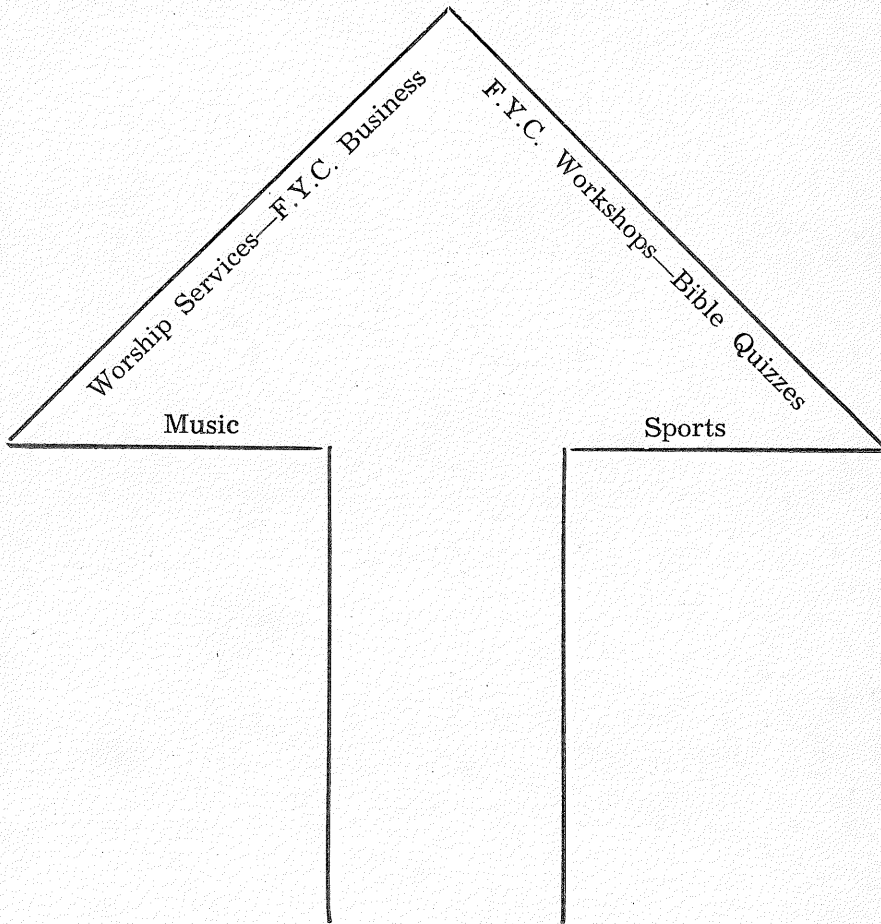


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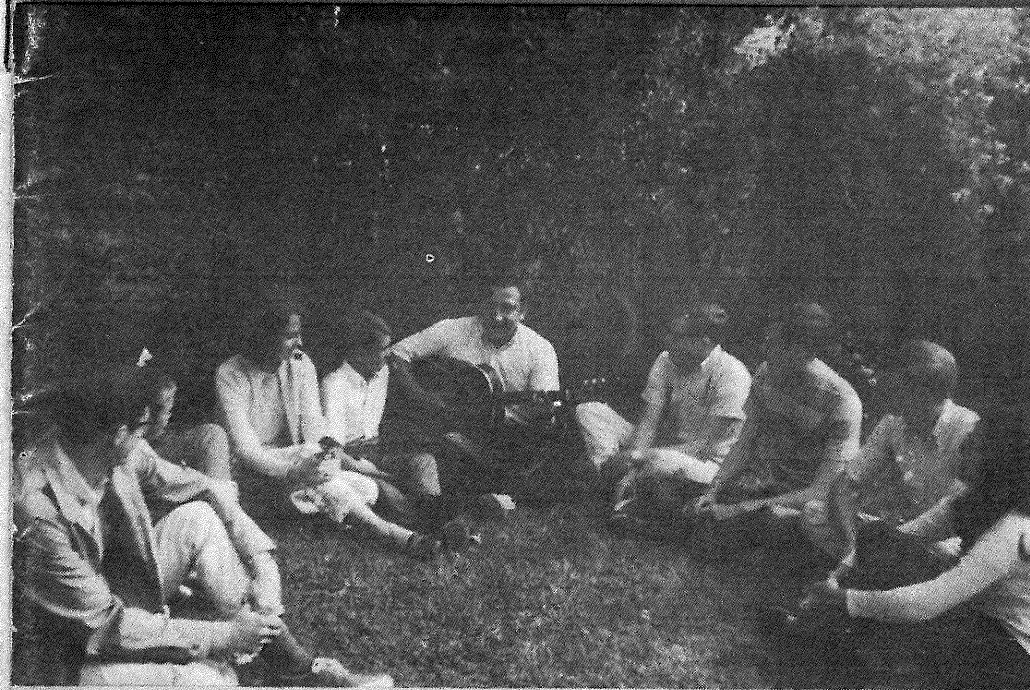
YOU WILL SURELY RECEIVE A BLESSING

28

JULY 1969

Aim

The magazine for young people



Summertime affords a time of fellowship and fun for Christian young people.

—Youth Camps

—General Conference Youth Activities

—Weekend Retreats

Aim *The magazine for young people*

AIM is dedicated to the promotion of higher ideals and more challenging spiritual goals among young people.

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Hope E. Dais, Editor

Cover picture: FYCers at the recent Ft. Smith weekend retreat enjoy fellowship in the outdoors.

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In Profile . . .

CLASSIFIED
SCHOOL

The Friend of the Bridegroom

By Dorothy Nimchuk

A short, yet illustrious, career of the space of a few years at best, ending in imprisonment and death. A man bold of speech, yet humble! Dwelling in deserts, existing on locusts and wild honey! Clothed in camel's hair!

"What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind? . . . A man clothed in soft raiment? A prophet? yea, . . . and more than a prophet . . . Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare the way before thee" (Matthew 11:7-10).

Preaching in the wilderness, declaring one who would come after him, baptizing in the River Jordan, this man was different than any other. "Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater . . ." (verse 11).

His very conception was miraculous in that his parents were both old, his mother being beyond the age of childbearing. An angel appeared unto Zacharias as he was performing the office of a priest, burning incense in the temple. Elisabeth, his wife, was to have a son, the angel informed him.

Forgetful of the birth of Isaac in Sarah's old age; ignoring the great power and majesty of the God whom he served so faithfully; Zacharias questioned that such an event would take place. How often man in his finite state doubts the ability of our omnipotent God. Because of his unbelief in Gabriel's message, the kindly old priest was struck dumb until such time as his son was born and he wrote the words, "His name is John."

John's life held a special destiny. It was foretold by the angel that he would be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. He was to drink neither wine nor strong drink. Going before Christ in the spirit and power of Elias, he was to turn many of the children of Israel unto the Lord their God (Mal. 4:5, 6; Luke 1:15-17).

Isaiah speaks of this forerunner

as "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God" (Isa. 40:3). Realizing the mission for which he was ordained, John testified of himself as this "voice" (John 1:23).

In deep humility, John spoke of One who would come, whose shoe lace he was unworthy to untie. When Jesus came to John to be baptized, John was very loath to acquiesce. Jesus insisted that he do so in order to "fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15). Coming out of the water, the Spirit of God in the likeness of a dove descended upon Jesus and a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (verse 17). The Spirit's descending was a sign to John that truly this was the Christ, the Saviour of the world, the promised Messiah for Whom the people had looked and longed.

On one occasion John saw Jesus approaching and said, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." Two of John's disciples, hearing this testimony, turned and followed Jesus. One of the two disciples was Andrew, who first found his brother, Simon Peter, declaring he had found the Messiah. Together they followed the Master.

John's ministry was short-lived, his last days being spent in prison. Ever bold to identify sin in any form, John had spok-

en out against the unholy union between Herod Antipas and Herodias, wife of Herod's brother Philip. To pacify the angered Herodias, Herod had John bound and placed in the prison. Fearful of the multitude which looked on John as a prophet, Herod did not put this desert man to death at this time.

