"The Mighty One, God, the Lord, has spoken, and summoned the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting" (Psalm 50:1, NASB).
THE INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE

With the price of gold continuing to climb to record highs, South Africa’s mining industry is booming. More than 100,000 Africans from Zambia, Malawi, Rhodesia, Mozambique, and of course from the Republic of South Africa work in the mines. The language barrier is very real, for within each country there are a number of tribes and each has its own dialect. All this adds up to a modern Babel with more than 20 different languages being spoken by the miners. The Chamber of Mines has come up with an ingenious solution to this problem. Before he goes to work, each miner is taught a basic “mine language” consisting of a few words which make it possible for him to communicate with his fellow workers. All nationalities have a common bond in this new language.

There is a parallel principle which operates in the spiritual world. I saw it beautifully illustrated in a recent assembly on one of our American Latin districts. An outstanding achievement award was presented to one of the churches which had seen unusual growth during the year. Interestingly, the pastor was an “Anglo” who spoke no Spanish! Some of his people were bilingual, but some of them spoke no English. How had they been able to surmount the language barrier? One of the delegates gave the answer. She spoke out spontaneously when her pastor received the award and told how much the congregation loved its minister. Then she added, “And we know that he loves us. Although we speak different languages, we can understand love!”

Yes, love is the international language. The love of Christ has breached all barriers—national, cultural, and language. On every continent Christians can testify,

Just as I am, Thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down.

And Christian love brings God’s children together regardless of race, color, or dialect. In just a few months our great international Nazarene family will be gathering for another General Assembly. In spite of the fact that everyone will not hear everything in his own language, there will be a common bond which will bring us together. Thousands will testify:

We are one in the bond of love;
We are one in the bond of love.
We have joined our spirits with the Spirit of God,
We are one in the bond of love.*

Yes, love is truly the international language. While men may not understand our theological language, they understand love. The cup of cold water given in Jesus’ name—the healing ministry of a dedicated doctor in a Nazarene hospital—food from the “Hunger Fund” dispensed to those in famine-stricken countries—all this speaks eloquently in this international language. May God help us to communicate His love everywhere by every means.

* “The Bond of Love,” by Otis Skillings. © 1971 by Lillenas Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

by General Superintendent Eugene L. Stowe
Today's world is uptight. Nerves are shattered. Divorces increase. The generation gap stretches wider. Disenchantment creeps across the soul. Hearts are empty. Where the solitude? How the serenity?

To find the calm in God, here are nine exercises for the spirit.

SLOW DOWN: The rest of the world can hurry all it wants to, but you are going to slow down. You do not have to tailor your life-style after those in the rat race. You can slow down. You really can. You can walk slower. You can talk less. You can think more precisely.

SEARCH WITHIN: There is so much accent on the outside of everything. We are preoccupied with making our faces look beautiful, having the right sheen to our hair, losing the pounds of ugly fat, trimming down at the salon, and so on and on it goes. What about the spirit? The soul? The invisible part of us—the heart, the personality? Give at least equal time to take care of the "within."

SIMPLIFY LIVING: We make life so complicated. Even with all our gadgets, life seems to get more complex with each day. People become increasingly uptight the more we own leisure-producing gimmicks. But you can simplify life if you want to. Slice off the "chucks of junk" and stand on the basics alone. Let the sweet air of simplicity waft by.

SEE JESUS: When riding in the bus, see Jesus in the aisle. When driving up the interstate, look for Jesus in the car that is passing you. When at work, catch sight of Jesus standing alongside the typewriter. See Jesus in the classroom, at the barbershop, checking out at the grocery counter. See Jesus in the faces that you meet, even seated at your own dining room table along with the rest of the family.

SEND OUT POSITIVES: One of the terms of recent year is "vibrations." We are said to send out "vibes." The Bible speaks of "trying the spirits." There are spirits from the demonic and spirits from God. And each person is under the influence of one or the other. Be certain that your human spirit is controlled by the Holy Spirit; then you will radiate His positive nature. Others will pick up your optimism in your faith, your peace.

SENSE ETERNITY: So much attention is given to the earthly, the temporary. The news broadcasts particularly groove our thoughts into this pattern. We hear about this political move or that social happening. And our minds are constantly absorbed with the visible. Don't forget God and the angels; and Jesus, your Mediator; and the indwelling Holy Spirit. Don't forget the glow of light from heaven that surrounds you as a disciple. Be ever mindful of the eternal that is right next to your very breathing.

SEE THE LIGHT: There are those who always see the horrible. You can determine to see the heavenly. Others are always looking at the darkness. You can catch the light. Refuse to play in the shadows; sight the bright matchsticks of God and gravitate into their radiance.

SOFTEN UP: The world is hard, crusty, brittle in many places. People are too often out to stomp on one another, and the cutthroat philosophy is too prominent. But in your own world-within-the-world you can soften. You can be a gentle influence, filled with kindness and understanding.

SETTLE THE DUST: There are those who seem to delight in stirring up trouble. They are the happiest (so it seems) when a storm is brewing. Do not be like that. Be a steady, leveling agent. Settle the dust. Allow the peace of God to flow through your thoughts and manners and facial expressions, even when it is somewhat difficult.

By putting into practice these nine spiritual exercises, you will experience the Savior's peace.
I WAS EXTREMELY tired when I stopped at the tube station and faced the woman behind the cage marked “Information.”

“Please,” I said, addressing the plump woman in the cage, “could you tell me how to get to Piccadilly Circus?”

Without lifting her eyes from the novel she was reading, she replied with a jumble of incoherence I could not understand. The sounds bubbling up from the caverns of her body reminded me of the sounds produced by an old-fashioned sausage grinder on grandfather’s farm.

I tried again. “Please, I want to get to Piccadilly—”

Again she rolled out the same incomprehensible polysyllables, and the deep frown on her face assured me she would be insulted if I inquired again. But fortunately a gentleman saw my problem and offered help. He showed me how to get a tube ticket by dropping coins in the proper slot. Then he escorted me to the lift, descended with me to the proper level, and pointed to the train I should board. And all of this was done with a smile!

Receiving unintelligible directions is a common experience. Every traveler learns that when he hears “you can’t miss it,” that is precisely what he will do. The basic problem is that we assume everyone knows all we know—and we act accordingly. And most unfortunately, many who are seeking the way of salvation are often confused by eager directors who do not speak plainly enough to be understood by nonchurchgoers.

When one interested woman found herself on a church pew for the first time, she had no idea what was happening. During a period when the leader asked for witnesses and testimonies she thought she must be in some kind of court, for in her mind “wit­nesses” and “testimonies” were legal terms!

Christian nations are filled with people who are totally unfamiliar with religious terminology. To Joe Doaks a feast is a table loaded with edibles, not a session at church where one is inspired by a mission­ary. Likewise, to millions the word Jesus is merely a swear word. It does not flash before their eyes the
The art of effective witnessing through plain speech is an art all of us should study. Jesus was the master at this; and He led the way.

If you will study His sermons and interviews you will find that He reached people through words and ideas that they understood. As He spoke to His disciples by Galilee He referred to fish; on the roof of the house with the breeze tugging at His gown, He spoke to Nicodemus about the source of wind; and when He spoke to a group out in the fields He talked about seed. Moreover, He spoke in very simple terms and knew how to get the interest of a prospect at once. As He rested on the edge of a well, He asked the Samaritan woman for a drink; and then after He had slaked His thirst, He remarked: "Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again..." Nothing could have been plainer or more simple than that. Many of us might have considered it beneath our dignity to have made such a remark. But as the result of those simple words a revival was kindled and many found the abundant life.

Would-be writers seem convinced that they should be difficult. They scorn the simple declarative sentence and the short Anglo-Saxon words. Instead, they produce long, complicated sentences filled with Latin derivatives. And as a result the only thing they receive for their labor is a printed rejection slip. The speakers and writers and leaders who last are the ones who know how to make difficult things plain.

Few preachers have been more effective than Dr. Alexander Maclaren of Manchester. His scholarship and evangelistic zeal drew large congregations. When an agnostic started to attend, Dr. Maclaren prepared a series of sermons which he hoped would remove the man's doubts. And then toward the end of the series the agnostic marched forward and took a public stand for Christ.

"Which one of my sermons won you?" asked Maclaren, eagerly.

"Oh, it wasn't any of your sermons at all," replied the man. "It all happened when a lady dropped her umbrella on the church steps. As I picked it up for her, she said: 'Have you learned to know my Jesus? He means everything to me!' The look of joy on her face convinced me."

But perhaps the most subtle mistake many of us make is that of confusing the prospect by leading him beyond his depth. We outline John 3:16 for him and then about the time he understands this, we take him down the "Romans road"; and then we make a detour into 1 John. The seasoned Christian understands all of this. He knows that the various analogies describe the one single way. But the poor inquirer who may not know the difference between the Gospels and the Epistles is only confused.

Being in a hurry to reach my next appointment, I asked my host to draw a map to show me the way. I followed him carefully as he told me just what to do. But just as I was about to understand, his wife spoke up. "That's all wrong," she said. "This is the way." I then concentrated on her system, and it did seem a little easier. But this wasn't the end, for just as I was about to leave a daughter came in and announced that both her mother and father were wrong, that there was a much better way.

Thoroughly confused, I stopped at a filling station and followed the directions given by the attendant.

The basic way of salvation is a plain way. Isaiah declared that it would be so plain "the wayfaring men, though fools, shall not err therein" (Isaiah 35:8). Those who know how to make it plain are following in the steps of Peter, Paul, and Jesus!
IN SOME segments of the church today it is vogue to “put down” promotion. Jokingly, reference is made to “hotdogs and hoopla.” That’s okay, I suppose. Some very exotic things have happened in the name of promotion. Some have gone to extremes in manipulation and noisemaking. However, a note of warning needs to be sounded that the other extreme (total nonpromotion) is just as destructive—maybe more so! Let’s not overreact and let slip from us the enthusiasm and motivation to reach new people through our Sunday schools!

The following are five reasons why I believe in Sunday school promotion:

1. IT WORKS!
The very history of our great Nazarene Sunday schools confirms the fact that promotion works. (This is not the only reason nor the best reason to do it, but it is one reason.) Promotion reminds and encourages us to reach out beyond our present status to enlist, enroll and witness to people who need Bible study. If we refuse to promote and reach out, we tend to settle into various programs of “institutional maintenance” which too soon become counterproductive.

Committed workers in the church will promote something. Because Sunday school has proven effective in outreach and Bible study, it is worthy of being promoted without apology or hesitance.

2. IT IS BIBLICAL!
Ideas and attitudes and patterns of behavior are promoted throughout the Holy Scriptures. In some cases, they are promoted with a promise incentive.

The Old Testament is full of examples where a way of living is promoted and accompanied with an incentive. Exodus 20:12 (NIV) says, “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.” Deuteronomy 8:1 says, “Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land that the Lord your God is giving you.” “Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full” (Luke 14:23, NIV).

Scripture does not foster manipulation but it does support promotion! Worthy promotion is not immoral, unethical, or in opposition to the Bible.

3. IT IS FOR OUR BENEFIT
God is sufficient! Promotion is not necessarily anything that He needs. It is not that He lacks the power to cause growth and build the Kingdom.

We need it! It is for our benefit that we promote! He has chosen to extend the Kingdom through our efforts and we seem to need to be spurred on periodically through promotional efforts. “A little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to rest—and poverty will come on you like a bandit and scarcity like a beggar” (Proverbs 6:10-11, NIV, mar.). Without promotional reminders that people are our business, there is a tendency for us to be lulled to sleep or to rest on our past accomplishments, even in the Sunday school.

Just as God may not “need” organization or songs or sermons or Sunday school lessons, but they are for our benefit, so promotion is also for our benefit.

4. IT IS AN EXPRESSION OF OUR COMMITMENT!
The purest motive for promoting the work of the Sunday school is a sheer love of God—not because a prize is offered. Motives of manipulation are never proper. Extreme funmaking and frolicking over gadgets, gimmicks, and gaudy goals may be improper.

