AN EDITORIAL

A T THE CLOSE of that first Easter day, while they were huddled together in a secret meeting room somewhere in Jerusalem, Jesus suddenly came to His disciples. Among other things which He spoke were these words, “As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you” (John 20:21). Which is to say, “I’m going to send you into the world in the same way and with the same equipment as the Father sent Me.”

How was Jesus sent? How did the Father equip Him before He began His public ministry? He baptized Him with the Holy Spirit! Matthew 3:16-17 declares, “And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: and lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

Christ’s entire life and ministry was led and owned by the Holy Spirit. Jesus was saying to His disciples that He was sending them out, filled with the Holy Spirit, to minister, teach, and baptize in His name. Jesus “breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost” (John 20:22). Jesus urged the disciples to receive the Holy Spirit on resurrection day, and they were fully baptized with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. In Acts 1, just before He left them, Jesus said, “wait for the promise of the Father. . . . For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. . . . But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

In Acts 2:33 we see the resurrected, ascended, glorified Jesus at the right hand of the Father, receiving from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit and pouring Him out on the waiting, believing company of followers. The reason Jesus promised, in John 14:12-14, that we would do the works that He did, and even greater works than He did, was because He was going to the Father, and that He was going to equip us with the same infilling of the Holy Spirit as the Father had sent Him out with.

Many people go out trying to witness for and serve Jesus in their own strength, talents, and abilities, but in their own power they fail. What we need today are men and women filled with the dynamic of the Holy Spirit sent forth by Jesus to be His witnesses. When our hearts are cleansed from all sinful selfishness and God’s love fills and rules our lives, then we can minister to the spiritual and physical needs of our fellowman. It is then that we can fully live for Jesus and represent Him in our world. “As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.”

IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

by General Superintendent Orville W. Jenkins
The foundation stone of civilization is the family and the heart of every family is the mother. Every time a person attains greatness, his mother shines in something more than reflected glory. Of course, a child inherits qualities of mind and character from both parents, 4 grandparents, and 16 great-grandparents, and so on backward to a dim penumbra of distant ancestors.

It is usually the mother who has direct charge of nurture, early tuition, and the shaping of habits—whose special vision of life her child catches. When John D. Rockefeller was complimented on the fine traits of his son, he quietly replied, "His mother deserves credit for that." Most fathers, in the same situation, would make the identical statement.

It is too bad that we know so little about the mothers of some of our greatest men and women. Knowledge about the mothers of Abraham, Elijah, Peter, and Paul is nil. Shakespeare’s mother is unknown to the millions who have visited the place of his birth. Knowledge of Washington’s mother is almost equally vague. Lincoln’s mother died so early that his stepmother was the one of whom he said, "All that I am or ever hope to be I owe to my angel mother."

Fortunate are we who have been privileged to have memories of our mothers. Even though she has been gone for some years, my mother is still with me in the wonderful power of remembering. I can hear her voice as she raised it in prayer for her only son. She loved to sing the songs of the church and always I could hear her singing with the congregation.

Most of all I remember her love. I am sure that she never fully understood me, but she never failed to love me. She cooked my meals, sewed my clothes, and provided me a home in my childhood years. The spirit of Jesus was manifested in her humble role as a housekeeper. She never preached a sermon, wrote a book, or led a crusade, but she knew how to be a mother.

The passing of the years will make her memory grow sweeter. Scarcely a day passes but some incident brings her to my mind. Even though I am a minister of the gospel, I am inclined to agree with the old Spanish proverb: "An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy."

by ROSS W. HAYSLIP

ROSS W. HAYSLIP is the pastor of the First Church of the Nazarene in Tucson, Arizona.
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Letters for this column must be brief and in good taste. Unsigned letters will not be used, but names will be withheld upon request. Address your letter to Editor, “Herald of Holiness,” 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

FIRE STILL BURNS!
I esteem you mostly highly as the editor of our Herald of Holiness! I was thrilled when I read in the Jan. 15 issue, ”Old Evangelists—New Victories!” And surely Paul J. Stewart, Jasper, Ala., is one of our greatest examples. It has been my personal joy to serve him in revival campaigns when he was a pastor and also to preach with him in camp meetings.

Next to my God I love my church! I am rejoicing in God’s untold goodness and in our beloved Zion, which has been far better to me than I have ever deserved!

I was converted when I was 3½, sanctified at the age of 5½, called to preach at the age of 12, and was in my first revival in June after my 12th birthday. I was in the ministry of evangelism over 40 years in our great church, and 12 years in the pasteorate. And God gave over 100,000 people seeking God at the altar of prayer!

Although I was 71 last October 7, I am always happy to accept every invitation for revivals, holiness conventions, and camp meetings or wherever my service may be desired and God wills!

Dr. McCumber, God gave me this thought in late months: “Yesterday has gone, tomorrow has not yet arrived, the only day we can serve is the present one.”

May God continue to richly bless you, Mrs. McCumber, all of your loved ones, and your great and needed ministry both at home and abroad!

W. Fred Thomas, evangelist
Milan, Michigan

WRONG MOTIVE
In reference to CHURCH BEATS A CIRCUS, I find it revealing the author would find it necessary to use a pseudonym. What does he have to fear—church ring leaders?

After years, now, of buses, Big Mac Sundays and Super Sundays, and Sundae Sundays, the Herald finally devoted six paragraphs to giving the vaudevillean DDs their due—but in fear? Come now!

(Continued on page 20)
TODAY I WEAR A WHITE CARNATION

by CHARLES HASTINGS SMITH

MY MOTHER

lies buried in a small Arkansas grave . . . in
the sleep that knows no dream.

The warm spring winds blow across her slumber and the wild daisies bloom near her marker. A steady sun warms her blanket of clay and the beds of the kinsmen who sleep around her. The distant hills grow green and farmers plow the fields beyond the narrow cemetery road.

A young redbird throws his crimson wings on the canvas of the sky and calls to his mate across the valley and I stand here and remember. I remember the days that used to be—and a “voice forever silent and a hand forever still.”

Today, I wear a white carnation and thank God that I had a Christian mother. My first cradle was her arms and while I slept on her breast no cigarette ashes ever fell in my face and the smell of liquor never poisoned her breath. She put her tiny, calloused hands on my head and taught me to love God supremely, to treat all men fairly, to find challenge in hard work and to love my neighbor as I loved myself. Before I climbed into the old four-poster bed and “drifted off to dreamland,” she told me that honesty brought its own rewards and hypocrisy created its own hell. She warned me against the erosion of resentment and the boomerang of retaliation.

The first Mother’s Day was started in Philadelphia in 1907 by Miss Anna M. Jarvis, a native of West Virginia, and 1 of 11 children. On the anniversary of her mother’s death, she persuaded Dr. Harry C. Howard to preach a Mother’s Day sermon in the St. Andrews Methodist Church in Grafton. He used for his text John 19:26-27. Governor Will E. Glasscock issued a proclamation that all people of the Mountain State perpetuate this hallowed custom.

In 1913, the state of Pennsylvania declared one day a year for honoring mother. Since 1912, the governor of the state of Texas has pardoned several criminals on Mother’s Day. In 1914, Woodrow Wilson, by an official act of Congress, declared the second Sunday in May a legal national Mother’s Day. The slogan was: “The best mother who ever lived.” The purpose was threefold: (1) Honor the memory of mother; (2) Do some act of kindness; (3) Try to live one whole day as mother would have you live it. Mother’s Day is now observed in Denmark, China, Sweden, Mexico, the British Isles, and around the world.

Today, I wear a white carnation and remember some old truths my mother taught me:

Issues in which God is involved can never be defeated.
A true child of God will never suffer permanent disaster.
Do not be a greedy “gatherer into barns”—invest your energies in helping others.
Never tarry at the “fleshpots” of Egypt.
One plus God is always a majority.
Respect the elderly, you yourself will be old one day.
You can tell if you’re on the right road—it will be uphill.
Without Christ at the center there is no circumference.
The hunger for purity can be dulled.
Two things hard on the heart: running up stairs and running down people.
He will keep the feet of His saints, and the wicked shall be silent in darkness.
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.
Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.

Today, I wear a white carnation and thank God I had a Christian mother. In this day of frayed nerves, frustrated lives, and fragmented marriages, we need Christian women and godly mothers. In a world of legalized abortion, free love, cohabitation, trial marriage, and “soap opera” addiction, we need a multitudinous army of uncompromising mothers.

We have become servants of the relevant. We

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A WHITE CARNATION

...A WHITE CARNATION

excuse our social sins with pious platitudes. We blow up the inconsequential and wink at the laws that once made us strong. Some do not like to retain God in their knowledge and God has given them over to a reprobate mind to do those things which are indecent and immoral.

A vacillant woman recently said to me, “We never have family prayer at our house anymore and I can’t tell a bit of difference.” I thought, “Oh foolish lady! Inside your heart is a slow process of decay and spiritual sclerosis and that within itself is punishment.”

It is not easy to keep the faith in an “alien culture.” Our values are catching up with us. It is difficult to sing the songs of Zion when our hearts are captive in Babylon. We have sown violence and now we are reaping violence. We have sown the wind—now we are reaping the whirlwind. Our houses are being left desolate unto us. We have trusted psychology and it has now become a substitute for religion rather than its servant. Life is not what we do—life is what we are!

We have become slaves of our own idols and it is a relentless servitude. We are the slaves of many masters. We worship gods with hands of flesh and feet of clay. We are iconoclasts of the sacred. We are slaves of passion, pleasure, perversion, and power.

T. R. Glover said four words destroyed slavery: “For whom Christ died.” Without Christ, there is no freedom from the bondage of sin. Without Mary, His mother, Christ would never have been born. Since Christ came, motherhood has not been the same. He hallowed and sanctified it forever. My mother believed this truth. She clung to it all of her life, then carried it with her down into her grave.

When our days on earth are ended
And we stand before His bar,
When the record books are opened
And God sees us as we are...I will thank Him for the Savior,
For Christ, my elder Brother,
Then I’ll thank Him that He gave me
A godly, Christian mother.

WHY did this happen to me?” Sue wondered. She was unable to fulfill her ambition and go on to college. Her widowed mother was disabled by a serious accident and Sue had to finish her academic career as soon as she had graduated from high school. She was the youngest of the family. Her brothers were married and hundreds of miles away.

“What do you want to do, when you graduate?” she had been asked. “Some form of Christian service, preferably some teaching,” she had replied.

This was now out of the question. For the 10 years till her mother’s death she faithfully looked after her, but saw her opportunities to fulfill her ambition dwindle and disappear.

When her mother died, she had to take a job, for she urgently needed money. The job paid her well, but it was mechanical. She became an inspector of rubber products.

