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Write today for the 1963-64 bulletin. BEGIN TO PLAN NOW!

Spring Vale Academy, Route 5, Owosso, Michigan
 ELDER ROY L. KEIM, PRINCIPAL



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PRAY — PLAN — TAKE ACTION!

Write today for the 1963-64 bulletin.

Midwest Bible College, Stanberry, Missouri
 ELDER S. J. KAUER, DIRECTOR

Aim

The magazine for young people

A Father's Day Prayer

Mender of toys, leader of boys,
 Changer of fuses, kisser of bruises,
 Bless him, dear Lord
 Singer of songs, righter of wrongs,
 Wiper of noses, pruner of roses,
 Guide him, O Lord.
 Mover of couches, soother of ouches,
 Pounder of nails, teller of tales,
 Reward him, O Lord.
 Hanger of screens, counsellor of teens,
 Fixer of bikes, chastiser of tykes,
 Help him, O Lord.
 Raker of leaves, cleaner of eaves,
 Dryer of dishes, fulfiller of wishes....
 Bless him, O Lord.

—Selected

"I believe the first test of a truly great man is his humility"

—Ruskin.

Aim The magazine for young people

AIM is dedicated to the promotion of higher ideals and more challenging spiritual goals among the young people of the Church of God. It is published monthly under the direction of the Young People's Department of the General Conference by the Church of God Publishing House at Second and Willow Streets in Stanberry, Missouri. It was entered as second class matter on September 10, 1959, at the Post Office in Stanberry, Missouri, under the act of March 3, 1897.

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Volume XXVIII, Number 6

Donna D. Faubion, Editor

To have known one good old man—one man who, through the chances and mischances of a long life, has carried his heart in his hand, like a palm branch, waving all discords into peace—helps our faith in God, in ourselves, and in each other, more than many sermons.—G. W. CURTIS

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Grandpa's Birthday

Zula V. Alexander



Grandpa walked about in the orchard, singing "I am a stranger here, within a foreign land; my home is far away upon a golden strand." Anne came up the walk, opened the gate and stood listening until he had finished. Then she called out, "Hi there, stranger!" and laughed to see his surprise.

"Well, well, Anne, where did you come from? Come over here and rest awhile under the old sweet apple tree! There is a seat here."

"I came from home. And just in time to hear your favorite song. You surely seem happy. Folks at our house don't appear to be so happy today, somehow. So I ran over here, and find you just bubbling over with happiness."

"Yes, so I am, child," laughed Grandpa. "Let us sit down and talk awhile. You did not come over to help me celebrate my birthday, did you, Anne?"

"Your birthday! Why, grandpa, what do you mean? Your birthday came last spring. I brought you a birthday cake. Don't you remember, grandpa?" Anne looked at her grandfather in bewilderment.

Grandpa laughed heartily. "Oh, no, I haven't forgotten my birthday, and the nice cake that you baked for me. But today is my other birthday, Anne, and it means a great deal to me."

"What *do* you mean, grandpa?" asked Anne, frowning a little, "Folks don't have two birthdays in one year!"

"Some folks do, while some folks don't. And I'm sorry for those who don't," said Grandfather Dixon, speaking very earnestly. "Anne, did you never hear of the 'new birth'?" He was very serious now, and the sweet young face grew thoughtful, too.

"I don't know. Is it what the minister calls conversion?" she asked.

"Yes, dear, it is. Did you never read about the new birth in the Bible? I have my testament here in my jacket pocket. Suppose we read it now." He moved nearer, so Anne could read with him, "Here it is in the third chapter of John. It is an interesting story of a ruler of the Jews, a Pharisee named Nicodemus. He must have been very anxious to talk to Jesus alone, for he came to see Him at night. He made a most courteous approach, saying 'We know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him' (John 3:2).

"The great teacher ignored his words and knowing just what Nicodemus came for and what he needed to hear, He told him briefly. Anne, read the third verse, please."

"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God," read Anne and raised questioning eyes to meet the wise, kind eyes watching her.

"Now, Nicodemus did not think that anyone could have two birthdays in one year either, my dear. He was perplexed and probably a little impatient. He wanted to know how it was possible for a man to be born when he was old, as he probably was. Jesus patiently repeated what He had told him before, with explanation, saying of his first, or *natural* birth, 'That which is born of the flesh is flesh' and of the *new birth* He said, 'that which is born of the Spirit is spirit' (verse 6). And since Nicodemus still seemed to think this to be something extraordinary and astonishing, the Master admonished him to 'Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.' thus emphasizing what He had said. Then this best of all teachers went on to compare the wind, with which all are familiar, with the Spirit, and its work. Read the eighth verse carefully, Anne, and tell me what it tells us about the wind."

In a short time Anne looked up and said, "The wind blows and we hear it, but can not tell where it came from or where it is going."

"Then, since we can not *see* it, the wind may seem to us to be mysterious. But, as we sit here, we hear it murmuring among the trees. Sometimes it blows quite a gale. The wind has power to sway and lift heavy objects. Just now it is moving the curl about over your cheek. See, it is blowing some leaves down from the old apple tree! When we listen we hear it, when we are exposed to it we feel it. And we see what it does.

So we do not deny its existence, for *the wind is real*, my dear. And 'so is every one that is born of the Spirit' said Jesus. The birth of the Spirit is very real, and very wonderful! Let us read something that Paul wrote, which belongs with this, 'Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new' (II Corinthians 5:17). And now, dear child, that is what I mean, when I say that today is my birthday. Thirty years ago today I heard the Holy Spirit calling me. I had heard it pleading before, but had always hurried away, thinking that I had no time to listen and open my heart's door to the heavenly Guest. But that day it seemed I could not get away from the knocking at the door. My great need of Him pressed upon my soul until I feared that He would not forgive me for my neglect of His love. I longed for Him to come and abide with me, more than I had ever longed for anything else in my life. I sought Him with all my heart. I flung open my heart's door and the blessed Saviour of my soul came in. That was the best of all days for me, Anne. I've been remembering it all today and thinking of how near and precious He has been to me these thirty years. Oh, yes, some hard things came at times. But He never left me alone to bear them, He gave me strength and courage. And I'm praising His dear name today for this birthday! May our Father give you such a birthday some glad day, I pray!"

And with tears in her bright eyes, Anne slipped her hand into her grandfather's and said "I hope He does, grandpa."

"Say Not Ye ..."

Harvey D. Fischer

One of the fondest memories of my childhood is that of harvest time. Having been reared on a farm, I was made deeply aware of the concern a farmer has for the time of harvest.

The work of the farmer is not easy from the time of the preparation of the seed and the soil unto the time of harvest. As God blesses with a bountiful harvest, everyone concerned is excited and willing to make many sacrifices to reap the great harvest. Everyone, regardless of age, is assigned specific duties to perform during this busy season. Every job is important regardless how insignificant it may seem. There is no time to waste; the days are long and it is hard to carry out the one main objective of gathering in the golden grain before the storm approaches.

"Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" (John 4:35). These words were spoken by our Master. Perhaps we feel this scripture has been fulfilled or we may feel that such a time may never come during our life span, a time when the fields are white unto harvest.

We trust that you have read reports from our brethren in foreign coun-

tries, brethren who are serving so diligently under extreme hardship to give this glorious gospel to a lost and dying world. These brethren are serving together with us in united faith and effort to carry out the great commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15). Young people's departments in many of these countries are carrying on a great work despite extreme hardship; they need our help. As they send their reports to us they express their needs, and we wish to make them known to you. We have received letters from brethren stating they were sorry for the delay in mailing their reports, but they did not have money to pay for the postage. A young brother writes us from Nigeria:

"My earliest request is to pray for me always; my life is always in danger. I must travel far distances late at night where I meet many bad people. This becomes very dangerous. Where things are not possible I feel you could make them possible. Honestly, if you could see what other white missionaries from the United States teach us here, you would be ashamed of your own people. They (the missionaries) teach false doctrines and the people believe them. We have much interest here among

our people, but the question remains, how long? Can't you please come over and help us?"

After reading several such letters one can't help but recall the Scriptures such as that quoted above in John 4:35 or that of Matthew 9:37: "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few." Countries all around the globe are crying for help. Jesus said, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers."

The Foreign Missions Committee has spent much time in prayer seeking for an answer to these cries of help. God has blessed us with laborers who are willing to go to reap this harvest. Yes, it will take sacrifice on the part of those who will go, but unless we sacrifice also here at home we can't send the laborers.

Are you interested in helping? Would you or your young people's group be willing to sponsor a type of project that could help us raise funds to send a laborer into the field? These brethren will want to represent each one of us as a member who cares.

