FATHER DESERVES A DAY

The so-called "special days" have become so numerous within modern times that many slip by us without due attention. Some have been commercialized; others have been made the object of special interest groups. This has resulted in an indifference on the part of the general public.

We should, however, consider a deserving class of people and give them the honor and esteem they deserve on the special day designated "Father's Day." Dad really deserves a day to receive the just tributes and loving esteem of the family. His lot in our modern world is not an easy one. The serious rise of inflation in our present economy, the fierce competition in our modern business world, and the severe pressures involved in providing the necessities of food, clothing, and shelter for the family have subjected modern man to an endurance beyond his capacity. His life-span is being shortened by these pressures as evidenced by the rise in heart attacks and the increase of stress diseases.

The church recognizes the vital role of the father in the family unit in our society. He is not only the chief breadwinner for the family, but also the protector of the family and biblically the spiritual head of the family. In the role of provider, the church has a message of comfort for him. Christ wants to become involved as a Partner in the business affairs of his life. The testimonies of Christian businessmen give abundant evidence of the effectiveness of Christ's partnership in our business and professional lives.

The church also provides a means of grace to our Christian fathers who are seriously attempting to meet their spiritual responsibilities as head of a Christian household. This is an inescapable responsibility both biblically and traditionally, and to meet it adequately Dad needs special resources and wisdom which come from God.

On this special day may our fathers find special grace and comfort and a renewed strength for their assignment. May we also, your loving family, give you the love and esteem you rightly deserve.

by General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland
LOUIS PASTEUR, the famous French scientist, was busy in his lab one day when he learned his father was seriously ill. He left immediately by train but arrived too late to see his father alive.

That night the great scientist wrote to his wife and children about his father: “I owe everything to him. When I was young, he kept me from bad company and instilled into me the habit of working and the example of the most loyal and best-filled life.”

Relatively few people knew of Pasteur’s father, a former sergeant in Napoleon’s army and later a tanner. But in words and actions, the elder Pasteur said to young Louis, “Walk with me.”

And Louis said, “I owe everything to him.”

As parents we must remember that we are models for our children. The expression is trite but true: “He’s a chip off the old block.” And if the block is good and sets a good example, chances are that the chip will live a good and useful life.

Being a real father is one of life’s greatest privileges, and one of humanity’s most serious responsibilities. It cannot be overestimated for importance. It is a trust which is anchored to eternity.

God blessed Abraham and heaped upon him the highest honors “because he will command his children and household after him.”

As Noah was commanded to build “an ark to the saving of his house,” so is every man charged with the heavy responsibility of bringing his house into the ark provided in Christ.

Many successful fathers would be delighted to have their children walk in their footsteps, and many sons have followed their father into the same profession or business with outstanding success. But far more important than impressive footsteps for a son to follow is leaving kneeprints which will point children toward the highest goals in time and eternity. There are many footprints made by fathers along life’s way, but how many professed Christian fathers are such men of prayer that they are leaving knee-prints for their sons and daughters to follow?

Some parents say: “We will not influence our children in making choices and decisions in the matter of religion.” I ask you, “Why not?” The ads will! The newspapers will! Radio will! Neighbors will! The politicians will!

A father may educate his children, give them a comfortable home, good clothing, and good food, show them a good time, and love them. But if a father fails to bring his children up in the fear and nurture of the Lord and does not live for God before them, he is failing.

Just as children are entitled to material support, they are entitled to a father’s moral support. Here is where many fathers fail.

Many fathers fail to provide a family altar and Christian example in the home. Many boys and girls have never heard their father pray. They have never heard Father give a personal testimony to the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. They have never seen Father read from the family Bible. Such children are not being provided with the spiritual provisions which Father should and could, by the grace of God, give them.

God give us men who realize that they exercise an influence on their children that is more weighty than the influence of Sunday school teachers, pastors, or anybody else in the world.

Men, you are going to have the kind of child that you are as a man. Your influence is counting either for God or against Him in the lives of your children.

The strength of this nation, the strength of your church, your community, your home is the strength of Joshua’s commitment, when he said: “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

The Christian home in America will regain its rightful godly backbone when Dad assumes the place he too often has given up—as the spiritual head of the house! It’s strange but true, too, that when Dad assumes his biblical place, everything else falls in place.

Remember, you’re the only father your children will ever have, so you’d better be a good one! May God be able to say of you, as He said of Abraham, “For I know him, that he will command his children and household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment . . .” (Genesis 18:19).

Pull out your Bible on Father’s Day. Gather the family around. Read some verses. Ask the children and your wife what prayer requests they have, then voice them to God as you lift your family heavenward as the spiritual head of your home.
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Cover Photo: by H. Armstrong Roberts

Bible Quotations in this issue:
Unidentified quotations are from the KJV. Quotations from the following translations are used by permission:
My father was always fired by what other people called "impossible." . . . "I believe it can be done," he'd say.

Dad Believed

by MARY E. LATHAM
Kansas City, Missouri

"and see what God wants us to do."

It wasn't long until people began to rally. The little hall was too small. A larger place was rented. Special services brought in more people. And God gave a revival.

About that time the board began to take new interest in building. That's when the report surfaced about the impossibility of building on their lot.

"Brother Latham, do you believe it can be done?" they pled.

Now Dad's avocation was architectural design and building. He had given it up as a full-time profession to obey God's call to the ministry. But he continued to use his skills to design and build many churches. Here was a new challenge. And my father was always fired by what other people called "impossible."

"I believe it can be done," Dad assured the church board.

That was the spark which started a whole chain of events. People began to pray more, to give and to cooperate. My father studied the lot and drew plans for a beautiful little church.

There were some doubters in the congregation—a few who still said it couldn't be done. But they were in the minority.

To secure permission to build, Dad personally took the plans and specifications to the building authorities. The high marks they gave his work added confidence.

Securing the loan was another hurdle some called "impossible." But that was another miracle story filled with examples of extreme dedication and sacrificial giving.

One man in the church used his insurance policy as collateral. His skeptical friends discouraged him—told him how foolish it was. "What if the church fails?" they grumbled.

He knew the church wouldn't fail. Not with the assurance they had of God in control. And not with the courage and faith of the leader they had.

There were times when only faith and sheer determination held the undertaking on course. But none of the obstacles could erase the purpose of this labor of love nor the vision for the future.

I remember hearing my dad say, "Someday this church will be the leading spiritual force in this whole community."

To shorten the story, the beautiful little church became a reality. It was the talk of the town. A large, metropolitan daily newspaper picked up a news tip on the project. It was given a one-half page feature in the religious news section. That much space for any church project, even a church with many times the membership, was almost unheard of.

Of course the church membership didn't stay small. It grew and grew. Their original space had to be enlarged. They have built on, purchased adjacent property, built on some more, and even completely rebuilt. I have lost track of the number of times.

And many young pastors followed to invest in the progress of the work.

My dad's prediction came true. Today that church has become a leading spiritual influence in the community. It is listed with the top 10 on one of our denomination's strongest districts.

Every time I read the reports of that church in the district paper, and hear of its strength and progress, I am thrilled. And I thank God for the rugged determination and faith of my preacher dad who thought it could be done.

But my father represents thousands of men in our beloved church, men who struggled in the face of what looked like the impossible. Today we enjoy the fruits of the lives and work of those who dared to believe it could be done!
FOR BETTER or worse, television and Americans are united in a marriage "till death do us part." Ninety-five percent of this nation's homes have a TV, 68 percent of them are color sets. Many homes have several.

Undeniably, there are some plus factors for television. As an instrument of education and a source of news, TV is unexcelled. It has reduced the whole world to a small village. There is so much to learn today. Knowledge doubled between World War II and 1960. It doubled again between 1960 and 1970. This trend is accelerating. TV makes so much of this information available to so many.

Wholesome family programs and Christian broadcasting are also a strong plus factor. There are positive factors beyond imagination in a Billy Graham telecast. Other equally valuable religious broadcasting is available. There are some family-type programs that do teach positive values. The educational channels also provide beneficial viewing.

Allowing that all of this is true, there are some very frightening facts on the other side of the ledger. First of all, television con-

by ROBERT E. MANER
Valdosta, Georgia
sumes a disproportionate amount of time. Estimates vary, but if we take the lower figure of from four and a half to six hours a day, that is still an enormous portion of a person’s life. By the time children graduate from high school, they have spent more time watching TV then they did in school. In fact, TV consumes more time than anything else we do with the exception of sleeping and working.

Even if every program we watched was of excellent quality and taught high spiritual values, it would still be doubtful that this is the best way to spend one-third of one’s life. But the fact is, TV cannot make such a boast of quality. Sex and violence are anything but programs of value. And to think of the vast majority of the American people sitting in front of TV for hours nightly is frightening indeed.

We can add to this a second charge. Television has a brain-washing effect on our thinking. While sex and violence have been the focal points of the attack against the industry, another danger goes seldom mentioned and almost unnoticed. Our favorite hero and heroine come into a room and the first question is always, “Can I get you a drink?” We watch gallons of liquor consumed by the most delightful and attractive people, people we have come to identify with in their troubles. It is not long before we begin to find ourselves thinking, “Well, maybe drinking is not so bad after all.”

The same can be said of profanity. Language long since dropped from the Christian vocabulary is worming its way back in through the TV tube. Granted we are exposed to this kind of language on the job, but we do not have to bring it home with us.

The third threat television brings is the loss of independent thought. Many millions of people are allowing a few program directors to dictate our national train of thought. The sheer volume of TV is in itself very difficult to deal with. It is available in every home all day and most of the night—sometimes all night. The three major networks are operated by men. These men may blame the polls and pressure of advertisers, but the fact is they still make the decisions. They choose what we have available to see, and consequently what we think. Their reply, that we can turn it off if we don’t like it, is both true and false. I can turn mine off but I can’t turn off the rest of society. And they are the ones being hurt, most of them too addicted or lacking in self-control.

Homosexuality is neither funny nor normal, yet we are fed a rather steady diet of this as a very natural alternative to normal God-intended sex within marriage. This is pictured to young people as something we should accept without question. We are even pictured as cruel bigots for thinking less than good thoughts about it all.

As is so often the case with every social problem, the young are hurt the most. Old folks sitting in a nursing home all day watching TV sets may find companionship not otherwise available to them. But when children sit all day slumped in front of a TV set, it is another matter entirely. Children used to run and play in the fields or parks, they came home tired, ate their supper, did their homework and went to bed for a good night’s sleep. Some still do. But think of the loss to millions who spend all their free time in a half-dark room just sitting and staring at whatever happens to be on their sets that day.

Children used to spend their quiet time reading. While it is probably true that many read material as valueless as the average TV program, they were learning to read. Since watching television requires neither skill nor intelligence, it has not given comparable value. While home for her younger sister’s graduation from high school the other day, my older daughter said to me, “Daddy, I am glad we did not have a television set when I was small. I learned to read. Now reading is so much pleasure to me.”