She had looked to the Lord to guide her in getting a job. Was this the most Christian work He could find for her? How far this drudgery was from her ideal of a job! She went to her minister, David Frazier, and asked: “I wanted to serve God, and here I am in a job which is so monotonous. What can I do to serve the Lord in this secular job?”

“Describe your work to me,” he asked.

“For several hours each day I sit at a table with other women. We do nothing more exciting than picking up surgical gloves, spinning them from the wrist to get the water out of them. Then we

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squeezed each finger to reveal any flaws or punctures in them."

"Why is the job necessary?"

"Gloves that have flaws in them could bring infection when used in surgery," Sue replied.

Bearing in mind the apostle Paul's injunction on a right attitude to all actions (Colossians 3:23-24), David Frazier replied: "True, the job is not exciting, but it could be most valuable. You can serve the Lord as well as your boss as you examine those gloves. That puts a different perspective on the job.

"Also, you are doing a valuable job and you give a powerful witness by how well you do it. By ensuring that you pass only those gloves that are perfect, you are preventing the infection that could main and possibly kill someone in surgery."

Sue went away from David Frazier's office with a different outlook on her daily work. She now had a great challenge before her.

Was there anything further to do in this job? She asked God to show her what more she could do for Him in her daily work. She discovered a further outlet for her Christian witness.

Here was her real challenge. She shared in the continuous talk of the women as they sat at the table in the weary work. Unlike nearly all of them, Sue was a Christian and could give the Christian point of view of any subject that was discussed. While much of the conversation was trivial, vital subjects were discussed some days. Indeed, often she had to study or question her minister for the Christian perspective.

For instance, when her colleague Beth discovered she was pregnant, she wanted to have an abortion. "Have you thought of the unborn child?" Sue asked. Beth had not. As they discussed the problem, Beth saw her situation in a different light and shortly afterwards left the organization to give birth to a baby.

Not all the people were convinced by Sue's argument; prejudice can die hard. Yet all were influenced by her life.

Just like the other women who inspected rubber products, Sue was hit by tragedy. Her brother Paul's wife died of a rare blood disease. Her fellow workers watched Sue most carefully. They knew how they would react in such a shattering situation. Sue was obviously hurt, they discovered, yet she did not moan about it. She did not question whether God loved her or not. Her sister-in-law's death was a mystery to her, but she trusted God. They were not sure what
In the entrance hall of my home hangs an oil painting. At first glance you see a deep blue vase filled with bittersweet. A second look reveals a draped background of lighter blue.

If you study the picture meditatively, as I often do, you can see much more. To me the study is filled with bittersweet memories. The background especially recalls images of my sainted mother. To understand the association you would have to know the story of the painting’s origin.

My sister and I were home for a short rest between revival meetings. And we were weary. Night after night of singing, preaching, spending hours in intercessory prayer, and traveling were all rewarding. But combined, they took a physical toll and sometimes we felt spiritually drained. This was such a time.

I could think of nothing to do to renew my strength. It was difficult to claim the resources promised in Isaiah 40:31. How many times I had tested God’s promise: “But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength...” Well, I was waiting.

Momentarily my eyes focused on a vase of bittersweet—now dry from a fall arrangement. It would make a perfect subject to paint, and painting always gave me release and relaxation. I could lose myself in it. Oil paint? Brushes? I knew I had plenty. Now to find a canvas. I found one stored away—just the right shape and size. But what could I use for a background to compose a pleasing picture?

I looked around the house. There in the kitchen was one of Mother’s aprons, her blue apron. Draped over a chair it would create the perfect backdrop for the deep blue vase and bursts of orange bittersweet. It was fun arranging the apron over a kitchen chair and composing the picture. Choosing the oil colors, dabbing to my heart’s content, and expressing my own ideas filled me with the joy of creating something new.

This joy of creating something beautiful made me feel very close to God. He must have planned for us to experience such satisfaction. We were created in His image. Surely He put into every living soul the love to create—and to enjoy it.

Mother was amused at my use of her blue cook apron. Of course she didn’t care. She had many others, each one different. She designed them herself. Some small ones were for serving only. Others were large enough to protect her dress from the flour and other ingredients she used in cooking.

To Mother cooking was an art—not just for the sake of food; “To serve my family,” she explained, “so they can carry on the important work God has given them to do.”

Her culinary creations were many. And for special holidays she would bake one of her prized cakes. A favorite was the white coconut, made from scratch, and topped with freshly grated coconut—every bit the work of her own hands. No boxed mixtures for her! Other favorites were the Lady Baltimore and one she called the No Name cake. Delicious!

But sweets were not her only specialties. And her interests included far more than food. She spent more time and concern on the business of feeding mind and spirit than serving the physical needs of people. There were Bible classes to teach, individuals to counsel, neighbors to reach, and relatives to write. Her letters were filled with helpful resources. Her study of the Scriptures was exhaustive. And she was always alert to contemporary events.

To describe the scope of my mother’s interests would take a book. To pinpoint the driving theme of her remarkable life I could simply say, “Dedication to service.” I have never known a person who met our Master’s stated qualifications for greatness more completely than my mother: “... whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; and whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many” (Matthew 20:26-28).

Now you can understand why my bittersweet painting reminds me of Mother. The background is Mother’s blue apron. And Mother’s apron is sort of a symbol of her whole philosophy of life. Her Spirit-filled life was a symphony of service—to God, to her family, to every person whom she touched.

And she lives on. Not only in memory. Mother lives through those whom she served; and who because of her influence have also dedicated their lives to minister to others.

The apostle Paul discovered the secret of the Christian’s loving servitude. It is stated beautifully in 1 Corinthians 9:19: “For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.”

Mary E. Latham is a retired Nazarene elder residing in Kansas City, Missouri. She has specialized in evangelism, children’s work, and writing.
MOTHER LIVED POSITIVELY
by JANIS LAFFERTY

MY MOTHER had a positive life-style. She never gave place to negative thinking. Her vocation was a licensed practical nurse; her job was to lift up Christ. In every home where she was employed as nurse she served also as a witnessing Christian. She helped many of those she cared for physically to find spiritual healing.

In 1971 she suffered a stroke which changed her vocation. The right side of her body was partially paralyzed but she had already given God the whole body. After a series of physical therapy treatments were completed, she prayed that God would help her to build up His work in the Senior Citizens' building where she lived.

First, she wanted to gain the confidence of the other families in the building, for she had lived there only four months before the stroke. She baked breads and made jams and jellies which she gave to the families she visited. She also shared with them her Christian witness. When she received gifts she could not use, she passed them on to ladies who had sickness or surgery. This gave her opportunities to pray with them and encourage them. She distributed Christian literature weekly and it was the only literature many had in their homes. An excellent cook, she shared many meals with persons who needed a friend, and several were won for Christ at her table. She started a weekly Bible class which outgrew her apartment and was conducted in the building's meeting room. She taught the entire Bible in one year to these senior citizens. She never grieved over the half of her body that was paralyzed. She was full of praise to God for the half that was moving along with the side that was "resting."

She also attended her own church, and commented appreciatively and gratefully upon the people and services of the Linden Church of the Nazarene in Columbus, Ohio.

She lived each day positively. She had no time for worry or fret, convinced that the Lord does all things well. In 1973 she went to heaven, to become part of its "welcoming committee." There she will be extending her right hand to others, smiling and saying, "Bless you."

JANIS LAFFERTY is a homemaker and a member of First Church of the Nazarene in St. Augustine, Florida.

Someone's Mother

Her snow-white hair, so thin;
his dimming eyes
Still searching for a spark to recognize;
She's someone's mother—though
in cruel disguise.
Have you been there today, or yesterday,
To spare a few short moments
from your work or play
And spend them wisely, just to
lift and love and pray?

She hungers for a voice, a sound,
a touch,
A tiny thing, but something just
to clutch.
It seems to bear repeating: "Inasmuch
As you have done it unto one
of the least of these
My brethren, you have done it unto Me."

—CLESEN K. SCOLES
Pueblo, Colorado
WE HAD just finished remodeling the entire church, and had added a new educational unit. Now the bank was to appraise the property before the loan papers would be completed.

About Wednesday, the bank called. They told me their man would be out on Friday to inspect church and parsonage, since both would be included in the final loan.

Thursday, I spent the day scrubbing and cleaning the house from top to bottom. Everything must be spic and span for the inspection. I warned the family that their full cooperation was expected. I'm sure our boys fervently wished the bank had not called. It would cramp their style.

All day Friday I was in a dither, waiting for the bank official to come. Each time a strange car drove by, I just knew this was it. Each time, when that car did not stop, I was both disappointed and relieved.

I spent the day keeping things picked up and put out of sight. There was the baby's stuffed bear. Into the front closet it went. Where did that baseball mitt come from? And those tattered Mickey Mouse comic books? Into the closet for them.

By the end of the day, my nerves were frayed, the closet was full, and the bank official had not come! If I could just keep things looking neat until he arrived! I knew he would not open the closets! That would be a rude invasion of privacy.

Saturday morning when the older boys were home from school they had to play indoors; it was pouring outside. Right in the middle of the usual Saturday morning hassle the doorbell rang. You guessed it!

The bank official had come! He was quick to apologize. “I'm sorry I didn't come yesterday, Mrs. Williams.” (He's sorry?) He continued, “I got tied up with some urgent matters and couldn't get away.”

I invited him in. What else could I do? I took him on a guided tour of the living room, kitchen, and basement. Things weren't too bad; I began to breathe easier. Then, back upstairs, we started down the hallway to the bedroom area. Without warning he stopped and opened the offending hall closet, sheepishly explaining, “I have to see how well they're constructed, you know.”

No! I did not know! Had I known he would throw open the closet door, I would not have tossed all those odds and ends into it. I would have kept it tidy and junk-free as was the rest of the house (as much as a house can be kept tidy and junk-free on a rainy Saturday morning with three active children).

How like that we are in our spiritual lives. We

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must keep the closets of our hearts clean and orderly, lest we be taken by surprise when our Lord suddenly returns.

He has already told us of His coming, even as the bank had told me they were coming. We don't know exactly when He will make His appearance. “So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him” (Matthew 24:44, NIV).

At the judgment, all the closets of our lives will be opened wide. Any clutter we may have hidden away will be exposed before the whole world. “There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known” (Matthew 10:26, NIV).

I should not have used the closet as a “catch-all” for junk. Neither should we allow the closets of our hearts to be a “catch-all” for things we want to keep hidden but don’t want to part with.

Unless we work diligently to keep them clean, some of the “junk” that might accumulate in our spiritual closets are the twins of carelessness and indifference, ill-will toward others, envy, rebellion, anger, hatred, anxiety, and a critical spirit. These are only a few: the list is endless.

Art Linkletter, on his “House Party” TV program, used to enjoy taking a purse from one of his guests, by surprise, and looking through it. He often quipped, “I can tell what kind of housekeeper a woman is by the things she carries in her purse.” Our Lord can tell what kind of spiritual housekeepers we are by the kinds of things we store in our heart’s closets.

