Some Forgotten Scriptures

There are some scriptures that too many forget. These have to do with daily activities instead of life's great moments and issues. Statements of Christ about giving a cup of cold water in His name tend to be forgotten while the ones about the Cross, life, death, etc., are remembered.

We do well to remember the "big" ones but should also recall the others, for it is in the daily ordinary things that we shape our lives.

In this editorial I'm asking you to read the scripture Isaiah 3:16-24. Please do it right now before you read on.

The whole of this chapter is a prophecy of the calamities that should happen by the Babylonian captivity. The tragedy is represented as being great and terrible. The prophet declares it is the consequence of their profanity and guilt. He describes their false luxury, ease, demeanor, and indulgence.

Add to this record of the past the statement of our Lord in Matthew 6:28: "And why take ye thought for raiment?" He was declaring to them the priority of the kingdom of God.

Lastly, let us read 1 Timothy 2:8-10: "I will therefore that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array. But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works."

These admonitions to us as Christians are too often lost and disregarded.

There is a case for modesty. There is a case for simplicity stated in the Bible. They become the Christian, both man and woman.

This is the day of the aggrandizement of the flesh. The hero of the season is the successful athlete, the starring actor, while the moral dimensions are too often scorned. I am not against the physical achievements of men as long as they don't break the Sabbath Day and the moral code of the Bible. But I regret that we have lost the sense of the beauty of the righteous spirit and life.

We cannot let the unregenerate world set our standards in anything. No man can serve two masters, said our Savior. Which is your master—God or the flesh?

Then, too, we have a witness—how will they know another code, standard, way of life, unless we show them by our actions, our attire, our words of testimony—one cannot cancel out the other.

Let us remember and obey the scriptures so many forget.
WHEN MY MOTHER PRAYED, she found sweet rest because she expected results!

She always prayed for a promise. Before she received it, she would say, “I’m asking God for a promise from His Word.” When she received one, she would say some variation of, “I’m standing on the promise of God.”

Her answers could be taken from Old or New Testament, poetic phrases or prosaic fact. I never knew exactly how she determined that God had given her an answer, but she would close the Book with the familiar words, “God has given me a promise.”

During the difficult days of the Great Depression, she often quoted David’s words, “I have been young and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread” (Psalm 37:25). Sometimes it was literally necessary to pray in the food or rent money. She stood on His promises and God provided.

It was more common then to purchase items, not on credit, but on layaway. The item desired was purchased, a receipt given for the down payment, and payments were made each week until the final one was made. Then the item would be handed over or delivered. All the purchaser had during those weeks of waiting were receipts, but one knew the item would be available when the time came.

I think she approached prayer in just that manner. She made her petition, asked for a receipt (a promise), and then waited for God to deliver. She knew she had to wait many times, but she also knew God would honor His promise.

Once she was asked to pray for a young married woman who was seriously ill with toxemia in pregnancy. To Mother this was a little girl that she had known since birth. The promise God gave her was the one quoted by Hannah on the birth of her son, but it fit the occasion beautifully: “For this child I prayed; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him” (1 Samuel 1:27).

In the years before and during World War II, the nation’s eyes were focused on Germany and Italy and their respective dictators, Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini. There were any number of sincere Bible students who preached that the Roman Empire was revived, and the Antichrist and false prophet were already present in the world. Mother had no commentaries, a very limited education, and no prophetic insight. While others consulted Daniel and Revelation, she asked the Lord to remove those wicked rulers and give her a promise.

Often during those troubled years, she would say, “I believe God, and He has promised about each dictator that ‘he shall come to his end, and none shall help him’” (Daniel 11:45). She was not at all surprised when Mussolini was hanged by partisans, and Hitler committed suicide in a bunker while bombs fell on the city. God had told her about their end!

Once she was asked to pray for a dog’s recovery. It was one of the few times she did not pray exactly as requested, but the prayer was answered anyway. The neighbor children’s dog was hit by a car. They rushed over, calling, “Mrs. Mac, Mrs. Mac, please pray for Teddy.”

She went to prayer. Since she felt it might be sacrilegious to pray for a dog, she prayed that the children’s faith in God and prayer would not be affected if the dog did not recover. However, Teddy healed quickly and the children gave credit to the power of prayer.

Not all of her prayers were answered in her lifetime. Some are still being answered today, almost 10 years after she went on to heaven. The legacy she left is that she was a woman of prayer. She never served on the church board nor held any important positions in the church. Her influence was limited to her family, her friends, and her neighbors.

Like Elijah, she was a person of prayer. God not only answered her petitions—He gave her a receipt beforehand by giving her one of His precious promises.
A FOUR-LINER goes like this:

It's a very odd thing—
As odd as can be.
That whatever Miss T. eats
Turns into Miss T.

Compare this now with the intake of the soul. It is one thing to know academically the doctrine of holiness; it is quite another thing to “eat in” the food of the Spirit. It is necessary to make exact theology come to life. It is imperative that there be much more than orthodoxy; that orthodoxy must become a personal Pentecost.

If we eat only exact doctrine divorced from life, then we will be full in the head but empty in the heart. If we eat both biblical theology and daily infillings with the Spirit, then we will be whole, and satisfied.

The personal Pentecost comes when we surrender our self-centeredness to His will. It is the singing of the enlightened spirit which shouts: “Make me a captive, Lord, / And then I shall be free; / Force me to render up my sword, / And I shall conq’ror be.”

Even in the born-again soul there is a fight. The war is waged between the human spirit and the divine spirit. The saved person wrestles with God before experiencing sanctified control of the Spirit. But when that human will yields fully—daily—to the molding of the Creator, then the peace treaty is signed and personal Pentecost is realized. It takes the giving over of self-centeredness into God-centeredness. The crisis is the initial moment of surrender. The continuing then follows on a moment-by-moment fellowship in the Spirit. The harvest then comes in the lifetime of holiness till death brings forth the face-to-face, pure encounter with the presently invisible Companion.

Admiral Peary said about the north pole: “For more than a score of years that point on the earth’s surface had been the object of my every effort. To attain it my whole being, physical, mental, and moral, had been dedicated.”

It is with such zeal of consecration that the Christian enters into personal Pentecost. Having put self-centeredness out of the way by the fiery presence of the burning Spirit, the sanctified soul marches forth to the heights gained from a lifetime of commitment to the divine plan. The biblical truth of “with-
Pentecost Personally

by J. GRANT SWANK, JR.
Fishkill, N.Y.

out sin” (Romans 6) becomes personalized. The controlling companionship of the Holy Spirit is the key. It is what Paul meant when he stated forthrightly that he did not live, but Christ lived within him. On one occasion, after an exceptionally moving rehearsal when the entire orchestra rose in applause for their conductor, Toscanini responded in embarrassment by stating, “You see, gentlemen, it is not me . . . It’s Beethoven!” Toscanini could not take the credit for the excellence; in fact, he had to point to the musical power that flowed through him.

Likewise the sanctified Christian knows that he deserves no praise for righteousness; all glory goes to the source, the Holy Spirit in control. The person of the Holy Ghost resides upon the yielded human spirit in Pentecost.

Samuel Shoemaker told his congregation that “sooner or later every Christian must choose between two pains: the pain of a divided mind or the pain of a crucified self.”

Leighton Ford preached that “there is no detour to holiness. Jesus came to the Resurrection through the Cross, not around it.” Implied is that the route is the same for us—the crucified self given over to the Easter morning pure light in Christ.

There is a price that must be paid for the personal Pentecost, but who would trade it for the reward of clean conscience and the power of purity? “The serene beauty of a holy life is the most powerful influence in the world next to the power of God,” wrote Blaise Pascal.

Leonard Ravenhill said that “the greatest miracle that God can do today is to take an unholy man out of an unholy world, and make that many holy and put him back into that unholy world and keep him holy in it.”

Dr. Theodore Parker Ferris, now deceased, preached to his Boston congregation on “The Battle Against Sin”; then he concluded the message with this prayer: “Help us, O God, as we fight against those things which hold us back from the goal. Purify our lives, clarify our thinking, and strengthen our wills, that as we love Him who loved us we may grow to be more like Him. Amen.”

Pentecost is more than a Sunday celebrated once a year. It is more than a reading in the Acts of the Apostles, chapter two. It is much more than the symbol of a dove tacked to one’s lapel. Pentecost is to be realized personally by the purging presence of the Spirit of Almighty God. Once and for all? No. Once entered into, yes. But then on a daily basis it is the continuing: perfect, and yet ever being made perfect; sanctified, and yet ever being sanctified; yielded, and yet ever yielding; purged, and yet ever being purged, till death opens up the eternal holiness in the very dwelling of the divine.

Reviewed by
M. LUNN
Bethany, Okla.

Book BrieFS
FOR YOU

RETIREE IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT

What are we to do with old age? That is the question D. Shelby Corlett asks. He proceeds then to make some excellent suggestions.

Seneca is quoted on the back cover of the book as saying, “As for old age, embrace and love it.” Author Corlett expounds on the theory that retirement “is not a tragedy to be endured. Retirement is a blessing to be enjoyed.” He urges the reader to begin planning ahead of time, easing into mental and physical adjustments.

In addition to welcome and practical original suggestions, the author includes several powerful quotations, including, “How to Live a Hundred Years Happily!” He tosses out a volume of ideas to challenge and encourage senior citizens.

The final chapter is called “Retirement Living Is an Art.” The book is, in fact, a guide to learning this art—a useful guide to a happy old age.

“Seven Principles for Retirement Living” concludes the book. There is other quotable material which could be read at meetings or included in a message.

by D. Shelby Corlett
Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City
To order, see page 23.
IT STRUCK with incredible suddenness—without apparent warning. The wind was strong. The fire was unmistakable. The baptism with the Holy Spirit, at Pentecost, was genuine. It was from God.

Tens of thousands gathered, almost as if by magic. There was no prior announcement. Three thousand were saved. Multitudes were shaken. All were amazed. Some doubted. They asked earnestly, “What meaneth this?” (Acts 2:12).

Men are asking that same question in our day. What does it really mean for a Christian to be filled with the Holy Spirit? With frigid error on the right and frenzied error on the left, let’s give puzzled people the authentic answer. It’s the time for truth. The baptism with the Holy Spirit means three basic things: purging, power, and praise.

PURGING FOR OUR SIN

No doubt about it, we have a sinful nature. This must be cleansed. St. John, directed by the Holy Spirit, wrote, “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us” (1 John 1:8).

Jesus said, “From within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness” (Mark 7:21-22).

Jeremiah concluded, “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?” (17:9). David declared, “I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me” (Psalm 51:5).

Yes, man’s nature is polluted and must be purged. It is unholy and must be cleansed.

God in His redemptive love provided for this basic need of all men. The Holy Spirit instructed St. Peter to record clearly and unmistakably the effects of the baptism on both Jew and Gentile. Here is the record, “And God which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them [the Gentiles] the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us [Jews]; and put no difference between us and them purifying their hearts by faith” (Acts 15:8-9).

Jesus exclaimed, “Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God” (Matthew 5:8).

“Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it . . .” (Ephesians 5:25-26).

Any doctrine, creed, or theology which does not recognize the cleansing aspect of the Spirit’s baptism is false—completely counterfeit.

The only hope of complying with God’s direct, divine command, “Be ye holy; for I am holy” (1 Peter 1:16), is via the baptism with the Holy Spirit!

He purges our sin—our sinful natures—and makes us holy. The committed sin can and must be forgiven. The carnal sin (principle) can and must be cleansed.

POWER FOR OUR SERVICE

Jesus promised, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me . . .” (Acts 1:8).

Is this statement true? If not, Christ is guilty of perjury. If so, then power does come with the Holy Spirit. His presence means POWER: power for some things, over some things, in some things.

Christ knew the disciples needed power to witness. All the Early Church Christians did. So do we.

Example: The disciples had few persecutions before Pentecost. They were not stoned, or beaten, or imprisoned. Yet they failed miserably. Defeat was
their daily diet. They did not really love each other. Too frequently they quarreled. Too seldom they prayed, or watched. They couldn’t stand criticism. Doubt, fear, and self-seeking plagued them persistently.

But the Holy Spirit, at Pentecost, did something for them. A new dimension was added, and in great measure. Boldness and courage were their twin resources. There followed imprisonment, mockings, persecution, death. Yet inner victory prevailed. And outer conquest was theirs in abundance. They evangelized most of the known world. Power for something.

God gave them power over something: temptation! Their pre-Pentecost behavior was stained by division, disputing, doubting. One betrayed. Another denied and cursed. Others slept in complacency and unconcern. All forsook the Master and fled. The coming of the Holy Spirit didn’t exempt these men from temptation, but gave them power over the devil’s most devastating attacks.

Our families and friends—the world in general—believe in us more as they see us emerge from temptation triumphantly. The test may be so severe and sore that we stagger. The season is one of heaviness. The valley is dark and deep. But His strength prevails and perseveres, in the 1st century or the 21st.

It is “according to the power that worketh in us” (Ephesians 3:20).

God gave them power over something: the opinions of the people. And He does that for us: “Delivering thee from the people . . .” (Acts 26:17).

A cringing, carnal, man-fearing spirit is tragic. It limits God. It restricts the free moving of the Spirit. It holds its victim in bondage. God will replace this with the dynamic of His presence. Then we can say with Peter, “We ought to obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29).

God gave them power in something: a sinful world, a body of clay, an unholy atmosphere, a sin-saturated society. You name it: the highest or lowest—the best or worst—and His power can work it! Broken hearts, broken homes, ruined lives: “In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us” (Romans 8:37).

PRAISE FOR OUR SAVIOR

The Spirit-filled life is a positive life. It is packed and jammed with holy surprises and happy thrills. The Holy Spirit is a person. And what a person! He is the very essence of life and love. When He comes to abide in us, He brings harmony and peace. He gives a lift to everyday living. He quickens. Holiness is the opposite of humdrum.

A song rises within us from the depths of our being. It isn’t prompted by razzle-dazzle. Cheap imitation and shallow entertainment are not its fountain sources. From whence the song? From the blessed Holy Spirit—speaking of Jesus—guiding us into truth—comforting our hearts.

