



# IF *Jesus* CAME TO YOUR HOUSE

**W**hen you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door  
With arms outstretched in welcome to your heavenly Visitor?  
Or would you have to change some things before you let Him in,  
Like hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?

**W**ould you hide your worldly music and put some hymnbooks out?  
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?  
And I wonder—if the Saviour spent a day or two with you,  
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?

**W**ould you keep right on saying the things you always say?  
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?  
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd planned to go,  
Or would you maybe change your plans for just a day or so?

**W**ould you be glad for Him to meet your very closest friends,  
Or would you hope they'd stay away until His visit ends?  
Would you be glad to have Him stay forever, on and on,  
Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last had gone?

**I**t might be interesting to know the things that you would do  
If Jesus came in person to spend some time with you.

*Lois Blanchard Estes*



*General Superintendent V. H. Lewis*



# MOTHER'S DAY 1974

Dear Mother:

Here's a letter from all of us to all of you. The word that designates your title is to us one of the most important words we have ever uttered. I imagine it is the first word we learned to speak. It was a word with a face—your face—bending close. Then as time went by, you packed a lot of other values and memories into the word. We think it and say it today with deep emotion because it is so related to you, what you have been and are today.

How wise God was to provide you as Mother! We needed you so desperately back there when we were just learning to walk and talk and think. In those years you became a part of us, as in the beginning we were a part of you. So in a very great and awesome sense we walk together along life's way.

We are glad you gave us the elements of value with judgment and wisdom. We are deeply grateful that you didn't fail us then. For even though your voice was gentle, it was powerful just because it was you.

Now as we look back in retrospect we can understand some things from your point of view. It was an awesome assignment, wasn't it? This has been your God-given role. He honored you with a soul, a life to shape and mold. You had such free entry into us, our minds and emotions and daily schedule. You could have scarred us for life—but you also had the glorious possibilities of blending your voice, life, and person into God's will for us.

There is a deep fact of life and some theological overtones in that statement of Pharaoh's daughter to the mother of Moses: "Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages," isn't there! Your "wages" are wrapped up in me. If I make good, you rejoice—and that's the way we want it to be.

I guess in a deep sense that "apron string" is never severed. We are connected by birth, by companionship, and love. Thus God has ordained it to be. It is good. We are glad.

Mother, we salute you today!

# An All- AMERICAN Mother



By Ross W. Hayslip  
Tucson, Ariz.

One of America's most remarkable women was Otelia Compton. She was awarded a degree of doctor of laws by the historic Western College for Women and her citation read, "For outstanding achievement as wife and mother of Comptons."

Her four famous children all had Phi Beta Kappa keys from their alma mater, Wooster; all had Ph.D.s from Princeton. At one time the three Compton brothers—Karl, Wilson, and Arthur—had more earned academic degrees than any other three men in America. The sister, Mary Compton Rice, was the principal of a mission school in India; and her husband, Dr. Herbert Rice, was a college president.

When asked about her formula for child rearing, Mrs. Compton's answer was simple but dynamic: "Any credit that comes to me can be attributed to my reliance on the Bible and common sense—or 'horse sense' as my father called it." Her professor-preacher husband gave it a more modern scientific name. He called it "applied Christian psychology."

"Heredity is not important except it be the all-important kind—the heredity of training. A child isn't likely to learn good habits from his parents unless they learned good habits from

their parents.

"It's best to learn immediately that children can't be fooled. The only way to gain their confidence and keep it is to be consistent.

"If you're honest with your son and befriend him even in his little mistakes, he won't seek the advice of the boy on the street corner.

"It is also wise to explain to the child every action that concerns him—even if you mistakenly think that the child is too young to understand. Only then will he mature with the sense that justice has been done, and develop the impulse to be just himself."

This was the philosophy of this remarkable woman.

When I came to the pastorate of the Church of the Nazarene in Wooster, Ohio, Mrs. Compton had gone to her reward.

It was my privilege to have her distinguished daughter, Mary Compton Rice, as a speaker in my pulpit. Her Christian personality was contagious and she told me a great deal about her sainted mother.

Some of the members of the congregation who knew Mrs. Compton personally described her as one who helped hitch her children's wagons to the stars. □



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Strange how we flinch when God in His infinite wisdom sees fit to discipline our lives. Oh, yes, it hurts; but when we let it be, it is hurt with a purpose. Hurt turned into blessing.

The pruning process is never a pleasant one. But when the fruit appears, it makes sense, and what once brought pain turns out to be reason for praising God.

On and on the pruning process goes right in the middle of all the days of our lives. The danger is that we fail to recognize the disappointments, the discouragements, the delayed answers to our prayers as God's plan in shaping our lives by pruning.

One thing God promises which makes every day and every event in the lives of His children important ones. "And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28, NASB).

It is a promise broad enough to cover all the events of our lives and powerful enough to support all our question marks. □

I SEE MOTHER

I see Mother standing, aproned,  
 In the old home kitchen door.  
 "Come, my son, your breakfast's waiting;  
 Clean your shoes to save the floor."

When at night a burning fever  
 Left me crying in my bed,  
 I'd feel Mother standing by me,  
 Her kind hand upon my head.

She would sometimes sing a carol  
 Or be reading late at night.  
 I would thrill to see her beauty  
 In the glowing front-room light.

But when Mother read the Bible  
 And she raised her voice in prayer,  
 I could see the saints and angels  
 Hov'ring round her in the air.

Though she's gone, I still can see her  
 Calling me from heaven's door,  
 "Come, my son, the feast is waiting;  
 You shall hunger nevermore."

Everett Craighead  
 Kansas City

# WHOS, NOT WHATS

**I**t takes whos, not whats, to make a church grow! Across the nation and around the world the people called Nazarenes are showing they want to be used.

This is immensely significant to our church. Many denominations are lamenting decreasing lay involvement in church affairs. Nazarene pastors, however, are finding that, when challenged and trained, our people in increasing numbers are responding with dedicated involvement in the various ministries of the church.

Especially is this true in the field of lay evangelism. A recent release from the Department of Evangelism reports almost 250 Nazarene pastors trained in the principles of "Spiritual Multiplication" in 1973. After receiving this training, many pastors put these principles to work in their own church. Consequently, additional hundreds of laymen are finding the joy of weekly involvement in learning how to better share the Christ they love and serve.

Detroit First Church is an example. Under the leadership of Pastors Hudgens and Griffin, the cadre of lay evangelism trainers has grown to 30. Thus, in teams of three, approximately 90 laymen of this church are involved in weekly evangelism. Pastor Hudgens reports a recent week's total of 21 new people accepting Christ as Saviour in their homes. When you add the large number of lay people needed in friendship and follow-up evangelism, a significant portion of laymen in this church are identified with this outreach ministry.

Wareham, Mass., First Church is also an example. Here Pastor Clifford is involved with his people in training their first lay evangelism teams. A recent letter states, "We are excited beyond description. Our calls are being made among those who have attended the church on occasion, have children in the Sunday school, or some other vital link with the church. Prevailing, believing prayer bathes this ministry from beginning to end and the Holy Spirit does the rest. Not one person we have called on showed any resentment. Even those not making commitments ask for return calls. Personal letters are sent within 24 hours to follow up each convert. A member of the team is assigned to assist the new Christian in the steady use of God's Word, in prayer, and to encourage regular church attendance. *It is in this follow-up we are finding our best results!*"

These examples show that this outreach ministry works in churches of differing sizes. In fact, size is not the determining factor. Attitude and pastor-lay involvement is!

Of special importance is the follow-up. A whole array of follow-up materials is provided by the Department of Evangelism and the Nazarene Publishing House. Among the best of these is Charles "Chic" Shaver's *Basic Bible Studies*, No. VE-80 (75c each; 6 or more, 50c each). These eight individual studies, in the hands of a trained follow-up person, give any church the means, not alone to follow up the new Christian, but to help him grow in grace.

Admittedly, this takes work! It is not easy! Neither is it a sure way out for the pastor or people looking for automatic church growth. It is, however, challenging and exciting work for those who take seriously our Lord's command to "go" and "tell."

This is why it takes whos, not whats, to be involved in the supreme task of the Church, the evangelization of the world! □

By David K. Kline  
Boxboro, Mass.

Photo by Vivienne



# GROWING AS A FAMILY

**E**ntertainment experts claim that one sound above all others creates more anticipation, arouses more emotional expectancy than all the rest: the sound of the wedding march! It signals the birth of a family.

Currently there is much debate concerning the future of the American home. The number of weddings has virtually doubled in the last decade—about 2.2 million annually; the number of divorces and remarriages is also spiraling upward. Some sociologists believe the nuclear family is on the way out. Tradition, mores, morals are being reexamined, if not ignored. However, the noted anthropologist Dr. Margaret Mead believes the family is the only institution that has a chance for survival.

The home is undergoing dramatic changes. One unmistakable sign of life is change; it indicates vitality. Parents should not fear but welcome it.

Growing parents seek to understand the marital relationship. There is no magic about marriage. It is not an experiment in sex nor a clinic for derelicts and addicts. It is the essence of love.

In marriage two totally different individuals stand before an altar to become one in relationships and responsibilities. Each is doubled but not duplicated. Each marriage is unique because each person is different. You are

still who you were before marriage plus all that your partner possesses!

Quite beyond the claims of liberation movements, men and women live in different worlds. They are biologically and emotionally different. A man's world is essentially one of ideas and action, while a woman's is primarily one of emotion, affection, reflection. At a party, for instance, men will stand in clusters talking: discussing issues, sports, telling jokes. Women usually sit and talk about fashions, their children, and schedules. Much of married happiness depends on husbands and wives facing their differences together.

According to the Genesis story, God surveyed His accomplishments daily. However, at the end of the sixth day there came a high moment. The Lord fashioned woman and presented her to man. Then the record declares: "God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good" (Genesis 1:31).

By G. Curtis Jones, Macon, Ga.

In discussing marital relationships, Matthew reports a conversation between a Pharisee and Jesus. The inquisitor wanted to know if it was lawful to divorce one's wife. Jesus answered: "Have you not read that he who made them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one'?" (Matthew 19:4-5, RSV).

Marriage is more than a legal contract. A contract can be broken. Marriage is a spiritual union! Whatever is whole cannot be broken without injury.

Many, however, seem to shed their mates like seasonal garments. I called on a young mother to express regrets over her marriage ending in divorce. She snapped: "I'm not sorry! Everything is going to be fine."

Reflecting on her situation, I recalled that this attractive, affluent lady's mother and father had also been divorced. Separation begets separation. It is an easy pattern to imitate.

In spiritual arithmetic two persons, through marriage, become a third person. This oneness, blessed by Christ, becomes the foundation of all that is lovely, solid, hopeful, and sacred in society. What we would have our nation become, we must first enthrone and nurture in our homes.

Growing families will demonstrate mutual respect and appreciation. Someone has quipped: "A husband is a fellow who expects his wife to be perfect and to understand why he isn't." Marriage is not always a 50-50 proposition. It may be 75-25; it may be 95-5 or 100-0. St. Paul declared that love keeps no score!

It is so easy to fall out of love; to take one's mate for granted; to forget the niceties, the courteous and thoughtful acts of daily living.

Busy men can so easily forget the schedules and demands of children; the monotony, weight, and responsibility of household chores. When Frederick C. Howe, lawyer and political scientist, finished the first draft of his autobiography, he submitted it to his wife for review. After reading it, she laughingly asked: "But, Fred, weren't you ever married?"

Stammering in embarrassment, he replied: "I'm sorry. I guess I forgot that. I'll put it in now."

Personal involvements sometimes tend to cause one to forget he is married, to take his mate for granted. Routine has ways of making a footnote of marriage!

Good things simply do not automatically happen in a family. Atmosphere must be created, responsibilities determined, failures and accomplishments shared. There can be scheduled serenity: planned evenings, hours when we stay home and catch up with family privileges. Unless these delightful respites are anticipated and protected, they will elude us.

Families that grow share a common faith. The parent who does not have a profound faith in God is unfortunate—unfortunate, not because he or she is wrong, but because without God the rearing of children is an impossible ordeal. It becomes a private, ingrown, burdensome task rather than a joyous recognition of God's gift of children, His expectations and promises.

Faith in God impels the parent to have faith in his child. This is particularly true and important as children grow older, go to school, leave home, enter vocations, and establish families of their own. Parents sometimes wonder if they have installed the ingredients of Christian character and faith in their children. We wonder if, as Paul phrased it, we have been "good models in all things."

Families that grow are families that recognize, accept, and respond to differences.

Being supportive, learning to share concerns, to encourage each child in his pursuits, is essential to family cohesiveness and strength.

My wife and I are privileged to have five sons, including two sets of twins. Each boy is different! Whether piano concerts, school honors, or sports, we have tried to share high moments with our sons.

I have frequently boasted of attending more athletic contests than any preacher in America! This is supportiveness. Dividends have far exceeded effort and expense.

Parents must start early and work adroitly to strengthen family cohesiveness. Psychologists are in general agreement that basic emotional reactions to life are formed by the time one is five or six years old. It is now possible to predict how a child will perform in school by age three. If these startling claims are correct, then

the temporary abandonment of children by their parents projects a pessimistic picture of the family. Conversely, it should challenge homemakers to leave their constructive influence on their children before the syndrome of outside schooling begins.

Families that grow keep burning the light of love. Ours is sometimes referred to as the "love generation." Is it? Ours is a murderous, corrupt, arrogant generation.

Love is far more selfless than infatuation. Love is the essence of life. It is the quality that binds, blesses, and inspires. Father Hesburgh of Notre Dame says: "The most important thing a father can do for his children is love their mother." While this may be an oversimplification of the situation, the point is clear. Love is not only what we say; it is what we do and how we do it.

We must experience and share love in all its dimensions as parents. It must include our children. We cannot afford ourselves the luxury of

keeping score of disappointments.