Had I kept my closet clean, I would not have been embarrassed when the door was unexpectedly opened by the bank official. When we keep the closets of our lives free of spiritual clutter, we will not be put on the spot when the doors are thrown open by our Lord, for all to see.

I had been warned the bank would make judgment on the properties. We are likewise warned, “For we will all stand before God’s judgment seat” (Romans 14:10, NIV).

When my junk-filled closet was exposed, I had to suffer the consequences of embarrassment. If the closets of our lives reveal a junky disorder, we will have to suffer far more serious consequences.

All of my scrubbing and cleaning in preparation for the inspection seemed in vain when the closet door was opened. All the things we’ve done in the name of the Lord will also be in vain, if our spiritual closets are unclean.

“Not every one who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you evildoers’” (Matthew 7:21-23, RSV). □

CHRIST AND THE LAW
by ARTHUR J. STOTT

UPON RETIRING from the active ministry, I was requested to serve as a volunteer probation officer. I agreed to do it. My first client was Harry, who was past 70 years of age. He lived in a small town about 20 miles from my home.

Harry was a retired bookkeeper. Polio in his younger years left one leg useless. He had no car nor could he have operated one, so periodic visits were necessary to his residence.

Harry got into trouble with the law as a result of his drinking. Harassed by a group of boys who threw stones at his house, breaking a window, he went for his gun and shot in their direction. Fortunately, he didn’t hit them.

He was arrested, underwent psychiatric examinations, and spent some time in the county jail. When released, Harry was placed on probation and assigned to me.

According to the terms of his parole he was to drink no alcoholic beverage, have no guns in his possession, and report regularly to me. These conditions were faithfully met.

When his release was issued he did not want to accept it, for he wanted me to keep calling on him. He was assured that my visits would continue, and accepted the release.

Harry became seriously ill, and was in and out of the hospital and the nursing home in the town where I live. I continued to visit him in these places.

During this time of illness, Harry accepted Christ as his Savior. When his condition worsened he prayed to be taken. He repeatedly said he was ready. A few days later he died.

Two of his three daughters came to make funeral arrangements. In tears they expressed concern that their father was not a Christian. It was a joy to them, and to me, to inform them that he had found Christ as Savior and Lord.

In Romans 8:3 we read, “For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh.” The law could not do, and did not, bring a change in Harry’s life, but Jesus Christ did!

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WHAT KIND OF MIRACLES DO YOU PREFER?

by PAUL T. CULBERTSON

Despite the hundreds, yes thousands, of compassionate miracles which Jesus in mercy performed, the skeptical, unbelieving Pharisees repeatedly demanded "one more attesting sign" of His deity. His response to them was, "An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given to it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas" (Matthew 12:39) . . . His resurrection from the dead. Jesus consistently refused to perform miracles to satisfy their disbelieving curiosity, or meet the material and physical needs of those who sought them for the wrong reasons.

Even Satan himself endeavored to "tempt God" by urging Jesus to leap from the dizzy height of the temple parapet. This was a needless and foolish challenge to God's law of gravity. He wanted Jesus to "zap" the gaping multitudes into accepting His Messiahship. On occasion, Jesus felt compelled to run away and hide from the miracle seekers. After the feeding of a multitude (John 6:15), the populace sought to take Him by force and make Him a king, like the Roman emperors, who provided the people with "bread and circuses." The fact is that all of the temptations faced by our Lord were but variations on a common theme: to take some human "short cut," other than redemptive suffering love, in achieving His Father's purposes for Him in the Incarnation.

All too many who profess the name of Christ in our time seem to become obsessed with "signs and wonders." And often such interest is for the wrong reasons. The miracles they seek are almost exclusively in the physical and material realm: bodily healing, material prosperity, financial success, freedom from anxiety arising out of human finiteness.

Why is this? Let us consider the basic difference

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Esther Elizabeth Snodgrass was born in Charleston, W.Va., April 26, 1889, and reared in the Dunkard Faith. We have heard her tell many times how she was saved around 18 years of age when a Methodist preacher came and held the first real revival she had ever attended—in the schoolhouse.

Named for two queens, she was a queen, and much more, to our home. A gentle mountain mother, she never forgot her early beginnings, love of the soil, life, and all living things. When we were children she would take us berry picking, explain the different kinds of trees and wild flowers, teach us that we could chew the bark from the beechnut limbs, and show us the mountain pinks. She lived from the horse-and-surrey days to the space age.

We don't ever recall her saying something couldn't be done! There was always a way. The snow was never too deep, or the weather too cold; she and Daddy put chains on the tires of the old panel truck, a little heater in the back to keep us children warm,

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Our Mother, THE QUEEN

by Margie Snodgrass Neeley

and we would attend all the revival services. We can even recall the Ladies' Missionary Society making quilts at our house, and if Daddy happened to be out of town, she would walk several miles to the missionary meeting. She was never outspoken, but always faithful.
between our physical and material needs, and our moral and spiritual needs.

Physical and material needs ordinarily arise out of our deficiencies, i.e., our need for oxygen, food, water, rest, sleep, or money. If satisfaction is delayed, the need and the “drive” associated with it become increasingly urgent, demanding, and compulsive. After the need is satisfied, the need and drive temporarily subside; until in the life cycle, they reappear. This occurs over and over again, and tends to dominate our thinking and living.

In contrast, our profound spiritual needs may go virtually unrecognized for years. Only on rare occasions when we become quiet and reflective, or when we are overwhelmed by life’s problems, do we become aware of and sensitive to spiritual needs. A major ministry of the Holy Spirit is to call our attention to this need. The only source of their satisfaction is God. As spiritual awareness and perception are cultivated, these spiritual needs and values become more and more important and compelling in our lives. They then assume their rightful, supreme, and eternal importance.

Now, make no mistake about it! God can, and sometimes does, perform miracles in the physical and material realm, if and when He chooses to do so for His own good purposes. But by definition and logic, such miracles are rare and unusual events. A moment’s reflection will reveal why this is true. Such miracles would only serve to confirm and reinforce the life-styles of those who are already imprisoned at the physical and material level of living. Such persons would never be challenged to rise to a higher level of spiritual perception and living.

Wasn’t this precisely what our Lord had in mind when the apostle Paul’s threefold request for the removal of his “thorn in the flesh” was denied? (2 Corinthians 12:7-10). God knew the apostle could and would rise to a higher spiritual level of understanding of His grace and power. God’s strength would be perfected in Paul’s weakness. Thus the apostle could declare, “Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me” (2 Corinthians 12:9). He realized anew that “when he was weak, then he was strong.”

In our day of T.V. religious spectacles, so-called miracles often border on magic. And magic is always dangerous, often associated with perilous psychic forces. The awesome and devastating revelations of fake “divine” healers, such as Marjo, should give every thoughtful Christian a reluctance to accept a great deal of such “miraculous” phenomena at face value. Even though masses of people may be awed and held spellbound by it, that does not prove it is of God.

Aside from the Incarnation and the Resurrection, the two supreme miracles in the life of Jesus Christ, the greatest miracle is the power communicated to the believer by the Holy Spirit to love as Jesus loves!

A superlative, incontrovertible example of this is found in the life and death of Stephen (Acts 7). He was the first Christian martyr. This wise, Spirit-filled, Spirit-led deacon was supernaturally enabled to confront his slanderous accusers in love. He fearlessly proclaimed the good news of the gospel. He prayed for his enemies while they were literally smashing the life out of his broken, crushed body.

In contrast to this supreme spiritual miracle, made possible by the Holy Spirit’s impartation of the saving life of Christ to the believer, all physical and material “miracles” (even if genuinely supernatural in origin) fade into insignificance!

What kind of miracle do we prefer? Our response to that question will reflect the degree of our spiritual warmth, depth, and perceptivity.

There was always room at her table for an extra person; she loved to cook, and especially enjoyed family meals.

A family friend, Rev. Earl G. Hisson, Sr., became a Nazarene preacher. Sometime after this mother became a charter member of the Davis Creek Church of the Nazarene, out from Charleston, W.Va. This man was to open up and organize Nazarene churches all up and down the Kanawa Valley, and our family along with his helped to swell the attendance in support of this work.

Since I am older now, I often wonder how Mama did all the things she did for us. There were seven of us kids. She made dresses for us four girls. At Christmastime she always made delicious popcorn balls, eggs to gather, and other chores to fill the hours.

At age 80 she took her first airplane flight to San Diego to see her youngest son, who had suffered a heart attack. After she returned we found this scripture she had written on a small piece of paper in her purse: “Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord” (Psalm 31:24).

As we grew older Daddy thought things would be better in Florida. After moving there things were not easy for Mama. She took in washing to see that we stayed in school and did the pastor’s washing to pay her tithes. But whenever we mentioned how hard it was to raise her seven children, plus several others, she smiled and said that she didn’t recall any hard times. She enjoyed every minute of her life, and raising her family was the best part of it. She just wished she could do it all over again!

From our earliest recollection, when day was done Mama would gather us children around, and read us a chapter or so from some good book. I don’t suppose we will ever forget some parts of Pilgrim’s Progress. Then she would read from the Bible, and of course, she always read from the Herald. Then we would get down on our knees and she would softly go to God in prayer for her little brood. These are memories that we will cherish forever.

She always loved beautiful singing. I kept her when she was over 90 and had cancer. In the mornings, I played gospel albums for her, and she commented on the beauty of the singing. Now Mama has joined the heavenly choir, where the songs of faith and hope she once sang give place to songs of everlasting triumph.
Those children who are grown and gone, why aren’t they saved? Brought up by godly parents in Christian homes, schooled by Christian churches in biblical truth, why aren’t they saved?

Why aren’t they saved when mothers spent sleepless nights in burdensome prayer? Why aren’t they saved when fathers in love came to their rescue time and time again?

Why aren’t they saved when Proverbs 22:6 says, “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it”? Why aren’t they saved when God says of His word in Isaiah 55:11, “It shall not return unto me void”? Why aren’t they saved?

They are not saved because God allows them to choose not to be. All of Mother’s prayers, all of Father’s love, all the church’s teachings, hang on the thin thread of choice. “Choose you this day whom ye will serve.” And each of us must choose for himself.

We read that verse, “Train up a child in the way . . . and he will not depart from it.” “It” refers to “the way he should go.” Bring up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, the knowledge of that way will still be imbedded in his mind.

There is freedom in this for the parents of wayward children. The parents’ charge is to bring them up in the way they should go. The child’s task is to choose what to do with that bringing up.

I think I’m writing this because after 20 years I’m visiting the church where I was “brought up.” Many of my generation are lost to the church, and their parents are heartbroken. But I know these parents. They are good Christian people, the pillars of the church 20 years ago and since.

