, and Jim Newburg, director of Learning Services at PLNC, who participated in the project.



Dr. Earl J. McGrath, who served as commissioner of education under Presidents Truman and Eisenhower, is standing with Dr. William J. Prince (l.), president of Mount Vernon Nazarene College, and Dr. Robert G. Lawrence (r.), vice-president for academic affairs at the college. McGrath was the featured speaker at MVNC's Faculty Institute, August 28-29. He said that the church-related college can exert real leadership in reestablishing the teaching and learning process with spiritual and moral considerations.

fort between the writers, PLNC, the Southern California District, the Nazarene International Education Association, and Children's Ministries.

The participants, which included teachers, administrators, and consultants from Nazarene Christian Schools, convened on the Point Loma campus July 1-12 for a Bible curriculum writing workshop. Faculty members and other Nazarene professionals conducted presentations to help the writers strengthen their skills in curriculum construction.

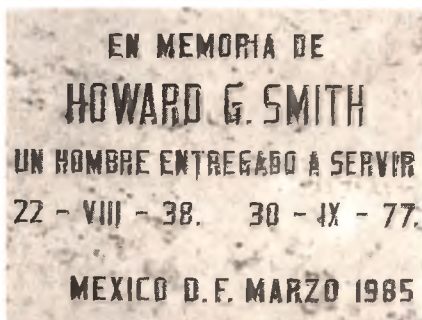
Persons interested in more information about the workshop may contact Dr. Beryl Dillman, 3900 Lomaland Dr., San Diego, CA 92106. □

WORK AND WITNESS IN MEXICO

A Work and Witness team of 17 from the Spokane, Wash., Pasadena Park Church recently spent two weeks in Mexico City helping to build one classroom unit for the Nazareno Mexicano Seminario in memory of Howard G. Smith. The team spent two weeks at the seminary site building the classroom unit along with helping to dig ditches and doing whatever else needed to be done. The plans for the seminary project include the administration building, two classroom buildings, dormitory space for 80 students, and a student center cafeteria. These are now in construction with the library building and auditorium to follow.

The team not only worked on the project, they shared their faith with the workers and worshiped in the nearby churches. A spirit of unity was sensed as they fellowshiped and worshiped with Mexican Nazarenes.

In the Old Testament, Samuel calls his altar of praise "Ebenezer." Team member Neil S. McKay reports this project was like that altar of praise—a memorial of the past as well as a commitment to the future. The memorial plaque attached to the outside of the classroom building reads, "Howard G. Smith, a Man Dedicated to Serve." It is a fitting testimony to the seminary students as they prepare to serve. □



The seminary classroom memorial plaque.



The Spokane, Wash., Pasadena Park Church Work and Witness Team



Members of the Scholars Curriculum Committee met August 5-7 in Colorado Springs to discuss church planting as an area of study in Nazarene institutions of higher learning. They are (l. to r.) Barth Smith (standing), Mid-America Nazarene College; Steve Gunter, Bethany Nazarene College; Jerry Lambert, Nazarene Bible College; Neil Hightower, Canadian Nazarene College; Carl Clendenen, NBC; Irving Laird, Northwest Nazarene College; Phillip Gunter, church planter, Carson Valley, Nev.; John Lown, Point Loma Nazarene College; Ottis Sayes, Olivet Nazarene College; Edward Cox, Mount Vernon Nazarene College; Neil Wiseman, NBC; and Bill Sullivan, Division of Church Growth. (Tom Pound of Space Coast Pioneer Area, Central Florida District, not pictured.)



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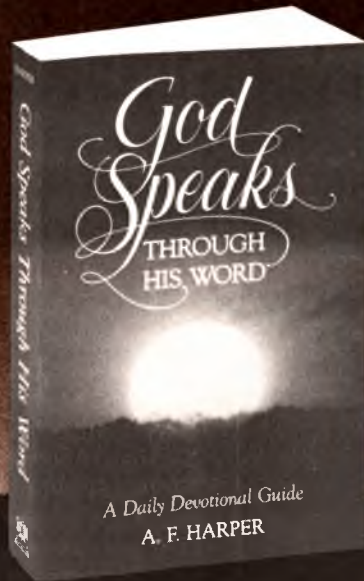
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REPORT ON AFTERMATH OF EARTHQUAKES IN MEXICO CITY

The situation in Mexico City is more critical than had first been thought, according to Dr. Steve Weber, Compassionate Ministries director, who returned from a three-and-a-half day visit to Mexico City last month. He was there to assess the needs that continue to exist following the earthquakes of September that killed thousands and left hundreds homeless.