Television is here to stay, no matter what we say about it. The pressure groups opposing sex and violence will, we hope, make some improvements. The argument that television will not cause people to react in kind will continue. This in spite of the fact that the same industry tells manufacturers that television will produce sales. How a 1-minute spot will do what a 20-minute program won’t do, they never explain. It sounds like they are trying to have it both ways. Advertisers spend $2.5 billion because they believe TV does affect people.

So the problem falls squarely in the lap of Mom and Dad. They are the only protection the home has from what is unchristian on TV. If they will not protect their children, they can’t expect society to do so. Unless there is discipline in the home with the TV set, the outlook is grim. Mom and Dad, it is up to you.

For information about the Church of the Nazarene’s involvement in broadcast television . . .

Paul Skiles of Nazarene Communications brings you up to date in the July 1 “Herald.”
IN MY MIND'S EYE, I see a small girl walking hand in hand with her portly grandfather to church. She carries proudly a large, black umbrella on which, in those postwar days, he has just needlessly spent his last dollar—because this favorite grandchild wanted it. I did not know that it was his last dollar and, in the self-centered days of childhood, I thought that the bread my grandmother fried in bacon grease was some delightful treat, and not their only food. I did not know how much he had done for me until many years later, when it was too late to say thank you.

The walk to church that we took so many times was the pathway to the only religious instruction that I ever had. The times I spent holding his hand, or snuggled close in his ample lap, are the only memories of real love that I have from childhood.

The gentle love, however, was not reserved only for me. His arms and heart were open to any child. His home and heart and pocketbook were open to anyone in need. He was a man whose Christianity was reflected in his entire life. As my grandmother has so often remarked, he was the first one in the church when the doors opened. He didn’t miss a service. He tithed, and then gave, and gave again. His own door was always open; his table always set for whoever dropped in. No matter how busy he was, he always had time to share, even with a little child, who must have often been in his way.

A perfect husband, a good father—I cannot say. I was too young to know such things. I have wondered if there was very much more to his life and feelings than I knew, and have reasoned that it doesn’t matter what else he was, he was perfect to me. He was very good to my grandmother, who was his constant companion. He was overly good to his children, giving them money time and time again while having to do without himself. How many things he might have wanted for himself. I'll never know—I never heard him use the word.

John Cullum, my dear grandfather, went to be with Jesus 21 years ago. I know heaven is a richer place for it, but oh, what a loss to my world! When the pillar of our family died, everyone seemed to fall apart. My grandmother turned away from the church, and then stood at the door of want, as the sons for whom my grandfather had done so much turned their heads from her. Within a year, my mother, who had hidden her unhappiness from him for so long, died an alcoholic, and by her own hand. I left home at the age of 13 and darkened the door of no church for many years.

From 13 to 31 were lonely and sad years for me. I did almost everything wrong that could be done to mess up my life. Now, with a hard-won education in psychology, I know that I was angry with him for leaving me, that I was trying to forget him and his teachings.

Four years ago, the Lord gave me someone to fill the void. He is a big man with arms made strong by hard work, and eyes deep with love and concern—a man like my grandfather, even to the stomach folding over his belt and a balding forehead. He is very beautiful to me. His lap is also always open to a child, of which I am the biggest.

He too had such a man for a grandfather—a true Nazarene saint who walked proud and tall and strong in his faith until age 91. Roger was blessed with a family that remained true to his grandfather’s ideals, but as so many young people do, he fell away from the church.

Praise His holy name, together we have found the Lord! Over the pages of my grandpa’s big Bible, my most cherished possession, we searched out passage after passage of scripture vaguely remembered from our childhood. Thus we found something missing from our lives, even though we had thought them full. We began attending church, first myself, and then
my husband. Our home is now a Christian home and our lives are full of peace. I am also very thankful to say that my grandmother has gotten right with the Lord, too.

My husband and I are prime examples of the seed of Christianity being planted deeply and firmly and tenderly enough. We are now bearing fruit—fruit that I hope my Lord Jesus is pleased with, and my grandfather could be proud of. When the time comes for me to cross Jordan, it is my prayer that he will be there to lead me on to see Jesus, as he has so strongly and silently tried to lead me all these years. I am so thankful for my grandfather, John Sample Dulem, truly a name I praise the Lord for!

by BETTY MARTIN
Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

While the car sped down the highway, the summer heat intensified. I looked at the five wiggly, squirming Cub Scouts surrounding me in a world of noise. The miles grew longer and I questioned myself. "Why did I agree to this? Surely there were other mothers not as weary as I."

In the last month I had survived two weeks as director of vacation Bible school, one week as camp nurse at Boys' and Girls' Camp, and a week at district assembly and camp meeting. "Yes," I assured myself, "I'm sure there were others who could have done this job."

Self-pity was getting heavier on my shoulder as the noise and vibration in the backseat intensified. But ahead, I sighted relief—our destination, the television station.

This was to be one of my nine-year-old son's big days. He and his friends had come to the capital city to appear on a live television program. The main feature was to be a birthday party with candy, bubble gum, all-day suckers, birthday cake, and ice cream. It was a friend's birthday, but he had anticipations of sharing.

How a boy can leave home clean, but arrive with dirty hands and face and scuffed shoes, will forever be beyond my comprehension. And with five boys, by the time you have tucked in five shirttails, four have come out.

Suddenly it was 3:30 and air time. I had given my son the usual last minute instructions: "Be sure to say thank you when they give you the treats; don't act up (at which he is a star); don't do this, etc., be sure you do this, etc." The program had been in progress for some time and everything was fine. I began to relax.

Suddenly I noticed Sheriff Bill starting to interview each boy. To my horror I saw my son's mouth full of the caramel candy he had earlier received.

I jumped up from my seat in the observation room but it was soundproof; no doubt for the benefit of parents like me.

Then Sheriff Bill and my son were conversing. I watched him on the television monitor, hoping he would not repeat what the boy before him had stated, that he was from a family of 20 children.

Somehow children usually come through times like this with flying colors. It is the parents who sweat it out.

With motherly pride I observed my son. I noticed he was more handsome than the other boys. I am sure none of the other mothers would have agreed, but to me he was special.

While watching, I remembered the preparations, the long, hot trip, that had seemed such drudgery. "Why, this was not drudgery, this was joy."

"Oh, thank You, God," I prayed. "Thank You for this little boy You gave to us. Help me remember to take time to play with him, so he will feel close to me when he needs me to pray with him. If I am too busy to do these little things with him, he may feel I am too busy for him to bring and share his problems. Thank You again, God, for this precious boy. And thank You for the lesson I learned today. Help me to always see the joy in life."

A few years have elapsed since this incident. Last June I sat in the church sanctuary, surrounded by candlelight. I watched the tall young man in the white tuxedo with a white rosebud in his lapel.

His eyes were searching the back of the sanctuary as the congregation stood and the organ saluted the bride with the "Wedding March."

Down the aisle came a beautiful young woman, dressed in white. She would soon be my son's wife. The soloist sang a nostalgic song referring to when the bride was a little girl and the groom a little boy. When did they grow up? I don't remember getting older. The years just evaporated.

Coming back to the present I thought, If she is fortunate, one day she may be driving down a highway in a world of noise, with five squirming Cub Scouts. When that happens, I hope she will be aware of the importance of doing things with her son. May they, too, know the joy of praying and sharing together.

I trust she too will realize that things that sometimes seem to be drudgery are joy.

not drudgery—JOY

JUNE 15, 1979
Late Toddlerhood

Perhaps the most frustrating aspect of the "terrible twos" is the tendency of kids to spill things, destroy things, eat horrible things, fall off things, flush things, kill things, and get into things. They also have a knack for doing embarrassing things, like sneezing on a nearby man at a lunch counter. During these toddler years, any unexplained silence of more than 30 seconds can throw an adult into a sudden state of panic. What mother has not had the thrill of opening the bedroom door, only to find Tony Tornado covered with lipstick from the top of his pink head to the carpet on which he stands? On the wall is his own artistic creation with a red handprint in the center, and throughout the room is the aroma of Chanel No. 5 with which he has anointed his baby brother. Wouldn't it be interesting to hold a national convention sometime, bringing together all the mothers who have experienced that exact trauma?

When my daughter was two years of age, she was fascinated the first time she watched me shave in the morning. She stood captivated as I soaped my face and began using the razor. That should have been my first clue that something was up. The following morning, Shirley came into the bathroom to find our dachshund, Siggie, sitting in his favorite spot on the furry lid of the toilet seat. Danae had covered his head with lather and was systematically shaving the hair from his shiny skull! Shirley screamed, "Danae!" which sent Siggie and his barber scurrying for safety. It was a strange sight to see the frightened dog with nothing but ears sticking up on the top of his bald head.

When Ryan was the same age, he had an incredible ability to make messes. He could turn it over or spill it faster than any kid I've ever seen, especially at mealtime. (Once while eating a peanut butter sandwich he thrust his hand through the bottom side. When his fingers emerged at the top they were covered with peanut butter, and Ryan didn't recognize them. The poor lad nearly bit off his index finger.) Because of his destructive inclination, Ryan heard the word "mess" used repeatedly by his parents. It became one of the most important words in his vocabulary. One evening while taking a shower I left the door ajar and got some water on the floor. And as you might expect, Ryan came thumping around the corner and stepped in it. He looked up at me and said in the gruffest voice he could manage, "Whuss all this mess in hyere?"

You must keep a sense of humor during the twos and threes in order to preserve your own sanity. But you must also proceed with the task of instilling obedience and respect for authority. Thus, most of the comments written in the preceding article (about the young toddler) also apply to the child between 22 and 36 months of age. Although the "older" toddler is much different physically and emotionally than he was at 18 months, the tendency to test and challenge parental authority is still very much in evidence. In fact, when the young toddler consistently wins the early confrontations and conflicts, he becomes even more difficult to handle in the second and third years. Then a lifelong disrespect for authority...
often begins to settle into his young mind. Therefore, I cannot overemphasize the importance of instilling two distinct messages within your child before he is 48 months of age: (1) "I love you more than you can possibly understand. You are precious to me and I thank God every day that He let me raise you!" (2) "Because I love you, I must teach you to obey me. That is the only way I can take care of you and protect you from things that might hurt you. Let's read what the Bible tells us: 'Children, obey your parents, for this is what God wants you to do'" (Ephesians 6:1).

Healthy parenthood can be boiled down to those two essential ingredients, love and control, operating in a system of checks and balances. Any concentration on love to the exclusion of control usually breeds disrespect and contempt. Conversely, an authoritarian and oppressive home atmosphere is deeply resented by the child who feels unloved or even hated. To repeat, the objective for the toddler years is to strike a balance between mercy and justice, affection and authority, love and control.