I see them torturing themselves with the question, “Why aren’t they saved?” And more questions, too. “Where did we go wrong?” “What should we have done that we didn’t do?” “Was I a bad example to my children?”

I’d like to suggest some answers to those tormenting questions.

First, the child’s rejection of Christ is his own choice. No parent can do more than his best, and that is all he is responsible and accountable for. It only complicates the parent-child relationship for the parent to carry the child’s guilt of that rejection of Christ. So quit it.

Second, “Where did we go wrong?” You probably didn’t. You weren’t perfect, but you made your children secure in love. You taught them how to pray, and how to live. You made mistakes, I guess, but who ever didn’t? Don’t let your full-grown babies dump a load of guilt on you for mistakes made 20 years ago. They know better.

Third, “What should we have done that we didn’t do?” I don’t know. Probably nothing! And even if there were something, you can’t change it now. So quit dwelling on the impossible, and live in the present.

Fourth, “Was I a bad example to my children?” Not likely. You were human. You had your weaknesses and inconsistencies, but they were part of a good example because we saw you struggle and grow and try to be a better Christian. Your children know that too, even if they can’t admit it.

Finally, about this matter of God’s word not returning void. When I was a kid in the church, the whole church family was training me in the way I should go; the pastor, Sunday School teacher, youth director, even the little old ladies who only warmed the benches. You all had a profound influence on my life.

Perhaps your children have chosen to leave the church. But many of us have stayed in and gone on to fulfill God’s perfect will in our lives. How can you say God’s word is returning void when out of that congregation of 20 years ago you have produced ministers, missionaries, Christian educators in our Nazarene colleges, church musicians, and a new generation of board members, Sunday School teachers, and strong Christian laymen in many walks of life?

My suggestion to the parents of wayward children is, as you carry the burden for them and live with the heartbreak of them, to look up! Thank God that you had them under your good influence for 18 years or so. Thank God that they will never outlive that training, even after you are long dead and buried.

Release them to the convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit. Let them work out their own salvation with fear and trembling, without any more pressure or subtle nudging from you. Let the Lord take care of it all.

Then, enjoy your own salvation. Live these closing years of your own life in the joy of the Lord. “Let not your heart be troubled.” You are getting closer to your own eternal reward now. Keep an eye in that direction and rejoice. Your day of triumph draws near.

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A candid discussion for parents who have ever asked this question.
THE MORNING PAPER recently gave an account of Edwin E. Robinson of Falmouth, Me., who regained his sight and hearing in a miracle from the thunder clouds. Nine years ago he suffered the trauma of loss of sight and hearing in a truck accident when he nearly lost his life.

For the past nine years he had tapped his way through life and strained to hear the voices of people. When a sudden thunder shower caught him, he tapped his way to a shelter under a tree with his aluminum cane. Lightning struck the tree and he was knocked to the ground, breaking his hearing aid. But to his amazement and delight, he could both see and hear again. Glorious stroke! The doctor later said in astonishment, “It’s one for the books.”

In the Christian realm, a similar miracle happens each time a person is born again. His life is changed from darkness to light, from night to day. Hallelujah! The man in the Bible who had been blind from birth tells his story so succinctly when questioned by people after Jesus had healed him. He said in substance: I cannot understand all about it, but “one thing I know, that whereas I was blind, now I see” (John 9:25).

The miracle of redeeming grace has been piercing the darkness of man’s sinful nature for centuries, releasing him from the prison house of blindness and deafness, and opening his understanding to see and hear God’s love.

God is constantly trying to get the attention of sinful man in order to cleanse him from his sins and reveal true happiness and purpose to him. But self-will has blinded his eyes and covered his ears so that he can neither see nor hear God’s will for his life. At times God must use severe ways to jar people from their complacency. In Job 37:11-13 we have a statement that coincides with the experience of Edwin Robinson, but in a spiritual way. “He [God] disperses the cloud of His lightning. And it changes direction, turning around by His guidance, that it may do whatever He commands it on the face of the inhabited earth. Whether for correction, or for His world, or for lovingkindness. He causes it to happen” (NASB).

What a glorious shock it is when God gets our attention, and we discover that His will is what we wanted all of the time. Suddenly our darkness is changed to light, our deafness to God’s call is removed, and we exult in hearing Him say: “This is the way. walk ye in it!” Amazingly, the Bible becomes alive to us and God speaks to us through its pages, and we have that precious feeling of “belonging” to the Family of God.

A fine Christian brother who had been delivered from the darkness of sin and unbelief gave this incisive testimony: “It seems to me as I read the Bible that God puts ears to my eyes and I am aware that He is speaking to me.” What an insight! What a revelation! And the miracle of spiritual sight and hearing is waiting to happen to every believing soul. Tapping one’s way in the darkness of unbelief can end, and the garbled hearing aids of human opinion may be scrapped in exchange for an openness to the voice of God.

RAYMOND C. KRATZER

by RAYMOND C. KRATZER

GOD WALKED WITH ME

God walked with me
on a lonely, treacherous road.
Unnoticed,
He stood along the cliff-edge path
with outstretched arms
fencing the drop.
He taught me trust.

He walked behind me
through weary sameness,
nudging me on
when I wanted to stop.
I learned to endure.

God took me to a peaceful road
with gentle slopes
and happy friends.
He rested me
for tomorrow’s lesson.

—MARJORIE LENORE COMPFORT
Olean, New York

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Whose Responsibility Are the Children?

we respond to the growing number of children from broken homes, a polite synonym for “divorced.” Whose responsibility are they?

Formerly the children from broken homes were primarily from “outside” the church. Today, increasing numbers of them are from families within the congregation. In larger congregations, the fractured family may remain; in some cases, parents eventually remarry and continue to attend.

My interest in this matter was heightened by a fracas I observed on the front steps of a Nazarene church.

The mother, who did not have custody that day, had come by the church to pick up the child after children’s church. She thought she would get the child and be gone before her ex-husband emerged from the morning worship service. However, the service ended earlier than she expected, and a hundred startled spectators witnessed a struggle between the two parents for physical possession of the child.

Their voices grew louder and more hostile. Then the mother slipped. She seized upon her fall to accuse her husband: “You pushed me! Someone call the police!” The child rushed to his mother. Meanwhile, more people emerged from the sanctuary.

“What is going on?” they demanded. Later, the accounts of the eyewitnesses differed considerably.

I have not forgotten the sunken shoulders of the little boy as his father led him away. The little fellow was humiliated. That incident helps me understand one of Jesus’ miracles.

A man asked Jesus to heal his daughter. En route, Jesus was delayed by a woman who touched the hem of His garment. By the time Jesus arrived at the man’s home, the girl had died. Jesus “saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly” and promptly “put them all out” (Mark 5:38-40, NIV, italics added).

How would Jesus have responded to my little friends that Sunday afternoon? Perhaps in the way He touched the dead child. Jesus took her by the hand and said, “Little girl, I say to you, get up!” Did He expel the people so they would be denied the opportunity to witness the healing? No. Jesus did not

Who’s RESPONSIBLE for those kids being here?” The voice that pierced the Sunday School office revealed considerable strain. The two ladies counting money ignored the remarks. “They’re hopeless. I can’t do a thing with them!”

“The Nelsons have been bringing them. They’re from a broken home,” one of the money-counters finally remarked without looking up from the pile of coins.

“Well, why don’t the Nelsons teach them, then, instead of dumping them on me? I’ve already got too many now!”

The frustration of the teacher, the concern of the Nelsons, and the vocal intonation on the word broken underscore a need in our churches. How shall

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want the little girl frightened by all the people gawking at her when she awoke.

His last instruction was, “Give her something to eat” (v. 43). While Jesus was not a parent, He understood children and was sensitive to their needs.

There are 8.2 million children under age 18 who are casualties of divorce. Whose responsibility are the children of divorce? Does a child have the right to expect a church family to love him and nourish him despite the state of his parents’ marriage?

At one time in our churches, the nearest adult to a misbehaving child attended to the problem even if it required moving during the service. Now children are absent from worship services in “children’s church” or extended sessions. As a result, those adults without children or whose children are grown are often unaware of the needs. This makes it easy to feel, “It’s not my responsibility.”

The Word affirms communal responsibility for children. In biblical times, and earlier in American tradition, children were part of an extended family composed of many adults who were carers for each child.

Remember when Mary and Joseph returned from Jerusalem and lost Jesus? “Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for one day.” Where did they begin to initially look for Him? “Among their relations and friends.” The child did not have to be with the parents for His needs to be considered (Luke 2:44, NIV).

Second Kings identifies the “bringers up of children” (10:1, 5), nonparents who cared for children.

In two parallel reports (Matthew 19 and Mark 10), we find the Pharisees challenging Jesus on divorce, trying to trap Him between different factions. When Jesus concluded His remarks on the subject, little

children were brought to Him. The juxtaposition of these two passages is not coincidental, for children are as affected by divorce as the adults.

If Jesus made time in His schedule for the children, how can His Church ignore the needs of children? Jesus touched them (Matthew 19:13) and so must we.

A single parent may be hundreds of miles away from supporting family or grandparents, or those relatives may not be concerned about spiritual needs. Could a couple or a single adult in your church become spiritual relatives?

“Carry each other’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2, NIV). Could a child’s burden be mine?

The child in the single-parent family does have particular needs for affirmation and for healing the scars on his tender spirit. His burdens become an opportunity for us to be the Church.

Jesus talked about offering a cup of cold water or offering something to eat (Matthew 10:42) as significant acts. He shared His passion for children.

Jesus, “If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?’ (Luke 11:13).”

Author Agnew presents no theological discussion, no personal history, no personal experience. Yet, the reader will find a wealth of practical ideas on meeting the needs of children and the family.

The book is a valuable resource for the church and the pastor. The Church and the Family is a practical guide for churches and families. The church is responsible for the religious and spiritual needs of the individual.
ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY

A nine-year-old boy robbed a bank in New York. His parents and his lawyer blamed television. He was addicted to crime shows and was merely imitating scenes which enthralled him.

Steve Judy was electrocuted for raping a young mother and drowning her three preschool children because they cried. He blamed his parents. His childhood was unhappy. Had he been raised by better and wiser parents, he claimed, the crime might not have happened. He told reporters that society had failed him.

A recent poll, reported in Newsweek, asked, “What is most responsible for the increasing rate of crime?” The answers, in the descending order of responses, were unemployment, courts too lenient, breakdown of family and society values, punishment not severe enough, drugs, and TV violence and movies.

In all these claims and responses there is a copout, the kind commonly made by criminals who are caught and punished. The bottom line is simply this, they are criminals because they choose to commit crimes, not because they were coerced by forces beyond themselves. This is the conclusion reached by Samenow and Yochelson after a penetrating investigation of the subject. Their findings were published in the book The Criminal Personality. This has always been the teaching of Scripture.