In a report to Dr. L. Guy Nees, World Mission Division director, Dr. Weber said that although there has been only one confirmed Nazarene death, there were many Nazarenes with family members who had been killed or injured. Mr. Enrique Rojas D., General Board member, lost four of his family members and two others were hospitalized.

While in Mexico City, Dr. Weber authorized \$25,000 for immediate repairs to five local churches, all of which sustained substantial damage. The parsonage of Mexico City First Church was heavily damaged while the main support beam of the church's sanctuary floor was cracked. In addition to these six churches and three parsonages that were damaged, there were between 30 and 100 Nazarene families who were homeless. First Church had 11 such families whose homes were totally destroyed. Reports from the other 15 affected congregations in the city, as well as the other two districts outside Mexico City, were being prepared.

Compassionate Ministries has offered \$50,000 in loans to help these laymen rebuild their homes. As this money is repaid to the disaster committee in Mexico City, the proceeds will be used to build a clinic in the very poorest section of the city where there is as yet no Church of the Nazarene. There are in excess of 3.5 million people in this part of the city.

The denomination has provided the Mexican Red Cross with one planeload of badly needed supplies, which were unavailable through normal channels. Also, Nazarene volunteers such as the Nazarene Medical-Dental Fellowship and Missions Unlimited of Jasper, Ala., have been very helpful in providing airplanes, medicines, assessment team members and other assistance. The Church of the Nazarene has also been working with other relief agencies such as World Relief, Medical Assistance Program and Mercy Corps.

Local Nazarene churches have sent money, people, and supplies that are being used for Mexico City and Nicaragua. The major form of assistance that Nazarenes can offer in Mexico City continues to be financial. Concerned individuals or churches may contribute to the Nazarene Hunger and

Disaster Fund. Checks should be made payable to Dr. Norman O. Miller, general treasurer.

"The International Church of the Nazarene has wanted to help and is helping," says Dr. Weber concerning the response to the tragedy.

Meanwhile, Dr. H. T. Reza, president of Seminario Nazareno Mexicano, A.C., thanks the many Nazarenes around the world who have expressed a concern about the seminary and the Church of the Nazarene in Mexico in the aftermath of the earthquakes of last month.

"We have personally received hundreds of calls from all over the U.S., Cuba, Costa Rica, Honduras, and El Salvador since the disaster," said Dr. Reza.

"We are grateful to the people for their prayers and interest in the seminary, faculty, students, and other personnel."

Dr. Reza says that close inspection of the seminary campus revealed that none of the buildings sustained significant damage. □

—NN



Vice President George Bush (rear), greeted Bud Tollie, chairman of the Nazarene International Laymen's Conference, and part of his family (wife, Nancy, and son, Chip) in his Washington, D.C., office. In the interest of compassionate ministries, Bud transported medical and food supplies from the Midwest to the capital for a special mercy flight to Sudan, which Mr. Bush accompanied. Bud, president of Tollie Freightways, Inc., visited the vice president and was warmly thanked for his part in making this mission possible.

IRS ANNOUNCES HIGHER MILEAGE RATE FOR BUSINESS AND CHARITABLE USE OF AUTOMOBILES

The IRS announced two changes in the standard mileage rate for figuring tax deductions for business and charitable use of automobiles. These new rates are to be used for the entire 1985 tax year.

1. The allowable deduction for business use was raised from 20.5¢ per mile to 21¢ per mile.

The 21¢ business rate is for the first 15,000 miles of business travel per year

for cars not fully depreciated. The rate for mileage above 15,000 and for mileage on fully depreciated cars remains unchanged at 11¢.

A taxpayer can deduct either the business standard mileage rate or actual expenses for business use of cars. In addition, the business-related portion of parking, toll, and interest on car loans can be deducted.

Although all taxpayers who qualify for the business mileage deduction will be affected, the new rate will be of particular interest to ministers who are using their personal automobile in church business. Church boards who are reimbursing their employees for business mileage should use the increased rate of mileage reimbursement.

2. The allowable deduction for charitable use was raised from 9¢ per mile to 12¢ per mile.

The 12¢ rate is unlimited for the total number of miles driven for charitable use. This makes it well worth the taxpayer's time to keep track of mileage. The mileage rate of medical and moving expense deductions remains the same at 9¢ per mile. □

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FOR THE RECORD

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS

NORTH CAROLINA

The 58th annual assembly of the North Carolina District met in High Point, S.C. District Superintendent Oval L. Stone, completing the first year of an extended term, reported three new churches: Cary, Gastonia Eastside, and Elizabeth City.

Presiding General Superintendent John A. Knight ordained John R. Hughes.