Specifically, how does one discipline a "naughty" two- or three-year old child? One possible approach is to require the child to sit on a chair and think about what he has done. Most children of this age are bursting with energy, and absolutely hate to spend 10 dull minutes with their wiggly posteriors glued to a chair. To some individuals, this form of punishment can be even more effective than a spanking, and is remembered longer.

Parents to whom I have made that recommendation have often said, "But what if he won't stay in the chair?" The same question is asked with reference to the child’s tendency to pop out of bed after being tucked in at night. These are examples of the direct confrontations I have been describing. The parent who cannot require a toddler to stay on a chair or in his bed is not yet in command of the child. There is no better time than now to change the relationship.

I would suggest that the youngster be placed in bed and given a little speech, such as "Johnny, this time Mommie means business. Are you listening to me? Do not get out of this bed. Do you understand me?" When Johnny’s feet touch the floor, give him one swat on the legs with a small switch. Put the switch on his dresser where he can see it, and promise him one more stroke if he gets up again. Walk confidently out of the room without further comment. If he rebounds again, fulfill your promise and offer the same warning if he doesn’t stay in bed. Repeat the episode until Johnny acknowledges that you are the boss. Then hug him, tell him you love him, and remind him how important it is for him to get his rest so that he won’t be sick, etc. Your purpose in this painful exercise (painful for both parties) is not only to keep little John in bed, but to confirm your leadership in his mind.

It is my opinion that too many American parents lack the courage to win this kind of confrontation, and are off-balance and defensive ever after. Dr. Benjamin Spock wrote in 1974, "Inability to be firm is, to my mind, the commonest problem of parents in America today." I agree.
FROM PAIN TO PARDON TO PEACE  
by DOROTHY PICKETT  
Columbus, Indiana

SEPTEMBER 14, 1977, was the most painful and saddest day of my life. Two of the most important things of my life took place that night. One, our son Tommy and two of my nephews died in a tragic accident. This was the hardest thing I've ever had to bear. Only someone who has lost a child knows how I felt. The second thing was that I promised God I would truly change my life and the life-style of my family if He would spare our older son, who was in the same accident. I don't know if God heard my prayer or if Tim was just destined to live, but I know that I truly meant everything that I promised God that night. Tim being spared was the only thing that gave me the strength to live through the days and weeks that followed.

The next week we went to the First Church of the Nazarene, the same church where we had the funeral for our little boy. I immediately started changing the things in my life that I knew would not be pleasing to God. In October, during revival services, I went to the altar and asked God to save me from all my sins. Then I started living by faith that God forgave me, though I was still in a state of shock, I just knew that I couldn't bear the guilt and burdens any longer.

Determined to do what I could to grow spiritually, I spent the next few months reading God's Word, praying constantly, and being in church services every time I possibly could. Slowly, there was a change taking place in my heart and mind. I didn't talk to many people during this time; I still had a lot of hurt and guilt inside of me that wouldn't let go.

At an indoor camp meeting in March, I went to the altar to ask God to sanctify me. I knew that I wanted God to take my life and use it as He wanted to. Rev. Flemming, my pastor, had said that we were sanctified by faith, so on faith I claimed sanctification. I had almost finished reading God's Word through by this time and a lot of things were becoming clearer to me. March was a hard month to get through, because Tommy's birthday was March 28, but God gave me strength.

During this time I was haunted by guilt over not having brought my family up in the church. I prayed many times for God to show me that Tommy was in heaven. Friends, family, and my minister told me

Deliverance

"... I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me."
(Psalm 50:15)

Herald of Holiness
that he was, but I needed to be assured by God. This was my very earnest prayer—that somehow I would be shown that Tommy was safe in heaven with God.

My husband Bob and I were attending pre-Easter prayer and fasting services at noon on Wednesdays. Wednesday, April 12, I learned that God speaks to you in that “inner small voice,” because I heard Him in my heart that day. I had been praying that God would help me to meet a $50.00 pledge I had made for the Church Bus Fund. I left church and on the way back to work, I talked to God. He was asking for $1,000, which was 1/10 of the insurance money we received as a result of Tommy’s death.

I had just been telling God that I would do anything for Him and when He asked for this, I really didn’t think twice about saying yes. The peace I felt when I said yes to God is very hard to describe, but it just flowed through me, starting in my heart and going all the way down to my fingertips. I told God I was very willing to give Him the money if He would help Bob to agree.

After I got back to work, I called Bob and told him what God had said and I asked him what he thought. He said, “I knew we’d have to do something about that money sometime. There’s only two things I’d like to say. One, let’s donate the money in memory of Tommy; and two, thanks.”

That evening I had the check ready, and testified to what God had done in our lives that day. My heart was more at peace than it had been in a long time, and I didn’t have any trouble going to sleep that night. Sometime during the night I awoke instantly and completely from sleep. I could feel God’s presence in that bedroom. Since He was there so near I knew He would hear my prayers, so I just prayed and prayed. And then, I felt another presence that was also just as real. It was so real that I moved over to the middle of the bed to make room for Tommy to lay down beside me, as I did when he would get scared and come in and get in bed with us. I could feel him there just as really as I could feel the presence of God in the room. I don’t know how long I lay there, but I did go back to sleep with those two wonderful presences in the room with me.

The next morning I didn’t say anything about what had happened; it was still too personal and precious to share with anyone. Later while I was working that morning I was sitting at my desk thinking about everything when I heard that “still small voice” again. It said very clearly, “I did that for you.” Well, when I heard that, I knew that God had very definitely answered the prayer I had prayed so long. Our son was in heaven and He had given him back to me for those precious moments last night. I had no more doubts about where he was, for I knew. I’ve never questioned our minister or anyone else again about Tommy, because I had heard directly from God concerning him. I also know that if I had not obeyed God in doing what He asked me to do, He wouldn’t have given me something so much more precious than any amount of money we have given Him.

This was a real turning point for me. God had taken away the guilt I had carried before. Of course, I still knew I hadn’t done right before the accident, but we cannot change the past, we can only live in the present. He did give me a deep-down peace in my heart that night that I still have. I can’t be sorry that Tommy is in heaven, where he’ll always be safe and will never know any more sickness or pain, because I know my family and I will be able to see him again someday. For I now have the joy and assurance of knowing I’m living as God wants me to live.

—DALLAS BAGGETT
Middletown, Ohio

JUNE 15, 1979 13
How to Have a Happy Home

by C. D. HANSEN
South Bend, Indiana

A mother asked her husband to baby­sit while she went shopping. The fa­ther happened to be a statistician and when she returned home he handed her this record:
- dried the children's tears—14 times
- tied their shoelaces—16 times
- served drinks of water—22 times
- toy balloons blown—3 per child
- average life of balloon—12 seconds
- cautioned children not to cross the street—34 times
- number of Saturdays father will do this in the future—NONE

Although we can sympathize with this poor father (most parents are happy to see the day end and the children put to bed so they can get some rest), there is an ironic note here. More often than we realize it, children are given attention so far as food, education, clothing, toys, money, and the like. But there is one thing missing—ourselves. Therefore, if the home is to be happy, parents should quickly learn that a home is more than four walls of plaster, wood, or brick. And it is more than a room full of fine furniture or expensive decorations. Rather, a home is made
happy by the people who live there and how much they are willing to give of themselves in love, patience, forgiveness, and understanding.

Home building is big business! There are no easy recipes for building a happy home. Although the Bible lays down solid principles, erecting the superstructure is left to us. And erecting that superstructure requires some key elements.

First, God must be the supreme Head of the family. If a home is to be successful, each family member has to recognize God as its Head. There can be no true happiness without Christ.

Second, the father should be the physical head of the household. That does not mean he is a dictator with everyone bowing to his whims. Rather, he is to give direction and leadership to the home in relationship to God's commands (Ephesians 5:25; 6:4).

Third, the mother is the heart of the home. There is no higher honor than to be a mother, and a woman cannot be a successful mother if she is never home to care for her family. Children will be better behaved if there is a mother to come home to, and a man will be a better husband if he has a wife to come home to.

Fourth, a home cannot exist without a family altar. While it does not have to be lengthy, it should be a time when each family member can openly present any problem and then collectively pray about it. Children need the influence the family altar provides.

Fifth, a family needs meaningful recreation in the home. Time spent together will help each family member become better acquainted and more understanding.

Sixth, a family must worship together if the preceding elements are to fall into place. It is not just a matter of needed religious instruction; it is a matter of influence. A child's soul is infinitely more valuable than his physical well-being. It is not enough to send children to worship. It should be done as a family unit—teaching by precept and example.

A person may be successful in his field of endeavor, but if he fails in building a home, he has failed in all of his life.

by LYLE P. FLINNER
Bethany, Okla.

God is the Spirit of infinite life and power that is back of all existence. He is Creator and Sustainer of all of the natural and spiritual laws. In fact, He is the Creator and Sustainer of all of His creation—and that includes you!

Did you ever realize as a Christian that you are actually "in partnership with God"? We often think of the biblical statement, “With God all things are possible,” as meaning that God’s power is without limit. While that is surely true, there is still another possible thought from these words. That is, "In partnership with God all things are possible." In that sense we become partakers of this omnipotent power. The power that resurrected Christ is available for your needs.

Too often we fail to recognize even a part of the immensity of what it means to be in right relationship to God. We think of it as erasing our guilt and giving us a sense of forgiveness of sins but it is infinitely more than that.

When you become a new creature in Christ, divine, eternal life is infused into your life.

POINT TO PONDER: What is hindering, and what can I do to open the floodgates of my heart to God?
“Seek first His kingdom, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you.” (Matthew 6:33, NASB)

HAVE YOU ever wondered how the early Christians accomplished so much? Some months ago, God impressed me with some thoughts on the subject. Those early brothers and sisters in Christ were no different than you or me, yet they accomplished so much. They had no air-conditioned cars, no paved “super slabs,” nothing but a Great Commission in a primitive age of transportation.

But these early Christians had a PROMISE. “Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also” (John 14:1-3, NASB).

Again in John’s Gospel, we hear Jesus saying, “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever” (John 14:15-16, NASB).

Recorded in Acts by Luke we read, “And gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised” (Acts 1:4, NASB). Yes! They had a PROMISE.

The early Christians had a POWER. “He who believes in Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do, because I go to the Father” (John 14:12, NASB). From Luke, “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses ...” (Acts 1:8, NASB). They had a power! You shall be; not you may, or might, but rather you shall be. He gave them a power to do the will of the Father; not a weak battery-operated flashlight, but a beacon with an eternal source of supply (Isaiah 40:28-29).

The early Christians had a PRESENCE. Paul spoke to the Galatians of a life that was not his own. “I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me” (2:20, NASB).
It was the writer to the Hebrews who assured us who believe that we would never be left alone (Hebrews 13:5). God did not command them to go, and then leave them to themselves. God in His great mercy gave them an eternal presence to go with them. Praise God, for it has not changed for us!

