

Aim

The magazine for young people

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The purpose of AIM is to direct readers nearer to their Lord and Saviour. Young and old alike find AIM an inspiring and refreshing source of spiritual food. Make sure it is a regular visitor at your home and at homes of your friends each month.

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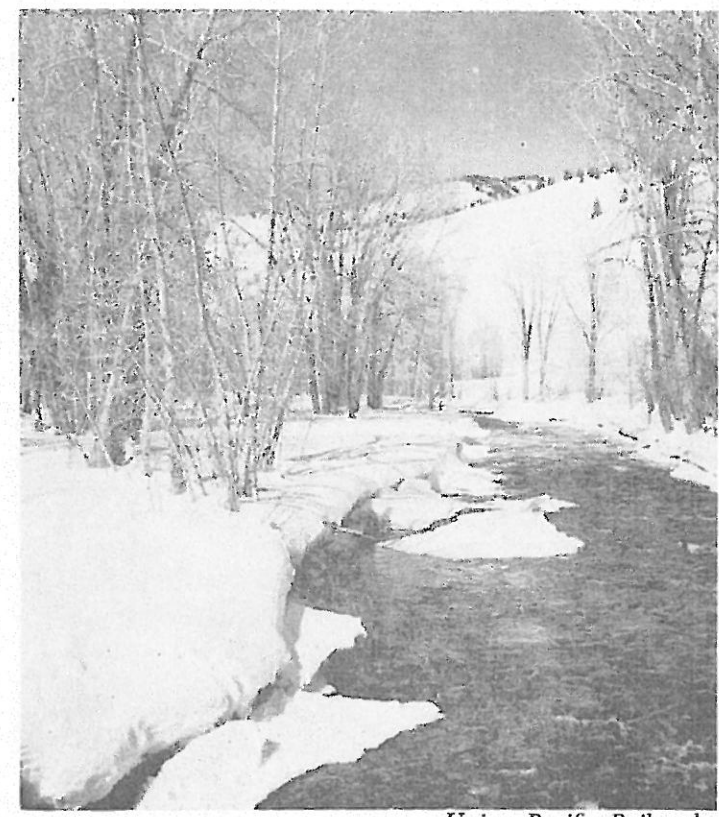
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Best wishes for the new year.

Aim The magazine for young people

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Volume XXVIII, Number 1

Donna D. Faubion, Editor

The shadow by my finger cast, divides the future from the past. Before it stands the unborn hour in darkness, and beyond thy power. Behind its unreturning line, the vanished hour, no longer thine. One hour alone is in thy hands. The now on which the shadow stands.

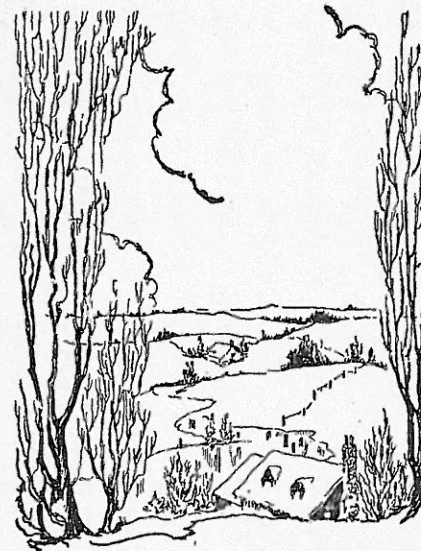
—An inscription on a sundial

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Marvels of God's Creation

Stanley J. Kauer
Director of
Midwest Bible College

"Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow?" (Job 38:22).

It is winter in the northern hemisphere and much of the land is covered with snow. Pure white gleaming, glistening snow! How beautiful it is covering the drabness of winter.

But the Bible says there are treasures in the snow. How can that be? Works of art often sell for many thousands of dollars. They are considered to be great treasures because they show such perfect handiwork of man. But the handiwork of God is perfect and beautiful beyond anything which man can begin to do.

On a cold day when snow is falling, catch some individual crystals on dark colored cloth or paper and examine them with a magnifying glass. What a wonderful sight! Each tiny crystal is a beautiful design. Each is a perfect six-sided figure or hexagon, but with infinite variations of complicated detail. You may examine thousands of them but you will never find two exactly alike.

Such a treasure of beauty there is in the falling snow, for the most part never seen. But still the treasure is there for those who stop to look.

We find that God has made two general kinds of substances. Science calls them *crystalline* and *amorphous*. All substances in the solid state are frozen. Whenever any crystalline substance is heated it remains in its special shaped crystal parts until the melting point is reached and then suddenly it turns to liquid. It does not even soften until suddenly it is liquid. Ice, salt and sugar are examples of crystalline substances.

Glass is an example of an amorphous substance. When it is heated, it gradually softens until it reaches the liquid state. When very hot and soft, it gradually hardens. When crystalline substances become suddenly solid they are divided into tiny particles all of the same or similar shape. But amorphous substances

solidify into a compact mass.

This is only one of the many ways in which the materials of this earth are different. Man has learned to use these differences in making many useful things. An understanding of the crystal treasure of the snow

has led to the discovery of useful and beautiful things of practical value.

The true study of science is finding out more about the wonderful things which God has created. Watch for another example next month.

Bible Singers

Bessie June Martin

In every age people have found expression in song. People of Bible times were no exception, the Scriptures abounding with their songs of praise, thanksgiving and rejoicing. Can you identify the singers of the songs from which the following phrases are taken?

1. "Honey out of the rock."
(David) (Moses) (Samson)
2. "The horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea."
(Women of Israel) (Moses and Israel) (Israel)
3. "The mountains melted from before the Lord."
(Miriam) (Deborah) (Moses)
4. "Spring up, O well; sing ye unto it."
(Princes) (Israel) (Isaac)
5. "Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands."
(David) (Women of Israel) (Michal)
6. "The foundations of heaven moved and shook."
(Apostle John) (Moses) (David)
7. "My well beloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill."
(Isaiah) (Solomon) (Jeremiah)
8. "Thy dead men shall live, to-

gether with my dead body shall they arise."

- (Job) (Daniel) (Isaiah)
9. "For thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every . . . nation."
(Martyrs of tribulation) (Beasts and elders) (Nations)
 10. "He is altogether lovely."
(Solomon) (David) (Apostle John)

—Selected

Answers

1. Moses (Deut. 32:13).
2. Moses and Israel (Exod. 15:1).
3. Deborah (Judg. 5:5).
4. Israel (Num. 21:17).
5. Women of Israel (I Sam. 18:7).
6. David (II Sam. 22:8).
7. Isaiah (Is. 5:1).
8. Isaiah (Is. 26:19).
9. Beasts and elders (Rev. 5:9).
10. Solomon (S. of Sol. 5:16).

* * *

Doing injury puts you below your enemy;

Revengeing one, makes you even with him;

Forgiving him, sets you above him.
—Benjamin Franklin

The Call to Service

Nelson Caswell

Ever since the beginning of mankind, the Lord has had problems getting adequate helpers to further His divine work.

God's concern has always been for mankind and He has well expressed His stand in the matter when He indicates that He is unwilling that any should perish but that all should come to repentance (II Peter 3:9). To this end God has always exerted Himself—that all men be saved. Though He's always tried to let mankind share in this burden for souls, He has always met resistance. It has been the small minority who have taken up the cross of service and followed Him.

Let's consider carefully this initial question. Why should God have to accept man's lost condition? Furthermore, why should God tolerate reluctance on the part of humans to tell other humans of their need for salvation? After all, it is the humans themselves who have the most to gain.

The Creator and Ruler of the universe has a right to be hurt and angry when He, at great personal expense to Himself, makes eternal life available to all mankind, and then witnesses the beneficiaries receive it with such complacency as to withhold it from their brethren. Our merciful God hears all manner

of excuses given for not broadcasting this saving message. It must grieve God very, very deeply.

However, despite God's obvious challenge to take up our cross and follow Him, and despite God's perpetual call to service, He has always traditionally met with disappointment. Few people even hear the call. Fewer yet heed it.

As early as the first two children born to Adam and Eve we find Cain saying, "Am I my brother's keeper?"

Generations later as we read of faithful Noah, we discover that he and his family stood alone. God became very disappointed in people and He was so hard-up for workers that had it not been for one man and his family, who can say what might have happened?

When Jesus speaks of the time of Noah in His preaching it seems apparent from His words that He is comparing the indifference of that time with the indifference just prior to His second coming. As folks then didn't take time from their eating, drinking, and merry-making to serve the Lord right up until the flood came, He warned in Matthew 24:37-39 that we might expect a similar condition in which people would not take time to serve the Lord.