The Scripture seems to allow for (and at times encourage) goal setting and numbers and incentives. We are enabled to find many ways to express our love for God. In reaching out to enlist new Sunday school members, we may express our love for God. In enthusiastically sharing our witness, we express love. In telling people about our wonderful church, we express love.

Dr. Lyle Schaller has said, “Congregational growth occurs when friends and relatives are enthusiastic about their faith, for 60–90 percent of new members come in through this route. Visitors become members when people articulate and share their faith within
by RICHARD SPINDLE
Kansas City, Missouri

PROMOTION

an institution which really does want to accommodate more people" (Christian Ministry, January, 1979). This is what good promotion is—a desire to accommodate more people in the Sunday school and church, an expression of personal commitment to Christ.

5. IT IS A PREREQUISITE TO OUR TEACHING!

To be able to teach them we must first reach them. When we cease to reach new persons through the Sunday school, we tend to become involved in a program of maintenance. This encourages an ingrown and stale atmosphere. The New Testament commands us to "go" and "make disciples" and be involved in "teaching them" (Matthew 28:19-20, NIV).

A proven method of reaching persons is enlistment and enrollment through the Sunday school. As we promote reaching through the Sunday school, we experience growth. As we experience growth, we assimilate more persons into the Bible study program of the church. As we are involved with more and more persons in our program of Bible study, we are responding to Christ's Great Commission to "go" and "make disciples" and "teach them."

There are many solid, Christian reasons to promote the work of the Lord. I have given only five:

It works.
It is biblical.
It is for our benefit.
It is an expression of our commitment.
It is a prerequisite to our teaching.

There are many solid, Christian ways to promote:

Print (books, magazines, flyers, posters, cards)
Audio (tape cassettes, radio, records, telephone)
Video (overhead projectors, filmstrips, slides, 16-mm., video-cassettes)
Verbal (personal visit, word of mouth)
Organization (grouping, delegating, competing, accounting)

Despite some promotional extremes about which we know or have heard, we must not be deterred from promoting the greatest work in the world: THE WORK OF EXTENDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD THROUGH THE SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Editor's note: Richard Spindle's article serves as a helpful reminder that a denomination-wide Sunday school attendance campaign is scheduled during October. The goal for Rally Day, October 28, is one million in Sunday school attendance. In achieving that attendance, the Church of the Nazarene will score a first! The theme of the October contest is "Going Higher." Work and prayer will make that slogan a reality.

A CHRISTIAN CONCERN ABOUT ALCOHOL

by WILLIAM GOODMAN
Streator, Illinois

ALCOHOL is still the most widely used and misused of all drugs in our society today. As a police officer I saw the results and ruins of the so-called innocent social drink with friends. While drinking alcoholic beverages is even considered "cool" or smart, the pain and agony of the disease—alcoholism—is on the increase. Public drunkenness is a national problem. Alcohol is the basic cause of 88 percent of family disturbances, street scenes, and crime.

Nine and a half million alcoholics affect 36 million relatives and friends in a detrimental way. Six and a half million employed alcoholics cost companies $25 billion a year. As a police officer, I have been called to the home and to the factory to settle a mean, tough situation caused by a person that has had too much alcohol.

On weekends, there aren't enough police investigators or emergency equipment to handle all the auto accidents that drunk drivers cause. Annually 800,000 accidents are caused by drunk drivers; over 28,000 people are killed and 11 million injured.

Alcohol-related problems cost U.S. taxpayers $32 billion a year, and 67 percent of the population in mental hospitals are the result of alcohol. Alcohol is a killer, a home wrecker, a costly problem, and we haven't heard the last of it yet. Youth have watched adults, resulting in 1.1 million child (12- to 17-year-olds) alcoholics.

The use of alcohol is a sin that destroys the body and the soul. Proverbs 23:32 says of alcohol, "It bites like a snake and stings like an adder." Those that partake of a drug such as alcohol, which causes addiction and disease, will not belong to the God that created these bodies for His glory.

You don't have to drink to be sociable. You do have to refuse to drink to serve God and live for Him (1 Corinthians 6:10). Keeping fellowship with God, we keep our bodies as temples and live happily.
A SERIES of miraculous conversions, centered around the Lynn church and its pastor, has rocked the complacency of our little community. It reminds one of a nuclear explosion, which results as a chain reaction, with one exploding atom detonating another. The power of the gospel works in just such a chain reaction, and the resulting explosion can be as awesome as an atomic bomb.

Kenny was a foreman in a local casket factory. He was a young man who loved to drink, carouse, wear fine clothes and expensive jewelry, and drive luxurious automobiles. His marriage was in trouble, and he was spending more and more time with his friends down at the tavern. He came to our church one Sunday morning because his children, who rode our church bus, were performing in a program. When the pastor had preached and opened the altar, as he sometimes does in the morning service, Kenny stumbled to the front of the church and fell across our altar, stricken with conviction. The church gathered in, and that service ended only when Kenny was gloriously converted.

His wife, Jennie, found the Lord soon after and the family joined the church. Kenny's carousing ceased and his love for fine cars was changed into a passion for telling people about the power of the gospel. He witnessed to his family and friends and acquaintances everywhere. He began a prayer service at the factory where he shared his message with the men who worked for him. A few months ago he became master of ceremonies for a Christian talk show which appears on cable television in a neighboring city. He has affected hundreds of lives with his testimony and his prayers for those who call in to discuss their problems with him.

One of the people Kenny witnessed to was Fred, a young butcher whose first marriage had failed, and whose second was in jeopardy. Kenny and Fred had often drunk together and had shared some wild escapades. Sometimes, Fred says, they would pile into a car, so intoxicated they hardly knew where they were going nor how they got there, and often they would end up in a bloody brawl in some strange town miles from home. Kenny told Fred what God had done for him, and Fred found the change in his friend's life startling, troubling, and difficult to understand. Kenny persisted and Fred became increasingly convicted about his life. Desperate to escape, Fred sold his home, packed his family into a van, and headed for Florida. He planned to find a job and permanently relocate there.

In Kentucky he stopped for gasoline. So miserable he could no longer stand it, Fred walked around behind the station and there, alone under the stars, he promised God he would do whatever He wanted him to do. The Lord directed him to return to Lynn. When he arrived there, he went straight to Pastor Hurry's office and asked for help. Our understanding pastor led Fred to the altar of the church and prayed him into the kingdom.

Fred's conversion was every bit as earthshaking as Kenny's. He wanted everyone to experience what he had found, and in the next few weeks he was responsible for the conversion of his wife, Donna; their children; Donna's father, who lives in the southern part of the state; and Donna's mother, who died of a heart attack a week after she was saved.

Fred went to work for a young businessman in our community. Gary was a member of another denomination and had never heard of sanctification as a second definite work of grace. As a result of Fred's compelling description of it, as a result of books and guidance supplied by our pastor, and as a result of
persistent testimony by another young Nazarene friend, Gary came to recognize a serious lack in his life. One Wednesday evening, after services were over, he came to our church expressly to seek this further work of grace. Pastor and people prayed in a mighty prayer service, and God met Gary's need.

The new experience transformed and energized Gary's Christian life. Together he and Fred began a Saturday morning prayer breakfast at a local restaurant. About 40 businessmen, farmers, workers, and professional people from several different denominations gather there to pray and witness and encourage one another. The attendance is still growing.

Fred and Gary also began to witness to Mike. Mike's mother is a lifelong Nazarene, but Mike, who is 37 years old, had not been to church since he was a teenager. He was one of Fred's and Kenny's former drinking companions, and he was regularly under the influence of alcohol. He used hard drugs extensively and was known throughout the community as a rough and worldly man. Fred and Gary did not let that bother them. They saw to it that Mike heard the gospel story regularly, and the power of it began to make an impression. Mike finally came to church, but although our people prayed for him through the service, he seemed unmoved by the message. However, his wife, Gloria, requested prayer and then went home and gave her life to the Lord. She came back to church shortly to testify that she had been born again. In a few days Mike's resistance crumbled. He sought out his friends, confessed his need, and together they came to Pastor Hurry seeking help. At the altar of our church, God wonderfully saved Mike.

Mike's business is logging. He buys trees from local farmers and landowners, saws them up, and sells the lumber all over the country and abroad. Mike makes a good living at it but he was taught his business, as he says, by a thief, and he had been cheating and stealing from people all of his business life. Now, as a Christian, his problem was to make amends. He has gone at it resolutely, and so far has repaid thousands of dollars in restitution for his thievery. Recently he went to one acquaintance and offered him a check for $8,000. Mike and a friend had broken into and rifled the man's house, taking goods and appliances valued at that amount. He was certain he would be jailed for his crime, but after hearing his confession the man and his wife forgave Mike, hugged him, and with tears in their eyes they told him he was welcome in their home anytime.

Gloria and Mike have joined us in worship, and our congregation was recently thrilled as this beautiful young woman stood in one of our services, with tears streaming down her face, thanking and praising God for the wonderful transformation He has wrought in her and Mike's lives.

Now Mike has a young man who works for him. Winton was, as Mike says, 'rough as a cob.' But last week Winton was saved and became a "new creature in Christ Jesus." And so it goes. The chain reaction of the gospel continues to explode in Lynn, Ind. □

**PEN POINTS**

**THE RHYTHM OF PRAYER**

The natural world has some inviolable rhythms that sustain its constant integrity. Likewise the spiritual world has some vital rhythms in true prayer. Analyzing the need in the light of the Word; asking God's intervention; listening for God's explanation or advice; commitment to the will of God revealed; these are rhythms of prayer.

The latter rhythm, commitment, is never completed by saying "Your will" but in practicing His will. Obedience to the insights gained in the contemplative side of prayer is the true "amen" of prayer. We say the "amen," not in church, but in living.

For me that is the only possible way to fulfill the command of 1 Thessalonians 5:17, "Pray without ceasing." This was beautifully illustrated in the life of Brother Lawrence, who felt that he was as much in the presence of God among his pots and pans in the monastery kitchen as at the Blessed Sacrament.

Lord, help me to put a double "amen" to all my prayers; one in the church, else the people won't know when to say "amen" themselves. But help me to continue my prayer into daily life, and place there the "mane" of obedience as I walk in the light.

—NEIL E. HIGHTOWER
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

AUGUST 1, 1979
God Made the Tree

When God implanted seed in that fair Eden,
    In that first garden, fresh with early dew,
He knew, while tending to the virgin seeding
    About the future cross and shame. He knew
That some day cruel men would build and fashion
    A means of death where He would have to die;
A crude crosspiece where He, in holy passion,
    Would be suspended that dark day on high.
All things were made by Him, even the spiking;
    Thorns that formed the crown, the spears and palms.
He knew His deeds would not be to men's liking,
    And prophesied of those things in the psalms.
When God the Son came to the earth in pleading,
    And suffered from false witnesses and blame,
He knew it well at that first forest seeding.
    But planted trees in Eden just the same.

—EDNA MOORE SCHULTZ
Depew, New York

the devil’s “if”

by J. V. WILBANKS
St. Maries, Idaho

JESUS completed 40 days and nights of fasting, and then became very hungry. At that moment the devil approached him (Matthew 4:1-4). In all probability the tempter came to Jesus under the guise of a person seeking truth, as did the rich young ruler of Mark 10:17. The idea that Diabolos (the Greek word from which we get our English devil) appeared with hoofs, horns, and a forked tail is absurd. The devil is smarter than that!

“And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread” (Matthew 4:3).

The Greek passage has the double if. Literally it reads: “If a son if of the God.”

What’s this? The Son of God, himself, tempted to doubt His own identity!

That’s not strange in the light of the devil’s past performances. Once he attempted to make God doubt the integrity of Job (Job 1:11). The temptation to doubt commences with an if. The place of combat begins there.

There are some very vital issues involved in this particular passage of scripture for us Christians.

1. The believer will be tempted to doubt his status as a child of God just as Jesus was tempted to doubt His Sonship. The combat of faith will usually begin with the devil’s if.

   To the neophyte in the Christian faith the first dart is something like this: “Now, if you are really a Christian, where is the hilarity and joy that you experienced when you first thought you became a Christian?”

   Then the battle is on.