Lazarus died. He didn’t fall asleep. He died. And he was buried. After four days, Christ stood before the tomb and spoke. Lazarus came forth from the dead. The graveclothes were still on him. He had life; no doubt about that. But he needed liberty. Jesus said, “Loose him and let him go.”

Christ has provided and brought both life and liberty to us. Let us praise Him for it. What is more beautiful than the voice of genuine gratitude to Almighty God!

The Church—and we Christians are the Church—is never able to praise as it ought until emptied of self and filled with the Spirit. But once we have put off the old man and put on the new, life is different.

We have every reason to shout the victory! Few things convict the sinner, bless the saints, and disturb the forces of hell more than the shout of a person exalting the name of Christ.

When some church people objected to the element of emotion in the mode of worship, Jesus said, “I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out” (Luke 19:40).

Mrs. M. J. Harris expressed it well in these words: Blessed be the name of Jesus!
I’m so glad He took me in.
He’s forgiven my transgressions;
He has cleansed my heart from sin.
I will praise Him! I will praise Him!
Praise the Lamb for sinners slain!
Give Him glory, all ye people,
For His blood can wash away each stain.

HER CALLOUSED HAND

I held her calloused hand in mine,
To me it seemed almost divine;
It represented love and compassionate care—
A hand that reached often to God in prayer.

Once I had found her kneeling there
In her kitchen with hand lifted in prayer.
Her uplifted face was touching to see,
Dampening with tears as she prayed for me.

I overheard words: “Lord, save my son
From his wayward ways—Thy will be done.”
And I turned away—asking in my breast
If my world, or mother, loved me best.

The answer? I found a secret place.
In trembling hands I buried my face,
Asking forgiveness for a life of sin—
Opening my heart and asking Him in.

Her prayers and mine were answered, I’m sure,
For from that day I’ve been kept secure
In the love of God—and I and Mother
Found a new love we could share with each other.

The night I caressed her calloused hand
She passed from this life to a better land.
Someday she and I will meet over there—
Thanks, God, for Mom, and her life of prayer.
—GEORGE EPLIN
Loon Lake, Wash.
WENTY-SIX YEARS AGO on a spring day, a small dark-haired woman discovered the joy of becoming a first-time grandmother. Being a lover of Jesus, the thrill of the new experience was immediately enhanced by wonder and mystery as she said, "Lord Jesus, take my precious new grandson and use him in your service."

We named the baby Timothy.

My mother showed me how to be a mother, too, during the month she stayed with us, pampering me and loving my son as grandmothers are prone to do. My husband and I gravitated around the tiny person, adoring him, puffing with pride; but the thing I remember most about that powder-scented time was Grammy saying so often as she cuddled the baby, "Timmy will be a minister someday. He's going to preach the Word."

While she was with us I noticed that my mother wasn't eating well, she looked thin; yet she enslaved herself unflinchingly, never once hinting that her small grandson might have to grow up without her. Instead she prayed and believed intensely, hounding the God of heaven with her plea for Timmy to grow up to serve Jesus.

After my mother had returned to Dad and the country church where he ministered, her illness worsened, and though she had been under medication for colitis, I sensed something more as I read her letters.

During the winter we took the baby to visit his grandparents. Timmy was 11 months old, and it was his first trip to western New York. When we arrived, her prayer of faith for her grandson was still firm. My husband and I dedicated our baby there at Dad's church, but it was more than a service of parental commitment; it became for the grandmother an Isaac on the altar.

Not long afterwards my mother's illness was diagnosed as cancer of the colon. Radical surgery was her only hope, and after the operation she had just one year left to live.

The parsonage was full of family when she came home. Weak and grey-looking but smiling courageously, her eyes seemed deep and excited as if she anticipated heaven. She never tired of watching Timmy in the playpen she had chosen for him. She wanted all of our attention, yet she wouldn't hold us when we were called away. It was as if our time together would end before she was ready. None of us wanted to think; just be. Only 52, this important woman was fatally ill and we weren't ready to give her up. I discovered that she had great strength of faith, though, when she would smile knowingly at her grandson, her soft hazel eyes full of love and moisture and say, "Timmy's going to be a preacher."

My parents moved into our home a few months before my mother's death. Never complaining, she had suffered through her last year, and I regretfully watched her body lose almost all resemblance to the energetic, bustling mother of my girlhood. She seemed to shrink before my eyes, but amazingly her zeal for living improved. She found no reason to give up her ministry of love and prayer.

While living together, Tim and Grammy developed a comfortable friendship. They talked child's talk and grandmother talk, but the little boy who sat beside her on the bed never learned about her troubles. Her endurance was from the Lord, she belonged to Him. And though Tim doesn't remember, she instructed him in speech and godly insights, all in preparation for his preaching the Word.

Just before the end, Dad moved my mother to my brother's home. My second baby was due and the invalid needed more care than I could give. She was carefully controlled as we kissed good-bye, knowing unless God worked a miracle we would not meet again until Jesus returned. Timmy didn't know. Gazing at the little boy, her eyes seemed ready to spill; instead she made those last moments fun for him. I could almost hear the words in her heart as they drove away. "Timmy will preach; he will be a minister."

Later in the fall on a crisp day that suggested winter, the phone rang. It was Dad. My mother was dead. Her suffering was over. I had prayed for this, but I felt the dying of the season intensely.
end of summer, I felt the winter was an unwelcome intrusion into a family’s intimacies, the too-early end to a grandmother’s prayer life.

It had been two and a half years of summer, knowing the warmth of my mother’s prayers for my son. But it wasn’t the end of her influence, as I was to learn through the years of training this lad in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. The growth of her precious grandson showed the effect of her prayers.

Tim was usually a good boy, not a “goody-goody” kid, but a sensible, dependable youngster. At an early age he accepted Jesus as his Lord and ran from the altar to me saying, “Now I want to be baptized.” After baptism he said with oldish wisdom, “Now I have to join the church.” And then during his early teens he asked in mock seriousness, “Mother, will you feel bad if I study for the ministry?” He was teasing; he knew my feelings. His grandmother’s prayers were affecting him in the only way possible and I was delighted.

If it all seems too good to be true, let me confess that in my human eyes it is. God chose the boy of grandmother’s prayers, overcame his sins, undergirded his weaknesses, and prepared him for the ministry.

First college at Eastern Nazarene, then a floundering mission church, where the disciplines of his training were tested. One day he called from his new ministry and what he said sent my heart into tumblesaults. “Mother,” I heard from 200 miles away, “I’m being ordained in June. We’ve never been happier than we are here serving the Lord. We are praising God for His presence and the chance to serve Him here in Gardiner. The more I am in this business of serving God, the more amazed I become that He uses people to do His work, but I’m so glad for the opportunity to serve Him.”

It’s summer again, a grandmother’s summer. Timothy will be ordained a Nazarene minister, just as she prayed he would.

I couldn’t help answering, “Tim, you are an answer to your grandmother’s prayers, you know. She hungrily penetrated heaven for you. She begged God to give you a place to serve Him. Son, with all my heart I believe this was your only choice in life. God is using you because your grammy prayed.”

My mother possessed an inner poise. Even as time closed in on her, she was eager to serve her Lord in the only way she could; she prayed. And now, 26 years later, Timothy preaches the Word. Her faith is fulfilled.

“DESUS . . . DESUS”
—EVELYN WESTLAKE
Kinneer, Wyo.

“He’s learning to say Jesus, Lord.
As he looks at the picture on the wall
He points, and looks, and says, “Desus.”
This little child of Yours
Is only 18 months old.
But it seems as if he senses
How much You love him
And what a wonderful Friend You are.
The beauty of his tiny face
Brings a lump to my throat
And a swelling in my heart.
If only the innocence and joy
That I see there
Would never go away.
But he will change, Lord,
It is inevitable
If he remains here on this earth.
The hardships of growing up
In this often unfriendly world
Will take their toll.
As his mother,
I pray . . .
That on his lips
Your name will always remain,
Desus . . . Desus . . . Jesus.
I have a daughter who is very precious to me. Though Linda and I are separated physically by 700 miles, we are together in spirit.

Last week she wrote, "I was up early again this morning. Cynthia [her daughter] was awake at 5:30 and so the day began. I am glad I am up though, because I have had a chance to pray for you before your day begins. I prayed for God's love to surround you and for His everlasting arms to uphold you and for His wisdom to fill your mind. Mom, we are promised the mind of Christ. I am believing that for you today."

This morning, another letter arrived. After she related the news of home and family, Linda shared that her pastor has asked her to give a talk on what having a Christian mother has meant to her. She sent me a copy of her text, which I share with you.

"I would like to begin by reading Mark 1:13-14: And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them. But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.

"I believe the 'they' in the passage refers to the children's mothers. The ladies were bringing to Jesus the most precious possessions in their lives...their children. I am thankful that my mother brought me to Jesus.

"For my 12th birthday, I received a Bible from my mother. In it she wrote, 'To Linda, with the prayer that you will serve the Lord with all of your heart, mind, and body all the days of your life. Love, Mother.'

"She was concerned for my spiritual life and she brought me to Jesus in prayer. With God's help, she taught me to be a happy person, relying on Christ for my strength.

"She has not stopped going to the Lord in my behalf. Fourteen years later, my mother gave me a new Bible in which she transcribed, 'I thank God daily for the precious gift of my daughter, beautiful in sight and spirit. My God's richest blessings be with you and those you love all the days of your life. Love, your Mom.'

"My mother not only dedicated her daughter to our Lord, I believe she dedicated herself, asking the Holy Spirit to help her teach me the joy of the Lord and the reality of Jesus Christ as a loving person.

"My list is long concerning my Christian mother:...She showed me her faith and taught me how to receive it for myself.

"...She has given me her love and trust.

"...She has taught me to be honest and responsible.

"...She has given me the gifts of acceptance, security, protection, and guidance; and to top it all off,

...She is my friend!

"I want to share with you the part of my mother that I love best. It is the way she loves me for who I am...the real me. I don't have to be super-spiritual or always thinking beautiful thoughts about everything and everybody. I can be happy or sad and she does not criticize me or 'set me straight' with a sermonette.

"She accepts, understands, and loves me anyway. She is teaching me to be a sensitive and concerned person. I am striving to have an accepting, loving attitude toward people, as I see in her, so that I can better share Jesus Christ in my life.

"God has blessed me with a mother, teacher, friend, and confidante, all in one beautiful person. I know she is special in God's sight as she is in mine."

Lest you think me presumptuous in sharing these reflections, I want you to know that I am fully aware that my daughter has prepared her thoughts from a biased point of view. Her mind is permeated with love for me and she has no doubt blotted out those times which, had she remembered, might not have caused her to speak of me in such glowing terms.

It is for this reason that I share my daughter's tribute. For as a mother, I experienced times of stress and strain almost beyond endurance, and acted in ways which I would like to forget. But my greatest fear was that I was a failure as a mother and
my children would grow to be damaged persons as a result of my inadequacy.

I recall pacing the floor with my daughter who had the colic. Wade, then three years old, was trailing behind me nervously sipping juice from a glass. He accidentally spilled the liquid on the floor, whereupon I reached down, slapped him on his bottom and shouted, “I told you to sit at the table until you were through with that!”

I sank into a chair dejectedly with Linda in my arms, fighting tears rolling down my face. Wade was lying on the floor, kicking and screaming.

Another time, Linda was playing in the yard. I had a headache. She bounced into the kitchen asking if she could have a tea party. I snapped, “Of course not; what do you think I am? Somebody who just drops everything and does what you want?”

It hurts me to remember times like these. But do you know what? My children emerged happy and well-adjusted individuals. They do not remember many of those unpleasantries. And if they do, they say, “Oh, Mom, it’s OK. We know you didn’t mean it.”

Virginia Satir, in her book Peoplemaking, emphasizes the importance of remembering that mothers need all the help they can get. She suggests that mothers should have a medal pinned on them for doing the best they can do under the circumstances. She reminds us that there will be good days and there will be bad days. Throughout all of them, the mother needs support. My belief is that this support comes from a firm faith in God, feeling good about oneself as a person, and in developing loving relationships.

I am firmly convinced that if we love our children and they know it, it will not matter a great deal that we fail now and then in our parenting.

The privilege of motherhood does carry blessings beyond measure.

Virginia Satir, in her book Peoplemaking, emphasizes the importance of remembering that mothers need all the help they can get. She suggests that mothers should have a medal pinned on them for doing the best they can do under the circumstances. She reminds us that there will be good days and there will be bad days. Throughout all of them, the mother needs support. My belief is that this support comes from a firm faith in God, feeling good about oneself as a person, and in developing loving relationships.

I am firmly convinced that if we love our children and they know it, it will not matter a great deal that we fail now and then in our parenting.

The privilege of motherhood does carry blessings beyond measure.

Virginia Satir, in her book Peoplemaking, emphasizes the importance of remembering that mothers need all the help they can get. She suggests that mothers should have a medal pinned on them for doing the best they can do under the circumstances. She reminds us that there will be good days and there will be bad days. Throughout all of them, the mother needs support. My belief is that this support comes from a firm faith in God, feeling good about oneself as a person, and in developing loving relationships.

I am firmly convinced that if we love our children and they know it, it will not matter a great deal that we fail now and then in our parenting.

The privilege of motherhood does carry blessings beyond measure.

Virginia Satir, in her book Peoplemaking, emphasizes the importance of remembering that mothers need all the help they can get. She suggests that mothers should have a medal pinned on them for doing the best they can do under the circumstances. She reminds us that there will be good days and there will be bad days. Throughout all of them, the mother needs support. My belief is that this support comes from a firm faith in God, feeling good about oneself as a person, and in developing loving relationships.

I am firmly convinced that if we love our children and they know it, it will not matter a great deal that we fail now and then in our parenting.

The privilege of motherhood does carry blessings beyond measure.

The word kindness in the Greek New Testament is χρήστος. This is derived from two other words: the adjective χρήστος which means useful, good, agreeable, gentle, kind, and gracious; also the verb χραομαί with the meaning to use, make use of, to treat, to behave towards. Therefore, a χρήστος is “one who renders gracious, well-disposed service to others.” In this, love is kind!

The long-suffering or patience of love is the negative side of usefulness and service to others. Kindness is the positive element. Love has a strong passion for usefulness. It gives itself in service to others.