Perhaps the fulfillment of this is manifest in our present shortage of ministers, departmental workers, qualified teachers for S.V.A. and Midwest, personal workers, musicians, writers, youth directors, Sabbath school workers, and other qualified personnel. No one thinks the call is for him or else everyone is just indifferent to the call.

Leaving Noah's time and moving on to the oppression of the Hebrews in Egypt we note the extreme reluctance which attended Moses' acceptance of his responsibility to lead his people. Moses thought God did not know what He was talking about when He asked him to work for Him but before long it became quite apparent that He did. Even though God let Moses use Aaron as a crutch for a while, soon Moses asserted his leadership in a way few leaders have ever done. His leadership was positive and yet humble, compassionate, and yet unwavering. God developed a timid young man into a dependable faithful leader and spokesman, a man to whom He talked face to face.

One lady in the writer's acquaintance spent most of her years as a run-of-the-mill laymember. Then a series of events took place to spur her interest. She began studying all of our church tracts and Bible Home Instructor and in a few weeks became a competent Bible student, working among some of her relatives. She took a more active part in the ladies' club activities and upon being elected leader, purchased several books on the subject and soon was bringing new life into the

whole program. From a lady with lots of excuses for remaining in the background she became a zealous worker for the Lord. She answered the call to service.

Down through the ages God has run a "help-wanted" ad and few have ever paid any attention. With all the successful ads in the world, God's ads aren't getting the response. The main reason for their failure is because God left the promotion in our hands and we've let Him down. People too often decide early to what extent they'll serve the Lord and beyond that point they refuse to go.

D. L. Moody is a fine example of a very ordinary man with an extraordinary zeal. His beginning efforts were rounding up boys from all over Chicago for church. He let the teachers do the rest. Then he became a teacher. He began to preach a little, and soon he was holding evangelistic services everywhere. His English was abominable. His speech was very uncultured but his common, simple language didn't stop him from winning hundreds to the Lord. He is now a good example of a man who answered the call of service.

All God asks is that we say "yes" to some responsibility, however small. Then further developments are in His hand. So what if you're not a whiz at anything; maybe you don't have a great I. Q. Go ahead—name the excuse: slow of speech, married a wife, bought some ground or oxen, too much to do, a thorn in the flesh. God has heard them all before.

The one-talent servant in the
(Continued on page 33)



Lust for Life

Clayton L. Faubion

A FEW YEARS AGO a story bearing this title was filmed in Hollywood. It was the story of Vincent Van Gogh, the famed Dutch artist whose paintings are now worth thousands of dollars. The irony of the life that was so precious to the artist is that the value of his work was not appreciated in his day, and he lived the life of poverty, going deeper and deeper into frustration and despair, until he finally committed suicide in a spell of insanity.

Van Gogh truly loved life. Yet he wasn't psychologically suited to cope with life's frustrations. As a young man he was denied the love and companionship of the girl he loved deeply. As a result he sought to heal the wound by helping another woman who was poverty-stricken. She became his mistress. This arrangement was doomed to short life, however, perhaps because of his Calvinist background. Van Gogh was the son of a Dutch Calvinist minister, and for a time had devoted his own life to the ministry.

He became interested in art while serving as pastor in a mining community. After a time, during which he sketched the miserable life of the miners among whom he was serving.

he took up the study of art. His first pictures were somber, dark reproductions. Later he became associated with a number of French artists, and was influenced by their ideas. Among them were Toulouse-Lautrec and Gauguin. As a result he adopted a more colorful style and his pictures became full of life and vigor. His subjects were the things he saw all about him—his room, the postman, the innkeeper's wife, the peasants in the field, etc.

He seemed to inject a deeply passionate feeling into his work. The details reflect the burning anxiety that was in his turbulent breast. As time went on he became more and more tormented. His good friend, Gauguin, was living with him and they were working together, when Van Gogh's badly frayed nerves finally gave way. He threatened the life of his friend, who was forced to leave. In a fit of despair over what he had done he cut off his own ear.

His periods of insanity became more frequent and violent, until in the end he took his own life. A bullet brought to an end the frustrations, anxieties, doubts, fears and longings; but it also cut short the

production of magnificent canvasses which so vividly pictured the life that the artist loved so dearly, but which seemed to treat him so cruelly.

The Scriptures use an expression that is quite similar in wording to our title, but very different in meaning. "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world" (1 John 2:16).

Because of this usage we have been inclined to give the word, "lust," an evil connotation. Even so, another Bible writer uses the phrase, "Whatsoever thy soul lusteth after," without any indication that such desire would be particularly evil. According to the Britannica edition of Funk and Wagnal's dictionary, the first definition of "lust" is, "Vehement or longing affection or desire." The second definition is, "Inordinate desire for carnal pleasure." Thus as we depart from this word to its various related forms, we find the word "lustful" to mean, "Having carnal or sensual desire;" while "lusty" means, "Full of vigor and health; able-bodied; robust."

We all desire life. We often hear people talk about how they despise this life, and long for life in the kingdom of God, but it is this writer's opinion that when the test comes, and such people are faced with the prospect of a speedy departure from this life, they will cling to it with the last feeble ounce of their waning strength. There is much to be desired in this life, much that is precious. To one who can live life in its fulness it is a pleasant experience, full of brightness and color, like Van Gogh's paintings.

(How strange that Van Gogh, a

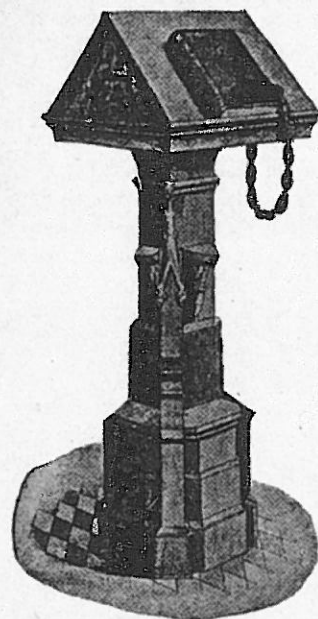
man tormented with insanity, should portray life so beautifully and leave a heritage of art that is extremely valuable today; while in our time men, who are supposedly sane and intelligent beings, picture life in such weirdness that it appears as if it were painted during periods of hallucination or drug addiction.)

Van Gogh wanted life to be full of meaning. He sought to capture that meaning in reproductions on canvas. Although he became a master painter, it was impossible for him to reach the ultimate satisfaction of his "vehement longing." The full richness of life is not something which can be captured and permanently preserved. At its best, the most colorful presentation of any part of life cannot be life itself. Even a full color, third dimensional film, with stereophonic sound, is but a portrayal of life—not life itself.

Many people are afraid of life. They become so confused in all the clamor about worldliness versus spirituality that they deny themselves many of the good things that God has provided in abundance for us to enjoy. There is no reason for us to stifle a "vehement longing affection or desire." The lust which we should avoid is "inordinate desire for carnal pleasure." Distinction between these two aspects of life is not difficult, if we can rise above the confusion and clamor of the extremists which we can find on both sides of the issue.

Many people make themselves miserable by trying to make themselves happy in the "practice" of religion. How many times have you heard the remark, "This is my Christian duty"? How many times have you heard someone testify, "I'm happy

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The Bible

A Book

of Books

Delores O. Fischer

In essence, a Bible is:

1. An Encyclopedia—It treats almost every subject in the whole wide world!

2. A Dictionary—It defines many words and names.

3. A Hymnal—Large and interesting is its collection of songs which were sung by men and women of old (Exodus 15; Numbers 21; Deuteronomy 3; Judges 5, etc.).

4. A Poetry Book—Unexcelled in beauty and excellency is the poetry of the Psalms and the Proverbs.

5. An Etiquette Book—It gives rules of proper conduct.

6. A Marriage Manual—It gives the purpose and obligations of marriage, and teaches how that true marital happiness may be attained (I Corinthians 7; I Timothy 5:14; Matthew 19).

7. A Book of Philosophy—It fur-

nishes a complete guide for confident living (Matthew 11:28, 29).

8. A Mystery Story Book—Entertaining and thrilling are its many stories about giants, fishermen, hunters, kings and queens, warriors, travelers, and many others! Best of all, each story is a true story!

9. A Book of Fashion—It tells us how to dress to be pleasing in the sight of God (Deuteronomy 22:5; I Timothy 2:9, 10; I Corinthians 11; Ephesians 5:11).