Elected to the Advisory Board were elders James Staggs and Max S. Murphy and laymen Odie L. Page and Bill R. Tate.

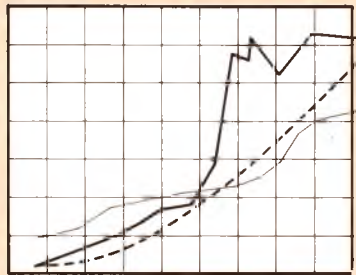
Mrs. Mary Ponce was reelected NWMS president; Rev. Mike Jackson was elected NYI president; and Rev. Larry Smith was elected chairman of the Board of CL/SS.

KENTUCKY

The 77th annual assembly of the Kentucky District met in Elizabethtown, Ky. District Superintendent Aleck Ulmet, completing the third year of an extended term, reported.

Presiding General Superintendent William M. Greathouse ordained Kevin Thomas and Kevin Ulmet.

Elders Marvin Appleby, Jerry Cline, and Riley Laymon and laymen Robert Allen, Mark Greathouse, and



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Pictured at the Wisconsin district assembly (l. to r.) are Larry D. Hamilton, district secretary; District Superintendent J. Ted Holstein; ordinands and wives Rev. and Mrs. Timothy Alan Bish, Rev. and Mrs. Gerald Holmes, and Rev. and Mrs. David Roscoe; and Dr. William M. Greathouse, general superintendent.

Richard Thompson were elected to the Advisory Board.

Mrs. Betty Laymon, NWMS president; Rev. Larry Morgan, NYI president; and Rev. Ray Gibson, chairman of the Board of CL/SS were each reelected to their offices.

WISCONSIN

The 50th annual assembly of the Wisconsin Dis-

trict met at Stevens Point, Wis. District Superintendent J. Ted Holstein, completing the first year of an extended term, reported three new churches: Reedsburg Community, Sturgeon Bay, and Superior Twin Ports.

William M. Greathouse, general superintendent, ordained Timothy Alan Bish, David Lee Roscoe, and Gerald Duane Holmes.

Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Charles Brooks and Laurel Matson and laymen Alton Goerlitz and John Woodruff.

Ruth Degner was reelected NWMS president; Robert Duranceau was elected NYI president; and David Penn was elected chairman of the Board of CL/SS.

SOUTHEAST OKLAHOMA

The 34th annual assembly of the Southeast Oklahoma District met in Durant, Okla. District Superintendent Wendell O. Paris, completing the fourth year of an extended term, was reelected for a two-year term, as he plans to retire in 1987.

General Superintendent Raymond W. Hurn ordained S. T. Taylor and Harlan Buettner.

Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Clifford R. Joines and James M. Stewart and laymen Lenard Stubbs and Bob Ketchum.

NWMS president Mrs. Wendell O. Paris, NYI president Rev. Lowell Churchill, Jr., and chairman of the board of CL/SS were reelected to their respective offices.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Madera, Calif., Church** is celebrating its 50th anniversary through a seven-week celebration, beginning November 10, running through December 22, 1985. Former pastors, members, and friends are urged to attend or send greetings to the church at 1021 Austin Ave., Madera, CA 93637, or phone (209) 674-0911. Chris Carver is the pastor.

RECOMMENDATIONS

I recommend **REV. HOWARD RICKEY** to the field of evangelism. Rev. Rickey has served effectively as pastor and evangelist, and is now giving full time to evangelism. He has a burden for souls and will be a help to any church. You may contact him at 1572 Maumee Drive, Xenia, OH 45385.—*Harold B. Graves, Southwestern Ohio district superintendent.*

REV. CARL N. HALL has served as pastor of the Valdosta Church of the Nazarene on the Georgia District for a year and a half and has done an excellent job. It is his desire to reenter the field of evangelism at this time. I highly recommend him to our churches and pastors for revivals. He may be contacted at P.O. Box 7086, Clearwater, FL 33518, or phone (813) 725-4098.—*Harold Latham, Georgia district superintendent.*

Evangelists may be reached through Evangelism Ministries' toll-free number, 800-821-2154.

VITAL STATISTICS

DEATHS

LILLIE MAY ADDIS, 90, Sept. 29, La Junta, Colo. Interment: Manzanola, Colo. Survivors: sister Maggie Phillips; brothers Ed Beasley and Everett Beasley.

LYDIA ISABELLE BRAUN, July 19, Denton, Tex. Interment: Rogersville, Mo. Survivors: no immediate family.