I do not deny the molding influence of parents or environment. No efforts should be relaxed in the fight against ignorance, poverty, child-abuse, and the drug traffic. Television cannot be exonerated as an aggravating cause. It is no longer a wasteland, it is a sewer, so far as its general programming is concerned.

But the truth remains that the criminal is responsible for his crimes. Mosaic legislation made the individual alone responsible and culpable (Deuteronomy 24:16; Ezekiel 18). And the basic challenge of Scripture remains, “Choose you this day whom you will serve” (Joshua 24:15). Personal choice is the ultimate cause of crime and the ultimate way out of crime.

MOTHER'S LAWS

Scripture says, “Forsake not the law of thy mother” (Proverbs 1:8). A modern translation renders the verse, “Reject not your mother’s teaching.”

As Mother’s Day draws near, I will set down some of the laws for living which my mother taught me.

One is the law of gumption: Show the enemy your face, not your back.

A baseball game was going on in our backyard, umpired by a burly iceman whose ignorance of the game was nearly total. I fouled off three successive pitches and he yelled, “You’re out! Three fouls is out.” I hollered for Mama, for I regarded her as the commissioner of baseball in our neighborhood. Her face appeared at the kitchen window and my appeal was registered. When she overruled him, the umpire blew up. Words were exchanged and he shook his fist and bellowed, “Put on a pair of pants and come out here and I’ll show you who’s umpiring this game.”

“Who needs pants?” Mama rejoined scornfully and headed for the door.

When she reached the yard the iceman had disappeared over the rock fence and through his own back door.

That’s how she met challenges—head-on and refusing to be stampeded by threats. Courage has always been integral to her character.

She taught me, too, the law of compassion: Better an empty cupboard than an empty heart.

I watched an old man coming down our street during the grim Depression. From house to house he begged for food and was turned away. When he reached our door, driven by hunger and yet struggling to maintain some dignity, Mama told him softly to sit and rest while she fixed some food. She fed the old fellow the first decent meal he had eaten in days. As he walked away, one of the legion of jobless poor, I saw tears in Mama’s eyes and heard her say, “I hope my
Mama had a code of ethics and the will to enforce it. The way of the transgressor led straight to her throne of judgment.

dad never has to tramp the streets and beg.” To others, that old man was a threat to an already scarce supply of food. To Mama he was someone’s father, broke, hungry and desperate. She would share her last scrap of bread with a hungry person—or give it all and go hungry herself.

A hard lesson was the law of retribution: The wages of sin is a blistered bottom.

My younger brother and I got into a fight in the front yard. In our anger we exchanged rather profane opinions of each other. Mama was visiting next door and heard the cussing. Here she came, ablaze with righteous indignation and determined to administer swift justice. En route along the path through a vacant lot which separated the two homes, she spotted a discarded nail keg. The wire hoops had rusted and broken, and the staves were immediately accessible. She seized one up without breaking stride. Arriving at the scene of combat, she took her stance and started her backswing. We wrestled frantically to pin the other guy up. Whenever a bottom came up, that nail keg stave came down, with the power of an irate, near 200-pound woman supplying ferocious momentum. We took a few licks apiece, hastily negotiated a truce, broke our holds, rolled out of her reach and scampered for safety. Gaining the backyard with Mama in hearty pursuit, we climbed into a mango tree and gave her a cooling-off period.

I watched an unspanked generation grow up, and witnessed the takeover of American homes by child monarchs. We are still footing the bill for parents who would not discipline their children. Painful as the lessons were, I’m glad Mama taught me a healthy respect for duly constituted authority, and taught me that you can’t do wrong with impunity.

Mama wasn’t a Christian when I was growing up, but Mama had a code of ethics and the will to enforce it. The way of the transgressor led straight to her throne of judgment.

She was the best teacher I ever had.

IN ONE GATE AND OUT THE OTHER

My current devotions are taking me through the Bible in the New English Bible translation. Today my attention was grabbed by these words in Ezekiel’s vision of the restored Temple:

*But on festal days when the people come before the Lord, a man who enters by the northern gate to bow down shall leave by the southern gate, and a man who enters by the southern gate shall leave by the northern gate. He shall not turn back and go out through the gate by which he came in but shall go straight on (Ezekiel 46:9).*

I know that the words had a practical purpose—“to ensure an orderly flow of worshipers through the limited area of the outer court,” to quote one modern commentary. And it’s nice to know that God’s house can attract enough people to make it necessary to guard against a traffic jam!

But I could not help giving the words another meaning. Worship ought to create the dynamic for progress. When we come and “bow down” in praise and gratitude before our Creator-Redeemer, some changes should occur in our minds and hearts that will produce corresponding differences in our outward lives.

A dramatic illustration of changed direction and life is found in the story of the paralytic who was brought to Jesus on a kind of stretcher by a committee of concerned friends. The house was crowded and the doorways jammed with people eager to see and hear the Lord. So these men tore a hole in the roof and lowered their friend into the room at the feet of Jesus. The Lord forgave his sins and healed his body, and the man stood to his feet, shouldered his pallet, and went out through the goggle-eyed crowd. As someone long ago observed, he came in through the roof and went out through the door; he came in on a pallet and went out with the pallet on him! All because Jesus spoke words of power that transformed the human situation (Mark 2:1-12).

When we come to worship services and hear God’s Word preached, we ought to leave as different and better persons. Worship should keep us from turning back, should help us to “go straight on.” Encounters with the Lord should give new dynamic for life.
"We have seen the enemy and he is US," POGO.

R. L. Godkin
Richardson, Texas

Editor's note: I know "Onesimus" personally. He is no more afraid of church leaders than he is of Mr. Godkin.

EXCEPTIONAL COMPANION

I especially enjoyed your editorial entitled "A New Year" in the January 1 issue.

I believe your paragraph about your wife Doris will alert many men around the world to make a similar expression to their mates. It is beautiful.

Like you, I have been blessed with an exceptional companion, and we have worked as a team in the ministry for 50 years. When I first saw her 54 years ago I thought she was the prettiest girl I had ever seen, and even though she has been an invalid for four years, she is just as beautiful today in my eyes.

Thank you for your effective ministry through the pages of the Herald.

Lyle Potter
Pomona, California

A Bus, a Bible, and Beneficiaries

by SHARON BUSHEY

It was an old red and white bus, not too much life left in it, but a dedicated member asked to use it to bring his neighbors to church each Sunday morning, an 18-mile trip. He offered to pay for the gas so what could we lose? Permission was granted.

Bob and his wife Mary began to call diligently in their farm community, inviting everyone to join them on the bus ride to church each week. They worked with enthusiasm, for they had been won to the Lord Jesus 18 years before through a bus ministry.

Little did they know the destiny of Hedy Foster that first day she came with them. She was a sweet little lady in her early 40s—quiet and reserved. She attended regularly and thoroughly enjoyed the pastor's Church History class. One Sunday she became ill. Aware that flu was at its peak, we wished her well and said, "Hope you'll get to feeling better. We'll see you next Sunday." But another Sunday in the Waynesville Church of the Nazarene never came for Hedy.

High fever and uncontrolled chills caused her to be hospitalized. Unimproved after a week, she was transferred to a large hospital in a nearby city.

My husband visited Hedy there, and she told him how, on the third Sunday that she attended our church, when an altar call was given, she wanted to go forward but didn't want to detain the others on the bus.

Hedy said, "I was still in my pew but I prayed as you prayed and God forgave my sins and came into my heart." She was a changed women. Even under the stress of pain her fevered face shone with God's glory.

John, Hedy's married son who lived in St. Louis, came to visit her. He felt so helpless to bring comfort to his mother and promised to buy her anything she wanted. Her request was a Bible—"one that is easy to read and understand."

Two months seemed like an eternity to Hedy. She was never without fever, and after extensive tests and exploratory surgery doctors could not make a diagnosis. One Sunday evening a phone call informed us that Hedy was dead.

The next few days my husband spent many hours with Hedy's alcoholic husband, her 11-year-old daughter and her son, John, his wife and son. We were so glad that Hedy had made her peace with God and that we had good news to share with the family.

John found the Bible his mother had owned for only two months. She had read the entire book. It looked worn and was marked and underscored from beginning to end. He insisted on knowing what had so drastically changed his mother's life so shortly before her death. And we had the privilege of telling how Jesus had come into her life.

Though our church family hardly knew Hedy, they brought food and prepared dinner for all the friends and relatives. Four of our men took off from work to attend the funeral and serve as pallbearers—Christian love in action and John noticed.

John wanted to know if there was a church just like ours where he lived. We were thrilled to tell him that there was a brand-new one just minutes from his home in Harvester.

We contacted Pastor Grate and he called in John's home. John's hunger for a joy like his mother's led him and his wife to attend services. Pastor Grate went to their home and explained the plan of salvation. In their living room they accepted the Lord Jesus into their lives. The next Sunday they made a public profession of faith, and on Monday began their Basic Bible Studies with the pastor and his wife.

This beautiful conversion sparked revival fires in that church that are still burning.

It was truly a beautiful chain of events that had given birth to this new convert—a bus, a Bible, and we all have been the beneficiaries.

SHARON BUSHEY is the wife of the pastor of the Church of the Nazarene in Waynesville, Missouri.
PEOPLE AND PLACES

The U.S. Department of Education and the Commission on Presidential Scholars has named Marshall H. Lewis, son of Franklin and Dorothy Lewis of Myrtle Beach, S.C., as one of the 1,000 outstanding young American students to become a finalist in the Presidential Scholars Program from among more than 3 million seniors to graduate this year. He has been awarded a certificate by the President's Commission on Presidential Scholars. Marshall H. Lewis is a graduating senior at Coastal Academy.

Marshall is a member of the Myrtle Beach, S.C., church, and plans to attend Mount Vernon Nazarene College this fall.

Professor Lowell H. Hall, head of the Department of Chemistry at Eastern Nazarene College, was an invited participant in a workshop sponsored by the United States Environmental Protection Agency held in San Antonio, Tex., February 1-4, 1981. The workshop, Structure-Activity Concepts in Environmental Sciences, brought together 50 of the nation's leading scientists in the area of structure-activity relations (SAR).

Dr. Hall was a speaker in one of the five workshop groups, giving a presentation on molecular descriptors. This work is based on the molecular connectivity method which Dr. Hall codeveloped with Dr. L. B. Kier of the Medical College of Virginia. Together, Hall and Kier have written 25 papers and a book published by Academic Press in 1976, Molecular Connectivity in Chemistry and Drug Research. As part of their work on estimation of toxicity, Hall and Kier have also been working in a cooperative arrangement with the Water Quality Laboratory of the Environmental Protection Agency in Duluth, Minn.