As we look to the forecast for the future we can see the storm approaching—Catholicism, Communism, etc. How long will we be able to harvest the golden grain? "Say not ye, there are yet four months to harvest. . . ."

"And when I stand before the Maker,
And give account for what I've done,
May I then hear Him say to me,
Well done, my servant; you a crown
have won.

"I prayed a prayer, help me be faithful

In all my work for Christ my King,
And never waste a precious moment,
Till at last I'll all my trophies bring.

"Harvest time; harvest time;
The Saviour's calling, the grain is
falling.

O, do not wait; it's growing late;
Behold, the fields are white—it's harvest time."

* * *

Is It Right or Wrong?

"Shall I go or not?"

"Would it really be wrong to do what almost all my classmates will be doing?"

Questions like these face young Christians often. Sometimes they are extremely puzzling too. It has been suggested that most such questions can be settled by the application of one or more of eleven "tests" listed below:

THE PERSONAL TEST: Will doing it make me a better or worse Christian?

THE SOCIAL TEST: Will my doing it probably influence others to be stronger or weaker Christians?

THE PRACTICAL TEST: Will doing it likely bring desirable or undesirable results?

THE UNIVERSAL TEST: Suppose everyone did it? What then?

THE SCRIPTURAL TEST: Is it clearly and expressly forbidden in the Word of God?

THE STEWARDSHIP TEST: Will doing it involve a waste of the talents God has invested in me?

THE FAMILY TEST: Will doing it bring credit or dishonor to my family?

THE MISSIONARY TEST: Will doing it likely help or hinder the progress of the gospel message on earth?

THE COMMON SENSE TEST: Is it good, plain, everyday, ordinary common sense?—*Selected*

Think, Driver, Think

Juanita Raver

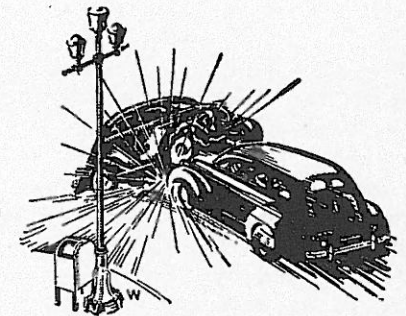
Reading from Psalm 119:59 we have these words of David, "I thought on my ways, and turned my feet, unto thy testimonies." I think this is a very good instruction for all of us. For we all need to think on our ways. A few years ago I found a small tract bearing the above title, which was worn and soiled, but I liked it, and have read it a number of times. I wish to pass it on to you, with a prayer, that it will help someone to think on his ways, and turn to God's Word.

Think Driver Think

By Julius W. Stone

There is hardly anything that has such a great influence upon our lives as our thoughts. Someone has said, "Tell me what you think today and I will tell you what you will do tomorrow." It may seem like a small thing for you to entertain an evil thought in your mind, but if you continue to harbor it you will find that it will soon grow into action.

Many young people of today seem to be starting out in life without any serious thought for the future. A cartoon of a series of pictures very forcibly illustrates the fate of many young people. It showed a boy starting out in life; he is bent on having what the world calls a good time. He



has a cigarette in his mouth, a bottle of drink in his pocket, and a bag of wild oats at his side. He does not realize that the old adage, "Every boy must sow his wild oats," is an error. For God has decreed that whatsoever we sow that shall we also reap. Be not deceived, my young friends, for just as the flowers with all their beauty fade away, and others spring up and take their places, just so will your youth, with all its glory, soon be faded and gone. Time rolls swiftly on.

In our cartoon the next row of pictures, showed the character appearing on the screen of life again; but what a change. The flower of youth has faded, and we see an old man with bent tottering form, white beard and with worn and tattered garments. He has a sickle in his

hand, starting out to reap what he has sown in early life, a harvest of disappointment, sorrow, failure, bad health and destruction. He is saying, "If I had only known." But he should have said, "If I had only thought." It is not knowledge that we need so much as it is thought. We have so much knowledge without making good use of it, that it is becoming a curse to us.

A familiar railroad sign bore these words: Think Driver Think. A train is nearing the crossing, where two autos are about to cross. One of the drivers thinks to stop and look for danger, but the other one has heedlessly passed by the familiar sign, "Stop! Look! and Listen!" so often that it no longer makes any impression of danger upon his mind. There were never so many warning signs as there are nowadays. We see them on almost every hand. If we make it a habit to heed danger signs, such an impression will be made upon our minds as to cause us to unconsciously act. But many have become so used to danger, that, like the man who thoughtlessly drove in front of the fast moving train, they are not awakened to the sense of danger until it is too late for them to put their thoughts into action.

This world is traveling at such a rapid rate, that it has but little time to think seriously. The devil knows that if he can only keep sinners traveling at such fast speed they will never take time to think what the end will be. The road is broad, and there are many attractions on every side; but did you ever think that even the flowers on the roadside can be used as the hiding places for serpents that may bite you as you pass along? Ease, luxury and amusement are the

greatest means that the devil is using, to keep the people of the world from thinking. The word "amusement" literally means "muse, or forget." No wonder then that there is so much amusement in the world. It acts like chloroform upon the mind; we just go to sleep and forget all the danger that is around us.

If we drive our course to destruction we will no doubt carry others with us, as an engineer who carries not only himself but others to disaster. The world considers a man wise who is level-headed enough to think to keep away from danger in this world, but they tell us that it will never do to think about the eternal destruction that awaits the sinner: who needlessly goes right by God's warning signals. But it is certain that if we do not think of danger we will never escape it. Surely we should think enough about danger to beware for our own safety, if not about our influence on others.

It will do us all good occasionally to take a trip to the cemetery, and sit down and think. Not much danger of our thinking too seriously about eternal realities in this thoughtless age, but we must stop and think.

My dear sinner friend, God is continually flashing out the red light in front of you. Every time you attend a funeral; every time you pass by the undertaker's place, or hear the ambulance, you are reminded that God will not spare you, if you do not stop and think. Think! driver, Think! Oh, if you would only take time to think, about your own soul's salvation, how soon you would call a halt to the reckless speed and thoughtlessness with which you are traveling on the downward road.

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The Love of God

Betty Crawford

(Spring Vale Academy Senior)

"My soul is exceeding sorrowful," said Christ, "Even unto death: Tarry ye here and watch with me." These were His words as He, Peter, and the two sons of Zebedee left the other disciples and proceeded into the Garden of Gethsemane. Then Christ parted from these also and went alone to pray.

"O my Father, if it be possible let this cup pass from me!" Could you imagine the earnestness in His sorrowing plea in the garden? Here was a Man whose every thought was love and peace, burdened with a load never again or before placed upon mortal man. What was the burden? His burden was the bitter cup of scorn inflicted upon Him by those He had come to save!

Why would they not listen to His admonition to turn from custom and wickedness and be gladly received into the shelter of one who loved them with an unmatched love? Mark 12:28-30: "Which is the first commandment of all?" And Jesus answered him, "The first of all commandments is, Hear O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord!" Then He admonished this inquisitive scribe on the two commands to love God completely and the fellow man as himself. The scribe's reply to Christ was, "Well, Master, thou hast said

the truth: for there is none other but He, and to love Him with all the heart... is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."

This was the solution and Christ knew it. The Jews and their ancestors had been told they were God's chosen people and would be saved by a great "King of kings." They were traditionally faithful to God while taking His favor for granted. They had become disillusioned by the world and desired a great ruler to lead them to a position above all other nations of earth. Christ told them to believe on Him and through their faith they would move mountains.

But, did they diligently seek and follow after Christ? God had the people typed in Isaiah 53:3, 5: "He is despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." Yes, acquainted with grief! Here was a perfect Man rejected by men on earth whom He could and would gladly save through the greatest and most treasured gift of mortal man, His life and dignity. "... And we hid as it were, our faces from Him: He was despised and we esteemed Him not. But, He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him

and with His stripes we are healed.”

With His stripes we are healed! What a great sacrifice, to heal those who have despised us in order to save them! As men and women born in sin we are not worthy of such love. “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 (sin) of us all” (Isaiah 53:6).

As men and women on earth, no one can say we are worthy of such grace. He, Christ, was perfect and we are tarnished by that first inherited sin. We should not flatter ourselves into thinking we alone have kept ourselves untainted from iniquity. That would be the greatest sin! When we have once come under God’s grace and accepted the Spirit of Christ as our perfect example, to think highly of ourselves instead of placing Christ first in our hearts is death. In Romans 7:10, 11 we read, “And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.”

Although men reviled Christ and always sought for an unmistakable sign of His authenticity, Christ was wise and knew He could mold men if they surrendered themselves to His will. John 15:16, “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, He may give it you.”