   To those a little more mature in the “household of faith,” the temptation to doubt one’s spiritual estate may commence something like this: “If you are the Christian you claim to be, why did you have those feelings of resentment against such and such persons?” (And here the word “resentment” will be used arbitrarily by the tempter, thus erasing any distinction between temptation and sin).

   Or to a young man or woman in vigorous health, the same technique of confusion may be employed regarding sexual thoughts to make them doubt their Christian experience: “If your heart were pure you could not entertain such thoughts, etc.” And here again the fog of confusion will usually gather around
the term “entertain.” Was the thought entertained, or was it merely presented to the mind? It would be well to remember John Wesley’s observation that we cannot keep the birds from flying over our heads, but we can keep them from making nests in our hair.

Even to the veterans of spiritual combat the fight takes place in the land of if. Strenuous difficulties will arise. The man of mature faith may walk through the dry desert of debt and financial reverses; through the dark valleys of sickness and bereavement; along the difficult path that leads through conjugal unfaithfulness and divorce. The burdens of grief and loneliness will weigh heavily upon him. Such a man is also beset with the devil’s if: “If you were in the will of God, then your tearful prayers would be heard, and God would deliver you from the crushing burden of loneliness, etc.”

2. The thrust of the devil’s if creates the cold fogs of doubt and confusion. Such a climate is demonic and not of God, for He “is not the author of confusion but of peace” (1 Corinthians 14:33). That should tell us something. God never confuses. He may convict, and often does, but He never confuses.

3. The if of doubt and darkness is employed by Satan usually at a time of physical weakness. Christ had just fasted for 40 days and nights. He was greatly weakened by hunger. The temptation to turn those beautiful brown stones (already resembling delicious loaves of bread) into something to eat was very acute. It has always been a strategy of warfare to hit the enemy at the weakest point. The ifs of the tempting one are especially sharp and penetrating when we are physically low or ill.

4. The defence against this little, but great, word of doubt is of supreme importance. The attack of the devil is executed with extreme adroitness and skill. Successful counterattack requires two essentials:

First, to be endued with the power of the Spirit is an absolute necessity. It was only after the Spirit of God had alighted upon Jesus that He was led up by the same Spirit to be tempted by the devil. If it was necessary for the Son of God “to be endued with power from on high” the same experience is indispensable to us (see Acts 1:8).

Secondly, we need to be conversant with some passages of Holy Scripture. The only effective weapon of offence that the Christian has against Diabolos or his imps (Ephesians 6:12) is the Word of God. It is the two-edged Sword of the Spirit. Jesus used it with great dexterity and effectiveness. So may we.

But if I am to be armed with truth to meet the demands of daily Christian living, then I must give the Spirit time and place in my life so that I may be led into the truths of God. In short, I must have regular devotional periods in Bible reading and prayer. It is difficult for even the Spirit of God to work anything substantially good into my soul in a mere five minutes of superficial Bible reading. It is doubly difficult if that five minutes is preceded by a two-hour TV movie, or secular literature that has already exhausted me emotionally and spiritually. Yet, sad to say, there are millions of Christians today who are attempting to successfully meet the devil’s ifs with that kind of devotional routine. It can’t be done.

Victory is being won, however, by millions of other Christians who are properly giving themselves to the disciplines of the Christian faith.

Are you ready for the devil’s ifs today?

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**Book Briefs**

Reviewed by  
WIL M. SPAITE  
Fresno, California

**EASY TO LIVE WITH**

One of the highest tributes given by a wife to her husband, “He is not only a Christian leader . . . at home he is easy to live with.”

We have all observed Christians whose influence is minimized by the evaluation . . . “but he sure would be hard to live with.”

Les Parrott’s book reminds us that the real test of our religion is what we are at home. This book will help you in the key relationship of your life.

Is it OK to enjoy reading a book? My wife and I enjoyed reading this one. Even when the words identify areas of weakness, the reader is encouraged that he or she can change.

This author makes sense! The practical simplicity of the book is attractive. Each age-group in the home will receive fresh insights.


The writer not only projects thoughts from his own personal family experiences, but he bases his points solidly on the Scriptures and the work of the Holy Spirit.

It’s the kind of a book you will want to read . . . and reread.

by Leslie Parrott  
Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City  
To order, see page 23.
Where holy living is concerned, obedience is the name of the game. It is time for all of us, as Christians, to dismiss from our minds any notion that we are to spread our spiritual wings and fly off into a spiritual “never-never land.” The plain truth is that spiritual strength, holy character, and blessings from God are by-products of obedience to the full will of God. The Bible has only one message: “God’s people are to live in harmony with Him.” There is no level of spiritual bliss where the Christian can be oblivious of life’s struggles, or where he can be blind to God’s call to duty. The message of the Scriptures calls us to live godly lives in the midst of this nitty-gritty, dirty world. This can come to pass only as we “walk in the light” in full obedience to the God who has called us to holiness of heart and life.

The book of Genesis tells us that “Enoch walked with God.” This does not mean that he walked up and down the cow paths or deer trails with God in sentimental ecstasy as they viewed the landscape together. No, it means that he aligned his will and practice with the will of God as he lived in the “workaday world,” doing always that which was right in the sight of God.

In 1 John 1:7, God’s Word tells us that “if we walk in the light . . . the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” The message for us here is that if we walk in, and are obedient to, our knowledge of God’s truth, God will make us clean and keep us clean from all sin. The heart of the message is that just as initial cleansing is based upon our full obedience to the known will of God in complete consecration, so also we are kept clean by maintaining our consecration and continuing to live in subject to God’s will.

Note also that this relationship with God is the farthest thing from legalism; it is a love relationship with all the benefits and joys of obedience out of love. This same scripture (1 John 1:7) tells us that this life of obedience develops “fellowship one with another.” Therefore, it is evident that sweet fellowship with God and harmonious fellowship with our brethren are gracious by-products of “walking in the light.”

This truth of blessing through obedience is not only evident in spiritual relationships but is practical in the human family. As a boy at home I remember well that the greatest blessings and joys of my life came through obedience to my parents; and the hardest knocks, deepest hurts, and saddest memories were caused by my failure to comply with their instructions and judgment.

Holiness, as described in the Manual of the Church of the Nazarene, is “a state of entire devotion to God, and the holy obedience of love made perfect.” This is “walking in the light,” nothing more, and nothing less.

Helps to HOLY Living

THE HOLY CITY

—CHARLES HASTINGS SMITH
Bethany, Oklahoma

“I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband” (Revelation 21:2).
We need improved eyesight!
We are somewhat limited in what we can do with physical eyesight. We can use medication, take eye exams, buy contact lenses or glasses. But when the limit is reached, we have to live with it.

But you are not limited in what you can do with your spiritual eyes. The prophet Elisha prayed for his servant and he saw chariots of fire surrounding the enemy which were unseen to normal vision.

Actually, the things that we see are but a very small fraction of the things that are. The real vital forces at work in our own lives and in the world about us are not seen by the physical eye.

Even in the physical world, we see only a small fraction. To look through the microscope at the minute world around us and to look through the telescope at the vast world beyond us is to stagger the imagination and give us a new awe at the abundant life which God has provided for us.

But saints who never looked through a telescope or microscope have seen with eyes of faith into worlds unknown by the scientist.

Sometimes our spiritual vision is not what it ought to be. Our perception becomes distorted until we do not see things as they really are.

Sometimes doctors prescribe exercises to increase the efficiency of the physical eyes. Maybe we need to engage in some kind of exercise to strengthen our spiritual eyesight. It is so vitally important that we see clearly.

First, we need to see ourselves clearly so that our self-image is undistorted and realistic, for our behavior and attitudes and thoughts will always be consistent with our image of ourselves.

Secondly, we need to see Christ—to see His unfailing redemptive love for us, and the infinite resources provided for our abundant, whole living.

Finally, we need to see clearly a needy world, at home, next door, and across the seas, so that our lives become involved in ministry.

We need to see with the eyes of Christ, who “when he saw the multitude he was filled with compassion.”

**POINT TO PONDER:** Am I unafraid to let God make me truly see my self, my Lord, and my world?

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Becoming a Whole Person

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A rapturous dream cascades down on me.
I see a City where there is no night . . .
It lies on the edge of the glass-smooth sea
Harbored with beryl, topaz, and chrysolite.
The twelve solid gates are of solid pearl
And I see them beyond this earthly mist . . .
Flanked by tall, transparent spires . . . in a world
Of polished gold and dazzling amethyst.
I see a high, jewelèd throne rising up
Where God himself sits, rainbowed and adored,
While seraphs vainly try to fill the cup
From which Redemption’s blood was freely poured.

Ten thousand angels fly, thrice multiplied,
And worship Christ who went to Bethlehem . . .
The One of whom the ages prophesied
Would wear the nails and then the diadem.

I see patriarchs on a jasmined path
And forever gone are their scars of pain . . .
Exiled are all the gods of war and wrath
And the martyrs here did not bleed in vain.
The tree of life breaks forth with rarest blooms
And to its arms the doves in coveys come . . .
While nearby, in each of the mansioned rooms
Sounds the music of His encomium.
I see the purest river in my dream
And on its banks is spread a wedding feast . . .
Where the Bridegroom stands, central and supreme,
Amid celebrants, freed and unpolicied.
The green Elysian fields cannot stand still
But shout their praises to the tideless strands . . .
Loud hosannas rise up from Zion’s hill
And echo off the walls not made with hands.
HE “BRUSH-ARBOR” meeting was to begin that evening. The evangelist went to the local lumberyard to borrow several planks and blocks to serve as an improvised altar and pews for the meeting. The lumber salesman understood pews, but the concept of the altar completely baffled him. “You mean to tell me,” the salesman began, “that folk will come down to the altar and actually pray through it? I’m sorry, Reverend,” he continued in disbelief, “but our lumber just won’t do for the altar. It’s all number-one material.”

Surely none would be so presumptuous as to attempt physically to pray through an altar. There are, however, at least five areas in which one may spiritually pray through at the altar.

The sinner who prays for pardon will find a loving Father with wide-open arms of forgiveness. “Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool” (Isaiah 1:18). Whatever the sins committed, and whatever the length of time one has sinned, there is still hope. God’s Word heralds this hope and freely promises forgiveness if sinners but turn to the Lord in true repentance for their sins and pray through.

Following one’s conversion experience comes the awareness of a deeper soul pollution. God’s Word and human experience testify that this pollution, called carnality and the stony heart in the Bible, can and will be completely removed when the believer earnestly seeks the heart-cleansing of the Spirit. Ezekiel speaks of this cleansing and infilling: “Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them” (36:25-27).

The believer can pray through about carnality. No one need resign to anything short of complete cleansing and victory. When one consecrates his all to God and truly seeks a pure heart, God has promised to cleanse the heart and to empower the life by His Spirit.

Furthermore, the Bible and experience clearly teach there is divine help in matters other than sin. “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light” (Matthew 11:28-30). There is healing for the oppressed soul when one prays through to inner peace, whatever the burden or perplexity.

This does not mean that all one’s wishes will be granted. It does mean that the Lord is interested in every burden and will give us sufficient grace to bear them when we bring them to Him in prayer. Praying through about one’s burdens is not resignation to fate—“what will be will be”—but confidence that God is in charge and will see one through.

James clearly promises the Lord’s concern for the healing of the body. “And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up . . .” (5:15). Healing is not only the result of God’s natural law, but often the result of miraculous, divine intervention. While the whole tenor of Scripture leads one
to seek medical help from qualified physicians when there is need, the Bible also clearly teaches that one should pray for the sick in faith, nothing wavering. To the disciples who were unable to cast a dumb spirit out of a child, Jesus said: “This kind can come forth by nothing but by prayer and fasting” (Mark 9:29). Persistent prayer, or praying through, is imperative if healing is to occur.

A fifth area where praying through is possible is intercession, or prayer on behalf of another. We are encouraged to pray for those who need Christ, and for those undergoing a severe test or bearing a heavy burden. Paul requested the prayers of fellow Christians: “Brethren, pray for us” (2 Thessalonians 3:1). Obviously the apostle knew and experienced the benefits of intercessory prayer.