The early Christians had a **PURPOSE**. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..." God gave to him an understanding of His divine will. They were told to wait in Jerusalem for the gift of the Holy Spirit, then compelled from there with the message of salvation by trial, persecution, and restlessness. They had rest within, for they had Christ, but a restlessness also, for they carried the burden of workers for the kingdom of God. They purposed in their hearts to do the will of God; even Peter, James, John, and Paul—very much human, but empowered with a purpose.

The early Christians had proper **PRIORITIES**. Having walked with the Master, seen the death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of the Son of God, they began to understand the necessity of proper priorities. They entered into the school of discipleship. They submitted to the discipline of waiting in the Upper Room. They remembered the time of prayer in the life of the Master, and they began to understand why it was so important. They began to understand that before they could go, they had to stay. Certainly there were other things to be done, the children, relatives, food, medicine, etc. But they waited!

As we look back, we see the thrilling change in the lives of the fearful few who had fled, for they became the frontiersmen of the faith. They had a PROMISE, and they believed in it. They had a POWER, and they became part of it. They had a PRESENCE, and they learned to abide in Him. They had a PURPOSE, for Christ called them unto himself. And they had the discipline of setting PRIORITIES. They decided once for all to follow Jesus. I believe many of these priorities were sorted out in the Upper Room experience between Ascension and Pentecost.

How can we do the deeds of the early Christians? We have the same promise, power, presence, and purpose. The thing that will determine our accomplishments for God is the order of our priorities. In an age of inflation when the church is struggling more—especially the smaller fellowships—we need to be free from financial bondage. We cannot give more to the glory of God unless we first have had our desires purified. When we are burdened with the concept that "bigger is better," we need to hear from God and ask Him to reorder our priorities. When credit buying is the creator of stress in our Christian homes, we need to learn the lessons of the Early Church. It was in the area of materialism that the Early Church was wounded (Acts 5).

Our church has a great message, we serve a great Master, we are blessed with a fruitful ministry. Satan can never touch us by taking away our promise, presence, power, or purpose. Satan can only get to us by the confusion of priorities. "But seek first His kingdom, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:33, NASB). □

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**BEYOND THE ISTMUS, ACROSS THE TIDE**

I am going to a city
Where the twelve gates never close...
Where the storm clouds never gather
And the cold wind never blows.
There the Tree of Life is blooming
And I will be satisfied...
Just beyond the narrow isthmus...
Over there across the tide.

Here, I'm often tried and tested
And midnights detour my way...
But I see the morning breaking
On His never-ending day.
So I'll shoe my feet with gladness
And let His eye be my guide...
He'll escort me past the isthmus
And bear me 'cross the tide.

Often times I am discouraged
As the earth-gods vex me more...
But temptations will be ended
Over on the other shore.
So my faith looks to the mountains
Where His chariots will ride
Me up and above the isthmus...
Up above the restless tide.

Do not doubt or scorn His coming,
It is written in His laws,
And penned by His fiery finger
In the Book that has no flaws.
The message erupts in splendor:
"He is coming for His bride..." We'll be caught up with His angels
And be winged across the tide.

So, a few more days to labor
With fleshly, decaying things...
Then with ecstasy we'll crown Him:
"Lord of Lords and King of Kings."
We will gather near the rainbow
Where we ever will abide...
With the isthmus gone forever
And forever stilled the tide.

—CHARLES HASTINGS SMITH
Bethany, Okla.
THE MEANING OF FATHERHOOD

As Father's Day approaches, I have been thinking about the meaning of fatherhood.

One source for understanding the meaning of fatherhood is the prayers which Jesus addressed to the Father in heaven.

He prayed, “Father, glorify thy name” (John 12:28). To be a true father is to be concerned for the integrity of one’s name. In other words, to be a father is to give priority to character, to be a man of your word.

The context of this prayer makes it clear that God would glorify His name through the cross of Jesus. God had covenanted to provide salvation for the world, and this involved the death of Jesus as an atoning sacrifice for sin. God could not spare His Son without destroying the integrity of His name. Jesus would not ask, nor could the Father grant, any easier course at the price of dishonor.

No human father can give a nobler legacy to his children than a name and character preserved in honor.

Jesus also prayed, “Father, forgive them” (Luke 23:34), a prayer from the Cross for those who caused His death. To be a true father is to bear a forgiving spirit toward those who have sinned deeply and damagingly against us. The Heavenly Father is not harsh and vengeful. He does not nurse grudges or plot retaliation. Rather, He takes the initiative in effecting reconciliation, and He bears himself the cost of pardoning love.

Earthly fathers should be like that, and teach their sons to be likewise. At the cost of pain and tears, a father should welcome the prodigal son or forgive the offending enemy.

Jesus prayed, “Father, keep them” (John 17:11, RSV), a petition for His disciples who faced the challenge of Christian lives in an anti-Christian world. A true father is concerned for the moral protection of his children. He combines instruction and discipline to guard them from the forces of evil which tempt and threaten.

Father, teach us to be fathers!

EVER SINCE BABEL

Everek Storms is the editor of Emphasis, a fine holiness magazine published by a sister denomination. From his “Editor’s Notebook” I gleaned this item: A sign on some doors in Washington reads, “General Services Administration, Regions 3, Public Buildings Service, Buildings Management Division, Utility Room, Custodial.” That is the bureaucratic way of saying, “Broom Closet”!

According to Genesis 11:1-9, God confused the languages of mankind when He disrupted the building of the tower of Babel. If time had permitted Him a more leisurely approach to the matter, He could have created a government agency and left the confusion of tongues to them!

Sometimes scholars are as bad as bureaucrats. Augustus Comte defined God as “the continuous resolutant of all the forces capable of voluntarily concurring in the universal perfecting of the world.”

When Joseph Cook, a great Boston preacher, read that he cried, “That’s not my God! I don’t know him and don’t want to know him. My God is Jesus Christ, who died to pardon and save a lost world.”

Babel was a necessary judgment upon a united conspiracy to defy God and exalt man in His place. By contrast, at Pentecost languages were unconfused, so that every person heard the message of the gospel in his own language (Acts 2:4-11). God wills that the church communicate the gospel in the thought-forms and language of those who are listening.

Sometimes preachers get carried away with Babel sounds. Adam Burnet, in his lectures on preaching, tells of a seminary student who faced a crowd of farmers to preach a message on faith. He began by telling them that “faith is a transcendental quality of mental cognition.”

Those of us who preach, and all of us who witness, need to learn from Jesus how to adapt language and illustration to the particular people we are addressing. Otherwise, we come off sounding like Lewis Carroll’s “Jabberwocky.”
Holiness churches are not destroyed by outright denial of the doctrine. They are weakened and killed by quietly omitting the doctrine from their preaching and teaching.

A HOLINESS CHURCH

Our church was not created because there was a shortage of denominations. There was an abundant supply of them at the turn of the century, and there are plenty of them now. We were raised up as an organized and widespread advocate of holiness of heart and life. Our emphasis on the doctrine and experience of entire sanctification justified our existence in the beginning, and only a continuing emphasis on holiness can justify our continuing existence. If we are going to become just another denomination, the field is already overcrowded.

Are we in danger of losing our distinctive identity? Is the message of entire sanctification, receivable now by faith, being preached clearly and constantly in our churches? Is a quality of life consistent with the doctrine being urged upon our people? Are believers seeking and finding that crisis experience of inward cleansing that facilitates the process of growth in Christlikeness?

Holiness churches are not destroyed by outright denial of the doctrine. They are weakened and killed by quietly omitting the doctrine from their preaching and teaching. They are sapped and slain by a growing conformity to the world, in appearance and attitude, which is the inevitable consequence of de-emphasizing the doctrine.

When holiness churches lose their distinctive character they move in one of two directions—into a harsh and loveless legalism, where law prevails over grace, or into a lawlessness, where morality is scuttled in the very name of love.

In your local church, what is the situation? Is the biblical, Wesleyan, evangelical doctrine of holiness regularly preached? Are people entering into the experience and adorning the doctrine with holy lives? Is “love out of a pure heart” the dominant feature of congregational life?

In your own heart and life, what is the situation? Have you been sanctified wholly? Are you living in holy love?

SUMMER SLUMP FOR EVANGELISTS

The summer is camp time on most of our districts. There are children’s camps, youth camps, and family camps which take up much of the summer.

Add to the camps the matter of vacations, with so many of our pastors and people away. Then add vacation Bible schools, with so many of our pastors and people involved. It is not hard to understand why so few local churches schedule revival meetings during the summer months.

This creates a special and urgent problem for a group of our faithful ministers—the evangelists. Many of them have little or no income during the summer. Who of us could survive that?

Their living costs continue. Most of them are not paid enough for revivals to allow them to put money ahead for the long summer drought. Part-time jobs are hard to pick up, for high school and college students rush for those available. It becomes a “hurt and hope” situation for some choice people.

I am not wise enough to solve the problem, but surely something can be done.

Some churches could add an evangelist to their staff for the summer months, receiving as well as giving valuable help.

Local churches with evangelists on their membership rolls could encourage them with practical expressions of love—food, clothing, money—not as charity but as compensation for their role in helping to keep the climate of evangelism alive in a movement which desperately needs it.

Some of our evangelists could be well and wisely employed on district camp staffs.

More of them should be used for camp meeting evangelists.

As a preventive measure, our churches need to take a hard look at what they are paying evangelists. Too often the remuneration of evangelists lags far behind the inflationary spiral. If they are asked to serve at the compensation level of a decade ago, or even a year ago, this is really unfair.

Think about it. Pray about it. Do something to encourage and support our evangelists during the slack season.

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IN EXPLORING the polar region, geologists know that it is imperative to have guideposts staked out at intervals for those working the land in total darkness. Men lose their way and tragedy strikes when they go beyond the last post.

One of the important guideposts for the Church of the Nazarene is REVIVAL! The church was born in that spirit and does its best work when we maintain a serious interest in renewing the spirit of revival.

Revival is a methodology. It is another word for public evangelism. It is a series of protracted meetings based upon faith in God’s promise: “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land” (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Revival methodology needs leadership. The Holy Spirit is to be honored and given His rightful place as the Convicter, Convincer, and drawing Spirit. The pastor is the human guide and leads his people prayerfully in preparation and fulfillment. The congregation participates in prayer, inviting their friends, giving of their finances, and attending. The evangelist prepares himself for each meeting to fit the objective set by the leadership of the church in the power of the Spirit.

Let me say a word about the evangelist. He or she should be gifted for this particular role. That is why it is important to consider calling a commissioned or registered evangelist for the revival. The full-time evangelist should be supported in prayer and given adequate financial remuneration.

The minimum amount recommended by the general church is “an amount equal to twice the pastor’s salary (including cash benefits), plus travel one way. The evangelist should be notified of this minimum amount at the time the church calls him” (Manual).