Some time later Herod's birthday was celebrated with great pomp and ceremony. During the festivities, Salome, daughter of Herodias from a former marriage, danced before the king, pleasing him greatly. Herod rashly promised with an oath to give Salome whatever she desired. Foreseeing that such an opportunity might arise, Herodias had instructed her beautiful daughter to demand the head of John the Baptist on a platter. Immediately sorry, yet not willing to go back on his oath, Herod ordered that she be given her request. Salome, in turn, presented John's head to her mother, who at last had her revenge.

John went to his death, knowing he had fulfilled the mission for which he had been born. He rejoiced that he had known and prepared the way of Christ, the bridegroom.

In John's own words, "He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled" (John 3:29).

by Jessie Truman

Growing with Dash

"No, Randy. You can't go with Buzz."

"But Dad—," pleaded the boy. "We just want to go roller skating. What's wrong with that?"

"It's not the roller skating I object to. It's Buzz. He's getting a little wild with that car of his. And those noisy fellows he fills it with."

"Aw, Dad, They're just having fun, they're not bad. Everybody—"

"Not *everybody*, Randy. You're not to go with him. Hear?" Big Mac closed the door firmly behind him and clomped down the porch steps.

"Mom?" Randy turned hopefully to his mother.

"Sorry, Randy. Dad means it."

Randy slapped a cap on his unruly red hair, then followed his father to the barn to finish the chores. He grumbled to himself as he tossed fragrant layers of baled hay into the feeders and filled the tank with fresh water. Then he retired to his room to read until bedtime.

The downpour the next morning matched Randy's mood, but the aroma of hot muffins and cocoa mellowed his spirits as he stepped into the kitchen for breakfast.

"Too wet to do any field work today," his father announced as he washed at the kitchen sink. Then he added, as an afterthought, "How'd you like to go with me over to Allens? Walt said those pups are ready to wean now. Says they're from good parents. Kinda like to see 'em."

The black and white balls of animated fur were wrestling, crawling, biting and clawing each other in their pen in the Allen barn. Bonnie, their mother, barked savagely as the strangers approached.

"All right, Bonnie. Settle down." Walt commanded. She retreated a few steps but kept a watchful eye on the intruders as they stood by her



pen. They made no attempt to reach for her active youngsters.

"Would you like to see the old dog work?" Walt inquired.

"Yeah—."

"C'mon, I want to move some heifers out to the meadow. Won't take long."

Mac and Randy followed him out to the cow yard. They waited beside the fence as Walt went to open the gate.

"Go around," Walt ordered.

Bonnie made a wide circle around the dozen half-grown heifers and closed them into a cluster, then looked to Walt for her next order. He motioned with the sweep of his arm to bring them on. She trotted from side to side to start them toward the open gate. They started walking slowly when one decided to make a break and return to the barn. Bonnie darted toward her with amazing speed and turned her back. One heifer found the open gate and trotted through, with the others close behind. Walt swung the gate shut and fastened the chain. Then he stopped to pet and praise his helper.

"Good girl, Bonnie."

Bonnie wagged and smiled and muzzled Walt's hand as he walked back to his guests.

"She saves a lot of steps everyday. Never gets rough with the stock unless they try to run over her. She's quicker than scat, and nips 'em just enough to get 'em moving."

"Want to pick out a pup, Randy?" Mac asked when they were back inside. "A good dog would be a big help when we have to move the sheep. Old Snooper needs to have her mind changed for her when she decides to take off in the wrong direction."

His hazel eyes lit up with pleasure as Randy stepped into the pen. A couple of puppies waddled up to sniff his hand and two more ignored him as they tumbled in the straw. But one jumped back, with eyes and ears alert, and barked. The men laughed.

"Why, you sassy little rascal! Come over here. Let's have another look at you," Randy exclaimed. "Spunky, aren't you?"

He picked it up and cuddled it in his arms. The puppy, tense and wriggling, tried to find a way of escape, but grew quiet as Randy stroked his silky fur.

"I like his spirit, don't you, Dad? I think I'll pick this one."

"You made a good choice, Randy," Walt commented. "That rascal has more zip than any in the litter. He should make a good stock dog if he's handled right." Then he added thoughtfully, "A dog is a sensitive creature, but he's no good if he isn't taught to mind. More than one good pup's been spoiled by bad training—or lack of any training."

x—————x

"What are you going to name your pet?" asked Mrs. MacDougal one day.

"If he's as fast as his mother, Dash would describe him best," Randy told her. So Dash it was. A few days later she presented him with a book entitled *How to Care For and Train the Working Dog*. The book gave complete directions for a dog's care and training. The last chapter told of trainers and their dogs competing at national dog trials and giving demonstrations at various fairs and exhibitions. The pictures of their many feats thrilled Randy. In his imagination he

Tension mounted with the arrival of April. Dash sniffed the air and barked at faraway or imagined sounds . . .

and Dash were the performers in the pictures.

Fall harvest and school left little time for leisure. Dash was growing fast. As soon as Randy got home from school each day, Dash's education would begin. At eight weeks of age he wore a collar. With the help of the leash he soon learned "no," "come," "heel," and "down." As the puppy grew, the lessons increased in length. Randy, too, had difficulty in following the instructions.

"Keep him fenced in—get him used to staying at home. If stray dogs come along and he falls in with bad company, he may come to no good," the book said. "Never be unkind, never let a command go unobeyed, not once. Be consistent. Do not humiliate the dog; punish him in private. Act indifferent, never over-anxious." This was especially hard when Dash was too playful. After each session Randy would unsnap the leash and pat him affectionately.

"Good dog," he'd say. Then Dash would wag himself nearly out of his skin.

By spring Dash was able to "gather sheep" and "bring sheep." He'd outgrown some of his puppy ways, but still was not settled into the ways of a well-disciplined dog. He found it hard to "stay" when commanded. Occasionally this would allow old Snooper to streak away in the wrong direction. And if Snooper made a break, others were bound to follow. Then the job of rounding them up

would have to be done again.

March brought the usual blizzards, thaws and Chinook winds that created restlessness in man and beast alike. The deer worked out of their winter yards and down into the meadows in search of easy grazing. Dogs roamed in search of mates and were eager for a chase, whether a rabbit or deer. The farmers planned their spring work, poised for an early takeoff. Their wives cleaned house and boys drag-raced on strips of unpatrolled pavement.

The tensions mounted with the arrival of April. Dash sniffed the air and barked at faraway or imagined sounds. Randy was caught between basketball and track in school, with no scheduled sports to help release his youthful energies.

One particularly balmy evening, Mr. and Mrs. MacDougal left early to attend a meeting. Randy was enjoying a game of "throw and fetch" with Dash in the early twilight. The roar of a fast-approaching car caught his ear. It sounded like Buzz, he thought. Laughter and shouts reached him above the roar of the twin pipes. Suddenly the car came to a screeching stop and grated into reverse. As it backed into the driveway, heads popped out of the open windows.

"Hey, Randy. C'mon for a ride. Man! does this baby roll! We'll take you around the block and have you home in no time. Didja hear that motor purr? Neat, huh?"

Why not, Randy reasoned with

himself. *No one will know.*

"Sure! Just a second. I'll put Dash in his yard first."

Randy swung the gate shut and ran to his waiting companions. They roared down the road. About half way down the big hill Buzz shifted into reverse and the transmission whined as the car swerved and started backward. Black marks stood out on the pavement where they laid rubber. The performance brought loud acclaim, so it was repeated again and again.

"You should see it take the curves," Buzz bragged as he swung into the ranger's trail that led deep into the forest area. There'd be no traffic nor patrolman on this stretch to spoil their sport.

At first Randy was exhilarated in the excitement of the ride. The laughter and wise-cracking added to the merriment and kept pace with the mounting speed of the car. Now Buzz was showing off. He shifted into second at the turn-around and started back toward the settlement at a reckless speed.

"Say Buzz, ease up a little," Randy began to squirm. "The road is narrow and you can't see very far ahead along these curves."

"Whatsa matter, kid? Scared? You ain't seen nothin' yet. Has he, Punk? Let's give him a ride to remember." Buzz's laugh was hoarse, almost fiendish.

"Yeah, man! Let's go! We'll find out if he's got guts or not," squeaked Punk.