God’s Word makes no promise that all one’s prayers will be answered in just the way asked; however, there is blessed assurance in the promise: “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (James 5:16). All that is intended or included in the phrase “availeth much” is not spelled out. But we have confidence that “what he had promised, he was able also to perform” (Romans 4:21).

It is not that one must badger God with prayer in order to persuade Him to intervene in the situation of another; but God does some things only in answer to our prayers. Certainly the Lord is infinitely more concerned than anyone. He does, however, want to see just how deep and sincere is the concern of the intercessor.

One is not responsible for the outcome when he has prayed through and resigned things into the hands of the Lord. He trusts that He who “hath done all things well . . .” (Mark 7:37), will act in His own way and time for our good and His glory.

Don’t BELITTLE YOURSELF

by DOROTHY BOONE KIDNEY

A few years ago in one of the southern states I saw an extra large sign in front of a restaurant. The sign stated in bright, bold letters: The World’s Worst Pizza. The restaurant bore no name and there were no other signs in the window or over the door. The restaurant was in a most favorable location near the ocean where tourists emerged from a busy causeway. I predicted that the restaurant with its negative advertising would be out of business within a month.

A year later I was in the area again, and there was the same restaurant, with its disagreeable sign, still doing business, with many cars in its parking lot. In fact, there was even a delivery truck for delivering pizza parked beside the shocking sign which was still declaring publicly that the place was noted for the worst pizza in the world! Even the truck had The World’s Worst Pizza painted on the sides.

Surely the pizza must be good, otherwise, the place would no longer be open and flourishing. In spite of the negative signs, the restaurant was doing well. It still puzzles me why a restaurant selling good food would deliberately advertise falsely and negatively.

And that thought led me to think about people in general, for we are often guilty of selling ourselves short. We deprecate ourselves. If someone compliments us on our appearance, we are likely to exclaim, “How can I possibly be attractive with this big nose—or these crooked teeth—or this mousy hair?” Our negativism even hinders us at times in helping others. “Who me? Teach a Sunday school class! You must be kidding! I never even graduated from high school.” “Who me? Conduct a prayer meeting! I wouldn’t know what to say!”

“Who me? Conduct a prayer meeting! I wouldn’t know what to do!”

“I’m tongue-tied before groups.”

“I’m shy.”

“I’m stupid.”

“I don’t sing that well.”

“That’s out of my line.”

“I’m too old to learn.”

“It’s too late to start again. I’ve tried to live a Christian life but haven’t got what it takes.”

And so the negative answers and attitudes go on and on.

Not me, I sell the world’s worst pizza! But maybe, as in the case of the restaurant which I saw in the south, the pizza is actually very good.

The ability to produce is present—the potential, the spark, the possibility for success. A dynamic flow of power is there but buried under negative attitudes.

The Bible says that God made us in His own image and reminds Christians, “Greater is he [Christ] that is in you, than he [Satan] that is in the world.” And in Luke 1:37 we are told, “For with God nothing shall be impossible.”

Let’s not sell ourselves short and run ourselves down. Let’s avoid belittling our abilities; let’s not diminish our potential for good.

We have been created in God’s image and for His purposes, and we are not, after all, really selling the world’s worst pizza!
The Scripture says, “Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2).

In my apartment a meaningful motto hangs on the wall entitled “Myself Third.” On the motto is pictured an open Bible with a lighted lamp shining on it. The Master said, “Seek ye first the kingdom of God” (Matthew 6:33). The divine order for the true Christian is (1) God first, (2) Others second, (3) Myself third and last.

Many professed followers of Christ think only of self, and are too forgetful of others to reach out a helping hand. But when the lame man at the beautiful gate of the Temple asked alms of those going to church, Peter said, “Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. And he leaping up stood, and walked . . . leaping, and praising God” (Acts 3:1-8).

I once heard Dr. D. I. Vanderpool speaking on these words of Peter. He said, “Some people will never get saved unless we give them a lift.” True Christianity is objective.

Sleet was falling and it was slushy underfoot. People were hurrying homeward, coat collars up. A young black man, carrying a heavy suitcase in one hand and a huge valise in the other, was slipping and sliding as he tried to hurry. Suddenly a kind hand reached out and took one of his big bags and a pleasant voice said, “Let me have that, Brother. In this bad weather it’s hard to carry so much!” He saw his smile and soon they were walking together as friends. Years later, Booker T. Washington said, “That kindly deed was my introduction to Theodore Roosevelt!” Let us be practical and serve Christ by serving needy mankind.

Years ago as Christmas was near, General William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, wanted to send a meaningful message to his officers around the world. He prayed and meditated and the Spirit whispered the word—OTHERS. That one word captures much of the meaning of the Incarnation.

As followers of our Lord and Savior it is not enough to be subjective. The divine command is “Go ye into all the world.” It is true that we all need pardon and purity: our personal regeneration and sanctification is essential. But let us follow through with soul passion to save others. How? By prevailing prayer, personal witnessing, and complete dedication to all the will of God in our outreach for others. Paul describes what we all should be in the words, “sanctified, and made meet for the master’s use, and prepared unto every good work” (2 Timothy 2:21).

Such Christians will:

- Rescue the perishing,
- Care for the dying,
- Snatch them in pity
- From sin and the grave.
- Weep o’er the erring one;
- Lift up the fallen;
- Tell them of Jesus,
- The Mighty to Save.

—FANNY J. CROSBY
The Passage for Study:

3 John

by W. E. McCUMBER, Editor

The last of 3 John's seven designations for Christians is "the friends," which occurs twice in the closing verse.

This beautiful term probably derived from Jesus. He said, "I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you" (John 15:15, RSV). Friendship is a relationship of intimacy and trust, or shared knowledge and love. Friendship of Christian for Christian is based upon this friendship of Jesus for us all.

To review the objects of Jesus' friendship is to stand amazed at the depth and quality of His love.

1. In Matthew 11:19, He is called "a friend of tax collectors and sinners." His enemies called him this in contempt, but His friends in gratitude.

2. In John 11:11, He speaks of "our friend Lazarus," who had just died and whom He would raise.

3. In John 15:15, He calls the disciples "My friends," knowing they will shortly forsake Him during His trial and death.

4. In Matthew 26:50, He addresses Judas as "Friend," even as the betrayer came to identify Him for the arresting mob.

Men enslaved by sin; a man under sentence of death; woefully imperfect disciples; a traitor to His love—these were His friends! He deserved better friends than them, than us!

In the Old Testament one man is called "the friend of God"—Abraham (2 Chronicles 20:7; Isaiah 41:8). In the New Testament all believers are called by this title. Enduring friendship with the Lord, in both eras, is predicated upon obedience. "The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him" (Psalm 25:14, RSV). "You are my friends if you do what I command you" (John 15:14, RSV).

He does not cease to be Lord because He is our Friend.

In 3 John the designation "friends" is associated with greetings. "The friends greet you. Greet the friends, every one of them" (v. 15, RSV).

1. Greetings between friends are expressions of mutual love and interest. Oriental greetings registered concern for the other's whole life and entire family.

2. Greetings are to be given "by name." The interest expressed is personal and intimate. Here the elder reflects the saying of Jesus about the Good Shepherd: "he calls his own sheep by name" (John 10:3, RSV).

3. Greetings are to "every one" of the friends. The whole church is intended, and not a small clique within the church. Each person has some special, enduring friendships, but we are to regard all the followers of Christ as friends, and not divide the churches into groups of mutual admirers.

"The friends." Friends of God and friends to one another. Taught friendship, not by a hating world, but by the loving Christ (Luke 23:12; John 15:13-14). How far does such friendship extend? To the giving of life itself?

Are we friends?

Always Here

Like a big ship out on the horizon,
He was always there . . .
For so long He seemed so far,
But always there . . .

Like a big ship He slowly moved,
Quietly powering His way through
Distorted dark waters.
Always there . . .

Like the dense fog and darkness,
Disbelief and illusion
Made Him hard to see.
But always there . . .

Like a stern anchor seeking,
Jerking, shattering the muck
In its way, His love

Dropped and settled in His territory.
Always there . . .

Like the mist and the night,
Silently, sharply, the
Hurting and solitude vanished.
Always there . . .

Like the night, darkness
Still comes and sometimes
Chilly winds blow, but
Now He's not on the horizon.
He's anchored in harbor,
Here in my heart, and
He will always be here.

—DEBORAH BROWN
Lakeland, Florida

AUGUST 1, 1979
A STRANGE DREAM

I had a strange dream the other night. I dreamed that God suddenly took all professing Christians from the earth.

"Now," He said, "there will be a better chance for peace on earth, good will toward men."

Catholics and Protestants no longer bombed and shot each other in Ireland.

In South Africa, Dutch Reformed politicians no longer jailed and killed dissenting blacks and newsmen who opposed or exposed apartheid.

Left-wing Christians no longer supplied money and arms to terrorist groups through WCC channels.

Right-wing Christians no longer deluged Congress with mail urging larger defense spending and the development of more nuclear weapons.

White churches no longer closed doors against black worshipers.

Liberals, conservatives, and fundamentalists no longer applied labels to one another with zealous scorn.

Holiness people no longer withdrew from everyone and everything except themselves, or even themselves.

State churches and dissenters no longer hurled anathemas at one another.

Jews were no longer persecuted by Christians.

No strident voices were heard anywhere disputing about water baptism, church government, or unknown tongues.

The earth was not suddenly bathed in peace and goodwill. There were still Democrats, Republicans, Socialists, and Greenbackers, and they made a huge racket. There were still Communists who hated the world in the name of Marx, Muslims who hated the world in the name of Allah, and Jews who hated the world in the name of Israel.

No, there wasn't peace. But with quarrelsome Christians gone, chances for peace were better.

Then I woke up, and was glad it was only a bad dream. And then I read the newspaper and two religious journals, and I wondered if it was a bad dream.

THE MEMUCAN PRINCIPLE

A few weeks ago I read the book of Esther for my morning devotions. The incidents described in chapter one intrigued me. King Xerxes gave a huge banquet for his nobles and officials. When he was "in high spirits from wine," he sent for Queen Vashti "in order to display her beauty" to his guests. Vashti, unwilling to be exhibited like a prize pig at a county fair, refused to come. "Then the king became furious and burned with anger."

Xerxes counseled with his seven-man brain trust. "What must be done to Queen Vashti?" read the agenda. Memucan, one of the royal advisers, had a ready answer: Vashti must be dethroned and replaced. Unless her insubordination is severely punished, all the wives in the kingdom will become infected with rebellion. If she is punished, "all the women will respect their husbands, from the least to the greatest." Memucan's logic prevailed, and "the king did as Memucan proposed" (NIV).

The story is a classic instance of male chauvinism. Through the tragi-comic elements in the account, however, an important truth emerges: Rulers and leaders do exert a powerful influence upon their followers' lives. (In this case Vashti's conduct was certainly more laudable than her husband's.)

When rulers are righteous, national character is strong. When rulers are corrupt, the people are encouraged to abandon moral principles. This is true in politics, in business, and in religion.

Distrust of leaders is widespread today. Exposés of their corruption, greed, and lust have angered the public, and that anger has cooled into cynicism.
When rulers are righteous, national character is strong. When rulers are corrupt, the people are encouraged to abandon moral principles.

Moral restraints are forsaken as people decide "if you can't lick 'em, join 'em."

When presidents conspire with gangsters to commit crimes under the guise of national security, is it any wonder that violence should be widely regarded as a strategy for solving problems? When congressmen accept bribes and peddle influence, is it surprising that common citizens falsify tax returns? When white-collar swindles abound, can we not expect laboring classes to lie and steal? When homosexuals and terrorists are ordained to the ministry, can we look for holiness in the lives of church members?

This atmosphere of suspicion and distrust of rulers is not a modern phenomenon only. The sad truth is, history furnishes very few examples of conspicuous moral rectitude among people in power. But the situation has worsened to epidemic proportions in our time. We desperately need leaders in whom the public can believe, men and women of unimpeachable integrity.

Memucan's principle was applied to the wrong person, but the principle itself was valid. A ruler's behavior shapes an entire nation's conduct. The private life of a leader is part of a public trust. "If the blind lead the blind," said Jesus, "both shall fall into the ditch" (Matthew 15:14). And if the corrupt lead the corrupt, both shall fall into hell.