Revival is a spirit. In the broader sense of the word, revival is more than methodology. It is a renewing of our commitment “to seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness.” It is the church being obediently open to the leadership of the Holy Spirit and all He wants to do for us and through us. It is more being than doing. It is the fulfillment of God’s abundant grace for salvation, entire sanctification, and spiritual growth in the lives of hungry believers!

Would you be willing to pray, “Wilt thou not revive us again,” and mean it by a personal commitment of obedience and faith?

The Church of the Nazarene, through the Department of Evangelism, is seeking to assist the local church in public evangelism by sponsoring regional GRASS ROOTS GATHERINGS in the fall of 1979. The term “grass roots” has been chosen because if the Church of the Nazarene is to renew its soul-winning stride, the push must come upward from the grass roots rather than be superimposed on a system or program. Plan to attend the gathering on your zone; it is open to both clergy and laity.

GRASS ROOTS GATHERINGS
CALLING THE CHURCH BACK TO THE BASICS
PRAYER—VISITATION—REVIVAL

This is not a seminar, clinic, or a workshop. It is a GATHERING where the Holy Spirit will inspire pastors, evangelists, leaders, and laypersons in New Testament motivation for public evangelism.

REGISTRATION FORM
Register now to attend the “Class Meetings” and have reserved seating. Registration cost is $15.00 per person.

GATHERING YOU PLAN TO ATTEND ____________________________ (location)

NAME___________________________________________________________

ADDRESS __________________________________________________________

Please check: Minister . . . Staff . . . Layperson

MAIL TO: Department of Evangelism 6401 The Paseo
Kansas City, MO 64131
Ronald Joseph Hyson has been selected to the 1978 Outstanding Young Men of America. This recognition is given to young men who are nominated by men's civic organizations, alumni associations, chambers of commerce, and colleges, on the basis of their service to others, professional excellence, civic and professional recognition, and community activities.

Ronald is the son of Frank and Delores Hyson of Wooster, Ohio. He entered Olivet Nazarene College in 1972. While at Olivet he was elected class president in 1972, 1973, and 1975, and was elected to the Associated Student Government Council 1972-1976.

He graduated from Olivet with a B.A. in biblical literature and is pursuing graduate studies there. He is currently employed by Chicago First Church in Lemont, Ill., as a minister of youth and senior adults. He is a member of the Chicago Ministerial Association, the Wesleyan Theological Society, and the Nazarene Multiple Staff Fellowship.

In 1975 he married the former Brenda Stark of Rock Island, Ill., who received a B.A. in psychology in 1978 from Olivet. He and his wife are now residing in Orland Park, Ill.

Rev. Libbie Yager was honored as “Mother of the Year” by Owosso, Mich., First Church on Mother’s Day. Mrs. Yager, a Nazarene elder, has served as missionary to China, pastor on the Eastern Michigan District, house mother at the girls’ home in Pilot Point, Tex., and local Sunday school teacher for both teens and seniors. She and her husband, Byron, reside in Owosso.

BIBLE SOCIETY OFFERING

Executive director of the Department of Youth Ministries, Rev. Gary Henecke, announced that by April 30 the 1978-79 offering for the American Bible Society, with a little over one-half of the Nazarene churches in the United States participating, had reached the $46,000 mark, just under the 1977-78 figure.

With six weeks left in the counting period, it appears likely that a new high will be reached in the denomination’s giving to the work of the Bible Society.

INTERNATIONAL LAYMEN’S CONFERENCE UPDATE

The daily devotional messages of Audrey J. Williamson to the 1978 International Laymen’s Conference in San Diego are now in print under the title Toward His Image.

Published by Nazarene Publishing House, the 51-page book is based upon Romans 5:2, the theme that Mrs. Williamson used each morning during the conference. The three key words found in that passage were: “Confidently,” “Joyfully,” and “Becoming.”

NPH representative George Rice reports that Toward His Image broke all sales records at the West Texas District Assembly where 825 copies were sold. Rice and sales trainee Stan Parker credit the author’s popularity as a communicator and Mother’s Day as factors contributing to the sales.

In anticipation of 1982, the International Laymen’s Conference committee has appointed Vernon Lunn as chairman. Lunn, an executive vice-president with the Alexander Hamilton Insurance Co. of Detroit, served in this capacity for the 1978 conference.

At a recent meeting, the conference planning group voted to broaden the organization’s representation on the planning level. A site selection committee for the 1982 conference was appointed. High on the list of locations are Acapulco, Toronto, and San Diego.

Members of the International Laymen’s Conference committee are Howard Hamlin, Bud Tollie, Paul Spear, Otto Theel, M. A. (Bud) Lunn, Norman Miller, Paul Skiles, Howard Smith, Wanda Knox, and Vernon Lunn. Kenneth S. Rice, executive director of the Department of Adult Ministries for the church, represents the sponsoring organization.

Pictured (l. to r.), Stephen, David, and Paul, the three sons of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Blakeman of Lexington, Ky., have gone Air Force. Stephen is a pilot stationed at Reese Air Force Base, Lubbock, Tex. With a major in mathematics, he graduated cum laude from Trevecca Nazarene College in 1977, on a four-year Air Force ROTC scholarship, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant at his graduation. He is being assigned to the Homestead Air Force Base, Miami, Fla., as an F-4 Phantom Jet pilot. David and Paul are cadets at the United States Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs. David is a junior with a major in aeronautical engineering. Paul is a freshman. He is interested in engineering and computer science. All three were high school honor students. They were members of the Lexington, Ky., Lafayette Church.
Nashville Bethel Church, was the scene for the recent dedication of little Russell Andrew Taylor. "Rusty" begins the fourth generation of this Nazarene family attending Bethel Church. Pictured (l. to r.) are: Mrs. Jean (Overstreet) Waller, grandmother; Mrs. Yvonne (Waller) Taylor, mother; holding Rusty, Pastor Gerald Parmer; and Andrew H. Overstreet, great-grandfather, who recently celebrated his 81st birthday.

CHRISTIAN HOLINESS CONVENTION AT ONC

The 111th annual convention of the Christian Holiness Association was held at Olivet Nazarene College April 17-19.

Dr. Dennis Kinlaw, president of Asbury College, Wilmore, Ky., presided over the convention, which concentrated on the theme "Holy Living—A Universal Language."

Dr. Kinlaw said that the 20 denominations and members of the association seek to promote the concept of complete surrender to God in order to be of full service to mankind.

The annual citation of merit was bestowed on Dr. Clarence Wiseman, retired as the 10th international commander of the Salvation Army.

General Wiseman spoke to the 1,400 people in the convention Thursday night in Chalfant Hall. His message was based on Philippians, chapter 1.

The citation given General Wiseman by the CHA commended his 50 years of service as an officer of the Salvation Army, "epitomizing the spirit and purpose of the organization in holy service to needy individuals."

Dr. W. E. McCumber, Kansas City, Mo., editor of the Nazarene publication Herald of Holiness, spoke to the convention Wednesday night.

The association honored its executive director, Dr. Thomas Hermiz of Indianapolis, who is resigning to head the OMS missionary program from Marion, Ind.

Succeeding Hermiz is Rev. Darius Salter, pastor of the Evangelical Friends church at Malone College in Canton, Ohio.

Other speakers in the convention represented Olivet Nazarene College were Dr. and Mrs. Leslie Parrott, Mrs. Beverly Lee, and Dr. Willis Snowbarger.

The convention was the first to be held on a college campus rather than a city hotel or convention center. They originated in meetings on rural campgrounds in 1867.

Hermiz said the attendance surpassed any previous meetings, with over 1,500 in attendance Wednesday night, and 452 registered delegates from across the nation.

The 1980 convention will be held in the third week of April at the Southern Baptist Campgrounds in South Carolina.

The convention went on record to commend the work of Christian colleges as the central focus of progress in their denominations today.

The 20 cooperating denominations have a combined membership of 5.5 million people. More than 30 colleges and Bible schools are affiliated with the Christian Holiness Association.

M any Nazarenes and their friends are concerned about the financial situation of their later years. They wonder: "Will I have enough to live on?" "Will my hard-earned estate be conserved wisely?" "Will I be able to continue my life-long joy of thankful giving?"

HORIZONS reliable, confidential estate planning assistance can help you plan wisely for your financial future. Invest in your church while investing in your future as Mr. and Mrs. Ullom have done. Discover the joy of supporting God's Kingdom while you reap generous returns, tax benefits and the lasting satisfaction of being a laborer together with God.

Without obligation, please send a copy of your new folder "Here's What People Say About HORIZONS."
GENERAL BOARD MOVES TO ASSIST EVANGELISTS

In its January meeting, the General Board heard Dr. Don Gibson, executive director of the Department of Evangelism, report that there are 244 commissioned evangelists and 464 registered evangelists in the Church of the Nazarene.

A commissioned evangelist is an ordained minister who gives his major time to evangelism.

A registered evangelist is an ordained or licensed minister who devotes a portion of his time to evangelism.

There are also 130 commissioned and 178 registered song evangelists.

Dr. Gibson further reported that the average annual income of a commissioned evangelist in the church was $8,500. A majority have to supplement income with wives working; only 25 percent of them are receiving minimal benefit assistance from local church and/or district.

The General Board adopted the following recommendations to meet this crisis:

Commissioned or full-time Registered evangelists should be provided with the following benefits either by the local church and/or the district of which they are members:

1. Paid premium for hospitalization insurance.
2. Assistance for emergency (short-term) salary continuance when regular schedule is interrupted by illness or accident.
3. Assistance to attend District Assembly, General Assembly, and other such conferences, such as the Grass Roots Gatherings, where the evangelist is involved.
4. Name placed on the church letterhead and/or bulletin as the “Minister of Extension, serving the Lord as a full-time evangelist.”

ALETHA PITTENGER RETIRES

In October, 1944, Aletha Pittenger of Chico, Calif., answered an ad in the Herald of Holiness for secretarial help at the Nazarene Publishing House in Kansas City. She joined the Department of Church Schools under R. R. Hodges. Then for 11 years she served under Dr. Norman Oke in CST and the Department of Church Schools.

In 1956, she became the secretary of Dr. Kenneth Rice in CST. From 1959 to 1961 she was his secretary at Oklahoma City First Church.

December, 1961, Aletha returned to headquarters, again as Dr. Rice’s secretary, when he became executive secretary of the Department of Church Schools.

At the inception of the Division of Christian Life, she became secretary to Dr. Chester Galloway, executive coordinator, the the following year to Dr. Richard Spindle, present executive coordinator.

April 11, after 31 years of service, Aletha Pittenger retired. An informal reception was held in her honor in the General Board Building lobby.

She plans eventually to return to California to be near her three brothers and her 90-year-old mother. She also has a sister, Mrs. Ellen Penn, missionary to the Republic of South Africa.