Origen, an Early Church Father, held this word to mean that love is “sweet to all.” There is much of Christianity—even our own church—which is good, but unkind! A person can be very religious, devoted, faithful, theologically correct, and yet be unkind. There is all too often in good people a spirit and attitude of criticism and unkindness because love is absent.

Love is kind! The world about us endures, suffers, and is grim, bitter, and often full of self-pity. Holy living involves love which endures in kindness because it knows how worthwhile it is to endure kindly. In this patient expression of kindness, there is no room given for bitter, critical thoughts or words. Divine love, in the cleansing of carnal, selfish self-centeredness, has placed in the soul a true sense of the need, the pleading, and hunger of human life. This need can only be met by those who, in the freedom of love, can render a patient, kind, and unselfish service to needy mankind.

Love is kind! Just to endure something, or to be patient, is not the fullness of love. Sheer determination and disciplined willpower can do that! But to patiently endure pressure and problems of life—not with criticism and smug silence—but with kind, tender attitudes and speech—in that love is kind!

To endure—not with a selfish unapproachableness, but in cheerfulness; to endure—not with a heart full of resentment wanting to lash out, but in kindness.

Love is kind in the home, at church, out in the daily world—all for the world’s salvation, comfort, and help. Love is kind!
ANDREW OF HONG KONG

In a high-rise apartment building in crowded Hong Kong, a Nazarene missionary and his Chinese friend were knocking on doors. They had started at the top floor. Doors slammed in their faces when they identified themselves as Christians. Though discouraged, they continued down the warm hallways, obeying Christ's command to "go and make disciples." They kept knocking.

As one door opened, there stood a handsome young Chinese man. A smile spread across his face. He surprised them with a friendly invitation, "Please come in."

They discovered that this young man was at the crossroads of life. He listened intently as they told of the searching love of Jesus. He sensed their friendship. Warmly he accepted an invitation to attend a church service. He was given the Christian name of "Andrew."

In 1953, Andrew was living in Indonesia. Both his father and mother were Buddhists, but his eldest sister and an uncle were Christian believers. He could not afford to attend the university in Indonesia, so he decided to seek further education in his home country of China.

He entered a well-known university in Shanghai. For four years he studied English, language and literature. When he graduated, because of his keen mind he was employed as a teacher at a university in Peking. He taught both before and after the "cultural revolution" when the Communist government replaced the Nationalists.

In 1965 he became interested in a certain young lady who was working as a nurse. Six months later they were married, and in 1968, a son was born to them.

Andrew looks back, "My life in China, in a sense, was a happy one. We had enough food and clothing. We learned to live on very little and not depend on luxuries. I taught English at the university and was living among the top intellectuals in China."

Then the cultural revolution brought changes that made life difficult for Andrew. There was no time left for research and reading. He wanted his son to attend a university when he grew up, but Andrew felt this would be very unlikely if he were to stay in Peking. He also had a long-cherished dream of teaching and translating in a foreign country.

When the opportunity came in 1973 to come to Hong Kong, Andrew made the decision to leave his homeland. He felt that he could get a job in Hong Kong and in time, his wife and son could join him. Also, he hoped that his mother, sisters, and brother might come from Indonesia.

Arriving in Hong Kong, Andrew had difficulty finding employment. He had very little money left. He was lonesome, homesick, and discouraged.

One day, alone in his apartment, he felt a deep yearning for a meaning in life.

Alone? Not for long! Missionary John Holstead and his Christian friend came knocking—offering to be his friends—and shared about the Christ who cared.

Looking back on that day, Andrew relates, "Their visit left a deep impression on me. They did not realize it, but they were very kind. Because of their love, I wanted to go to their church and learn more of Christianity."

Andrew started coming to services regularly to hear Rev. Holstead preach. Wednesday evenings he was in prayer meeting. They gave him a Chinese Bible. Eagerly he read of God's ways with man.

Andrew remembers, "I began to want to become a Christian. Though I was considered an intellectual, I was grateful for the simple way Missionary Holstead preached from the Word. I really wanted to believe because I felt that the missionary's God was trustworthy."

In January of 1976, he expressed his desire to become a Christian. He recalls what happened, "Rev. Holstead asked me to come forward and pray at the altar. At first, as I knelt, I felt embarrassed because I didn't know what to say or what to do. Brother Holstead helped me pray and I followed along. Then something marvelous happened. I believed the Savior died for me! God in His kindness received me as His son."

Christmas Sunday, 1976, was another highlight in Andrew's life—he was baptized—one of the first of eight believers in the church.

When Andrew found a temporary job, he wrote for
his wife and son to join him. God cut through all the red tape. Andrew's wife and son were reunited with him in Hong Kong. Another joyous reunion occurred when his mother, sisters, and brother arrived from Indonesia.

How did he come to be called "Andrew?" As a new Christian, Andrew was not content with simply enjoying his own salvation. Rev. Holstead observed, "Like Andrew of the Bible, he just kept bringing others—friends, business associates, and neighbors from his apartment building. It was just natural for me to call him 'Andrew.'"

How does Andrew feel about his new name? "I like the name 'Andrew.' . . . I may not deserve that name, but I will regard Andrew the disciple as my example forever and ever."

As he read the Scriptures, he became impressed with Peter and Andrew's response to Jesus, "And straightway they left their nets and followed him" (Matthew 4:20). This modern Andrew declares: "Now I must do all within my power to reach people so that they can be loved to Christ."

He puts it this way, "God is my all, but not all mine."

Last year, General Superintendent and Mrs. Strickland came to Hong Kong. They received Andrew into church membership . . . the firstfruits of the gospel by this new church in Hong Kong.

Andrew's faith has been put to a test. He relates, "My wife is not yet a Christian believer. She does not understand my devotion to the church. While I admit I must keep my love for God first, yet it does not follow that I should neglect my wife. I am showing my love and trying to win her over."

Not long ago they were going through a troubled time. Andrew was again without a job. His wife challenged him, "What's the point of praying and going to church? You love God, does He know that? Why then doesn't He come and help you?"

Andrew replied, "God loves me and will take care of me . . . but His time has not yet come to answer this prayer."

In God's time, He did answer prayer in regard to employment. Andrew now is filling an important job as a translator and an interpreter.

Remembering that experience, Andrew testifies, "I'd like to say that even when I've been in distress, I've never complained or doubted His grace because I know that 'thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.'"

Andrew has determination to make heaven his home. He puts it clearly, "My resolution will never be shaken. Come what may, I will never change my mind or deny my Lord. Nothing on earth can separate me from the love of God. God is the Truth, the Way, and the Life. I am happy to build upon such a solid Rock."

Andrew has now moved into an 800-family-unit apartment. He asks himself, "How can I get more people to know Jesus Christ and believe in Him?" He is sowing seeds with his neighbors each day . . . witnessing to Christ's love . . . inviting people to church.

As he looks back, gratitude overflows, "Without the Church of the Nazarene sending the missionary, I would not have become a Christian. Thank you, Nazarenes, for caring enough to reach me with the gospel. You have provided a church where I can bring my unsaved friends. What a responsibility rests on the shoulders of my Christian brothers and sisters in America! I am joining with you—together we can pray and plan to reach others . . . we can win our world for Jesus Christ!"

PRAYER:

Heavenly Father, I am amazed and encouraged that your greatness is so personal. In crowded Hong Kong You saw a lonely Chinese man . . . ready to be responsive. Through Your missionary You came knocking . . . You entered his heart and made a modern Andrew. Are You saying something to each of us through Andrew's life? Are You reminding us to PRAY—pray for the conversion of Andrew's wife and son?—for Missionary Holstead? Help us to remember again that 560 Nazarene missionaries are not numbers but persons with names and needs. Perhaps most of all You are making us aware that we too have neighbors, potential "Andrews" who can be loved to Your Son by our sharing what He has done in our hearts. AMEN.
A Gift of Hankies

Hankie" that the other children of this small, rural community could also be heard to call her that. If they did not feel that free with her, their title for Granny was a very reverent "Miss Maud."

This tiny person could only be called a gentlelady. She could chop cotton, keep a clean house, do any of a number of jobs that fell her lot, and still have time and energy to love her 12 living children individually. She had mothered 14, but the diseases of the day had claimed 2 precious girls.

Life in that day did have its mysteries, especially to hardworking, Bible-reading, neighbor-loving dirt farmers. There were the mysteries of drought, of severe illnesses, of sons gone to war, and of seemingly rebellious children.

But there were wonders, too. The wonder of a crop that didn't fail. The wonder of a miraculous cure of a sick son or daughter when there had been no mopey for a doctor. The wonder of a Christian mate for a once-wayward child to marry.

Sometimes the wonders of life would overcome Granny. In a seemingly normal worship service, someone would sing the words that touched on her special wonder, and she couldn't take any more. The Divine would be so real! She'd reach into her little well-worn black Bible for that fresh, snow-white hankie she kept folded there. In a moment she would be out of her seat, waving the hankie up above her head, framed by the neat little bun she wore like a halo. Back and forth over her head, just like the waves of glory that reached her soul, that little hankie waved. It was her extension rod to heaven.

Granny was only five feet tall. Her spirit made up for her slight stature. Until the gift of her own magnificent family came to her, she had been slighted all her life. Raised by a stepmother who was very insecure, and by a father who could not see the injustices before him, her young life had been one putdown after another. The knowledge of this made my appreciation of her loving, giving pattern of life even greater. It seemed she showed us, her children and grandchildren, even greater and deeper love than most people ever knew simply because she had lived through such love-starved years.

When I was very young, I gave Granny a dime-store box of handkerchiefs for Mother's Day. I vividly remember wondering, "Will the Lord bless Granny so that she will shout in church when she carries my hankies?" To me, that would be the crowning glory for my gift of love. I don't know if she ever did shout her quiet little, "Wup!" and wave one of the hankies I gave to her, but the Lord did continue to bless her. Perhaps before He took her to himself almost six years ago, the wave offering she gave in one of her moments of wonder came from that special box of handkerchiefs.

It's Mother's Day again. This year I'm going to find the prettiest box of hankies I can for my mother. She
is, in all the beauty of her soul, her mother's daughter. She has never walked the aisle of the church shouting and waving her hankie. She has her own special way of expressing her wonder and praise. She sits quietly and smiles the most beautiful smile of praise and worship as the tears flow smoothly down her radiant face.

My mother doesn't have 14 children. There are only 2 of us. So if I give a gift of hankies, I know mine will eventually make it to church, folded neatly in her little well-worn black Bible. And when the words of the minister or the lyrics of a singer touch her heart, with wonder swelling in her soul, she will reach for the crisp, white hankie.

With her soul just as full and her heart just as pure as the mother she loved so much, she will smile and wipe those tears of joyful praise from her face. It's then I will know for sure that my gift for praise has made it.

The legacy is rich; the belief engrained and the tradition strong. Yet, as my mother before me, I must not claim the matriarch's religion, nor can I express my wonder exactly in her way. Mine must be a personal expression of personal wonder.

However, before God, I am responsible to pass on to my own daughter and keep familiar to her the beautiful glow and the private expression of public worship. Then she, too, will know that her mother, while not copying the mode of expression, knew in her heart the same wonder of the shouting and the smiling grandmothers.

As she grows older perhaps she will even come to understand my strong attachment to the old-fashioned white hankie I keep in my Bible.

---

**GIVE ME SPRING!**

—CHARLES HASTINGS SMITH

Bethany, Okla.

There is something in the springtime
That makes my tired spirit stir . . .
It must be the young hummingbirds
   With new wings that fan and whir.
Perhaps it is the buttercups
   That lift up bright casseroles;
Or the tulips pouring nectar
   From their fragile, crimson bowls.

There is something in the springtime
That pulsates me with a thrill . . .
Could it be the throat of thunder
   Bouncing laughter off the hill?
Could it be the purple asters
   Laying out their perfumed trails?
Could it be the blushing bloodroot
   Flagging down the fledgling quails?

Perhaps it is the meadow flutes
   Fifing wind songs as they sway,
Or baptism of the dew
   That wash the windows of the day.
Perhaps it is the hollyhocks
   Or the orchards gowned in pink.
Perhaps it is the mating call
   Of a bachelor bobolink.

Spring is coming with her blossoms
   And her satin-coated bees,
And the tubas of the swamp frogs,
   And the spider's thin trapeze.
Here come the bold, red-winged blackbirds
   With their sassy songs at noon,
And the lilacs' incense wafted
   To a copper-colored moon.

Yes, I worship spring each season
   And I love her even more
When the lilies' horns are blowing
   And she waltzes to my door.
She brings me bouquets at sundown
   And while all the crocus sing . . .
I bow to the omniscience
   Of a God who created spring!
IT WAS ABOUT TWO o’clock in the morning, I lay wide-eyed, praying, and trying to think of something to say to a friend who was going through some severe trials. Suddenly an inner light went on.

You see, this friend had been a super-active individual in the work of the church. She was a teacher, a mother, an author of many articles and books. Then, quite suddenly, she became physically incapacitated and near death on a number of occasions. The thought came to me that this was a new facet of life for her. What was that? A new facet of life! That’s when the inner light came on.

Just what are “facets”? I thought. Of course, facets are the little flat surfaces on a diamond through which the light shines to make the diamond sparkle and give it brilliance.

Yes, my friend had hit a new “flat” in her life. She was not able to keep up the old pace. In fact, she wasn’t able to do anything, hardly able to keep alive. She had suffered through other disappointments, but this was different. A flat from an entirely different angle—a perfectly positioned facet was in the process of being made in the diamond of her life.

There are many things about diamond facets that remind me of the Christian life. First, for the diamond and the Christian there is the cleaving and separating. With the diamond it is done either by a sharp instrument (chisel) or by sawing. With the Christian comes the separation from the life of disobedience and sin—a submitting of ourselves in repentance and confession, and the acceptance of a new life in Christ Jesus. The separation is painful sometimes, but it is imperative that we cut with the old life of disobedience and rebellion, if we are to enjoy becoming a diamond in His great diadem.

After conversion, the Christian is bound by the great arms of love that went so far as to die for him—the love that sees so much of value and potential brilliance if he will just submit to the facet-making process of grinding and polishing.