10. A History Book—Most accurate and complete ancient history book ever published!

11. A Science Book—It answers many questions concerning the creation of heaven and earth and all that in them is. It also gives a first-hand account of the attempts and "achievements" of the world's first astronauts who tried to reach God's heaven. (See Genesis 11:1-10; will God be more

merciful with our present-day attempts?)

12. A Prayer Book—It not only gives us some of the greatest prayers that ever were prayed as perfect examples for us—but it literally teaches us when, where, and how to pray. Through His Word we are given the assurance that God hears and answers each fervent prayer of His own.

13. A Book of Child Care and Training—It teaches how to “Train up a child in the way he should go”; and gives accounts of some early Christian parents’ raising their children.

14. A Book of Genealogies—Detailed listings of the ancestry of many prominent Old Testament saints are recorded. We can trace Christ’s ancestry way back to Adam and Eve, the first couple on Earth!

15. A Book of Law and Government—It relates the most perfect set of laws ever written—those which God gave men whereby He wants

them to govern themselves (Exodus 20).

16. A Book of Prophecy—It is the only book, which, having weathered so much contention, contradiction, and competition, has always come out on top! Although many prophecies induced masses of followers, they were all doomed to failure at one part or another. Not so with the Bible!

17. It is a Book of Doctrine—The only “book of doctrine” which God’s chosen people, The Church of God, 7th Day, accepts and uses today. Praise God!

The Bible—A Book of Books! No other book offers so much, yet costs so little; is misunderstood, misinterpreted, and misused by so many; is scoffed at so literally; is quoted and misquoted so often; was used by so many generations; has rated as a “best-seller” for so many years; is inspired and authentic; and is as invaluable and as dear to a true born-again Christian as is the Holy Bible—truly the Book of all Books!

A New Year

O year that is going, take with you

Some evil that dwells in my heart;

Let selfishness, doubt,

With the old year go out—

With joy I would see them depart.

O year that is coming, bring with you

Some virtue of which I have need;

More patience to bear

And more kindness to share,

And more love that is true love indeed.

—Laura Armitage

Martha's Neglected Opportunity

Rhoda Howell

MARTHA knelt by the kitchen chair. For days she had felt the call of the Holy Spirit to testify for Jesus. The burden for lost souls seemed to become greater day by day and yet the opportunity to witness did not seem to appear. This morning the burden had become so heavy that she had stopped washing the breakfast dishes and fallen to her knees. With tears streaming down from her eyes she prayed.

“Oh, my Father, remove this terrible burden from me or give me the opportunity to tell of Jesus to the very one You know needs Christ. . . .”

Her prayers were interrupted by a knock at the door. She arose from her knees and hurriedly wiping her eyes she went to the door.

“Hello, Cora,” she greeted cheerily, happy to see her next-door neighbor standing in the doorway.

“I will not bother you but a minute. I need just a little powdered sugar to finish frosting my cake. May I borrow some?” Cora smiled sweetly.

“Surely. Just take all that you need. I must finish my work. You will find it in that jar. Just help yourself,” Martha answered as she went on with her work. She had so hoped that the knock would be someone wanting to hear about the Saviour. But it was only her next-door neighbor.

They chatted for a minute and Cora left. She said she just had to finish that cake.

Martha went on about her work. She continued to pray and to quote Scripture passages that she had memorized. She thought of God’s faithfulness and of His great gifts to mankind, His loving Son, the blessed Holy Spirit and His precious Word. Oh, if the burden on her heart could only be lifted.

Almost before she realized it her work was finished and it was time to do her daily shopping. Taking the shopping bag with her she left the house. She wished she had more time to work for the Lord. It seemed her household tasks took so much of her day that there was very little time left for God.

She had reached the street when she heard someone calling. Looking behind her she saw Mrs. Green coming toward her.

“Martha,” she called again, “would you have just a minute to spare?”

“That would be about all,” Martha answered, wondering why Mrs.

Green was calling on her. "What is it?"

Mrs. Green seemed embarrassed. She seemed almost afraid to voice her need.

"I need a little soap to finish Mrs. Long's wash. I am a little short of money today and I was wondering if I could borrow a little."

"Just go help yourself. You know where I keep it. I'd get it for you but I have to get some food for dinner." And Martha hurried down the street as Mrs. Green went into the house to get the soap.

As Martha walked on she wondered at Mrs. Green's seeming embarrassment. Why would one who had done so many washings for her as Mrs. Green be afraid to ask favors?

And so the day went by. As far as Martha was concerned she had done very little to win a soul for Christ.

The next morning the burden was greater than before. Martha knelt by the bed much earlier than usual to spend much time in prayer. When she arose from her knees she had promised God to witness to the first one to come to her door this day.

She cooked her breakfast and then laying her Bible on the table beside her plate she sat down to eat. She had just opened her Bible when she heard a knock.

Going to the door she prayed, "Thy will, Father, be done."

Her heart fell as she saw Cora standing on the step. She thought of her promise but surely Cora was not the one!

"Do come in," she said. "Drink some coffee with me. I am so lonely this morning."

"I'll be glad to," Cora answered, her face beaming at the invitation

as she took a chair at the table.

As soon as the coffee had been poured and Martha had taken her place, Cora spoke, her eyes glued on the page before her, "Tell me what that means."

"Just what do you mean?" Martha queried, surprised that Cora would ask such a question. And she was not just sure what Cora meant.

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way and the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all."

Martha opened her heart and let the love of God flow through her to Cora as she told of Christ dying that all sinners might be saved, of how God's only begotten Son had taken the sins of the world upon Himself so that each and everyone could be saved. She told of the fall of man and of everyone being born in sin and needing a Saviour.

Cora sat entranced as Martha talked.

"How do you get that Saviour?"

Cora's question stunned her for a minute. All these months she had known Cora she had thought her saved.

Then more and more she revealed God's love as she told the story of Nicodemus, stressing much the verse, "Ye must be born again." She finished by asking, "Would you like to receive Him as your Saviour?"

Cora quickly fell to her knees and with tears of repentance streaming she asked the Saviour to come into her heart. Martha felt the prompting of the Spirit and when Cora had finished she prayed earnestly that Cora would have the assurance of her salvation and that she would lead others to Christ.

(Continued on page 34)

Dying to Self

Carol Millican

Christ in His ministry continually emphasized the importance of a completely "selfless" life in the Christian walk. "... If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus included as one of the beatitudes, "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."



This shows that there is a great reward awaiting those who humble themselves and make themselves submissive to God's will; those who forget their own selves and allow Christ to live His life for them.

In John 12:24, Christ presents an allegorical story which illustrates very well the essentiality of dying to sin and self in the Christian life. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." In a literal sense, this is true biologically. A seed must decay in the earth in or-

der for it to germinate and start growing. If it does not die, the germ inside the seed cannot get food enough to develop, and it cannot grow and produce. Applying this spiritually, we learn from this that a Christian who does not completely die to the things of this world and does not totally yield himself to Christ, cannot be successful in trying to be a Christian. This fits the description of a "lukewarm" Christian, whom God says He will "spue out of His mouth" (Revelation 3:16).

Paul, in one of his messages to the Corinthians, said "... I die daily" (I Corinthians 15:31). He was continually striving to "kill" his selfish desires; to subject himself completely to God's will.

Of course, one should not be deceived into becoming proud of his "humility." This is the most arrogant kind of pride of all. True humility comes from the heart. "... All our righteousnesses are as filthy rags..." (Isaiah 64:6). These words produce a great feeling of personal insufficiency, when we realize that all the righteousness we may have, and good moral standards we may possess, cannot even BEGIN to match God's holiness.

"He that loveth his life shall lose it, and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal" (John 12:25). Let us remember these words of Christ as life's journey we pursue.

YOUR HEALTH CLINIC

Specializing in Internal Medicine

Counselling and advice by Dr. Victor Reeh

Dear Doctor Reeh,

For some time now I have been suffering from a very annoying disorder. My only symptom is that I am unable to stay awake on Sabbath mornings during sermons. So far I have found no medication that will help and I thought perhaps it was an allergy of some kind. Have you had any experience with this disease and is there a cure or a medication that will relieve the symptom?

Sincerely,
Miss Snoozin P. Anthony

Dear Miss Anthony,

I am happy to see that you signed your letter "sincerely," for a sincere desire to overcome this disorder is very important in its control. This is a symptom which nearly every individual experiences on occasion, but it is most certainly a cause for some concern when it occurs frequently and the condition persists. Often it is accompanied by slight reddening of the eyes and a general lagging feeling. As for the treatment, careful diet control is the most effective way of frightening this disorder as it is often due to an excessive consumption of TV shows, especially in late evening hours, and a dietary lack of vitamin I, the interest vitamin. You may find it necessary to take vitamin I in capsule form as a sufficiency of it

will help control the appetite for spiritually unhealthy foods.