The car leaned into the curves. Loose gravel clattered against the back window. Buzz wasn't going to be talked out of his act now. He's going too fast—too fast for this road.

Suddenly a deer leaped across the road ahead of them. Shadowy figures followed close behind. The last one was distinctly black and white.

"Look out!" the boys screamed together.

"Stop! Stop!" Randy pleaded.

The car swerved and Buzz fought to keep it in the road. It careened from shoulder to shoulder. Finally he brought it to a halt. Randy threw the door open and sprang out.

"Go on," he shouted as he raced back up the road.

"Dash, here Dash, Come on, boy," he screamed out into the woods. Buzz and his pals took off and Randy was alone in the dark, mysterious woods. He alternately called and whistled for his dog.

Would Dash hear above the noise? Would he come back if he did hear? If the pack killed the deer and Dash got a taste of warm blood, would he be ruined? Old-timers said that if a dog started chasing deer, there was only one cure for him. Shoot him. Would all his love and training be lost—along with his dream of someday entering the dog trials? Why was Dash here anyway? Randy's mind went back to his hasty departure. He hadn't taken time to fasten the chain on the gate. Now he was standing there on the eerie woods trail, calling for his pet.

The barking was fainter now—farther away.

What a waste! All these months of discipline and companionship down the drain in just a few moments of hasty, careless disobedience on his own part. How could he ever have been allured by the shallow, immature prodding of Buzz and his cronies?

(Continued on page 10)

Tell Me, Please

QUESTION:

I am a college student who feels that he is not accomplishing any purpose at this university. The university is doing nothing more than teaching me a profession so that I can enter the human rat race and try to earn a decent living. There is something more to life than just learning a profession in order to obtain worldly possessions. My life would be wasted, if I merely received a college degree and joined the struggle for worldly gain and riches, when there is such a great need for spreading the Word of God as there is today. What I am trying to ask is this, how can one know if he is really being called by the Lord to further His work here on earth?

ANSWER:

I presume that you are asking how one can know whether he is being called into the *ministry*. It goes without saying that every Christian is expected to "further His work here on earth."

Your use of this general statement is good indication that you have probably been wrestling with this question for a little while and have been shying away from what you

Youth Questions

answered by

Ray L. Straub



feel to be a call to the ministry. Your reference to the ministry, specifically, by the use of a general term is consistent with misgivings or indecision you probably experience.

It should be pointed out that a college student is frequently plagued with a restlessness that results from continual pressure. These demands give rise to terms like "rat race"—feelings of futility. It causes a youth to assure himself that there must be better things in life.

But, I will not dismiss your question as a mere and simple restlessness. I think that you have a dissatisfaction with your previously announced goals. You are fortunate, considering the many young people who seek the pitifully unrewarding goal of making enough money to have what they want.

I would suggest that you make plans to pursue the active ministry.

If you have a problem, you are encouraged to write to: Aim, Box 158, Stanberry, Missouri 64489. Questions requesting a personal answer through the mail are honored, as well as those for print.

This will mean more college work, of course, but it will be a pursuit of goals that will give you more satisfying reasons to study. The Church of God (Seventh Day) needs the services of more of her youth. I believe God is calling more of them, but too many are hesitant to listen. I doubt that there was ever a time when more satisfaction could be gained from serving God and His Church. Leadership is desperately needed and received with appreciation. The mood of the Church is excellent to those who have fresh ideas and approaches. Progress serves well those who love it.

Write to Midwest Bible College about your sentiments and tell them your status at the university. If you would like to correspond more with me personally, I would really like to hear from you. Please send your name and address, and I will be happy to establish a personal correspondence with you. If you are seeking a meaning and happiness in life that exceeds what riches can give you, you might as well have it. You are looking into the right direction.

IN THE WORDS OF PAUL HARVEY . . .

The more of today's school agers who abuse their bodies and misuse their minds, the less competition tomorrow for those who do not. The students who flee into sex, drink or drugs . . .

. . . The others who accumulate jail records . . .

. . . The others who link their names to dishonorable organizations . . .

All those who consume themselves with their own excesses are going to leave a lot of room at the top for the disciplined, dedicated, hard-working handful.

I wish every youngster could know the degree to which his today will shape his tomorrows.
—Selected

GROWING WITH DASH

(Continued from page 8)

—*Guess I should have drilled some of that dog-training advice into my own head,* thought Randy, turning dejectedly to start the long walk back home. —“If he falls in with bad company, he may come to no good;” —“Never let a command go unobeyed, not once.” What a knothed I've been . . .

A twig snapped nearby.

“Dash,” he called hopefully. “Is that you, boy?”

The familiar black and white figure trotted out of the underbrush and with drooping ears and tail, stopped a few feet from his master. Randy dropped to his knees.

“Come here, Dash, you rascal.”

The dog rushed into his arms, licked his face, whined and nuzzled his nose under Randy's arm. Randy patted and hugged him unashamedly.

“We've had a close call, boy. Both of us. Come on, let's go home. It's a long walk, but we're headed in the right direction.”

The Flag

While every American citizen should know the proper methods of handling and displaying “Old Glory,” as a timely reminder we offer the following:



1. When the flag is displayed other than by being flown from a staff, it should be displayed flat.

2. The union (that portion which contains the 50 white stars in a blue field) should be uppermost, and to the flag's own right; that is, to the observer's left.

3. When displayed over the middle of the street, as between buildings, the flag should be suspended vertically, with the union to the north in an east and west street, or to the east in a north and south street.

4. Never use the flag as festoons or drapings; instead, use bunting.

5. Do not place any other flag or pennant above or to the right of the flag of the United States.

6. Do not let the flag touch the ground or floor, or trail in the water.

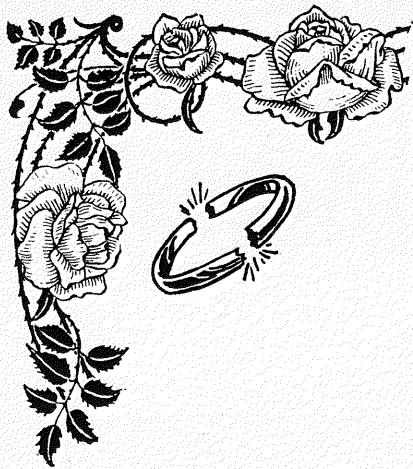
7. Do not put any lettering of any kind upon the flag.

8. Do not use the flag in any form of advertising, nor fasten any advertising sign to a pole from which the flag is flying.

9. Do not display or fasten the flag in such a manner as will permit it to be easily torn or damaged.

10. Remember, the American flag represents a living country, and is itself considered as a living thing, and should be so treated.

—Selected



Happy Home Building . . .

How to Avoid a Broken Marriage

by Terril Littrell

The Wedding Itself

I personally feel that the conduct of the wedding itself may make an important contribution to a happy marriage. (I don't know how scientific that belief is.)

To me a wedding is deeply an act of worship. For this reason, I feel that a minister of the Church of God should always be in charge of this service, and the wedding conducted in the sanctuary of a local Church of God where this is possible.

Nearly always at a wedding, there are many guests present who are very closely connected with the parties being married. A church wedding is conducted with emphasis on the meaning of true happiness through Christ and obedience to His Word. Each member of every home present can be blessed. A church

wedding is simply unforgettable. The vows that are taken before God and the people of His church are not so easily broken. Many people, I have noticed, long after they are married, come back to the church where their ceremony was performed for the first time, and take again their marriage vows. It is something sacred to them! They both express in practical form their loyalty to God, and from this, strengthen their love for one another.

The Early Years of Marriage

The plain facts are that all young people are going to have some conflict in their early years getting adjusted to each other.

Probably number one in the hazards of the early years of marriage is that of LACK OF

COMMUNICATION. It is commonly stated by those having marital problems who come to their pastor for counsel; "He (or she) does not understand." They do not "get through to each other." Marriage is a SHARING in an emotional partnership!

With matrimony comes a complete spiritual, emotional and physical union. The work has just begun. Marriage will have GROWING PAINS. Nobody ever DRIFTS into marital happiness! It must be developed!