DORA FAY DAVIS, June 7, Pasadena, Calif. Survivors: husband Alonzo D.; sons Robert L., Edward D., John H., James K.; daughters Mary E. Little, Doris Anderson; 19 grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

REV. WILLIAM LOFTON HARWELL, 64, May 21, North Little Rock, Ark. Survivors: wife Lou Etta; daughter Jo Ann Johnson; son Larry; two grandchildren. Ministry: Tennessee and South Arkansas.

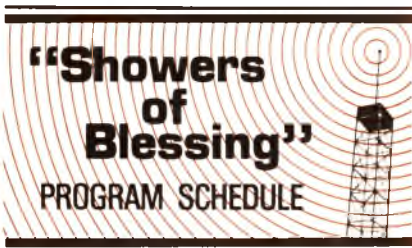
GEORGE C. LAURIE, 71, of Florence, S.C., Oct. 2, Plattsburgh, N.Y. Interment: Mooers, N.Y. Survivors: wife Bernice M. (Seamans); daughters Mrs. William (Carolyn) Nelson and Mrs. Douglas (Marjorie) Smith; three grandchildren; and a half-brother. Ministry: West Virginia, New York; Ottawa, Canada; and Army chaplaincy.

REV. HAROLD A. ROGERS, 80, Aug. 12, Fontana, Calif. Survivors: wife Marcella; daughter Lucy Quinn; two grandchildren; two brothers; and two sisters. Ministry: Idaho, Wyoming, Oregon, and California.

BIRTHS

to **KEN AND DENISE (CRAMER) BEATY**, Bethany, Okla., a girl, Lauren Shea, June 4

to **REV. GREG AND CHERYL (SHRIMP) BEATY**, Natchez, Miss., a girl, Meghan Elizabeth, July 8



November 24
"From Death to Life"

December 1
"New Life for an Old Man"

by *W. E. McCumber, speaker*

NEWS OF RELIGION

PUBLIC OPINION DIVIDED ON PAROCHIAL SCHOOL AID. Public opinion is split on government aid to parochial schools, according to a recent Gallup Poll.

The poll, taken August 13-15, found 45 percent favoring and 47 percent opposing an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would permit the government to provide financial aid to church-affiliated schools. This represents a slight increase since 1980 (40 percent favored, 49 percent opposed), but a definite decline since 1974 (52 percent favored, 35 percent opposed).

Another recent Gallup survey studied support for a "voucher" system, under which the government would provide a certain amount for each child's education, regardless of whether the child attended a public, parochial, or other private school. In surveys taken May 17-20, a voucher system was favored by 45 percent and opposed by 40 percent. Support for education vouchers was at 51 percent, with only 38 percent opposed, as recently as 1983.

Catholics and Protestants react differently to proposals of parochial school aid. A constitutional amendment was supported by 67 percent of Catholics, but only by 38 percent of Protestants. Just over half (51 percent) of Catholics supported a voucher system, while 42 percent of Protestants supported such a measure. □

CHRISTIAN LEADERS READY TO BOYCOTT TV SPONSORS, SAYS WILDMON. The number of Christian leaders who have agreed to promote a boycott of TV sponsors of sex, violence, profanity, and anti-Christian programming has grown to over 1,000, according to United Methodist minister Donald E. Wildmon.

Wildmon, who is coordinator for the "Statement of Concern" group, said the group includes the heads of 69 Christian denominations; more than 200 Christian broadcasters; nearly 150 Catholic, United Methodist, Greek Orthodox, Lutheran, and Episcopal bishops; 18 executive directors of state Southern Baptist Conventions; the presidents of nearly 40 Christian colleges; and the heads of nearly every large parachurch group in America.

Wildmon said that the group sent a statement of concern to networks and advertisers in June. He said that NBC responded to the concerns, but gave no indication of plans to change the moral content of their programs. CBS and ABC did not even respond to the letter. Wildmon said that by their lack of response, networks and advertisers have shown they don't care about the concerns of the Christian community and don't feel the group has enough numbers or commitment to make a boycott successful.

The group will meet in early February to decide the next step. The meeting will be held during the convention of the National Religious Broadcasters. Wildmon says he plans to recommend a boycott of one or more sponsors.

The statement endorsed by the group asks networks and advertisers to change the moral content of programming to reflect the "pluralistic and realistic nature of our society, including an accurate portrayal of the Judeo-Christian moral value system." □

TEENS FAVOR PRAYER, SPLIT ON ABORTION. Today's high schoolers favor school prayer, but are split on abortion, according to a Gannett News Service poll released recently. The survey of 793 public and private high school student leaders found that girls were more liberal than boys, and that Southern students were more conservative than students in other parts of the country.

Students favored voluntary school prayer. Southern students had the most favorable response to school prayer, with 83 percent endorsing voluntary religious observance in the schools—10 percent higher than other regions. Nationwide, 73 percent say that students who want to pray should be accommodated.