Some frustrated parent has written:

*My flower child has gone to seed—  
Has gone to pot—is smoking weed.  
He whispers peace but what it means  
Is sitting sadly in his jeans.  
He mentions love most fervently—  
Yet all the love must come from me.*

Some parents have also gone to seed; smoking, drinking, and ignoring one another too much.

Family love is comprehensive and specific; always a two-way street! It must be shared, cultivated, expressed. There can be no love without forgiveness, which brings renewal, generates hope, nurtures maturity and fulfillment. Love will grant a member of the family permission to fail, yet welcome him with open arms after the episode. □

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**"It is not for you to know about dates or times, which the Father has set within his own control. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you'" (Acts 1:7-8, NEB).**

**WHATEVER  
GOD  
CLEANSES,  
HE FILLS**

**O**ne of the most popular words in today's vocabulary is the word *power*. Statesmen and politicians speak often these days of the realignment of political power. Scientists speak of the power of their space vehicles. Military men speak of the power of their guns or planes or missiles.

Psychologists speak of the power released in human personality when the individual is no longer in the grip of a deep conflict or neurosis. Others speak of "black power," or "brown power," or "people power."

How refreshing it is, in a world so fascinated and obsessed with power and in a time when there is so much talk of "power shortages," to hear Jesus say, "You will receive power!"

But when is this power that Jesus promised to be received? At some future date? At death? After death? No. Jesus never postpones the essential equipment for abundant and effective living to some future date.

We may postpone accepting what He offers, but His provision for living a full and abundant life can be realized *now*, in this present world, through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

Is this power of the Holy Spirit promised to



everyone, indiscriminately? No. The power of God's Spirit is promised only to those who have come to know Jesus Christ in personal salvation.

Sinners are promised *pardon*. But the promise of the power of the Holy Spirit is only to those who are already following Christ. Jesus never promised the power of the Spirit to pagans or nonbelievers. It was to His own disciples that Jesus said, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you."

It was to those whose names, He said, were already written in heaven that Jesus promised the power of the Holy Spirit. It was for His own disciples that Jesus prayed so fervently, "Father, sanctify them."

His disciples had followed Jesus for three years, had heard His masterful messages, had witnessed His spectacular healings; but they still had something they didn't need, and they needed something they didn't have.

What they had they didn't need was the carnal mind, the inward pollution, the sin principle that God said was enmity against Him. What they needed was an enduement of power that would make them adequate to meet the challenges and responsibilities of Christian discipleship in the days ahead.

On the Day of Pentecost, both of those needs were met: their hearts were purified, as Peter said, and they received the power of the Holy Spirit—both needs met in the experience of the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

Jesus himself warned of the danger of a heart being emptied—and then standing vacant. Other devils would come to occupy it, Jesus said, until its corruption would be worse than before.

And when God accepts the consecration of a life when it is complete, He cleanses it; but He doesn't leave it empty—He fills what He cleanses. No life stands empty.

Those disciples met far more persecution after Pentecost than they had ever experienced before. But whereas *before* Pentecost they had failed or fled or denied their Lord, *after* Pentecost they were strong, steadfast, and courageous even in the face of death.

And multitudes since that first Christian Pentecost have met the conditions of surrender and faith, of full consecration and trust, and God the Holy Spirit has come to them in cleansing power. Through that power operating out of a clean heart, they have been enabled to live abundantly—sometimes facing incredible odds, but living "not somehow, but triumphantly."

There, for instance, is that woman whose husband not only mistreats her because of her

Christian faith and her determination to attend church, but who on occasion has beaten her. Yet even in what seems to be an intolerable situation, she lives an abundant and beautiful life. And she does it, not in the energy of the flesh, but through the power of the Holy Spirit.

There is that young man standing in church and testifying that, even with the unbelievable temptations and loneliness of two and a half years in overseas service, God's power had seen him through. Not only had he been permitted to come back home, but he had come back with his faith intact and his love for Christ deepened and his appreciation for the church strengthened.

There is that pastor's wife dying with cancer. Her husband and two sons watched helplessly as her body wasted away. I saw her one week before she died, but instead of whining and complaining, her spirit soared in vibrant testimony and praise. And when I remarked about her marvellous spirit, she said, "Oh, no, it isn't that I am strong; it is because the power of God is so adequate."

The witness of those, from the Day of Pentecost on, who have yielded themselves completely to God has been that God not only cleansed their hearts but filled them with the power of His indwelling presence that enabled them to meet whatever they *had* to meet—and to meet it with victory and inner triumph.

Shall we pray. *Help us to realize, O God, that if it took the power of the Holy Spirit for the first disciples to live victoriously, it will certainly take that same power to enable us to see it through. May that one who is most pressured and nearest to giving up yield himself or herself completely over to You and experience the reality and the fullness and the adequacy of Your power. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.* □

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RADIO SERMON OF THE MONTH  
*By C. William Fisher*

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By Doris Porch  
*Huntsville, Ala.*

I heard his whistling before I saw the old man jaywalking across the street. Both time and place were unusual. The avenues had been crowded with shoppers and tourists the evening before, but early that Sunday morning I stood alone on an empty corner in the heart of the city waiting for Bus 47 to take me to church.

He came to the bus stop and we spoke. "Are you waiting for 47 too?" I asked.

"No, I will walk home afterwhile. I just came downtown this morning to whistle."

"Oh, I heard you a moment ago and enjoyed it. It has been many years since I have heard good whistling like yours," I said.

He brightened and smiled. I knew I had met an unusual person. His unmatched suit hung loosely on his small frame and showed evidence of not being pressed in many months. His run-over heels bore witness of years of side-walk walking. It was easy to see here was a man who was content with what he had.

He began a discourse about his whistling that removed all my anxiety about the arrival of the bus.

"I like to whistle. I have always whistled,

but if I whistle at home in my apartment the people there think I am crazy. It is easier to whistle down here on the streets."

He then added a detailed story of his public whistling career. One time he was asked to be a guest star on a radio program. One time only. I soon gathered that whistling was more a means to express his own joys than a professionally trained ability.

As I stepped closer to the curb and glanced in the direction of my bus not yet in sight, he was reminded of something else to talk about. He began again on a travelogue that went back to his younger days as a soldier in World War I and his following discharge.

"In those days I went to work every morning carrying a lantern and came home in the evening carrying a lantern. Short days and long nights during those winters there in Iowa. That is why I came to Minnesota."

I wondered how winter days in Iowa were different than those in Minnesota. I did not ask. I was supposed to listen. He then began a detailed description of Minnesota winters.

"Just one night last winter I thought I would freeze on this street," he said with a grin. "It was getting too late to walk home and getting colder every hour. I waited and waited for the bus to come. Two ladies came along and were waiting for the same bus. They pulled their fur collars higher around their faces and we all thought we would freeze to death in that 30-below weather. I stepped to the curb and looked up the street and said, 'It's coming!' The women gathered up their packages and stepped closer to the curb, and I said, 'But I don't see it yet.'" He gave a big laugh over his joke and I too chuckled.

The next moment Bus 47 pulled to the corner and I waved to him and got on. While riding the three miles, I recounted his stories and enjoyed the memory of his cheerful whistle. I never learned his name but I had met a man who seemed to enjoy life to its fullest.

He had something to share with anyone who stopped to spend a few minutes with him. He never spoke of a regret in his past. He was content with what he had, and he had a sense of humor that would take him through any hardship. He had a song in his heart that had to be whistled.

Many times since that Sunday morning my faith and hope have been strengthened. God's answers to prayers have sometimes been delayed for His own good reasons, but the whistler's wit has been applied to hope. I have waited and said, "It's coming . . . but I don't see it yet." "But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it" (Romans 8:25).

Salvation has come to the household of those for whom we often have prayed. Their trials are not yet over but they have their confi-

dence in God and in His plan for their lives. We now rejoice and help them to look up with complete trust and faith that God's answers for them are coming.

As we gathered around the open grave of one who had lingered so long here in pain, we shared with the survivors our grief and sympathies. Then we joined with the minister in prayer that the bereaved would find comfort in

the Psalmist's words: "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning" (Psalm 30:5). We do not see it yet, but it is coming.

No one can tell what lies ahead in these uncertain days. The security and comforts of daily living can be swept away overnight. But there is an assurance we can have that He will provide. His provision will come on time. We need not have to see it now to believe. □

## BECOMING MATURE:

By Lyle P. Flinner  
Bethany, Okla.



## TOWARD CHRISTIAN SELF-ACTUALIZATION



## LIVING WITH YOURSELF

**Central Idea:** *Self-acceptance is basic to accepting others.*

When we have a problem, there is always plenty of advice available—good or bad. One says, "Change your job." Another says, "Move to another state." A third one says, "Break your relationship." Such solutions (called "environmental manipulation") seldom work, simply because we still have to live with ourselves.

Some of us like ourselves too much, some of us depreciate ourselves, and some of us hate ourselves. All of these attitudes may be wrong and distortive. The big issue is just how much we can accept ourselves.

Self-acceptance involves knowing all of your strengths as well as all of your weaknesses and still accepting yourself as a unique person of value. This does not mean that you condone your weaknesses and accept all of your limitations. It does mean that you are objectively aware of such weaknesses and are making a sincere effort to correct them. But meanwhile you live with a positive attitude toward yourself.

Realistically, all people have handicaps—physical, mental, social, emotional. The handicaps themselves are not nearly as important as the attitudes they generate.

For every person who blames his failure or inadequacy on some handicap (real or imagined),

there are brilliant examples of those who have overcome that same handicap to achieve success and personal adjustment.

The solutions which people find for living happily with themselves are many and varied. But the worth of every solution is tested by certain basic principles.

1. Do I tolerate, understand, accept, respect, and love myself? Some Christians may raise their hands in horror at the very thought of "loving themselves"; but the Lord said that the criterion of true Christian love is loving our neighbors as we love ourselves.

2. Is the level of stress and personal anxiety of manageable proportions? The constant focusing on weaknesses and limitations brings feelings of self-depreciation, despondency, and guilt. On the other hand, a rising confidence in Christ's willingness to help me and a faith that it is possible to live the quality of life the Scriptures picture is most stimulating. "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:13).

3. Are my relationships with others basically satisfactory? Our outer relationships are most frequently a reflection of our inner relationships. A man who hates others usually first hates himself. A man who cannot accept others, first cannot accept himself.

**Point to Ponder:** *Can I bear to look honestly at my strengths and weaknesses and learn to live with what I see?*



Photo by Harold M. Lambert

**T**o say the least, I was unexpected! Born nine years after my parents had completed their family, I was received with chagrin, amazement, and ultimately joy.

Because of the unplanned date of my birth, I was only eight years old when my youngest sibling went to college.

From that time on, I was like an only child with holiday onslaughts from my seven brothers and sisters.

As a result, I grew very close to my parents. Although there were 44 and 53 years' difference in our ages, there was never a "generation gap." They were able to relax and enjoy me in a way they could not do in the pressured days of rearing a large family.

It was finally my turn to go to college, marry, have my own children. But during all the

days of transition, there remained a strong, unwavering bond between me and my parents.

Toward the end of my mother's life, she became almost totally blind. But as long as she could sit up at all, she still wrote to me weekly notes scrawled in huge letters rambling zigzag fashion up and down the page.

One of the last notes I received from her was in regard to her death. She knew the end of her life was approaching and she was concerned as to how I, her youngest child, would react to that crisis. May I share it with you:

*Ruth dear, I have been thinking how close we have been through the years of your life. You came to me a gift from the hand of God and I have rejoiced in that gift ever since. We have experienced joy and sorrow, tragedy and triumph together. But now as I approach the time of my going home, I want*

*to tell you something that you must remember when you are bidding my body good-bye.*

*Ruth, my child, do not ever feel: Mother is dead! Just know that I'm away. I've gone on ahead to a better land—and one day you'll come and we'll again join hands. Ruth, don't think of my sadness at leaving Daddy and you and the other children. Don't think of my sadness at leaving this world, where I have known so much joy. But instead, dear little girl, think of your mother stepping on shore and finding it heaven . . . think of her taking hold of a hand and finding it God's hand . . . think of her breathing a new air and finding it celestial air . . . think of her feeling invigorated and finding it immortality . . . think of her stepping from storm and tempest to an unknown calm. . . . Think, Ruth, of your mother waking up and finding it home!*

Later, I stood by her side in the early morning hours and watched her body die. I was alone in the room and it seemed fitting, since she and I had spent so many hours in a one-to-one relationship. But as her breaths grew shorter and shorter, my heart cried: *Mother! Don't go! Not without a word!*

She had been in a coma for 13 months. I knew she could not speak. Intellectually, I understood. Emotionally, I did not.

*Mother! Don't go without speaking to me one more time.*

And then I thought: *It's not necessary for her to speak again. She has taken care to say it all. Now I only need to remember.*

I placed my hand on hers as she drew her last breaths and whispered to myself: "Think of your mother slipping from storm and tempest to an unknown calm. . . . Think, Ruth, of your mother waking up and finding it home!"

Her last breath was gone. I felt the body relax in death. I stood there for a moment in silence. Then I went to the door to call my brothers.

Daddy was asleep. We approached his bed together. I took a deep breath. How would he react? He had taken a bed in the rest-home room with Mother. He had spent the last 13 months caring for her as tenderly and gently as love could. Now she was gone. How would he react?

Joe, a colonel in the army, went to awaken Daddy. I braced myself.

"What's happened?" Daddy asked.

"Mother went to heaven a few minutes ago," Joe whispered.

And then—Daddy smiled, as the tears streamed down his cheeks. "She's happy," he said.

"Yes, she is," Joe replied. "If what you have preached for all these years is true, Daddy, Mother is running for the first time in years, singing for the first time in months, greeting Jesus and her loved ones."

And we who loved her gathered close together, rejoicing in her release, holding hands tightly for strength.