National security demands truth and not deception. Economic security demands integrity and not greed. Religious security demands righteousness and not compromise. As sure as gravity pulls objects to earth, sin brings death to men and nations. Recovery of trust in authority figures who have proven trustworthy is essential to survival.

Scripture enjoins us to pray "for kings and all those in authority" (1 Timothy 2:1-2, NIV). Among other things we need to pray that God will bring them to repentance and recover them from wickedness. Otherwise, their enormous influence for evil will produce the utter ruin of society. Unless our leaders become examples of righteousness, they will become examples of judgment as God visits sin with calamity.

SPECIALIZATION

We live in the age of specialization. I never realized how true that is until recently, when I visited my wife's mother in a hospital. For many days, following emergency surgery, she had a room on the fifth floor. The surgeon turned the case over to another doctor, and mother-in-law had to be transferred to the sixth floor. Her new doctor only worked on the sixth floor!

Imagine yourself in an elevator with two doctors, one a fifth floor doctor, the other a sixth floor doctor. The elevator gets stuck between those floors, and before maintenance men can get it back into operation, you are smitten with a heart attack—or something. Just think, you could die while those specialists tried to figure out whose patient you should be!

With our emphasis on spiritual gifts, we could become over-specialized in the church today. A situation could develop where a troubled soul would seek help in vain from a succession of ministers before he was finally in contact with one whose gift was precisely related to the expressed need. Starving, are you? Well, I'd like to help you, but my gift is not hospitality. It's interpreting tongues.

Specialists are needed. You wouldn't want brain surgery done by a man who never operated beyond removing warts. But a few old-fashioned general practitioners are a great comfort to folks. And a pastor who does routine things like preaching the Bible and visiting the sick will always have a host of people who honor his life and work.

When I was a young, troubled Christian I sought counsel from a "leading" evangelist after service one Tuesday night. He said, "Young man, you need to be sanctified. Will you be here Friday night?" No. I had to work that night. "Too bad," he said, "I'm going to preach on the subject Friday night." And he walked away! He was a real specialist—he only helped folks get sanctified on Friday nights.
Mark A. Hamilton has been selected as an Outstanding Young Man of America for 1979. Mark is a 1974 graduate of Bethany Nazarene College with a B.S. degree in religious education, and a 1976 graduate from Nazarene Theological Seminary with the M.R.E. degree.

Mark is currently entering his fourth year as minister of youth at Dallas Central Church. He is also pursuing a graduate degree in the field of Educational Media and Technology at East Texas State University.

Rev. Fred G. Wenger, Jr., pastor of Kansas City, Kans., Stony Point Church, has joined the chaplains’ staff at the Bethany Medical Center, Kansas City, Kans. He concluded his pastoral ministry at Stony Point at the end of June.

Rev. Wenger has pastored for 17 years, serving on the Kansas City, Philadelphia, and Akron districts. Previously, Wenger completed a year of Clinical Pastoral Education and is currently involved in supervisory CPE training.

As a member of the chaplains’ staff at Bethany Medical Center, he enters a much-needed ministry.

Alex Burrus of Clinton, Ia., First Church was named “Outstanding Young Educator” for the 1978-79 school year by the Clinton Jaycees. Mr. Burrus was cited for “developing a mutual respect between himself and his students.” He graduated from Mid-America Nazarene College in 1974 and has been teaching in Clinton for the past five years.

Mr. Burrus teaches speech and reading at Washington Middle School. He is the Student Council Advisor and for four years also served as the drama coach.

Mr. Burrus currently serves as chairman of the Board of Christian Life and financial secretary at First Church. He is vice-president of the Clinton Camp of the Gideons and serves as a Mid-America Nazarene College Alumni recruitment consultant.

Pastor L. Kenneth Adams, of Melbourne, Fla., Eau Gallie Church, received the Doctor of Ministry degree from Luther Rice Seminary of Jacksonville, Fla., on May 11. His writing project was entitled “How to Develop a Christian Life-style.”

Pastor Adams has served churches in Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Georgia, and Florida.

Pastor Vernon C. Morse of the Framingham, Mass., church received the Doctor of Ministry degree from Boston University May 29. In honor of Pastor Morse, the congregation served a buffet luncheon following the worship service on the day of graduation.

Dr. Morse’s areas of concentration were Counseling and Christian Education. The title of his thesis was “Guidelines for Christian Education of Children in the Church of the Nazarene: A Developmental Approach.”

Gaylan L. Good, manager of J. C. Penney in Athens, Ga., was chosen “Boss of the Year” by Athens Jaycees. Mr. Good has been with the Penney company since 1961, moving to Athens in 1977.

He and his wife, Joyce, have three sons and one daughter: Lester, 16; Bryan, 18; Douglas, 13, and Andrea, 11. Lester attends Trevecca Nazarene College. Mr. Good is a Trustee of the TNC Board.

He is a member of Athens First Church where he serves as church treasurer and Christian Life chairman.

Rev. A. B. Patterson, member of the Canadian Parliament for Fraser Valley East, was reelected for an eighth term in the May 22 Canadian Federal Election. He is a member of the Abbotsford, British Columbia, Church of the Nazarene; a former pastor of that church, and has lived in Abbotsford for 28 years.

He will serve as a member of the new government in Ottawa under Prime Minister Charles Joseph Clark.

Rev. Patterson was ordained in 1945 and has also pastored in Canada West District in Melfort, Saskatchewan, and Edmonton First Church.

He and his wife, Charlotte, have four children: Mrs. Ruth Gienger (Abbotsford); Mrs. Goldie McMillan (Ottawa); Wayne (Queens); and Dr. Larry Patterson, currently chairman, Division of Fine Arts, associate professor of music at Canadian Nazarene College, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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YOUTH MINISTERS HAVE RETREAT

April 24-27, saw the Department of Youth Ministries sister holiness churches in a retreat for professional youth workers. Gary Henecke reports that almost 600 persons now serve under this banner in the church. This professional group is now the largest ministerial category, next to pastors.

REPRO (retreat for professional youth workers) was jointly hosted by

The Dialog Committee met in Indianapolis, June 1. Members present (l. to r.): Keith Drury, Catherine Stonehouse, Gene Van Note, Richard Lint, John Nelson, Dorsey Brause, and Jeff Hover. The picture was taken by the committee chairman, Kenneth Rice. Committee members represented the Church of the Nazarene, the Free Methodist Church, and the Wesleyan Church. Gene Van Note, editor of the "Dialog Series," announced that two new Dialog books were developed at this meeting: Positive Parenting and Happiness Is Growing a Marriage. They will soon be available from the Nazarene Publishing House.
was the Steering Committee chairman. Over 160 participants shared with denominational executives of youth; Reuben Welch, chaplain of Point Loma College; Jay Kesler, president of North American Youth for Christ; and Michael Pitts, minister of music and youth of the Ontario, Ore., Church of the Nazarene.

During this retreat, held in Glen Eyrie Conference Center, Colorado Springs, many special areas of concern and ministry were presented. Among those giving special presentations were Orville Jenkins, Jr., of Bethany, Okla., First Church of the Nazarene; and Nancy Crieder. A special seminar on homosexuality was led by Dick Wolf of Pikes Peak Mental Health Clinic.

This cooperative effort was warmly received. The four-day retreat brought the Department of Youth staff members into immediate fellowship with youth ministers across the church. April of 1981 has been set as the tentative date for the next youth ministers’ gathering.

Tapes of this series, including Reuben Welch’s teaching on Jesus’ temptations, are available in the Department of Youth Ministries, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

—NCN

BIBLE SOCIETY OUTREACH TO CUBA UNDERWAY

Almost 20 years ago, Cuba became the western hemisphere’s first Communist nation.

Bringing the message of salvation there has been difficult, but not impossible. The struggle to share the saving knowledge of Christ with the millions of Cuban Christians continues.

Recently, Rev. Abel Clemente, United Bible Society distribution consultant, spent a week interviewing government officials, church leaders, and individual citizens in Cuba. According to Mr. Clemente, Christian churches in Cuba are “active and have good attendance,” but suffer from a shortage of Bibles, a shortage caused when the government closed the Bible Society in Cuba in 1968.

However, a breakthrough came just over a year ago when Mr. Clemente happened to find himself seated next to Bishop Armando Rodriguez of the Methodist Church in Cuba, on a jet enroute to Colombia from Panama, and discussed a possible order of Scriptures. Two months later a first meeting between the Bible societies and leaders of the Ecumenical Council of Cuba took place in Havana, which sparked intense interest among religious leaders there. The council convened a meeting of all denominational leaders in Cuba to brief them on the Bible Society plans from Mr. Clemente. The visit included a meeting with a government official who was receptive to the idea of importing Scriptures.

Mr. Clemente believes that there are great opportunities for Christian outreach efforts in Cuba.

—American Bible Society
STUDENT COUNCIL LEADERS FOR 1979-80

Two members of the 1978-79 Student Council Leaders at Bethany Nazarene College were returned to STUCO offices, following the annual elections and runoffs for the 1979-80 STUCO ballot.

Returning as STUCO treasurer for the second year is Philip Lindquist, a junior accounting major from Dallas, Tex.

Junior religion major Tim Clem exchanged his position of religious life director in the 78-79 board, for the position of STUCO president in the newly elected organization. Clem is a native of Cape Girardeau, Mo.

BNC's newly elected leaders, rounding out the organization, are David O'Bannon, student services director, Bethany, Okla.; Carol Witzke, social life director, Phoenix, Ariz.; Cheryl Sanders, secretary, Lubbock, Tex.; Jim Usery, religious life director, Orange, Tex.; Linda Nellis, female recreational life, Killeen, Tex.; and Larry Snowbarger, male recreational life, Bethany, Okla.

SEMINARIO NAZARENO HISPANOAMERICANO SENIORS VISIT KANSAS CITY

The 1979 graduating seniors from the Seminario Nazareno Hispanoamericano, San Antonio, motored to Kansas City to visit the International Headquarters and the Publishing House. For some, this was probably the first and last opportunity to see the headquarters of the church.

They arrived on a Saturday and visited two local churches on Sunday: the Spanish Church of the Nazarene in the morning, and in the evening, College Church in Olathe, Kans. Monday was spent touring the general church facilities.

Rev. Marshall Griffith, president of the seminary, was unable to attend because of other responsibilities, but called after the group arrived back in San Antonio. He expressed the appreciation of the students for the wonderful reception and the challenge of seeing their world headquarters in action. The appreciation was mutual, for they brought a fresh spirit that portends well for the church's Latin work internationally.

Sponsoring departments for the trip were the International Publications Board, Nazarene Publishing House, and the Department of World Mission.

NAZARENE BUILDERS TO MEET IN PHOENIX

The executive committee of the Association of Nazarene Building Professionals has selected the Adams Hotel in Phoenix, Ariz., as the site for the annual conference of the association to be held February 7-10, 1980.
Phoenix is where many buildings designed by the great architect Frank Lloyd Wright are located, as well as a school of architecture established by him.

The ANBP was chartered in February of 1979 in Kansas City under the sponsorship of the Department of Home Missions.

Its membership is comprised of professional builders who are also members of the Church of the Nazarene.

The program will feature presentations by leading architects, including professional papers by members of the ANBP.

The conference will close on Sunday morning with a worship service led by General Superintendent Dr. George Coulter.

Those wishing additional information, either about the conference or the association, may write to the Association of Nazarene Building Professionals, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

SHUT-IN SENDS DRAMA MESSAGE TO WILCON

The Wives’ Leadership Conference at Mount Vernon Nazarene College heard the Denver Players present “GOD’S DREAM—A WOMAN IN THE PARSONAGE,” a drama written by Ruth Vaughn who has been confined to her home for nearly two years.

Transferred to the high school auditorium which is adjacent to the campus, the 450 wives enrolled in the conference, and others, were moved by the message of the drama. The cast included Melody Whittemore, Dan Owens, Keith Lehrer, and Bill Vaughn. Terry Whittemore was the technician.