The most important facet for the diamond is the “table” facet—the one right on top. It has eight sides, must be perfectly positioned, and just the right size to fit the diamond it graces. The jeweler calls it the table facet. I call it the “not-my-will-but-Thine-be-done” facet. It calls for the elimination of the peak, the “big I.” It calls for the opening of the heart and life to the will of God—entire consecration, we term it. It must always be there if the diamond is to reach its peak in brilliance and value.

Just as the diamond has many facets, so the Christian runs into many “flats” or times of difficulty. He has the flat of discouragement, the flats of bereavement and sorrow, of misunderstandings, of suffering, even as did the Lord Jesus Christ, of whom it was said, “Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered” (Hebrews 5:8).

So if you would shine in God’s diadem of jewels, there must be the grinding of the flats, then the polishing by God’s grace to make the flat a facet. From each facet and through each facet, there can shine the brilliance of the “Light of Life,” the One who said, “I am the light of the world.”

A fully-faceted diamond, I am told, has 58 facets coming from all angles, each different in size and shape. Isn’t that just the way our trials or “flats” arise? Some facets are elongated, just as some trials are long and drive us deeper into the things of God.

There is one more vital and important facet on the diamond. It is located right on the bottom, seldom seen, but so important. The bottom facet is to keep the diamond from chipping away and losing much of its value. It is the flat that perfectly fits the elongated facets, anchoring them to the “Rock of Ages.” Just so the Christian must be anchored to escape being driven by every wind of doctrine.

A word of caution. Some diamonds leak. That’s right, leak. One very reputable jeweler has entered into quite an advertising campaign against leaky diamonds. If you try to stretch the table facet and make too large a gem out of the material available, the diamond will leak light and make a far less brilliant and valuable jewel. Happy is the person who is contented to fill the place where God wants him, and for which he is suited. Unhappy is the person who is always striving for positions he cannot reach. His diamond is leaking, for he is thinking of himself more highly than he ought to think. God knows our potential better than we do. Remember, there is no promotion outside the will of God, and there is no demotion inside the will of God. The “well done, thou good and faithful servant” makes no distinction of position.

Something to shout about: However small or large the diamond, it is the polish on the many facets that makes it brilliant. So, in your life and mine that which seemed like a “flat,” when polished by God’s great grace, becomes a beautiful and sparkling facet to others. They know nothing of the “flats,” they just see the “Light of Life” shining through the facets in the diamond of your life. Shine on, little diamond. Shine on, and thank God for the “flats.”

EDITOR’S NOTE: This article was received a few days prior to Mr. Whitcanack’s death.
We have seen how life in Christ begins and grows—through the power of the Word of God which is preached, heard, believed, and obeyed. The passage we are now studying looks at the relationship of believers to Christ, and the responsibilities arising out of that relationship. In short, it tells us what the Church is and does.

I. What the Church is

1. The Church is God's temple—a "spiritual house for a holy priesthood" (v. 5). The Temple, for Israel, was a place where God lived and the priest served. God was not confined to the Temple, but was present there in a special way as the focus and center of the nation's life (1 Kings 8:27-29; 9:3). The temple, for Christians, is not a material structure but the Church itself, indwelt by the Spirit.

   The cornerstone of the Church as God's temple is Jesus Christ. He is "a precious corner stone" (v. 6), over which the unbelieving stumble, but from which the believing have their life.

   The construction of the temple is a thrilling process. Its walls are individual Christians, bonded together "as living stones" (v. 5) by their mutual sharing of Christ.

   How does one become a "living stone"? The process is profoundly simple. Two phrases tell us: "coming to Him" (v. 4) and "you who believe" (v. 7). When we come to Jesus and trust in Him, He gives us eternal life. His own life is communicated to us. Thus He is "a living stone" and those who come to Him are "living stones"; they share His life. Jesus is "precious" and "this precious value . . . is for you who believe." He gives himself to us when we believe. This is another way of describing the "born again" experience already mentioned in 1:23.

2. The Church is God's people—a new Israel. Peter clusters four Old Testament phrases which referred to Israel and are now transferred to the Church.

   The Church is "a chosen race" (v. 9; cf. Deuteronomy 7:6). Out of love, God has chosen and redeemed us from sin, just as He chose and redeemed Israel from slavery in Egypt. We choose Christ only because God has first chosen us in Christ (Ephesians 1:4).

   The Church is "a royal priesthood" (cf. Isaiah 61:6). The phrase suggests a priesthood in the service of royalty. We are priests who serve King Jesus, representing Him to people and people to Him.

   The Church is "a holy nation, a people for God's own possession" (cf. Deuteronomy 7:6; Exodus 19:5-6; Titus 2:14). A "holy" nation is a God-owned nation, a people who belong to the Holy One in a special way. As Creator, He has a claim on all people. As Redeemer, He possesses especially those who, from among all nations, have come to Jesus and have been formed into one new nation—the Church.

   So the Church is a new Israel, and a new temple, the people in whom God dwells and through whom He works.

   This is possible only because of a radical change, pointed out in the contrasts, "you once were not . . . but now you are . . ." (v. 10); and "out of darkness into . . . light" (v. 9). Once we had not received mercy and were not God's people. When? Before coming to Jesus. Now we have received mercy and are God's people. Jesus is God's mercy to us, God's life for us.

II. What the Church does

The Church is not self-contained, but has a ministry: "you are . . . that you may . . ." (v. 9). Being is for the sake of doing.

1. We have a priestly ministry. The Church exists "to offer up spiritual sacrifices" (v. 5). Peter does not say what these are, but elsewhere the New Testament identifies them as the sacrifices of "praise" (Hebrews 13:15), of "doing good and sharing" (Hebrews 13:16), of people won through the gospel (Romans 15:16), and of our whole lives as living sacrifices (Romans 12:1).

2. We have a prophetic ministry. The Church exists to "proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (v. 9). For "excellencies" the RSV reads "wonderful deeds." We are to proclaim what God has done in Christ to save people from sin and unite them with himself.

   Our proclamation will not be credible unless our lives are holy. Therefore we are to "abstain from fleshly lusts" and "keep your behavior excellent" among the unsaved (vv. 11-12).

   The passage presses vital questions upon those who profess to be God's people and temple.
   - Have you offered praise to God for the mercies and blessings of this day?
   - Have you done anything for the homeless, the hungry, the oppressed, the depressed, as an offering to God?
   - Have you shared the good news of God's saving love in Jesus Christ with a friend or neighbor lately?
   - Is there anything in your life that contradicts your testimony and hinders your service to Christ?
   - Are you built upon the Rock, or are you stumbling over Him?

Let the church be the Church!
Pentecost Sunday is celebrated on May 14. It should be, and can be, one of the “high” sabbaths of the entire year. The event it commemorates, and the experience it represents, have an importance to the church which cannot be exaggerated. For on “the day of Pentecost” the Holy Spirit came to fill, cleanse, and empower the hearts of Jesus’ disciples.

The Holy Spirit came to fill them. He did not come to occupy a guest room, but to preside over the house. He came to dwell, to take up permanent residence, to affect by His presence all that the disciples were and did. The experience was radical and revolutionary, a divine takeover of human life. “They were all filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:4, NASB).

Even the mistaken critics recognized this aspect of fullness. Mockers said, “They are full of new wine.” No one accused them of merely sniffing the cork or having a few sips! No one said, “They are half drunk.” Whatever the cause of their excited behavior, it had completely possessed them—even the onlookers knew that.

The church will never attract the world with mild enthusiasm and halfhearted living. Only the Spirit-produced fullness of joy and zeal, overspilling our hearts and pouring from our lives, will make religion infectious.

The Holy Spirit came to cleanse them. According to Peter’s clear-cut testimony, the infilling with the Spirit purified their hearts (Acts 15:8-9). Self-centeredness was destroyed and Christ-centeredness was created. Peter faced the gathered crowd and said, “Hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth . . .” They no longer wanted to exalt themselves. They no longer jockeyed for positions of prestige in the Lord’s kingdom. They no longer shrank from suffering for the sake of His name. Ambition, pride, and fear were burned away. Now their driving concern was to make Jesus known, to tell others about His saving love and power.

The “expulsive power of a new affection” was experienced. When the Holy Spirit comes, all that is contrary to His holy fullness must go. Light dispels darkness. Power supplants weakness. Love evicts hatred. Courage replaces fear. Joy drives away despair. Pentecost brought purging to the inner life. It was cleansing from inbred sin. The white corpuscles of holiness destroyed the virus of me-first selfishness, bringing spiritual health.

The Holy Spirit came to empower them. Those who had fled from the crucifiers of Jesus now stood up and faced the crowd. Those who had been silent before the world now spoke up and witnessed to the Savior. The weak were made strong. The mute became vocal. God gave “power to the faint,” and frail human life became impervious to threats, prison, torture, and death. Through blood, sweat, and tears the Spirit-filled disciples kept the name and claim of Jesus constantly before the people.

Ordinary people achieved extraordinary results. “Why stare at us?” they asked the amazed onlookers. What was happening could not be explained in terms of human abilities or powers. Only the Spirit of God, who is Power, could have made their witness to Jesus so effective for the healing of the sick and the saving of the lost. Talented and educated men can fail at Kingdom work. The only power that assures victory is the power of the Spirit, who loves and speaks through us. That power can make conquerors of the most unpromising material!

Without His power the church is helpless. They cannot operate the machinery, proclaim their message, or achieve their mission. Without His power, preaching has no more redeeming effect than Emily Post’s advice. Without His power, ritual is dead and deadening routine. Without His power, witnessing is reduced to religious commercials with a bit of Christian flavor. But “when he is come” the church speaks with force, the world is convicted of sin, and people seek Christ as their Savior. The one thing indispensable to the success of the church is the coming of the Holy Spirit in the fullness of His power.

Let us pray and trust for His coming in our lives! A fresh Pentecostal outpouring is the deepest need of the church. And what better time than Pentecost Sunday to experience such divine renewal? Come, Holy Spirit, we need Thee!
Without His power, preaching has no more redeeming effect than Emily Post’s advice. Without His power, ritual is a dead and deadening routine. Without His power, witnessing is reduced to religious commercials with a bit of Christian flavor.

**WHY DO YOU READ THE BIBLE?**

Some read the Bible from an almost slavish sense of duty. They feel that they ought to read it, so they force themselves to its pages daily, often with wandering minds and unenlightened hearts. Many have confessed this to me in counseling situations.

There are others who read it from fear. If they don’t read a chapter a day they are afraid that God will punish them or the devil will trap them. So they read, but superstitiously, taking the Bible as they do vitamins or medicine, finding no pleasure in it but fearing the consequence of neglecting it.

There are preachers who look upon the Bible as a happy hunting ground for sermons, and seldom open their Bibles except when they are engaged in preparing a sermon. And they wonder why there is little life and fire in their preaching!

There are scholars who read the Bible only as critics. They are so absorbed with details of dating, with “problem” texts, with apparent discrepancies, with all the nuts and bolts of technical scholarship, that they do not find in the Bible their soul’s bread. At a meeting of a learned society of Bible scholars, a Jewish scholar chided some of the Christian scholars for this attitude, saying, “The trouble with you is, you don’t love the Bible.”

Why do you read the Bible? Why do I? The question was prompted by something I read recently in Harold Rogers’ book A Handful of Quietness: “...to read the Bible as one would study history or science is to miss out on something great and wonderful. Rather we read it to find a friend, one who will walk with us through life and welcome us on that far shore in the light of a new day when we are assigned eternal roles.”

Christians ought to read the Bible. Preachers should get their sermons from it. Scholars must be concerned with critical and technical matters regarding it. But these are secondary reasons. Primarily, we read it to have fellowship with Jesus, to be informed and equipped and strengthened as His followers.

**MAKING PEOPLE THIRSTY**

Norman Miller, our General Treasurer, is one of the finest Christian gentlemen in the holiness movement.

When he was giving his report to the General Board he said something that made me think: “Jesus said, in Matthew 5:13, ‘Ye are the salt of the earth.’ And salt makes people thirsty.”

Our lives should make people thirsty for Jesus! There should be qualities of love, joy, peace, courage, kindness, forgiveness, and graciousness in our lives that awaken desires in unsaved hearts to know the secret of our victory.

Really, this is how most people are won for Christ. Very few come to Jesus initially as the result of reading the Bible or hearing the gospel preached. Instead, someone lives Christ before their eyes, and they become attracted to Him through His disciple. “Ye became followers of us, and of the Lord,” wrote Paul to converts (1 Thessalonians 1:6). The sequence is important and natural.

This is how I was reached for Jesus. I didn’t read the Bible, I didn’t listen to sermons, I didn’t initiate any conscious quest for the Savior. But Doris lived a lovely Christian life before me after she was saved during our courting days. She met my blasphemy, contempt, and sin with love, patience, forgiveness, quiet assurances of prayer, and gentle words of testimony. By contrast, my life seemed so cheap, hollow, and worthless that I was soon thirsting to know Jesus. She was “the salt of the earth” and Jesus became to me “the water of life.” I could sing with Horatius Bonar

I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in Him.

If we make anyone thirsty for Jesus, we can be confident of His ability to satisfy them! He is the Living Water.

We can’t make others thirsty for Jesus if we limp about puckered and frowning! But if our lives bear the fruit of the Spirit, people will want to discover the eternal spring that nourishes our roots.
FIRST CROSS-LANGUAGE CLINIC HELD IN HAITI

History was made February 2-4 in the Department of Evangelism when the first "Nazarenes in Action" Clinic on personal evangelism was held in a non-English-speaking country. Dr. Steve Weber, missionary projects director, gave training to the Haitian Bible College students prior to the arrival of Dr. Don Gibson, executive director of the Evangelism Department, and his wife. The students in turn gave on-the-job training to the pastors in their own language and culture.

Sixty pastors and six lay persons took the training. One of the lay women, Anelia Seide, presented the gospel to a voodoo worshiper with a sick child. Anelia, who had just learned how to present the gospel through the clinic, was able to lead this woman to Christ. The woman gave $60.00 worth of her worship implements to Anelia, saying she would not need them anymore. Since the average salary of a Haitian is a little over $100 a year, this was a great step in commitment.

The Department of Evangelism has produced a cassette tape of Anelia Seide's testimony and encounter with the voodoo worshiper. A copy may be secured through the Nazarene Publishing House.