They placed her body in a pink-lined casket. Her familiar hands were folded; her always smiling face was serene. People came to say good-bye as if they thought she were dead. By their tears of finality, I could see that they had missed the whole point of death.

I wanted to say: "Hey! My mother was full of life, laughter, courage, quicksilver delight. Remember? Then, when her body wore out, she went away. Don't you see? This is not she.

"This was her house in which she lived. This was her set of tools with which she worked.

"I love this frail shell lying in the pink-lined casket; I love it because she once lived there—because she once used those hands, eyes, mouth, feet to care for me and give me love. But this is not she!

"Oh—don't you see? She is far away—and yet all about us still! She is savoring the terrific adventure of life eternal: laughing, caring, relishing a dimension we cannot understand.

"Weep tears of sorrow for our temporary loss—but do not weep tears of finality, for we will see her again! What glorious news! What beautiful fact! Weep tears of pain at our separation—but never weep tears for my mother! This is her coronation day!"

I did not say those words to anyone, but they filled my heart with victory. When we gathered about her graveside, my brother took the now-wrinkled letter she had written to me and read it as her message to all.

I smiled as I stood there. I didn't have to say anything. She had said it for me. Better than I ever could. She was reaching, even then, to speak of the fact of immortality to all who loved her.

The triumph of the moment for which she had so carefully prepared me did not last for the rest of my life. I had to return home and live with a gaping hole in the middle of my heart.

But when the pain of separation seemed unbearable, I would take her now-tattered letter and read it through. By its conclusion, I would be able to rejoice even through my tears: "Think, Ruth, of your mother waking up and finding it home!" □

By Ruth Vaughn  
Oklahoma City

# LOVE is the KEY

By T. Crichton  
Mitchell  
Manchester, England

**F**aith is light," says one, "and love is heat." Which is, like so many proverbs, partially true; for love too may be light and "the heart has its reasons to which the mind is a stranger."

Let our hearts cleave to Christ, and life, while it may not become comfortable or easy, will assuredly become basically simple.

One thing is sure: we will not go far in the life of holiness unless we seek the kindling and stirring of "the flame of holy love on the altar of the heart." When the heart is warm and the head is cool, many a pitfall is avoided and many an enemy is warned off. Holy love brooks no rivals to Christ.

Surely it is true that in all the long ages of mankind there has been no phenomenon so amazing as the devotion of millions of Christians to One whom not one of them has ever seen. "Whom having not seen, ye love," says the big fisherman with a dozen exclamation marks in his mind (1 Peter 1:8).

I'm quite sure that he was not saying that mental and intellectual application to Christian truth is unimportant; for he also says, "Roll up the shirt sleeves of your minds!" And I am equally sure that he was not saying that devotion to Jesus is a miracle cure for all intellectual and ethical problems.

But it is an undeniable fact of experience that the maintenance of spiritual devotion to Jesus Christ is by far the most vital factor in holy living. Charles Wesley wrote:

*My steadfast soul from falling free  
Shall then no longer move;*

and if you ask him, "When?" he will reply:

*When Christ is all the world to me  
And all my heart is love.*

The men and women of the New Testament would agree with that.

*Love is the key of life and death,  
Of hidden heavenly mystery:  
Of all Christ is, of all Christ saith,  
Love is the key.*

(Christina Rossetti)

No person is a Christian who does not have a deep personal devotion for Jesus Christ, the unseen Lord. That love for Him may have as many forms of expression as there are individual Christians, but it is love for Him that keeps the heart Christian.

There may be a form of Christianity that is without emotion, but it is not the New Testament kind. There may be a type of Christianity that is all emotion, and this is not the New Testament kind. The kind that is for real is that which is more than emotion; it is compounded of faith and love and obedience, and the greatest of these is love.

Now, what can we do to increase and deepen our love for our unseen Lord? There are some things we can do.

*We can stir the memories of love.* Peter does it all through his First Epistle, and when he says, "Whom having not seen, ye love," he is in all likelihood remembering that Jesus said, "Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."

Memory can feed the fires of love. Many a person can tell you that. Ask the soldier who must be away from home, or the shut-in, or the traveller who carries the family album in his pocket.

It is said that on many a morning, had you happened to be a commuter on the Jericho road, you'd have seen a very small man tenderly stroking the trunk of an old sycamore tree! Zacchaeus was feeding the fires of his devotion for his unseen Lord.

Go back and recount His gracious dealings of one sort and another and you will stir the fires of love for the unseen Lord and so put another reef knot on the ties that bind you to Him.

*We can read the letters of love.* I have seen men and women in the army read, and read, and read again and again, those letters from home. Many a man would have gone mad without them, and without them many a man was easy prey for the tempters.

Our Lord may be unseen, but we do have His Word, which is, as Kierkegaard puts it, "a personal love letter from God with my personal address on it." And love letters, written with the fingers of the heart, must be read with the eyes of the heart.

So read His letters to you and thus increase and deepen your love for your unseen Lord; and be forever thinking thus:

*Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee, Lord;  
My spirit pants for Thee, O Living Word!*

Spread open His Word before you often and as you read think, *Whom not having seen, I love.*

*We can hold the conversations of love.* A broken marriage has been described as "two people, whether or not living together, who have nothing left to speak about to each other."

Christian prayer has many facets, but chiefly it

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helps to holy living

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is conversation with Him whom we cannot see. The miracle of His absence is that I can still speak with Him through the Holy Spirit. And as I do so, my devotion for Him grows and strengthens. Soon it rises above the "gimme" plane and delights in Him:

*My God, I love Thee, not because I hope for heaven thereby:*

*Nor yet because who love Thee not are lost eternally.*

*Not with the hope of gaining aught: not seeking a reward;*

*But as Thyself has loved me, O ever-loving Lord.*  
(Francis Xavier)

*We can also render the service of love.* The men of the New Testament delighted to speak of them-

selves as love slaves. Paul especially delighted in it, and left behind him a trail of redeemed humanity and renewed lives. His open secret was "The love of Christ constraineth us."

The service of love lays tax to the total life. It is not simply a matter of teaching a Sunday school class, or caring for the church's cash, or singing in the choir, although I trust that these are all done for love of Jesus Christ. But "whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God." For it is love's prerogative to serve, and in the serving love grows the stronger.

Perfect love is president of the sanctified heart. Whatever happens or does not happen, whatever comes or goes, the holy heart will take every necessary measure and use every available means to know and to show its love for its unseen Lord. □

# What Is a Sparrow Worth?

By Pearl Derby Wright  
Satanta, Kans.



**W**e awoke to the faint but persistent sound of thunder. Our early-morning world seemed wrapped in an eerie hush, punctuated by louder and more frequent rumbles.

In the waiting stillness there came the plaintive voice of a bird. It seemed a very small voice, but it came again and again in the silent pauses between thunderclaps.

The tone of the chirp changed and I looked out to see if a cat had come along and frightened the bird. There was no cat in sight.

I wondered if birds were frightened by the approach of a storm; they seem so small and vulnerable. Jesus said that the Heavenly Father cares about the sparrows and that He notes the fall of even one of them. That morning He was aware of that particular bird and knew whether it was frightened or only lonely, but there was no way that I could assure the tiny creature of the Father's care.

We soon had a very brief shower, and when it was over, I prepared to keep an appointment in town. My husband is a considerate man and very rarely makes derogatory comments about my driving, so I was surprised at his remark that morning. He held the car door for me, then closed it firmly, and, giving it a parting pat, said, "Take care of the little ol' crate. I dreamed last night that something happened to it."

Only a few miles down the road I ran into a heavy shower that became a dashing, blinding downpour. I could hardly see to drive, but to

stop would be to risk being hit by another car, so I crept along.

"I'm on my way to heaven," sang Wally Laxson over the tape player. Had he turned prophet? What he was singing might well become literally true if driving conditions got any worse!

I do not give much credence to my dreams, but I must confess that I was at least reminded of my husband's remark when hailstones began bouncing off the hood of the car.

But I also remembered the sound of a little bird chirping between thunderclaps. The One who cared for the sparrows had said that His children were of more value than many sparrows, and that He would hear them when they called.

Believe me, that bird was not the only one to voice a frightened plea because of the rain that morning!

The storm was soon spent and I continued on my way, rejoicing in the love and care of the Heavenly Father. I was thankful, too, for a Bible that tells us of that care, so that we may make our pleas in the confidence that He hears us above the roar of any storm.

Unlike the wild creatures, we do not need to cry out our needs in the despairing hope that they may be heard. We have the unshakable promises of God in His Word.

Oh, yes, that accident-prone "little ol' crate" came purring home without a single new mark on its finish! □



By Gene Van Note  
Camarillo, Calif.

**W**e have two boys: one to make us happy, and one to make us humble." With these quiet words a pastor opened up a tiny window to his past and revealed a massive heartache.

Then, apparently feeling he could trust me, the story tumbled out. The older of their two sons had rebelled against the discipline of the home and the restrictions of the church. After many months of bitterness and argument he had left home in anger. Several years had passed, but the hostility was still present in their relationship.

Then that troubled man put down his fork and slowly wiped his face with a napkin. Suddenly he was no longer one of the leading pastors in our church. He was a brokenhearted father. With a look of profound sadness he said softly, "I don't know what to do; I've done everything I know."

In that moment, neither of us felt like talking, and we ate our now tasteless lunch in silence.

The story of rebellious, runaway children is far too common. The quietness of their absence does not hide the gnawing loneliness, the sense of failure, or the fear of tragedy. It is a devastating experience when parental love is rejected in such a crushing way.

It is even more difficult for the parents when the father is a minister, the pastor of a local church.

Pastors are often placed on a pedestal, given special honor and recognition, and consequently more is demanded from them. The parsonage family is expected to be the example in godly living. When they do not live up to the expectations of the congregation, they often feel a sense of disapproval and rejection.

A pastor and his wife are warmly human, like any member of their congregation. They experience the same despair as other parents when they are rejected by a child whom they love and for whom they would die. But since more is expected from preachers and "preachers' kids," all the normal emotions are complicated by these outside pressures.

First there is guilt, the terrible feeling of failure coupled with the fear that people will not understand. After all, the Apostle Paul wrote to the young preacher Timothy, "If a man can't make his own little family behave, how can he help the whole church?" (1 Timothy 3:5, TLB). So the feeling of guilt is multiplied. Soon it becomes more difficult to stand in the pulpit and proclaim, "Thus saith the Lord."

A chasm may begin to develop between the pastor and his congregation. He is no longer a free man. He is bound by the knowledge that he has fallen short of the scriptural ideal.

The haunting questions keep returning: How can I lead the church if I cannot control my own family? Where did I go wrong? As a result, his strength in leadership may be diminished.

Self-analysis brings uncertainty and the temptation to "draw away" from the people. Thus, as the distance between the pastor's family and their congregation increases, it becomes more difficult for their lay friends to help them.

When this breach occurs, a terrible loneliness invades the parsonage. There is the deafening silence of the telephone and doorbell which do not ring.

The pursuit of God's call often carries the parsonage family many long miles from their nearest relatives. Only the members of their church can fill this void. When this loving relationship is fractured, the pastor and his wife are left alone.

I stood in the subdued light of a church parking lot one night and listened to the agony of a pastor's wife as she talked about their 16-year-old daughter. "Our daughter has not been

(Continued on page 20)





By Aarlie J. Hull, Centralia, Wash

# A Christian Woman's World

## SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT ADOPTION

One of our three children is adopted. She really does look like the other two . . . and besides that she's smart, stubborn, well coordinated, clever, naughty, sweet, and everything else that makes up a daughter.

Heather was a part of our family even before she was born. She was three days old when we picked her up at the hospital. It was feeding time, so she was wide awake, seemingly looking around for something to eat. (Of course at the time we were sure she knew we had arrived and wanted to see us real well!)

It was a small hospital, so the little baby in the nursery who didn't have a designated mother to feed her at feeding time had been the object of special attention and care.

We felt a little uncomfortable as nurses, orderlies, and ward secretaries ambled by, looking us over to see if we appeared worthy of this beautiful little baby they had so carefully tended.

We took her home to her rightful place in our hearts and house.

She is six years old now. I realize that much of our life together is ahead, but I have gained some insights I would like to share with you.

A question many people ask is, "Do you love Heather as much as your natural-born children?"

I remember when our oldest son was born to us via my uterus. Hours later they brought the little stranger to me. I had never seen him before, but all of a sudden he was my son and I was his mother. Somehow I didn't feel like his

mother and he didn't feel like my son, and it bothered me.

I used to sit and stare at him, wondering who he was and what our relationship would be.

Then I realized that, even though he was conceived in my womb and came into this world through my body, that wasn't enough to elicit all the warm "mother" feelings I expected. I realized that it was going to be over the years that our love would grow and expand and become deep and meaningful.

Even though I was pleased he was mine, I realized I didn't have the faintest idea what it was to be his mother. It wasn't until he and I became acquainted and got to know each other that our love began to be what I had expected that first day after he was born.

So with Heather. She would have been a little stranger to me whether I had grown her in my uterus or not. And she was a little stranger to the lady in whose uterus she was conceived and formed.

So my answer is yes, I love Heather as much as my natural-born children. Why shouldn't I? We all started out at pretty much the same place, and our love is dynamically changing and growing and adapting itself every day we live together.

The other question plaguing adoptive parents is "How and when should I tell my child he is adopted?"

We have made Heather's beginnings common knowledge. Our son was two years old when Heather became his sister and he thought that all babies were "adopted." When I became pregnant with our youngest daughter, I overheard him say, "We're going to adopt a baby and it's already in my mommy's tummy."

Maybe it's my insecurity showing, but I never refer to the lady who bore Heather as her "real mother." She is the lady who had her or the lady in whose womb she grew. The fact of the matter is that I am her "real mother"—legally, emotionally, financially, and spiritually. So I don't confuse her, the other children, or myself with any reference to another "mother."