NYI TEENS AT OLIVET

With district Bible quizzers jumping to answer questions on the Gospel of John, and 350 teens competing in the music and speech finals, the campus of Olivet Nazarene College was the throbbing setting for the Central Educational Zone NYI Quiz and Talent finals.

Jim Spruce, regional NYI representative and pastor of Champaign, Ill., First Church, awarded trophies to the Indianapolis District Quiz team and their coach Dennis Apple. This was the 18th annual Regional Quiz for the zone. A plaque of appreciation was presented to host Dr. Leslie Parrott, president of Olivet Nazarene College, for his “continued support of our mutual ministry to youth.”

ONC President Dr. Leslie Parrott receives a plaque of appreciation from NYI regional representative Rev. Jim Spruce.

District winners of the ONC Regional Quiz finals: the Indianapolis team, with District Superintendent John Hay (L.) and coach Rev. Dennis Apple (r.).
MAGAZINE RECOGNIZES NAZARENE BOOK


The editor says, "This manual can be useful to all Christians."

Dr. A. Elwood Sanner is professor of theology and chairman of the Philosophy/Religion Department of Northwest Nazarene College.

Christianity Today annually selects from among all the titles published in one year in North America, 25 books which are intended to indicate the wide range of religious topics on which evangelicals are writing which have special merit. Exploring Christian Education is the first from Nazarene authors to receive this recognition.

God, Man and Salvation was listed among the books on biblical theology by the magazine in 1977.

Exploring Christian Education was a project of the Book Committee which asked Dr. Sanner to head a group of eight authors including A. F. Harper, Thomas Barnard, Chester O. Galloway, Ronald F. Gray, Don Hughes, Kenneth S. Rice, J. Ottis Sayes, and F. Franklyn Wise.

Written from the Wesleyan-Arminian viewpoint, the book is intended to meet the need for a comprehensive college-level textbook on the subject of Christian education.

FRANKLIN COOK ACCEPTS HOME MISSIONS POST

The Department of Home Missions announced that Rev. Franklin Cook has accepted the position of Coordinator of Urban Missions.

Cook has been on the staff of Trevecca Nazarene College for the past five years. In addition to his present post as director of public relations and chairman of the Missions Department of the college, he has served as director of admissions, director of inter-cultural educational studies, director of church relations, and dean of extramural studies. Rev. Cook had previously served in International Headquarters in Kansas City as administrative assistant to the executive director of the Department of World Mission.

He will succeed Rev. Bill Young in the Department of Home Missions, who has served during the past year as coordinator of racial minority missions. The new assignment in Home Missions relates to urban planning as well as language missions and other ethnic and racial minority missions. The new post also includes an assignment with inner cities as well as the cross-cultural work.

STUDY YOUR SS LESSONS ON THE GO

Presented by DR. ALBERT LOWN, Nazarene Evangelist from Great Britain.

Now teachers and students desiring another point of view as well as those with limited preparation time can have this concise presentation of the weekly Sunday school lessons from a well-known Bible scholar.

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MIDDLE EUROPEAN DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

"The best is yet to be" expressed the attitude of expectancy which ran through the pastors' reports delivered to the 18th assembly of the Middle European District held at Hanau March 9-11. Dr. V. H. Lewis was the presiding general superintendent.

The reports showed healthy district development over the past year. Three new churches were started, including the first Church of the Nazarene in Switzerland. There was an 18 percent increase in budget giving, and a 20 percent increase in giving for all purposes. The goal of 1,000 members and 1 million German marks approximately $500,000) by the 1980 General Assembly was emphasized.

The proceedings of the assembly were overshadowed by the absence of the district superintendent, Richard Zanner. Dr. Zanner was in the hospital recovering from an automobile accident, but he addressed the assembly by telephone from his hospital bed.

On the evening of March 9, a valiant service was conducted for Rev. and Mrs. Kurt Schmidlin and family. The Schmidlins are the first missionary family from the Middle European District, and will be serving in Chile.

The closing service of the assembly was an ordination service, in which Dr. Lewis ordained Raymond Brunet and Erhard Muller to the Christian ministry.
Department of Youth Ministries announces “D-Day” personnel:

**Discovery**

- Wanda Dewey  Valtcrwches, la.
- Dave Durey  Shawnee Mission, Kans.
- Dale Wine  St. Marys, Ohio
- Bryan VanBrenk  Redmond, Wash.
- Jeffery McKinney  Nampa, Ida.
- Mark Ogden  Nampa, Ida.
- Jeffery McKinney  Nampa, Ida.
- John Kapp  Elma, Wash.
- Mary Lamping  Saginaw, Mich.
- Scott Hubbard  Sacramento, Calif.
- Tim McElrath  Tempe, Ariz.
- Kevin Mokhtarzian  Anaheim, Calif.
- Jeannette Unfried  Porterville, Calif.
- Lisa Manley  Eugene, Ore.
- Matt Weaver  Kent, Wash.

**Living Word**

- Connie Wind  Kalkaska, Mich.
- Tammie Carroll  Owings Mills, Md.
- James Lochary  Bel Air, Md.
- Ruth King  Fresno, Calif.
- Edwin Drake  Ceresco, Mich.
- JoAnn Pulliam  Athens, Ga.
- Stan Pulliam  Athens, Ga.
- Ruth King  Fresno, Calif.
- James Lochary  Bel Air, Md.

“D-Day” . . . a 24-hour music-media and drama-teaching experience in 24 cities across the United States and Canada . . . will involve the ministry of Discovery—North America and Living Word. “D-Days” are sponsored by the Department of Youth Ministries and one or more local/district NYI councils in each city.

Discovery and Living Word were selected from hundreds of applicants from Nazarene colleges in the U.S. and Canada. Both groups will be involved in intense training during the month of June before beginning their “D-Day” ministry the last of June.

Discovery and Living Word will also be involved in local church services when not scheduled in “D-Day” experiences. A few remaining dates are available. If you are interested in having Discovery or Living Word in your local church, please contact:

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Department of Youth Ministries
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Kansas City, MO 64131
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Holy Spirit Today, The—Martin
How to Keep the Yoke Fitting—Taylor
Life Can Have Meaning

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Califorina Couple Selected for Marriage Enrichment Certification

Marvin and Mildred Kissee of Wofford Heights, Calif., have been granted provisional certification by the denomination’s Marriage Enrichment Selection Committee in Kansas City.

The Kisseees have met the committee’s requirements by making application, attending one or more regular marriage enrichment events, and completing a three-day training retreat held recently by the Department of Adult Ministries in Palm Springs, Calif.

Marvin and Mildred have four grown children. They have a 34-year marriage to share with other couples, and are making themselves available to lead Marriage Enrichment retreats.

 Couples selected for provisional status agree to be evaluated independently by the participants of at least two retreats within a one-year period. Full certification is granted after one year of provisional status, if favorable evaluations are received by the Selection Committee in Kansas City.

Church leaders interested in securing the services of Marvin and Mildred may contact them directly at (714) 397-3883, or through J. Paul and Marilyn Turner, Marriage and Family Ministries, Church of the Nazarene, (816) 333-7000, Ext. 364.

Crusade in Soweto

A “Lifting Up Christ Crusade” was held March 12-25, in Soweto, Johannesburg, South Africa. It was sponsored by the Church of the Nazarene.

During the crusade, a man was prevented from committing suicide. At the close of the opening service a man, who had been a seeker at the altar, testified that he had come to the Jabulani Amphitheatre that night seeking for petrol so he could go to his home, setting it afire and then killing himself. He stayed, instead, for the service and responded when the altar call was given. He went away a changed man.

The Jabulani Amphitheatre, which is usually used for sporting and dramatic events, is located in the heart of Soweto. Soweto houses over a million Black South Africans.

The “Lifting Up Christ Crusade” was a cooperative effort of the 17 Churches of the Nazarene in Soweto. During the two-week campaign, over 200 people were converted. Rev. Samuel Dlamini from Swaziland was the crusade speaker.

—Jim W. Smith, Mission Director, Republic of South Africa South Field

Flash Flood Costly to Nashville Naparenes

Rev. and Mrs. Louie Bustle lost more than $5,000 worth of equipment and personal property in a flash flood in Nashville, Tenn., May 3. They were visiting Mrs. Bustle’s parents, Dr. and Mrs. Koy Phillips.

Following four and one-half inches of rain, Mill Creek flooded near the home of Dr. and Mrs. Phillips, pouring six feet of water into the one-story home. The Bustles, who had planned to leave for the Dominican Republic on May 14, had everything packed and it was all destroyed. The Phillips’ home is rented from Dr. Homer Adams and, since the flood was ruled an act of God, none of it was covered by insurance.

Dr. Phillips is recovering from open-heart surgery; he was carried to safety and survived the ordeal amazingly well.

Rev. Louie Bustle plans now to return on schedule, but without his family or belongings, for the present. He does not know how they will recover the loss. Nashville First church gave nearly $2,500 in the services Sunday, May 6.

Another tragedy was related to the same storm. Dr. Ronald Gray’s library was destroyed and his furniture ruined by water and smoke when lightning struck the condominium next to his, setting the complex afire.

—NCN
FOR THE RECORD

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY INFORMATION


HOUSTON—July 18-19. Church of the Nazarene. 211 E. Stallings Dr., P. O. Box 952, Nacogdoches, TX 75961. Host Pastor: Melvin Thompson. General Superintendent: Dr. V. H. Lewis.

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY REPORTS

HAWAII PACIFIC

The 27th annual assembly was held at Honolulu First Church, Central Superintendent Virgil K. Grover, completing seven years, resigned. Darrel Teare was elected district superintendent. General Superintendent: George Coulter ordained Herbert Kamada and Charles van den Berg. Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Jerry W. Appleby and Gaylord A. Rich, and laymen M. Kimber Moulton, Jr., and Mr. Myojie Furusho. Mrs. Nancy Kekoa was elected NWMS president. Rev. Christopher Carver was reelected as Rev. Robert Kilien was reelected as chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

WASHINGTON PACIFIC

The 17th annual assembly of the Sacramento District convened at Sacramento, Calif. First Church of the Nazarene, Olivet and Breesie, Bourbonnais, IL 60911. Host Pastor: J. C. Bayrump General Superintendent: Dr. William M. Greathouse. Completing the first year of an extended term, reported, Presiding General Superintendent: Orville W. Jenkins, ordained Marion Laube Bitner, Glenn Edward Culbertson, Andrew Ray Grossman, and Daniel Edward Pierce. Elders: Wilbur Brennon, Harold McNeil, and Ray Sanders, and laymen: Bud Anderson, John Biggers, and Art Tallman were elected to the Advisory Board. Reelected to their respective positions were Esther Biggers, NWMS president; Ron Fox, NYI president; and Byron Ford, chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

The 17th annual assembly of the Central California District convened in Fresno, Calif.