Dr. Steve Weber, in reporting to the department concerning the clinic, said, "I was impressed with the continued interest and desire of the pastors to learn more about sharing the gospel. A few of these men cannot read or write. They had someone read the material to them in Creole, and then they verbally gave me the outline one after the other. It thrilled me to see how much they want to learn. I wish our college and seminary students could have seen our men struggling to master this material. What a challenge it is to help them build the Church in Haiti!"

Rev. Terry Read, Mission Council chairman, reports that 179 people have found Christ since the clinic—most of them as a direct result of this training for pastors. Rev. Florentin Alvarez, district superintendent, believes many of these converts will be incorporated into the church. □
As a part of its “Youth in Mission” program, the Department of Youth Ministries is sending a team of 43 students to the Philippines this summer for six weeks of grassroots mission endeavor. Not only will this summer’s International Student Ministry project focus on a dynamic World Mission area, but the ministry team will be multinational as well.

Joining the 22 students from North America will be students from the Republic of Korea, the Republic of China, the Philippines, Australia, and New Zealand.

The North American delegation will leave San Francisco on June 25, 1978, and meet the other world area students in Manila for five days of orientation and training. From there the students will be organized into five “ministry teams” and spend the rest of the summer conducting evangelistic services and organizing children and youth outreach events.

Rev. David Browning, missionary to the Philippines and ISM field coordinator, in a recent letter to Norm Shoemaker, program director for the Department of Youth Ministries, shared his optimism and faith: “Including radio and television, we could very well make more than 100,000 contacts in the student and youth world here in the Philippines. Nonstudent adults and children would run into the thousands ... we should realize 1,000 new church members and many more through the years ... we are not estimating in the dark.”

“Youth in Mission,” a summer program sponsored by the Department of Youth Ministries, provides Nazarene college students with a structure for summer involvement in various ministry settings. In addition to International Student Ministries, “Youth in Mission” includes Inter/Sect (U.S. programs, i.e., Inner City, Home Mission projects), Discovery (Music and Drama), and Athletes in Mission (Sports Witness).
KALEIDOSCOPE—NEW CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES COMMUNICATION

Kaleidoscope, a new publication prepared by the Department of Children's Ministries for local church children's workers and leaders, will be available at district assemblies and for use in the fall.

The publication is designed to help workers correlate the great variety of children's ministries and activities into an integrated and meaningful pattern of ministry.

The book will come in a loose-leaf format and will include print sections, film and cassette tape media, and catalogs of materials. Information will deal with the needs of children, the ministries of the church, how these ministries meet the needs of children, and how to administer these ministries. Information will be organized in seven major divisions.

A general information section will include the Kaleidoscope concept and planning aids. "Sunday Ministries" will cover Sunday school, children's church and evening programs and lessons; "Weekday Ministries" will deal with the Nazarene Caravan program, Quizzing and Bible study, and mission education; "Annual Ministries" will cover VBS and camping; "Special Ministries" will include Cradle Roll, music and drama, reading, and special projects; "Methods and Media" will cover a variety of activities; and "Resources" will contain catalogs on children's curriculum, music, and other available materials.

Although much discussion is devoted to administration, theories, and philosophy of the ministries, most of the information is practical in nature. For example, the "Sunday Ministries" subsection on evening programs and lessons, will contain enough Sunday evening lessons and activities for one quarter; and the "Special Ministries" subsection of special projects will carry information on participation in the American Bible Society offering.

Other subsections will contain materials to augment and complement existing curriculum. The "Weekday Ministries" subsection of Quizzing and Bible study will contain 20 ditto masters of games and activities, and a children's Bible commentary that correlates with the 1978-79 children's Quizzing materials. Also under "Weekday Ministries," the Nazarene Caravan program will contain instruction on planning for the entire year, promotion, and registration activities.

Kaleidoscope will be produced in four quarters a year; a notebook and extensive resources section will accompany the first quarter order.

For a brochure on the publication, write Kaleidoscope, The Department of Children's Ministries, 6401 The Paseo, Kansas City, MO 64131.

Fresh insights expanding on books of similar titles. Valuable guidelines for everyday Christian living.

Recorded on two sides of high quality cassette tapes . . .

| TAX-1001 | What Is Sanctification? | Each, $3.50 |
| TAX-1002 | The Power of Your Attitudes |
| TAX-1003 | Your Life in Christ |
| TAX-1004 | Christians in Families |
| TAX-1005 | How to Live like a Christian |
| TAX-1006 | Easy to Live With |
| TAX-1007 | Living like Christians at Home |
| TAX-1008 | Set of above 7 tapes—SAVE $3.50 |

$21.00

A meaningful listening activity while driving, working around the home, relaxing.

Place Your Order TODAY!

NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE
Post Office Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141
COUNCIL DESIGNS DISCIPLING FOR WORLD YOUTH CONFERENCE '78

When 25 Nazarene youth leaders came together in Kansas City January 4-7, their goal was to design a discipling strategy for Nazarene Youth International. The General NYI Council and the Department of Youth Ministries staff committed themselves first to “Go . . . and make disciples.”

What happens when a couple dozen excited, committed, spirit-filled youth leaders start discussing disciple-making? For one thing, a World Youth Conference is created. And a renewed style of ministry for youth is born.

They talked about some other ministries: Sunday school, new resources like Source, career youth needs, Bible Quizzing, and constitutional matters. They also welcomed five new members. But their focus was on discipling—especially the first step: World Youth Conference ’78.

More than 2,500 youth and youth leaders will celebrate Jesus’ Lordship and prepare for discipleship at this quadrennium’s international institute. The NYI event will gather senior youth from about 40 nations in Estes Park, Colo., during July 17-23, 1978. Some 150 districts worldwide are finalizing their selections and registrations for what promises to be the most productive WYC ever.

The entire denomination is encouraged to prayerfully support the leaders who plan and the delegates who attend.

Nampa, Ida., College Church presented a Distinguished Service Award to Dr. and Mrs. John E. Riley, Sunday, March 5. The inscription read: “To Dr. and Mrs. John E. Riley in deep gratitude for successful and distinctive service at Northwest Nazarene College and as Mission Diplomats at large for the Church of the Nazarene.” Dr. and Mrs. Riley are making their home in Nampa, after several years of service at Nazarene Bible Colleges abroad.

THE NAA MEETS

The annual meeting of the Nazarene Athletic Association was held March 14, 1978, at the Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel in Kansas City. Professor Elmore W. Vail, athletic director at Trevecca Nazarene College and president of NAA, conducted the meeting.

Each director of athletics gave a brief report with regard to the athletic program sponsored by his college. Special congratulations were extended to Coach Jim Poteet for his accomplishment in bringing the Bethany Nazarene College Redskins to the NAIA Tournament in Kansas City for the second time in a three-year period. Congratulations were also in order for the ONC Tigers, the MANC Pioneers, and the NNC Crusaders who participated in the National Christian College Athletic Association tournament at Chattanooga, Tenn., along with three other Christian colleges.

Rev. Melvin McCullough and Rev. Norm Shoemaker from the Department of Youth Ministries and Rev. Darrell Teare and Rev. Jim Hudson from the Department of World Mission were present as special guests. Norm Shoemaker presented plans for an all-Nazarene basketball team to tour the Far East during the summer of 1978. The Nazarene Athletic Association pledged to contribute $1,500 to help with the expense of the project.

Officers elected for the next two years are: president, Dr. Paul Taylor, director of athletics, NNC; vice-president, Prof. Nancy Detwiler, director of athletics, ENC; and secretary-treasurer, Prof. Bud Harbin, director of athletics, MANC.

The next meeting of the NAA will be held March 13, 1979, in Kansas City in conjunction with the annual NAIA Basketball Tournament.

Newly elected representatives (l. to r.): Ron Corbin (Point Loma Zone), Ron Lush, Jr. (Mount Vernon Zone), John Denny (Northwest Zone), Fred Fullerton (Nazarene Student Leadership Conference), Bill Nielson (Eastern Zone) . . . greeted by General NYI President Holland Lewis and Mel McCullough, executive director, Department of Youth Ministries.

BOOK BRIEFS ORDER COUPON

See page 5 for description.

Please send ______ copies of

RETIREMENT IS WHAT YOU MAKE IT
by D. Shelby Corlett
72 pages at $1.00 each to:

Name ____________________________________________
Street ____________________________________________________________________________
City ____________________________________________________________________________
State/Province ____________________________________________________________________

CHECK or MONEY ORDER Enclosed $__________
CHARGE (30-day) TO: □ Personal _____________ other account

Clip and Mail TODAY!

NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE Post Office Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141
Craddock, Dan: Hamilton, Ontario, Canada (First), May 14;
Syracuse, NY (First), May 21.

Cocroft, Marion: Port Falls, ID, May 7-12.


Dell, Jimmy: Boys' & Girls' Camp, Philippines, May 1-11;
 RIDGFIELD, WA, May 17-22; Pleasantview, WA, May 22-27;

Dennis, Darrell: Greenfield, IN (First), May 14;

Dennison, Marvin E.: Fort Dodge, IA, May 2-7; Fremont, IL, May 9; Fort Street, IL, May 16;
Beardstown, IL, May 16-21; Casa-

Dixon, George & Charlotte: Mundeisen, IL, May 7-14;
Brighton, TN, May 16-21; Cunningham, TN (Southside), May 23-28; Scottsville, KY, May 31; June 4.

Dunnire, Ralph & Joan: New Philadelphia, OH (First), May 2-7; Richmond, KY, May 16-21; Middletown, OH (First), May 23-28.

Dunn, Don: Albare, PA, May 2-7; Crestline, OH.

Erickson, A. William: Florissant, MO (Trinity), May 2-7;
Lebanon, TN, May 9-14; Seacliff, DE, May 16-21;

Everleigh, Lee: Tippecanoe, IN, May 10-14; Grove City, OH

Pall, May 9-14; Arnold, MO, May 16-21.

Files, Gloria & Adams, Dorothy: Framingham, MA

Fisher, C. William: Mishawaka, IN (First), May 2-7;
Owosso, MI (First), May 9-14; Bethel, OH, May 16-21;
Lyons, KS (First), May 23-28; Grand Junction, CO, May 30- June 4.


Foster, Robert: Lewiston, IA, May 1-7; DeKalb, IL, May 8-14; Mount Sterling, IL, May 25-28.


Garten, Ted: Wheelersburg, OH, May 7 (a.m.); Ironton, OH (First), May 7 (p.m.); Harvest, WV (First), May 14 (a.m.); Moundsville, WV, May 14 (p.m.); Teenerd, OH (First), May 21 (a.m.), Cincinnati, OH (Norwood), May 21 (p.m.); Portage, IN, May 28 (a.m.); Kankakee, IL (First), May 28 (p.m).

Clark, Kene, Sullivan, IN (May 3-7); Bountiful, PA, May 9-14; Danville, IN (First), Bountiful, UT, May 14-21; Salt Lake City, UT (First), May 23-28; Findlay, OH (First), May 30- June 4.

Clint, Jerry: Wellsville, WV, May 2-7; Nanny, KY (Delmar), May 9-14; Winslow, IN (First), May 16-21; Summersville, KY (Keefer), May 23-28; Gordonsville, Tenn, May 26- June 4.

Cobb, Bill & Terry: Mississippi Dist. Assem, May 2-5;
Valley Station, KY (Valley), May 12-14; Concert Tour of Mexico, May 25-30.

Cox, Curtis B.: Blue Ridge, VA, May 2-7; Huntington, WV (Wheat Hills), May 9-14; St. Albans, WV, May 16-21; Wallingford, CT, May 30- June 4.

Crockett, James: Martinsville, IN (First), May 2-7; Columbus, OH (Warren Ave.), May 9-14; Madison, WI (First), May 16-21; Columbus, OH (Chapel), May 23-28.


Crane, Billy D.: Dunbar, WV, May 2-7; Glenwood, WV, May 9-14; Carthage, KY, May 16-21; Matsonwat, WV, May 23-28; East Bank, WV, May 30- June 4.

Gaston, Tom: W. Evans, TN, May 2-7; Chattanooga, TN, May 9-14; Paris, TN, May 16-21; Pooler, GA (First), May 23-28; Phenix City, AL (First), May 30- June 4.

Gates, Ben: Charleston, SC, May 9-14; Nashville, TN (Grace), May 17-21; Georgetown, OH (First), May 28; Highland, IN (First), May 30- June 4.

Jackson, Paul & Iris: Sioux City, IA (Central), May 2-7;
Windsor, Ontario, Canada, May 10-14; Ridgeway, PA, May 16-21.

Jagger, Marvin: Manaca, CA (East), May 7-14; Denver, CO (Rose Hill), May 21-28.

Jantzi, Calvin & Marieder: Peterke, OH (First), May 2-7;
Jacksonville, AR (First), May 9-14; Jamestown, ND, May 16-21; Roanoke, VA (East Gate), May 23-28; Conneaut, OH (Warren Ave.), May 30- June 4.


Johnson, Bob: Champaign, IL (Westside), May 2-7.

Johnson, Ron: Spokane, WA (Crestline), May 7 (a.m.), Har-

rington, WA, May 7 (p.m.); Concerts, Oregon Pacific Dist. May 12-17; Port Angeles, WA, May 21 (a.m.), Bremerton, WA (Alliance), May 21 (p.m.), Nampa, ID (Franklin), May 28 (a.m.), Emmett, ID (May 28 p.m.).

Kratz, Calvin & Kay: Chariton, IA, May 20-27.


Lambert, Marshall: Lisbon, OH (First), May 2-7; Covington, KY, May 5-14; Belington, WV, May 16-21; East Bank, WV (Galager), May 23-28; Franklin, WA (Wattles Chapel), May 30-June 4.

Lanier, John H.: Cincinnati, OH, May 9-14; Gibsonburg, OH, May 24-29.

Lassell, Ray & Jan: Lewistown, PA, May 7-28; Zanesville, OH, May 9-14; Tyrone, PA, May 16-21; Noblesville, IN, May 23-28; Indianapolis, IN, May 30-June 4.