Also, I don't belabor the fact that "she loved you so much that she gave you up to be with us." Frankly, I'm not sure she loved Heather at all in a motherly sort of way.

It is true that her decision to let us have Heather was a loving act made in the best interest of the baby she carried and bore, but I seriously question whether a human being can deeply love another human being she has never known. Any emotion of love she felt was for a dream, an idea, or what could have been—but not for the baby itself.

Finally, I believe and tell Heather that God planned for her to be a part of our family even before she was born. She is special—our family is special and God has a plan for our lives. Just as we are necessary for God's plan in her life, so she is necessary for God's plan in our lives. □

# editorially SPEAKING

By W. T. PURKISER

## *What You Go After Here*

"Where you go hereafter depends on what you go after here."

That we go *somewhere* hereafter is one of the deepest instincts of the human soul. Not only man's religion but his entire history bears witness to his conviction that there is more to existence than the relatively short span of time an individual spends on this earth.

The massive and masterly pyramids of Egypt were not built as examples of engineering skill. They were built as tombs for the pharaohs, to insure them a better status in the afterlife.

Men have at times become careless of human life. They rarely cease feeling a strange sense of awe in the presence of human death.

Even more, most people concede that one does not cease being what he was when he passes the portal between time and eternity. The words of scripture are confirmed by the conviction of the mind: He who is wicked will be wicked still; he who is righteous will be righteous still.

In ways we may not always understand, we sense that we are building now the houses in which we will live forever.

So it does make a difference what we go after here—a difference not only now but eternally. To a large extent, tomorrow will be what we make of today.

It is indeed true that it pays to serve Jesus here and now. If there were no eternity, one could still say that health of soul is better than sickness, and integrity is its own reward.

Yet we can never afford to stop too short. It doesn't do to pull the horizons in too close. There is a heaven to gain. There is a hell to shun. No amount of wishful thinking can change that.

But even more than *what* we go after here is *whom* we go after here. The decisive factors in human life are not our relationships to things but our relationships to persons.

In a very real way the challenge of Joshua is still with us. We are compelled, whether we will or not, to obey the command, "Choose you this day *whom* ye will serve" (Joshua 24:15).

Even the attempted refusal to choose is a choice. We do not choose *whether* we will serve. We only choose *whom*.

And the options are limited. It is either God or mammon, the true God or false gods. We are servants of either unrighteousness or holiness, of "sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness" (Romans 6:16).

"Choose you this day *whom* ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Where you go hereafter does depend on what—and *whom*—you go after here. □

## *Grace and Gratitude*

R. Newton Flew, one of Britain's great scholars, put a volume in a sentence. "Religion is grace," he said, "and ethics is gratitude."

The idea of salvation by grace alone is basic to the Christian faith. It is always in need of restatement because people always tend to drift away from it.

Nothing is more offensive to the pride of man than the recognition that he can never earn acceptance with God. Most religious systems apart from the pure gospel of Christ gain their following because they offer people a way to earn favor with God.

Even where the gospel of the grace of God is preached, people have a way of setting up accounts and trying to keep track of their "Brownie points" in the Christian life.

One very wise mystic, the Abbe de Tourville, put it bluntly: "Do not keep accounts with our

*The recognition of both grace and gratitude saves us from some serious mistakes about the Christian life. It saves us from legalism, the notion that obedience to a set of rules earns us credit with God. It saves us from antinomianism, the notion that grace automatically cancels the definite expressions of God's will in the Scriptures and makes "the sins of the future" unimportant by forgiving them in advance.*

Lord. . . . Go bankrupt! Let our Lord love you without justice! Say frankly, 'He loves me because I do not deserve it; that is the wonderful thing about Him; and that is why I, in my turn, love Him as well as I can without worrying. . . . I know no other way of loving God. Therefore, burn your account books!'

Without the grace of God there would be no gospel. All we have and are, all our hope of glory, we owe to Him who while we were yet sinners loved us and gave His Son to die for us.

This is not theological abstraction. This is a reality of faith. We learn it not by philosophical argument. We learn it by the experience of redemption in Christ and the inner witness of the Spirit.

But while the Christian religion is grace, Christian ethics is gratitude. It would not be too much to say that grace without gratitude is a fraud.

With little doubt, Dietrich Bonhoeffer is one of the most misunderstood men of our century. Much has been made of his "man come of age" and "religionless Christianity." Much less has been said about his needed warning against what he called "cheap grace"—grace without discipline, without the cross, and without the living and incarnate Christ.

Gratitude recognizes that the God who gives also commands. It sees that there is no contradiction between God's love and God's will.

**I**t is well known that most of Paul's letters in the New Testament divide into two main sections. The first section deals with doctrine, "the believing side" of the faith. The second section deals with conduct, "the behaving side."

Both doctrine and ethics are particularly strong in the letter to the Romans. The dividing point between the two halves of Romans is chapter 12:1-2.

J. B. Phillips has given us an unforgettable

translation of these verses: "With eyes wide open to the mercies of God, I beg you, my brothers, as an act of intelligent worship, to give him your bodies, as a living sacrifice, consecrated to him and acceptable by him. Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold, but let God remold your minds from within, so that you may prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all his demands and moves toward the goal of true maturity."

The recognition of both grace and gratitude saves us from some serious mistakes about the Christian life.

It saves us from legalism, the notion that obedience to a set of rules earns us credit with God.

It saves us from antinomianism, the notion that grace automatically cancels the definite expressions of God's will in the Scriptures and makes "the sins of the future" unimportant by forgiving them in advance.

It saves us from a very popular kind of "new morality" that sets the law of God and the love of God in opposition to each other.

When we see that both grace and gratitude mark the believer's walk, the plan and will of God for our lives becomes, not despair, but delight. The law of the Lord written in our hearts by the Holy Spirit becomes part of our very own new life in Christ.

The focal point between doctrine and ethics, faith and obedience, Paul says, is to "present your bodies a living sacrifice." This is the consecration of the Christian to the sanctifying will of God.

The result is conformity to Christ, nonconformity to the world, the renewal of our minds by the Holy Spirit, and proving "in practice" that God's will is good, pleasing, and perfect—moving "toward the goal of true maturity."

It is here we learn for ourselves that in the Christian gospel "religion is grace, and ethics is gratitude." □

to church in two years," she said. "No one has talked to her, or come to see her. No one ever bothers to ask us about her. Our people don't care what happens to our daughter."

The unplanned words broke the carefully constructed composure, and tears flooded her eyes. She moved quickly away to a secluded spot to cry alone.

Perhaps she was right, but she might have been wrong. She might have been so afraid of being hurt that she had erected barriers. It could be that some members of that church had tried to reach out to her with their love, but in agony she had rejected them. What appeared to be a sudden chilling in personal relationships might have been an attempt to guard against further injury.

After all, both she and they are human. The tragedy is that no one put her arms around that pastor's wife and said, "We care about you; we love you."

Perhaps it is inevitable that people expect more of their pastor and his family than they demand of themselves. This double standard can create tension and make it more difficult for a "preacher's kid" to develop normally. Laymen need to make sure that the pastor's children are not penalized because their father has

obeyed God's call.

The church has a special responsibility to "preachers' kids." The minister is the pastor for the laymen's children, but the church "pastors" the preacher's kids. Their attitude toward God and the church will be greatly affected by the relationship between the church and their father. This makes such things as the pastoral-recall vote take on added significance, for it may affect the spiritual destiny of the pastor's children.

More often than most laymen suspect, good men have left the pastorate because of the pressure on their families or the feeling of failure with their children.

Should your pastor and his wife be burdened with a problem concerning one of the members of their household, remember, they need you. They have no one else to turn to. Your kindness and love will cause their fear to melt away.

Keep in mind that God gave freedom of choice to ministers' children, too. Parents have not necessarily failed because their children have not succeeded.

When "preachers' kids" go wrong, what can the church do? It can continue to show its love in kind and tender ways until loneliness has been dispelled and hope begins to live again. □

## OF PEOPLE AND PLACES

**Rev. M. R. Korody**, pastor of Oak Park, Ill., church recently returned to Anchorage, Alaska, where he conducted the funeral service of a personal friend, Rep. Earl D. Hillstrand (D-Anchorage). Both houses of the Alaska legislature recessed so that members could attend the funeral service.

Korody pastored Anchorage First Church for 14 years. He greeted friends and parishioners he had not seen in over 10 years. He left Anchorage in 1963. □

**The Fort Wayne (Ind.) Fairfield Church** Secret Pals group contacted the pastor for a special service suggestion. They followed through with a dinner served to all the children and adults riding church buses.

A turkey dinner with all the trimmings was planned—ice cream, cake, and all the things "little people" like best. Invitation fliers were sent out. There were 104 small faces that showed up. The hostesses gave the little guests hand puppets they had made. Bus pastors gave each child a New Testament. The total response was reported a very rewarding one. □

**Mr. John Wordsworth** of Seattle has been elected president of the Wood and Synthetic Flooring Institute, a national trade organization in Chicago. He was formerly president of the Queen City Floor Co. in Seattle.



Mr. John Wordsworth

Wordsworth served as a member of the district advisory board for the Washington Pacific District. He is a member of the Nazarene Theological Seminary board. □

**Mrs. Florence Walling**, now residing in Pasadena, Calif., has realized the fulfillment of a dream in the construction of a church at Gallup, N.M., built in memory of her husband. Florence and Jesse Walling began their missionary work among the Navajo Indians. They raised five Navajo children.

Pasadena (Calif.) First Church was challenged by Pastor Earl G. Lee to assist in the project for the Butte Mission station. The church donated \$10,000 toward construction materials.

Mrs. Walling rallied her friends, skilled workmen, and the Navajo

children that she and her husband had raised. The new mission was dedicated on Mrs. Walling's seventy-third birthday. A dinner was held at the station for the Navajo Indians who attended. □

**Dick Neet**, member of the Greeley (Colo.) Sunnyview Church, traveled to the USSR as part of an American team to survey agricultural methods. The tour included visits to farms, agriculture-related manufacturing and research centers.



Dick Neet

Mr. Neet is presently serving his fifth year as a director of the National Grain Board. He is a past president and director of the Colorado Grain Board. He owns the Rocky Mountain Brokerage Firm.

Besides his national post, Mr. Neet serves on the county-wide and city safety commissions, edits the state Rotary magazine, serves on the Sunnyview Church board, is building finance chairman, and heads the home department which makes 1,500 calls annually on shut-ins.

Traveling to Russia with Mr.

Neet were his wife Louise, his daughter Patti of Kansas City, and son Ken, a student at Point Loma College, San Diego, Calif. □

**Mrs. Edyth Peters**, member of the Greenville (Ohio) First Church earned the registered, qualified, and certified teacher ratings through the Christian Service Training program. She is one of the first in her church to finish "Search the Scriptures" studies in the Old and New Testaments. She was congratulated by her pastor, Rev. Russell E. Smith, for the accomplishments. □

**Mrs. Eva Ross, 70**, was honored by the Helena, Okla., church for 33 years continuous service as church secretary. Mrs. Ross has been a leader in all areas of the local church for many years. Her husband, the late Homer Ross, passed away in 1969. He had served as Sunday school superintendent for 40 years.

Pastor Cecil L. Gray commended Mrs. Ross for her exemplary life as a dedicated worker. □

**The Columbia (Mo.) First Church** honored H. Russell Calvin for 25 continuous years of service as church treasurer. He received an inscribed desk set.

Mr. Calvin has resigned as treasurer, but is serving on the church board. C. Howard Wade is pastor. □

**Teens at Marietta (Ohio) First Church** raised \$70.00 in pennies for their part in a recent world missions offering. They taped the pennies to rolls of paper and spread them out to reach from goalpost to goalpost at their local football field.

The local newspaper published an account of their project and included a picture of the group taken on the football field. Mrs. Goldie Simpson is teen supervisor and she is assisted by Mrs. George Hazlett. □

**Mr. Elmore Vail** has accepted a position as athletic director and basketball coach at Trevecca Nazarene College, Nashville. He will succeed Mr. Richard Haynes, who has become associate director of admissions and public relations at the college.

Vail comes from Northwest Nazarene College, Nampa, Ida. He has had 20 years' coaching experience at Olivet Nazarene College and Northwest Nazarene College. He built a consistent winning record with the junior varsity basketball team at NNC. He has an A.B. de-

gree from NNC and an M.S. from the University of Idaho. Coach Vail and his family will move to Nashville in mid-July. □

**The Paonia (Colo.) Church** recently broke all former attendance records. To dramatize the event, an old record was broken over the head of the Sunday school superintendent and the record pieces were passed out as "tickets" to an event planned as part of the celebration.

Pastor Larry Johnson reported that, financially, the church is progressing. A highlight came during the church year when a missionary offering of \$1,750 was received last Thanksgiving. □

**Dr. E. W. Martin**, superintendent of the Eastern Michigan District since 1961, has been elected chairman of the board of trustees at Olivet Nazarene College, Kankakee, Ill. Previously, he served as

vice-chairman. He is assuming the office vacated by the recent resignation of Dr. Fred Hawk. □

**Rev. Bill Young**, denominational director of Caravans, was guest speaker at the Caravan directors' and leaders' banquet on the Canada Central District held earlier this year. He also spoke at two Ontario, Canada, churches—Hamilton First and Toronto Emmanuel. Rev. Young participated in Caravan ceremonies at both churches. □

**Charleston (W.Va.) Tyler Heights Church** attempted to fill two bushel baskets with \$1.00 bills for a missionary offering. The congregation responded with an offering which totaled \$312. The publicity chairman, Frank Guthrie, reported that this is the largest missionary offering received by the church. □



Mrs. Pomeroy (center) receives plaque commemorating her years of service

**The Nowata, Okla., church** honored Mrs. Mary Laughlin Pomeroy for over 50 years of active service in the Church of the Nazarene. Mrs. John Dart, Sunday school superintendent and Rev. F. N. DeBoard, supply pastor, presented a plaque to Mrs. Pomeroy on behalf of the church.