A successful marriage is based to a great degree on sexual adjustment of the partners. It has been said that "adequate sexual adjustment—if you have it—constitutes 5% of a marriage. If you do not have it, it constitutes 95%." Sex is normal, wholesome, and important. What God was not ashamed to make—we should not be ashamed to be. Each of us is a man or a woman and there is a great emotional strength in accepting ourselves as we have been created.

It was thought by some of our "puritan" ancestors that sexual pleasures of marriage were enjoyed only by the male. But this relationship was not scriptural! The Bible says that Sarah called her husband Lord, their lives were SHARED. She was not downtrodden but yearned to be the center of his devotion and affection, TO MOTHER A CHILD FOR HIM.

It is extremely important that

both parties in the marriage union try to please the other and seek God's blessing upon their home. Each must learn to overlook faults and commend virtues. When sharp differences of opinion arise, sit down and calmly "talk it out," but stay away from your families, friends, and neighbors in these controversies, and above all, STAY OUT OF THE LAW OFFICES. Both of you come together with your pastor before discussing with anyone else your conflicts. If you will do this you will have a lifetime guarantee for a successful marriage. All repairs need to be made at the factory. No amateur mechanics are to bungle with the carburetor! Then have prayer together. Discussing problems with your pastor will keep down any major marital trouble, and you will find that differences never become serious or bitter so long as you can pray together.

This year my wife and I celebrate our 10th anniversary. Now I know that in this length of time I have not become an expert on "marriage problems." But we both have learned many things the hard way, by process of trial and error. We have loved one another, and thereby have been patient, kind and considerate of the other, each trying to understand the other better. We STAYED TOGETHER! When we married, there was no one with whom we could counsel. We never heard a sermon on "marriage," both of us knew very little about the

“facts of life,” and the “how” of making a happy home. If someone would have written an article such as this one so that we could have read it, what a great help it would have been to us.

Staying Happily Married— An Art!

Staying happily married is an art! But like every other art, it requires effort. The art of staying happily married, like every other art, emerges from individual reflection of a creative mind! This art can be *learned*! But you must apply yourself to it earnestly. This art must be practiced throughout all the years two people are married. As there are SYMBOLS in all ART, so there are symbols in this—the greatest of the arts. Here is how it works:

BE THOUGHTFUL!

Let us first define thoughtfulness. It is a virtue, a habit, a quality of the heart which makes us FORGET OURSELVES and become mindful of our companion to the extent of sensing and even anticipating his or her needs and wishes.

Be thoughtful about experiences through which we all go in our homes. To give you an example, every evening when I come in home from any late appointment, my wife always has burning in the window a lamp. Just a simple thing like that, but I appreciate it. She is THOUGHTFUL of me. This may seem a very trivial thing, but as I drive home and turn

the corner where the house becomes visible, I never quite get over the joy of the lighted lamp in the window.

Being thoughtful means that you give a little bit more of yourself—going the extra mile—performing the pleasantly unexpected favor. Thoughtfulness doesn't say, “What Must I Do?” but “What Can I Do?”

In married life we find many opportunities to practice the virtue of thoughtfulness—if only we use them. Believe me your home will truly be a better place to live, and your marriage a happy one—IF YOU PRACTICE THOUGHTFULNESS!

The most important element in the success of a home is that the human NEEDS of the persons involved be met. There are basic human needs which each of us has. According to Dr. Robert W. Burns they are as follows: (1) Acceptance; (2) Affection; (3) Association; (4) Achievement; (5) Adventure.

The truly happy marriage depends on how much you GIVE. True LOVE is realized only in efforts of GIVING, to make your partner happy. It would be well to read 1 Corinthians 13 as an example of what love does.

Your home is important and the success that you achieve in your family life will influence EVERYTHING else you do. The wholesome, Christian home is the hope of our world and we achieve such a home only when we work DILIGENTLY at the opportunity to make our marriage a success.

Meet Your Committeemen

Kathleen Roche, age 22, is a graduate of Spring Vale Academy. Having received her Associate Degree in Business from Delta College, she is presently employed as a secretary at Dow Corning Corporation, Midland, Michigan.

Kathy was a member of the Michigan Youth Committee and has been a counselor at Michigan Youth Camp, as well as serving actively in her local youth group.



Kathleen Roche

Every time you turn around it seems there's another task staring you in the face. In addition to the ever-increasing pace of family life, there is a constant need for more assistance in all phases of the church work—church offices that must be filled, work bees, committees, group activities, and special projects requiring more time, effort, and money until we feel it is just about impossible to work in another thing.

There are times when we may even wonder, “What's the use? I'm only one person. What difference would it make if I just stayed home from the Young People's Meeting tonight? They won't miss me!”

At the time it seems like a very logical way to rationalize oneself out of some work and responsibility, but perhaps the following reading will help us understand the very real importance of *each of us* in the proper functioning of the church as a whole.

I'M ONLY ONE PERSON

Xvxn though my typxwritxr is an old modxl, it works quitx wxll xcept for onx thx kxys. I havx wishxd many timxs that it workxd pxrfxctly. It is trux thxrx arx forty-six kxys that function wxll xnough, but just onx kxy not working makxs thx diffxrxncx.

Somxtimxs it sxxms to mx that our Young Pxoplx's group is likx my typxwritxr—not all thx kxy pxoplx arx working propxrlly.

You may say to yoursxlf, “Wxll I am only onx pxrson. It won't makx much diffxrxncx.” But, you sxx, thx Young Pxoplx's group to bx xffxctivx nxxds thx activx participation of xvxy pxrson.

So thx nxxt timx you think you arx only onx pxrson and that your xffort is not nxxdxd, rxmxxbxx my typxwritxr and say to yoursxlf, “I am a kxy pxrson and nxxdxd vxry much.”

In Romans 14:12 we are told that *every one* of us shall give account of himself to God. How successful Youth Week was or how many folks came to know Jesus because of the revivals at your church last month may not
(Continued on inside back cover)

Our Youth Team ... From in Action

Hi,

Greetings from the Youth Missions Team. We are resting at Corinth, Mississippi, enroute to Hammondville, Alabama. God has been very wonderful to us and we need your prayers for His continued blessings.

We have completed 20 meet-

ings with 14 of them being general meetings open to everyone. The average attendance for those 14 meetings has been 86.

We might explain here that the second meeting held in a location (Many are joint meetings for several churches in the area.) are conducted on a more informal basis, and are primari-



The Challengers Quartet giving their presentation in Kansas City: l. to r., Kevin Weir, Paul Carlin, Ken Moldenhauer, Ken Merriam and soloist, Jim Fischer.

Corinth, Mississippi

ly for the young people themselves—acquainting them more intimately with the programs of the National FYC.

We have witnessed renewed dedication by many young people. There have been several who first began their walk with Christ. Many have started a new prayer program. God has blessed wonderfully.

We are looking forward to our visit to your area. Pray for us as we travel.

Youth Missions Team

Paul Carlin Jim Fischer
Ken Moldenhauer Ken Merriam
Elder Patchen Elder Lawson
Kevin Weir

The informal talks with FYCers as the team breaks up into small groups affords a real opportunity for personal help in acquainting the young people better with the programs offered by the National FYC.



Weekend Youth Retreat—

"Christian Living is GOOD Living"

The Fort Smith young people wanted to prove to themselves and others that you can have your best times in the Lord. So choosing the theme, "Christian Living is Good Living," they set the date of May 2-4 for their very first weekend retreat. Guest speaker was Elder Dale Lawson, bringing with him the "Good Book" Quartet from Midwest Bible College.

Friday night services sparked the beginning of a wonderful weekend, with several inspiring numbers from the quartet and Elder Lawson's message, "Living for God." The prayer service after the message brought many young people to the altar, petitioning God for His guidance both during this retreat and in their daily lives for Him.

On Sabbath, the 120 who were in attendance at the all-day meeting were once again

inspired by God's message, delivered by Elder Lawson. After a good time of fellowship together during the noon meal, several numbers were presented by the Fort Smith young people, after which the afternoon service was turned over to the "team" from Midwest Bible College.

After relaxing in their homes, or in the homes in which they were visiting for the weekend, the young people gathered in the Fellowship Building for a vesper service, which lasted until sundown. Brother Paul Linville gave a short sermonette for this inspiring vesper service.