Your disorder is not a new or rare one. Similar symptoms were suffered by people as far back as Bible times, and a very wise and renowned doctor of the soul, the Apostle Paul, wrote on the subject of the following:

"And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a cast-away" (I Corinthians 9:25-27).

Watch for Dr. Victor Reeh's column in further issues of AIM.

* * *

The most magnificent thing about any task is the spirit in which it is done.—*Plaque*

* * *

Correction

In last month's AIM, the name of Kriss Williams was left off the list of the FYC leadership Committee. It is an oversight which we deeply regret, and take this opportunity to make the correction.



to AMERICA?

Clay Cooper

IS GOD TRYING to say something to America? Hardly a week passes without Uncle Sam getting belted from some point of the compass. It happens so frequently he's getting punch-drunk. He gets a black eye from the European corner! Then Cuba clobbers him! He reels and spins around just in time to catch everything but the kitchen sink from traditionally polite Japan! Then before he can get off the ropes, China hurls a new barrage of insults and Russia throws some near-devastating propaganda haymakers! It would actually be funny, laughable, were it less consequential.

We scratch our heads and ask, "What gives?" We keep muttering something under our breath about our Good Samaritanism to the offenders in other days. Didn't we give Russia a new lease on life in her time of famine? Didn't we do the same for China? And who emanci-



pated her from Japanese oppression? As for Japan herself, didn't we suffer thousands of casualties at her hands only to run to her rescue after the war and prop up her shattered nation at a cost of billions? Are all our overtures wasted? What does all this add up to? What gives?

Perhaps the question we should be asking is this one, "Is God trying to say something to America through all these puzzling setbacks?" Maybe it's like the farmer who sold the mule on the strength the animal would do anything asked of him. The new owner, however, wasn't

having much success with the mule. He wouldn't pull. He stood motionless when hitched to the load. Owner number one was summoned and the complaint lodged that he had sold a bad bill of goods.

The solution was simple! The first owner picked up a two-by-four, cracked the mule over the head, gently spoke a few words into his ear and you should have seen that mule start down the road. He then explained, "He's a good mule all right. He will do anything you ask of him, but first you've got to get his attention."

Have you ever wondered if the unprecedented pommelling the U.S.A. is getting is but God rapping our knuckles and noggins in order to get our attention? Nothing much seems to be working any more, and the majority of us are standing around with our hands in our pockets, wondering why! Unquestionably, there is something in all this, more than meets the eye. Maybe we are not going at things the right way. Maybe God is just trying to get our attention and is letting us flounder until He does! Might it not be that our ways are not His ways? Could it not be that we are using the wrong tools?

John Foster Dulles, while he was still among us, warned, "If we try to use the methods of Communism, our nation will go down in a morass of materialism and possibly atheism." Maybe here is where we have been unknowingly putting ourselves to a disadvantage. America chooses to call herself a *Christian* nation. This naturally prescribes certain limitations including the impossibility of the use of certain of the enemy's weapons. Communists, for instance, have the

questioned advantage of not being hampered by ethics or morals. The end always justifies the means. Falsehood, treachery and deceit, even by their own definition, are virtues if they contribute to world revolution, to the overthrow of religion and the communization of the earth. Anything goes! This leaves us, at times, a bit flat-footed and speechless. It's certain we can't "lick 'em" with their choice of weapons, and if we refuse to "join 'em," what then? What alternative is there?

Again, Secretary Dulles affirmed, "Our nation was founded on an experiment of human liberty. Its institutions reflected the belief of our founders that men had their origin and destiny in God. That they were endowed by Him with certain inalienable rights, and had duties prescribed by moral law; and that human institutions ought primarily to help men develop their God-given possibilities. We believe that if we built upon that spiritual foundation we would be showing men everywhere the way to better and more abundant life.

"We realized that vision! There developed here an area of spiritual and intellectual—as well as economic—vigor, the like of which the world had never seen. It was no exclusive preserve; indeed *world missions* was a central theme. Through missionary activities, the establishment of schools and colleges, and through travel, American ideals were carried through the world. We gave aid and comfort to those elsewhere who sought to follow in our way, and to develop societies of greater freedom."

Now, not in the same breath, or speech, yet it was that same John

(Continued on page 30)

GRACE to the Humble

Mary Holbert

"... God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble"
(James 4:6).

Is it "hum" or "um"? Frankly, either way can be used to pronounce the word "Humble." To many people this pronunciation question is the only serious aspect of the word. However, in this modern age of arrogance, brashness, and super-egotism, the word "humble" should have a deeper meaning for everyone. Just humbleness alone will never solve all problems but God seems to think it is the answer to living a life pleasing to Him. And after all, that should be our chief concern these days. Beyond doubt we are seeing the leaves of prophecy turn green and just as the green leaves symbolize the coming of summer in our seasons, so the green leaves of prophecy tell us that the return of our Saviour to the earth is not far off.

What are the Biblical instructions about humility? I Peter 5:5, 6 says, "... Be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time." What does possessing

humility mean? Does it mean self deprecation, abject groveling; does it mean becoming a "floor-mat," allowing others to exercise their will in our affairs completely—giving in on every argument? I don't believe so. The dictionary says that humility means this: state or quality of being humble in spirit; freedom from pride and arrogance. The word as used in the Bible does not mean undue self-depreciation. The Bible often uses humble in contrast to proud or haughtiness of spirit.

Thus the Bible says, "Better it is to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud" (Proverbs 16:19). "When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom" (Proverbs 11:2).

"A man's pride shall bring him low; but honor shall uphold the humble in spirit" (Proverbs 29:23).

Each of us has in mind what humbleness of the spirit means. If I should give my version it would be this. To be humble a person knows God's will through prayer and the

indwelling of the Holy Spirit. He doesn't have to put on a show to prove he is somebody. He knows he is important to God and walks with head held in self-respect knowing he is pleasing God by the life he strives to live daily. The humble in spirit just automatically does the kind act in any situation. He thinks before he says cutting words. He will never compromise with the truth of God's Word. He is thoroughly versed in the will of God and cannot give in or compromise where this conflicts with what others wish him to do. In humbleness he walks, ser-

ene and confident that God knows his heart, and that because of this he can walk before men setting forth an example of good works to the glory of God.

Isaiah 57:15 is certainly a comfort to all of us who strive for an humble and contrite spirit. "For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."

Project of the Month

Visiting for Christ

One of the most important projects, and one that is easily organized, is a visitation program. Young people in large groups, small groups, or singly, can do a great deal for Christ by such work.

The ill, the aged, and those who need help in spiritual matters all appreciate visits from the young people of the Church. Young people can do the most good among the shut-ins, and should be careful in trying to minister to those who need spiritual help, but even in this field there is much that can be done.

Almost every community has a rest home or home for the aged. Organized cheer bands which visit these homes, sing a few songs for the patients and residents, read a bit of Scripture for them, and then take time to visit personally with

some of the patients, can bring a great deal of pleasure to such people. This is a good activity to organize for a Sabbath afternoon, when it is easy to get a group together.

Visiting those who are ill or shut in in their own homes is easier to do in small groups or as individuals. Quite often a large group entering a private home has the effect of an invasion. But these people always enjoy a pleasant visit from young people, especially if they can play or sing a few hymns.

Many times there are young people in the community, who are interested in the gospel message, or whom you would like to reach with the message. Visiting them in the name of the church, or as representatives of your young people's group, can

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Blueprints for Living

Mona Davis

In Ephesians 4:13 we find two of the goals of the church of God. "Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, *unto a perfect man*, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ."

We have been told that men know not their real capacities but are like icebergs, with at least seventy-five percent buried under the surface. Here lie undeveloped talents, spiritual gifts, energies and potentialities unsuspected by the average individual. Most people I meet, a large proportion claiming to be followers of Christ, say they have no talent or gift to give. The failure is that they know not the Source which supplies every man's need.

John 2:24, 25 says that "Jesus did not commit himself unto them, because he knew all men, and needed not that any should testify of man; for he knew what was in man."