Mrs. Pomeroy recently retired

from teaching. She taught in all departments of the church from kindergarten through the Bible classes. She was a charter member of the Sapulpa, Okla., church. Since 1939 she has been a member of the Nowata church. She has held numerous offices in the local church. □

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**The Southern California Pastors' Conference** was recently held at Point Loma College, San Diego, Calif. More than 50 pastors met on the PLC campus for two days of intensive study on the life and work of the pastor. The conference, one of a series designed by the Southern California District for the enrichment and increased effectiveness of the pastor, was led by Rev. Earl G. Lee, senior pastor of the Pasadena (Calif.) First Church. Identified are (l-r): (1) Dr. Nicholas Hull, district superintendent; (2) Rev. Lee; (3) Rev. Charles W. Ogden, conference chairman and pastor of Whittier (Calif.) First Church; and (4) Dr. Harvey B. Snyder, assistant to the president of PLC.





"Fifty Golden Years Celebrating the Holy Spirit" is the slogan of Miami (Fla.) Central Church (1924-74). Pastor Jerry D. Lambert (left) and associate, Stephen E. Gunnerson, presided at the unveiling of the portrait of Rev. J. L. Roby, founder of the church. The ceremony launched the anniversary year, which will climax October 27 with all living former pastors and many former members and friends returning for a day of celebration and a week of revival. Those knowing present addresses of former Centralites are requested to mail the information to 1300 N.W. 95th St., Miami, Fla. 33147.

### TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF SAN FRANCISCO CHINESE CHURCH

Thanksgiving was celebrated a month early last year by 170 friends and members of the San Francisco Chinese Church of the Nazarene.

The occasion for praise and rejoicing was the church's twenty-first anniversary and its first year of self-support. District Superintendent Dr. E. E. Zachary was guest speaker at a nine-course Chinese banquet held at Tao Tao Restaurant on October 26. Rev. John Liu is pastor of the church, which was begun in 1952.

Located in the North Beach Area near Fishermen's Wharf, the church is the largest of the three San Francisco churches. It has a membership of 72 and an average Sunday school attendance of 148. The congregation is unusual for its youth; 70 percent of its membership is of young adult age or below. Future goals include the building of

larger facilities on a vacant corner lot. At present, worship services and two sessions of Sunday school are held in a converted apartment building.

The Anniversary program included musical specials by four groups accompanied by guitars, as well as congregational singing. The evening closed with the singing of "Holy, Holy, Holy" in a spirit of united worship, communion, and rededication.

Rev. H. A. Wiese, former superintendent of the West Coast Chinese work, missionary to China and the Philippines, gave the benediction. He was among those who labored in the church's earliest years.

Pastors of the church have included Rev. Mary Lee, Rev. Moses Yu, Rev. Paul Martin, and Rev. John Stockett.

—John C. Oster, reporter

Chinese Church celebration



### SMCers SELECTED FOR SUMMER MINISTRIES

This year, Student Mission Corps members will be involved in evangelistic meetings and outreach ministries. Several musical teams will be visiting various countries. Other members will direct vacation Bible schools in local churches. They will use puppetry, chalk artistry, and other audiovisual methods of teaching.

The following students have been selected and assigned as SMCers for 1974:

#### ARGENTINA

Mike Brooks, Evansville, Ind. (MANC); Arden Carr, Akron, Ohio (ONC); Onna Carr, Wheaton, Ill. (ONC); Deborah Gardner, Lansing, Mich. (ENC); Randy Maddox, Jerome, Ida. (NNC); Lavon Wolstenholm, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada (CNC)

#### BARBADOS

John Cunningham, Decatur, Ind. (ENC); Kristine Kelley, Fort Wayne, Ind. (ONC); Steve Richey, Gahanna, Ohio (MVNC); Inge Stoeppler, Bruchkobel, Germany (ENBC)

#### BELIZE

Kathy Beam, Xenia, Ohio (MVNC); Karl Payton, Caneyville, Ky. (TNC); Scott Williams, Spokane, Wash. (NBC); Ruthanne Wilson, Quantico, Va. (ENC)

#### BOLIVIA

Gordon Graves, Bradford, Pa. (ONC); Keith Reynolds, Livermore, Calif. (PLC)

#### BRAZIL

Sharon Birdwell, Highlands, Tex. (BNC); Paul Buchanan, Bedford, Ind. (TNC); Russell Dorsey, Boonville, Ind. (TNC); Denise Kendall, Fowlerville, Mich. (ONC)

#### COSTA RICA

Susan Hedman, Sacramento, Calif. (PLC); Christina Myers, Inwood, W.Va. (BNC)

#### ECUADOR

Larry Landis, Grove City, Ohio (TNC); Bettie Loeber, Bethany, Okla. (BNC); Deborah Nelson, Balboa, Canal Zone (PLC)

#### EL SALVADOR

Karen Brammer, Burgettstown, Pa. (Asbury); Shelley Jensen, Beaverton, Ore. (NNC); James Kruse, Olathe, Kans. (MANC); Larry Tarter, Oak Ridge, Tenn. (TNC)

#### GUATEMALA

Jacque Gipe, Yuma, Ariz. (PLC); Deborah Hack, Affton, Mo. (TNC); Cynthia Hager, Macedonia, Ohio (NBC); Ernest Hager, Twinsburg, Ohio (NBC); James Radcliffe, Elkins, W.Va. (MVNC); Susan Ruschel, Pomeroy, Ohio (MVNC)

#### GUYANA

Bill Dalesio, Lakewood, Colo. (NNC); Joe McCoy, Oroville, Calif. (PLC)

#### HAITI

Linda Bolerjack, Olathe, Kans. (MANC); Nancie Mason, Maryland Heights, Mo. (BNC)

#### JAMAICA

Randall Butts, Brazil, Ind. (Ind. State); Adele Martinez, Santa Fe, N.M. (NNC)

Cheryl Moseman, Antigo, Wis. (NBC); Bill Wilson, Jacksonville, Ark. (BNC)

**NICARAGUA**

Bruce Moore, Nampa, Ida. (NNC); Melissa Reilly, Ferguson, Mo. (MANC); Rebecca Snider, Craig, Mo. (Tarkio)

**PANAMA**

Clark Armstrong, Bourbonnais, Ill. (ONC); Cheri Houghtling, Oklahoma City, Okla. (BNC); Kathy McGraw, Monterey, Tenn. (ONC); Steve Mounts, Marshall, Mo. (MANC)

**PERU**

Marvin Belzer, Walla Walla, Wash. (NNC); Corine Larson, Savage, Mont. (BNC); Judy Miller, Goshen, Ind. (ONC); Doug Smee, San Luis Obispo, Calif. (PLC)

**PHILIPPINES**

Andrew Bennett, Quincy, Wash. (NNC); Karen Garn, Wadella, Saskatchewan, Canada (CNC); Kristeen Harp, Lansing, Mich. (ONC); Crystal Todd, Temple, Tex. (TNC); James Todd, Bakersfield, Calif. (TNC); Avis Wilson, Chariton, Ia. (NBC)

**PUERTO RICO**

Aileen Chadwick, Grangeville, Ida. (NNC); Pam Conner, Bethel, Ohio (TNC); David Parkin, Meridian, Ida. (NNC); Carl Parsons, Colorado Springs, Colo. (NBC); Linda Parsons, Colorado Springs, Colo. (NBC); Connie Stevens, Anderson, Ind. (ONC); Carolyn Vickery, Grand Haven, Mich. (ONC); Kenneth Williams, Wayland, Ohio (NBC)

**VIRGIN ISLANDS**

Charlotte James, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada (CNC); Jim Johnson, Sterling Heights, Mich. (ONC); William Koch, Lebanon, Ohio (MVNC); Marsha Wiederhold, Bay City, Mich. (ONC)

**THREE N.M. DISTRICT CHURCHES GAIN OVER 100**

Last March, three churches on the New Mexico District gained over 100 in Sunday school attendance. Church School Chairman Ron Greeno reports that this is one of the first times the district has had three 100 gainers at the same time.

The churches and pastors of these three are: Clovis First, pastored by Gerald Woods, gained 154; Albuquerque Sandia, pastored by Ron Greeno, gained 118; and El Paso First, pastored by L. W. Quinn, gained 112.

The New Mexico District is one of the denominational leaders in Sunday school attendance for the quadrennium. Dr. Harold Morris is district superintendent.

**"BASIC" PENSION INCREASE**

"Looks good to us!" So commented Don Wilde and Ron Moore, seminary students, when they were shown in the Pensions and Benevolence office the increased "Basic" Pension checks that their grandparents would receive at the end of April.

Don's grandmother, Mrs. L. L. Taylor, and Ron's grandparents, Rev. C. J. Bushey and Rev. and Mrs. C. T. Moore, are among the many retired ministers and widows of ministers on "Basic" Pension who have found that their checks have been increased 20 percent beginning April 1.

The General Board approved this larger pension in January because Nazarenes have been so faithful in paying their Pensions and Benevolence Budgets.



Don Wilde (l.) holds checks as Ron Moore looks on approvingly.

new musical for **PENTECOST SUNDAY**



**"BY MY SPIRIT..."**  
A choral presentation emphasizing the ministry and mission of the Holy Spirit  
Compiled by **R. W. STRINGFIELD**  
Arranged by **Tom Keene**

Eleven familiar songs, rich in the Wesleyan tradition and selected scriptures, bridged with an inspiring "Ye Shall Be Witnesses" theme melody. A satisfactory performance for any church choir, a spiritually enriching experience for each listener. Performance time, approximately 30 minutes.

Songs include: "Breathe on Me," "Holy Spirit, Be My Guide," "Cleanse Me," "I Will Praise Him," "The Cleansing Wave," "Ho! Every One That Is Thirsty," "Bring Your Vessels, Not a Few," "I Want to Be like Jesus," "Oh, to Be like Thee," "The Comforter Has Come," "Oh, Make Me Clean." Numbers may also be used as individual selections.

**AIRMAIL YOUR ORDER TODAY**

and have the musical ready to present PENTECOST SUNDAY, June 2. SATB arrangements may be learned in a minimum of rehearsal time.

Please send "By My Spirit" music as indicated below:

_____ <b>MB-348</b>	Choir Book with Piano Accompaniment	<b>\$1.50</b>	_____
_____ <b>L-7084</b>	Stereo Recording by Choir and Orchestra	<b>\$4.98</b>	_____
_____ <b>L-7084C</b>	Combination Book/Record (SAVE \$1.03)	<b>\$5.45</b>	_____
_____ <b>MU-7084</b>	Accompaniment Tape (Orchestra)	<b>\$25.00</b>	_____
_____ <b>MU-7084C</b>	Cassette Accompaniment Tape	<b>\$25.00</b>	_____
	<b>TOTAL</b>	_____	_____

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State/Province \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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## TORNADO STRIKES HOMES OF NAZARENES IN INDIANA

The Seymour (Ind.) Peter's Switch Church felt the aftermath of April's tornado spree when two church families sustained home damage.

The mobile home of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Findley was completely destroyed. Martin Findley felt the trailer jump. As he started out, the wind threw him and his dog out the door. It then threw the trailer on top of both of them.

Martin was dragged 8 to 10 feet with the trailer on top of him. The tornado then lifted the trailer off him. It was totally demolished.

All of the Findleys' belongings were destroyed. Mrs. Findley, who is expecting a child in May, had just been given a shower by the ladies of the church. People have offered assistance and helped supply basic needs.

Mr. Findley said, "I'm just glad I'm alive. God was near and I prayed for His will to be done." He continued by saying that he was glad he was a Christian. He felt ready to go if it were his time. Mrs. Findley was at work during the storm.

The Findleys stayed with their parsonage family overnight following the tragedy.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Kiel was also severely damaged. The interior was torn and disheveled. The barn was leveled, and the apartment that they rented out to a newlywed couple was downed.

Trees on the Kiel property were uprooted and cars were turned around. Their new camper-trailer was taken by the tornado and has not been found. A small section of the frame was later discovered. Mr. Kiel was at work and Mrs. Kiel went to the basement after watching the path of the tornado.

Derl Keefer is pastor of the Peter's Switch Church. □

## STRINGTOWN, IND. CHURCH DESTROYED IN STORM

The Stringtown, Ind., church was almost completely destroyed by the series of tornadoes that hit Indiana on Wednesday, April 3. The parsonage, standing in close proximity, was unharmed.

Pastor Raymond Hann announced that rebuilding would begin immediately. A new church school annex was scheduled to be started in several weeks. □

## PIONEER VBS WRITES OUTREACH HISTORY FOR GROWING CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Pioneers come in all sizes.

One particular group of pioneers is leading the Church of the Nazarene into new communities from an eye level not much above the nose of a Volkswagen.

This is the group of youngsters in Pioneer vacation Bible schools, and their teachers of course, around the world.

Each year children in Nazarene vacation Bible schools give an offering which is divided equally between world and home mission areas. The money which goes to home missions is used to support the Pioneer vacation Bible school program.

Pioneer VBS is the first-time VBS held in any particular community.

Often it is the forerunner of a church. It is the means by which that new church can introduce itself effectively to a new community.

Many times our Pioneer VBS programs are conducted by teams of Nazarene college youth who give their summer to this ministry of outreach among the young.

Here are a few responses from new churches where college teams have conducted Pioneer vacation Bible schools.