Latham, Miles: Winter Haven, FL, May 3 (p.m.), Paris, IN, May 14 (a.m.); Louisville, KY (Southside), May 21 (a.m.), Radcliff, KY, May 21 (p.m.), Winchester, IN (Brownstown), May 28 (a.m.) & (afternoon), Winchester area, May 28 (p.m.).

Laxson, Wally & Ginger: Hendersonville, TN, May 3-7;
Hamilton, OH, May 9-14; Columbus, OH, May 16-21; Somerset, KY, May 30-June 4.

Leckrone, Larry: Maretta, GA (First), May 2-7; K.C. Dist.

Lemaister, Ben: Rio Linda, CA, May 2-7; Woodland, CA, May 9-14; Lindsay, CA, May 16-21; Corcoran, CA, May 23-28; Caruthers, CA, May 30-June 4.

Leister, Fred: Dallas, TX (First), May 9-14; North Little Rock, AR (First), May 16-21; Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada, May 23-28.

Lodell, F. J.: Huntington, WV, May 9-14; Dayton, OH, May 9-14; Patterson, NI (First), May 16-21.

Loman, Lane & Janet: Nashville, TN (Calvary), May 2-7;
Richmond, VA (Southside), May 14-21; Piedmont, MO (First), May 23-28; Phenix City, AL (First), May 30- June 4.


Manley, Stephen: Akron, OH (Kennon), May 2-7;
NEWS OF REVIVAL

Pastor Dale Peirce reports that the Denver City, Tex., church had an outstanding revival the week of September 13-18 with Rev. Terry Edwards as the evangelist.

Pastor E. R. Houston of Johnson, Kans., Bethel Church writes: We had a real old-fashioned revival! Dr. Houston, who was pastor at this church and Bill and Terri Cobb are tops. Forty-five individuals served as Pew Captains with 294 responding to the invitation to come.

Our church membership is 77 in a rural area 22 miles from town, but 114 different people attended the revival.

January 24-29, Pastor Darwin Warner reports, the flame of revival burned at the Coolidge, Ariz., church. "Ottis Smith and his wife were used of God to bring a fresh wave of revival to this 41-year-old church." Each night the altar was lined with new board members seeking, "This was the best revival I ever attended."
MANC BOARD MEETS

The Board of Trustees of Mid-America Nazarene College met March 15.

President R. Curtis Smith read his report to the Board of Trustees at a banquet on Tuesday evening, March 14. Over 200 college employees and the members of the board attended. In his report, Dr. Smith stressed the move the college is making toward combining liberal arts with career education. He stated: “Our future vitality directly relates to how well we serve the needs of our students. I believe a combination of liberal arts and career education will help us do this. This is a blend I support.”

In official action on Wednesday, the board accepted a budget of $4,090,754 for the 1978-79 fiscal year. This is an increase of $406,075 over last year’s budget.

Mid-America Nazarene College has operated in the black for the first eight months of this fiscal year, with an excess in income over expenditures of $72,560.

A financial campaign for the fall of 1978 was approved. Monies raised will be used for a career education building and program. The building will house the nursing, agriculture, home economics, and business programs.

Officers and members of the Executive Committee were elected as follows: Dr. Forrest Whitlatch, Des Moines (Iowa District superintendent), chairman; Dr. Norman Bloom, Minneapolis (Minnesota District superintendent), vice-chairman; Dr. Paul G. Cunningham, Olathe, Kans. (Olathe College Church pastor), secretary; Dr. Marvin Snowbarger, Emporia, Kans. (medical doctor), treasurer; ministerial representatives: Rev. C. Marselle Knight, Wichita, Kans. (Kansas District superintendent) and Rev. Milton Parrish, Overland Park, Kans. (Kansas City District superintendent); lay representatives: Mr. Blaine Proffitt, Lincoln, Neb. (U.S. Postal System employee), and Donald Cork, Bridge ton, Mo. (plumber).

Plans are being made to complete the Campus Center by adding a wing and second floor to the existing structure. A parlor and housing facilities for a resident director is being planned, to be built between the men’s dormitories, Lanpher Hall and Snowbarger Hall.

Approval was given for an experimental intercollegiate football program. The details are to be worked out by the Executive Committee, the Administration, and the Athletic Council. Initial funding will be provided by President Smith through sources beyond regular college income.

On May 20, 1978, the American Heritage Hall will be renamed “The James C. Dobson Fine Arts Building,” in honor of Professor Dobson, who died December 4, 1977. In a dedication service in the afternoon of May 21, the new religion building will be named the “R. Curtis Smith Religion Building” in honor of Mid-America’s founding president. Dr. James C. Dobson, Jr., will be the guest speaker.

Honorary degrees will be awarded at Commencement May 22, to Maurine Dickerson (L.L.D.), Olathe, Kans.; and C. Marselle Knight (D.D.) Wichita, Kans. The chairman of the European Bible College board. Rev. Richard Zanner, will be honored at Commencement on May 24, at the Bible College in Switzerland with an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree.

HISTORIC FIRST IN MEXICO

Spacious Guadalajara First Church was the scene of an historic first All-Mexico Holiness Convention, February 21-26, with a registration of more than 422 representing Mexico’s 200 Nazarene churches from Tijuana to the Yucatan. Overflow crowds attended every session.

Special speakers were General Superintendent William M. Greathouse; Dr. Edward Lawlor, general superintendent retired; Dr. W. T. Purkiser, retired Herald editor; and Dr. Honor ato Reza, executive director, and Dr. Sergio Franco, general editorial director, of the International Publications Board in Kansas City.

The conference was planned by the four superintendents of the Mexican districts: Rev. Roberto Moreno, Northwest Mexico; Rev. Moises Es perilla, Northeast Mexico; Rev. Luis Aguilar, Southeast Mexico; and Rev. Moises Garces, Central Mexico, who presided in turn over the sessions.

Conference lectures included “Sanctification as a Crisis and Way of Life,” “The Fruit of Entire Sanctification,” and “The History of Holiness Doctrine.” Spontaneous altar services brought victory to scores in conference preaching sessions.

The conference was entirely self-supporting with 175,000 pesos raised. Seminario Nazareno Hispauanamericano in San Antonio was represented by a 14-student delegation. Rev. Ronaldo Denton represented the sales department of the Publications Board and assisted as an interpreter.

Hope was expressed that the conference, which promises a lasting effect on the church in Mexico, might become a quadrennial event.

—W. T. Purkiser, Reporter

Pictured (l. to r.) are: Dr. Sergio Franco, Dr. W. T. Purkiser, Dr. Edward Lawlor, Dr. William M. Greathouse, Dr. H. T. Reza, and District Superintendents Moises Garces, Roberto Moreno, Luis Aguilar, and Moises Esperilla.
HEADQUARTERS PERSONNEL GIVEN SERVICE AWARDS

In a special chapel service March 15, 33 persons working at International Headquarters received awards. The pins were presented by Paul Spear, executive director of Headquarters Operations, after a brief program in which Gale Wilson sang and Dr. Ted Martin spoke on the motivation of working for the church.

Receiving pins for two years of service were: Evelyn Beals, Ivan Beals, James Boardman, Evelyn DeBlock, Sylvia Evans, Grace Franklin, Don Gibson, Kathryn Hughes, Kathleen Joyce, Wanda Knox, Roxie Lyle, Ernest McNaught, Linda O'Brien, June O'Neal, Pilar Pacheco, Acacio Pereira, Frances Rieck, Lora Schneider, Pamela Taylor, and Mary White.

For five years: Helen Davis, Richard Davis, Barbara Ebright, Dan Gomes, Beverly Knight, William MacKay, Roland Miller, John Nielson, Verl Peterson, and Charles Strickland.

Paul Miller was the only one receiving an award for 15 years of service. Miller was on assignment in California and unable to be present for the ceremony.

—NCN

1978 Children’s Reading Books

A World of Information

- Written in age-level vocabulary
- Printed in large type with subject-related illustrations
- Attractively designed full-color paper bindings.

MIDDLE/JUNIOR READING

Missionary . . .
To Grandma, with Love
By Kendra Seaman
Letters from a little girl shares interesting things about life on the mission field. 56 pages. $1.00

Children from the Gaps
By Helen Temple
Four true stories about ways God's love reaches the poor families of Barbados. 48 pages. 75c

Treasures from the Land of El Dorado
By Alberta Danner
Describes the important part children have in spreading the gospel in Guyana. 40 pages. 75c

Biography . . .
A Song is Born
By Bill Young
Meet Haldor Lillenas, who grew up to become a famous gospel songwriter. 64 pages. $1.50

Christian Living . . .
Only Dopes Use Drugs
By Bill Goodman
Timely information about drugs with warning never to take that first step. 64 pages. 75c

Fiction . . .
The Mystery of the Dunes
By Margaret Howard
Chris and Bev become involved in a secret, microfilmed sabotage message. 92 pages. 75c

ADULT SPONSORS AND PARENTS:
Encourage boys and girls to read these exciting new books—offering a world of information about the Church of the Nazarene and basic concepts of Christian living.

Prices subject to change without notice

Available at your District Assembly or direct from your
NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE • Post Office Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141
Festivities started with a banquet at Glenwood Manor.


Dr. Leslie Parrott, president of Olivet Nazarene College, brought his renowned “Flying Carpet” message when graduates are asked to get on board and take a word-picture look at the worldwide outreach and institutions of the church where they plan to invest their lives as pastors and Christian workers.

OPERATION KANSAS CITY
FOR 1978 NAZARENE BIBLE COLLEGE SENIORS

In the true tradition of the postal service, neither snow, nor rain, nor gloom of night stayed these hardy NBCers from their annual visit to Kansas City.

This annual orientation trip, the fifth, is becoming a regular part of their curriculum, to complete the seniors’ education by allowing them to see their church’s world headquarters and publishing house in action. In addition, they rounded out their visit with a tour and fellowship with students at Nazarene Theological Seminary, and a quickie view of Mid-America Nazarene College.

The ’78 group left Colorado Springs at midnight, and as the new day broke in Salina, Kans., March 2, they were greeted with mounting major snowstorm advisories. However, the bus drivers indicated they would like to move on, and they were able to keep ahead of the road closings which were announced about 30 minutes after their departure.

While in Kansas City, the students were presented the official NBC briefcase, as well as other pertinent material designed to equip them for a more purposeful ministry within the church.

Meaningful echo services broke out spontaneously as the buses rolled over the plains of Kansas. The following week, during the first chapel on their home campus, the graduates relived their experiences during Operation Kansas City, amid testimony and praise.

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Frank C. Watkins (l), pastor of the San Jacinto, Calif., church, is shown receiving the Thomas C. Casaday Unit Chaplain of the Year Award for 1977 from Brig. Gen. Thomas C. Casaday, National Commander of Civil Air Patrol. The award was given recently at the National Conference of Civil Air Patrol in Atlanta, Ga. Noted in the citation was the 35 years that Pastor Watkins had given to the camp program on the Southern California District, and the 25 years of volunteer work as chaplain in the Civil Air Patrol.

In the recent Herald of Holiness subscription drive on the North Florida District, Pastor J. C. Agner, Sr., of the Madison, Fla., Barbara Memorial Church saw the seemingly impossible accomplished. As the pastor of a very small church, their goal was 9—having only 18 members. They reached the unbelievable figure of 111 subscriptions—with 102 over their goal.

The next day, March 3, they breakfested with the executives from headquarters and then toured the publishing house and world headquarters. After this, they visited and had their noon lunch at the Nazarene Theological Seminary.

Seven Sundays of Spiritual Enrichment and Increased Attendance.

April 2—May 14

For additional information contact your pastor or director of Christian Life.

“All aboard” sounded as they filed into the bus for the long trip home. Their route would take them past Mid-America Nazarene College for a short tour of the school and a visit to the food service for sack lunches to assuage those pangs of hunger which would inevitably come.
NARZARENE CAMP MEETINGS
May 29, 31, June 2, 4—KANSAS CITY (Holiness Church) 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 29—Marshall, Mo.; Church of the Nazarene; May 31—St. Joseph, Mo.; First Church of the Nazarene; June 2—Kansas City at Music Hall; June 4—Tipton County to Abingdon, Va.

MUSIC TO MAKE THE HEART SING!
For a Full Range of Sacred Music* Rely on
Music Division of the
NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE
Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141
*Catalog available upon request.

MOVING MINISTERS
DON BALIS from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, Colo., to Greensburg, Ind.
VERLIN CHIPP from indianapolis (Ind.) North Side to College Corner, Ohio
JACK CLINKINGBEARD from associate, Blackwell (Okla.), to Southside to Newkirk, Okla.
WILSON COLE from Brighton (Tenn.) Tipton County to Abingdon, Va.
DAVID DEBORD to Drexel, Mo.
PAUL E. BRAKE from indianapolis (Ind.) South to Keystone to Freedom, Okla.
CHRIS FOSBACK to Richmond, Mo.
KENNETH L. GAIGHTHER to Port Allegany, Pa.
WARREN GIBBS from Louisville (Ky.) Lynnhurst to Fairland (Okla.) Trinity Central.
CECIL GRAY to Perry, Okla.
JAMES C. HAYNES from McEwen (Tenn.) Pine Hill to Hamilton (Ohio) Millville Avenue.
LARRY HENDERSON from associate, Edmond (Okla.) Grace to Edmond (Okla.) Grace
JOHN HICKMAN from Fulton, Ky., to Temple (Tex.) Grace.
MICHAEL HUTCHENS from Hamilton (Ohio) Tuley Road to Middletown, Ohio
PAUL A. JACKSON from Leicester, Vt., to Norwalk, Ohio.
GERALD JENKINS from Hamilton (Ohio) Millville Avenue to Cedarville, Ohio
A. H. JOHNSON to Roanoke (Va.) Hollins.
LARRY L. WAPLIN from Cadiz, Ohio, to Gage-town, Mich.
EARL MCOOL to Texhoma, Okla.
SELDEN H. NOVOTNY from Mancelona, Mich., to Pottawatomie, Okla.
JAMES H. NORCROSS from McPherson, Kans., to evangelism.
JOSEPH PREDAINA from evangelism to Temple (Texas) Grace.
ROY ROGERS from associate, Pompano Beach (Fla.) First to Georgetown, Ohio.
DAN SLOANE of from Crewe, Va., to associate, Victoria, Okla.