Students' views on abortion were split, with 49 percent "pro-choice" and 44 percent opposed to abortion. □

to GARY AND MARILYN (SEXTON) CARLSON, Aurora, Colo., a boy, Bryant Jeffrey, Sept. 18
 to DEAN AND BECKY (NICHOLS) CHESNEY, Houston, Tex., a girl, Kimberly Dawn, Aug. 7
 to CALVIN AND KARLA (LACER) CRAGER, Nicoma Park, Okla., a girl, Lora Louise, July 23
 to CRAIG AND JUDY (NEAL) CROMBAR, Kansas City, Mo., a boy, Brandon Lee, Oct. 6
 to REV. STAN R. AND JAN (PARK) ELLINGSON, Cincinnati, Ohio, a girl, Rachel Jan, October 1
 to REV. H. MARK AND PAULA (DAYHOFF) ELSE, Centerville, Mo., a girl, Rebecca Joy, Oct. 5
 to REV. DALE B. AND TRACY (HARVEY) GIBSON, Butte, Mont., a boy, Colt Austin, Oct. 8
 to JOHN AND MERRI-SUE HANNEM, Grande Prairie, Alta., Canada, a girl, Densie Joy, Sept. 21
 to THOMAS J., JR., AND LUANNA M. (GEIGER) HRUSKA, Ft. Wayne, Ind., a boy, Philip Timon, Sept. 29

to CLARENCE AND LINDA (BRUBAKER) PINK, Olathe, Kans., a girl, Lori Lee, Oct. 12
 to MARK E. AND MARYANNE (SPRAGUE) STANCIU, Phoenix, Ariz., a boy, Stephen Lewis, Sept. 14
 to RICHARD AND MARCINE (JOHNSON) SUTHERLAND, Dayton, Ohio, a girl, Kendra Ann, July 10
 to DAVID AND EMILIE (BASSETT) TAGGART, Cullom, Ill., a girl, Jori Elizabeth, Oct. 3
 to LARRY AND KATHY (SORENSEN) WARD, Brazil, Ind., a girl, Jessica Elaine, Sept. 29
 to KENNETH AND RAMONA WILLIAMS, South Africa, a boy, Steven Wayne, August 31

ANNIVERSARIES

REV. AND MRS. HAROLD DAVIS celebrated their 50th anniversary September 15 with a reception at the church they pastor in Choctaw, Okla. The Davises were married in Lubbock, Tex., and have pastored in Texas, Oklahoma, and Kansas, as well as

working at Nazarene Headquarters in Kansas City. The reception was given by their church and three daughters, Laynette Griffin, Haroldene Parks, and Rhonda Hendrix.
 REV. AND MRS. SPURGEON HENDRIX celebrated their 50th anniversary June 15 with a reception at Casa Robles where they reside. The Hendrixes were married in Bethany, Okla., and have served the church as missionaries in Cuba, Argentina, Chile, and Uruguay. The reception was given by their children, Ray Hendrix, Norma Brunson, and Leon Hendrix.

DIRECTORIES

BOARD OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS—Office: 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131. Jerald D. Johnson, Chairman; Charles H. Strickland, Vice-Chairman; William M. Greathouse, Secretary; Eugene L. Stowe, John A. Knight; Raymond W. Hurn.

THE ANSWER CORNER

Conducted by W. E. McCumber, Editor

We welcome questions on biblical and doctrinal matters. The editor is not able to send replies to questions not selected for publication. Address: ANSWER CORNER, *Herald of Holiness*, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

I've been exploring 1 Chronicles 16:22, "Touch not mine anointed . . ." There seems to be a common contention that this attitude applies to this generation and its leadership.

When King Saul was anointed he was God's man of the hour, but when disobedience came in he was no longer chosen.

Israel's everlasting covenant was commanded to a thousand generations.

To whom is this scripture written? Is it also extended to Gentiles? Even our day? How? In what way can reproval be made without offending the Holy Spirit?

The "anointed" in this passage are regarded by most scholars as the *patriarchs*—Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, also called *prophets* because divine revelations were communicated to and through them (see Genesis 20:7; 12:17; 35:5; 26:11).

No one, not even a king, could oppose or attack them with impunity, for God had raised them up for His own unfailing purposes.

Some scholars interpret "mine anointed" to include their descendants, the people of Israel.

By extension, the warning could have meaning for our day. Those whom God has chosen, and filled with His Spirit, to bear His covenant provisions and promises to His beneficiaries cannot be opposed or persecuted without incurring God's displeasure and judgment (cf. Luke 21:12-19; Revelation 11).