EXCELLENCE REWARDED

One of the objectives of Nazarene colleges is to provide academic excellence. There are many evidences, such as favorable accreditation reviews and awards, which indicate they are achieving or have approached this goal.

Recently, two Nazarene colleges were acclaimed for their excellence in the area of teacher education. Northwest Nazarene College's Teacher Education Program was selected from over 200 applicant programs by the Educational Testing Service as being one of the better undergraduate programs for teacher preparation in the U.S. Congratulations to the director, Dr. Lilburn Wescie, and to NNC.

Trevecca Nazarene College's Summer Workshop Program was recognized by ACT as being one of three outstanding adult education programs among 900 applicant programs considered. Dr. G. L. Pennington and Trevecca are to be commended for this excellence.

TREVECCA WINS VSAC CHAMPIONSHIP

The Trevecca Nazarene College Trojans basketball team won the Volunteer State Athletic Conference championship by defeating Tennessee Wesleyan College 93-72. The Trojans had earlier claimed the western division title with a win over Lambuth College 72-71. Other tournament play that led to the championship was a win over Bethel College 92-79.

Coach Frank Wilson was named "VSAC Coach of the Year." The Trojans had a record of 23-11. They lost only 2 home games during the season.

FULL MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT CERTIFICATION FOR THREE COUPLES

The Adult Ministries' Committee on Training, Evaluation, and Certification presents three couples who have qualified for full certification as Nazarene Marriage Enrichment Leader-Couples. This brings to 18 the number of couples who have worked through the qualifying process. For some it has taken the minimum one year, for others almost two years.

These couples have each demonstrated a living, growing, mature walk with the Holy Spirit. They possess a vision of passing the great truths of that walk on to others. Many unso-
| ATKINSON, SEAN | PAT & FAMILY: | Roswell, NM | May 29-31 | BAKER, RICHARD C | Kunes, WI | May 24-25 |
| BERTIN, LES | Nashville, TN (Radnor) | May 5 | BEARDSLEY, WM | Elkins, WV | May 12-17 | BRENT, BL | Bluefield, WV | May 20-24 |
| BROWN, BRYCIE | Athens, OH | May 12-17 | BROOKS, JERRY | Norfolk, VA | May 12-17 | BROWN, GLEN | Danville, KY | May 17-22 |
| BROWN, DAVID | Oxford, OH | May 3-5 | BROWN, GREG | Elkins, WV | May 12-17 | BROWN, JERRY | Logan, WV | May 26-31 |
| BROWN, JOHN | Oxford, OH | May 3-5 | BROWN, KEVIN | Waynesboro, VA | May 12-17 | BROWN, MICHAEL | Chesterfield, VA | May 12-17 |
| BROWN, ROBERT | Oxford, OH | May 3-5 | BROWN, TONY | Elkins, WV | May 12-17 | BROWN, WILLIAM | Logan, WV | May 26-31 |
| BUCK, DON | Logan, OH | May 13-17 | BOHNSACK, DAVID | Eau Claire, WI | May 29-31 | BRADLEY, JEFF | Chillicothe, OH | May 17-21 |
| BROSSARD, DAVE | Columbus, OH | May 17-21 | BRUTZ, GERMAN | Bloomington, IN | May 19-24 | BURCH, TIM | New Cumberland, WV | May 26-31 |
| BURKE, TIM | Columbus, OH | May 17-21 | BURM, BERNARD | Delaware, OH | May 17-21 | BURT, JOHN | Strongsville, OH | May 19-24 |
| BURTON, JIM | Columbus, OH | May 17-21 | BURTON, JON | Valparaiso, IN | May 17-21 | BURTON, ROBERT | Westerville, OH | May 19-24 |
| BURTON, WESLEY | Columbus, OH | May 17-21 | BURTON, WESLEY | Westerville, OH | May 19-24 | BURTON, WILLIAM | Westerville, OH | May 19-24 |
| BURTON, WILLIAM | Columbus, OH | May 17-21 | BUTCHER, JIM | Plainfield, IN | May 17-21 | BUTCHER, JIM | Plainfield, IN | May 19-24 |
| BUTCHER, JIM | Plainfield, IN | May 17-21 | BUTCHER, JIM | Plainfield, IN | May 19-24 | BUTCHER, JIM | Plainfield, IN | May 19-24 |

The heart of evangelism is a compelling concern for others.
Chelyan, W. Va.: The church recently had a revival under the anointed preaching of Evangelist John Cayton, and the singing of the Love, Peace, and Joy Trio. The altars were lined with seekers in every service—backsliders were reclaimed, lost souls found the Lord, believers were sanctified, and many others are walking in new light.

Mobile, Ala.: The zone recently had an Indoor Camp Meeting with Evangelist Bob Hoots and Song Evangelists Wally and Ginger Lasson. One of the churches had nine people receive help at the altar during one service! All the churches saw people get spiritual help. A spirit of unity and love prevailed in an unusual way.

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The subtitle denotes that the Nazarene Bible College seniors traveled by chartered bus to visit Kansas City, world headquarters for the church, during their spring break for the eighth consecutive year. Dr. Richard Lewis and Professor Lawrence Jantz accompanied the group.

This time they did not bring a storm. The usual weather pattern has been for a storm to follow them to Kansas City with snow and other discomforts. True to tradition, when they left Colorado Springs, it was snowing. But this year, the storm didn’t follow them, and that was unfortunate, for the Kansas City area desperately needed moisture.

Most of the group stayed at the new King Conference Center in the International Center complex.

Their first Kansas City stop, Thursday afternoon, was the Nazarene Publishing House where they all received the traditional Nazarene Bible College envelope briefcase designed exclusively for graduating seniors. It contained a Pastor’s Program Planner, Nazarene hymnal, catalogs from the publishing house, and other items. After a conducted tour of the publishing facilities, they were bused to the Hilton Plaza Hotel for a banquet in their honor.

Ron Bryan brought special music for the evening, and Dr. Leslie Parrott addressed the group, as he has for seven out of the eight times the seniors have visited Kansas City.

Friday, the group visited International Headquarters where they were hosted with a continental breakfast in the rotunda of the General Board building. Following this they were guests at a holiness praise chapel service directed by Dr. B. Edgar Johnson. Rev. Gordon Wetmore, president of the General Board and pastor of Kansas City First Church, shared his testimony as did Dr. Mark Moore, director of Education Services.

After the chapel, the NBCers saw the headquarters buildings and Nazarene Theological Seminary, where they were guests for lunch. Following lunch, as is the custom, they started home via Olathe and Mid-America Nazarene College campus where they picked up a “sack lunch” for a brown bag snack on the long trip home.

Spring and the NBC trip are beginning to sound synonymous, for both seem to bring optimism, encouragement and a general joie de vivre (joy of living).
The entire General Board, the Board of General Superintendents, and the directors of Divisions, Ministries, and Services were bused to the publishing house on the second day of the General Board meeting for a luncheon and tour. Traditionally, the group has visited during the first official meeting of the quadrennium (quinquennium) held in Kansas City, to become acquainted with the publishing house operation which is basically under their jurisdiction.

Prior to the conducted tour, leather-bound notebooks were distributed giving the history, plan of operation, the book and music publishing philosophy, current catalogs, along with the annual report to the board, and a condensed financial statement.

According to the Manual, the Nazarene Publishing House, a corporation of Kansas City, Mo., shall have a Board of Directors composed of seven members. The members shall be concerned with the business operation and shall advise the manager of Nazarene Publishing House in the efficient operation as the Church of the Nazarene's printing and merchandising division.
ATTENTION

Church Planters

PASTOR, up to $200 is waiting for your church IF . . .

. . . it is under five years old and if
. . . it is conducting its first vacation Bible school.

Pioneer Vacation Bible School is a proven door opener in a new town or community . . . The Gallup Poll indicates that 74 percent of the unchurched want their children to receive some type of religious instruction.

Recognizing this, Church Extension Ministries offers up to $200 credit on your order to the Nazarene Publishing House for supplies for your first vacation Bible school.

Who May Apply?
Any church under five years old, never having held a VBS, is eligible to apply to Church Extension Ministries for this credit.

Procedure
If your request is approved, you may order without charge from the Nazarene Publishing House the equivalent of $2.00 per pupil book ordered, not to exceed 100 books. (Example: If you order 40 pupil books at 60c, they would cost $24.00. You would still have the option of using the other $1.40 per pupil of $56.00 for other VBS supplies.) Any excess over the approved maximum will be charged to the local church.

The place to write for application forms is:

Pioneer Vacation Bible School
Church Extension Ministries
6401 The Paseo
Kansas City, MO 64131
Laymen's Tape Club

OUR GOAL: to start an encouragement revolution through a monthly cassette tape club for Nazarene laymen.

OUR METHOD: to include the following features:

- great voices from the Nazarene past like J. B. Chapman, R. T. Williams, H. V. Miller, L. J. DuBois, E. S. Phillips, Jarrette Aycock, and W. A. Eckel
- monthly devotional helps
- powerful scripture readings
- Bible studies combining scholarly insights and warm inspiration
- interviews with church leaders, new Christians, and missionaries
- great communication events like general assemblies, NIROGAs, evangelism conferences, missionary sending services, camp meetings, and laymen's conferences
- monthly overview of the adult Sunday School lesson
- visits to the chapel services of our educational institutions
- helps for Christians like "How to Study the Bible," "How to Witness," "How to Listen to a Sermon"
- visits to some of the great churches in our denomination
- introduction of new books being published by Nazarene Publishing House

HOW TO JOIN: Simply complete the return postage-free postcard and mail to the Nazarene Publishing House. We will send you a free tape for joining LTC. The monthly cost of $3.98 will be billed at the same time your tape is mailed each month.
INCREASED RETURN ON TAX-SHELTERED ANNUITY ANNOUNCED

Pensions and Benefits Services announces that the insurance underwriter for the Nazarene Supplemental Retirement Plan (a tax-sheltered annuity) has agreed to increase the rate of return on all new deposits from 10.5 percent to 11 percent.

This improvement means that all funds deposited since January 1, 1980 will earn 11 percent per year, beginning January 1, 1981.

All funds deposited before January 1, 1980 will continue to earn 9 percent per year.

Participants continue to pay no expense or load factors. Since February 1, 1976, no participant has been charged a load or expense factor in this plan. This unique benefit will continue. (Participants in other private tax-sheltered annuity plans have been charged up to 25 percent to 40 percent of all funds deposited for the load factor).

In the Nazarene annuity, invested funds return interest on 100 cents of every dollar! This represents a tremendous savings to Nazarene participants.

Currently, over 2,300 are enrolled in this investment program for retirement which is available for pastors, evangelists, and all lay employees of the Church of the Nazarene or its institutions.