He came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. He said that life is in giving, saying,

"Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with what measure ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

Before we can even begin a blueprint successfully, the first steps of faith, repentance, baptism are essential in which we come to know God as our Father with His image and likeness potentially within; Who supplies all our needs when we seek His Kingdom first; Who guides, disciplines, chastens and corrects us as sons. In this dedication we know that our Father's will is our destiny. All our efforts then will be directed toward a transformation of our minds to know and prove His will as good, acceptable and perfect (Romans 12: 1, 2).

Since even with this new birth we are carnal, wishy-washy and desire instant answers to our prayers, a blueprint on paper will hold us firmly to our goals, give us testimonies when answered with higher and higher peaks to attain. Without vision we perish!

Underlying all this is a need for a study of scripture to know the obedience required of us, to be led into a daily prayer communion led by His Spirit.

Building a life is much like planning a house. Who would build a house without a blueprint or architect?

God is our Architect. He is also the Source of strength, light, power, talents, energy and ideas. Reading of the life of Jesus, Moses, all the great men and women of history is similar to study of many home blueprints. Consultation with an architect is financially expensive for homes. With

the Father, it demands all we have in time, periods set apart in listening to and talking with Him.

Most of my answers to prayers have been slow, taking time; for they depend on my working with God, waiting on His leadership, developing patience, talents, study, perseverance, growing in order and serenity as faith grows. Yet, I have had then outstanding answers to my prayers. A problem which seems unsolvable is placed in the Father's hands and He begins to work it out. So our faith in Him grows for higher uses. He is the Author and Finisher of our faith.

If we make the mistake of putting just human desires down on paper without full consultation with the Architect of our lives, we will be

frustrated. But on our knees we will come to see our lives in connection with His Kingdom in full fruit bearing.

"Whatsoever things ye desire when you pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11:24). "All things are possible to him that believeth" (Luke 1:37; Matthew 21:21, 22).

In the day that we see Jesus Christ we will rejoice and that joy no man takes from us. "And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:23, 24).

Teach Us

Teach us the strength that cannot seek
By deed or thought, to hurt the weak;
That, under Thee, we may possess
Man's strength to comfort man's distress.
Teach us delight in simple things,
And mirth that has no bitter spring;
Forgiveness free of evil done,
And love to all men 'neath the sun!

—R. Kipling

Facing Criticism

Abraham Lincoln once said, "If I tried to read, much less answer, all the criticisms made of me, and all the attacks leveled against me, this office would have to be closed for all other business. I do the best I know how, the very best I can. And I mean to keep on doing this, down to the very end. If the end brings me out all wrong, then ten angels swearing I had been right would make no difference. If the end brings me out all right, then what is said against me now will not amount to anything."



Looking Back at '62. . .

Elden Fischer

When Lot and his family left Sodom they were instructed not to look back. This is one time where looking back was fatal as Lot's wife turned into a pillar of salt. In running a foot race a good runner never looks around because that may slow him down enough to lose the race. A Christian can lead a better life by keeping his eyes on the goals ahead than to look around at the rest of the world. Looking back is, however, beneficial at times. At the end of a fiscal year a business takes an inventory to find out what is needed and what is not needed for the coming year. Have you taken your year-end inventory spiritually? What kind of Christian were you last year? Take a sheet of paper and list on it all the good you did during the year. In many cases we will find out we didn't accomplish half of what we intended to at the beginning of the year. If you weren't satisfied with your 1962 accomplishments start right now to do better with the year 1963.

Early in 1962 a project of registering our young people was launched. During the months that followed the

results trickled in to a number of better than 800. Also early in the year our department supplied \$25 for a bicycle for one of our foreign workers who was much in need of one. The membership cards that were requested by the Faithful Youth Challengers were printed and offered free of charge. Y. P. Constitutions were also printed, mailed out to ministers and made available to all who requested them at no cost to anyone. The paper, the cover stock, printing, and postage however were not free. The cost was reduced because of donated labor by Midwest students and your leader.

After several letters and anxious waiting Foreign Missions with the aid of the leaders of Nigeria's Church of God recommended Elder Gibson John to be sponsored by our Y.P. Elder John has been active in Y.P. work. This project is set up to get many groups united under one project. We have twelve groups sponsoring Elder John. We have one group of five Y.P. helping to sponsor Brother Gibson John. Reports and pictures of his work are to be a regular part of our AIM.

The last part of the year was mainly spent in the completing and printing of a much needed manual. If you haven't received a copy let us or the

Publishing House know and we'll get one to you, for without a copy you can not know what the 1963 program is all about. Elder Robert Coulter had much of the manual worked out and we made the finishing touches on it. These again were kept down in cost by help donated by MBC students. They are free to leaders, sponsors, and all ministers. All other copies are sold for 25¢.

Success in our department is measured by what our young people accomplish. If success has been achieved to some degree it would be due to the leadership committee which was set up in 1962. Fourteen members of this committee in key areas have pushed our projects to where they are today. It was all up hill and we are still going up hill. Their names you may have seen in print once or not at all. They provide the power that turns our wheels as we go.

Our financial support comes from the local FYCs and 1% of the Budget Fund. Our work will have to be reduced if we do not receive more support from local groups. We spent more last year than was received. We now have copies of one youth rally you may present and Bible reading records that are yours on request. We hope to make more materials available for you but we do need funds. Coming up in August is a camp meeting in Denver that will need our support. In the past year Oregon state has been a very good supporter of our work, also Sacramento, Eureka, Harrisburg and Claremore have sent in financial support. The constitution now asks for 25%, but at the Denver Camp meeting we'll consider a reduction to 15%. Help us do what cannot be done on a local level.

.... and Ahead to '63

As the new year begins we have high hopes and new goals that are not formulated enough to announce. What are your own personal goals for spiritual growth? We hope that your "aims" include cooperation with our organization. Our goals are these:

1. Make this a "Year for Youth," emphasize youth work.
2. Encourage all local groups to qualify for one of the Merit awards.
3. Urge all Y.P. to join the "Grow with God" program.
4. Unite more groups in support of Brother Gibson John.
5. Double our AIM subscriptions.
6. Share local projects and activities with other local groups.
7. Supply more helps for local youth rallies and projects.

A new item that we are offering to every Church of God home is an AIM with a new look. Tell others about AIM and encourage them to subscribe. It is impossible to keep an organization going in one direction unless all Y.P. keep up with the news and goals through a church paper. We must at least double AIM subscriptions if our organization is to be effective. Our department has tried hard to keep our people informed on goals reached and goals ahead, but because many of our Y.P. do not subscribe to AIM they know nothing about our aims.

We are offering a "Gold Merit" certificate and a "Silver Merit" certificate at the end of 1963 to all groups qualifying. Read about this program in our manual. Order one and become familiar with this new

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SCHOOL S.V.A. NOTES

Report from S. V. A.

We are happy to be able to send another report on the happenings at S.V.A.

The major event I have to report this month is that Spring Vale has lost Brother Charles Monroe as a member of the faculty. Brother Monroe felt called to another field of work; he is now making his home in Meridian, Idaho. We would like to have you remember Brother Monroe in your prayers; he has been a very able and devoted, and highly respected, teacher here at Spring Vale; we pray God's blessing upon him wherever he goes.

Great progress is being made on the new Boys' Dormitory project. On December 2, a "work bee" was held. Those interested in the dorm project donated their time. This sacrifice of their time is very much appreciated by all of us here at S.V.A.

The students of Spring Vale plan to present a play on Tuesday night, December 18 to help raise funds for the completion of the new dormitory. The play is entitled "Soldiers of the Cross"; it is of a missionary nature. Everyone who can is invited to attend.

A revival under the direction of Elder Nelson Caswell was held on Thanksgiving weekend, November

18-25, at the church in Detroit. Some students of Spring Vale attended a few of these meetings; a spiritual blessing was received by those who attended.

On Thanksgiving day, Spring Vale was honored to have as its guests Elder S. J. Kauer, former principal of S.V.A., and his wife. Also, Marvin Keim and his sister, our principal's cousins, visited Spring Vale. Work was done on the new dorm Thanksgiving Day.

In the way of activities, the Chi Alpha Club presented another program at the Griffin Home for the Aged on November 17. There was an interesting addition to the regular program at this visit. Tom Uhlum, a resident of the home and a blind man from birth, played the piano for the chorus singing. His assistance was greatly appreciated.

After the close of the subscription contest for the Blue and White Reporter, a party was given in honor of the winning team. Since the Whites won the contest, the Blues planned the party activities.

So have been the activities of S.V.A. We would like to have you remember the new dorm project in your prayers; that it may be completed by the close of this semester.

—Carol Millican

For a report from M.B.C. turn to page 27.