The conference, the fourth of the nine which are scheduled in the nine educational zones of the United States and Canada, experienced the similar mood of appreciation and devotion which has characterized the preceding ones. The staff of Mount Vernon Nazarene College contributed to this by the way they accommodated the four-day meeting.

Since the construction of the new Student Center and Food Service Building was in progress, the conference was fed in nearby high school food service facilities. Mount Vernon Nazarene College bussed the conferees there and back.

Dr. Neil Wiseman, director of continuing education in the Department of Education and the Ministry, and Mrs. Harry Rich, coordinator of the conference, were pleased by the attendance and response of ministers’ wives of the North Central Zone.

“FOLLOW ME” EXTRAVAGANZA FEATURE

The discipleship musical Follow Me was a feature of the Bethany Nazarene College Youth Extravaganza. It was presented to the 1,200 high school students and their parents who gathered on campus in Herrick Auditorium.

Directed by BNC music major Dave Roberts, the Lillenas musical was sung by 60 college and high school students. Follow Me was introduced at the 1978 World Youth Conference held in Estes Park, Colo. It is a part of a total discipling package that includes five training books and a Journal for Disciples. For information about the musical and the other discipleship training materials, contact Nazarene Publishing House.

Scenes from the Lillenas musical Follow Me as presented at Bethany Nazarene College by Director Dave Roberts (left). Slides are available to augment the presentation (below), which is a musical call to discipleship.
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Pictured are two registered Nubian goats with Rev. Benjamin Roman, district superintendent of the Puerto Rican District. One is a bred doe, and the other is a buck, sent for the purpose of upgrading the herd in Puerto Rico. They were sent as a missionary special project from Seymour, Ind., First Church. Rev. Gerald Green is pastor. The goats were purchased and shipped by Mr. John Roberts. He was assisted in the project by Royce Stewart and James B. Harvey. All three men are active in Men in Missions on the Southwest Indiana District.

J. FRED PARKER RETIRES

After 33 years of service as an editor at the Nazarene Publishing House and International Headquarters, Dr. J. Fred Parker has recently retired. He came to Kansas City in the immediate post-World War II period to serve jointly in the Department of Church Schools and Nazarene Young People’s Society, principally editing teen Sunday school materials and the Young People’s Journal.

After two years, during which he was also completing course work at Nazarene Theological Seminary, he became editor of Conquest magazine. He served for 16 years, bringing Conquest to a position of national recognition among evangelical publications. He also continued the editing of program materials for the NYPS.

In 1964 he became book editor at the Nazarene Publishing House and in these 15 years has directed several major developments in this field. The number of annual new book titles has doubled, reaching 71 last year, and the number of books printed likewise, now running about 900,000.

Dr. Parker came to Kansas City after a four-year term on the faculty of Canadian Nazarene College, then located at Red Deer, Alberta. He also served for a time in the pastorate, preceded by a brief assistantship at Spokane, Wash., First Church. He was ordained in 1942.

Born in southern Manitoba in Canada, Dr. Parker grew up in Edmonton, Alberta. After graduation from high school he attended Canadian Nazarene College for a year and then went to the University of Alberta for teacher training. He taught in the public schools for three and a half years before attending Northwest Nazarene College. There he received the A.B.,
Th.B. and Th.M. degrees. His alma mater conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters in 1963. He received the B.D. degree from Nazarene Theological Seminary in 1950.

Major book projects in which he has been involved have included the 10-volume Beacon Bible Commentary, the 12-volume Beacon Bible Expositions, and other single works—among them Adam Clarke’s One-volume Commentary, Exploring Christian Education, and God, Man, and Salvation—and the production of a biennial major holiness book which has included Studies in Biblical Holiness, A Theology of Love, and Neatness of Life. The six-volume work, Word Meanings in the New Testament, by Dr. Ralph Earle is now half completed, and four new volumes in the “Exploring” series of college textbooks are in process (Exploring Christian Holiness, Exploring the Bible, Exploring Our Christian Heritage and Exploring Christian Ethics). Other developing projects are Part II of Called unto Holiness (the history of the Church of the Nazarene), Beacon Dictionary of Theology, and Beacon Small-Group Bible Studies.

Other activities have included service as district secretary, district NYPS president, and local church board member. He has been involved in four local church building programs. He has been a perennial Sunday school teacher since his teen years, and at present is secretary of the board of Kansas City First Church. He also served a two-year term as president of the Evangelical Press Association.

Dr. Parker has authored four books and among his other post-retirement writing projects will be the preparation of the missionary history of the Church of the Nazarene.

He and Mrs. Parker will continue residence in the Kansas City area, where he will maintain a part-time editorial relationship with the Publishing House. Their married daughter Peggy (Payton) also resides in Kansas City.

As a small child, Dr. Parker first attended the Church of the Nazarene in a storefront chapel not far from his Edmonton, Alberta, home. During the war years while his father was overseas, his mother found it more convenient to take her four children there rather than to the more distant Methodist church where the parents held their membership. Besides, the Nazarene pastor was a former Methodist minister they had known back in northern Ontario. The oldest of the children, Bertha, later became a missionary to Swaziland and served there for 37 years.
Alvin Tso and Alex Riggs, Sr., elders, were elected to the Advisory Board, along with laymen Wil Ortega and James Cody.

**CANADA PACIFIC**

The 24th annual assembly of the Canada Pacific District met at the Pentecost Church in British Columbia. District Superintendent D. J. Derksen reported the organization of two new churches, one in Kelowna, B.C., and another in Farmington, B.C. Dr. V. H. Lewis was the presiding general superintendent. Elders Roland Feltmate and John McKnight and laymen Robert Collier and Ken Harter were elected to the Advisory Board.

**ALASKA**

The 29th annual assembly of the Alaska District met at Fairbanks First Church. District Superintendent Robert W. Sheppard, completing the first year of an extended term, reported the organization of a new church in Homer, Alaska. Nina Gilch was reelected General Superintendent V. H. Lewis ordained William Donald Nelson, Jr., elders Eugene S. Morrell and Kenneth F. Coreson and laymen Dan Elulian and Harry Reimer were elected to the Advisory Board. Adeline Reimer was reelected NWMS president. Nate Lang was elected NYI president and Rev. Lyle K. Coblenz was elected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

**CANADA CENTRAL**

The 44th annual assembly of the Canada Central District met at the Cedarale Church, Petterlaw, Ontario. District Superintendent Lorne V. MacMillan, appointed August, 1978, was elected for a four-year term. He reported a new church: Pickering, Altanta Road (suburban Toronto). Presiding General Superintendent William M. Greathouse ordained W. Peter O'Brien, Larry Allen Chovancek, and Adrien-David Robichaud. Elected to the Advisory Board were elders Glenn H. Boyce and Charles J. Muxworthy and laymen Roy D. Austin and Curt Harrison. NWMS president Mrs. Lorne MacMillan, NYI president Rev. Glenn L. Outhouse, and chairman of the Board of Christian Life Rev. William E. Stewart, were all reelected.

**MAINE**

The 19th annual assembly of the Maine District met at South Portland, Me., church. District Superintendent J. E. Shankel completed the third year of an extended term, reported.

**NORTHWEST OKLAHOMA**

The 28th annual assembly of the Northwest Oklahoma District convened in Bartlesville, Okla. First Church District Superintendent W. T. Douglaury, completing the first year of an extended term, reported the organization of Tulsa Faith and Chandler Community.

Presiding General Superintendent George Cullor ordained Jay A. Dick and Oreli Riley. Elected to the Advisory Board were elders W. B. “Bill” Livingston and Tommy Loving and laymen Bob Kennedy and Bob Donaldson.

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN**

The 52nd annual assembly of the Rocky Mountain District convened at Billings, Mont. District Superintendent Darrel Slack was re-elected for a four-year term.

Dr. Orville W. Jenkins was the presiding general superintendent.

Elders elected to the Advisory Board were Frank Darney and James Bartz. Laymen elected were Fred Erdman and Harold Satell.

Mrs. Lois Thorpe was reelected NWMS president. Rev. Gwen Downing was elected NYI president and Larry Spicer was elected chairman of the Board of Christian Life.

**NAZARENE CAMP MEETINGS**

Aug. 30—Sept. 2—MAINE, Richmond, Me.; Campground: Workers: Singers Steve and Sue Caudill and special speakers J. E. Shankel, district superintendent.

**MOVING MINISTERS**

EMILIO ARGUELLO from student, Mid-America Nazarene College, Olathe, Kans., to Camden, N.J.

DONALD R. BELLOMY from Cumberland, Ky., to Warsaw, Ohio

WAYNE A. CREVOISERAT from Farmington Falls, Me., to Lincoln, Me.

DENNIS DAVIS from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, Colo., to Ottawa (III.) Southside

WAYNE DEESE from Lancaster, S.C., to student, Trevecca Nazarene College, Nashville, Tenn.

KEVIN W. DUTTON from East Harpswell, Me., to evangelism

DANNY GODDARD from student, Trevecca Nazarene College, Nashville, Tenn., to Greensboro (S.C.) Southeast

GEORGE MARSHALL GOFF from Batley, West Yorkshire, England, to Blackpool, Lancaster, England

THOMAS E. HARTLEY from associate, Kankakee (III.) College, to associate, Lansing (Mich.) South

JAMES E. HERRICK from East Harpswell, Me.

BILLY F. HILTON from Forrest City, Ark., to Anderson (Mo.) Baptist

KENNETH JARANDSON from Hewitt, Minn., to associate, Fergus Falls, Minn.

DANIEL B. JOYCE from student, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., to Farmington Falls, Me.

E. W. KEEHR from Kirkville, Mo., to Taylorsville, (III.) First

BRIAN KERRY from Pittsburgh (Pa.) First to Clearfield Pa.

FRED KLIITICH from Sparta, N.J., to Burlington-Williston, Vt.

BILL KNUDSEN from student, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., to Northfield (N.J.) Community

ELDON KRATZ from student, Nazarene Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., to Wyo­

J. C. LEONARD from Indianapolis (Ind.) East to Bloomfield, Ind.

JOSE M. MARTINEZ from Cleveland, Ohio, to Aguadilla Puerto Rico (Eastern Latin Ameri­

TIMOTHY J. MERCER from Cuba, Ill., to mission­

LEONARD MILLER from Bloomfield, Ia., to Glenwood, Ia.

ROBERT M. MITCHELL from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, Colo., to Houston, Me.

JAMES A. MONCK from Racine (Wis.) Taylor Avenue to Racine (Wis.) Community

BYRON OSBORNE from Orlando (Fla.) Pine Castle to Nashville (Tenn.) Inglewood

RILEY POWELL from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, Colo., to Peru, Ill.

W. R. RICHARDSON from Whitney (Tex.) First to Brownwood (Tex.) First

DON RUCKER to DeMotte, Ind.

PHIL RUDY from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, Colo., to Bloomington (Ill.) Fairway Knolls

MARK T. RYAN from associate, Marseilles, III., to Cuba, III.

ANGEL SANCHEZ from student, Spanish American Nazarene Seminary, San Antonio, Texas, to Bridgeport, Conn. (Eastern Latin American District)

FERNANDO SANTIAGO from student, Bethany Nazarene College, Bethany, Okla., to Cleveland, Ohio (Eastern Latin American District)

KURT SCHMIDLIN from Kaiserslautern, West Germany, to San Jose, Costa Rica (missionary)

KEITH SIMMONS to Walnut, Ill.

WAYNE E. SCHWOB from Rock Island (III.) First to Alexandria, Ind.

EDWARDO SUAREZ from Salvation Army to Rochester, N.Y. (Eastern Latin American District)

RAYMOND STOCKMAN from Wellston, Ohio, to South Point (Ohio) Sunrise

STEPHEN P. WALLACE to East Millinocket, Me.

ROBERT WASSON from Beech Grove, Ark., to Kirksey (Ky.) Locust Grove

CECIL B. WEST from Hagerstown, Ind., to Greensburg, Ind.

DONALD L. WILSON to associate, South Portland, Me.