This love, oh, how supreme in comparison to the mundane lusts and passions dwelt on by mortal men and women. And, such wisdom. (What a great psychologist pro-

fessor Christ is.) Just read and adhere to the advice given in His Word and your sin-sick life will find its happy remedy.

“Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?” was the plea of Christ on the cross and, yet, in His heart He made the heart-rending surrender in Gethsemane:

“Oh my Father . . . not as I will, but, as thou wilt!” and thus, He drank His cup with love in His heart, according to the will of His Father.

* * *

Lord, Increase our Love

C. C. Crowston

Lord Jesus, may my love to Thee
Increase still more and more,
Till I with fuller fervency
More deeply Thee adore.

I ask not for Thy love’s increase—
That, that could never be—
For Thine is like the fields of space,
A boundless, shoreless sea.

Lord, I survey Thy blood-stained
cross,

And ask, “Who there has died?”
And then inquire with burning soul,
“Why was He crucified?”

Christ stood as substitute for me
When justice ’gainst me stood,
When God demanded life for sin,
He interposed His blood.

When I behold the guarded cave
And know who slept therein,
I cry with overwhelmed soul,
“My tragedy of sin!”

The cross and tomb expose those
depths

No mind shall ever sound;
The love with which I have been
loved,

Alone with Thee is found.

—Selected

The Man of flesh

Darlene Moldenhauer

A Spring Vale Student

Lucius Pontius Pilate came to govern Judea about A.D. 26. He and his wife, Lady Claudia, daughter of Emperor Tiberius, did not live in Judea because of his feeling toward the Jews, but lived in Caesarea.

Annually he and his wife would visit Jerusalem and keep order among the Jews during their national feast and Passover. It is said that Pilate dreaded the time of the Passover, because of his hatred toward the Jewish people, the riots which the crowds caused, and the climate he had to put up with.

When Pontius Pilate first came to Judea, he set up idols, tried to abandon their fanatical worship, and live in the manner he thought, of civilized men. Thus he stirred up the Jews unknowingly, because he couldn’t understand their religious ways, and national pride.

Matthew 27 gives a good account of what took place at the trial.

I imagine Pilate was surprised to see Jesus brought to him so early in the morning. Especially—Jesus who had strange healing powers, who held the people spell bound, and won favor of his wife.

Thus when Jesus came forth to the governor, Pilate asked Jesus, “Art thou the King of the Jews?” And

Jesus answered him, “Thou sayest.”

Pilate was moved to wonder by these words. As the trial progressed, false witnesses were brought to testify against Christ, and yet Christ said nothing to defend Himself. Finally Pilate, puzzled and perplexed at the Native before him, browned by the sun and wind, asked Christ, “Do you not hear how many things they witness against you?” Still Christ answered him never a word. Astonished, Pilate went forth to the throng beyond, and speaking to them in firm tones replied, “I find no fault in him.” Herewith the priests, and elders protested loudly, and charged him with blasphemy, and treason, because he had spoken against many of the old ways, and had broken certain tribal laws by healing on the holy days.

Pilate was confused after hearing the words of the Priests, and he spoke again. “Since he is a Galilean, he is a subject of Herod Antipas, therefore since I find no fault with him, let him be tried by Herod Antipas.”

Thus Jesus was then taken to Herod. Herod was not displeased to look upon Christ, for he had known of the Native’s miracles, and hoped to have seen some miracle done by Him. He questioned his prisoner

with eagerness, but the Native answered him nothing. Then the priests and elders who had followed Christ into the Palace cried out against Him; whereupon, Herod and the soldiers mocked Him, and arrayed Him in a robe of kingly splendor and sent Him back to Pilate.

So once again Pilate went to the window to render his decision to the gathered throng. "I have found no fault with this man; neither has Herod Antipas found him worthy of death. Wherefore I shall have him beaten and released."

Yet to Pilate's amazement, the crowd cried out as in one voice, "Crucify him, crucify him; Let him be crucified!"

Confused and wordless, Pilate stood gazing down at the strengthening mob, sick at heart, burning with hatred towards the people who were doing this out of envy to this just

man. Then Pilate recalled that in this season of the holy festival, it was a custom to bring forth a native prisoner and pardon his transgression. This is it, he thought. "I will release Barrabas. Surely they would sooner see the native released than a man who had done murder among them."

Therefore, he demanded, among the rising clamor of the people, "Whom would you have me release—this man or Barabbas?" The evil of Barabbas was known to all.

Still with rising voices they seized upon their choice. "Barabbas, Barabbas, Barabbas!"

Pilate slowly walked back to the judgment seat and sat down like a man who was burdened with more than he could bear.

At this moment a message from his wife was delivered to his hands. "Have nothing to do with this man,"

(Continued on page 33)

Teen Commandments

Four thousand students, delegates to a high school convention on the West Coast recently adopted a "Teenage Ten Commandments."

Here they are:

- 1. Stop and think before you drink.*
- 2. Don't let your parents down; they brought you up.*
- 3. At the first moment turn away from unclean thinking—at the first moment.*
- 4. Be humble enough to obey; you'll be giving the orders someday.*
- 5. Don't show off when driving. If you want to race go to Indianapolis.*
- 6. Choose a date who would make a good mate.*
- 7. Go to church faithfully. The Creator gave us the week. Give Him back an hour.*
- 8. Choose your companions carefully. You are what they are.*
- 9. Avoid following the crowd. Be an engine, not a caboose.*
- 10. Or even better—keep the original Ten Commandments.*

—CONTRIBUTED

What Is Religion?

Ray Meier

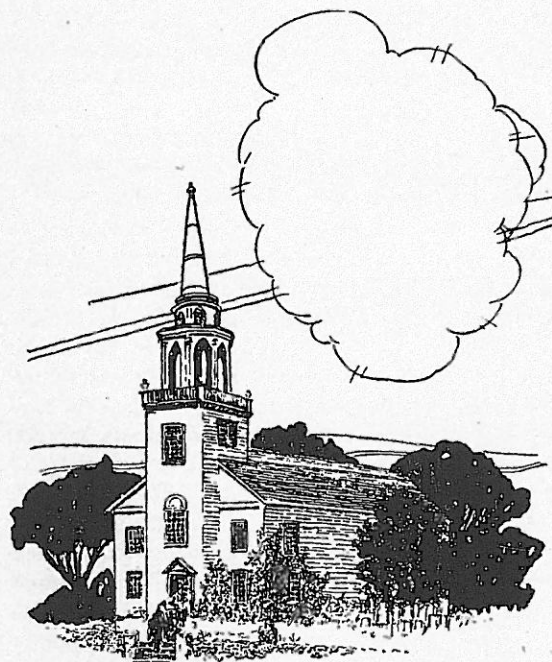
THERE are many different ideas of what religion really is. The Sociologists define it as a combination of these three factors: (1) sacred beliefs, (2) emotional feelings accompanying the beliefs, and (3) overt conduct presumably implementing the beliefs and feelings. Webster's Dictionary defines it as: Belief in a divine or super-human power or powers to be obeyed and worshiped as the creator (s) and ruler (s) of the universe.

Those who really seek truth and look to God for their knowledge know that true religion is the worship of one God as the creator and ruler of all the universe.

God has created within mankind the desire to worship some superior being. This would be only God, but when man loses sight of God, he starts to worship the mystifying wonders of God's creation thinking that they are the working of some evil spirits or gods that are angry with him. When lightning strikes such folk it is some god trying to punish them and that they must appease the god.

On the other hand Scientists try to reason through these phenomena. They know the reason for the thunder and lightning, etc., but for some reason

(Continued on page 30)



YOUR HEALTH CLINIC

Specializing in Internal Medicine
Counselling and advice by Dr. Victor Reeh

Dear Doctor Reeh,

I have just recently taken up smoking a little, and my mother and others tell me I should not form the habit. They say that smoking and drinking will shorten one's life. I know you hear all kinds of rumors about what a bad habit it is and the harm it will do you, but I always figured it was just a lot of unfactual opinions of people who just don't approve of smoking for some reason or another. Can smoking really shorten a person's life?

Yours truly,
I. M. Dubious

Dear Mr. Dubious,

Yes, I would say it could shorten your life by several thousand years.

However, let me be more explicit. Physically speaking, habits such as smoking and drinking are not fatal in themselves; but studies indicate that they do often help to provide conditions favorable for the onset of certain diseases, for instance T.B. and carcinoma (cancer) in the case of smoking, and cirrhosis of the liver and alcoholism in the case of drinking. In short, there is no guarantee that a drinker or smoker will not live as long as an abstainer, but statistics are definitely not in his favor. He is simply lessening his chances.