It was a group of enthusiastic young people who piled into vehicles and headed for the Kilgore farm for a hayride and wiener roast. Gathering around the campfire and singing chor-

uses at the end of the night's activities, the young people had a time of fellowship together as they discussed some youth problems; then shared together in prayer before departing at the end of a really inspiring day.

Sunday morning brought the group together again at the Fellowship Building where the ladies of the church served breakfast. Brother Larry Hadden brought us a short sermonette by way of a morning devotion-al before our breakfast was served. After breakfast, good-byes were said to the MBCers, as it was necessary for them to head back for Stanberry.

The rest of the young people, however, headed out for Mt. Magazine—for a hike and a picnic. Even though it rained just

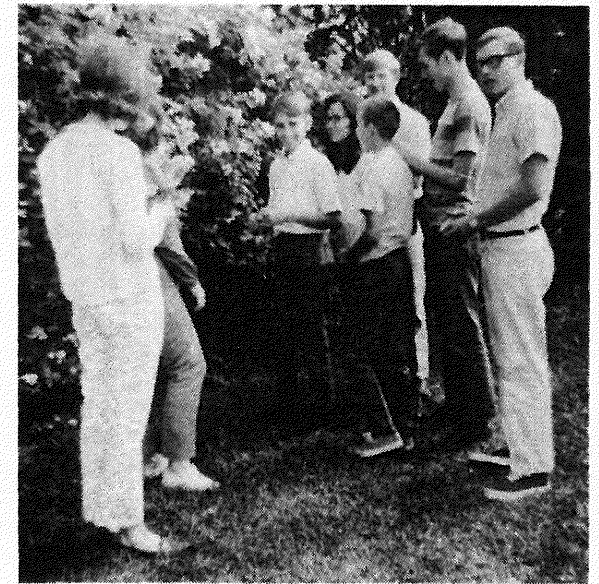
as we got to the top of the mountain, we found a cozy place to eat our lunch and the trip was not ruined after all.

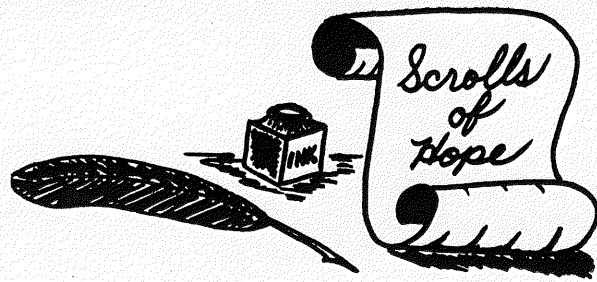
Returning to the church to disband around 3:00 o'clock many favorable comments were heard by the young people who felt that this retreat had brought them closer to one another and closer to God.

Young people had traveled here from Shawnee, Claremore, Tulsa, McAlester, and Fairview, Oklahoma; as well as the college team from Stanberry—so many had traveled quite a distance.

The Fort Smith young people consider this retreat to be such a success and inspiration that they want to make it an annual event!

*Young people
enjoy fellowship
and fun in God's
great outdoors.*





Even though we were already several weeks late in planting our little garden, we still found ourselves sandwiching this task between many others. Planting the seeds in the dusk and tromping down the earth when it was almost too dark to see whether we were really in the row, one could have lamented the triviality of such an effort when other seemingly more pressing duties beckoned.

The garden being located several blocks from home, it was an exact week before we found the opportunity to return—or hardly to give thought to its progress.

What a thrill it was to see plants a good 2½ inches above the ground. How rewarding were these visible results from that extra effort that had been expended on the dusk of a very busy day.

One sees so many lessons and parallels in these little experiences with God's growing things that it is difficult to know where to begin.

I think of how easy it would have been to have put off longer planting those seeds—perhaps indefinitely—in preference to the many other pressing duties. Thus those seeds, though they had started to germinate after soaking, would have been fruitless and would eventually have died—never to have had a chance to bloom into the healthy, tender, young plants that they are now. Similarly, we as young people may see a need in our church. It may be a need which seems long overdue—and it may seem rather futile to begin the endeavor now. Perhaps several years of waiting is involved before the real desired results can be realized. What of it? How long will it take for these same years to go by if this task is not done?

Twenty years ago it must have looked like a small, rather feeble effort which a few dedicated people made when they started a church academy in a farmhouse with only a handful of students. Now what do we see? A well-developed campus with a sizeable student body and an impressive staff of dedicated teachers. What an opportunity would have been missed if someone had not had the faith and initiative to plant a very tiny seed.

Similarly, a few men with real vision started a seminary for training ministers. It may have seemed like a small endeavor. Now, however, in 1969, one might accurately say that the physical renovation of the college during this past year is a visible sign which parallels the progress both spiritually and scholastically which Midwest Bible College has enjoyed throughout the years.

The impact of this institution will undoubtedly be felt as seven ministerial graduates take their places this summer in God's vineyard. How easy it would have been to overlook the planting and watering of this tiny seed—especially when, after its germination, it started to die—but someone had vision and determination to see God's work go forward. Do you and I have such vision and initiative for the work of the gospel? More such visioned individuals are needed—and it is imperative that this quality be found among our youth.

Other giant strides have been taken during recent years in furthering the spreading of the gospel. In the area of youth work, tremendous progress may be seen. The introduction of youth camps, the increased personal contact and general helps offered to you from our National Youth Department, the Youth Tours (one of which is presently enroute), our 2T4G program, Minuteman, Evangelette, Mark of Merit, etc. Someone had to have vision and dedication to initiate such endeavors. Is this the limit? No. Not unless we limit *ourselves*. It is the individual task of each of us—which means you in particular—to tap our resources for more

new and living ways to enrich the lives of God's people and to further spread His gospel.

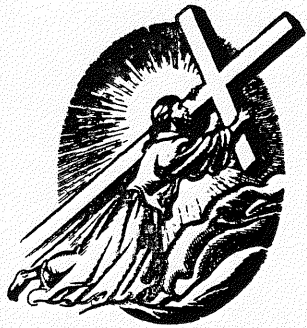
In "planting our seeds of endeavor," it is well to remember 1 Corinthians 3:6—"I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase." In every endeavor we cannot expect to see immediate, visible results such as was described in our introductory comments. We must have faith to see, as did Paul, that "according to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon."

WHAT ABOUT YOU? If you're an "average teenager," you need to know what will take place if you break God's laws! One must realize that personal intimacies are reserved for married couples—not teenagers! You can have a radiant life, a spirit-filled life; or you can "experiment" with unhappiness and death. The choice is up to you! Remember, though, if you break God's laws, they'll break you! Remember Jesus' words: "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matt. 16:26). OBEY AND LIVE!

HEALTHFUL AFFLICTION

The air from the sea of affliction is extremely beneficial to invalid Christians. Continued prosperity, like a warm atmosphere, has tendency to unbind the sinews and soften the bones; but the cold winds of trouble make us sturdy, hardy, and well-braced in every part. Unbroken success often leads to an undervaluing of mercies, and forgetfulness of the giver; but the withdrawal of the sunshine leads us to look for the sun.—*Spurgeon*..

Peter's Denial



by Es Cierito

Peter, the first chosen of Christ's disciples, is often denounced from the pulpit for his denial of Christ. He has, in many instances, been given a worse reputation than he deserved. I would like to say a word in his defense.

It is true that Peter, in a moment of weakness, denied Christ. A fact that is seldom noted is that although Peter denied Christ through fear, he cared enough about Christ to follow Him even though from afar. All the other disciples, except Peter and one more, had

fled at the first threat of danger when Judas led the soldiers into the Garden of Gethsemane.

Peter, and the disciple Christ loved (Christ loved all of His disciples but seemed to be closer to one) are the only two disciples that are said to have followed Christ to His place of trial.

Was Peter weaker than the other disciples? Probably not! It is easier to be brave at a distance! The other disciples had already forsaken Him. Peter's great love for Christ at least led him into the midst of the enemy.

Peter is not to be commended for his denial of Christ, but he should be commended for having remained near Christ unto the end, a fact that can be stated of only one other disciple.