This does not mean that those who sin or err cannot be reproved. Apostles reprov'd one another (Galatians 2:11-22). But it does mean that, given the fidelity of God's servants to their mission, to oppose them is to oppose Him (Luke 10:16).

In Israel, kings, priests, and prophets were anointed with oil as induction into office.

In our church, pastors are elected by the congregation. A negative ballot, therefore, is not equivalent to "touching" the anointed or "harming" the prophet. However, to oppose their work for selfish or wicked reasons would fall within the meaning of the ancient warning.

Is there any chance you might print where the front cover photo was taken? There have been so many times I thought I'd recognized a place but I have no way of knowing.

I love the *Herald* and think you and your staff do an excellent job.

Thanks for your consideration.

Most of our cover photos are purchased from commercial photographers through their marketing agents, and do not come with identifying captions. When we know the locations we will identify them, but we rarely know them. Sorry!

If all babies are born with a "sin nature," and if God allows no sin in heaven, how will those who die in their infancy or childhood make it into heaven?

Our pastor said God, in His infinite mercy, makes the needed correction when a child dies. I feel there must be a better explanation.

Your pastor's explanation is true, but a fuller answer may help.

Adults are justified freely and sanctified wholly through faith in Christ, and His atoning blood makes our forgiveness and cleansing possible.

In the case of infants and young children, the provisions of the atonement are applied by the Holy Spirit apart from this response of faith (Romans 5:6-21). As our article of faith on "Atonement" declares, "The atonement is graciously efficacious for the salvation of the irresponsible and for the children in innocence, but is efficacious for the salvation of those who reach the age of responsibility only when they repent and believe."

In every case, salvation is attributable to the grace of God, through the atoning death of Christ, and by the power of the Holy Spirit—which is "infinite mercy" indeed.

NEWS OF EVANGELISM

OKLAHOMA CHURCH REVITALIZED

Revival started at the Meeker, Okla., Horton Chapel Church long before the campaign began. In preparation, a weekend emphasis sensitized their people to evangelism. A new evangelist, Nathan Covington, ministered the Word with boldness and authority in a spirit of love during the week. The 25 seekers included 9 new converts. Two members were added to the church.

Many received new inspiration and the people accepted a challenge to live the life of Christ in the community. Pastor K. Ray McDowell and his people share an interest in personal evangelism. □

CHURCH LEARNS TO LOVE

The Charlotte, Mich., church has learned the biblical art of loving and caring. Pastor Gary D. Reiss shares how his people are meeting the needs of the community and local guests by

loving them into the Kingdom. Regardless of their social status, spiritual pilgrimage, or past life-style, they continue to care and show genuine concern.

Their recent revival with Evangelist Jimmy Dell made the people aware of the power and authority they have in their witness. The Sunday morning service was honored by a special visit from the Lord while seekers lined the altar, committing their lives to God.

One lady who had carried a heavy burden for her daughter and two granddaughters rejoiced as they found the Lord during the revival meeting.

The pastor attributes the great attendance and the spiritual renewal of the people to the months of prayer preparation and to the way the evangelist met the people's needs by showing them how to keep on loving. □

THE CHURCH SCENE

An inspiring youth camp, with Rev. Jim Kent as speaker, sparked a special

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outpouring of God's Spirit on the Carthage, S.Dak., church. Pastor and Mrs. Roy L. Gueswel, a junior teacher,



Members of the Durant, Okla., First Church helped Lucy Carroll celebrate her 103rd birthday Sunday, September 15. She was born in Moulton, Ala., and settled in Denison, Tex. She was married to W. A. Carroll. They had five children. Their two daughters, Edith Campbell and Mabel Burns, live in Calera, Okla., next door to Mrs. Carroll. The sons are Louis Carroll of Dallas; Morris Carroll of Colbert, Okla.; and Charlie Carroll of Durant, Okla. Pictured with Mrs. Carroll and her cake are Charlie (r.) and Morris (l.). Mrs. Carroll is the oldest member of Durant First Church, which has more than a dozen members in their 90s.

a teen teacher, and seven teens attended. In the regular Sunday morning worship, the teens had charge of the service. They sang and testified how God had forgiven their sins.

One 15-year-old young man said he had professed to be a Christian before he went to camp. But after three services he went forward to truly seek forgiveness for his sins. He testified that God gave him the assurance his sins

were forgiven as they were singing and praising God on the way home.