“Take Time for God” PROGRAM

Nelson Caswell

A Chapter A Day Keeps the Devil Away

The Word of God is a treasure. It's an asset more wonderful and profitable than any pot of gold or treasure chest, because it alone contains the secret of eternal life. It excels all success stories and eclipses the greatest works of man by overwhelming proportions.

It would be easy and pleasant for the writer to list off the numberless ways in which the Holy Bible demonstrates its complete supremacy over any and all writings. However, so very, very few people recognize this supremacy, or if they do, they ignore it in preference for lesser things.

It's like a man beset with a wonderful banquet who, instead of feasting on the food offered, pulls old dry crusts of bread from his pockets and eats them, thereby letting the savory and more nutritious food go untasted. Wouldn't we consider such an event discourteous and insulting to very discourteous and insulting to the host? Though one will readily see the injustice done in this story, he fails to see it in relation to his own shortcomings. The host is God, the nutritious foods are the Scriptures, the crusts of bread represent anything we consume in preference to the Scriptures, and the guest in this banquet is YOU. Now, or at

some point in your life, you have sat down at this table and you've committed the injustice of eating old scraps of food and garbage.

Because of this very sad choice of diet, there are many people starving to death but with food within reach. There are too many people with lean souls which haven't been fed. It is in this situation we address ourselves in this new program, 2T4G, (A Chapter A Day Keeps the Devil Away). While this may be only part of the answer it is a step in the right direction. It is true that one can lead a horse to water but can't make him drink. However, if our Faithful Youth Challengers can be urged to take a little drink every day or a bite of food every day, they may keep their soul strong enough to keep Satan away. How about it? God has the table spread, you are hungry, so let's give it a try.

Suggested readings for January 15 to February 15. Numbers are the days of the month.

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 15. Genesis 1 | 25. Psalm 51 |
| 16. Psalm 53 | 26. Genesis 4 |
| 17. Psalm 19 | 27. Psalm 37 |
| 18. Isaiah 40 | 28. Genesis 5 |
| 19. Genesis 2 | 29. Genesis 6 |
| 20. Psalm 8 | 30. Genesis 7 |
| 21. Psalm 24 | 31. Genesis 8 |
| 22. Genesis 3 | 1. Genesis 9 |
| 23. Psalm 103 | 2. Psalm 105 |
| 24. Psalm 104 | 3. Psalm 106 |

- | | | | |
|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 4. Psalm 78 | 7. Isaiah 55 | 10. Matthew 3 | 13. Matthew 6 |
| 5. Isaiah 11 | 8. Matthew 1 | 11. Matthew 4 | 14. Matthew 7 |
| 6. Isaiah 53 | 9. Matthew 2 | 12. Matthew 5 | |

Why I Want to Go to Youth Camp

Last spring, as the time for the Oregon Youth Camp drew near, the Deborah Circle of the Harrisburg, Oregon, Church of God, conducted a contest for young people. The writers of the essays judged best were to have their camp expenses paid in various amounts.

At this season, some of us might consider a summer youth camp to be far from our present thoughts. Nevertheless, the time for the camp will soon be rolling around again, and those who wait until the last minute to do their planning might find that they have waited too long, and thereby miss such a blessing as they might otherwise receive.

With this thought in mind, we have waited until this time to publish the winning essays. We hope that their message will inspire you, and get you started with your planning now, so that you, too, may be able to attend or help someone to attend the camp next summer.

* * *

Why I Want to Go to Youth Camp

(Winner, 14-20 year age group)

The reason I want to go to Youth Camp is because of the wonderful benefits I will receive. I want to learn more about the Bible and its teachings.

I believe that we all need to learn and grow in our spiritual faith. We need food in our bodies so we will have energy to grow and live on; and likewise we need spiritual food to keep us growing, and thriving on the Word of God. Through our studies and meetings at the Youth Camp, we will find spiritual food. This will give us more courage and zest to do the will of our Father. It will not only help us through the summer, but it will play a definite part in what kind of people we will be in the future. We might not realize it, but right now we are molding the pattern on which our life will be based. This is why it is important that all people have a good sound Christian education, especially young people.

We also will meet other youth of our own ages who are also striving to be a Christian. We will be able to share our experiences and ideas, and will be able to help one another. This is very important in our daily living, for we learn through trial and error. I also want to participate in the sports and enjoy the other activities.

One of the best reasons for going to Youth Camp is that we will not only be helping ourselves, but we also will be more fit, capable, and encouraged to help others when we come home. Just by being more thoughtful and kind to others we may be able to save a soul for

Christ. We can help them by our actions to also want to take the road to Calvary. But first of all we have to ask ourselves this question. "Will I follow God all the way, or will I be a victim of the world?" I believe that this Youth Camp can help me to make this decision. This is why I want to go.

LeOra Merrill
Age 16
Sweet Home, Oregon

* * *

Why I Want to Go to Camp

(Winner, 9-13 year age group)

I want to go to camp to learn more about God and the Bible.

It is nice to be with young peo-

ple of the church, and to get acquainted with young people that go to our church in different places in the United States.

I like the recreation that they have for the young people, as well as the Bible studies.

I think that everyone will learn to cooperate better with people and to mind our elders. Most people should really go to the church camp, old and young, just so that they will learn to cooperate with other people as well as to think of other people's feelings as well as your own before you say something that might hurt somebody's feelings.

Margie McGill
Age 12
Junction City, Oregon

A Letter from Africa

Elder Gibson John
Obobura Town
Box 27, Ahoada
Nigeria, Africa

Dear Brother Fischer,

Greetings in the Holy Name of our Lord.

Your letter dated 2nd October, 1962 had come to hand. The contents were well-perused and quite understood. Let all thanks be given to our Heavenly Father for His wondrous works to us. Our church work here is going on well day by day. We have a church house built with blocks, which has an average attendance of about 95. We have also a middle II School which reads up to standard VI, which nears the church house, by a distance of a few poles.

I was in receipt of the AIM, the magazine for young people, prior to my replying you and which I was very interested. May the Lord help the FYC to progress more and more, both there and here.

I would be very pleased if you could send me the camera for it would be of good use to us here. I know you would send one D.V. and therefore thank you in advance. Our campmeeting for the year 1963 would hold on January 5th and 6th, 1963. I would be pleased if you could make a chance to come and witness the Church of God yearly campmeeting here in Nigeria. Anyway I know you would do so in near future with the help of God.

I am of a family of 6 children five boys and one girl. Due to con-

stant heart pain of their mother, the children were not financially supported and so could not finish their school course. I therefore earnestly implore you to remember us in your daily prayers before God that we may have deliverance through Him.

May God bless you and your work.

I am

Yours in Christ,
Elder Gibson W. John

Brother Gibson John lives in the Ahoada district of Nigeria. There are several young people in the Aba district that would like to receive a friendly letter from you. The following are the names and ages of those young people. All receive their mail at P. O. Box 84, Aba, Nigeria, West Africa.

Ebere Ikpeoha—22
Eliada Tikili (girl)—19
Mirriam Ebere (girl)—17
Godwin Okomgba—17
David Eli—15
Monica Lazarus—21

The best mailing method is to use aerograms available at your post office.

Sponsors of Elder Gibson John

The following groups are making it possible for an extra worker to be in the Lord's vineyard in Nigeria. These groups are contributing 50 cents a month (\$6.00 a year) or more to the Young People's Department so that we can all together be represented in soul winning in Nigeria. We hope that soon we will also have pictures to go with the reports of Brother Harris had both teams in his labors that his reports will in return encourage us as souls are harvested for the Kingdom of God.

San Antonio, Texas
New Auburn, Wisconsin
Nampa, Idaho
Stanberry, Missouri
Elmira, Oregon
Canton, New York
Harrisburg, Oregon
Eureka, South Dakota
Claremore, Oklahoma
Muskegon-West Olive-and
Grand Rapids, Michigan
Toledo, Ohio
Fort Smith, Arkansas

We need at least eight more sponsors for this project to continue it. Send your support to your leader at 1403 Franklin Avenue, Independence, Missouri. A map of the United States showing where sponsoring groups are located will soon be sent to Brother Gibson John. Look for further reports from your worker in Nigeria.

* * *

M. B. C. Report

December—a month of climaxes. With the climax of another year came the "climax" of climaxes in sports at Midwest, a basketball game between faculty and students. With the help of the Publishing House staff, the Midwest faculty fought a tough battle to the finish against the Embassy Charioteers. Losing only by seven points every player on the faculty team scored at least once. A game of laughs, Brother Henry Harris from the church served with Martha Kiesz as referees and Brother Harris had both teams roaring with his witty calling. Of course, those faculty men added their share to the lightheartedness of the never-to-be-forgotten event. All told, the next few days brought out the physical conditions of the players, kinks, blisters and all!