The contributive possibilities of these habits, however, to certain serious diseases are not more to be feared than the spiritual disease of which they are symptomatic. Those suffering from the disease use smoking or drinking as a crutch. The early stages often occur during the teen years when the disease manifests itself in a strong craving for prestige. This they mistakenly hope to find in cigarettes and alcohol. As the illness advances however, the craving becomes stronger; and victims look to it as a kind of sedative or anesthetic to alleviate their problems and anxieties, to give them the peace and satisfaction they long for. Unfortunately they do not achieve their goal, but soon the habits overpower them; they become slaves.

Education—Christian education—is a powerful weapon in the prevention of this disease. Early in life children should be taught that we are the temples of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in us. "If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are" (I Corinthians 3:17). They should be taught that "...wine is a mocker" (Proverbs 20:1) and that if they keep their bodies fit for God's Temple, He will come to dwell within and provide the peace and satisfaction

(Continued on page 32)

Our Greatest Need

Dr. J. B. Gambrell

There are now, and always will be, urgent needs in the churches and in the Kingdom. We stress one thing and then another. It often happens that one ventures to say that this is our greatest need. We should have

a care when we speak of our needs that we do not overstress this or that.

With due care and full faith we may also say that our greatest need today, everywhere, is the right kind of prayers. The greatest possible helpers are the real prayers. Paul was insistent in emphasizing the need of prayer. He pleaded for it. He practiced praying. He urged prayer. And a greater than Paul, even Jesus said, if two agree as touching anything and ask for it, it will be done for them by the Father in Heaven. More is promised to prayer than to influence, learning, natural ability, wealth—everything else in the world put together.

From the shadows of the past comes a scene. The place was a country church, where devout, soul-loving



people camped and joyfully cared for the multitudes who might be induced to come in reach of the gospel. The parents of a young married woman were camped on the ground. She heard the call of God one day and with

broken heart came and knelt at the mourners' bench for prayer. Her wicked husband followed her with horrible oaths cursing his wife for

Editor's Note—The author of this article has been dead for more than forty years. Prior to his death he served as editor of "The Baptist Standard," member of the faculty of Southwestern Baptist Seminary, and president of the Southern Baptist Convention. His article, reprinted in "The Beam" (from which it is our pleasure to make this selection) is as timely as the day it was written. Except for a few expressions not often heard in today's conversation, one would think it had been written expressly for current publication.

a fool, cursing her parents for meddling, cursing the church as a den of hypocrites, cursing the preacher for preaching lies. His face, naturally handsome, was horribly distorted and black with rage.

The people were dazed as the enraged man, still breathing out threatenings, led his wife out of the church bareheaded and compelled her to mount a horse behind him and ride away five miles to their home. The pastor stood silent before the congregation. I see him now. Then in solemn tones he said: "This is not time for angry or hasty words; it is time for prayers. This poor man needs our prayers. Let not one hard word be said."

That evening the people broke up in small groups and went their ways into the woods for prayers. One man's name was on all hearts and lips as prayer went up to God. That night, in the language of the common people, there was a "powerful meeting," and it was well named, for great power was on the people.

Next morning, one of the first men on the ground was Wash Gober, with his wife. He looked like he had seen an angel with the Sword of Justice in his hand. When mourners were called, he tried to reach the mourners' bench, but he was like a paralytic. He fell on the floor as one dying. He was dying and did die there that day. But he heard the voice that raised Lazarus from the dead and rose in the power of a new life. Prayer reached this modern Saul of Tarsus and saved him.

Back of every movement in the Kingdom is prayer. The most useful people in all the churches today are the best prayers. They are far more

useful than large givers who do not pray. They are far more useful than preachers who only preach. Great prayers are far more needed than great preachers, great givers, great singers and great workers, all put together. If we can have great prayers we can have everything else.

In many a pulpit today is a cultured preacher fooling away his time on labored, scholarly sermonettes, which fall on the people as the dead leaves of the forest under mid-winter's frost. Vast sums of money may be put into great meeting houses, with costly equipments; yet the whole be like a display of cut flowers, without life and lacking the attractive fragrance of the garden of the Lord.

What is needed in these valleys of dry bones, the beautiful cemeteries of dead churches? There is one overwhelming need, even the spirit of power and life to make the dead live before the Lord. How are we to have the Spirit back in the churches? By prayer. It is a wonderful promise. It is sheer nonsense to resort to tricks to work up a revival. It must come down from the Father of Mercies and the right kind of praying can get it. Ten men could have saved Sodom. Two real prayers can save any church. I lay it on the heart of all who believe in prayer. If things are going bad in your church quietly get together two, three or more and pray for what you need. If your preacher is dry, pray for him. He is a reflex of your prayerlessness. Take no fright from circumstances or difficulties. Pray and look to God. He can manage it all. He has lifted distracted, lifeless churches from the dust and converted them into victorious armies. It is with you.

The Youth Who Succeed

Walter E. Isehour

THERE is always a price to be paid for success. It is never a gift. Somebody may give you money, houses, land, an automobile, food and raiment, or something else that is earthly and material; but he cannot give you success. Even if he has succeeded himself, maybe in more ways than one, and has some success to spare if he could give it away, which he might like to bequeath to you, but he can't. He may help you to succeed, but he can't lay success at your fingertips and say, "This is yours."

No one can give you an education, but he may help you to become educated. He may teach you, or have you taught, and eventually you may become well educated; but no one can bestow an education upon you. You have to dig for it yourself. Even the richest, as well as the poorest, have to work and study for years in order to obtain a good and great education.

No one can give you salvation, but he may greatly help you to become a Christian by his prayers, his instructions, advice, information, and by his life of Christian devotion and influence. You have to seek Christ for yourself. You have to do your own repenting, your own surrendering to Christ, and your own acceptance of Him. No doubt many a father and mother would like very much to give Christian grace, love, righteousness, purity and holines to their children,

but this is impossible. Only Christ can do that, and He will only when one seeks Him from the very depth of his heart, mind, soul and spirit.

From the standpoint of earthly success there are various phases of it. There are many channels that offer success. It is up to you, dear youth, as to what you want to do, and as to what you want to do, in life, work, labor, toil and study and persevere to that end. However, one should seek to do that which he is best talented for, and that which he is most interested in, if what he desires is right, and would be a blessing to himself and his loved ones, and to his country and the world.

However, to deeply desire something in life, and strive to that end, which could be a curse instead of a blessing if he succeeds in reaching that point, can mean successful defeat. For instance, if one craves to become an author, and studies, labors and toils until he accomplishes his purpose; but he turns his writings into books which are misleading, or that which curses his readers morally and spiritually, maybe even physically, his success will eventually defeat him-

self in the final analysis, for he will go into eternity without God and salvation.

This can hold true along different lines and channels. If a man deeply desires to make money, and sets out to curse his fellowmen and his country by engaging in the liquor business, and thereby accumulates a fortune in dollars and loses his soul, he successfully defeats and damns himself, and helps defeat and destroy, perhaps thousands of others. This is indeed serious business.

Here is a young girl though promising in life something good, great and worthwhile, who sets out to become a successful actress or movie star. She reaches her sinful goal, and makes handfuls of money, and becomes popular with the public, but she curses thousands of people and dies without God. Her success be-

comes her eternal defeat.

Oh, young people, hear what Jesus said: "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things (food, raiment, health, strength, honor, love, peace, joy, position, money and all the temporal things of life, which are necessary, along with what God has for you hereafter) shall be added unto you" (Matthew 6:33). What more could you ask? Everything that is absolutely essential for this life and the life beyond is in the will of God, and you can have it. Nothing is hurtful here. Everything that is out of His will is nonessential, hence hurtful, injurious, defeating and eventually destructive. Keep this in mind. Let God's will, plan and purpose for your life be fulfilled, and beautiful, wonderful, glorious success will crown you for time and eternity. Amen.

A self-quiz

Do you go to church—

To display a new ensemble or to display your faith in God?

To commune with your friends, or to commune with your Creator?

To receive a compliment, or to receive a blessing?

To find fault, or to find inspiration?

To hear, or to be heard?

To further your own interests, or to further the work of God's Church?

Do you give an offering—

Because it's an obligation, or because it is a privilege?

That others may see, or that God may know?

Do you sing praises to God—

To show your talent, or to show your thankfulness?

Do you pray—

Because you really should, or because you really want to?

So that others may see what a fine Christian you are, or so that God may know the intents of your heart?

Are you truly a Christian, or are you just a pretender?

—Delores O. Fischer

You Can't Afford to Be a Rocking Chair Christian!

Marilyn Heavilin

In East Berlin and East Germany many people are trying to escape to West Germany. As soon as a person hears of the advantages of West Germany they usually want to live there. They try every possible means to escape. Some of them succeed in escaping; others are captured.