After all the teens witnessed and sang, they knelt at the altar and prayed. An altar call was given and the altar was filled, along with the first two rows of pews. Some of those present had never been to a Nazarene service before. One man said that he had not seen a service like that in the church in nearly 40 years. □



Toronto Rosewood Church recently had an "International Friendship Sunday." The congregation reflects the multicultural community and has people from many different parts of the world. Pictured (l. to r.) are Vincent Fraites, St. Kitts; an aunt and cousin with Pastor Nick Stavropoulos, Macedonia; and Lloyd Prithipaul, Guyana.



Denton, Tex., First Church dedicated its new facilities August 4 with Dr. Jerald D. Johnson, general superintendent, bringing the dedication message. Assisting in the dedication service were Dr. Gene Fuller, district superintendent, and Rev. Burnie Burnside, pastor. The 52-year-old congregation has relocated in a 10,000 sq. ft. complex located on 2.1 acres. The building committee of the church assumed the general contracting responsibilities. Much of the interior work was completed through volunteer labor. The total cost of the project was over \$425,000.



Columbus, Ohio, First Church sponsored an Ethiopian camp meeting, held at the district center on the Central Ohio District. Ethiopian Christians from across the country and Europe met August 11-18 for their third annual camp. Most of these Ethiopians have come to this country as refugees. Some came as students and several have graduated from Nazarene colleges. Dr. Bahram Fessehazion and his wife, Cootje, members of Columbus First Church, started and organized this camp meeting. Both of them graduated from MVNC. Dr. J. Wilmer Lambert, district superintendent of Central Ohio, and Robert C. Simmons, pastor of Columbus First Church, have welcomed the believers in the last two camp meetings. During the last camp, six people were baptized. These believers are reaching other Ethiopians with the claims of Jesus Christ.

Meditations for the Advent Season



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By Harold Ivan Smith

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MOVING NAZARENES SERVICE

MOVING NAZARENES SERVICE is one of the few programs to be listed in the *Manual*. That shows how important it is. At the 1985 General Assembly some changes were made in the *Manual* policy referring to Moving Nazarenes Service.

Now *all* persons moving outside of their present local church area are to be reported to Moving Nazarenes Service.

Also, anyone can report, layperson or pastor.

It's easy—just call 1-800-821-8154 to report Moving Nazarenes. Help keep Nazarenes in the church.

74 [¶115.20]

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

[¶122] 75

115.19. To notify Moving Nazarenes Service and/or the pastor of the nearest church when a member or friend of a local church or any of its departments moves to another locality where vital association with the previous local church is impractical, giving the member's or friend's name and new address. The pastor shall keep the congregation aware of Moving Nazarenes Service, encouraging them to assist with reporting all such persons who move, including armed services personnel.

certificate of commendation [813.2], or a letter of release [110—10.1, 111.4, 813.3].

115.22. The pastor shall be, ex officio, president of the local church, chairman of the church board, head of the church schools and any weekday Nazarene school organization, the Nazarene Youth International, the Nazarene World Mission Society, and all other subsidiary organizations in connection with the local church. [134, 162, 170, 171.2, 172.1]

116. The pastor shall have the right to a voice in the nomination of all heads of all departments of the local church, and any Nazarene weekday school organization. [157.4-57.10]

117. The pastor shall not contract, create financial obligations, count monies, or disburse funds for the local church unless authorized and directed by majority vote of the church board or by majority

120. For the exercise of this office the pastor shall be amenable to the District Assembly, to which he shall report annually and give brief testimony to his personal Christian experience. [203.1, 403.6]

121. The pastor shall automatically become a member of the church of which he is pastor; or, in case of more than one church on his charge, of the church of his choice. [404.6]

I. Calling of a Pastor

122. An elder or licensed minister [114] may be called to the pastorate of a church by two-thirds favorable vote by ballot of the church members of voting age present and voting at a duly called annual or special meeting of the church, provided that such elder or licensed minister shall have been nominated to the church by the church board, which, after having advised with the district superintendent, made

JONES APPOINTED TO PRESIDENCY OF SEARS



Mr. Richard M. Jones, General Board member from the Central USA Region, has been appointed president and chief operating officer of Sears, the nation's largest retailer. He succeeds Edward A. Brennan who was selected as chairman of the company October 1. Mr. Jones, who presently serves as vice chairman and chief operating officer of Sears, will retain his position as chief financial officer of the multibillion dollar corporation.

A member of Chicago First Church of the Nazarene, Mr. Jones was elected at the 21st General Assembly to the General Board where he is a member of the Finance Department. □

—NN

LANMAN ELECTED TO GENERAL BOARD



Rev. Walter Lanman, superintendent of the Northwest District, has been elected to the General Board from the Northwest USA Region, filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. Melvin McCullough. His assignment will be on the Church Growth Department. □

—NN

NAZARENE COLLEGES REPORT FALL ENROLLMENT

The number of students enrolled this fall in the 12 educational institutions related to the General Board of Education Services is 10,958. This is down 113 from fall 1984 when there were 11,071 students enrolled. This decrease is attributed mainly to the flat economy that exists in many areas.