On a Thursday evening several

students, their children and children of local church brethren took their friends to a special skating party at the local rink. A little less demanding physically than basketball, it nevertheless brought its share of bumps. An appealing devotion highlighted the event, bringing a Christian witness to the proprietors.

Of course, the main event of the month was the Midwinter Recess. Several students left the area to visit with families and friends. Brother Garland Brunson and his family motored to Oklahoma to visit with their families, an event which they had been happily anticipating. The Ray Meier family left for Denver soon after the vacation began. Elders Stanley Kauer, John Kiesz and Max Morrow took their families to Nebraska, Canada and Bassett, Nebraska respectively. Brother Roger Blankinship and Larry St. Clair spent the holiday in Michigan. Sister Arleatha Butts found Oregon to be appealing.

Several students had the privilege of taking part in the local church election, with offices undertaken by them. To be a part of the church and to take part in the church functions have greatly benefited the students, not only in their training, but in their spiritual growth, as well.

On the agenda are many events. As part of the young people's work is the plan of sponsoring a foreign worker. Soon to be seen is the Billy Graham film, "Africa on the Bridge," an inter-church affair in Stanberry but instigated by our church's F.Y.C. A "Foreign Lands Party" is being planned for the near future.

With so much to do in the spiritual realm, we keep asking ourselves, "When do we study for final exams?" Coming up soon, we,

of course, must continue in faith, giving all diligence to developing well-rounded, mature young men and women in things spiritual, intellectual, emotional, and even in matters social. "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy" (James 3:17).

—Fred Walter

* * *

The New Year

Come, let us anew
Our journey pursue,—
Roll round with the year,
And never stand still till the Master
appear;

His adorable will
Let us gladly fulfill,
And our talents improve
By the patience of hope, and the labor
of love.

Our life is a dream;
Our time, as a stream,
Glides swiftly away,
And the fugitive moment refuses to
stay;

The arrow is flown;
The moment is gone;
The millennial year
Rushes on to our view, and eternity's
near.

Oh that each, in the day
Of His coming may say,
"I have fought my way through;
give me to do;"

Oh that each from his Lord
May receive the glad word,
"Well and faithfully done;
Enter into my joy, and sit down on
my throne."

—Chas. Wesley

The Editor's Page

A New Year—A New Look

With this issue we begin a new year, a new volume with a new look! Our aim is the same—spreading the "good news"; the gospel and salvation's story are the same—old, yet ever new and stimulating.

Changing our appearance to make it more appealing and interesting does not change our desire to present the love of Christ by which souls are brought to a realization of their condition before God and are given a sincere yearning to live for Him. By so doing, we hope to create more interest and promote more studying while reaching all age groups. We sincerely pray for more wisdom and help in carrying out our part of the Lord's work that we may be able to exalt Jesus Christ.

We are all laborers together. One or two of us cannot make a success of this paper, even with God's help. It is our work and we must see that it is done or it will be left undone unless He gives the privilege to someone else.

We will appreciate your help and your prayers. Sometimes we wonder if you realize just how much we do need you!

We are certain that you do not realize how much we need writers. Many of you have written good articles in the past and are still capable; so are many who have never written. We invite you to consider prayerfully if you are one of these. If you are willing to try, we are sure that you will find God blessing you in an extra special way.

New writers may wish to consider a few of these suggestions concerning our editorial policy taken from *A Writer's Manual*, which may be obtained free of charge from our Publishing House.

1. Type all material double-spaced on one side of paper only, allowing at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch margin on each side. If you are not able to send typed material, write legible longhand, skipping every other line.
2. When quoting Scripture, copy spelling and wording exactly as found in the Bible. Use quotation marks around all portions of Scripture quoted. The source of the quotation should be in parenthesis following the Scripture.
3. Recognize Deity with capitals. Capitalize the pronouns which refer to God or Christ, except when quoting the Bible.

May God help us that together we may have a better paper and together we may be better Christians this new year.

What's God Saying To America?

(Continued from page 16)

Foster Dulles who put his finger on the pulse of a sick world and dared to state, "What the world needs is a return of the spirit of the nineteenth-century missionary."

Perhaps this is the answer for which we are looking. Have you ever wondered? Maybe we have gotten farther away from this path than we have realized! Maybe America has forgotten her mission in the world! Globe-trotting Mr. Dulles saw the great need of the missionary spirit and vision. How many of the rest of us see it?

One can read just about all there is to be read in the press, diagnosing the world's ills, and scarcely will he ever come across a reference to God. That He could be connected in any way with the fix and pickle we are in, is not in all our thoughts. Never is the question raised, "Is God using, perhaps engineering, these exigencies to get us back on the right track; as Mr. Dulles put it, with world missions as our central theme?"

Ours is a day when even the church, to a great degree, has lost the way, has even forgotten the address. In fact many of us do not even know there is an address. The aimless meandering in Zion is positively pathetic, heightened by the fact that more depend upon the church to get the world back on an even keel than upon any other agent or agency. "If my people . . ." has a lot of meaning when applied to our times.

The American who calls himself

a Christian, and yet does nothing to remedy the ills of the world, except to sit in the pew and sing hymns on Sunday morning, is daydreaming. They make a great mistake who suppose God cares for no other pursuit than devotion. "Why call ye me Lord and *do not* the things which I say?" He seems to be saying, "Don't just sit there and sing! Get on your knees and pray; then get up on your feet and act." The Lord is not looking for people who will merely stand under His balcony and serenade Him; He wants those who will get out in the field and work for Him.

Christ said to one of His closest followers, "If you love me . . . feed my sheep." Prove it! Do something about it! Nothing we can say to the Lord, no calling Him great and endearing names within the sanctuary, can take the place of the plain doing of His will out in the world. Singing, "Oh, How I Love Jesus" is never an acceptable substitute for a Christianity with its sleeves rolled up! Especially NOW, with the world in the plight it's in!

Christianity is not an exotic to be kept under glass, or confined within a laboratory, abbey, cathedral or monastery. It is a life in the world, binding up its bruises and healing its diseases. It is not an idea floating around up in the sky. It is feet on the ground going God's way, absorbed with His business and praying, "Thy will be done *in earth* as it is in heaven." That's it! *God's will*, His plan and design for the world.

Now, the impasses and blind alleys we are running into, in our efforts to erect something out of the wreckage of the post-war world, could be God's voice saying, "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain

that build it." It could be that we are no longer seeing the invisible, or hearing the "still, small voice," making it necessary for God to communicate with us in a more drastic manner.

We've got to stop viewing so much that happens from only the horizontal plane; we must take the upward look. There's a vertical dimension in all this, too, that must be recognized. Failure to do so will spell catastrophe. God must come into focus. His voice must be heard above the din, "*This is the way, walk ye in it.*" The sooner we take time out from our confused efforts and find out what God is trying to say to us, the sooner we'll have the revelation of His plans and purposes. Herein is the key to the international nightmare. If the world is ever again to get on its feet, many of us are going to have to get on our knees. Otherwise we will never find our way out of the woods.

Who can say for sure that all the unexpected countercurrents are not God's ways of getting our attention, so He can divert our efforts from what *won't work* to what *can't fail*? When He succeeds, we'll find the whole world complex emerging as primarily a spiritual issue, not a political or social issue. Once He gets through to us, and this dawns on our consciousness, we'll find ourselves less preoccupied with Nikita's world plans, and more concerned with Christ's. We'll find ourselves talking less about defending the world, and *doing more about evangelizing it!*

—Lighted Pathway

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Subscribe to AIM for a friend.

Project of the Month

(Continued from page 18)

do much to win them for Christ. However, this should be carried out in a careful way, being "wise as serpents and harmless as doves." Such people will respond most readily if you show them that you are genuinely interested in them and want their fellowship. But if you leave the impression that your visits to them are nothing more than invasions of their privacy for the purpose of forcing your religious views upon them, you will find that your welcome is not as hearty as it was at first.

In all your visitation, be careful not to interfere with the work of your minister. In the rest home, hymns, Scripture reading, prayer, and a short spoken message are in order. In the home of a shut-in, hymns and prayer and encouraging words for the ill one are a great help. Visiting those whom you wish to reach with the gospel can be a very delicate operation. Most people actually resent being "preached at." But they all appreciate sincere interest being shown in them. In such cases there will be many opportunities to discuss the church and the Bible as their interest develops. When their interest has developed to the point that they want to know the deeper things of the Scriptures, and want spiritual guidance, they will then be glad to talk to your minister.