LARRY WHITE from associate, Kankakee (III.) College to Lima (Ohio) First

ROBERT WINEGARDEN to Newton Falls, Ohio

Pictured (l. to r.) is the ordination class of the Canada Central District: District Superintendent Lorne V. MacMillan, Rev. and Mrs. W. B. O'Brien, Rev. and Mrs. Larry Allen Chovancek, Rev. and Mrs. Adrien-David Robichaud, and General Superintendent William M. Greathouse.
DAVID L. YOUNG from Winslow, Ariz., to Albuquerque (N.M.) Indian First

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
CLAUDIA STEVENSON, Swaziland, New Field Address: Mbuluzi Leprosy Hospital, P.O. Box 44, Mbabane, Swaziland, Africa

MOVING MISSIONARIES
NORMA BAJOYO, Swaziland, Field Address: P.O. Box 14, Manzini, Swaziland, Africa
LARRY GARMAN, Peru, Furlough Address: 13002 E. Chestnut St., Whittier, CA 90602
GLENN IRWIN, Papua New Guinea, Furlough Address: 1309 N. Hart, Orange, TX 77630
GLENN MESSER, Papua New Guinea, Furlough Address: 205 N. Eighth Ave., Lansing, MI 48912
BERGE NAJARIAN, Leeward Islands, Furlough Address: P.O. Box 05400, Tice, FL 33904
JUDY SLATER, Republic of South Africa, North, Field Address: P.O. Box 75, 1381 Klaserie, Republic of South Africa
THOMAS WALTERMIRE, Malawi, P.O. Box 5566, Limbe, Malawi, Africa

ANNOUNCEMENTS
Lansing, Mich., First Church, will celebrate its 65th anniversary during August, 1979. Special guests will include Dr. Ray Reglin, August 5, homecoming Sunday; and Dr. Orville W. Jenkins, August 12. Former pastors, members, and friends are invited to contact William and Esther Damon, anniversary committee chairman, 6391 E. Reynolds Rd., Haslett, MI 48840. C. Neil Strait is the pastor.

The Tipton, Ind., church will celebrate its 50th anniversary on September 16. All former pastors, members, and friends are invited to attend. Three services are planned for the day with a basket lunch at noon. For further information, contact Pastor R. E. Kuhn, 308 S. East St., Tipton, IN 46072. Phone 317-675-6217.

RECOMMENDATIONS
I am happy to recommend REV. CLAYTON STOUFFER to the field of evangelism. Brother Stouffer has served over 40 years as a successful pastor in the Church of the Nazarene. He is a strong gospel preacher and an effective soul winner. He may be contacted at 360 N. Broadway St., Salem, OH 44460 — Floyd Fleming, Akron district superintendent.

I recommend LARRY AND SHARON SMITH to our pastors and churches as an evangelistic team. Rev. Smith is an ordained elder and an excellent preacher of the Word. He and his wife sing together and provide instrumental music. Also participating in the music program are their two children who travel with them in their trailer home. They may be contacted at: 2801 Meadowview Rd., Sacramento, CA 95832, 916-422-8772. — Walter M. Hubbard, Sacramento district superintendent.

VITAL STATISTICS
DEATHS
MARY L. BLAKEY, 54, died May 16 in Arcadia, Fla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Joe Benson and Rev. Randall Cook. Surviving are 1 son, Charles E. Blakey; 6 daughters, Mrs. Nelson Mosley, Mrs. Lena Carter, Mrs. Ruth McGraw, Mrs. Helen Butler, Mrs. Margaret Gore, and Mrs. Grace Marks; 27 grandchildren; and 54 great-grandchildren.

MRS. JERRY LA VERNE DITTO died March 21 in Longview, Tex. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. A. L. Payne. She is survived by her husband, Walter G.; one son, Walter G. II; and one daughter, Mrs. Lynn Conner.

ELLA M. KRIGBAUM, 78, died June 12 in Bartlesville, Okla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Ray Reglin, August 5, homecoming Sunday; and Dr. Orville W. Jenkins, August 12. Former pastors, members, and friends are invited to contact William and Esther Damon, anniversary committee chairman, 6391 E. Reynolds Rd., Haslett, MI 48840. C. Neil Strait is the pastor.

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Post Office Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64114
by Rev. Spurgeon Hendrix and Rev. Faye Hendrix. Survivors include 2 sons, Cecil and Bob; 6 daughters, Gwen Albrecht, Joan Prevost, Naomi Hotto, Nita Williams, Mildred Perryman and Eula House; 19 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and 1 sister.

GILLIE T. NOBLE, 81, died May 18 in Lawton, Okla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Ray Fletcher. Interment was in Snyder, Okla. Survivors include two sons, John W. and Kenneth; two daughters, Mrs. Edna Hankins and Mrs. Kathy I. Howell; one brother; and two sisters.

MAXINE I. PIRTL, 45, died June 5 in Pontiac, Mich. Funeral services were conducted by Dr. Forrest Nash, superintendent of the Chicago Central District. Interment was in Canon, Ill. She is survived by her husband, Rev. William S. Pirtle; two sons, Stephen Dale and William David; two daughters, Mrs. Kathy I. Howell and Debra Arlene Pirtle; four grandchildren, her mother, two brothers; and two sisters.

CHRISTIAN BURGESS SPEICHER, 5, died of cancer June 11 in Overland Park, Kan. Funeral services were conducted at Kansas City First Church by Rev. Gordon Wotmore, Rev. Charles Shaver, and Dr. Roy Swim. He is survived by his parents, Daniel and Cindy Speicher; one brother, Jacob; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Speicher and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Burgess; great-grandparents, Mrs. Mable Slade, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Day, and Mrs. Mary Speicher.

LENA A. STARK, 85, died May 7 in Sedan, Kan. Funeral services were conducted by Revs. Dean Baldwin, Carl Soliday, and Calvin Williamson. Interment was in Neposhda, Kan. Mrs. Stark was a consecrated deaconess in the church. Survivors include her husband, Rev. L. O. Stark; one daughter, Evelyn Potomy; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

BIRTHS

- to LOU AND SHARON (GAFFNEY) BERKOM-PAS, Las Cruces, N.M., a boy, Justin Louis, June 4
- to WALL AND DEBRA (ISOLES) BLEDSOE, Kansas City, Mo., a boy, Joshua Paul, May 31
- to MARK AND MARCIA (HERSTEIN) BURKEY, Chester, Va., a boy, Jared Eugene, June 16
- to REV. EDWARD AND JANET (ZAJICEK) CLARK, Pierce, Ida., a girl, Callie Nicole, May 16
- to MICHAEL AND MOLLIE (STRAUCK) LEA LUBBOCK, Tex., a boy, John David, Jan. 15
- to GEORGE AND JULIANA (GIBSON) ORBAN, Ionia, Mich., a boy, Dustin Charles, March 23
When the rapture comes, and I believe it will be soon, will the Holy Spirit be left behind? I personally believe that when the rapture occurs the Holy Spirit will ascend to heaven.

The Holy Spirit is involved with all creation and all mankind, not simply with the Church. He animates nature (Genesis 1:2; Psalm 104:30; Job 33:4) and convicts the world (John 16:8) as surely as He indwells the Church. He can be with saints and active. I do not find any support for the idea that people need God, the Holy Spirit will be present in heaven without ceasing to be with people on earth. As long as the world stands, and as long as people need God, the Holy Spirit will be present and active. I do not find any support for the idea of a secret rapture of the Church that will leave the world bereft of the Spirit. Of course, Scripture does make it quite plain that the Spirit, while present everywhere, is not present everywhere in the same way. He is present in one relationship to the Church, in another to the world, in another to the Father and Son, etc.

In a recent Sunday school lesson our class was discussing Mark 1:10. Some suggested that, although the Holy Spirit was with Christ up to this time, at this point Christ was filled with the Spirit and empowered by Him. This would seem to be wrong since God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit are one. Yet, in the sense that Christ was subject to His parents (Luke 2:51) early in life and His baptism by John was the beginning of His earthly ministry, it seems possible. Could you comment on this?

No doubt Jesus was always filled with the Spirit, and never lacking in power to do the Father's will. Just as the Father's words, "You are My Son," express what was always true, and not something that began to be true at Jesus' baptism, so the descent of the Spirit upon Him "like a dove" expresses what was already true, that Jesus possessed the measureless fullness of the Spirit, and in that power would achieve His earthly ministry and yield himself as a sacrifice in His death (see Hebrews 9:14).

Bear in mind, also, that Jesus came to His baptism and endured His temptation in a representative capacity, that is, as the true Israel of God. Israel was first called God's son in connection with the exodus into the wilderness, and there in the wilderness Israel, as God's son, was tested and failed (see Exodus 4:22f.). Now Jesus, the unique Son of God, and the new, true Israel would be identified and tested in the wilderness, and He would triumph. The prophets looked forward to the renewal of Israel's sonship in the wilderness (Hosea 11:1-3), and this was fulfilled by Jesus. "The descent of the Spirit 'as a dove' indicates that he is the unique representative of the new Israel created through the Spirit," as William Lane puts it.

All who believe on Jesus become part of that new Israel (John 1:12) and receive from Him the Holy Spirit. The "dove" symbol was appropriate in view of this new creation which Jesus would effect (cf. Genesis 1:2), and in view of the sacrifice necessary to effect it (cf. Luke 2:24; Leviticus 1:14; 5:7).

According to our "Manual" is it right to appoint Sunday school teachers who smoke?

According to the Manual, section 162.3, "The officers and teachers of the Sunday school shall be professing Christians, exemplary in life, and in full harmony with the doctrines and polity of the Church of the Nazarene."

Our Sunday school teachers should not smoke, nor should they resort to Walt Garrison's alternative. One of the helpful influences upon my early Christian life was a Sunday school teacher named Evelyn Gwynn. She would not have challenged me as she did if there had been brown trickles out of the sides of her mouth! Our teachers should model as well as instruct, and I am confident that nearly all of them do.
NEWS OF EVANGELISM

Personal evangelism and discipling clinics, sponsored by the Department of Evangelism, were conducted this spring on the Southeast Oklahoma, East Tennessee, and Wisconsin districts. Dr. Don Gibson and Rev. Dwight Neuenschwander directed the clinics. Trainees presented the gospel to 142 persons, with 48 of them finding Christ. A number of prospective families were located, also, in door-to-door calling.

Champaign, Ill.: Westside Church had a revival with Evangelist Charles Wylie and family. Preparations began weeks before the meeting with prayer and fasting. There were no barren altars. In addition to new victories, several believers were sanctified. Sunday morning was the highpoint with two families with teens saved. The entire church was edified.

—Paul H. Cotner, pastor

Warren, Ohio: The Champion Church had an outstanding revival with Rev. Bob Hoots and Jim and Rosemary Green. Entire families were saved. The spirit of revival is working in Champion.

—George A. Hazlett, pastor

Port Orchard, Wash.: The church has concluded a Sunday-over-Sunday revival with commissioned evangelist Wayne T. Lawson. God graciously came and 57 people sought spiritual victory throughout the revival. During this refreshing week all former revival attendance and giving records were broken.

—Herb Ireland, pastor

Columbus, Ind.: The Newbern Church had a revival June 5-10 with Dr. B. G. Wiggs as the evangelist and Mr. Tom Boney as the song evangelist. The church moved forward spiritually, and there were a number of seekers at the altar.

—Charles E. Bertram, pastor

Harvester, Mo.: The church had its first revival meeting with Evangelist Nelson Perdue. Rev. Perdue’s preaching emphasis was holiness, and he beautifully enriched and challenged the lives of the people with his dynamic scriptural preaching. Attendance grew with each service, and people were saved and sanctified. The church has been organized less than a year, and it marked a spiritual milestone in our development and growth.

—Gene Grate, pastor

Fremont, Ohio: The church climaxd the statistical year with a good revival with Dr. Don Gibson. Twenty new members were received by profession of faith during the year.

—Larry Burns, pastor

In preparation for their “Nazarenes in Action Personal Evangelism and Discipling Clinic,” Coordinator Harold Frye and Pastor Ernest Rhodes of the Bedford, Ohio, church used several Wednesday evenings preceding the clinic to train their people in “The First Steps in Discipling.” As a result of the two-day clinic, six persons made a commitment to Christ in their homes. The new Christians are shown being introduced to the congregation on Sunday morning by Pastor Rhodes (middle of photo) with Harold Frye on the extreme left. These new Christians came to the altar to publicly acknowledge their faith, and they will be discipled for the next eight weeks by committed lay persons at Bedford.