Chosen together with his brother Andrew and the Zebedee brothers, Peter is named the first of the disciples. Even then, Christ saw the great potential Peter had for leading men to Him. It was then that He told Peter to become a fisher of men.

Christ loved Peter despite Peter's weakness of flesh. Perhaps Peter's very weakness, his fear of persecution (that he later overcame) made him the great minister that he was. He was a common fisherman, and perhaps not too brave when judged by the armchair critics who condemn him, but he was given a great commission by Christ. He was not only told to become a fisher of men, but

after his display of weakness, he was asked to feed his Master's sheep.

Yes, Peter was a weak man in some ways, but pray God all of us may be equally as strong!

References for the above article:

Matthew 10:2-4

Matthew 26:33-59

Mark 1:16, 17

John 21:15-18

WHERE DO YOU FIT?

Where do you fit in this world of ours, with its hustle and bustle and work; are you one of the throng that helps it along—or are you with those who shirk?

Do you hit the job with a smile

or frown; do you carry a grouch all day; are you one of the flock that watches the clock; are you lookin' for more than pay?

Is your job man-sized and worth the while, when you've tallied up your score; are you keepin' fit and doin' your bit, and perhaps a wee bit more?

Are you one of the average just driftin' along; are you listed as Profit or Loss; are you stallin' for time or startin' to climb; how much are you puttin' across?

Just pull in your slack and count up your score, locate what you're aimin' to hit—don't waste ammunition and all your ambition but find out just where you fit.

—Frank A. Collins

Youth Doctrine Corner

"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).



CHURCH NAME

Official Church of God Doctrine—Article No. 16

... **"The Bible name for the Church is: Church of God. This is the only name which is to be used by the organization of the church.**

Reasons "Church of God" is the only name to be used by the organization of the church:

... **Church of God is a Bible-based name** (Acts 20:28).

... **The Bible says Christians are to be named after the Father** (John 17:1; Ephesians 3:14, 15).

... **Predominant example of church name is Church of God.** (Acts 20:28; 1 Cor. 1:1, 2; 1 Cor. 10:32; 1 Cor. 11:16; 1 Cor. 15:9; 2 Cor. 1:1; Gal. 1:13; 2 Thess. 2:14; 2 Thess. 1:4; 1 Tim. 3:5; 1 Tim. 3:15).

... Into Every Nation

John Lemley, Foreign Correspondent

Introducing: The Young People's Christian Endeavor

This month, we would like to share with our AIM readers a very informative letter from Brother John Largie, the leader of the young people's group in Jamaica.

"It's my greatest pleasure to greet you in the mighty name of Jesus. Your letter I have received and was very grateful for your co-operation. I am glad to know that you have accepted the opportunity to help along with our Y.P.C.E. organization in Jamaica. The name of our organization differs, but we are still united in heart. While we are all endeavoring to be Faithful Youth Challengers, ours is called Young People's Christian Endeavor.

"I have carefully read the manual you sent me, and have begun to adopt some of the principles outlined in it. As president of the Y.P.C.E., I found these materials very helpful in planning my Y.P.C.E. We in Jamaica shall never cease to spread this good news of salvation until God calls us home.

"We have two sections in our Y.P.C.E.—Faith and Joy. I think this encourages our young people to work. Joy is always trying to be ahead of Faith and vice-versa. So the Y.P.C.E. is always kept on a high standard.

"These two groups have leaders and we are doing missionary work. I would be very glad if you could help us by sending tracts on conversion and other important topics which will be of vital help in winning souls for Christ.

"The AIM magazine has also been a source of blessing to us. We look forward for always receiving it. I do hope you will continue to try your best in helping promote the Y.P.C.E. in Jamaica. The Y.P.C.E. is determined to hold the banner high for the Gospel and for souls. Every year we have Young People's anniversary in which other youth from various churches attend. This being so, we have the privilege to impart greater light and doctrine of the Church of God (7th Day) to them. God bless you and your FYCers. We'll join together and pray for success.

From Across the Seas . . .

A fellow FYC'er from England shares with us some thoughts concerning our . . .

Human Nature

By Thomas Octave, teenager

Wars—Riots—Mass-Murders — Rape—Gang-fights—Kidnapping — Looting—Is there any end to it all? Never has there been a time of such violence!

But, why? What causes it? It's time we put our heads at level heights and lament these bestial atrocities which threaten to lead us into oblivion. "Make a chain: for the land is full of bloody crimes; and the city is full of violence" (Ezekiel 7:23).

Is it needful that I quote statistics to you, to prove the veracity of this scripture? Just look around and you will see what I mean.

Now let us understand the true description of human nature in the light of scriptures! "... The carnal mind (human nature) is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Romans 8:7). Yes, your nature and mine are hostile to the ways of God! Have you ever felt as if you could kill someone who has done you wrong? Have you hated without a cause? Have you thought yourself the center of the world, feeling you are better than everybody—selfish, proud, thinking of yourself only? Scorn yourself as you are reading this article, because you have surely acted that way before—sometimes—if not all times.

These satanic qualities are deeply imbedded in us! Yes, our nature is totally rebellious to every law that was designed for our own good.

We humans are treacherous; and the sooner we know it, the better it will be for us to do something about it. Some self-righteous people will defy that statement! But listen to what the apostle Paul says of himself, "For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) dwelleth no good thing..." (Romans 7:18).

The world today is preoccupied with hate, rebellion, and violence. Television is filled with lawlessness, crime and murder! Actors, producers, and script-writers recognize the folly of human nature and they give people exactly what they want—their daily ration of violence.

You are what you eat, and just as surely as your body is composed of what you feed it; so your mind is composed of what you think, of what you speak, and of how you play, etc. "... For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matt. 12:34).

How disgraceful for youth who are Christian-minded to take delight in going to cinemas, dances, etc. Almost everything that is taking place there is perverted, rotten, violent, voluptuous and obscene—the works of the flesh.

Whenever you are tempted to go to such places, try to be scientific—Ask yourself that question, *Would Jesus be in such a place?* If He would not, I don't know why you should either.

We have been warned to avoid the very appearance of evil. Many of us are blind by foul reasoning—calling evil good and good evil; putting bitterness for sweetness, and sweetness for bitterness; putting light for darkness and darkness for light (Isa. 5:20). But a "woe" is pronounced upon us. The holy Word of God says that we are the children of light and we must not have fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but rather reprove them.

Fancy finding ourselves in the temple of sinners. Will we have the power to show them the Godly path when we are dieting on the same evils as they?

Be not deceived, my young friends; what we sow is what we are going to reap! That's why God reveals to us our true nature! Yes, He describes our character as such—raging, rash, impetuous, contemptible, stiff-necked, self-centered, rebellious, disobedient, egotistical, lustful, jealous, corrupt, presumptuous, and vile.

But He did not leave us there; He said that we must change (repent) so as to be partakers of His divine nature (2 Peter 1:4). He is willing to give us His Holy Spirit which will prevent our fulfilling the works of the flesh, and will also safeguard us against perpetual inheritance in the devil's hell (Matt. 25:41).

Having become acquainted with some of the elements of which we are composed, let us as Godly minded young people do our best, with the help of God, to quell these violent convulsions which impede our spiritual growth, making us unfruitful.

Whenever you are about to be inflamed with dark passions, cry as Paul did! God wants you to overcome so as to be qualified for His Kingdom. Remember, human nature always goes contrary to His will, and it will not be found in His Kingdom.

CANADIAN DISTRICT YOUTH CAMP—August 11-15

Paul's Cabins, Candle Lake, Saskatchewan

Registration: Elder Nick Nimchuk, P. O. Box 1496, Nipawin, Saskatchewan

"Lord, Teach Us to Pray"

by Israel Bravo

What profit do we have in prayer? This question, similar to that of Job's (Job 21:15), should be acknowledged by everyone to be of vital importance. It is essential for us to consider the question: "What profit do we have in prayer?" in order to understand man's greatest, yet simplest, means of communicating with God.

What could we possibly gain or benefit from praying? Prayer gives us a peace that the world can neither give nor take away. Prayer also summons a higher power to our assistance. Today there are many individuals who have no concept of the power and tranquility that lies in prayer.