There are many ways to organize visitation programs. Each group will have its own special opportunities or its own problems. Many books have been written on the subject, and perhaps your local library, your pastor or a pastor of some other church in the community will have some litera-

ture that you may obtain. We suggest that you plan such a project, get as much information as you can on how others have done it, and then start enjoying the many blessings that can be yours.—C.L.F.

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Lust For Life

(Continued from page 8)

to make such sacrifices for the Lord"? Although such remarks are made in an effort to convey to others the idea that there is real pleasure in such an affectation of piety, the feeling one gets from hearing them is that the speaker is either boasting or complaining. Such remarks seldom have the ring of sincerity.

The truth is that very few people are happy to do that which they consider to be a sacrificial act. One who gets the most out of life doesn't merely "practice" religion—it is not a garment to be put on and worn for public approval. It is his life, and the acts which others may look upon as sacrifices beyond that which he can reasonably afford, are to him counted as nothing. His "vehement longing" makes him a part of the life and the living all about him.

The definition of "love" is somewhat similar to the definition we have had under consideration. Thus "lust for life" and "love of life" are not unlike in the thought they convey to us. The poet, Stevenson, once wrote, "The earth is so full of a number of things, I'm sure we should all be as happy as kings." Paul, the apostle, wrote to the Romans, "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"

God has given us life on this earth. True, we can look about us and see all kinds of evils. We can paint our pictures with the umbers and blacks of Van Gogh's early paintings, if we want to do so. We can let our hearts become filled with fear—fear of the evils in the world; fear of God as a vengeful demigod, fear that others will criticize us if we do not display the same affectations of piety in which they indulge; fear which causes us to launch out in vicious, fanatical attacks against fancied evils or "idols," thereby paying unwitting tribute to those things which the apostle Paul classes as nothing.

Or we can look upward, away from the gutter of life with all its filth, and "set your affections on things above..." We can become a part of all the good things that God has given us freely to enjoy. The vehement longing and desire that is so natural within us need not be diverted to a neurotic attack on all mankind, but it can become a loving, uplifting force which makes life a glorious experience to us; one which overflows and is shared by those about us.

Van Gogh missed his opportunity to fulfill his vehement longing. Instead of following his ministry to elevate his people from the depths of their despair, he chose to picture them in their poverty and hopelessness. By the time he realized that life can be full of beauty and brightness and color, he had become obsessed with the idea that it could be recorded on canvas, and that his desire for life could therein be fulfilled. Had he returned to his ministry, and used his life to enrich the life of others, no doubt his paintings would have been even more wonder-

ful, deeper in meaning and in feeling.

Life is for the living. Let us live every moment of it in the sunshine of God's love, and get the fullest measure of enjoyment by sharing its good things with others.

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Call to Service

(Continued from page 6)

parable, Matthew 25, didn't steal from God. His only apparent mistake was that though he was the least endowed among the servants he didn't use what resources he had. Whether one has one, two, or five talents, it is important that they be not buried. God calls for our reasonable service.

There are so many things one can do. Yet young and old wail that there aren't many opportunities to serve. Some can have opportunity stare them in the face and not recognize it. Then there are others who just need the initial idea and then they see it through. The following list is submitted in hopes that it may provoke some to explore some new avenues of service. It is far from complete but it's a start. You can add to it and no doubt the editor would be delighted to receive some letters from readers giving firsthand testimony of things they or their group have done.

1. Tracts—you can study them, hand them out, mail them, display them in racks, and donate to free-tract fund.
2. Subscriptions—to "The Bible Advocate" and "Aim." Buy them yourself, read them, give them to others

and/or sell subscriptions. Many learn of our church through our papers.

3. Local church—needs people, young and old for teachers, ushers, janitors, song leaders, pianists, help with special songs and readings, visiting the sick, visitation evangelism, youth leaders, etc.
4. Church Improvement — is needed everywhere. You can volunteer to sand floors, mow lawns, paint, make signs, plant flowers, decorate, keep an interesting bulletin board, etc.
5. Equipment — Initiate fund drive for P.A. System, new organ, piano, projector, teaching aids, mimeograph, chairs, pews, and many other items. Maybe you can construct some necessary things.
6. Missionaries—Send, or offer to support, a foreign missionary or be partly responsible for one. You or your group could hear regular reports on their progress.
7. Schools—Donate money or supplies or partly support a student for either Midwest or S.V.A. Either groups or individuals can do this.
8. Searchlight ad—can be run in a local paper promoting our free Searchlight Bible Course and opening the door for others to hear and accept.
9. Radio—You and others support our radio program over a local station. Take the initiative in forming a local radio committee to

- arrange for this expense.
10. Writing—is a wonderful way to serve God. Many are capable of supplying articles for "AIM" and the "B.A." If you've never written try it with a short article first. Later you'll warm up. It'll come easier.
 11. Tithes and offerings—Being a faithful tithe payer and liberally supporting the church programs is an invaluable way to help. Begin in youth to give God His due. Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
 12. Higher Calling—Don't turn a deaf ear if you feel God's call to the ministry, Christian education, missionary work, or medicine. The laborers are few.

There you have an impressive list of specific and important things to do and many, many more can be added. As you look over this list you'll no doubt find several of these things you can do and as you take part in more and more things, note how much happier and satisfied you are. There is a saying that goes, "Take a firmer interest in your firm's interests and your firm will take a firmer interest in yours." This is more true of the church and God's things than can be emphasized. God's returns are an hundredfold in this life and in the life to come.

Regardless of what tasks you undertake, above all maintain a sound spiritual witness and do not be ashamed of the gospel of Christ.

(—A reprinted article)

Martha's Neglected Opportunity

(Continued from page 12)

With beaming faces they arose from their knees. Surprise flooded their faces as they saw Mrs. Green slowly arising from her knees.

Seeing their astonishment she spoke, "I hope you will forgive me but I just had to find peace. When I got to the door I heard you praying so I slipped in and knelt to pray too. I heard Cora's prayer so I prayed with Martha. I'm so happy now that I have peace here," she put her hand over her heart.

"I've come several times before," Cora was speaking now. "But Martha was always in a hurry so I'd give some pretense and leave. I'm so glad you had more time today."

"I'm ashamed to say it but I have done the same thing," said Mrs. Green.

Martha's eyes filled with tears. Now she knew why her burden had been so great. Her closest neighbors were in need of the Saviour and she had been too busy to take time to witness to them.

"Forgive me, friends," she asked, sobbing as if her heart were broken, "I must ask God's forgiveness too. Had I but waited on the Lord when the burden first came you would have found Christ sooner. I must have come very near to not showing you the love of God. The burden has been lifted and I ask you to pray for me that I may never fail Him again."—*Gospel Herald*

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Don't be ashamed of your Bible, or a shame to it.

FYC News

(Continued on page 22)

plan. It began January 1, 1963.

The Denver Y.P. in cooperation with their pastor and sponsor are working on a plan of studying the manual and then they will be quizzed over its contents. The New Auburn Y.P. are working on a local writing contest for articles to AIM with prizes to the winners. They are also sending bundles of publications to Elder Gibson John. The Oregon State Y.P. are very interested in working out a scholarship program for students of our school. The Y.P. of the California District have bought and sent a typewriter to Elder Joseph of India. We encourage you to support foreign projects, but we don't want to make our department a branch of Foreign Missions and they are trying to make our foreign groups self-supporting. We have important needs in our home fields, too. (Write your ideas on these matters and others to our department.)

We have outlined a very simple program called "Grow with God," through which we are encouraging a spiritual fitness program. All you

do is give us your name and address and say, "I will daily read a chapter in my Bible and pray daily throughout 1963." If you can't keep up with the program you have lost only a minute. If you keep it up, with the right approach, you will soon see the good it does for you and our department. We would like to know who is participating in this program and if you request it we can send you record sheets for this program.

In 1963 we hope you don't put off anything so that you need to be reminded two or three times. Postponing often ends up in neglect. Are you aiming high this year? We hope that now all of you have elected officers for the new year and are accumulating points under the Merit System. Don't miss out on the blessings of the "Grow with God" program. Make 1963 a "Year for Youth." If Christ should return we hope He finds us with our boots on and our shoulder BEHIND the wheel, "Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith."

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The secret of education lies in respecting the pupil.—*Emerson*

A Closing thought:

How to have a Happy New Year:

Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can!

—John Wesley