Trevecca Nazarene College had the largest gain of students with an increase of 131, followed by Northwest Nazarene College with a gain of 94. Bethany Nazarene College had the greatest decline in enrollment (112), due principally to a decrease in returning and transfer students and a 25% decline in graduate students. Despite these figures, the number of new students at BNC this fall was 434, just four less than in fall 1984. Also, BNC

graduated its largest class in history this past spring.

The Head Count (HC) and Full Time Equivalent (FTE) hours for fall 1985 are listed in the following chart and are compared against enrollment for fall 1984. Figures in parentheses denote a decline. (Note: these figures are provided by the Education Services office).

School	1985	Enrollment	Increase Decrease
BNC	HC	1,175	HC (112)
	FTE	970	FTE (97)
BINC	HC	48	HC 2
	FTE	43.1	FTE 1.8
CNC	HC	116	HC 3
	FTE	79.13	FTE .13
ENC	HC	903	HC (48)
	FTE	816	FTE (46)
MANC	HC	1,040	HC (75)
	FTE	948	FTE (100)
MVNC	HC	1,056	HC (9)
	FTE	969	FTE (11)
NBC	HC	436	HC 0
	FTE	268.6	FTE 5.3
NNC	HC	1,101	HC 94
	FTE	1,072	FTE 91
NTS	HC	422	HC (14)
	FTE	347	FTE (5)
ONC	HC	1,673	HC (98)
	FTE	1,538	FTE (104)
PLNC	HC	1,930	HC 13
	FTE	1,681	FTE (4)
TNC	HC	1,058	HC 131
	FTE	914	FTE 47

—NN

MISINFORMATION ON NAZARENE TAX-SHELTERED ANNUITY

Dr. Dean Wessels, director of Pensions and Benefits Services USA, has reported that misinformation has recently surfaced about the Nazarene Tax-Sheltered Annuity. Apparently the misinformation has been given by some insurance/mutual fund agents seeking to sell their own investment products. According to Nazarene TSA participants, they have been told, "If you and your wife both die before retirement, none of your TSA money will be paid to your children or your estate. It will simply be lost."

The Pensions office reports that this statement could not be further from the truth. "The Nazarene TSA absolutely guarantees that in the event of death prior to retirement, the full cash value of the account will be paid to the beneficiaries named on the participant's application," said Dr. Wessels. "If the participant wishes to elect a fixed distribution annuity at retirement (which is not required), then there are numerous choices regarding the guarantee of payments beyond death. The choice is in the participants' hands."

Questions and concerns about terms,

and implications of the Nazarene TSA plan should be directed to the office of Pensions and Benefits Services USA. □

—NN

CHURCH PROVIDES PROGRAMMING FOR ARMED FORCES RADIO

For years the Church of the Nazarene has provided seasonal programs of "Showers of Blessing" for the Armed Forces Radio Network broadcast "Banners of Faith." Recently the head of the chaplaincy program for the Pentagon requested four 30-minute programs of a nonseasonal nature from the denomination that could be aired during the year on "Banners of Faith." The programs, produced by Nazarene Media Services, feature Dr. Earl Lee as speaker and Phil Reed (a CBS announcer in Los Angeles who attends Pasadena, Calif., First Church) as the program announcer.

"These programs will be aired on a worldwide basis," says Ray Hendrix of Media Services. "The market is not only American military and civilian personnel, but nationals in many countries who listen to this channel for news and to learn the English language. This gives us an opportunity to carry the message of salvation to areas where otherwise there would be no gospel presence."

Military officials have expressed an interest in obtaining more programs from the Church of the Nazarene and also in airing the "Welcome to the Church of the Nazarene" spots on Armed Forces television. □

—NN

STRICKLANDS EXPRESS APPRECIATION

Dr. and Mrs. Charles H. Strickland express their deep appreciation to the many Nazarenes around the world for their expressions of concern during Mrs. Strickland's recent hospitalization due to heart problems. "We have been inundated with telegrams, cards, letters, flowers, and calls, and we are just overwhelmed by the love of our Nazarene family," said Dr. Strickland. "We appreciate everything that has been done for us so very much."

Mrs. Strickland was able to leave the house October 15 for the first time since returning home from the hospital on September 29. "Her doctor says she has a 'ways to go,' but all signs look good for a complete recovery," adds Dr. Strickland. □

—NN

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