The Bible gives us some very influential and notable accounts of prayer as we see in 1 Kings 18:36-38: Elijah prayed to prove to the people that there was a God of Israel, and in the same chapter, verses 41-46, Elijah shows us the power of prayer when he prayed for the rains, and the rains came.

Another believer of prayer was King Hezekiah, when he prayed for deliverance from the hands of the Assyrians. God destroyed the whole Assyrian army (2 Kings 19:17-37). And when Hezekiah asked for his life to be prolonged, it was granted him.

Many more accounts can be added and accredited to the marvelous and mysterious power of prayer. In prayer we should be profitable in many respects; our benefits should be unlim-



ited. But many persons, after praying, put a limit on everything. The cause for this bewildered condition is found in the individual himself, and in his use of prayer. For some individuals, prayer could be a waste of time, especially if they don't apply themselves to their prayer when they pray. Consider the following verses:

"God heareth not sinners" (John 9: 31), and those who claim to be followers of Christ and turn their "ears from hearing the law, even their prayers shall be an abomination" (Prov. 28:9).

Christ Himself taught that we should pray a sincere prayer and not as the hypocrites who "love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets; that they may be seen of men." Furthermore, he tells us not to use vain repetition, as the heathen do (Matt. 6:5, 7). Seemingly, the purpose of prayer is abused by many. Many persons today have those same attitudes which are rebuked above—and are never able to attain profitable benefits from prayer. "Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them" (Mark 11: 24).

Here the cause for the unanswered prayer is narrowed down to a specific point—Believe! "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." Christ makes it very clear to us in these two verses that belief is a major step or key to an answered prayer.

Could you possibly imagine how many things we would be able to do, and how many problems we would solve if we would only believe and have faith in our own prayers? Christ also tells us, "All things are possible to him that believeth" (Mark 9:23). Once again, the essence of prayer

(belief) is found to be the answer to all things.

Having read some of the important phases of this subject, I would like for us to share the thoughts of Mildred Seydell.

"What can poverty do to me when my soul is filled with riches? What can death do to me when I have faith?"

"I fear because I know the littleness of my desires. They are worthless things. I doubt the answering of my prayers because I know I ask for trifling things beneath the consideration of Him whose thoughts are large and loving. I say to myself: 'I want the truth,' knowing all the while that is the last thing I want, knowing that truth hurts little hearts and minds."

"To fill the chalice of my soul with truth, and drink deeply thereof, I must endure, taking my joy in those things which do not concern years, but the infinite."

"This is the prayer I should make: 'Give me strength of will and body that I may not succumb to sorrow, but let it enrich rather than embitter. Make me sensitive to the enjoyment of simple pleasures, and bestow upon me the wisdom not to wish for gratitude, but to seek my reward for sacrifice in the knowledge of well-being. And above all, grant me the understanding which holds sympathy.'"

"Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God" (Phil 4:6).

CALIFORNIA YOUTH CAMP—August 10-17 Pacific Pines Camp near Crestline, California

Contact:

Mr. Frank Padilla, Registrar, 11008 Cedar Ave., Bloomington, Calif. 92316

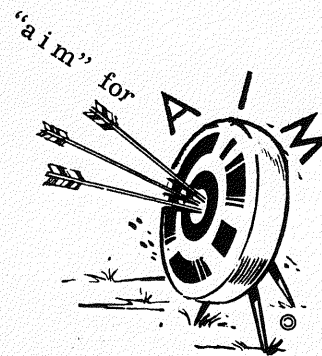
A progress report!

—Are YOU included?

"Aim For Goals"

by the National Youth Department

"AIM for Goals" in AIM readership! The National FYC goal for the "AIM for Goals" project is 250 new subscriptions by the end of 1969!



have 100% AIM readership in each local FYC.

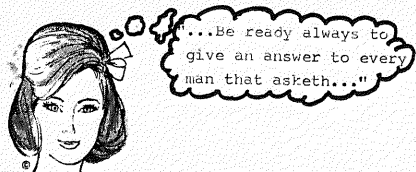
PHASE II FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY THROUGH AUGUST IS THAT EACH LOCAL FYC GROUP GIVE OR SOLICIT AT LEAST TEN NEW SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR AIM.

PHASE III FOR THE MONTHS OF SEPTEMBER THROUGH DECEMBER WILL BE WHEN THE NATIONAL FYC JOINS WITH THE BIBLE ADVOCATE PRESS IN ITS ANNUAL FALL SUBSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN.

The returns from Phase I indicate outstanding efforts by some of the FYC's, and we would like to share these with our AIM readers:

Special tribute goes to Wichita, Kansas; Tahlequah, Oklahoma; San Antonio, Texas (English); and St. Louis, Missouri; for a grand record of 100% of their FYCers subscribing to AIM! San Fernando, California, trailed closely with all of their FYCers subscribing except one. Kansas City, Missouri, and San Antonio, Texas (Spanish), joined the race with all of their mem-

(Continued on page 34)



MINUTEMAN

By Jan Pedersen

Ministers today tell the people that Christianity and living a Christian life is like a bed of roses—no troubles, no trials. Everything is perfect. This is not so. God has not promised skies always blue nor a rose-strewn pathway. But God has promised grace for our trials and help from above.

Let us compare the Christian's life to a mountain climber climbing a high mountain. Now, we know that the climber, when he starts out, takes a few provisions with him so he will not be left stranded at any time. He will take water, a little food, a few matches, and a knife (which we will call his sword).

Every climber has a goal, and that is the top of the mountain—the peak. No climber will be able to climb to the top within a few hours or even a day—providing the mountain is steep. The path is rugged and at times the climber gets wounded, yet he climbs upward steadily, ever looking at his goal. He must continue on and never lose footing lest he fall and take twice

as long to reach his destination.

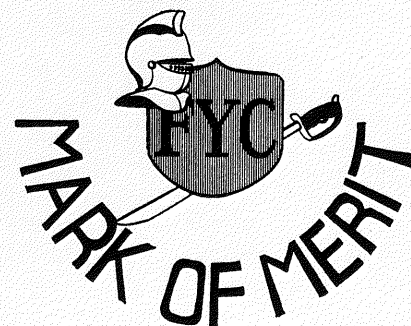
This is like the Christian's life. We are continuously climbing a mountain. Our goal is the top—life eternal. We take a few provisions with us, such as: the armour of God (Ephesians 6:13-17); fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22, 23); the Word of God (Hebrews 4:12); and the hope of eternal life.

No Christian reaches the peak of his Christian experience. We keep climbing steadily. Though the path is rugged and we become weary, we keep our eyes upon the goal and trust that the Lord will see us through. If we backslide, it is much harder to regain the same relationship with God.

John 5:28—"Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,"

John 5:29—"And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

(Continued on page 34)



by Nathan Lawson

Why work in the Mark of Merit Program? Good question—and one that deserves our consideration.

Within the Local FYC there are certain basic activities that need to be carried on with regularity in order that the Youth Group be an inspiring part of the local congregation. The Mark of Merit Program is designed to guide and encourage each local group in these activities.

We hope that your group can be inspired to greater and greater service for God and His Church. This program originated within the National Youth Department with this purpose in mind.

Youth Rallies—Projects—Socials—Financial Support—and other activities make up this program. In these activities, we would like to inspire our youth to give their very best to God.

PROJECT OF THE MONTH—August 1969

August is the month previous to the beginning of another school year. This month is a good time to have a special outing for your local FYC members. Perhaps a sleepout on a Saturday night, followed with a day's activities at the beach or some mountain lake or park. This must be properly organized with adult supervision. Don't forget to have a good devotional service before breakfast and the day of activity.

THE THIRD QUARTER IS BEGINNING.

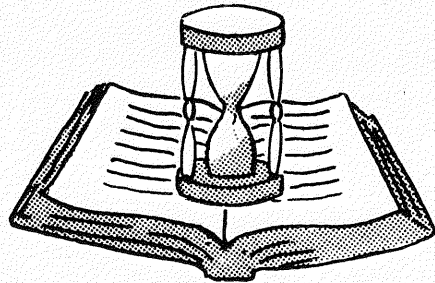
We are now beginning the third quarter of the 1969 year. Be sure that your group has sent in its 2nd Quarter report and that you have your Mark of Merit program up-to-date.