Some of the people who hear of, or know about, the advantages of West Germany, are still satisfied with their own way of living.

Free nations are trying to bring independence to the people who are under communist rule. Communists are keeping their people in a strong grip besides bringing more people and countries to communism.

You may wonder why I am writing about this. You most certainly have kept up on the news on this subject for a long time, but have you ever considered how this is like the two greatest rivals, Christ and Satan, and their "wars" which have been going on since the beginning of this earth?

The Christians, who are followers of Christ, are spreading the gospel to sinners, the followers of Satan. Most people who hear the gospel for the first time wish for that kind of a life. They try every possible means to escape to the Christian's side of the fence. It is the Christian's responsibility to show them the right

way. The ones who escape to the Christian's side are the born-again in Christ. The ones who are shot are those persecuted for Christ's sake. The ones who turn back when they are in the most danger are the ones that give up, or the ones that didn't work hard enough to reach Christ for the great freedom. But the ones that do not even try to escape are the ones who are so stuck in their own sinful ways that they don't want to change.

Satan is always threatening the Christians and trying to persuade them to come back to the sinful way which leads to destruction.

Let us all that are saved get on our toes, jump out of our rocking chairs and witness for Christ! Fight for what you believe and have.

Fight! Fight! Fight!

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Project of the Month

Youth Week Outing or Retreat

Virginia Heavilin

(Continued from last month)

Another vital segment of the program includes the sharing times. Like a sponge, one can absorb so much without sharing it. Or, stated differently, that which is shared is more certainly learned. These sharing times, as well as the devotional times, can be both formal and informal. The formal kind can include discussion periods, at which time boys and girls meet separately to consider problems within their own sex groups, or there could be a united question and answer period to discuss general problems in Christian living in a worldly school, etc.

The informal sharing time incorporates the recreation period—recreation suitable for the time of year and location of the retreat (boating, swimming, indoor or outdoor games, group hiking—which can include nature studies). Work projects are often one of the features in the longer retreats. This will include, of course, the daily duties connected with group living of this nature (dishwashing, clean-up committees, etc.). But, more than this, there may be construction projects for improving the camp grounds, or preparing something for home or foreign missions. The latter would be especially suitable if the main speaker for the outing had a missionary emphasis for his theme.

Another possibility in the sharing aspect: a class called Youth Speaks,

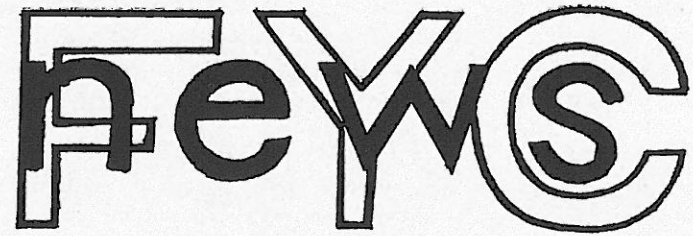
in which the speaker uses an assigned topic, such as "What My Devotions Mean to Me" (or My Church, My Bible, or Older Christians), or "What I Expect of My Pastor" (or Older Christians).

An outing with adequate free time provides a wonderful opportunity for individual young people to discuss personal problems with one of the adult leaders or sponsors. Another feature which could prove of considerable inspiration is a book review—a devotional book or a biography or autobiography of a missionary.

The length of time spent in meditation such as this program provides could well furnish material for an original article for the *Aim* or another of our church papers—for the literary-inclined young people in the group. In the interest of service for the Master, this could be suggested at the start.

Evenings—following the evening worship service—should be planned for the sake of keeping the young people occupied until they are ready to actually go to sleep. If left to themselves, they may become boisterous and thus completely destroy the effect and spirit of the evening meetings. An inspiring singspiration would be in order. A night-time nature study—or study of the stars and heavenly bodies could direct their

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News from Nigeria

(Letters from Solomon I. Dimk-pah, Y. P. Leader in Nigeria)

March 11, 1963

My Dearest Brother in Christ,

Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord and Master. This is to report the happiness of our group in Ogbu District in Nigeria regarding FYC. How good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in Unity. It is of joy to hear that the whole FYC in the churches of God throughout the world are registering their names together as one group. Faithful Youth Challengers, I have the joy to submit our names to be registered. Last time I wrote reporting the activities of our group also requesting mem-

bership cards, but to my greatest surprise there was no reply toward the effect. Will you then be kind enough to send the membership cards and FYC Manual which will be a guide for 1963 activities. One small reference concordance Bible is very much needed by me for traveling.

Again some of my members' ages are not listed. These people have been in the Y.P.O. ever since the organization of the group and have faithfully promised to be members as long as they continue to live this life.

April 24, 1963

Dear Brother in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the precious name of our Lord Jesus. I am happy to send in more names to be registered as members of FYC. They were not present during the first names that were sent. So include them in the list. God is blessing the work here and there is much progress in the work. Praise ye the Lord. The list will convince you of God's blessings. The work where pastor Dimk-pah is in charge.

Again I have to thank you all for your effort you put in the Lord's work. May He reward you richly while you labor for Him.

Brother S. I. Dimk-pah asks that we pray for his wife who is ill since

Merit System Scoreboard

Fairview, Okla.	210
Elmira, Oreg.	175
Stockton, Calif.	175
New Auburn, Wis.	170
North Sacramento, Calif.	155
Lodi, Calif.	150
Grand Rapids, Muskegon, West Olive, Mich.	145
Marion, Oreg.	120

September 1961. She has three young girls, the youngest of 1½ years is cared for by Brother Dimkpah's 80-year-old mother. Brother Dimkpah says, "I need your prayers for the prayers of the Saints availeth much. Kindly assist me in praying to God to forgive and draw out this my dear wife from the hand of the devil. May His will be done." Brother Dimkpah says he has spent almost all he has for doctors to cure her.

Brother Dimkpah sent in 129 names of young people of the Nigeria Church of God. That makes a total of 158 young people registered from Ahoada, Nigeria, and 38 from Aba, Nigeria, which makes a total of 196 now registered from Nigeria. Remember the work in the foreign fields.

HELP WANTED—An alert Christian, age 15-80, with a love for missionary work; be able to write or type, and to devote at least one hour a month to correspondence; excellent opportunity for advancement. Supplement your spiritual growth in your spare time in your own home. Top retirement benefits. Write to 1403 Franklin Ave., Independence, Missouri, stating your interests and qualifications for this position.

The Young People's Department receives several letters from young people in Nigeria and some other countries, but our follow-up is poor. This could prove to be very interesting to both groups and regular correspondence with Brother Gibson John, Solomon I. Dimkpah, Ben Tikili, Israel Kemmer, and others could help to make the foreign news feature of AIM a very enjoyable section. Let's improve this section and help our neighbors who live in a world of more problems than ours.

By a letter you can encourage many overseas and yourself. A good letter on coordination of our goals and activities is as much needed as our dollars. Can you help in both respects?

SPRING TUNE-UP TIME

Spring is a time for cleaning up and checking up to make sure everything is in top shape. In many cities firemen make an annual check for fire hazards. What are your answers to these questions?

1. Do you have daily prayer and Bible reading?
2. Are you helping your FYC win a merit award?
3. Have you written an aerogram to Brother Gibson John of Obabura town, Box 27, Ahoada, Nigeria, Africa?
4. Do you read AIM?
5. Have you tried writing for AIM?
6. Do you know what the merit system and 2T4G programs are?
7. Do you have a copy of the FYC manual, and are you familiar with its content?
8. Do you support your FYC financially and with prayer?

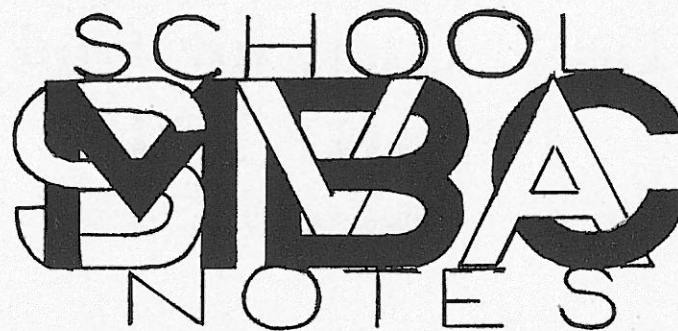
If your number of "yes" answers was less than 8 you should have your life tuned up by making a few adjustments. Carelessness with fire hazards in the home can cause its destruction. Let's not be careless in our spiritual lives.

LOCAL FYC's SPEAK UP

ELMIRA, OREGON

The Elmira FYC are taking part in a very good visitation program.