Inquiries concerning the details of the recent improvement in the tax-sheltered annuity program should be directed to Dean Wessells, Director of Pensions and Benefits Services, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

HAITI DISTRICTS SHOW INCREASE

Dr. L. Guy Nees, director of the Division of World Mission, reported that Haiti North and South Districts reported a total of 31,500 full and probationary members at their assembly in March. This is a net gain of 2,655 members, a 9 percent increase. Pastoral support in Haiti is up 103 percent over 1979-80 and giving for all purposes on both districts reached a total of $78,600, an increase of 29 percent.

The self-help and developmental programs initiated in Haiti a number of years ago by missionaries and interested friends are continuing to help the Haitian churches support their pastors and the total church program.

FOR THE RECORD

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY INFORMATION


MAINE—June 10-11: First Church of the Nazarene, 30 Noyes Lane, Augusta ME 04333. Host Pastor: Larry R. Fairbanks, Jr. General Superintendent: Dr. V. H. Lewis.


NAZARENE CAMP MEETINGS


June 16-21—LOUISIANA District Camp in Pineville, La. Special workers: Bob Hoots and song evangelists David and Dana Blue. Ralph West, district superintendent.


June 23-28—DAKOTA Trinity Bible Institute, Ellendale, ND 58436. Special workers: Dr. Charles H. Strickland, Chuck and Mary Jackson, singers. Phil Riley, district superintendent.


June 29—July 5—MISSOURI, Pinecrest Camp, Fredericktown, Mo. Special workers: Dr. George Coulter and Stephen Manley, evangelists, and Chuck and Mary Jackson, singers.thur E. Mottram, district superintendent.


June 30—July 5—ALABAMA, Rolling Hills District Campground, Hwy. 65 and Hwy. 31 south. Special workers: Ted Lee and John Hundley, and on Sunday afternoon, Dr. Maurice Rawlings and singers Wally and Ginger Laxson. W. Charles Oliver, district superintendent.

MOVING MINISTERS

KENNETH R. ASHER to Irondale, Mo. STANLEY D. AUBREY from Kankakee (III.) East Ridge to Cheyenne (Wyo.) First

TIMOTHY BENDER from Lenoir City, Tenn., to Indianapolis (Ind.) Briarmeadow

ROBERT C. BREWER to Statesville, N.C. CHARLES W. BURRIS from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs. to Laurel (Ind.)

ROBERT D. CANNON from Lexington, Ky., to St. Louis (Mo.) Kirkwood

GARY L. CARR from New London, III. to Chicago Heights (III.)

EDWIN R. DANFORTH from associate, Charlotte (N.C.) Plaza to Albemare, N.C.

MARVIN DENTON from Vicksburg (Miss.) First to Pascagoula (Miss.)

HARVILLE H. DUNCAN from Charlottesville, Va. to Franklin, Ohio

WILLIS E. EDWARDS from Volland (Ind.) Healeyburg to Vevay, Ind.

JAMES A. EDWARDS from Searcy, Ark., to Russellville, Ark.

TONY B. EREDE from Oxford, Miss. to Vicksburg (Miss.) First

RONALD D. FRYE from associate, Chicago (Ill.) Oak Lawn, to St. Joseph (Mo.) Northside

BARRY T. GAY from Wilmington (N.C.) First to Camden (S.C.) First

RUSSELL R. HARRIS from Okmulgee, Okla. to Tulsa (Okla.) Southwest

HALBERT JENKINS from Magnolia, Miss. to Clarkesdale, Miss.

JOHN L. KIZZEY from associate, Aurora (III.) First to pastor, Aurora (III.) First
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On May 24, the Weirton, W. Va., First Church will celebrate its 50th anniversary. Dr. George Coulter will be the guest speaker for a Holiness Conference May 23-24. Former members, friends and pastors are invited to attend. Please contact Pastor Wesley Frederick, 475 Colliers Way, Weirton W.Va., (304) 723-2006 for further details.

The Three Rivers, Mich., Carey Church will celebrate its 50th anniversary on June 21. The message will be brought by Rev. C. Neil Strait, district superintendent, with many former pastors participating. For further information, contact the pastor, Rev. Lorne J. Lee, at 10044 Water St., Three Rivers, MI 49093. The phone is (616) 244-5573.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is my privilege to recommend DAN SHELLHUS and DAVID GRAY as song evangelists. They are available for concerts revivals, camp meetings, and crusades. Their address is P.O. Box 40055, Birmingham, AL 35209. Phone (205) 432-6834 — D. E. Clay, North Central Ohio district superintendent.

Evangelists may be reached through the Department of Evangelism’s toll-free number: 800-821-2154.

**VITAL STATISTICS**

**DEATHS**

MRS. ANNIE HORTON BEACH, 85, died Jan. 22 in Waycross, Ga. Funeral services were conducted by Revs. Ronald Adams, Irving Temple and Robert L.; seven grandchildren; and two half brothers.

MRS. MARY CARRAFELLA, 78, died March 18 in Stonham, Mass. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Ronald Adams, Irving Temple and Herbert White. Survivors include her husband, Charles; one son, LeRoy; and one daughter, Thelma. 10 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

W. BRUCE CRAIN, 69, died March 6 in Decatur, Ga. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Keith Wright. He is survived by his wife, Jewell, a son, William Henry, and a daughter, Mrs. Margaret C. Andrews; four grandchildren, and one sister.

REV. WILLARD L. HUBBARD, 70, died Feb. 28 in Temple, Tex. Funeral services were conducted by General Superintendent Eugene L. Stowe, District Superintendents James E. Blankenhip, Ralph West, and James Hester, and Rev. Dwight Southworth. Rev. Hubbard pastors for 40 years in Texas, California, and Louisiana. He is survived by his wife, Jeffie, two sons, Lee and Robert; one daughter, Mrs. Bob (Denial) Scott; and eight grandchildren.

MRS. ARTHUR E. (FLORA) KELLY, 72, died March 18 in Columbia, S.C. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. C. M. Kelly. Ronald Doolittle, Harold Liner, and Nina Gunter. She is survived by her husband, Arthur E. Kelly, former superintendent of the South Carolina District; one daughter, Marie Butler; four sons, Dale, Gene, Paul and Jerry; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and one sister.

KENNETH A. KLEMME, 69, died Nov. 28 in Oklahoma City, Okla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Jim Womak and Rev. Doug Bancroft. Interment was at the Waterford cemetery. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; one son, Kenny, and one daughter, Kari.
REV. MASON LEE, 86, died Feb. 23 in Huntington, W.Va. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. L. L. Cartmill, Dr. John May, Eastern Kentucky district superintendent, and Revs. Allen Woolery and R. L. Salee. Surviving are his wife, Emma Rose; one son, Verlin W.; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and one brother.

VERA E. MANN, 73, died March 5 in Bluffton, Ind. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Bruce T. Taylor and Rev. Daniel S. McNutt. Survivors include his wife, Emma Rose; one son, Verlin W.; four grandchildren; two sisters; and one brother.

GERTRUDE (BRANHAM) SHIELDS died Dec. 20 in Nashville. A memorial service was conducted in Nashville by Revs. Millard Reed, Lee Woolery, and District Superintendent Tal-madge Johnson. Interment was in Albany, Ky., conducted by District Superintendent Aleck Ulmet and Revs. Daryl Hodge, Lee Woolery, and Oren Threlkild. Surviving are her husband, Paul; one son, Ronnie; a daughter, Rebecca Gamble; two grandchildren; her parents; one sister; and one brother.

JOHN SHORE, 86, died Feb. 4 in Johnson, Kans. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Herbert Merritt. Survivors include his wife, Ione (Herrick); 3 sons, Eugene, Glen, and Harold; 1 daughter, Carolyn Unruh; and 13 grandchildren.

MRS. GRACE LENORE MURPHY, 95, died March 27 in Pasadena, Calif. Interment was in Mount Moriah, Kansas City, with Rev. Richard Neiderhiser officiating. She was survived by a daughter, Mrs. George (Trudy) Cargill; four grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

MRS. GRACE LENORE MURPHY, 95, died March 27 in Pasadena, Calif. Interment was in Mount Moriah, Kansas City, with Rev. Richard Neiderhiser officiating. She was survived by a daughter, Mrs. George (Trudy) Cargill; four grandchildren; and one great-grandson.

BIRTHS

Michael and Kelly (Ketchum) Bell, Eugene, Ore., a boy, Andrew Calvin Eugene, Feb. 22

Mark and Sally (Swain) Carver, San Dimas, Calif., a boy, Robert Benjamin, March 25

Tom and Sharon Cook Wheatridge, Columbus, a girl, Casey Rochelle, March 12

Jim and Brenda Crowley, Seaside, Ore., a boy, Michael Aaron, Feb. 18

Rev. Robert and Terri (Donahay) Dood, Zenia, Ohio, a girl, Heather Michelle, March 4

Ivy Lytle and Barbara (Reed) Doverspike, Polk Pa., a boy, Share Hunter, March 3

Patrick and Connie (Cox) Doyle, Kansas City, Mo., a boy, Kyle Reed, March 4

"Showers of Blessing"

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

May 10
Thinking About God
by W. E. McCumber, speaker

May 17
God's Amazing Love

CHRISTIANITY TODAY

NEWS OF RELIGION

CHURCHES ASSISTED IN REACHING SECULARISTS. Pastors, evangelists, and other Christian workers in the Western world are aware that a growing number of people are secularists, according to Dr. Leighton Ford. "It is ironic that, at a time when the Christian gospel is making dramatic advances in Africa, Latin America, Korea, and other areas of the Third World, churches in Europe, North America, Australia, and other industrialized countries are confronted with a pervasive secularism," said the chairman of the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization.

Ford was commenting on the release this month of a strategy document, "Christian Witness to Secularized People." It is one of the reports that emerged from the Consultation of World Evangelism held last year in Thailand. The report on reaching secularists defines a secularist as someone who lives without an awareness of or reference to God.

CHURCH STUDY SAYS TM REALLY HINDU. A Lutheran World Federation-Sponsored study group in India says it has strong evidence that the position of the transcendental meditation (TM) movement that it is not a religion is a deliberate falsehood designed to give TM entrance into public institutions in the West. A western TM disciple is quoted by Onlooker, a magazine published in Delhi, India, as saying "the entire purpose of the recent inauguration of full-scale work by TM in India is to "push back the demon of Christianity."

The study group reports that TM programs conducted in India include Hindu rites, with Indian staff seen worshiping in connection with fire, a phallic symbol, and a picture of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. The study group, composed of about 20 American, European, and Indian members, included some noted Christian students of neo-Hindu movements.

NEW WEEKLY NEWSPAPER LAUNCHED. The nation's largest denominational weekly newspaper launched a parallel interdenomina­tional weekly newspaper called the National Christian Reporter. "The first purpose of the new publication is to provide readers with a credible source of religious news," said Rev. Spurgeon M. Dunnam III, editor of the Texas Methodist/United Methodist Reporter. "A second purpose is to provide an ongoing forum for the responsible exchange of opinions among Christians."