Devotional Messages by Retirees for Church leaders, from laypeople to general superintendents, many still active in some area of the church but all officially retired, will provide many occasions of inspirational reading. Each of these 91 page-length messages is introduced with a scripture and personalized with a picture of the contributor. A 6 x 9" page allows for a larger, easy-to-read print.

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District Superintendent W. H. Dintz retired after 13 years of service and Wil M. Spatio was elected district superintendent for a one-year term.

General Superintendent Orville W. Jenkins ordained Randy W. Horton and commissioned Dennis L. Sams and James R. Drake as directors of Christian education. Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Bert Rhodes, Irving Sullivan, and Clarence Kil- lor; and laymen George Almgren, Joel War- kentin, and John Knox.

Reelected to their respective positions were Mrs. Archie Sheldon, NWMS president; Harold O. Parry, NYI president; and Harold N. Little, chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

WASHINGTON


Elders Quentin Caswell, Tom Nees, and Har­ old Parry were elected to the Advisory Board and laymen Paul Freese, Merritt Mann, and David Krutenat.

The following were all reelections. Mrs. Roy E. Carnahan, NWMS president; William B. Niel­ son, NYI president; and Joe R. McHenry, chair­ man of the Board of Christian Life.

SAN ANTONIO

Austin, Tex., was the site of the 66th annual assembly of the San Antonio District. District Superintendent Harold B. Graves, completing the third year of an extended term, reported General Superintendent Eugene L. Stowe or­ dained Harold L. Moody and Richard Simpson. Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Stan Meek and W. E. Rhodes, and laymen Ewan Davis and Robert Jones.

Mrs. Betty Graves was reelected NWMS president; James F. Southworth was reelected NYI president; and Ron Jordan was reelected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

NORTHWEST

The 75th annual assembly of the Northwest District convened at Spokane, Wash. District Superin­ tendent Raymond C. Kratzke retired after 19 years of service, and Walter Lamann was elected district superintendent.

General Superintendent V. H. Lewis ordained Sidney Cox, Clarence Greer, Greg Hanson, Greg Hicks, Steve Ogletree, Wallace Pentecost, Steven Ralph, Mark Tuter, James Vander­ Schuur, and Gary Waier.

Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Hal Stockton, Chuck Wilkes, and Perry Winkle, and laymen Glenn Daily, Gary McKay, and Gene Sutherland.

Mary Winkle was reelected NWMS president. Mark Tuter was reelected NYI president; and Rev. Ron Wells was elected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

NAZARENE CAMP MEETINGS

July 20-22—CANADA PACIFIC—VANCOUVER ISLAND. Special worker: Charles H. Smith; D. J. Derksen, district superintendent.

July 25-29—CANADA PACIFIC—CAMP CAMP­ ground. 2708 Morse Rd., Columbus, OH 43229. Special workers: Lyle Eckley and L. S. Oliver; singers: Wally and Ginger Laxton, Ter­ rel C. Sanders, Jr., district superintendent.


July 22-29—NORTHEASTERN INDIANA District Center, 1794 S. 350 E., Marion, IN 46952. Special workers: Ralph Earle, Boyd Hancock, and Ron Lush. Bruce T. Taylor, district superintendent.

July 23-29—SOUTHERN OHIO District Camp­ grounds, South Bend, IN 46628. Special workers: Paul Qualis and Bert Dan­ nes. John W. May, district superintendent.


July 28-29—WISCONSIN. Camp Byron Brownsville, Wis. Special workers: Gene Fuller and Paul Liddell; and musicians Bob and Sandy Fennie. Ted Holstein, district superin­ tendent.


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REV. ROBERT RAPALJE, 61, died Apr. 7 in Butler, Pa., where he pastored. Funeral services were conducted by Dr. James Hunton and District Superintendent William Prince. Rev. Rapalje's ministry was in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, and included the building of six churches. He is survived by his wife, Frances Hunton Rapalje; two sons, Joseph and James; one daughter, Barbara Shanahan; and one sister.

FLOSSIE FERN RICHARDSON, 92, died Apr. 18 in Milwaukee, Ind. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. L. E. Humrich Rev. Walter B. Greek, and Dr. Bruce Taylor. She is survived by her husband, Rev. Harold S. Richardson; one daughter, Mrs. Kelly (Margaret) Cope; and one granddaughter.

JULIA ETHEL SCROGGINS died Apr. 9 in Palmdale, Calif. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Larry Wylie and Rev. Bill Davis, her grandson-in-law. Survivors include 3 sons, Lloyd, Thurman and Clifton; 2 daughters, Thelma Hammer and Ollie Mae Williams; 11 grandchildren; and 8 great-grandchildren.

REV. EDWARD C. SPRUILL, 76, died Nov. 8 in Apple Valley, Calif. A memorial service was conducted at the Apple Valley Church by Rev. Donald O. Harrison. Funeral services were conducted at Rose Hills Cemetery by Chaplain Ross Barb. Rev. Spruill had pastored in California and was chaplain of the Los Angeles County Fire Department for many years. Surviving are his wife, Mable; 1 son, Ed; 3 daughters, Jean, Eileen, and Carol; 12 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren; and 1 sister.

EUGENE STEELE, 20, died Jan. 2 in Grand Bay, Ala. as a result of a home accident. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Emily Duncan at First Church, Grand Bay, Ala. He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Steele; three brothers, and three sisters.

MRS. LORA THOMPSON, 79, died Apr. 16 in Indianapolis, Ind. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Earnest Garme and Rev. John Hay, district superintendent. Surviving are five sons, Clarence, James, Willis, Walter, and William, Jr.; and two daughters, Alma Amhausen and Rev. Lilly Bratcher.

BIRTHS

to CLIVE AND GRACE BURROWS, Papua New Guinea, a boy, John Anton, Apr. 27

to JAMES AND BRENDA (HECK) CROWLEY, Roxana, Ill., a girl, Andrea Janae, Feb. 11

to REV. DAVID AND SARAH (HOLMES) CURTIS, West Chester, Ohio, a girl, Megan Elizabeth, March 20

to CHARLES L. (CHUCK) AND SHARON ANN (BOYD) FRICKE, Little Rock, Ark., a boy, Justin Boyd, Mar. 5

to MICHAEL AND BECKY HANCOCK, Dayton, Ohio, a boy, Brannon Montgomery, March 17

HEW SAYS EXCLUSIONS NOT STATUTORY. C. E. Winslow, director, Compatriots for Academic Freedom and the Patriotic Opinion Poll, was told by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in Washington, D.C. that exclusion of voluntary prayer and the “Creator” view of origins in public education is “not statutory, but is based upon relevant Supreme Court cases.”

Winslow, who was in Washington arguing that the Patriotic Opinion Poll reveals 60 percent favor voluntary prayer and the inclusion of the “Creator” view of origins in public education, says there is no legal basis for the existing inequitable policy in the American system of education. He says he found favorable response among many legislators.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CHRISTIAN WITNESS UNPRECEDENTED, CHINESE BISHOP SAYS. Anglican Bishop K. H. Ting, head of the Nanking Theological College, says that in China today “the opportunity for Christian witness is unprecedented.” He made the statement in a recent interview with the Rev. Eero Saarinen, a Finnish Lutheran pastor, who was touring the People’s Republic of China. A report of the interview was released by the Information Service of the Lutheran World Federation.

Bishop Ting said the theological college has now become the Center for Religious Studies of Nanking University. “The opportunity for making a Christian witness among the intellectuals and academics is quite unprecedented,” he declared. “We are going to give lectures on Christianity to the students of philosophy and history. And in May we are going to give a lecture to the whole university community on the subject: The Christian Reason for the Existence of God.”

Noting that he did not mean to imply “that our non-Christian friends are so very eager to listen to us,” Bishop Ting added that “for us to be part of the university gives us a tremendous opportunity and responsibility to witness.”

EVANGELICAL THEOLOGICAL TRAINING TO BE ENCOURAGED. To encourage evangelical theological education in Europe, a European Evangelical Accreditation Association (EEAV) is to be founded on October 31, 1979. The decision was made during the second European Evangelical Accreditation Conference held recently in St. Chrischona, Switzerland, according to reports from the German Evangelical Alliance.

The 32 participants represented a total of about 70 evangelical theological training institutes in Europe. The Accreditation Association plans to work out uniform, internationally recognized final examinations at the different levels of studies, in English, French and German, which can be taken externally, by correspondence, or at the accredited schools.

The EEAV intends to cooperate closely with similar evangelical accreditation associations in Asia and Africa, and hopes in this way to obtain new impulses for missionary work and for the churches in the Third World.

COALITION FORMED TO FIGHT AGAINST DRAFT RESUMPTION. Some 20 organizations have formed a coalition to fight any efforts to reanimate military conscription.

Called the Committee Against Registration and the Draft (CARD), it will oppose several bills currently before Congress calling for renewal of registration, classification, and eventually induction through the Selective Service System.

Religious organizations involved in the effort include: the Friends Committee on National Legislation, the Office for Church in Society of the United Church of Christ, the American Friends Service Committee, the National Interreligious Service Board for Conscientious Objectors, the Church of the Brethren, the Friends Peace Committee, and the Catholic Peace Fellowship.
CORNER

Conducted by W. E. McCumber, Editor

Please tell me what these abbreviations stand for: NEB, NIV, NASB, TLB? I see them frequently in your magazine.


What part of this life will we remember in heaven, and what part will we not?

Revelation 21:4 encourages me to believe that we will remember nothing which would detract from the perfect holiness and pure pleasure of heaven, and everything which could be part of that holiness and joy. Beyond this rather general statement, however, I cannot “detail” an answer.

Why do you believe the Bible to be the Word of God? Why aren’t the Koran, the Vedas, the Tao-teh-king, or other sacred writings the Word of God? Is the Bible unique in any way that proves it to be the Word of God and thus the only true sacred literature in the world?

The Bible is certainly unique in content. Alone of books, it bears witness to the one, true, living God who created all else that exists and who has acted in history to redeem mankind from sin and death. The Bible is based upon events, not upon ideas, events in which God has revealed himself to man and has redeemed man from sin. These events culminate in, and radiate from, the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, who claimed to be the Son of God and Savior of mankind in a sense that no other has been or can be.
**Bartlesville, Okla.: Central Church** received a boost in the revival effort provided by the Gary Abke Family. In a Tuesday-over-Sunday meeting, the attendance was better than at any time of late in such an effort. Eight souls received definite spiritual help, which for us and our situation was a real victory.