(Continued on page 32)



Report from S.V.A.

Greetings once again from Spring Vale Academy to all of you!

As I write this report, the school year is swiftly drawing to a close; I am sorry to say that this is the last report that will be coming your way from Spring Vale this year. We seniors will be bidding farewell to S.V.A. and the close fellowship all of us have had together. The thought of this leaves a note of sadness with most of us; but the memories of Spring Vale will no doubt stay with us for many years to come and bring gladness to our hearts.

As the school year comes closer and closer to an end, the time seems to be increasingly filled with activities for S.V.A.ers.

The Junior Miss Club carried out its plans for a bazaar on Thursday, April 18. Quite a bit of money was made from the sale of homemade baked goods and needlework; part of this will be used to buy a punchbowl for the school. The club is also planning to get something for the new boys' dorm.

All the members of the Junior Miss Club went to Lansing on Monday, May 6, for a shopping spree. Starting as soon as school was out

that afternoon, we shopped until 8:00 p.m. in Lansing's large shopping center.

All the Spring Valers that were here on the weekend of April 12 paid a visit to a youth rally held at the Pilgrim Holiness Church in Owosso. Everyone seems to appreciate the variety this provided for the regular services on Friday night.

Time was taken off from the morning classes on Tuesday, May 7, so that we could go to the Morris High School to take the TB skin tests being given there by the County Health Department. A nurse from the department came out to the school several days later to check the tests. No one gave a positive reaction to the test; so it is evident proof none of us have tuberculosis!

The students and faculty visited the church in Saginaw on Sunday night, May 5. A program of entertainment with a spiritual emphasis was presented by the children and young people of the church there. Following this, refreshments were sold in the church kitchen. All the efforts put forth by the Saginaw brethren were greatly enjoyed by all, and we would like to express our appreciation to them for their invitation to attend.

(Continued on page 31)

"Take Time for God" PROGRAM

Nelson Caswell

Having An Answer

What would be your opinion of a lawyer who didn't know the law and didn't study it? You'd probably say, "Some lawyer he is when he doesn't know what the law says." Certainly no one would want to hire such a lawyer for their defense in a court of law.

Furthermore, what kind of respect would you have for a school teacher or college professor who didn't even know the course they were teaching? It would be ridiculous to call such a person a teacher, wouldn't it?

By the same token, what kind of sense does it make for one to call himself a Christian and yet be unacquainted with the textbook, the Holy Scriptures? The Bible is the only textbook for Christianity and the true believer accepts it as such in the spirit of II Timothy 3:16, 17, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

So then, if the Bible is the only textbook for Christianity then it must be studied. To be known as a Christian and not study the text is to be on par with a lawyer who doesn't know law and a teacher who can't teach, a barber who can't cut hair, or

a bricklayer who can't lay bricks.

I Peter 3:15 puts it this way, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."

There are plenty of opportunities to give an account of our faith. One should always be ready to give an answer of the hope that is in him. To give an answer, one must know his text book, the Bible. To really have an answer, a person must "Take Time for God."

It's easy to get "shook-up" when one's faith is called in question. Because of fear many act ashamed of the gospel of Christ. Take comfort from some words in Matthew 10: 19, 20 where Jesus prepares His disciples for the day that they will be called upon to give an answer. He says, "But when they shall deliver you up, take no thought how or what ye shall speak: for it shall be given you in that same hour what ye shall speak. For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you."

Let's take courage by these words and be Christians with an answer. We can have an answer from the textbook, from the Spirit, and from our heart which we will give with meekness and fear.

Date	Chapter	Date	Chapter	Date	Chapter
June 15	Prov. 1	June 25	II Tim. 1	July 5	Rom. 7
June 16	Prov. 2	June 26	II Tim. 2	July 6	Rom. 8
June 17	Prov. 3	June 27	II Tim. 3	July 7	Rom. 9
June 18	Prov. 4	June 28	II Tim. 4	July 8	Rom. 10
June 19	I Tim. 1	June 29	Rom. 1	July 9	Rom. 11
June 20	I Tim. 2	June 30	Rom. 2	July 10	Rom. 12
June 21	I Tim. 3	July 1	Rom. 3	July 11	Rom. 13
June 22	I Tim. 4	July 2	Rom. 4	July 12	Rom. 14
June 23	I Tim. 5	July 3	Rom. 5	July 13	Rom. 15
June 24	I Tim. 6	July 4	Rom. 6	July 14	Rom. 16

Missions or Missiles

Clay Cooper

THERE'S a lot of talk about getting a man to the moon. Had you taken a pair of scissors and deleted everything from the morning press that had to do with moonshots, satellites and Communism, you'd probably have had shredded newspaper for breakfast. In fact, getting to the moon all but monopolizes the imagination of tens of millions of Americans. The whole atmosphere is filled with "oh's and ah's" every time the next Russian sputnik rockets into the sky.

With all this furor about getting a man to the moon, it had better be soon, or there will be a lot of disappointed scientists—and a lot of dissipated dollars! Everybody knows it's borrowed billions we're spending to get a man up there, but few seem

to comprehend one grave danger in this wild, headlong scamper to keep pace with the Reds in their probes into outer space. We are so all-fired concerned that the Russians may beat us there that we are actually stampering into a crash spending program, seemingly unaware that we are about to satellite ourselves into bankruptcy.

This is a reminder that while striving for the moon, we could be losing the earth. Let us not be deceived; that's what the Commies want more than anything else! *This world*, the one right down here, every hemisphere of it—lock, stock and pickle barrel. We are falling for their "other world" diversionary tactics head over heels. They are expert in the field. Remember how they focused our attention

elsewhere while they were carving Korea? While we were parleying in Geneva, they were parceling Viet Nam. While our eyes were glued on Lebanon, they were chipping away at Matsu and Quemoy. While we were digging out from under the rubble there, they were opening the Berlin front. Now, they draw our attention to worlds above as a feint to decoy us away from this world below, the real focal point of their prime and ultimate objective. It's this world they want. They don't want the moon half so much. What would they do with it after they got it? Let people everywhere pray God to jar us from this trance, for that's what it is, a profound state of abstraction of mind and spirit which is causing us, like the children of Hamelin, to follow the siren notes of Red Pied Piperism. It is leading us, in this hypnotic state, off into oblivion by diverting our attention from the world to the moon.

For us to act suddenly and unconsciously from some common panic-impulse or technological inferiority complex, and in a hasty, frightened manner, is exactly what the Russians are hoping we will do. If we can be stampeded, like a herd of cattle, into a race for the moon, *this* world is theirs. They are playing for high stakes, the world, *this world*, bear in mind—not the moon or Mars. Unless we wise up to their strategy of diverting our attention away from their real pearl, it will wind up being another case of "while we were busy here and there, it was gone." If they can keep us engrossed with the moon, they'll have a lot less trouble engulfing the earth!

It's time we stopped chiding our-

selves about Russia having attained the *conquest* of outer space. A misnomer, if there ever was one! "Penetration" is a far more suitable word, and penetration falls far short of "conquest." Besides, if (I say IF) the Moral Governor of this universe interprets this penetration as an intrusion on His preserve, His domain—as some hold—let us be glad the Russians have this questioned honor. Perhaps there was more of God in our failures than in their successes. Many conscientious people feel, most sincerely, that such aspirations are rank presumption with a tinge of "tower of Babel" added. They base their convictions on such verses in Holy Writ as "The heaven, even the heavens, *are the Lord's*: but the *earth* hath he given to the children of men" (Psalm 115:16).

Now, what is to be our attitude? A negation of the scientific achievements of the Kremlin's crowd? A minimization of the fact they are farther down the road than we are in certain fields of technology and the use of psychological weaponry? Shall we pooh-pooh their sputniks and asteriods? Keep our fingers crossed and hope we can catch up with them before they can absorb us, or annihilate us?

Laboring under the notion that whoever gets up there "fustest with the mostest" will decide the fate of the world, is to act under sheer delusion. News of a landing on the moon would leave two-thirds of the people of the world cold. What could landing a man on the moon possibly mean to a starving man in Morocco? News of the landing of the Son of God on this planet, one star-lit night, would mean a lot more, and this is the news the majority of mankind

is waiting to intelligently hear for the first time. Or, having heard, understand by witnessing in you and me the reality of the transforming truth that makes men free. We need to keep in mind it's not some-thing we shoot *from earth* up into the heavens, that is going to save the world. It is rather some—*One*, who came *down from heaven* to earth! That was the pivotal point in history! Not the launching pad at Cape Canaveral, but the manger at Bethlehem, and the night the Saviour descended from that upper world (wherever it is) to grace this planet and bring personal salvation with the promise of the "life that now is, and that which is to come."