NAZARENE CAMP MEETINGS
May 29, 31, June 2, 4—KANSAS CITY (Holiness Church) 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 29—Marshall, Mo.; Church of the Nazarene; May 31—St. Joseph, Mo.; First Church of the Nazarene; June 2—Kansas City at Music Hall; June 4—Tipton County to Abingdon, Va.

NARZARENE CAMP MEETINGS
May 29, 31, June 2, 4—KANSAS CITY (Holiness Church) 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 29—Marshall, Mo.; Church of the Nazarene; May 31—St. Joseph, Mo.; First Church of the Nazarene; June 2—Kansas City at Music Hall; June 4—Tipton County to Abingdon, Va.

MOVING MINISTERS
DON BALIS from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, Colo., to Greensburg, Ind.
VERLIN CHIPP from indianapolis (Ind.) North Side to College Corner, Ohio
JACK CLINKINGBEARD from associate, Blackwell (Okla.), to Southside to Newkirk, Okla.
WILSON COLE from Brighton (Tenn.) Tipton County to Abingdon, Va.
DAVID DEBORD to Drexel, Mo.
PAUL E. BRAKE from indianapolis (Ind.) South to Keystone to Freedom, Okla.
CHRIS FOSBACK to Richmond, Mo.
KENNETH L. GAIGHTHER to Port Allegany, Pa.
WARREN GIBBS from Louisville (Ky.) Lynnhurst to Fairland (Okla.) Trinity Central.
CECIL GRAY to Perry, Okla.
JAMES C. HAYNES from McEwen (Tenn.) Pine Hill to Hamilton (Ohio) Millville Avenue.
LARRY HENDERSON from associate, Edmond (Okla.) Grace to Edmond (Okla.) Grace
JOHN HICKMAN from Fulton, Ky., to Temple (Tex.) Grace.
MICHAEL HUTCHENS from Hamilton (Ohio) Tuley Road to Middletown, Ohio
PAUL A. JACKSON from Leicester, Vt., to Norwalk, Ohio.
GERALD JENKINS from Hamilton (Ohio) Millville Avenue to Cedarville, Ohio
A. H. JOHNSON to Roanoke (Va.) Hollins.
LARRY L. WAPLIN from Cadiz, Ohio, to Gage-town, Mich.
EARL MCOOL to Texhoma, Okla.
SELDEN H. NOVOTNY from Mancelona, Mich., to Pottawatomie, Okla.
JAMES H. NORCROSS from McPherson, Kans., to evangelism.
JOSEPH PREDAINA from evangelism to Temple (Texas) Grace.
ROY ROGERS from associate, Pompano Beach (Fla.) First to Georgetown, Ohio.
DAN SLOANE of from Crewe, Va., to associate, Victoria, Okla.

NARZARENE CAMP MEETINGS
May 29, 31, June 2, 4—KANSAS CITY (Holiness Church) 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 29—Marshall, Mo.; Church of the Nazarene; May 31—St. Joseph, Mo.; First Church of the Nazarene; June 2—Kansas City at Music Hall; June 4—Tipton County to Abingdon, Va.

MOVING MINISTERS
DON BALIS from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, Colo., to Greensburg, Ind.
VERLIN CHIPP from indianapolis (Ind.) North Side to College Corner, Ohio
JACK CLINKINGBEARD from associate, Blackwell (Okla.), to Southside to Newkirk, Okla.
WILSON COLE from Brighton (Tenn.) Tipton County to Abingdon, Va.
DAVID DEBORD to Drexel, Mo.
PAUL E. BRAKE from indianapolis (Ind.) South to Keystone to Freedom, Okla.
CHRIS FOSBACK to Richmond, Mo.
KENNETH L. GAIGHTHER to Port Allegany, Pa.
WARREN GIBBS from Louisville (Ky.) Lynnhurst to Fairland (Okla.) Trinity Central.
CECIL GRAY to Perry, Okla.
JAMES C. HAYNES from McEwen (Tenn.) Pine Hill to Hamilton (Ohio) Millville Avenue.
LARRY HENDERSON from associate, Edmond (Okla.) Grace to Edmond (Okla.) Grace
JOHN HICKMAN from Fulton, Ky., to Temple (Tex.) Grace.
MICHAEL HUTCHENS from Hamilton (Ohio) Tuley Road to Middletown, Ohio
PAUL A. JACKSON from Leicester, Vt., to Norwalk, Ohio.
GERALD JENKINS from Hamilton (Ohio) Millville Avenue to Cedarville, Ohio
A. H. JOHNSON to Roanoke (Va.) Hollins.
LARRY L. WAPLIN from Cadiz, Ohio, to Gage-town, Mich.
EARL MCOOL to Texhoma, Okla.
SELDEN H. NOVOTNY from Mancelona, Mich., to Pottawatomie, Okla.
JAMES H. NORCROSS from McPherson, Kans., to evangelism.
JOSEPH PREDAINA from evangelism to Temple (Texas) Grace.
ROY ROGERS from associate, Pompano Beach (Fla.) First to Georgetown, Ohio.
DAN SLOANE of from Crewe, Va., to associate, Victoria, Okla.

NARZARENE CAMP MEETINGS
May 29, 31, June 2, 4—KANSAS CITY (Holiness Church) 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 29—Marshall, Mo.; Church of the Nazarene; May 31—St. Joseph, Mo.; First Church of the Nazarene; June 2—Kansas City at Music Hall; June 4—Tipton County to Abingdon, Va.

MOVING MINISTERS
DON BALIS from student, Nazarene Bible College, Colorado Springs, Colo., to Greensburg, Ind.
VERLIN CHIPP from indianapolis (Ind.) North Side to College Corner, Ohio
JACK CLINKINGBEARD from associate, Blackwell (Okla.), to Southside to Newkirk, Okla.
WILSON COLE from Brighton (Tenn.) Tipton County to Abingdon, Va.
DAVID DEBORD to Drexel, Mo.
PAUL E. BRAKE from indianapolis (Ind.) South to Keystone to Freedom, Okla.
CHRIS FOSBACK to Richmond, Mo.
KENNETH L. GAIGHTHER to Port Allegany, Pa.
WARREN GIBBS from Louisville (Ky.) Lynnhurst to Fairland (Okla.) Trinity Central.
CECIL GRAY to Perry, Okla.
JAMES C. HAYNES from McEwen (Tenn.) Pine Hill to Hamilton (Ohio) Millville Avenue.
LARRY HENDERSON from associate, Edmond (Okla.) Grace to Edmond (Okla.) Grace
JOHN HICKMAN from Fulton, Ky., to Temple (Tex.) Grace.
MICHAEL HUTCHENS from Hamilton (Ohio) Tuley Road to Middletown, Ohio
PAUL A. JACKSON from Leicester, Vt., to Norwalk, Ohio.
GERALD JENKINS from Hamilton (Ohio) Millville Avenue to Cedarville, Ohio
A. H. JOHNSON to Roanoke (Va.) Hollins.
LARRY L. WAPLIN from Cadiz, Ohio, to Gage-town, Mich.
EARL MCOOL to Texhoma, Okla.
SELDEN H. NOVOTNY from Mancelona, Mich., to Pottawatomie, Okla.
JAMES H. NORCROSS from McPherson, Kans., to evangelism.
JOSEPH PREDAINA from evangelism to Temple (Texas) Grace.
ROY ROGERS from associate, Pompano Beach (Fla.) First to Georgetown, Ohio.
DAN SLOANE of from Crewe, Va., to associate, Victoria, Okla.
more. She is survived by her daughter, Kathryn Ruth Howe, one granddaughter, three great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

REV. RALPH KALDENBERG, 78, died Feb. 5 in Palm Desert, Calif. Rev. Kaldenberg was a pioneer preacher and organized nine churches. Survivors include his wife, Maja E.; two daughters, Deloris Hoffman and Phyllis Robinsen; one son, Max; and one sister.

MRS. ERMAL LEE (PATE) MORRIS, 67, died Nov. 16 in Heber Springs, Ark. Funeral services were conducted by Rev., Vernon Kutz and Rev. Torval Nilsen in Whittier, Calif. She is survived by one sister, two brothers; and one nephew.

LULU MAY OSBURN, 91, died Jan. 30. Funeral services were at Manzanola, Colo., with interment in Ordway, Colo. Services were conducted by Rev. George Byrhe. She is survived by two daughters, Floyda Howard and Eleanor Collins; four sons, Marion, Claude, Raymond, and Clyde; two half brothers; two half sisters; 14 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

EFFIE F. PASCHAL, 89, died Jan. 21 in Clearwater, Fla. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. William Dodd and Rev. Craig Vandiver. She is survived by her husband, Harry O.; and two daughters, Orpha Schoger and Juanita Wantland. Survivors include her brother; and two sisters.

MADELINE (MCCASKELL) ROSE, 56, died March 18. Services were in Columbiana, Ohio, with interment in Littlefield, Tex. Services were conducted by Dr. Floyd O. Fiehlm. Akron District superintendent, assisted by Rev. Kenneth Schaal. Rev. Warren Holloway and Mr. James Coughenour. Survivors include her husband, Rev. J. B. Rose; one son, James Milton; one grandson; and one brother.

CECILIA VALENTA died Feb. 18 in Cleveland, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. L. Huddleston and Rev. E. Rhodes. She is survived by one sister.

WILMA (AUSTIN) WARD, 55, was killed in an auto accident Jan. 23 near Ashland, Ohio. Funeral services were conducted at Greenpoint, Ohio, by Dr. Floyd O. Fiehlm. Interment was at Winchester, Ind. Survivors include her husband, Rev. Roger H. Ward; three sons, Stephen, Stanley, and Nathan; one daughter, Priscilla Pingle; five grandchildren; her mother; one brother; and two sisters.

BIRTHS

to GARY and MADELLA ADAMS, Northwood, N.D., a girl, Dawnette Lynne, Mar. 19

to REV. JOHN AND DONNA (BODELON)

**Showers of Blessing**

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>&quot;When God Seems Deaf&quot;</td>
<td>Alan Rodda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>&quot;The Mark of a Mother&quot;</td>
<td>Alan Rodda</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SALVATION ARMY WILL MARK CENTENARY OF ITS NAMING.

Some 30,000 Salvationists from 82 countries will converge on London in June to mark the centenary of the formation of the Salvation Army underlay Editorial Committee, headed by Dr. Lien-hua Chow, general editor; Dr. Andrew Chiu, Old Testament editor; and Dr. T. S. Chang, New Testament editor.

The announcement was made here by the 10-member Committee that it is impossible to define pornography in a way acceptable to all.

One conservative member summed up the reactions of the committee: "If there wasn't one standard criminal law against obscenity, the country would be reduced to anarchy."
I recently heard a preacher on TV make the statement that if it were not for Eve we would still be in the garden of Eden. Now, I am not a "woman's liber"—but I do not think that Adam or any of his descendants were perfect. I would like to know your answer to that.

The preacher's statement is speculative and unconvinced. Scripture makes it clear that Adam was responsible for his own sin, and that through Adam "sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned" (Romans 5:12). True, Eve gave the forbidden fruit to Adam, but she didn't cram it down his throat. His disobedience to God was chosen, not forced, and he was driven from the garden as a consequence of his own wrongdoing, unable to justly blame it all on Eve. He did try to alibi his sin by fingering Eve as the guilty culprit. In fact, he implied that God was to blame—"the woman thou gavest me."

We are all Adam's children! Caught in our sins, we try to weasel out by blaming someone else. When we run out of people to blame, we fault God—and call our arguments philosophy. God didn't buy it in the garden and He doesn't buy it at the university. Each of us is influenced by others, but we are personally responsible for our sins and individually accountable to God.

Will you please explain 1 Corinthians 4:20: "For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power."

Paul is saying, in effect, "Anyone can talk a good religion, but only the power of God can enable one to live truly as Christians." There were some in Corinth, professing to be teachers of the church, who were arrogant and defiant towards Paul, contradicting the doctrines and ethics which he had taught there. As a result, conditions such as those described in chapters 5 and 6 were disgracing the church.

The "kingdom of God" is His sovereign rule over our lives. This is established by power, the power of Christ's death for us and the Spirit's life in us. That power enables us to submit our lives to the apostolic teaching by which Christ wills to inform and guide the church.

Paul is not saying that words are powerless. He has earlier said that "the preaching of the cross" is "the power of God" (2:18). Compared to this, he teaches, the arrogant wisdom of the world is so much hot air. Of course, hot air can be dangerous, even fatal. While the power of God's kingdom comes through the word of the gospel, the power of Satan's kingdom is mediated through false teaching. Paul indict these proud and puffed up "instructors" for being full of words but empty of power to live for Christ.

I hear it said many times that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was a peasant girl, and that she gave birth to Him at the age of 16. This seems to be a very young woman (girl) for God to select to be the mother of Jesus. On what do ministers base this information?

On guesses and inferences, for we are not informed by Scripture of Mary's age when she conceived and bore Jesus, nor of the economic and cultural status of her family.

She may have been a teenager. Many women have had children while still in their teens. And many young people, in their knowledge of, and devotion to, God are far advanced of many older people.

In the light of the Bible there would be nothing surprising about God using a teenager for His high and holy purposes.
The second annual Sno-bird NIROGA saw a 20 percent increase in attendance. There were 407 persons who gathered at Lake Yale Baptist Assembly February 27—March 3 for what one lady described as the most spiritually uplifting of all the previous occasions she had attended. This was echoed again and again.

Rev. Robert Scott, superintendent of the Southern California district, was the special worker. He found a ready audience by addressing the everyday spiritual concerns of senior adults with practical, down-to-earth approaches. A spirit of optimism and encouragement prevailed.

Arts and crafts came in for a larger share of involvement with a wider selection of crafts offered. A 79-year-old widow taught a class in oil painting. It was her first NIROGA venture in teaching. Nine students painted their first picture. And the Thursday night dining hall exhibit was thrilling to behold, for teacher, students, and observers alike. All crafts participants appeared to be super achievers!

Another new dimension was physical fitness. Each afternoon a professional fitness expert led a large group of both men and women in regimens designed for senior adults. It will be repeated next year by popular demand.