MICHIGAN YOUTH CAMP—August 3-10

Cedar Lake Outdoor Center, near Chelsea, Michigan

Contact: Elder Calvin A. Burrell, P. O. Box 472, Owosso, Michigan 48867

2T₄G - Take Time for God



By Martha Ling

July 15	Psa. 53
July 16	Psa. 54
July 17	Psa. 55
July 18	Psa. 56
July 19	Psa. 57
July 20	Psa. 58
July 21	Psa. 59
July 22	Psa. 60
July 23	Psa. 61
July 24	Psa. 62
July 25	Psa. 63
July 26	Psa. 64
July 27	Psa. 65
July 28	Psa. 66
July 29	Psa. 67
July 30	Psa. 68
July 31	Psa. 69
Aug. 1	Psa. 70
Aug. 2	Psa. 71
Aug. 3	Psa. 72
Aug. 4	Psa. 73
Aug. 5	Psa. 74
Aug. 6	Psa. 75
Aug. 7	Psa. 76
Aug. 8	Psa. 77
Aug. 9	Psa. 78
Aug. 10	Psa. 79
Aug. 11	Psa. 80
Aug. 12	Psa. 81
Aug. 13	Psa. 82
Aug. 14	Psa. 83

Today's world is full of allegations such as "God is Dead," "There is no God," and similar claims. But God's own Word pronounces them fools—"The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God" (Psalm 53:1a).

It is true, that if a person were to look only at the mess in this world—the suffering, shameful practices, and evil doings so prevalent around us, it would be easy to come up with such a conclusion. It would seem that if there *is* a God, either He is unjust, or He is unconcerned with the mess men make of their lives. But people who come to these conclusions are not looking far enough. They are only scratching the surface. They need to look for all the good also left in the world, and search for the real cause of the world's wickedness.

If one wants to be objective, he must read the Bible just to see what the reasons for the excessive wickedness could be. There he will find out that God *is* just and that He *is* concerned. He is only letting people make their own choice to follow or to turn from Him—to believe He is or is not alive—to search for the truth in this world. Unfortunately, few really *search*, and are instead caught in Satan's web of atheism and sin. God wants men to find out for themselves, not by His compulsion, that He is the only God—that He created this world and it did not just happen—and that it can be joyous to serve Him. How foolish it is to believe that God is not, when *our very existence points to His existence.*

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National FYC Correspondence

From May through August, all correspondence intended for the National FYC Office should be sent to Jewell Linville, Secretary for the Young People's Department. Her summer address is:

Route 2, Box 105
Tablequah, Okla. 74464

FYC Sweaters

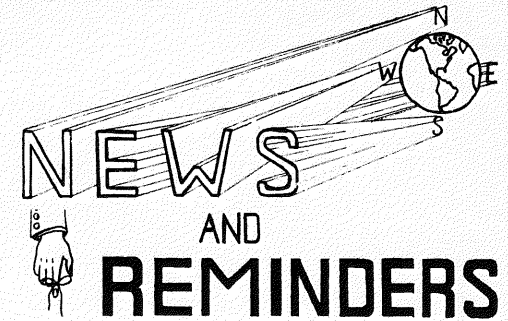
The FYC sweaters have been selling so rapidly that we have had to place a new order. All colors and sizes are now available again. You may have your choice of three outstanding colors—navy, old gold, and dark green. All sweaters have the FYC emblem printed in the pocket area surrounded by the words "FAITHFUL YOUTH CHALLENGERS."

Pin stripes with color trim... extra high crew neck, knit cuffs and "hugger" waistband colormatch the horizontal stripes... short set-in sleeves... rugged blend of 92% cotton and 8% acrylic fibers.

You may order yours now from Jewell Linville, Route 2, Box 105, Tablequah, Okla. 74464, or plan to purchase yours from the Youth Missions Team when they visit your area or at General Conference in Huron, South Dakota, in July. The cost will be \$3 per sweater.

"AIM" for Goals

Are you doing your part to help us accomplish our goal of 250 new subscriptions in our "AIM for Goals"



Campaign? We are thrilled with the progress some local groups have made in making sure that each FYC'er in their group receives AIM (the first phase of our campaign).

We are now in the second phase of this campaign. This phase asks each FYC Group to give ten gift subscriptions to young people who are non-members.

If your FYC has not completed these two phases, please make a special effort to see that the suggested goals are reached.

Long-Play Album

The 1969 Youth Missions Team singers have made a record that will contain many of the songs that will be used on the 1969 tour.

The record is being sponsored by the Young People's Department and is available this month. Proceeds from the record sales will go into the Young People's work of the Church of God.

Something for YOUTH

Youth activities have been carefully planned during General Conference at Huron, South Dakota, this month—July 11-19. Make your plans to attend.

**Request for Names for
All FYC Leaders—1969**

Please send us the names and addresses of all the FYC leaders in your local FYC. Your compliance with this request will enable us to serve you more and in a better way. Send requested information to the summer address of our national secretary: Jewell Linville, Route 2, Box 105, Tahlequah, Okla. 74464.

“Mark of Merit” Reports Due

July 1 begins the third quarter of 1969, so be sure that your group has sent in its 2nd-quarter report. Keep your “Mark of Merit” program up-to-date.

MINUTEMAN

(Continued from page 30)

Hebrews 6:5—“And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,”

Hebrews 6:6—“If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.”

Hebrews 6:4—“For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,”

2 John 7—“For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an antichrist.”

2 John 9—“Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine

of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.”

2 John 6—“And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.”

“AIM FOR GOALS”

(Continued from page 29)

bers subscribing except two, and Marion, Iowa, came close with only three non-subscribers, but Marion also gave three gift subscriptions during Phase I, so they are to be commended for extra-fine efforts.

St. Louis deserves special recognition, too, for in reaching their goal of 100% AIM subscribers, they gave eight gift subscriptions to their FYCers. Praise the Lord for such zeal!

The efforts of Los Angeles, California, shined with nine new subscriptions being given by their local FYC. If each of our FYC groups would do as St. Louis and Los Angeles did, we would have our goal of 250 reached long before the end of the year!

Although we are thrilled with the participation of these spiritually-minded FYCers, we are hoping for bigger and better results from Phase II, with more of you FYC's becoming active in this project. Won't you step behind this project NOW—It could well mean the saving of souls for God's Kingdom!

Facts and Figures About Your Stay at Huron . . .

—General Conference is “just around the corner.”

Meals will be served on the grounds as near cost as possible. The cost of a bed in the dormitories will be only 50¢ per person per night with a family maximum of \$25 for the duration. Youth will be supervised in their separate dormitories.

For those who wish to bring tents, campers, or camping trailers, there are plenty of hook-ups and space at the following rates per night: For those who do not hook up but use the rest room and shower facilities, 50¢ per night; For light hook-up only, \$1.00; For light, water and sewage, \$1.50.

A sufficient number of motels and hotels are located in the city to house those wishing public accommodations in commercial establishments.

For further information write to the ACCOMMODATIONS COMMITTEE:

c/o Mrs. Delvin O'Banion, Route 3, Box 40, New Auburn, Wisconsin 54757

MEET YOUR COMMITTEEMEN

(Continued from page 15)

be so important as far as your personal evaluation is concerned. But what will count is what *you* did to help.

Sometimes it's not so much the *thought* as the *action* that counts. And it seems to me that this is quite often the case in the Christian life. With God on your side and each one of us doing our part, we can accomplish much. There is a saying, “Do the very best you can . . . and leave the outcome to God.”

Pray for me that even though I am just one person, I will do my very best for the Master.

o ————— o

2T4G

(Continued from page 32)

Would it not be wonderful if everyone would come to the truth, and the whole earth would turn their praises heavenward, instead of to men?! We know this will not happen, but it is our duty and privilege to help bring as many as we can to our Saviour, and through Him, to the Father. Then, together, we can look forward to the time when all those dwelling on the earth *will* praise God forever!

“ . . . let all the people praise thee. Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us” (Psalm 67:5b, 6).