It is a source of amazement that so-called "Christian nations" are frantically competing with Communists in quest of the moon. Let the Reds reach unknown worlds first, if they will. We are to major on this one. This world is to be the world of our main concern, this world with all its known people and their known problems. Seeking to plant the Stars and Stripes on the pock-marked moon, when the blood-stained banner of the cross has yet to be lifted over

more than half of this *terra firma*, falling victim to a celestial megalomania, under the planned and announced prodding of the Reds, all oblivious to our terrestrial mission—could prove the fatal mistake!

We are not to get sidetracked. Nowhere is the Christian—individual, church or nation—commissioned or commanded to go to some other world, but there are multiplied commands to go, or make it possible for others to go, with the transforming message, the blessings and provisions of Christianity "into all (*this*) world." We are to keep on the job of telling it (and living it), until it rings in the ear of every living man. It is our solemn responsibility to see to it that that message with all its wondrous significance is brought to him. Herein lies the very heart and core of the troubles of this crises-ridden age, our having not been enough mission-minded in the past. Now we are crowded into being missile-minded!

This, then, is the message every God-fearing nation needs to hear. Sending men and missiles to the moon, is not half so important as sending missionaries to Madagascar and Martinique. Why should we spend billions to learn if there are men on Mars, when we *already* know of millions of miserable men in Mexico and Mozambique? People who cry for our recognition of their poverty of body and spirit? People needing and deserving our attention? Pointing a needle-nosed Atlas or Jupiter, into the azure, is not nearly so convincing to a crippled Asian leper, or a syphilitic-blinded child in Africa, as the needle on the end of the syringe in the missionary doctor's hand. That

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needle holds hope of a better world for him, something an orbiting satellite cannot do. He represents about a billion and a half people in a similar or worse condition. The "have not" nations of the world look to us expectantly, and we must beware lest we frustrate the purposes of Providence in the race to space while neglecting the men at our gates.

I leave to the theologizer and politicians the moral and political issues involved in going to other worlds, but as to the utter need and necessity of our going into all this world with the gospel, in obedience to the command of Christ, there can be no argument. If we had our job all done, down here; if the great commission, as given by Christ, had now reached completion; if we had now successfully prosecuted the cause of world missions; if the world, *this world*, were now saturated with truth; if disciples had now been made of every kindred, tongue, tribe and nation . . . that would be a horse of another color. But, the world predicament being what it is, if it's a toss between trillions for missiles and trifles for missions, a man on the moon or a missionary on Madagascar, we must not hesitate to choose the better part. Not that this is an appeal to scrap every reasonable security measure. Is it not! But it goes beyond keeping our powder dry and our fingers crossed—to keeping our knees bent!

Finally, this is an appeal to "Christian" nations to take care lest they be duped into majoring on missiles and minoring on missions, and wake up—too late—to realize that while they were looking at the moon, they lost the earth. Let Russia's sput-

nik's encircle the sun—we'll keep our arms around *this* world! If our own beloved nation should go down, serving and saving humanity, obediently trying to fulfill the great commission, honoring and trusting God, *then glory be!* It's certain she'll go down—if *she doesn't!*

—*Gospel Herald*

* * *

Wedding Announcements

The Clayton Street Church of God at Denver, Colorado, was the scene Sabbath evening, April 6, of a lovely wedding in which Miss Doris Hendershott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hendershott of Shawnee, Oklahoma, became the bride of Mr. Gary Weir, son of Mr. and Mrs. Otis Weir of Boyd, Wisconsin. Elder Delvin L. O'Banion officiated.

Matron of Honor and Best Man were Mr. and Mrs. Daryl Weir, brother and sister-in-law of the groom and other attendants were Miss Corrine Churchwell and Mr. Leonard Hendershott, brother of the bride. Barbara, the bride's little sister, was flowergirl.

Guests attending from out of town were Mrs. Otis Weir, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hendershott, Leonard, Glenn, Dale, Barbara and Mrs. Florence Hendershott, the bride's grandmother.

Mrs. Harold Willhelm sang "Hand in Hand" and "Wedding Prayer" and was accompanied by Mrs. Doran Breinig, church organist.

Flowers, made of wood fibre, were made and furnished by Mrs. Florence Hendershott. A reception followed the ceremony.

The Editor's Page

Brides

June is the traditional month of weddings. Many young couples are so starry-eyed at this time of the year that they can hardly see where they are going. There is a rush to the music stores for copies of Lohengrin's march, The Wedding Prayer and I Love You Truly. Fashion designers and clothing marts are displaying the traditional bridal habiliments. Vocalists and organists are practicing their respective arts in anticipation of the happy occasions.

Weddings are inspiring occasions. Whenever a new home is established it is a time of hopefulness. We all wish the very best for the happy couple, and hope that the honeymoon will never end for them. We trust that the union will be heaven blessed, and that God has truly joined the couple so that they will never be parted assunder. Everybody smiles, some cry, and the bride and groom are launched in their ship of matrimony upon the sea of Till Death Do Us Part.

The founding of a good Christian home is a very important occasion. Many people do not realize how important it is until they begin to compare conditions in the U.S.A. with those in many other countries. Then they begin to realize that, with all of the wickedness and sin that is found in our country, the influence of Christian people has brought about conditions far superior to those in many other countries. Every Christian home is a block in the wall that protects us.

Oriental weddings are extremely ornate. We can imagine how the bride must have appeared in the Bible times, dressed only in the very best that her family can afford—beautiful fabrics, costly jewels, everything that can make the bride most beautiful in every way.

The Church of God is spoken of as the Bride of Christ. She is said to be arrayed as a bride adorned for her husband. Of course we recognize that the physical is used in this illustration to represent the spiritual—the white raiment representing righteousness, etc. Thus the fine habiliments of the oriental bride represent the riches of the Church in spiritual things—faith, grace, love, etc.

Brides are happy, so the Church should be happy in its service for the Master. As the bride is admonished, and so pledges, to keep herself solely unto her husband, we should, as individuals and as a Church, be dedicated to the Saviour. As the man is considered to be the head of the household, so Christ is the head of the household of faith.

As we think of all that the month of June signifies, let us not forget the lesson we learn in this prominent Biblical illustration.—CLF

What Is Religion?

(Continued from page 13)

they just can't quite figure out how all these things have come to be set in motion. To the scientist, the earth just happened by some mysterious force. To the false worshiper, the earth was set in motion by some mysterious spirits or gods.

The scientists think that for some odd reason around 4000 B.C. men began to speak and to write. They also think according to their scientific findings and studies that at one time the earth was covered by a great flood.

Now isn't this remarkable how that all their actual findings are in such harmony with the Bible? Anything that they have actually found and have proof for does not disprove the Bible in any way. It is quite true that their findings have run contrary to many of man's beliefs, but never contrary to the Bible.

We Are Like a Mountain

June Walton

(Spring Vale Academy Senior)

*The mountains give one a feeling of mighty triumph,
With towering majesty over the valleys below.
This mighty mountain does not seem at all obnoxious,
Rather, it is a symbol of greatness of our God.
Like the boldness it shows, our duty we should not slump,
Just keep serving and on others our love do bestow,
To show kindness with great works, but yet be so cautious;
To not so boastful be, we deny the path we trod.
Forgetting we are only a small part of the earth,
Trying to fulfill the tasks that before us do lay.
The mountain does not cry out, "Look for all you are worth,
I am the greatest mountain ever seen in your day!"
Its only plea to others is, "Humility show,
And in other's eyes your smallness to greatness will grow."*

Wouldn't it be wonderful if the scientists, and other schools of thought could only open their eyes and see why the earth is made as it is, and why all the elements are made so perfect? If they could only realize that God made the earth, then they would all see that there is no contradiction between true science and true religion.

In the view of Sociologists, many religious denominations, and even some Christians, the religions of the different cultures are just as good for them and serve the same purpose as ours do for us. Religions that teach to hate, that teach immoral acts, that teach to offer their children to strange gods (which must be served and cannot serve the people), that teach to inflict wounds on their own body cannot be good for the people of their own culture or for people of other cultures. There is only one religion that will fit in all cultures and supply the needs of all people regardless of race or nation, and that is true Christianity, the only true religion.

School Notes

(Continued from page 23)

An all-day meeting was held at the Freeland church on Sabbath, April 18, which all Spring Valers attended. The morning message was delivered by Elder Robert Coulter of the Detroit church. After the noon meal, a young people's program was presented, followed by an anointing service, and the afternoon message, presented by Elder Roy Keim, Spring Vale's principal.