Editorially, "we will seek to apply biblical truth and Christian principles to contemporary issues," Mr. Dunnam said. "Our whole point of view usually will fall somewhere between that offered by the Christian Century and Christianity Today, but in a newspaper format."

SCRIPTURE TRANSLATIONS REACH NEW PEAK OF 1,710 LANGUAGES. By the end of 1980, at least one book of the Bible had been published in 1,710 of the world's languages and distinct dialects, according to the American Bible Society. The society's annual language count revealed an increase of 27 languages over the 1979 figure of 1,683, and marks the first time the Bible or part thereof has been published in more than 1,700 languages.

Among the many new translations in which a whole book of the Bible appeared for the first time, eight were added in Latin America, three in Africa, five in Australia, three in the Philippines, and two in Guinea-Bissau. Two complete Bibles were published for the first time: Kimbundu in Angola, and Kinandi in Zaire. There were 24 languages in which complete New Testaments were reported published for the first time. New Testaments were the first Scriptures ever published in the languages of Ezaa, Ikwo, and Izi. All are in Nigeria.
Indianapolis, Ind., a boy, Robert Theodore. March 16.


to JIM AND DANA (HAUSERMAN) KERR, Olathe, Kans., a boy. Chad Allen. March 12.


to ROD AND SUE (ELLEMAN) TRIM, New Carlisle, Ohio, a boy. Seth Ryan. March 17.


to DAVID AND CAROL (ROTH) ROW, Lompoc, Calif., a girl, Jadh Jane. March 11.


to BYRON AND DEBORAH (GENTRY) POTTER, Long Beach, Calif., a boy, Steven John. March 12.


to ROD AND SUE (ELLEMAN) TRIM, New Carlisle, Ohio, a boy. Seth Ryan. March 17.


GENEALOGY

ANNIVERSARIES

REV AND MRS W B. WALKER, residents of Bethany, Okla., since 1965, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on April 2, 1981.

Rev. Walker began his ministry at Childress, Tex. in 1914, at the age of 21. While pastoring at Skedee, Okla., he graduated from Bethany-Phoenix Bible College—now Bethany Nazarene College. He was ordained in 1918 at Bethany, Okla., by General Superintendent R. T. Williams

Other pastors over a 41-year span included: Duncan, Okla.; Texarkana, Tex.; Ashland, Ky.; Haverhill, Mass.; Abilene, Tex.; Dayton, Ohio, First Church; and Ravenna, Ohio.

Rev. Walker was superintendent of the West Texas District for 7 years. He was a full-time evangelist during the last active years for 10 years.

Rev. Walker is the author of 16 books, and many of his articles have appeared in the Herald Holiness and The Preacher's Magazine. The Walkers are members of the Oklahoma City Western Oaks Church.

DIRECTORIES

BOARD OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS

Office, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, Mo. 64131. William M. Greathouse, Chairman; Orville W. Jenkins, Vice-Chairman; Gerald D. Johnson, Secretary. V. H. Lewis, Eugene L. Stowe, Charles H. Strickland.

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS EMERITUS:


The New Bible Commentary says, "These verses seem broadly based on the history of Israel from Egypt onward." Could it be the history of the United States as well?

The passage does not refer to U.S. history, but the principle of divine retribution upon a wicked nation certainly applies to the U.S. Does the Church of the Nazarene have an official position on swimming? If so, what is it, and what scripture is used to back it up?

The official position taken by our church on swimming is a brief paragraph in the Manual, adopted by the 1980 General Assembly: "Recognizing the increasing trend toward immodesty of dress in public places of recreation such as beaches and swimming places, we remind our people of our traditional concept of modesty that becometh holiness and urge that Christian judgment be exercised in the matter of swimming or sunbathing in public places."

The statement seems a little vague to me. I understand it to place upon the individual Christian the responsibility of determining what is "modest" in relation to public swimming. No Scripture references are given with the resolution that was adopted.

If the sinful nature is destroyed in us, how are we able to sin again?

In the same way that Adam sinned, by disobeying a clear command from God, preferring our wills to the will of God, Temptation and sin do not have to arise from within us, as the record of the first transgression clearly shows.

What version is used in the Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church in the translation of the Psalms? Please note v. 8 of Psalm 37: "Leave off from wrath, and let go displeasure: ..."

Do you think our displeasure can become so strong that it may lead to hate or even anger? I find that I have to watch my attitudes toward others, and keep myself in perfect love.

The Book of Common Prayer uses the Great Bible of 1539 as its underlying text for the Psalms. Yes, I believe strong displeasure, if carried too long, can produce anger and hatred. The passage, in context, is a warning against "fretting" over the prosperity of the wicked, which is part of the injustice of our world. If we dwell too long on this injustice it may cause us to hate the wicked or to join in their wickedness. It is better to leave them to God and keep our hearts filled with love.
Kansas City First Church celebrated its 70th anniversary on Sunday, March 15, 1981. An archives display on "The First 70 Years" was prepared for the occasion. The display included correspondence dated March, 1911, from P. F. Bresee and H. F. Reynolds which related to the founding of Kansas City First Church. The display also included the 1911 Manual of Rev. A. S. Cochran, the founding pastor.

From the original group of 26 charter members, First Church has grown to its current membership of 750. During the last three decades, First Church has also helped to spawn more than a score of other Nazarene churches in the metropolitan area. Kansas City First Church has the distinction of having hosted three general assemblies in its church buildings. The congregation has also moved seven times during the 70 years since 1911.

Their present facilities were constructed at a cost of $2,340,852. The building, which was dedicated June 15, 1980, is located on a 12-acre plot in south Kansas City. Rev. Gordon Wettman has pastored K.C. First Church since October, 1978.

The Bartow, Fla., church broke ground for their new sanctuary March 1, 1981. Participating in the ceremony were Fred Cassick, district Advisory Board; Pastor Wayne E. Weeks; Mr. J. C. Sullivan, representing the church of yesterday; Mr. Dale Warren, representing the church of today; and Melissa Carter, representing the church of tomorrow.

Pastor Jimmy Morris (L) of the Hattiesburg, Miss., church is shown presenting Mr. W. E. Lum a plaque for faithful service as a layman for over 49 years.

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MEMO
to church board members:

It is a common practice today for most businesses and most churches to provide hospitalization insurance for employees and their families. By following the proper guidelines, not only can your church provide your minister and staff with valuable employee benefits, but it can also save them tax dollars, too!

The IRS indicates that if the employer pays the premium for all health insurance for the employee, the premium is not treated as taxable income. On the other hand, if a church board gives the pastor or staff member the premium each month and tells him to purchase his own insurance, the very fact that the money passes through his hands makes it income (even if it is for health insurance purposes). There would be an income tax liability on such money.

Proper handling of this employee benefit is to the advantage of both church, minister, and staff.

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**DR. NORMAN OKE RETIRES**

Dr. Norman R. Oke, noted Nazarene pastor, district superintendent, author, and educator, was honored upon his retirement at a special breakfast held for him April 2 at the Nazarene Theological Seminary in Kansas City. Tributes were given by J. Fred Parker, M. A. "Bud" Lunn, Bill Sullivan, Richard Spindle, and B. Edgar Johnson. Dr. Oke was on the site committee for Nazarene Bible College and subsequently served as its first academic dean (1967-1974) and as professor of theology for 14 years. His retirement at the end of February marked nearly 40 years of service to the denomination in a broad spectrum of ministries.

In tributes given by his colleagues, he was praised for the "balance and perspective" he has brought to every assignment. Seminary President Dr. Terrell Sanders also offered his commendation and appreciation for Dr. Norman Oke's ministry.

Dr. Oke pastored churches in North Powder, Ore.; Portland, Ore.; Mount Scott; Everett, Wash.; Toronto First; and Washington, D.C., First. He also served as superintendent of the Manitoba-Saskatchewan District. Dr. Oke served at Nazarene headquarters in Kansas City for 18 years in a variety of capacities: as director of Christian Service Training, editor of the Preacher's Magazine, book editor, and chairman of the Book Committee.

Dr. Norman Oke was honored at the monthly meeting of the Nazarene Theological Seminary Breakfast Club. He is the last of the original professors of Nazarene Bible College to retire. Dr. Kenneth Grider was coordinator of the event.

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**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC REPORTS GROWTH**

Dr. Jerald Johnson, general superintendent, recently returned from the Caribbean, where he reports the Church of the Nazarene continues to witness steady, healthy growth. As an indication of the strength of the Nazarene work in that area, he cited the phenomenal growth of the church in the Dominican Republic.

After just five and a half years in that island nation, we have 51 organized congregations, 35 church buildings, 1,240 members, 6 ordained elders, and 39 licensed ministers, only 4 of whom receive subsidies. In the recent district assembly, they reported 799 new Nazarenes, with a net increase of 733 full members. Rev. Marcus Hatchett is the newly elected national district superintendent. Mission directors are Rev. and Mrs. Louie Bustle, who have served in the Dominican Republic since the beginning of the work there.

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**ALABASTER FUNDS HELP GROWING U.S. CAPE VERDIAN CHURCH**

Dr. Raymond W. Hurn, director of Church Extension Ministries, represented the general church Saturday night, April 4, at a Cape Verdian banquet in Boston, when he presented $20,000 in matching funds for a new Cape Verdian church in Rumford, Mass. Rev. Jorge de Barros, speaker for the Portuguese radio broadcast, was the featured speaker.

Immigration of Cape Verdians to the United States has been extensive in recent years. Successful Nazarene mission work in Cape Verde makes this a responsive people to Nazarene outreach in the United States.

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**PASADENA NAZARENES APPEAR ON TELETHON**

Pastor Earl Lee and the Sanctuary Choir of Pasadena, Calif., First Church were featured on the Easter Seals Telethon on Sunday, March 29.

Christian entertainer Pat Boone interviewed Pastor Lee and introduced the choir, who sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and other selections. Pastor Lee was able to speak briefly. The telethon was broadcast nationally on NBC.

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**ETHNIC MINORITY CHURCHES DOUBLE**

The number of Nazarene ethnic minority churches in the United States exactly doubled in the 10-year period from 1970 to 1980. In 1970, Nazarene reports indicate 161 church-
Don't despair so of your children,
   God will bring them to the fold—
Because He died to save them,
   They're special to the Lord.
He knows how much you love them,
   He loves them even more.
As long as you hold on in prayer,
   He'll not close the door.
Even now He sees your tears,
   And He whispers tenderly,
Of Love that conquered all—
   That all men might be free.

So lay them at His altar,
   Let go and leave them there—
God will be faithful to your trust,
   He won't withhold His care.
His hand will ever nurture,
   No matter where they roam—
And He won't be satisfied
   'Til He sees them safely home!

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