**SPEARFISH, S.D.**—"Our Pioneer VBS team was most outstanding. They made it possible for us to have our largest Sunday morning worship service so far, which was 152 people at the VBS program. Best of all, we have had the privilege of bringing people to Christ

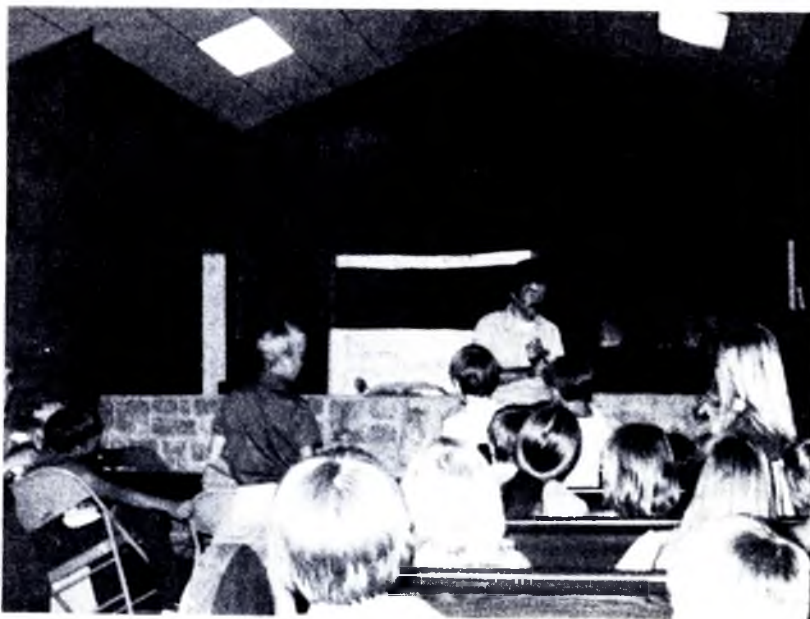
from our new list of prospects that resulted from the Bible school."—Rev. Vern Carpenter.

**ARVADA, COLO.**—"Let me share one immediate result of the Pioneer VBS. When two of the team members were canvassing for the school, they came across a family in the immediate neighborhood of the church who had recently moved there. The wife had been saved just a few weeks prior to their moving here and she had been looking for a church home. The junior girl attended Bible school. The family attended the demonstration program. Within a couple of weeks the husband knelt at our altar and accepted Christ. The junior girl and the teen boy both went to district camps and both accepted Christ. They are now attending as a family."—Rev. Earl Paul Robertson.

**SILVERTON, ORE.**—"I believe a little bit of heaven came to earth and settled on the Church of the Nazarene here in Silverton for the 10 days the team was here. But better still, the same atmosphere still lingers even after they have gone to their next place of work."—Mr. and Mrs. James R. Graham.

**KITCHENER, ONTARIO**—"It was a real privilege to have the college VBS team this year. By the way, the team were on TV here and made a good impression. They had eight minutes of singing and testimonies on the TV network and one-half hour on cable TV. The latter was shown twice and may be rerun in the fall. The team members gave good testimonies. This type of outreach can do more than we will ever hear of."—Rev. Norm Sheets. □

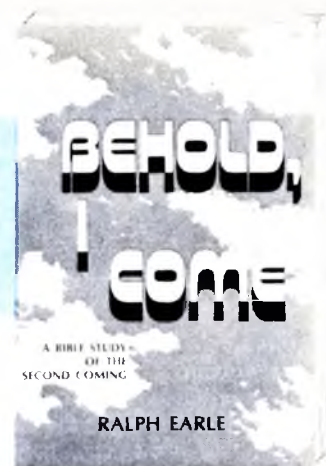
—JOHN C. OSTER, Reporter





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# MAY BOOK OF THE MONTH



by Ralph Earle

# BEHOLD, I COME

The songwriter wrote, "In times like these you need a Saviour." In times like these Christians everywhere are focusing their attention on the second appearance of that same Saviour, which, when it happens, will bring to completion the purpose of His first coming. Even many non-Christians are being challenged by the idea—in times like these!

*Behold, I Come: A Bible Study of the Second Coming* has dozens of Bible references for the student who wishes to dig deep. However, absorbing detail is given about the many events surrounding Christ's short earthly sojourn which point to His second coming, to catch the interest of even the casual reader.

In just 87 pages, Dr. Earle captures the entire panorama of this promised earth-changing event. He starts with the earliest prophetic fulfillments, progresses to those of the past few decades, then on to events of today, and finally to what promises will be fulfilled in the tomorrows. As the reader considers all of these in perspective, he is challenged to sincerely consider the one great event which will end time and usher in eternity.

—J. Grant Swank, Sr.



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## LINK LIFE with LOVE Easter to Pentecost

**NOTE:** For complete information, consult mailing sent to all pastors.

### LONGTIME OFFICE MANAGER RETIRES

Stanley Whitcanack, who has been office manager for 29 years, retired May 1. He began with the Nazarene Radio Commission in April, 1945, shortly after an office had been established and Dr. T. W. Willingham had been appointed director with the assignment to produce a Nazarene broadcast "coast to coast."



Rev. Stanley  
Whitcanack

Whitcanack remembers that for the first years financing was the major problem. The Nazarene Radio League had been formed with a goal of 25,000 people giving a dollar a month.

"Showers of Blessing" was not on a network. It was carried on 37 stations, most of which were on one or the other of the coasts, with only a few stations in mid-America. Interest lagged and funds did not come in.

Since the General Assembly in 1948, which provided for a stable income, the growth and effectiveness of the radio ministry have greatly increased.

At Easter this year the Nazarene broadcast, now produced in three languages—English, Spanish, and Portuguese—was aired on almost 2,200 stations.

Whitcanack served 20 years with Dr. Willingham and 8 years with Dr. H. Dale Mitchell, who succeeded Willingham. Mitchell retired in September, 1973, and Whitcanack has since served with Paul Skiles,

present executive secretary of the Communications Commission.

Whitcanack feels that the two most successful projects in his more than a quarter-century of religious broadcasting were: (1) the plan, instituted in 1950, of giving Palm Sunday and Easter programs free to any station requesting them; and (2) the launching of a Spanish-language program. Beginning with 12 stations in Spanish in 1953, "La Hora Nazarena" was aired on more than 1,000 stations this past Easter.

The Spanish program has been followed by a program in Portuguese, and soon one in French. In 1968 the Radio Commission was incorporated into the newly formed Communications Commission.

The National Religious Broadcasters had been formed only a year when Whitcanack became a member. This group honored him recently in Washington, D.C., for his many years of work as their treasurer and the contribution he has made to religious broadcasting. Clinton Fowler, a member of the board of directors, referred to Stanley as "one who had probably been in the organization longer than anyone else."

Stanley married Irene McCall and they have had three children. Their son Donnell lives in Independence, Mo.; and their daughter, Sally (Mrs. Jim) Bond, in Oklahoma City. The middle son, Eddie, was killed in a car accident a number of years ago at the age of 23.

To the inevitable question, "What do you plan to do?" Stan replies, "When I get my work done at home, I would like to do some hospital calling. Not as an official visitor, but just to those who have no one else to come, and have a word of prayer with them. Oh, I may get a chance to go fishing, too—I have no particular plans."

For one who has spent so many years planning and managing, this must seem "a consummation devoutly to be wished."

—T. E. Martin

### T. W. WILLINGHAM HONORED

Dr. T. W. Willingham celebrated his sixtieth anniversary in the ministry on Sunday, March 24, with special services at Highland (Ind.) First Church. Members and friends of the church presented him a gold Accutron watch in recognition of the occasion. Flowers were sent to his wife, Mary, in Kansas City.

An evening of fellowship concluded the day of celebration.



Pastor M. G. Martini is pictured presenting watch to Dr. T. W. Willingham with engraving "1914—1974"; T. W. Willingham—60 years' ministry; Highland, Nazarenes."

Young adults decorated a special cake inscribed—"60 years in the ministry." Dr. Willingham received another gift, a new car (Matchbox variety). □

### DISTRICT ASSEMBLY INFORMATION

**Arizona**—May 16-17. Biltmore Church of the Nazarene, 5604 North 24th St., Phoenix, Ariz. 85016. Host Pastor: Crawford T. Vanderpool. General Superintendent: Dr. Edward Lawlor.

**Los Angeles**—May 17-18. First Church of the Nazarene, 2495 E. Mountain, Pasadena, Calif. 91104. Host Pastor: Earl Lee. General Superintendent: Dr. V. H. Lewis.

**British Isles North**—May 20-21. Parkhead Sharpe Memorial Church of the Nazarene, 12 Burgher St., Glasgow, Scotland G31 4TB. Host Pastor: Sydney Martin. General Superintendent: Dr. Orville W. Jenkins.

**Florida (Central)**—May 21-22. Hilton Inn Gateway, 7470 Space-coast Pkwy. (U.S. 192), Kissimmee, Fla. 32741. General Superintendent: Dr. George Coulter.

**North Florida**—May 21-23. First Church of the Nazarene, 5020 N.W. 23rd Ave., Gainesville, Fla. 32601. Host Pastor: Henry P. Cooper. General Superintendent: Dr. Eugene L. Stowe.

**New Mexico**—May 22-23. First Church of the Nazarene, 2520 Silver, El Paso, Tex. 79930. Host Pastor: Wayne Quinn. General Superintendent: Dr. V. H. Lewis.

**Southern California**—May 22-23. Riverside Municipal Auditorium, 7th and Lime, Riverside, Calif. 92501. General Superintendent: Dr. Edward Lawlor.

**British Isles South**—May 25-27. First Church of the Nazarene, Southend St., Daubhill, Bolton, England. Host Pastor: John Paton. General Superintendent: Dr. Orville W. Jenkins.

HAPPENING

# CHURCH SCHOOLS

*Norman Brown* reporter

## CLARENCE BARROWS REPORTS ON EXCITING APPROACH TO OUTREACH

For a number of months, I had been impressed by God to apply to the Los Angeles Board of Education for a school sabbatical to begin a Bible club at our church after school for the children of the Van Nuys Elementary School. This school is located directly across the street from the Van Nuys church.

After my sabbatical had been approved, I began the exciting task of organizing and developing the Bible club. Even as I was doing this task, people began to contact me to announce that God had told them while in prayer that they should tell

Clarence that they would help. This confirmed my belief that I was in the will of the Lord.

The day before the Bible club was formally organized, our people stood at the school exits handing out attractive invitations to the children to join the club.

Thursday afternoon, the day the club was to begin, I stood in front of the school building, not knowing whether one child would respond. Imagine my surprise when 218 children followed me across the street to the Church of the Nazarene for the organization of the Bible club.

The club program includes Bible object lessons, singing, refreshments, games, and crafts. Many

miracles have happened to me since we began the club. Workers from three other churches have volunteered to help, including one school unchurched mother who enrolled her daughter in the club.

Our only purpose in organizing the club is to make a spiritual impact on our community. We feel it can be accomplished through the Bible club.

—Clarence Barrows

P.S. After the Bible club was organized three weeks, 300 different children from the school attended at least one time.

*Taken from: Los Angeles "Challenger"*

Children involved in the Bible club activities



## DR. HURN RETURNS FROM EUROPEAN MISSION

Dr. Raymond W. Hurn, executive secretary of the Department of Home Missions, returned April 2 from a three-week assignment in Europe.

At the request of Dr. Edward Lawlor, general superintendent in jurisdiction, Dr. Hurn represented the general church at district assemblies in Northwest Europe, Middle Europe, and Italy.

In Northwest Europe he found a spirit of optimism as Nazarenes in the Netherlands, fresh from dedicating the new sanctuary in Haarlem, are now ready to establish a new work in Zaanstad.

Property has been purchased in Zaanstad, where the temporary chapel used in Haarlem can be placed.

One factor to contend with in this area is the high cost of land and buildings, which are understandably high in a country where much of the land has been reclaimed from the sea at great cost in time and wealth and where there are 802 persons for every square mile of territory.

The immediate need there is for funds to complete the Haarlem project and to launch the Zaanstad project on a sound financial scale.

The Middle European Assembly in Frankfurt drew crowds of about 300 to the evening services, and a spirit of spiritual growth and excitement was evident.

After ground-breaking ceremonies at European Nazarene Bible College at Busingen, Dr. Hurn went on to Civitavecchia for the Italian District Assembly, where he also reports a joyous spirit and respon-

siveness among the Italian Nazarenes. □

—Department of Home Missions

## NAZARENE DOCTOR HONORED IN LIBERIA

Dr. J. Raymond Knighton (Nazarene) president of Medical Assistance Programs (MAP), was recently honored by President William R. Tolbert, Jr., of Liberia, at a reception in Monrovia, Liberia.

The citation said: "In recognition of your valuable service to mankind in the spirit of Christian love and fellowship, I, William R. Tolbert, Jr., President of the Republic of Liberia, by virtue of the authority invested in me as Grand Master of the Order, do hereby admit you, J. Raymond Knighton, into the Humane Order of African Redemp-

tion and confer upon you the distinction of Knight Great Band of said Order."

Two thousand dignitaries gathered for the occasion, at which other non-heads of state were honored also.

Knighton's acceptance statement was: "I accept this honor in the name of the Christian medical doctors around the world, and foremost in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, who makes all of this work possible."

Knighton was in Monrovia to spearhead the MAP-sponsored West Africa Conference on Christian Medicine, attended by 160 persons from Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, U.S., England, Sierra Leone, Finland, Rhodesia, Ivory Coast, Mali, and Dahomey. □

## NEWS OF REVIVAL

**Nancy (Ky.) Delmer Church**—A youth revival (scheduled for one week) was extended into its third week during March. The church experienced a breakthrough under the ministry of Rev. Dorothy Reed, Hoopston, Ill., and the Campbell Family musicians from Danville, Ill. Approximately 75 souls received spiritual help. Edgar Ray is pastor. □

**Yuma (Ariz.) Grace Church** experienced revival under the ministry of the Gospelaers, Rev. Lawrence Walker, and Evangelists George and Charlotte Dixon. Pastor J. T. Drye reports that a number of children, teens, and young adults found Christ. □

**El Paso (Tex.) First Church** reports that 20 new members were received at the close of a March meeting with Rev. Stuart McWhirter. Most of the new members joined by profession of faith.