For the recreation on Saturday night, May 11, an interesting variety was provided. An auction was held which involved *no* money. The plan was a brainstorm of Miss Bea Ferneau, one of our faculty members. Everyone got together the things which they did not need, but which were still usable, and brought them to get a certain amount of "credit." At the auction, they could bid on things up to the amount of credit they had. This activity made for a lot of fun for everyone who took part.

Sunday, May 12, was quite a big day for all here at Spring Vale. Mr. and Mrs. Keim arranged for a special dinner at noon, served in Spring Vale's dining room, with all the students as their guests. All of us would like to express our appreciation to them for their thoughtfulness and effort. Following the noon meal, "open hours" was conducted. This is when the boys go up into the girls' rooms to see what sort of housekeepers they are, and vice-versa. This made for quite a lot of interest and fun for everyone.

The annual Junior-Senior banquet will be on Thursday night, May 16; also the Seniors are planning to leave on their trip on Sunday, May 19.

So we come to the end of the final S.V.A. report. I sincerely hope that you have enjoyed reading these reports as much as I have enjoyed writing them. Please remember Spring Vale in your prayers that the school may continue to go forward for Christ. Don't forget the graduating seniors in your prayers.

May God bless you and keep you always.

* * *

Think Driver Think

(Continued from page 8)

A message was once sent to a certain king with these words, "Serious! Open and read at once." But he was in a drunken spree and threw it aside, saying, "Serious things tomorrow." But before the morrow's sun rose, an invading army had attacked his palace, and it was too late to heed the warning. A serious warning has been sent out to the people of this world, but like the drunken king, people have thrown it aside until some more convenient season. But death usually comes on the scene before that time comes, and it is too late to think of serious matters when we are battling with grim death.

Our text says, "I thought on my ways." Thank God, David was a man who thought on his ways, and did something about it. We too must do more than think, it can cause despair unless we act. Our only hope is to turn our feet from the path of neglectfulness. It is either turn or burn, not just turn over a new leaf, but really repent, turn your back on your old ways, and follow Jesus in the straight and narrow way. Here you will find a path for your feet, "That shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

FYC News

(Continued from page 22)

On a visit to someone sick from church an Oregon FYC group gets 4 points, for a hospital visit 6 points, and for a visit and invitation to an outsider 8 points. Elmira FYCers made 50 visits during the first quarter of 1963. Their church is a 100% periodical church and another interesting project is the album the group is making on FYC activities.

This group has held three socials this quarter and in March had Harrisburg FYC over for volleyball and basketball in a gymnasium. This group helps sponsor Brother Gibson John, is a 100% AIM subscriber, and supports the Young People's Department financially. Eighteen are taking part in the "Take Time for God" program. 175 merit points

STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA

The Stockton FYC are eager to be a part of the national FYC and have earned 175 points toward qualifying for a Merit Award in 1963. Seven young people are registered with the National. The group helps sponsor Brother Gibson John and gives its fair share to help the young people's department. The most recent projects are giving AIM subscriptions to someone each month and the FYCers are purchasing church signs to place in Stockton. An interesting social was a snow trip outing. 175 merit points

NEW AUBURN, WISCONSIN

The group at New Auburn consists of 23 young people who are participating in 2T4G. This group originated the local "writing for AIM" contest with cash prizes for

the winners. The group has young people's meetings every Friday night. One Sabbath afternoon four carloads of young people went in opposite directions to be a blessing to shut-ins and many of these taking part were themselves encouraged. The FYCers sent a package of used periodicals to Nigeria.

The young people are now busy raising funds for an organ for the church. 170 merit points

NORTH SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

The FYCers in the regular age group are few around the Sacramento Church of God. The young people have meetings every 2nd and 4th Sabbath evening of every month. They take charge of printing their church reporter. (This church consists of many young married couples who take part in a church choir.) Twice this group have had a social in a Junior High gym which about 125 attended. All of the FYCers are receiving AIM. David Kauer is leader and Phil Jarwin is sponsor. 155 merit points

* * *

Your Health Clinic

(Continued from page 14)

which they crave.

As treatment for those suffering from this spiritual disease, I would recommend a change of climate, from the stench and smoke-laden surroundings of a crowded bar into the pure clean sunshine of a sweet relationship with the Saviour. Follow this prescription; and I can assure you of, not only long life, but endless life.

Sincerely,

Victor Reeh, D.S.

The Man of Flesh

(Continued from page 12)

she said, "I have suffered many things in a dream because of him."

Pilate would not put aside a dream lightly. Therefore, when he had read the words of his wife's message, he turned back to the multitude with grim countenance.

"What shall I do with your Christ? He is innocent, I find nothing wrong with him," and because the elders and priests stirred up the multitude against Christ they called out to Pilate, "Crucify him!" Then Pilate cried out to the multitude, "What wrong hath he done?"

Pilate turned away from the window, and spoke to the priests, "I can't crucify Him! He has done nothing to break the Roman laws. He is not guilty!"

After Christ was beaten, Pilate once again brought Him before them. Yet they would not have compassion upon Him, but cried again, "Crucify Him!"

Then out of the quiet stillness someone spoke with a rasping voice, filling the quiet hall with terror, "If you release him you are not Caesar's friend."

Pilate was stunned for he knew what their intent was. They would accuse him before Tiberus. They would send a group of wily elders to Rome, as they had done many times, and these would say he had spared a man who sought to be king. He, Lucius Pontius Pilate, would be summoned to Rome, charged with treason, commanded to end his own life.

Everyone present watched Pilate pace up and down the hall, debating his decision. Occasionally he would glance into the face of Christ, and seeing Christ, watching Him with a calm spirit, but the face that showed pity, and condemning him; he would pace faster than ever.

"I can't let them kill Him," he thought. "But maybe He had broken one of their laws, maybe they are right, and that message from my wife. Yes! This is my decision. I can't lose my position and disgrace my wife. I need the honor the Emperor will give me. Besides, I'll gain favor with the Jews. Yes, I'll turn Him over to the Jews.

Pilate called for a basin of water, and once more turning to the multitude he said in a clear, strong voice. "I am innocent of the blood of this just person. See ye to it!"

THIS DAY

Oh, my Friend! This day is growing so short,
But, "I'll do it tomorrow," isn't smart.
To do it today is better, my Friend,
For we don't know what lies around the bend.

You might die today, then what will you do?
Oh! Leave your work for another to do?
Would you like some candy? You want it all.
Then take what Christ has and, Friend, take it all.

—Esther Martin (A Spring Vale student)

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Project of the Month

(Continued from page 20)

thoughts to the Omnipotent God of the universe.

Earlier in the evening, a sunset or vesper service—by a lake if possible—would be an ideal time for a hillside or Galilee service, thereby directing thoughts to the most effective type of ministry which Jesus delivered—right out in nature—using illustrations from the immediate surroundings.

The possibilities of inspiration for holy living are infinitesimal in such a setting. This complete separation from the world with others who share the same ideals and the same goal, will be a marvelous reminder of how we can and must be "in the world, but not of the world."

The entire program requires careful planning. Obviously, all of these ideas could not be lumped into one retreat. The program must be full without crowding out time for personal meditation. Game time, for example should not be compulsory; this could provide time for meditation. Some young people (according to age and background) will be better prepared to fully avail themselves of the quiet times. They may desire to use part of their play time in this way. There should be directors free to be consulted at such times. All young people, however, should be guided into some quiet, reflective moments. Directors or older people could assist in this by engaging those of lesser experience, in conversation. During the rest times, especially, the directors must be "on their toes" to sense the inclinations or desires of all participating young people.

A first attempt at planning and directing a retreat may fall far short of the ideal. This is something that

will require experience to perfect but don't be satisfied with a half-way job. Each successive year's experience can and should become more purposeful and, therefore, more meaningful, as the young people themselves absorb the purpose and real value of the program.

Be careful in selecting the director and counselors. Their spiritual depth will be a strong influence upon the young people.

The entire session might be closed by a meeting with the young people themselves in charge, which would allow opportunity for expression of personal testimony as to how they have been strengthened spiritually, how much more real the Lord is to them because of this time spent in concentration upon His Word, His Way, or His Will for them. These meetings are not evangelistic in nature, but individuals—in their quiet times—may have consecrated or re-dedicated their lives to the service of the Lord.

All should have received new inspiration and courage to face the temptations of daily living which all of us must face, increasingly more, as we near the end of time. Our temptations are often stronger than we ourselves, but experiences, such as these retreats, will teach us the reality of the presence of Him Who is our source of strength. With His help, we are stronger than the enemy, but we will not receive His help if we do not ask for it moment by moment. For some of us it is harder than for others to learn to do this. Practicing the presence of God will help to strengthen us in this practice of seeking help from Him—in Whom "we live and move and have our being."