—Spurgeon L. Hendrix, pastor

**Marlette, Mich.: The church had Rev. George Grimm of Sisterville, W.Va., for revival. During the weekdays the Uplook Singers brought the special music. On the weekend Kim and Cindy Semran, The Sunrise Singers, from Adrian, Mich., were the song evangelists. Sunday morning the Holy Spirit broke through and the altar and the front of the church was lined with people seeking God.**

—C. L. Bugbee, pastor

**Fort Wayne, Ind.: Fairfield Church** witnessed one of the best revivals in the history of the church. Crowds were the best that many could remember for a long time. There were seekers every night. The meeting was preceded by six weeks of cottage prayer meetings, which were conducted in four areas of the city. Several Sundays before the meeting began, the services were the scene of a gracious outpouring of the Spirit. The last Sunday night before the meeting we had a “love service,” breaking bread. Dr. Lyle E. Eckley was used of God, preaching the basics, and the Spirit honored the truth.

—C. Marshall Bowes, pastor

**West Chester, Ohio: March 17, the Pisgah Community Church presented the first in a series of SATURDAY NIGHTS IN CINCINNATI (SNIC), with 2,800 people from all over the Tri-State area present to hear the Imperials sing in a Spiritual Outreach Concert. The occasion was sponsored solely by the Pisgah Community Church. At the close of the service, nearly 40 teens and adults sought the Lord Jesus Christ around the altar for salvation. The Convention Center was packed and many were turned away.**

—Gary T. Koch, pastor

**Saskatchewan, Canada: The Mel­fort Church recently sponsored a Billy Graham Associate Crusade in the Melfort Civic Auditorium. Dr. John Wesley White was the evangelist and Mr. Homer James the song evangelist. The crusade saw the auditorium filled to capacity and souls seeking the Lord in each service. This outreach to the community is the biggest thing we’ve ever put on, and a tremendous impact was made for Christ.**

—Hugh Gorman, pastor and crusade director

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**REVIVAL INSPIRES STUDENTS**

The PLC spring revival was conducted from Wednesday, March 28, through Sunday, April 1. A deep moving of the Holy Spirit was witnessed on campus as students responded to Rev. Jim Bond’s challenge for holy living.

Evangelist Bond is currently serving as chaplain and religion professor at Nazarene Bible College in Colorado Springs. He is a 1959 graduate of Pasadena College. During his senior year he served as student body president. He also had an outstanding basketball career.
Rev. Bond has pastored churches in Kansas, Wyoming, Oklahoma, and Colorado. He was general NYPS secretary before going to Brazil in 1970 as a missionary. The PLC Alumni Association awarded its Distinguished Achievement Award for minister of the year to Rev. Bond in 1970.

Special music for the revival was provided by Harlan and Barbara Moore, graduates of Bethany Nazarene College. Student choral groups were also featured throughout the meetings.

THE CHURCH SCENE

The Michigan District recently held their first Laymen’s Retreat at the Mount Pleasant, Mich., Holiday Inn.

The theme of the retreat was new horizons. Dr. Leslie Parrott, president of Olivet Nazarene College, gave inspiring lectures on “The Fulfilled Life.”

Singers David and Dana Blue gave an outstanding presentation of spiritually fulfilling music.

One hundred and twenty-two attended the retreat. On Sunday morning, Dr. Harry T. Stanley, Michigan district superintendent, conducted a Communion service concluding the enriching retreat.

INSURANCE ELIGIBILITY EXTENDED TO LAY CHURCH EMPLOYEES

All church employees now are eligible for the low-cost Supplemental (contributory) Group Term Life Insurance. This announcement by Dr. Dean Wessels, executive director, Department of Pensions and Benevolence, is the result of action taken by the General Board in January to include lay associate ministers in this program.

It was later determined that eligibility could be extended to all church employees. This would include lay associates, secretaries, janitors, and college professors. District-licensed and ordained ministers already are eligible.

Up to $50,000 of group term life insurance coverage is available under the program. This maximum coverage may be purchased for an annual premium as low as $100, depending on the employee’s age and amount of coverage desired. The Department of Pensions and Benevolence knows of no life insurance coverage available to Nazarene church employees at lower cost. Coverage also is available for the employee’s dependents at similar savings. The plan includes special benefits for accidental death and dismemberment. The premium is waived in the event of disability.

Eligibility requirements are: the individual must (1) be an employee of a Nazarene church organization (local church, college, district, school, etc.)

Westview Church (formerly Broad Street) in New Castle, Ind., dedicated their new church on Easter Sunday, April 15. Appraisal value is $500,000 at a cost of approximately $290,000. The sanctuary has a seating capacity of 300 with overflow of 200. The educational unit is departmentalized with 22 classrooms and children and youth auditoriums. Dr. Orville W. Jenkins brought the dedicatory message. Rev. John Hay, district superintendent, and the Dole Singers also participated in the service. Dr. Donald V. Peal is the pastor.

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that is located on a district participating in the Pensions and Benevolence Budget; (2) provide evidence of insurability; (3) be less than 55 years of age when initially enrolled; and (4) provide annual verification of working 30 hours per week for the church organization in a salaried position.

Many churches will want to provide this insurance coverage for their lay employees as a fringe benefit. Premiums for Supplemental (contributory) Group Term Life Insurance which are paid directly by the employer are not subject to federal income tax.

Lay church employees or church organizations interested in further information or enrollment may write or call:

Dean Wessels
Department of Pensions
6401 The Paseo
Kansas City, MO 64131

BEYOND MY HIGHEST DREAM!

by TERRY CURTIS

Bellaire, Texas

IT'S REALLY exciting to watch God in action—to experience right before your own eyes His tremendous Ephesians 3:20 promise—to actually see Him “do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think . . .”

It all started in December, 1966. I had just arrived in Houston, Tex., to begin my first pastorate after serving six years in the associate ministry—full of dreams, plans, and ideals. Standing tall, trying to speak with a deep, convincing voice, I boldly stated, “I expect the Bellaire church to be different from the average church. We’re going to successfully win souls and receive new members each month.”

The people were astonished. No one disagreed, but no one really believed, and neither did I. I thought we would be “lucky” to succeed more than two or three months. My real plan was that any month we did not receive new members, I would call the people around the altar and pray for God’s forgiveness for not being the soul-winning church He wanted us to be.

This has never happened. There has been an exciting 134 consecutive months of receiving new members into our fellowship (a total of 440 persons; 295 are new Nazarenes). I confess, this is way beyond what I had asked the Lord for or even dreamed of in my wildest imaginations.

Behind the scenes, here are some of the reasons for this remarkable happening. The underlying cause for this climate of evangelism is the tremendous blend of pastor and people who share a clear vision of the true mission of the Bellaire church—“to seek and to save” those who are lost. The informal revival atmosphere of the Sunday services, effective “through the week” lay witnessing, and evangelistic campaigns, mixed with a sincere burden to reach our area for Jesus seems to be the winning combination for “making it happen” in Houston, Tex.

Here are a variety of examples of how all kinds and types of people are being won:

- frustrated over his stalled car, David Goss responded to an invitation to come to church from one of our members who stopped to help. Later, David was saved and now serves as a “standby” bus driver on Sundays.
- a paraplegic neighbor led Wally and Barbara Villarreal to the Lord by acts of kindness. The Villarreals have now opened their home for a weeknight Bible study, endeavoring to reach their unsaved neighbors for God.
- since her own conversion, one housewife has seen her entire family saved within a year’s time—an alcoholic husband, two teens, and a junior-age girl.
- elderly Mrs. Aday was won by her friendly and concerned beautician, and another lady was responsible for leading her grocery “checkout” friend to the Lord.
- a recent chemical engineer graduate, living alone in Houston, Bob Collins was won by a fellow “single” and co-worker at the Texaco Research Laboratory.
- last month, Mrs. Eileen Beyer followed the ambulance to the emergency ward and led her neighbor to the Lord before she died.
- Gaylon Patton is a product of faithful and persistent calling by a bus captain. Now Gaylon himself is one of the most successful soul-winning bus captains of our church, with a real burden for people.
- only last Sunday, a man living within the shadow of the church was saved because of a friendly “hello” as two of our men were walking across the church property. Sensing a deeper need, they furthered the conversation and led him to a saving knowledge of Jesus right during the Sunday school hour. His brother-in-law was led to the Lord in the afternoon and both men gave thanks and praise around the altar in the Sunday evening service.
- teens and children are also finding God in a very real and life-changing way.

The Bellaire church is really excited. We are dreaming, thinking, and asking. With eager anticipation we ask, “What will God do next that is ‘exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think . . .’?” Our eyes are on the future!
NTS COMMENCEMENT

One hundred and one graduates received their diplomas at the 34th commencement exercises of Nazarene Theological Seminary, May 21, in the auditorium of the Cleveland Chiropractic College (formerly Kansas City, Mo., First Church) at 8 p.m.

Dr. Jesse Ziegler spoke on "The Necessity of Ministry." Following his address, several of the original faculty of the seminary responded with a standing ovation for Professor Emeritus. The audience realized. The Canada Atlantic District will attend WILCON on the ENC Zone. They came from as far as Montreal, Quebec, in the east; Victoria, British Columbia, in the west; and Whitehorse, Northwest Territories, in the north. One minister's wife traveled 2,400 miles one way.

Dr. Neil Wiseman was complimentary of the welcome given the Conference by Canadian Nazarene College. Although WILCON followed by two weeks a record attendance at the bi-annual Homecoming activities, still the campus and buildings were in "spic and span" readiness.

THREE NEW MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL BOARD

By a mail vote the General Board has selected three persons to fill vacancies for the remainder of the quadrennium.

Dr. Kenneth Pearsall has been elected to fill the vacancy representing educational institutions caused by the election of Dr. Mark Moore to be executive director of the Department of Education and the Ministry.

Dr. Pearsall is president of Northwest Nazarene College, Nampa, Ida. He had served previously on the General Board. He will serve on the departments of Education and the Ministry, and World Mission.

Dr. Forrest Whitlatch, district superintendent of the Iowa District, was elected to complete the term of Dr. Norman Bloom, who resigned to accept the post of assistant to the president of Olivet Nazarene College.

Dr. Whitlatch will serve on the departments of World Mission and Youth Ministries.

Mr. Odie Page of Charlotte, N.C., who is an air traffic control official, was elected to serve as a lay member in place of Dr. Homer Adams, who became president of Trevecca Nazarene College in March.

Mr. Page will serve on the departments of Education and the Ministry, and Pensions and Benevolence.

CANADIAN WILCON

May 15-18, WILCON (Wives' Leadership Conference), a cooperative venture for ministers' wives, between colleges and the Department of Education and the Ministry was held at Canadian Nazarene College in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

An enrollment of almost 100, which is 90 percent of the pastors' wives from three of the Canadian districts, was realized. The Canada Atlantic District will attend WILCON on the ENC Zone. They came from as far as Montreal, Quebec, in the east; Victoria, British Columbia, in the west; and Whitehorse, Northwest Territories, in the north. One minister's wife traveled 2,400 miles one way.

Dr. Neil Wiseman was complimentary of the welcome given the Conference by Canadian Nazarene College. Although WILCON followed by two weeks a record attendance at the bi-annual Homecoming activities, still the campus and buildings were in "spic and span" readiness.
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