New members received by El Paso First Church at end of revival

**Southwestern Ohio District**—Reporter Rev. Tom Hoppe states, "Rev. Bill Young, ventriloquist, and his friend Alvin, electrified hundreds of juniors with his humor, fun, and spiritual lessons at five different rallies on the district. Meetings were held the week of March 11-15. A total of 126 juniors found Christ as a result of Bill's ministry." □

Rev. Bill Young is director of Caravans for the denomination in Kansas City. □

**Excel, Ala., Church**—Pastor Joseph Harshman reports outstanding results from a recent revival held by the Say Family. He stated—"In June, 1973, there were 28 in Sunday school. Average attendance during the revival reached 108 and there was a total of 48 victories at the altar.

"We now have a group of teens that are on fire for the Lord. They have started a prayer meeting during recess at their high school and are winning other youth to Christ." Pastor Harshman affirmed that the revival was reaching throughout the entire community. □

**St. Petersburg (Fla.) Lealman Church**—The Say Family held a revival early this year. Pastor Larry G. Snyder reports that Rev. Bob Say challenged the church to step out in faith that God is able to build His Church. A number of people found spiritual victory and some new people from the community were saved. □

**Cincinnati (Ohio) Carthage Church**—Many were reclaimed and several saved and sanctified during a recent meeting with Rev. Sam Sparks as evangelist. On the closing night of the crusade, everyone present testified to spiritual

help received during the meeting. The evangelist is pastor at Lakeland (Fla.) First Church.

Plans for outreach began immediately, as the church received an enlarged vision of its purpose. The church is establishing long-range goals for more adequate facilities. Vernon E. Hurlles is pastor. □

## MOVING MINISTERS

DAVID E. BENSON, Sr., from Walnut Ridge, Ark., to Mountain Home (Ark.) Twin Lakes.

R. W. (BOB) CARPENTER from Jamestown, N.D., to Scottsbluff, Neb.

LEON CHAMBERS from evangelism to Huntsville (Ala.) Grace.

MARSHALL E. COPEN from Logan, W.Va., to Chester, W.Va.

REX LEE DOUGLAS from Longmont (Colo.) First to Mason City, Ia.

BOBBY W. HAMBRICK from Parsons, W.Va., to Logan, W.Va.

DALE D. HATFIELD to chaplain, Railford, Fla.

HOWARD W. HILL from evangelism to Clearwater (Fla.) Central.

EVAN D. KAECHELE from Sidney, Mont., to Missoula, Mont.

RICHARD L. KARR from Arnold, Neb., to McCook, Neb.

BOB LOTHENORE from Orland Park (Ill.) First to Lombard, Ill.

ORVILLE MAISH, JR., from associate to Mason, Mich.

JAMES L. MATHEWS from Smyrna, Ga., to Dunbar, W.Va.

H. O. OURS from evangelism to East Bank, W.Va.

ELWIN D. PAULSON from Tacoma (Wash.) Westgate to Raymond, Wash.

ROBERT SALSER from Elkins, W.Va., to Glasgow, W.Va.

DOYLE M. SHEPHERD from associate to Duarte, Calif.

DONALD W. SIMMONS from Elizabethton, Tenn., to Orangeburg (S.C.) Memorial.

JERRY W. SMITH from Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, to Rockville, Md.

SAMUEL F. SPARKS from evangelism to Lakeland (Fla.) First.

GLENDON D. STROUD from evangelism to Canton (Ill.) East Side.

C. PAUL TAYLOR from Oak Hill, W.Va., to Charleston (W.Va.) Southeast.

RONALD E. WESLEY from Gary (Ind.) Glen Park to Goodlettsville, Tenn.

GARY WILSON from Glasgow, W.Va., to Princeton, W.Va.



**"Showers of Blessing"  
PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

**Dr. William Fisher**

**May 12**—"This Way to Abundant Living . . . Whatever God Accepts in Consecration, God Cleanses"

**May 19**—"This Way to Abundant Living . . . Whatever God Cleanses, God Fills"

**RECOMMENDATION**

Rev. W. B. Welch, who has pastored Charleston (S.C.) First Church for the past 27 years, is entering the field of evangelism as a commissioned evangelist. I am delighted to recommend him to our churches. —Otto Stucki, South Carolina district superintendent.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

The First Church of the Nazarene, Peoria, Ill., is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary on June 2. Former members and friends are invited to be with us. Correspondence may be directed to: Rev. James E. Hazelwood, 7120 Manning Dr., Peoria, Ill. 61614.

**MRS. W. D. MCGRAW  
SUCCUMBS TO CANCER**

Mrs. Vashti McGraw, 65, died on April 4 at Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville, Tenn. Memorial services were held at Nashville First Church, Saturday, April 6.

Dr. Mark Moore officiated at the funeral. Dr. G. B. Williamson brought the message, and Pastor J. V. Morsch and District Superintendent Harvey Hendershot participated.

Mrs. McGraw is survived by her husband, Dr. W. D. McGraw (retired); and two daughters—Mrs. Marilyn Whittaker, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; and Mrs. Bonnie Wiseman, Nashville.

**CANADIAN ELDER  
DIES AT 84**

Rev. Archibald Stanford, retired elder, died in Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, on February 7. His ministry began in Mount Pleasant, Prince Edward Island, Canada, in 1923. He built churches in the maritime provinces of Canada for 42 years before his retirement in 1965. He also served as an evangelist.

Survivors include Rev. Stanford's widow, Gertrude, and eight children—Rev. Roland A. Stanford of Bath, Me.; Irving of New Jersey; Fred of Sudbury, Ontario; Dr. Warner Stanford of Youngstown, Ohio; Beulah of New York; Irva of Boston; Mrs. Richard Menslage of Taiwan; and Mrs. Thomas Hermon of Little Rock, Ark. District Super-

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intendent Neil E. Hightower (Canada Central District) officiated at the funeral service and Mr. DeVerne Mullen was soloist. □

**VITAL STATISTICS**

**DEATHS**

**MABEL S. ANDERSON**, 54, died Mar. 8. Funeral services were conducted in Montgomery, Ala., by Dr. Reeford Chaney, and Revs. Martin F. Higley, Calvin C. Privett, and Cecil Huff. She is survived by her husband, Robert L. (Bud); a daughter, Lynn; her mother, Mrs. Florence Spencer; 10 brothers; and 5 sisters.

**REV. MARTIN V. BASS** died Mar. 15 in Payne, Ohio. Rev. Bass was a Nazarene minister for over 45 years. Funeral services were conducted by his 4 sons, Revs. Paul, Dale, Warren, and Martin. Other survivors include 5 daughters, Joyce Franchi, Juleen Crawford, Kay Lee, Faith Mansfield, and Jewell; 26 grandchildren; and 1 sister, Mrs. Winifred Malone.

**EARL DE VRIES**, 61, died Mar. 12 in La Mirada, Calif. Funeral services were conducted in Norwalk, Calif., by Rev. Dean Shaw. He is survived by his wife, Marjorie; three daughters, Mrs. Bob (Connie) Warren, Mrs. Mike (Karen) Fanton, and Marilyn; one

granddaughter; his mother; one brother; and one sister.

**MRS. B. ARTHUR (VIRGIE V.) DUVALL**, 88, died Dec. 25, 1973, in Canfield, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted by Revs. Arthur Brown, Floyd Flemming, and John Yergan. She preceded her husband in death. She is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Kenneth F. (Erma) Davis; 4 sons, Harold, Dean, Nile, and Dale; 16 grandchildren; and 1 sister, Mrs. Ethel R. Erb.

**REV. B. ARTHUR DUVALL**, 91, husband of aforementioned Virgie DuVall, died Mar. 27 in Canfield, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted by Dr. F. Franklyn Wise, Rev. Arthur Brown, and Rev. Floyd Flemming. In addition to survivors mentioned above, he is survived by a sister, Mrs. Carl (Vernie) Weist; and a brother, Rev. Ira.

**ARCHIE J. FELT**, 82, died Mar. 5 in Traverse City, Mich. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Rex Crumpley. He is survived by his wife, Gladys; 1 daughter, Mrs. Ellen Barnett; 2 sons, Capt. Elwyn J. and Clair D.; and 10 grandchildren.

**EDWARD FOXWORTHY**, 95, died Feb. 17 in Brazil, Ind. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Eugene Frame and Rev. Doyle Hofferbert. He is survived by his wife, Lillie; 2 daughters, Opal E. and Mrs. Joy Whitesell; 2 sons, Forest E. and Herbert H.; 10 grandchildren; and a sister, Mrs. Minnie Smith.

# NEWS OF RELIGION

MRS JESSAMINE E. HAMMER, 90, died Mar. 20 in Twin Falls, Ida. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Clarence Kinzler. She is survived by 3 sons, Eldro V., Maynard E., and Edwin M.; 5 daughters, Mrs. George (Naomi) Jackson, Mrs. Glenn (Myrna) Roach, Mrs. John (Frances) DeLange, Mrs. James (Esther) Montgomery, and Mrs. George (Orda) Hood; 16 grandchildren; and 1 brother, Clayton L. Evans.

CHARLES B. HANSEN, 60, died Mar. 1 in Jonesboro, Ark. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Harold L. Webster. He is survived by his wife, Pauline; 2 sons, Jerry and Bob; 2 daughters, Mrs. Ray Wood and Mrs. Johnny Turney; 3 sisters; and 10 grandchildren.

REV. JOSEPH W. PETERS, 79, died Mar. 22 in Virden, Ill. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Ted Barnes, Rev. Ron Webb, and Rev. Spreen. He is survived by a son, Rev. Victor; and two daughters, Mrs. Don (Josephine) Kastner and Verna.

MRS. NEELY M. (MAGGIE HAGAN) SHIVE, 98, died Mar. 27 in Little Rock, Ark. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. David Smith and Rev. John House. She is survived by a son, Marvin; and a daughter, Mrs. Lois Wright.

MRS. WILLIAM (CAROLINE) STAHL, 74, died Feb. 21 in Fairfield, Ill. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. William Roddy. She is survived by her husband, William F., and five brothers.

REV. LAWRENCE O. STALLINGS, 73, died Jan. 27 in Jonesboro, Ark. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Harold Webster. He is survived by his wife, Dora; two sons, Edward and Lawrence, Jr.; one daughter, Mrs. Catherine Cooksey; six grandchildren; three brothers; and three sisters.

## BIRTHS

to TOM AND DEBBIE (WISEHART) BATTERSHELL, Urbana, Ill., a boy, Chandler Thomas, Oct. 1, 1973.

to STEVE AND CHARLENE (PRIOR) COLLINS, Champaign, Ill., a girl, Jennifer Lynn, Mar. 11.

to ALLEN AND CONNIE (MARTIN) EARLE, Champaign, Ill., a girl, Tiffany Joy, Dec. 4, 1973.

to JON AND CAROLYN MCKINNEY, Champaign, Ill., a girl, Meredith Lene, Nov. 1, 1973.

to REV. GARRY AND CAROLYN (KARNS) PATE, Benton, Ill., a girl, Jennifer Janae, Dec. 31, 1973.

to WILLIAM G. AND JOHNNIE GAYLE (BROWN) SLOAN, Virginia Beach, Va., a girl, Rebecca Marie, Mar. 9.

to REV. BOB AND JOYCE SNODGRASS, Louisville, Ky., a girl, Stacey Allison, Mar. 7.

to JOHN AND BETH (McCLAFLIN) SWENEY, Pacific Beach, Calif., a boy, James Michael, Mar. 16.

## MARRIAGES

TERESA DAWN EASTER and ELMER EUGENE BAKER, JR. at Charlottesville, Va., March 23.

CYNTHIA RAE DABNEY and JAMES ROBERT BRISCOE at Taft, Calif., March 23.

## DIRECTORIES

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**MINNEAPOLIS AREA CHURCH SPONSORS SENTENCE SERMONS IN SPORTS ARENA.** Large letters flashing sentence messages are appearing at sports events in the Minneapolis metropolitan area. Sponsored by the Holy Nativity Lutheran Church in New Hope, the idea stems from the pastor, Rev. Ronald C. Peterson. His messages displayed on the lawn sign at the church have received considerable attention over the past two years.

Last Christmas the following sign appeared on the church's lawn sign: "Merry Christmas to our Christian friends. Happy Hanukkah to our Jewish friends. To our atheist friends—good luck." On the occasion of the church's second anniversary, Rev. Peterson's sign read, "In honor of our beloved Founder, we will be open Sunday."

The church paid \$600 for 15-second messages to be displayed three times each at nine games throughout the 1974 season. Mixed in with a variety of commercials will appear such messages as—"Even in this age of inflation . . . the wages of sin remain the same." "Jesus saves . . . and with today's prices that's a miracle!"

Recently, large colored letters flashed one of the church's messages on the ice of the Metropolitan Sports Center during a pause in a North Stars hockey game. The ice is used as a screen and the messages are flashed from 35-mm. projectors. Rev. Peterson refers to this idea as "ice-rink evangelism." He feels that the church can get its message into the community by using creative innovations. It seems to be working. □

**UNDERGROUND EVANGELISM ANSWERS "CHRISTIANITY TODAY" CHARGE THAT SMUGGLERS ARE DECEIVERS.** Should Christians refrain from smuggling Bibles into Communist countries because the state law forbids the action?

Yes, says a March 1 editorial in *Christianity Today*, or be a hypocrite. No, replies Underground Evangelism, because believers should obey God rather than man.

George F. Santa, speaking for Underground Evangelism, cited a history of clandestine Christian efforts that brought the faith through the catacombs of Rome, and the Bible to Britain hidden in merchandise illegally, and eventually to America.