The retreat also featured Dr. Earl Vastbinder, head of Trevecca’s Associate Doctors program, who conducted workshops on health.

Plaques were presented to T. E. Jones, for his stellar achievement as founder and chief executive officer of Trevecca Towers and Trevecca Health Care Center, and to Jerry Green, who gave outstanding leadership to the first two Sno-bird retreats.

The finale was a reception in the fellowship hall. It was a dress-up affair in lieu of a banquet, which is not possible at Lake Yale.

—Melvin Shrout, Director
Senior Adult Ministries

WASHINGtON CHURCH RECEIVES AWARD

The Washington, D.C., Community of Hope Church has received favorable attention from the city leaders. Mayor Walter E. Washington presented the Community Development Award for 1977 to Jubilee Housing, an incorporated arm of the church, for inner-city housing, restoration, and management.

The project, the 48-unit Cresthill Apartment building, is being rehabilitated with a $526,000 loan from the D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development, the largest loan to date for a rehabilitation project. The plan enables the original tenants to remain in the building at low rents; and tenants will manage and become shareholders in the development.

The award is presented annually by the Washington, D.C., Housing Industry Corporation made up of leaders of Washington banking, real estate, savings and loan, and building interests. Rev. Tom Nees, pastor of the Community of Hope Church, accepted the award on behalf of Jubilee Housing.

In presenting the award, Mayor Washington called the work of Jubilee Housing “a new sign of hope for the redevelopment of the inner city.”

—NCN
NAZARENE TEACHER-EDUCATORS MEET IN CHICAGO

A total of 30 Nazarene educators, as well as 6 educators from other evangelical colleges, participated in a recent meeting of the Nazarene Association of Colleges for Teacher Education held at the Conrad-Hilton Hotel in Chicago.

Dr. Kenneth Pearsall, president, and Dr. Gilbert Ford, dean, of Northwest Nazarene College; Dr. Leslie Parrott, president, and Dr. Al Truesdale, dean, of Olivet Nazarene College; Dr. William Strickland, dean, and Dr. G. L. Pennington, associate dean, of Trevecca Nazarene College; Dr. Edward S. Mann, executive director of the Department of Education and the Ministry; along with the directors of teacher education from the various Nazarene colleges, were among those in attendance.

Dr. Clifford L. Anderson, director of Teacher Education at Mount Vernon Nazarene College, presided over the sessions and conducted the election of new officers for the next two years. Dr. Elbert Overholt, director of teacher education at Bethany Nazarene College, was installed as the new president. Dr. Robert Norton, director of teacher education at Eastern Nazarene College, was elected president-elect; and Mr. Gary Streit of Olivet Nazarene College was elected secretary-treasurer.

Dr. L. O. Andrews, professor emeritus at Ohio State University, spoke at the fourth annual banquet on the topic of “Dreams for the Future of Teacher Education and How They Might Be Realized by Small Colleges.”

On the second day, Dr. Lilburn Wesche, director of teacher education at Northwest Nazarene College, spoke on the topic of “Teacher Education at Northwest Nazarene College.” Dr. Daryl Gilley from Mount Vernon Nazarene College discussed “Personal Learning Styles.” The final speaker was Dr. Ronald Adams, director of the Office of Educational Research at Western Kentucky University. His presentation was on the subject of “Evaluation of Teacher Education Graduates.”

At the conclusion of the two-day conference, many of those who were in attendance remained in Chicago for the annual meeting of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.
As I TURNED onto the little winding country road that led to Grandma's house, I keenly anticipated seeing her again—this little 97-year-old woman whose Christian influence is being felt in my life and other loved ones and friends today.

Nearing the little white cottage where she lives, alone, my mind wandered back over the years to some instances when I saw Grandma's faith in God put to action. I thought of the little country church among the big oak trees, and of the times I have heard Grandma's voice raised in prayer for the salvation of loved ones and friends. I especially remember the times of revival at that little church, and the prayer meetings held out under the trees.

One such prayer meeting stands out in my memory, and I can almost hear Grandma praying for her "lost boy" who was living deep in sin. Her voice rang out in the crisp air, echoing through the woods around the church as she petitioned God to save this lost one. Though just a child at the time, I felt a deep sense of awe as I listened to Grandma pray from a broken heart for her beloved child.

Years rolled by and "her boy" still refused the claims of Christ upon his life. I was visiting at Grandma's house when he paid her a visit. He told her of the breakup of his home and marriage—his wife and two sons had left him. Grandma's heart was broken and no doubt Satan whispered to her that this son was too far gone. However, she did not doubt God's promises. She was reading those promises every day and believing every one of them. Grandma just kept on praying, knowing that someday her prayers would be answered. Others gave up, but not Grandma!

World War II called two of Grandma's sons to service—this one for whom she had prayed so long, and her youngest son, her "baby boy," the joy of her life. One day a telegram came informing her that her "baby boy" had been killed in action. Though bowed with grief, she carried on normal activities and continued to pray.

The war ended and her "lost boy" came home. Grandma was overjoyed when he was re-united with his family and started living a useful life. However, his life still lacked that something which Grandma so longed to see—a complete surrender to Christ.

At the cottage, my mind snapped back to the present. I knocked on the door, but no answer. I went inside and was overwhelmed at the familiar scene. On the walls were pictures of Christ and religious mottoes; also pictures of her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and even great-great-grandchildren. One wall had a picture of the cemetery in France where her youngest son lies buried, and a letter of sympathy from President Roosevelt.

There, in her rocking chair, was Grandma fast asleep, her once strong body bowed from many years of toil, and the once beautiful face wrinkled with the lines of 97 years of life. On a low table at her side was her Bible, worn and marked with tears. I stood for a moment taking it all in. Her life had been spent in complete dedication and love to God and others. Never had I ever heard her speak a critical or unkind word about anyone. On her 90th birthday, when a celebration was held in her honor, people came from far and near.

I touched her lightly on the shoulder. She opened her eyes and gladness and joy shone forth. She took her cane, slowly rose to her feet, put her arms around me, and in a weak but jubilant voice exclaimed, "Oh, you'll never guess what has happened! My boy for whom I have prayed so long has at last come to the Savior!" Then she wept, and I wept, tears of joy and thanksgiving. Praise the Lord! I call it Grandma's miracle!

I left Grandma's house with a serene peace and knowledge that life can have meaning if we completely and unreservedly give ourselves to Jesus Christ, as Grandma did over 80 years ago. For her the years have brought hardship, sorrow, disappointment, but also great joy. And through it all she has kept a simple trust and confidence in the Creator.

Today I took a letter from my mailbox. Yes, she still writes letters at the age of 97! The letter is filled with love and concern for me—enjoining me to let Christ handle my problems, trusting Him to take care of every detail of my life, no matter how great or how small, and ending with these words: "May we see each other again soon. If not, we will meet in heaven, that land where the roses never fade and the flowers are always blooming. What a beautiful place heaven must be! Love to all, Grandma."

Do miracles still happen? They do for Grandma! Why not for you and me?
TRACY JOINS SEMINARY FACULTY

Wesley D. Tracy, assistant professor of religion and journalism at Mid-America Nazarene College, Olathe, Kans., will join Nazarene Theological Seminary's faculty full time as assistant professor of religious education, effective July 1, 1978. He is also managing editor of The Preacher's Magazine.

Prior to teaching at Mid-America (1976-78) he was an editor and curriculum developer for six years in the Department of Church Schools. He was ordained in 1960 and pastored Nazarene congregations in Kansas, Indiana, and Pennsylvania from 1959 to 1970.

Rev. Tracy is the author of New Testament Evangelism Today and A Family Is for Treasuring, and the compiler of How to Teach Adults Without Really Suffering. His booklet, Sex and the Single Christian, has sold widely since its publication in 1974 and has been translated into Spanish. He assisted in the development of three adult curriculum tracks for the Church of the Nazarene: Probe, Aldersgate Dialog Series, and The Enduring Word Series. He has published numerous articles in religious magazines.

Professor Tracy received an A.B. in religion from Bethany Nazarene College, an M.A. in speech communications from the University of Missouri at Kansas City, and an M.Div. from NTS. He is pursuing doctoral studies. He is married, and he and his wife, Bettye, have two married daughters, Linda Roberts and Michele Tywman.

—NCN

RICHARD HOWARD TO HEAD RELIGION DEPARTMENT AT ENC

Richard E. Howard, professor of New Testament and Greek at Bethany Nazarene College, Bethany, Okla., has accepted the position of head of the religion department at Eastern Nazarene College, Quincy, Mass.

Professor Howard, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, graduated from ENC with A.B. and Th.B. degrees. He continued his studies at Boston University where he received an M.A. Two years later he was granted a B.D. from Andover Newton Theological Seminary in Massachusetts. He pursued doctoral studies at Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, Mass., and although his course requirements were completed his program was terminated and he was awarded a Th.M. degree.

Ordained in 1945, he has pastored churches in New England, including Norwood, Melrose, and Peabody, Mass.; and South Portland and Lebanon Falls, Me.

Professor Howard will assume his new responsibilities beginning with the fall semester. He succeeds Dr. William E. McCumber, who moves to Kansas City in June to fulfill his assignment as editor of the Herald of Holiness.

Rev. Howard has written numerous articles for periodicals and the Galatians section of Beacon Bible Commentary. He is the author of Newness of Life: A Study in the Thought of Paul (Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City, 1975).

—NCN

MELVIN MCCULLOUGH ACCEPTS COLORADO SPRINGS FIRST

Rev. Melvin McCullough, executive director of the Department of Youth Ministries, announced April 2 to the congregation of Colorado Springs First Church his acceptance of their call to be their pastor. He expects to assume this new responsibility following the World Youth Conference at Estes Park, Colo., July 17-23, 1978.

Rev. McCullough is a graduate of Bethany Nazarene College and Nazarene Theological Seminary. He is enrolled in a Doctor of Ministry program at Fuller Theological Seminary.

He began his ministry in 1964 as the founding pastor of Fort Worth, Tex., Wedgewood Church. The work was begun without members, property, or building. His 10 years of pastoring include Kansas City Shawnee and Seattle, Wash., First.

During his five years as head of the youth ministries in the church he has seen considerable change. When he began in 1973, the youth work was under the Department of Church Schools.

The 1976 General Assembly in Dallas, Tex., voted the restructure program which brought the work of the Departments of Youth and Church Schools under a new Division of Christian Life, with Departments of Adult Ministries, Youth Ministries, and Children's Ministries.

In addition to working with this massive restructuring, Rev. McCullough has also seen changes in the name of the church's auxiliary youth organization from NYPS to NYI (Nazarene Youth International) with an age focus of 12 to 23, and in two youth periodicals—Conquest to Bread and Total Youth Program Service (TYP) to Source.

He has written and lectured extensively throughout the church. He is the author of a book for teens, The Inevitable Encounter, which was published by Nazarene Publishing House in 1971.

Rev. McCullough is married to the former Geneva Powers. They have two children, Ginger, 12, and Christopher, 9.

Rev. McCullough's successor as executive director of Youth Ministries will be determined by a vote of the General Board. A special nominating committee will be formed, composed of six members from the Department of Youth Ministries who will confer with five members of the General Council of NYI and then meet with the Board of General Superintendents to present a nominee or nominees.

—NCN

SCHROEDER ELECTED TO BOARD OF AMER

Mel Schroeder of the staff of the Department of Communications was elected April 19 to a two-year term on the Board of Directors of the Association of Media Educators in Religion at the annual convention of the Association of Educational Communication and Technology in the Radisson-Muehlebach Hotel in Kansas City.

AMER is an auxiliary of this organization. It sponsored workshops on "Media in Religious Education," "Media in Worship," and "Television in the Churches" on Sunday afternoon, April 16.

—NCN
ADULT READING

Miracles Are Happening in the Dominican Republic* By Louie and Ellen Bustle
Exciting examples of how vision and planning established 12 fully organized churches. 94 pages.
$1.50

You Can’t Tell If It’s Sharp Until You Cut* By Tom Pound
Highlights growth of Nazarene missions in Belize and value of Work and Witness teams. 79 pages.
$1.25

Puerto Rico Profiles By Juanita Porter
A look at the churches, people, and activities of the Church of the Nazarene in Puerto Rico. 80 pages.
$1.25

A Balm in Gilead* By Helen Temple
Fascinating missionary stories of God’s miraculous power to reach and change lives. 63 pages.
$1.00

Ever the Pioneer By Dowie Swarth/John Oster
The personal reminiscences of one who felt called to pioneering the church in Holland. 104 pages.
$1.50

Stop, Look, and Listen By Paul Miller
Describes the part radio, film, and television are playing in spreading the gospel. 79 pages.
$1.25

RESOURCE BOOK

The Rising Caribbean Tide By John Smee
Belize . . . Jamaica . . . Bahamas . . . Dominican Republic . . . Haiti . . . Barbados . . . Windward and Leeward Islands . . . French Antilles . . . Trinidad . . . Guyana—one of the most exciting areas of missionary advance. Inspiring examples of how one field spawns another until the dream of having the Church of the Nazarene established on every major island is a reality. 142 Pages.
$2.50

Leader’s Guide
By Mary Alice Smee
“Thought starters” for youth and adults to use with the monthly studies from the resource book. 43 pages.
$1.00

Missionary Poster Set
Selected full-color pictures highlighting mission activity in the Caribbean 18 x 24 inches.
P-978
Set of 8: $3.95

Middler/Junior Reading

To Grandma, with Love, Kendra Seaman 75
Children from the Gaps, Helen Temple 75
Treasures from the Land of El Dorado, Alberta Danner 75
A Song is Born—Haldor Lillenas, Bill Young 1.25
Only Dopes Use Drugs, Bill Goodman 1.25
The Mystery of the Dunes, Margaret Howard 1.25
U-978 Set of 6 titles A $5.50 value for $5.00

Primary Missionary Reading

My New Home, Elizabeth Jones 75
Stories from El Dorado, Robert Troutman 75
The Bearded Island, Jeannette Wienecke 75
U-1978 Set of 3 titles A $2.25 value for $2.00

Prices subject to change without notice.

NAZARENE PUBLISHING HOUSE ● Post Office Box 527, Kansas City, Missouri 64141

NOTE: For description of Middler/Junior and Primary books, see ad inside this periodical.