—E. D. Roberts (far left) is shown with the 15 new Nazarenes received into membership at Waukesha, Wis., First Church, May 6. The pastor reports other prospective members are now attending membership classes. Some of these are the results of the “Nazarenes in Action Personal Evangelism and Discipling Clinic” held on the Wisconsin District, April 23-25, 1979.

THE CHURCH SCENE

The Toronto Kennedy Road Church on Canada Central District has celebrated two significant events. For a year and a half, this church has “mothered” a new work in Pickering, a satellite town of Metro Toronto, and on May 27, the growing “baby” Altona Road Church was organized with 25 charter members, many transferring from Kennedy Road. A two-acre site and small, attractive church building was purchased for this new congregation. A seminary graduate, Rev. Glen Reeder, became their first full-time pastor.

Two weeks later, on June 10, a new sanctuary addition, constructed simultaneously with the church planting project to accommodate increasing numbers in the parent church, was dedicated by Dr. William M. Greathouse. Kennedy Road pastor Rev. J. Donald Nicholas reports “exciting growth in both churches over the past year due largely to a strong outreach evangelism emphasis.”

The Detroit Bethel Church had a mortgage-burning ceremony June 10.
with Dr. E. W. Martin, superintendent of the Eastern Michigan District, as the guest speaker.

The church, which was organized in 1930, has gone through several building programs. The last loan, for $115,000, to provide air conditioning and to remodel the sanctuary, was paid off in a record three years, saving at least $50,000 in interest. The church is valued at $400,000. Participating in the ceremony with Pastor F. Grant

On May 13, the people of the New Richmond, Ohio, church dedicated their new educational unit and remodeled sanctuary. Participating in the dedication service was Dr. Dallas Baggett, superintendent of Southwestern Ohio District, and Dr. M. E. Clay, superintendent of the West Virginia District. The building gives the church seven additional classrooms and an area for fellowship. The addition more than doubles the available educational space. The total cost of the project was $48,400. The new mortgage for the church is $60,000. The building is valued at $150,000. Pictured (l. to r.) is the Building Committee: Richard Kimball, Alvin Jodrey, and Ralph Swisshelm. Rev. Donald L. Peck is the pastor.

The congregation of Philadelphia First Church dedicated the newly constructed sanctuary, May 20. Participating in the service were Pastor Ralph J. Ferrioli; Rev. Lloyd G. Gordon, financial officer for the Philadelphia District; and Rev. W. Richard Foster, Jr., president of Rawnhurst Ministerial Association. The dedicatory address was presented by Dr. Paul Mangum, superintendent of the Philadelphia District. The new structure was built for $160,000 and is an addition to the existing facility. The property is now valued at $500,000. The previous structure has been converted into a fellowship hall and recreation area.

The Bremerton, Wash., church, recently completed a three-unit building, under the leadership of Pastor J. C. Pults. Dedication was April 29, with Dr. V. H. Lewis bringing the dedicatory message. During the past 6 years of Rev. Pults's 14-year pastorate, there has been relocation on a 5-acre site and the erection of a three-building complex. The semicircular sanctuary and adult overflow rooms have a total seating of 660. A gym-multipurpose building, kitchen, offices, radio studio, and two-story educational building, equipped for day school, are tied together with a large fellowship entry. The buildings of 24,000 sq. ft. have an indebtedness of $9.00 per foot.

CHURCH GROWTH EXPERIENCED IN BRITISH ISLES

Rev. David Tarrant, district superintendent of the British Isles North District, reported recently that the district had enjoyed a gain in the 1978-79 church year of 136 new Nazarenes, with a net gain in membership of 71. He attributed this gain to the Church Growth emphasis.

He also outlined plans for a new church in Belfast, Northern Ireland, which are near realization.

—NCN

CHURCH RECEIVES $190,000 GIFT

The Chester, W.Va., church was presented with a check for $190,000 on Sunday, April 15, by Mr. Herman Koeppin, who retires the church debt.

Mr. Koeppin's mother, Mrs. Mildred Potts, is a member of the Chester church. The Koeppins are moving to Chester and will resume membership in the church there.

The gift was made possible by a cash settlement from a fire accident in

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which Herman Koeppin received 90 percent burns while working in Alaska. He also gave $20,000 to a church he was attending in Fairbanks, Alaska. Later he sent another gift which enabled the Chester church to purchase two Sunday school busses.

The church held a mortgage-burning service July 8, with District Superintendent M. E. Clay as guest speaker. Pastor Richard Cornelius says the church is grateful for the gifts that relieved the congregation of the long, hard pull of mortgage payments and enabled some necessary repair and painting. He feels they will then help another needy church and so pass on the joy of sudden and sizeable help in the work of building Christ's kingdom.

—NCN

Three Hours in the Desert

by BETTY McLAUGHLIN

Rochester, Minnesota

WHEN I told the Lord I wanted to follow Him, I did not envision living in the desert, but there I was with my husband and toddler son, 10 miles out into the sandy expanse of New Mexico. There were times when I enjoyed the unique beauty of sun, air, sand, and arid growth; but there were many more times when I asked the Lord, "For what purpose?"

Our faith had brought us there, I knew, and yet I wondered if this was exactly what God wanted. Was there a more specific reason? He puts us right where He wants us, right when He wants us, when our faith is strong. Our solitary life, though, caused me to ask if my faith was all He wanted, or if my work was also desired.

In the meantime some of our friends answered a knock at their door in the middle of the night to find a boy from Mexico standing on the step, wet, dirty, hungry, and, they later found out, in the country illegally. They fed him, washed his clothes, and had him shower and sleep. Rather than turn him over to the authorities right away, they saw an opportunity to tell him about the Lord. But they couldn't—they didn't speak Spanish. Our friend and the boy spent an hour in my home that first afternoon because I speak Spanish! I found out his name, where he came from and where he was going. He said that if he were caught in the States "wetback" one more time, he would lose his papers to cross the border. He wanted to get to Chicago where he could find a good job as his brother had already done.

The next afternoon they came back and I found a Spanish-English New Testament that had been given to me years before. I learned he had no religion but that his mother was a devout Catholic. He said she prayed for him all the time. We asked him if he would like to learn about God so that he could pray himself. We showed him basic verses in the Gospel of John about God's love for "whosoever believeth" and he expressed awe and great interest, because he realized he was "whosoever." Before they left we reassured the boy that if he wanted to know how to have God in his life, we would help him.

The third afternoon they came back, the boy holding the Testament that I had sent home with him. He had read the passages over for himself, and then went on in the Word to discover more of God's love. He asked many questions, and with every answer his awe and hope grew. Finally, before the third hour in the desert was over, he accepted Christ as his personal Savior.

Less than three weeks after those three memorable hours, we left our desert home. My thoughts return there at times when, in my present circumstance, I ask the Father, "Is this all You want, or is there something more?"

Sometimes we bask in His presence and love. Sometimes we ask what He wants us to reflect. He answers when the hour is right.
DIEHL ELECTED IN NEBRASKA

The Nebraska District Assembly elected Rev. James Diehl district superintendent on the second ballot in its opening session Thursday, June 28, at Grand Island, Neb. He has accepted the election.

A graduate of Olivet Nazarene College, Diehl was ordained in 1960. He has pastored churches as Muscatine, Indianola, and Oskaloosa, Ia. He served as assistant to the president at Mid-America Nazarene College. He has been pastor of Atlanta First Church for three years.

Rev. and Mrs. Diehl have four children. They plan to move to the district parsonage in Hastings, Neb., around the first of August.

Rev. Diehl succeeds Rev. Walter Lanman who resigned earlier to accept the election to the district superintendent of the Northwest District. □

BRITISH NAZARENES ON TELEVISION

The British Isles South District of the Church of the Nazarene has secured a 30-minute broadcast Sunday, October 7, 8:30-9:00 p.m.

The “Sunday Half-Hour” hymn singing will be broadcast from Bolton First Church, Lancashire, England.

Rev. Herbert McGonigle, chairman of the Broadcast Committee, hailed the arrangement as a breakthrough for the denomination. All radio and television in Britain is government controlled and time for religious broadcasting is allotted according to denominational size. This has meant that except for some local broadcasts the Church of the Nazarene has not had national radio or television exposure.

The program will be carried by the world service of the British Broadcasting Corporation which reaches Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Europe, and the whole of Britain. Since this is the first such broadcast for Nazarenes in Great Britain, they are in prayer and careful preparation for the opportunity.

□

CHURCH HELPS VOLCANO VICTIMS

The HUNGER AND DISASTER FUND made possible by special gifts from Nazarenes everywhere continues to be a source of ministry to the stricken areas of the world.

Dr. Jerald Johnson, executive director of the Department of World Mission, received a letter from R. Milton Cato, Prime Minister of St. Vincent in the Windward Islands, where the Soufriere volcano continues to erupt, bringing damage, starvation, and privation. Mr. Cato thanked the denomination for gifts totaling $4,300 which mean life for scores of people displaced from home by this catastrophe.

The Prime Minister said he realized that this meant not only physical help but also that the prayers of Nazarenes were with them in their trouble.

St. Vincent Nazarenes gave $500, and from the HUNGER AND DISASTER FUND $3,800 has been sent.

□

EARLE OBTAINS NIV CHANGES

At a recent meeting of the Committee on Bible Translation, several changes were approved in the official text of the New International Version of the Bible.

Of special interest to holiness people is the change in 1 John 1:7 from “every sin” to “all sin.”

Another improvement of significance for use in evangelism is the return in Revelation 3:20 to the warmer and more familiar rendering, “I will come in” (instead of “I will go in”).

These two revisions were requested by Dr. Ralph Earle of Nazarene Theological Seminary, a member of the committee of 15.

□

TREVECCA MOVES TOWARD MILLION DOLLAR GOAL

Trevcca Nazarene College has been in the throes of a “cash flow” crunch, needing $1 million to clear outstanding short-term notes.

The Board of Trustees set Sunday, May 20, as a day for every church on the Educational Zone to receive a “miracle offering” for the college. The miracle would be to receive one million dollars over and above the educational budget for the school.

Dr. Homer Adams, newly elected president, reported that by July 1 the total in cash and pledges had reached $600,000. He is still hopeful that when churches which have not yet taken offerings do so, the goal may be reached. Half of the most pressing obligations have now been met.

□

BIBLE SOCIETY REPORTS

Mr. Arthur C. Borden, secretary, church relations, of the American Bible Society, was in Kansas City, July 9 at a luncheon with church leaders to receive the $50,461 check for the church’s 1978 Bible Society offering.

He said the Society had distributed more than 500 million Scriptures during 1978, an increase of 23 percent. In 1977 the church gave $54,312, or a per capita average of 12 cents. This year’s offering is below, and will average about 10 cents per capita.

Mr. Borden said, “The American Bible Society requests the continued prayers and financial support of the Church of the Nazarene. Working together, we can bring the message of hope found in the Scriptures to those who need it so desperately.”

While the United States received more than any other country, there was noticeable gain in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Europe. There was a 35 percent increase throughout the Middle East.

He expressed appreciation for the check, and in turn presented to Rev. Gary Henecke, executive director of the Department of Youth Ministries, sponsors of the annual Bible Society offering, a “THOUSAND TRANSLATION BIBLE,” containing excerpts from the now 1,000 translations of the Bible distributed by the Society.

□

"HERALD" TALLY SHOWS SUBSCRIPTIONS HIGH

June 30, the Nazarene Publishing House subscription count of the Herald of Holiness showed circulation had reached 193,366—an all-time high. This was an increase of 6,220 subscriptions over last year at this time.

Records show the surge was led by 10 districts that had an increase of 400 or more subscriptions over last year. They are: Missouri, 826; Southern California, 680; West Texas, 623; Central Florida, 561; Michigan, 533; Northwest, 474; Washington, 473; Eastern Kentucky, 464; Akron, 432; and Southwestern Ohio, 429.

The 1979 subscription drive continues through November.

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