"It is perhaps reasonable to assume that we would not be Believers today had not our forefathers in faith also obeyed God rather than man," the UE statement declared.

Mr. Santa cited radio broadcasts into Communist countries as being equally illegal but noted an absence of criticism of that evangelistic medium.

He quoted Dr. Boris Dotsenko, Soviet nuclear scientist who defected to Canada in 1966 and who was interviewed by *Christianity Today* after his conversion to Christ in 1967. Dr. Dotsenko, in reply to a question about smuggling Bibles into Communist countries, declared, "Do everything that your conscience, your courage, and your trust in God allow you to do. Shall we submit ourselves to this godless force, or shall we follow the commandment of our Lord, 'Feed my sheep?'" □



# the answer corner

Conducted by W. T. Purkiser, Editor

■ **Can you tell me what happened to the people who rose from the grave on the day of Christ's death? See Matthew 27:52-53.**

No, I can't.

Presumably they were part of the company the Saviour led into the presence of God at His ascension (Ephesians 4:8-10).

One minor correction: Those who were raised "came out of the graves after his resurrection" (Matthew 27:53), not on the day of Christ's

death. Jesus was "the firstfruits of them that slept" (1 Corinthians 15:20, 23).

I understand by this that Christ was the first ever to be raised from death to the glorified state.

All other instances of those brought back from the dead (e.g., the son of the widow of Nain, Laza-

rus, and Dorcas) were "resuscitations," not true resurrections.

That is, they died again and their bodies now await the first resurrection when Christ brings with Him at His coming those who died in the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:13-17).

■ **Would you please explain, "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things" (1 Corinthians 13:11). My husband and I have a three-year-old boy who wants him to play with him, and my husband uses this verse as the reason that he won't play with the child.**

I sadly fear your husband will live to regret denying himself to his son during these years of childhood and youth. He will find later on that his son has no time for him if he has no time for the boy now.

As to the use of scripture to justify what looks like sheer parental neglect, this comes about as close to "handling the word of God

deceitfully" as anything I have ever seen.

Paul is talking about the limitations and partialities of our earthly life in contrast with the perfection that is to come. "Prophecies," "tongues," "knowledge" shall all be "done away." What abides eternally is love.

Instead of quoting 1 Corinthians

13:11, your husband should quote verses 4-7, "Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (RSV).

■ **In Matthew, it says that all nations will be told the gospel. Is there any nation today that has not been so informed? Also I've heard pro and con about the coming of Christ before or after the tribulation. Are there definite verses that say if it will be before the tribulation as our church believes?**

First, there is no "official" position in the Church of the Nazarene regarding details of prophecy.

Our statement is simply: "We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ will come again; that we who are alive at His coming shall not precede them that are asleep in Christ Jesus; but that, if we are abiding in Him, we shall be caught up with the risen saints to meet the Lord in the air, so that we shall ever be with the Lord."

Within that general statement there is room for a great variety of views about details of the Second Coming, and you find many such views among us. No one can claim

to be more "official" than another.

I suppose there would be more of us who accept what is commonly called a "pre-tribulation rapture" than either a "mid-tribulation" or "post-tribulation" view. The question is whether the Church will go through none, half, or all of what is commonly called "the great tribulation."

Part of our problem here may be in taking a truly worldwide view of the matter. It seems to me you'd have a hard time convincing Christians behind the iron curtain that the tribulation has not already begun.

The same is true regarding the

gospel "witness unto all nations" (Matthew 24:14). Paul wrote in Colossians 1:6 and 23 that the gospel had "come unto you, as it is *in all the world* . . . and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and *which was preached to every creature which is under heaven*; whereof I Paul am made a minister."

If there were unambiguous and specific verses that would conclusively prove one view or the other, there would be little argument. Apparently God would have us to be sure but not cocksure.

In matters like this, let's not be bulldogmatic.

**HISTORY-MAKING EVENTS  
HOME MISSIONS**

Groundbreaking was held Sunday, February 3, at three locations in the greater Oklahoma City area. This was a history-making event. Never before has the district had three groundbreakings for new home mission churches in one day.

Also on this day the Enid Peniel Church of the Nazarene was dedicated at 10 a.m. in a service with the dedicatory message given by General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland. Greetings from the Northwest Oklahoma District and the dedicatory prayer were given by

Superintendent Jerald R. Locke. Rev. Willard Nabors is the pastor.

*Site 1*—The site of the first groundbreaking was at the Kanaly Addition on the east side of Highway 77, two miles north of Waterloo Road, at 2:30 p.m. Dr. Charles Strickland was the special speaker for the occasion.

*Site 2*—At 3:30 p.m. members and friends of the Wilshire Blvd. Church met three blocks west of Kelly for the groundbreaking service of this home missions church. The Providence Church choir gave a special number before Dr. Charles Strickland gave the groundbreaking message. The Wilshire Boulevard Church will be an integrated church located in Oklahoma City. Dr. Joe Edwards will be the pastor of this church. He was also present and gave greetings.

*Site 3*—The Piedmont Church had its

groundbreaking at 4:30 p.m. of this busy day. After the invocation and greetings, the Oklahoma City Community Church and the Bethany Williams Memorial Church presented special music. Dr. Charles Strickland, general superintendent, gave the afternoon message.

The Piedmont Church is located one mile north of Piedmont on Highway 4 and 192nd Street on the northwest corner. The buildings are to be brick veneer, carpeted wall to wall, with central heat and air, cushioned pews, seating capacity in the auditorium of 180, and classrooms to accommodate an equal size Sunday school.

The Wilshire Boulevard Church will begin construction within the next 10 days with the Duncan Construction Company, builders. Construction on the other churches will begin as soon as possible.



(L. to r.)—Dr. Charles H. Strickland, speaker at Site 1, with District Superintendent Jerald R. Locke and Rev. Roy Bickford.

**Enid (Okla.) Peniel Church (from l. to r.)—District Superintendent Jerald R. Locke, General Superintendent Charles H. Strickland, County Commissioner Fred Unruh, and Pastor Willard Nabors.**



District Superintendent Jerald R. Locke turning first shovel of dirt. Dr. Charles Strickland on left side and Rev. Roy Bickford on right.

(L. to r.)—With accordion Rev. Raymond Parker, Rev. Frank Skillern, Rev. Ed Murphey, Dr. Jerald R. Locke, Dr. Charles H. Strickland, Rev. Jim Bond, and Mr. Earl Hatley.





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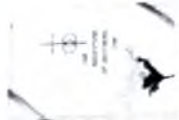
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# YES, LORD, YES

**N**ate was a widower. Although he tried hard to be a good father, his children were dirty, poorly dressed, and bad-mannered. Because this family had black skins, many organizations, including the church, turned their heads in the opposite direction.

When the Church of the Nazarene in Nate's community made its exodus to the suburbs, a group of its members felt that God's will for them was to remain in the changing neighborhood and present the gospel to those living there.

Among these people were several elementary schoolteachers. In them, Nate's children found some of the love for which they had been looking. They began to attend Sunday school regularly. God showed His love to this family in a special way when He sent the children a new mother. Nate's second wife was a beautiful Christian, and in a short time was able to completely change the home situation. At last the children had the love and the guidance which they had needed for so long.

Then, tragedy struck. Nate suffered a severe stroke, which caused his kidneys to stop functioning. Doctors gave up hope of his recovery, but Christian friends did not. God answered prayer, and Nate returned home from the hospital. Soon he was able to be brought to church.

Revival was scheduled, and again prayer was offered for this man. No one in the congregation will ever forget the snowy Thursday evening when Nate's wife led him to the altar. There he became a new creature in Christ Jesus.

Seldom has conversion brought about a more dramatic change than it did in this individual. He who had not attended church in almost 20 years became an effective Christian witness. It was impossible for anyone, saint or sinner, to carry on a conversation with Nate without being told of his experience.

Although his stroke left him with a serious speech impediment, and forced him to walk with a cane, Nate made frequent visits throughout the neighbor-

hood. Everywhere he went, he told people about Christ, and invited them to the church which had presented the plan of salvation to him.

Who can question the mind of God? It certainly would have been easy to ask, "Why?" when another stroke took Nate's life. Why should his children suffer the heartache of losing both parents? Why should a fairly young woman be widowed a second time? Why should a dynamic Christian be taken from a community which so badly needed his witness?

These questions could have brought sorrow and doubt. Instead, the dominant note at Nate's funeral was that of hope. God's direction had been seen this far. Surely He would continue to lead those who trusted in Him. Best of all, this man, who had suffered so much, was in a place of eternal happiness.

On a recent Sunday our church celebrated its fourth anniversary. In looking back I see many things. There have been good days, times of revival when God has poured out His Spirit in a mighty way. Also there have been valleys.

The organization of a new church is always difficult. For us, this was especially true. Integrated churches were almost unheard of in our area, and we met much opposition. Often family members and close friends were our worst opponents.

I remember hours of prayer, days of fasting, the sacrificial giving of time and money required of our members.

The question arises, Was it worth it all? Then my mind races forward. I see a vision of myself standing, hesitantly, at the gates of heaven. Then I see a friend, a black man, who no longer needs a cane, running to meet me.

The answer to the question rings out loud and clear: Worth it all? With all my being, I shout, "Yes, Lord, yes." □

By Ann Ogden  
*Bourbonnais, Ill.*

## ON LOCATION WITH WESLEY

Winners in a denomination-wide Sunday school contest "WALK WITH WESLEY" have returned from a 14-day tour of England. Eight ministers and their wives visited areas of the country associated with John Wesley's life.

Four of the winners were from the top districts in 1973 Sunday school growth. On tour from the Pittsburgh District were Superintendent and Mrs. Robert Goslaw and District Church Schools Chairman and Mrs. Mayne Minich. On tour from the New York District were Superintendent and Mrs. J. H. White and District Church Schools Chairman and Mrs. Neale McLain.

Joining the denomination-wide winners were four other ministers and their wives who won in district competition—Rev. and Mrs. Jon Gray, Bangor, Me.; Rev. and Mrs. Orman W. Calden, North Windham, Me.; Rev. and Mrs. Richard Young, Shawnee, Kans.; and Rev. and Mrs. Verbal Williams, York, Pa. Dr. E. G. Benson, representative from the Department of Church Schools, traveled with the

winners and served as host.

Sites visited on the 14-day tour of England included Epworth, Wesley's birthplace and home during his early years; Oxford, where Wesley was fellow of Lincoln College; Bristol, where Wesley began field preaching and built his first building for worship; and London, where Wesley's Chapel and last home are located.

The tour was planned and arranged by Rev. Thomas W. Schofield, superintendent of the British Isles South District. Tour guides and lecturers included eight British Nazarene ministers, three Methodist wardens of historical sites, the Methodist archivist and the Anglican rector of St. Andrew's, Epworth.

Upon return, the group reported interest-packed days for the entire tour. They experienced good weather. Included in the itinerary were visits to the birthplace of William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army; headquarters of Francis Asbury; and the British Isles Nazarene College in Manchester. The group also enjoyed some leisure time for general sight-seeing. □



Winners and hosts in the "Walk with Wesley" drive: (l. to r.) front row—Mrs. Richard Young, Mrs. Neale McLain, Mrs. Jack White, Mrs. Robert Goslaw, Mrs. Orman W. Calden, Mrs. Mayne Minich, Mrs. Jon Gray, Rev. Jon Gray; second row—Rev. Thomas Schofield, Rev. Richard Young, Dr. E. G. Benson, Rev. Jack White, Rev. Robert Goslaw, Rev. Mayne Minich, Rev. T. Crichton Mitchell; third row—Rev. Neale McLain, Rev. Orman W. Calden, Rev. Herbert McGonigle, and Rev. Verbal Williams.

## SOUTH AFRICAN CHURCH TOPS GOAL FOR WORLD EVANGELISM

The Horison Church of the Nazarene in the Republic of South Africa, recently overshot their target for world evangelism giving by R1000 (approximately \$1,500).

Rev. Harold Brown is pastor of the Horison church. He was called as pastor by the Horison church

board following earlier pastorates in the United States.

Rev. David Whitelaw, principal of the South African Nazarene Bible College, writes that the church is "progressing well under Rev. Brown's leadership. The Browns are doing a tremendous job and there is a revival atmosphere in the church." □

## WHIRLYBIRD HELPS COOL SEMINARIANS

"Why don't you get a sky hook?" was once a derisive catcall. Tuesday morning, April 9, it became the very practical solution to the problem of getting air-conditioning equipment in place. Workmen hired a helicopter to lift seven heavy units to the pads arranged inconspicuously around the Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City.

Professor Bob Crabtree, seminary librarian, came up with the idea. It worked. A group of interested onlookers gathered. The job was accomplished in a few minutes of actual transporting of the equipment. Interestingly enough, the pilot had occasionally attended the Shawnee, Kans., church.

Dr. William Greathouse explained that the air conditioning will not only make tolerable the warm weather in late spring and early fall, but also will make possible the conducting of summer sessions for the seminary. Officials of the school plan refresher courses and special seminars for "in-service training" of ministers as a possible project in the near future.

So another kind of "airlift" came to the rescue of puzzled workmen and heated "theologs." For young and old who watched, it was exciting. Where there is a will or a whirlybird, there's a way. □

—T. E. Martin, NIS

## Operation "airlift" at NTS



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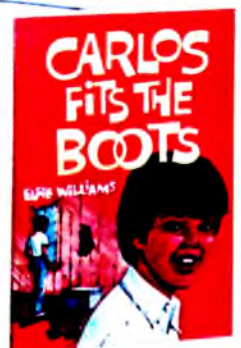
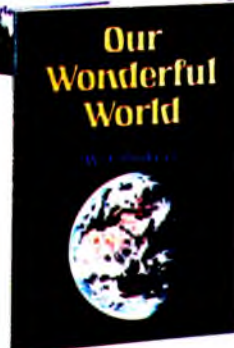
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